



# CONNECT

Building community  
& connecting East Cleveland



**Connect EC is an interactive process to reimagine and rebuild the public spaces in East Cleveland through community collaboration. Starting at the western gateway to the city, the process focused recommendations around the Circle East District redevelopment led by the Cuyahoga Land Bank.**

**[CONNECTEASTCLEVELAND.COM](https://connecteastcleveland.com)**



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Above: Conceptual rendering of the Mickey's building at Euclid Avenue and Woodlawn Avenue.

Right: Photograph of Mickey's building during the exterior renovation process.





## A LETTER FROM Gus Frangos

When the Cuyahoga Land Bank set out to bring its Circle East District project to life, we understood the importance of a community-led approach to shaping this vibrant and inclusive neighborhood where people can gather, connect and thrive.

Circle East District is a Cuyahoga Land Bank initiative to revitalize the residential and commercial areas at East Cleveland’s Western gateway to University Circle. Through the building of more than 200 homes, the goal is to expand East Cleveland’s property and income tax base and kickstart a transformational redevelopment in the area — all while creating a more inclusive and equitable community, where current residents can benefit from the new development.

To strengthen the connection between people and the places they share, we embarked on a placemaking process of creating public spaces within the Circle East District that are attractive, welcoming and useful for the people who use them.



Placemaking can lead to better and stronger neighborhoods in many ways. For one, it can create a sense of community. People with access to well-designed public spaces are more likely to spend time outdoors and interact with their neighbors, leading to a stronger sense of belonging and connection.

Placemaking can also help to improve public health. When people have access to safe and accessible places to walk, bike, and play, they are more likely to be physically active, leading to many health benefits.

Placemaking can also help to boost the local economy. People with access to vibrant and attractive public spaces are more likely to spend money to support local retailers and restaurants which can create jobs.

We thank all the community members who took the time to participate in the placemaking process. Your collective voices will help create a more livable community for everyone, and we are excited to see your ideas and dreams become a reality.

We also appreciate Mayor Brandon King and the East Cleveland City Council’s unwavering support throughout this process. A special thanks to the creative minds at design consultants Seventh Hill and Agnes Studio for your exceptional work.

The insights, dreams and feedback outlined in this report will not only benefit our efforts in the Circle East District but also serve as a roadmap for future neighborhood revitalization endeavors.

With appreciation,

**Gus Frangos**  
President & General Counsel, Cuyahoga Land Bank

**“We thank all the community members who took the time to participate in the placemaking process. Your collective voices will help create a more livable community for everyone...”**

— Gus Frangos



# Executive Summary

Connect East Cleveland (Connect EC) is a community engagement process to identify placemaking and placekeeping recommendations for the Circle East District. Located primarily in the city of East Cleveland, with a handful of parcels in Cleveland, the district extends 30 acres along the Euclid Avenue commercial corridor and adjacent residential streets (page 18). The 30 Placemaking Actions presented in this document are intended to complement the Circle East District redevelopment led by the Cuyahoga Land Bank (page 26). Through a range of immersive and fun engagement methods, Connect EC's interactive process aims to reimagine and rebuild the public spaces in East Cleveland — empowered by community collaboration.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Circle East District's focus area was established by a series of previous planning studies conducted with public participation dating back to 2015. Community feedback from these plans recommended redevelopment initiatives to start at the southwest corner of East Cleveland. The location is home to dedicated long-time residents and boasts convenient access to nearby destinations, but currently lacks some components of a thriving neighborhood. Connect EC established four project priorities, shown below, at the outset of the engagement process to address these needed components of a livable community.

### PROJECT PRIORITIES:



**ENVIRONMENT:** Promote community cohesion, trust, and safety.



**SAFE CIRCULATION:** Improve accessibility to increase connectivity and walkability.



**SIGNAGE:** Create signage and public art to set this neighborhood apart as a distinct place.



**AMENITIES:** Provide amenities for neighborhood green spaces that are inviting and useful.

## ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The community engagement process included a variety of outreach activities over the course of seven months between January and August 2023. A primary means of embedding local expertise in the process was hiring a local East Cleveland resident, Najae Jackson, as a paid Street Team Leader to join the consultant team. Najae served a critical role by sharing her local knowledge, inviting residents to participate, and facilitating public events.

Combining in-person experiences with convenient online methods for input, the engagement strategy prioritized feedback from current residents living within or nearby the focus area, while welcoming all members of the East Cleveland community to participate. A total of 146 individuals participated in the process by attending outreach events or submitting responses online. Based on the survey's demographic data, 79% of respondents either live or work in East Cleveland. In addition to three well-attended public meetings, outreach actions also included a walking tour of the neighborhood, an engagement station at the East Cleveland Public Library, outreach tables at local events, online and printed surveys, as well as a focus group with local youth. The participation methods were designed to engage residents through verbal communication, written comments, visual preferences, and hands-on activities, providing ways for all people to share their ideas creatively and conveniently. During the second Community Open House, one of the seven engagement stations utilized an Artificial Intelligence (AI) software, empowering attendees to instantly transform their own words into visual images on the screen. Insights gathered from community members progressively guided development of the placemaking actions.





## KEY PLACEMAKING THEMES

Distilling Connect EC's significant amount of community feedback into a few common themes is a challenge, but it offers a valuable framework to help guide actions into the future. The four key placemaking themes below emerged consistently throughout the community engagement process:

- 1 Nature-inspired design to encourage healing and sustainability:** Building on the Circle East District's proximity to Lake View Cemetery's natural landscape, the solar panel field on Euclid Avenue, and opportunities for new tree plantings on vacant lots, many of the proposed placemaking actions increase opportunities for residents to connect with nature. Through physical activities, like walking or playing in green spaces, and visual experiences, like viewing murals or public artwork inspired by natural forms, repeated exposure to patterns found in nature can promote human health.
- 2 Arts & culture combining both historic and current artists:** East Cleveland has a rich history of performing arts through the East Cleveland Theater and nearby arts institutions in University Circle. Residents often shared their pride in local performing artists, who continue their creative craft from the past to the current day.
- 3 Brighten up the neighborhood with colorful and bold moments:** Although community members favored natural environments with soothing color palettes as the broad context for placemaking actions, they also desired select moments for vibrant displays. Curating unexpected elements in the neighborhood for colorful and bold expression can evoke experiences of delight for both residents and visitors.
- 4 Welcoming spirit expressing local pride and diversity:** Residents of different ages shared their preference to live in a community that invites all people to come and appreciate the local culture. Longtime residents expressed hopes of seeing a revitalized neighborhood and young residents wanted more friends to play with.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the community get back together. I want to see children out here. As long as we can communicate, things will be better.”

— EAST CLEVELAND RESIDENT



“I’ve lived here for over 50 years and what’s going on now is quite exciting. I look forward to being here to see it completed.”

—LELA

## PLACEMAKING ACTIONS

The 30 placemaking recommendations identified in the **Action Plan** (page 66) are located throughout the Circle East District as shown in the **Project Location** map (page 74). Initial phases of the redevelopment process will begin along Euclid Avenue, Woodlawn Avenue, and Penrose Avenue. Responding to the project priorities and creative ideas from the community, the placemaking recommendations include a range of large and small actions.

The actions are organized into five categories:



**GREENWAY** | Includes four placemaking actions contained within a linear green space, providing a multi-use trail for connectivity and safe outdoor recreation on formerly vacant lots.



**POCKET PARK** | Includes four placemaking actions within a small park space in a highly visible location suitable for individual relaxation, children’s natural play area, and neighborhood outdoor events.



**PUBLIC ART** | Identifies six actions for publicly visible art, including a wall mural, sculpture, and additional artistic functional amenities.



**LANDSCAPE** | Includes five placemaking actions that introduce plantings and vegetation beyond the bounds of green spaces, such as landscape planters, street trees, and rain gardens.



**STREETSCAPE** | This category includes 11 actions across a range of placemaking elements to improve safety, neighborhood identity, and visual appeal along public streets and sidewalks.



LEARN MORE:  
[ConnectEastCleveland.com](http://ConnectEastCleveland.com)

## NEXT STEPS

Each of the placemaking elements outlined in the Action Plan include associated connections — partners responsible for leading the project — and an implementation timeframe. Cuyahoga Land Bank will continue to collaborate with community stakeholders to seek the funding and support to transform the Connect EC vision into reality.

# Neighborhood Context

## EAST CLEVELAND HISTORY

East Cleveland – Cleveland’s first suburb – was designed to offer a relaxed, scenic alternative to downtown living while also providing for easy access to University Circle and the city’s core. Its initial growth was spurred by its proximity to downtown Cleveland and the development of streetcar lines, making it an attractive suburban residence for many.

Like many urban areas in the Rust Belt, East Cleveland faced economic challenges in the latter half of the 20th century due to deindustrialization, population loss, and a shrinking tax base. The city grappled with deteriorating infrastructure, vacant properties, and declining public services.

East Cleveland reached its population peak of 40,047 in 1950 and was the most densely populated Cleveland suburb for the next decade. In the 1960s, especially the second half of the decade, East Cleveland experienced a major population shift, as African Americans constituted an increasingly larger proportion of the population. Blockbusting real estate tactics stoked panic selling, causing a rapid racial turnover in which East Cleveland’s population went from 2% black in 1960 to 67% in 1970. By 2018 East Cleveland had only about 17,000 residents.

In the 21st century, initiatives to address vacant and blighted properties have gained momentum. The Cuyahoga Land Bank has been instrumental in acquiring, demolishing, or rehabilitating such properties in East Cleveland. Grassroots organizations and local nonprofits have become more active in recent years, focusing on community engagement, local beautification projects, and empowering residents to have a say in the city’s future. The city has been working to attract new businesses and development to diversify its economic base.





## PREVIOUS PLANNING STUDIES

**In a series of studies from 2015 to 2020, the City of East Cleveland and its residents identified the residential and commercial districts at the western border of the city adjacent to University Circle as the place to begin revitalizing the city and rebuilding its tax base.**

The Cuyahoga Land Bank is acting as master developer for the Circle East District project and has acquired 200+ residential vacant parcels and 18 commercial parcels and is finalizing the site planning for this area. The goal is a unique and inclusive neighborhood that showcases the potential of the East Cleveland residential market. Key project elements include:

**NEW INFRASTRUCTURE:** Install infrastructure on the residential streets including new waterlines, sewers, greenspace, paving, sidewalks, streetlights and fiber to every home.

**NEW HOMES:** Using a combination of private and public investment to build approx. 200 middle-income, owner-occupied housing options that are at the leading edge of design, highly energy efficient, accessible and offer contemporary lifestyle options, including opportunities for working from home.

**HOUSING PRESERVATION:** Provide home repair grants to existing owner occupant residents to repair and invest in their homes.

**NEW CONNECTIVITY:** Create multimodal connections from the neighborhood to existing community amenities such as Lake View Cemetery, Windermere Station and University Circle.

**NEW JOBS:** Redevelop the Mickey's Building as a catalyst to bringing in new jobs and a community gathering hub to the area.



### 2015: Development Framework & Target Area Plan

“After reviewing the district plan, more than forty residents and stakeholders in attendance at the second public charrette were of one mind in their insistence that the development work should begin in the southwestern portion of the study area.”

### 2020: East Cleveland Visioning Project

“Continue to work with the Cuyahoga Land Bank on a specific plan for the target site land assembly. The target site is strategically located along Euclid Avenue and would be a good location for redevelopment, but it is encumbered by hundreds of vacant residential properties. The Land Bank’s efforts will help to identify highest and best use of the target property overall, and the Land Bank will recommend actions for land assembly to facilitate high-quality development.”



### 2022: Action Plan for East Cleveland Target Area

“Invest in a park. The Action Plan calls for centralizing access to new parkland by combining a greenway with small pocket parks. A potential greenway makes parkland convenient and accessible.”



## FOCUS AREA

The focus area for **Connect East Cleveland** is approximately **30 acres along Euclid Avenue at the western gateway to East Cleveland.**

Located in the southwestern corner of East Cleveland, the focus area for the project is adjacent to Lake View Cemetery and Cleveland's University Circle. Project concepts will encourage greater connectivity within the neighborhood and between the neighborhood and amenities such as Lake View Cemetery, Windermere & Superior Stations, and University Circle, including enhanced multimodal access.

The placemaking plan for the focus area concentrated on the Euclid Avenue commercial corridor and the adjacent residential areas. The community process explored streetscape elements, a vision for the greenspaces in the neighborhood, and a potential entryway to Lake View Cemetery at the western end of Forest Hill Avenue.








The target area, as shown in the map below, is dominated by vacant lots. Of the 403 residential parcels, 74 (18%) are in Cleveland and 329 (82%) are in East Cleveland. Rebuilding this once vibrant neighborhood will first require developing stronger connections between the existing approx. 150 households while also creating organic opportunities for them to define a new sense of community with the residents who will be moving into the neighborhood. Creating inviting public spaces will be a key part of this strategy.



# CIRCLE EAST DISTRICT PHASE 1 PLAN



**KEY:**

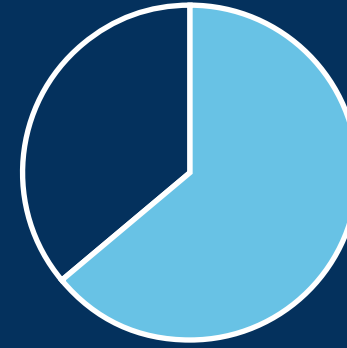
			
EXISTING BUILDING	NEW HOME	POTENTIAL TOWNHOMES	NEW MIXED USE BUILDING
			
POTENTIAL POCKET PARK AREA	GREENWAY	POTENTIAL GATE TO LAKE VIEW CEMETERY	

## EAST CLEVELAND DEMOGRAPHICS

## SURVEY PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS



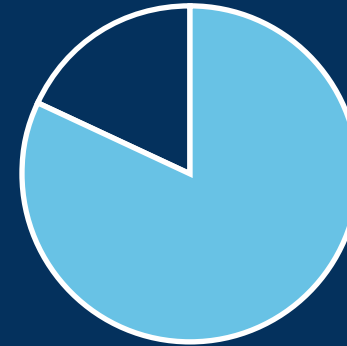
**57%**  
RESIDENTS IDENTIFY  
AS FEMALE



**64%**  
PARTICIPANTS IDENTIFY  
AS FEMALE

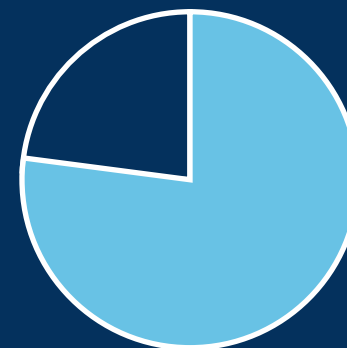


**91%**  
RESIDENTS ARE BLACK  
OR AFRICAN AMERICAN



**82%**  
PARTICIPANTS ARE BLACK  
OR AFRICAN AMERICAN

**13,446**  
TOTAL RESIDENTS OF  
EAST CLEVELAND



**79%**  
PARTICIPANTS LIVE  
OR WORK IN EAST  
CLEVELAND

Source: 2022 Population Estimates  
[census.gov/quickfacts/eastclevelandcityohio](https://census.gov/quickfacts/eastclevelandcityohio)



The Mickey's building at Euclid Ave. and Woodlawn Ave. during the renovation process.

**Neighborhood Context**

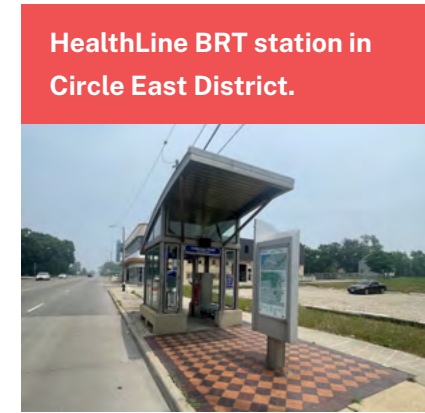
The Circle East District is located along the Euclid Avenue corridor at the southwestern gateway into East Cleveland. A key transit connection between Cleveland and East Cleveland, the HealthLine bus rapid transit (BRT) has a bus stop in each direction near Woodlawn Avenue within the Circle East District. The convenient transit access to University Circle in Cleveland and other destinations in East Cleveland is a valuable asset for the area. University Circle is one of the largest employment centers in Ohio, including internationally renowned hospitals and arts institutions. Located less than a mile from the Circle East District, the East Cleveland Public Library offers a range of cultural programs and community resources for all ages.

Lake View Cemetery provides another key amenity for current and future residents. The closest current entrance to Lake View Cemetery is located along Euclid Avenue. A planning process is considering re-establishing a pedestrian gateway to Lake View Cemetery at Forest Hill Avenue. This new potential entry point would improve convenient access for local residents to enjoy the cemetery's abundant trees and park setting for walking, enjoying nature, and quiet relaxation.

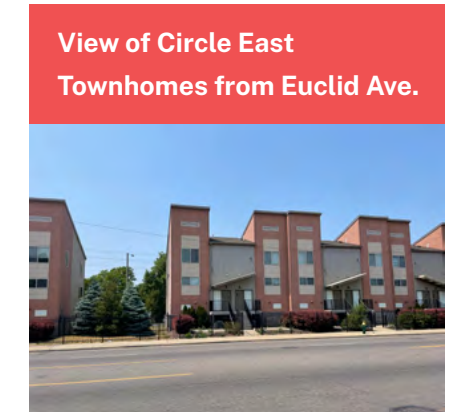
Building on the housing investments at the Circle East Townhomes on the north side of Euclid Ave., the Circle East District envisions new residential and mixed use developments. New housing options would include a range of price options, while providing financial support for home repair to existing residents.



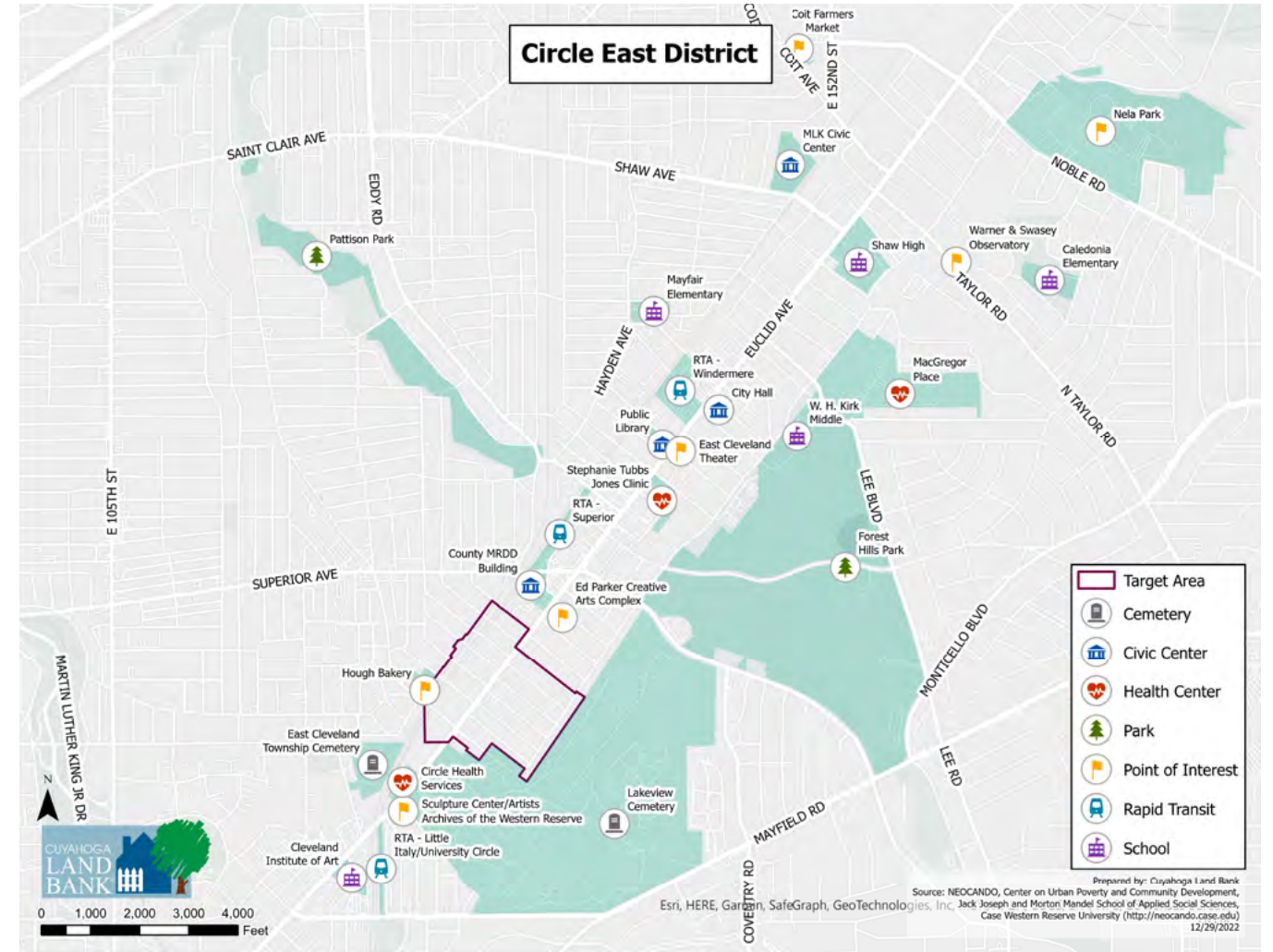
View from Euclid Ave. looking east toward E. 118 St.



HealthLine BRT station in Circle East District.



View of Circle East Townhomes from Euclid Ave.



Residential homes on Roxybury Rd. in the Circle East District.



Entrance to Lake View Cemetery from Euclid Ave.



Aerial view of the Mickey's building before renovation.



### Development Projects

Connect EC complements the residential development planned for the Circle East District. Connect EC identified the physical, cultural, and social identities that will define the neighborhood and support its ongoing evolution.

Circle East District is a joint initiative between the City of East Cleveland and the Cuyahoga Land Bank to revitalize the residential and commercial areas at East Cleveland's Western gateway to University Circle. Through the building of more than 200 homes, the goal is to expand East Cleveland's property and income tax base and kickstart a transformational redevelopment in the area — all while creating a more inclusive and equitable community, where current residents can benefit from the new development.

By rebuilding this district, the City of East Cleveland and the Cuyahoga Land Bank are creating opportunities for new businesses to thrive and for residents to enjoy a vibrant community. Circle East District serves as a catalyst for further development and growth, bringing in more revenue and providing a solid foundation for a prosperous future.

# Circle EAST DISTRICT

Visual renderings of the proposed Circle East District redevelopment created by RDL Architects.



# Process Overview

**The placemaking recommendations presented in the report were developed gradually through a six month community engagement process. The following pages visualize multiple levels of public meetings, outreach actions, and product deliverables all integrated in the process timeline.**

Connect EC's goals were to strengthen the connection between people and the places they share, shape the public realm to maximize shared value, and create the physical, cultural, and social identities that will define this neighborhood and support its ongoing evolution.

Through multiple engagement activities, community members provided the input which guided the design of streetscape elements, green spaces, and the look and feel of the neighborhood. A primary means of embedding local expertise early in the process (March 2023) was hiring a local East Cleveland resident, Najae Jackson, as a paid Street Team Leader to join the consultant team. Najae served a critical role by sharing her local knowledge, inviting residents to participate, and facilitating public events.

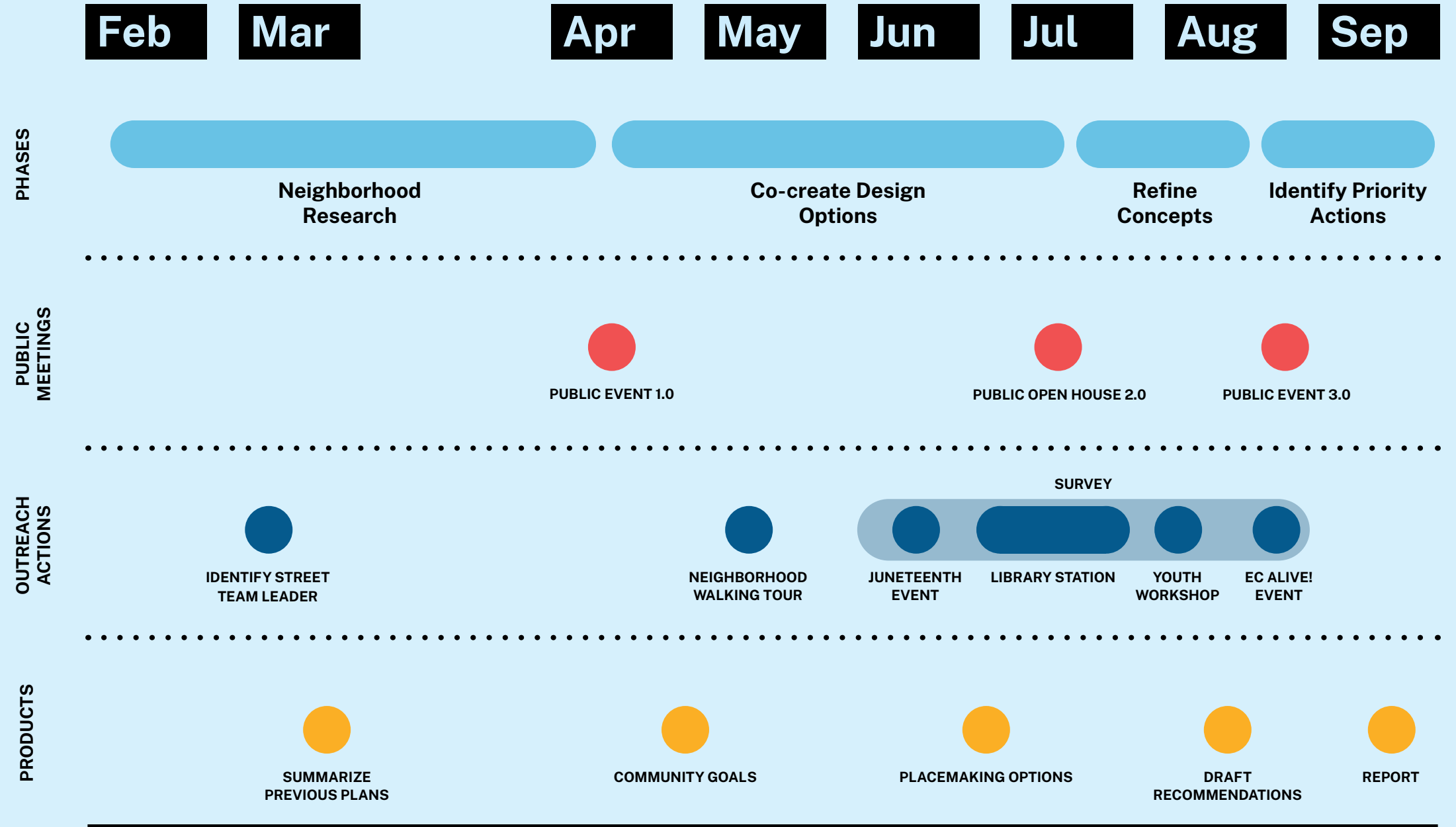
Over the course of the engagement process, nearly 150 individuals either participated in events or shared their feedback online. In-person engagement with current residents of the Circle East District was a top priority for the engagement strategy. This objective was supported by organizing a walking tour in the neighborhood and hosting two of the public events at the Mickey's building, a convenient venue located in the heart of the neighborhood. All East Cleveland residents, employees, and connected stakeholders were welcome to participate — including young residents. In partnership with 3MB mentoring program, the design team facilitated a workshop with local youth in the neighborhood. The insights from these young creative voices provided an important perspective, since they are the community's leaders of the future. Placemaking and placekeeping actions should be designed to benefit community members of all ages, backgrounds, and needs.



PROCESS TIMELINE

Previous Planning History:

- 2015**  
Development Framework & Target Area Plan
- 2020**  
East Cleveland Visioning Project
- 2022**  
Action Plan for East Cleveland Target Area
- 2023**  
→





## PUBLIC EVENTS

**Public engagement for Connect EC included multiple modes for community stakeholders to learn about the Circle East District plans, share their ideas, and understand the final placemaking recommendations.**

The engagement actions included in-person events, as well as online surveys, and engagement boards for public feedback displayed at the East Cleveland Public Library. A large public event was scheduled at three points during the planning process. And smaller, focused events were facilitated in between the larger events to reach additional members of the East Cleveland community. The events and dates are shown in the process diagram on the adjacent page.

Each public event and outreach activity provided new insights, while advancing the overall design process from initial groundwork to final recommendations. At each public event, the feedback received from the previous event was shared with the attendees. In this way, all participants could understand what comments were already shared and where the design concepts originated.

Moving forward, the implementation phase will also require continued engagement and information sharing with the community. As new placemaking investments are realized, the individuals who helped envision those enhancements may form a deeper connection to place, knowing their contributions matter.



**COMMUNITY  
EVENT 1.0**  
APRIL 20



**NEIGHBORHOOD  
WALKING TOUR**  
MAY 24



**PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE  
EVENT 2.0**  
JULY 14



**JUNETEENTH EVENT**  
JUNE 17



**YOUTH FOCUS GROUP**  
AUGUST 23



**MIX IT UP EVENT**  
AUGUST 25



**PUBLIC EVENT 3.0**  
JULY 14

## PROJECT PRIORITIES



### ENVIRONMENT

Promote community cohesion, trust, and safety.



### SAFE CIRCULATION

Improve accessibility to increase connectivity and walkability.



### SIGNAGE

Create signage and public art to set this neighborhood apart as a distinct place.



### AMENITIES

Provide amenities for neighborhood green spaces that are inviting and useful.

Connect EC's project priorities were established at the start of the process. At the first public meeting, these priorities were shared with the community to clarify our shared goals. The placemaking recommendations were developed through community input provided to advance these project priorities.

# SAFETY BY DESIGN

**SAFETY IS AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF ALL FOUR PROJECT PRIORITIES. DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS TO ENHANCE SAFETY ARE INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT THE PLACEMAKING RECOMENDATIONS.** CPTED stands for “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.” It’s a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through urban and environmental design. CPTED strategies aim to reduce opportunities for crime and foster positive social interactions among legitimate users of space, thereby enhancing feelings of safety. There are several core principles associated with CPTED:



**NATURAL SURVEILLANCE:** Increase the visibility of public spaces to ensure that people can see and be seen. Strategies might include street lighting, landscaping that doesn’t obstruct views, and the placement of windows and entrances to overlook public areas.



**NATURAL ACCESS CONTROL:** Direct the flow of people and vehicles by using roads, pathways, entrances, fences, and landscaping. This isn’t about restricting public access, but rather about defining and emphasizing clear boundaries and access points to deter unauthorized entry or activity.



**TERRITORIAL REINFORCEMENT:** Create a clear distinction between public and private spaces using landscaping, pavement designs, signage, and fences. This can help people feel a sense of ownership over an area, which can deter potential offenders because the space is clearly marked and observed by its users.



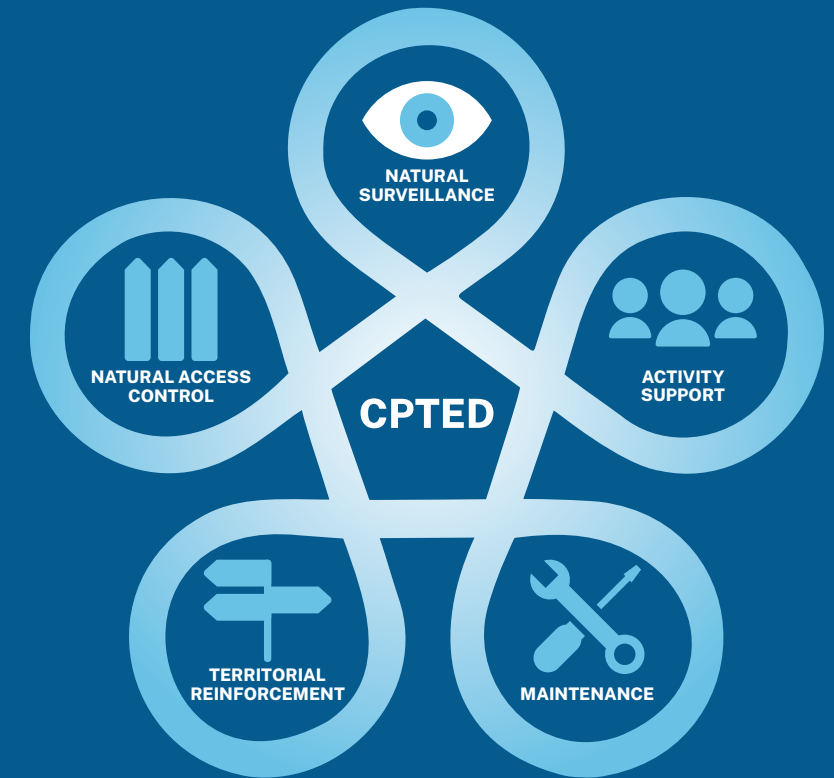
**MAINTENANCE:** Regular maintenance of an area can signal that it is cared for and watched, which can deter criminal activity. Spaces that appear neglected can give the impression that criminal behavior will go unnoticed.



**ACTIVITY SUPPORT:** Encourage activities in public spaces that attract more people for legitimate purposes. Busy areas can deter criminal activity due to the increased number of “natural guardians” or potential witnesses.

**EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF CPTED REQUIRES COLLABORATION AMONG URBAN PLANNERS, ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND THE COMMUNITY.**

By considering these principles when designing and organizing spaces, communities can proactively address security concerns and enhance the overall quality of life for residents.



**LARGE WINDOWS AT UPPER LEVELS PROMOTE CASUAL SUPERVISION OF STREET**

**CLEAR SIGNAGE**

**EXTERIOR BUILDING WELL ILLUMINATED**

**LARGE WINDOWS AT-GRADE PROMOTE SURVEILLANCE FROM STREET**

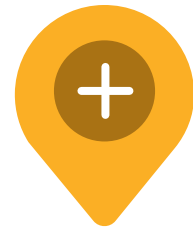
**LANDSCAPING DOESN'T OBSTRUCT VIEWS**

**SEATING ENCOURGES PEOPLE TO ACTIVATE THE SPACE**

**COLORFUL CROSSWALK PAINTED WITH COMMUNITY BUILDS SENSE OF OWNERSHIP**

## PLACEMAKING + PLACEKEEPING

Placemaking and placekeeping are both important concepts in the fields of urban planning, community development, and design, but they address different aspects of the relationship between people and spaces. Here's a breakdown of the key components of each:



### What is PLACEMAKING?

Placemaking means creating places and focusing on transforming public spaces to strengthen the connections between people and these places. Placemaking is a process centered on people and their needs, aspirations, desires, and visions, which rely strongly on community participation.

- 1. Creation or Enhancement:** Placemaking is about shaping the public realm to promote people's health, happiness, and well-being. It involves creating or enhancing public spaces to make them more livable, vibrant, and enjoyable.
- 2. Community Involvement:** Placemaking emphasizes the importance of collaborative and community-driven processes. It involves local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and other community members, in decision-making about how public spaces are designed and used.
- 3. Multifunctional Spaces:** It often seeks to design spaces that are multifunctional, catering to a wide range of activities and purposes.
- 4. Human Scale:** Placemaking prioritizes designing spaces at a human scale, meaning spaces are pedestrian-friendly, accessible, and engage the senses.
- 5. Cultural and Social Activities:** Placemaking initiatives often include components like cultural events, social gatherings, or art installations to animate spaces.
- 6. Economic Vitality:** While placemaking values aesthetic and functional qualities, it often also has an eye towards improving economic vitality—creating spaces where businesses thrive and job opportunities abound.



### What is PLACEKEEPING?

Placekeeping is the active care and maintenance of a place its social fabric by the people who live and work there. It is not just preserving buildings, but keeping the cultural memories associated with a locale alive, while supporting the ability of local people to maintain their way of life as they choose.

- 1. Preservation and Stewardship:** Placekeeping is about preserving, maintaining, and often revitalizing a place's existing cultural, historical, or ecological characteristics. It emphasizes stewardship over change.
- 2. Cultural Identity and Memory:** Placekeeping efforts prioritize the retention of a place's unique identity, especially when it's tied to cultural or historical significance. This can involve protecting historic landmarks, preserving cultural practices, or maintaining traditional land uses.
- 3. Empowerment of Local Communities:** While placemaking also involves the community, placekeeping particularly empowers local residents and stakeholders to have a strong voice in preserving and maintaining their spaces.
- 4. Sustainability:** Placekeeping often focuses on sustainable practices, ensuring that a place's resources, whether cultural or natural, are maintained for future generations.
- 5. Resilience:** This concept can also encompass efforts to make a community or space more resilient to challenges, whether they're environmental, economic, or social.
- 6. Addressing Gentrification:** Placekeeping initiatives often arise as responses to gentrification. They can work to ensure that as areas develop or change, long-time residents are not displaced and the existing cultural fabric of a community is not lost.

# Community Feedback



## Listening. Co-creating. Reviewing. Moving forward, together.

The community engagement process for Connect EC was organized into four stages. The first stage, Groundwork, included background research by the design team on local neighborhood demographics, documentation of existing physical conditions, and review of previous planning documents. Information gathered was presented at Public Event 1.0 to ground truth the data and listen to community members share their priorities for the neighborhood. During the second stage, design options were co-created with participants at Public Event 2.0. The design team then updated the placemaking recommendations in stage three for review at Public Event 3.0. The shared vision developed with community members strengthens the Cuyahoga Land Bank's ability to advance to stage four, Implementation, which requires fundraising and coordination to achieve success.

### Community Feedback Process



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## WHAT: COMMUNITY EVENT 1.0

Where: **Salvation Army  
East Cleveland**  
  
1507 Doan Avenue,  
East Cleveland

When: **Thursday, April 20th  
from 5:30–7:30pm**

# WHAT PLACES HAVE YOU VISITED THAT LOOK AND FEEL LIKE THE KIND OF PLACE YOU'D LIKE TO LIVE OR SPEND TIME IN?

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## LOCATIONS

---

Orlando, FL (green spaces, clean streets, trees shade looks nice + calm, shopping, dense)

---

Forest Hill Park (walkway, pond)

---

Van Aken (connected, shops, events, connect to neighborhood)

---

Coventry (trees, plants, lights, music, library, green space, business, sitting areas)

---

EC in the 60s & 70s

---

University Circle

---

Harlem

---

---

## AMENITIES/OTHER

---

Flowers ★★★★★

---

Greenspaces ★★★

---

Walkable areas ★★★

---

Restaurant ★★★

---

Trees ★

---

Art museum

---

Shade

---

Free WiFi

---

Benches

---

Metal seating (embedded)

---

Grocery store

---

Water feature (running fountain)

---

Playgrounds

---

City own-lease as opposed to private ownership

---

Minority partners

---

Smooth streets

---

---

## ACTIVITIES

---

Place to sit in the shade

---

Theater/plays/movies

---

Walking trail

---

Library social hours

---

Game tables (outdoor)

---

Bowling

---

Lakefront

---

Outdoor event spaces

---

Outdoor eating

---

★ Indicates number of times response was mentioned

# WHAT MAKES THE BEST LOCATION FOR A SMALL PARK OR GREEN SPACE?

More visibility

Situated in a neighborhood



Make it more public, not in people's backyard

Well lit lots of light

Needs more control

Good example: Renaissance (Hough)

Open location

More going on

Dead end may not be safe

Parks in the middle of the target area (connecting walkways)

Cameras

Fences



Mix of both (visible and private areas)

Middle adds safety (always eyes)

Not by a major street

Police patrol

Different sections



# WHAT OTHER THOUGHTS OR IDEAS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE?

EC needs to be diversified

Park area that recognizes veterans (2 Tuskegee Airmen)

Senior living (Ranch style home)



Meeting places (facilities)



Exercise fitness center

Patterson Park

Shopping center

Family restaurant

Ice cream shop

Huge lots, something useful (playground, horseshoes)



Incorporate younger voices

Plans already feel cooked

Activities: skating rink, swimming, bowling alley, movies

Breakfast place and bakery

YMCA (Recreation Center)

Places that accommodate all

Places to walk



# WHAT: NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING TOUR

Where:  
**Woodlawn & Penrose Avenues**  
**12550 Euclid Avenue,**  
**East Cleveland**

When: **Wednesday, May 24th**  
**from 5:30–7:30pm**

## Taking it to the streets.

Cuyahoga Land Bank welcomed local residents and members of the East Cleveland community to join together for a Walking Tour of the Circle East District focus area. Starting at the Mickey's building, over 15 participants walked and talked together to envision future improvements for green spaces, sidewalks, and public art. Over the course of the tour, the design team spoke with residents about their desires for the neighborhood. Participants shared their feedback through surveys, which presented placemaking options for key locations along the walking routes. Responses from the walking tour are incorporated in the community feedback on the following pages.



Participants on the Neighborhood Walking Tour shared their placemaking priorities and design ideas along the routes. Survey questions were provided on mobile devices and print copies for residents to easily share their priorities.





**WHICH STYLE OF WALL MURAL APPEALS TO YOU MOST FOR THE MICKEY'S BUILDING WALL?**  
PLACE A STICKER ON THE SCALE BELOW THE EXAMPLE IMAGE YOU LIKE BEST.



**CARDINAL / CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATION**

**BOLD PATTERNS / AFROFUTURISM**

**HISTORIC / PERFORMING ARTS**



**WHICH STYLE OF SMALL PARK APPEALS TO YOU MOST?**  
PLACE A STICKER ON THE SCALE BELOW THE EXAMPLE IMAGE YOU LIKE BEST.



**HARDSCAPE WITH SHADE STRUCTURE**

**DIVIDED AREAS WITH LAWN & PATHS**

**OPEN LAWN WITH A FEW BENCHES**



**WHICH GREENWAY OPTION APPEALS TO YOU THE MOST?**  
PLACE A STICKER ON THE SCALE BELOW THE EXAMPLE IMAGE YOU LIKE BEST.



**MORE TREES & GRASS LESS HARDSCAPE & SEATING**

**SOME TREES & GRASS SOME HARDSCAPE & SEATING**

**MORE HARDSCAPE + SEATING LESS TREES & GRASS**



**WHICH STYLE OF OUTDOOR CAFE FURNITURE APPEALS TO YOU MOST ALONG EUCLID AVE?**  
PLACE A STICKER ON THE SCALE BELOW THE EXAMPLE IMAGE YOU LIKE BEST.



**TRADITIONAL DARK COLOR**

**RUSTIC NATURAL WOOD**

**MODERN BRIGHT COLOR**



# WHAT: YOUTH WORKSHOP

Where:  
**3MB Mentoring Program**

**1918 Wadena Street,  
East Cleveland, Ohio 44112**

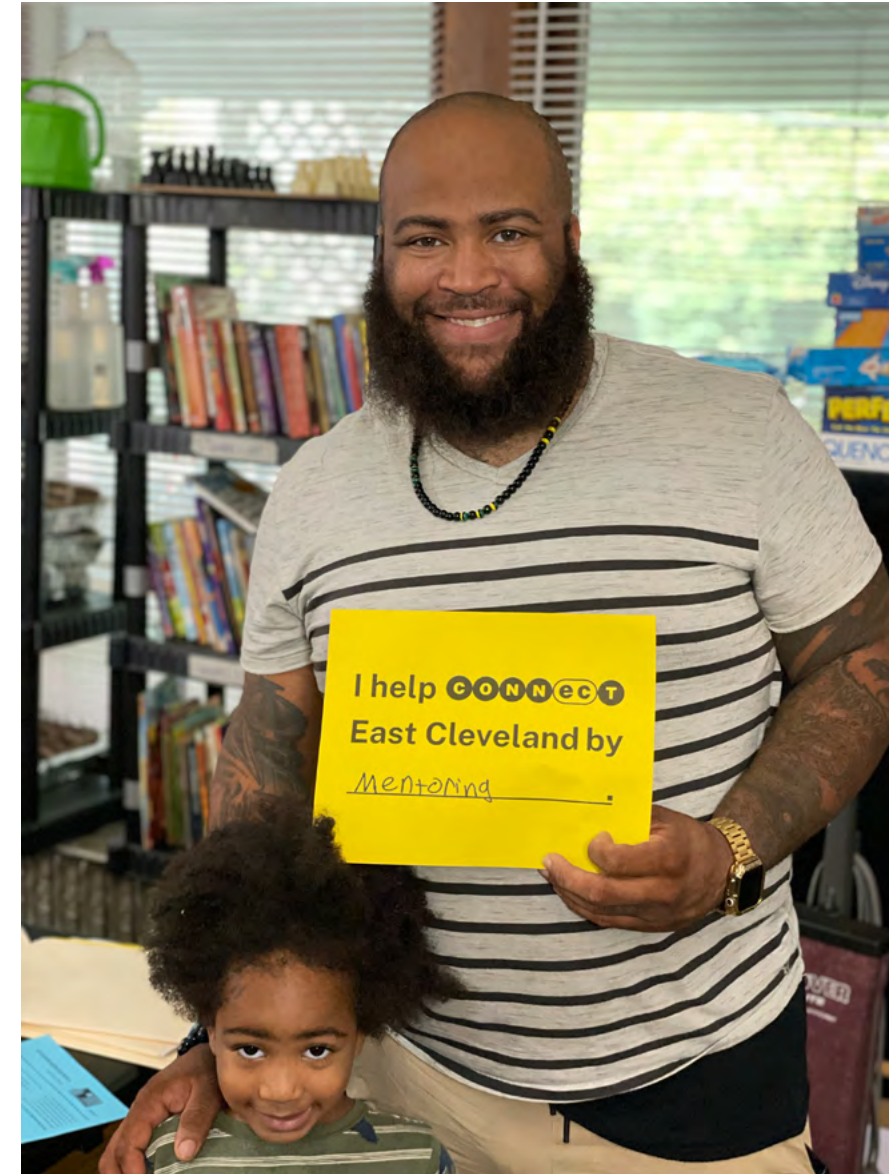
When: **Wednesday, August 23rd  
from 5:00–6:00pm**

### Youth workshop preferences:

- General preference for colorful, vibrant placemaking elements.
- Second favorite mural was “Historic / Performing Arts”. Student said: “It makes people learn about history”
- Chose Greenway option #2: Sidewalk w/ tables & seats
- Chose Pocket Park #2: Divided Areas with lawn and paths, same as general survey respondents

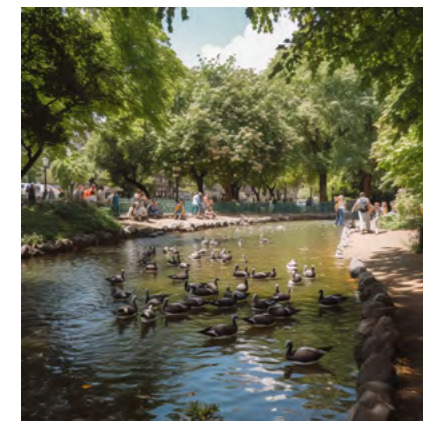
### Improvements they want to see:

- Vacant lots filled with new houses.
- Want more people living here. See more kids outside, not just staying in their houses.
- More community events, like BBQs and small gatherings.
- Places to relax in a park.
- Loved vibrant rendering of the Mickey’s building area.
- Want pole banners to show people from far away that something special is here.



Left: 3MB mentor Roy Smith

Below: AI generated images created by youth workshop participants. The images express their desire for colorful public art elements, creative spaces for play, and natural environments that provide places to relax.



# WHAT: PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE 2.0

Where: Mickey's Building

12550 Euclid Avenue,  
East Cleveland, Ohio 44112

When: Friday, July 14th  
from 3:30–6:30pm

## Interactive, hands-on workshop for all learning styles.

Approximately 50 individuals participated in the second Open House event held in the newly renovated first floor space in the Mickey's building. Based on feedback received during the first public event, the design team developed different options for public art, crosswalks, green spaces, and other placemaking elements to share with the community. Attendees had the opportunity to choose—and create!—their favorite design options at their own pace through interactive engagement stations. The seven stations included a 3D-printed map of the neighborhood, image boards of design options, a video storytelling station, surveys, and a facilitated activity for attendees to create their own realistic images using Artificial Intelligence (AI) software.



In partnership with CollectivExpress, the Open House event included a live DJ playing music and a fun button-making station. Attendees could make their own East Cleveland themed button to take home as a way to share their local pride.



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## WHAT: PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE 2.0

**Where:** Mickey's Building

**12550 Euclid Avenue,  
East Cleveland, Ohio 44112**

**When:** Friday, July 14th from  
**3:30 - 6:30pm**

### Expressing future visions through stories.

The Public Open House event included a storytelling station, where the design team videorecorded participants as they shared stories of the future neighborhood they want to see. Many of the participants talked about their favorite memories of the past as a starting point for what they want to experience again. A key theme was the desire to see the area return as a revitalized neighborhood — a place with occupied homes in the place of vacant lots. Residents hoped for neighborhood businesses to open up again. Places to buy healthy food or stop in for coffee and stay to talk with neighbors. One local resident described her hope to see more children in neighborhood, playing safely in front yards or in a small park together with their friends.

“We’ve got to  
put it back  
the way it was  
years ago.”

—GLORIA



**WHAT:  
PUBLIC  
EVENT 3.0**

**Where: Mickey's Building**

**12550 Euclid Avenue,  
East Cleveland, Ohio 44112**

**When: Wednesday, August  
30th from 5:30 - 7:00pm**

# WHICH PLACEMAKING ACTIONS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN FIRST?



## QUICK WINS!

WHICH PLACEMAKING ACTIONS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN FIRST?

Prioritize each item below from 1-10.

### GREENWAY

- Pathway @ Greenway
- Seating @ Greenway
- Trees @ Greenway

### PUBLIC ART

- Wall mural @ Mickey's
- Bus shelter graphics
- Window art @ Mickey's

### LANDSCAPE

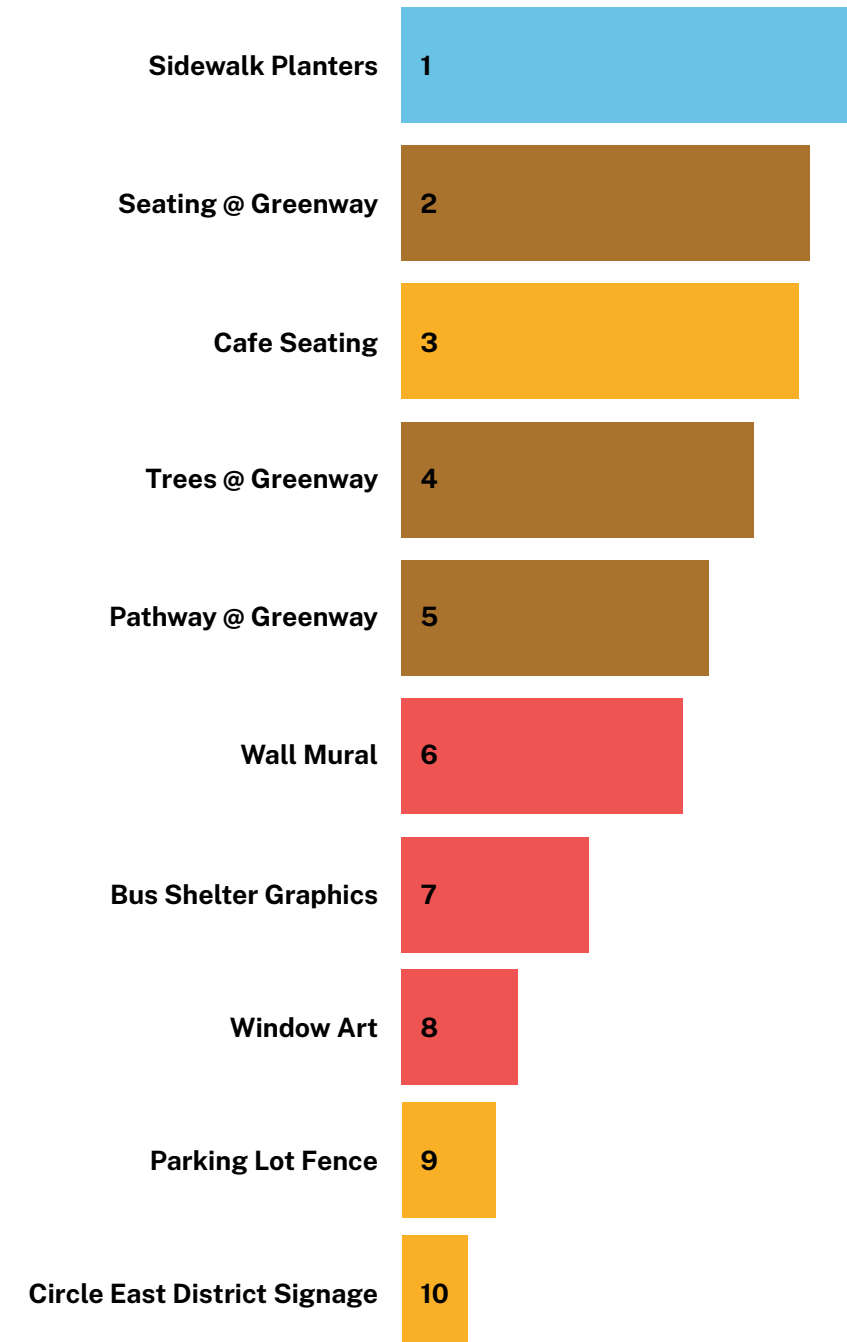
- Sidewalk planters on Euclid

### STREETSCAPE

- Café seating on Euclid
- Parking lot fence @ Mickey's
- Circle East District signage

### Implementation Priorities.

After presenting all the Placemaking Actions during the third public event, attendees were given scorecards to rank short-term actions in order of importance. The graphic below shows the community members' scores, prioritizing the action they would like to happen first (1) to last (10).



# I HELP CONNECT EAST CLEVELAND BY...

Encouraging people to meet their neighbors at Circle East District.



Mentoring.



City investments.



Planting flowers.



Talking to neighbors.



Creating conversation about mental health & self-awareness through my art!



Reminding non residents that people who live & work in EC matter!



Advocacy!



Making my street a little more beautiful.



Supporting youth.



Community members shared their ideas and preferred locations for placemaking actions through a range of engagement methods. A 3D-printed map of the neighborhood provided at the second Open House event gave attendees a hands-on way to communicate their priorities. The feedback was documented and used to guide the final placemaking recommendations outlined in this report.

Lakeview Rd



# Placemaking: Main Themes

**Nature-inspired Design:**  
healing and sustainable



“We need trees!”



“I love flowers & the outdoors. It helps people relax as well.”

**Arts & Culture:**  
both historic and present

“It’s important to celebrate the history of the arts. This district also connects to the museums and Severance Hall.”



Based on the community feedback received through the multiple events and outreach actions, four main themes emerged. These themes were used to guide implementation of the placemaking recommendations and future investments for the Circle East District.

**Brighten Up Neighborhood:**  
colorful and bold moments

“Color brings life, happiness, and a more futurist look to a new community.”



**Welcoming Spirit:**  
local pride and diversity



“It just looks more inviting/welcoming.”



“Appealing to people traveling by foot, bike or motor vehicles.”

# Action Plan

**The Action Plan includes 30 placemaking actions organized into five categories, shown on the right.**

Covering a range of public art, functional, and natural enhancements, the collective set of actions are intended to improve the quality of life for current and future residents of the Circle East District. The recommendations were envisioned and refined over multiple points of engagement with the community. Building on the four initial Project Priorities for Connect EC, residents shared their experiences in the neighborhood and contributed ideas for what changes they would like to see.

In the following pages, the Action Plan outlines all 30 placemaking actions, as well as proposed locations, connections to help lead the projects, and a proposed implementation timeline. The locations for each action were selected to complement the current redevelopment plans for new housing. But as these plans may change, so may the exact locations of the actions. Additional background on the purpose and preferences for the actions are provided in the report to help make decisions in the future when inevitable tradeoffs will need to be made.

Cuyahoga Land Bank is the primary lead on many of the placemaking actions, but some projects fall in the jurisdiction of partner organizations, such as GCRTA or the City of East Cleveland.

Lastly, a timeframe has been assigned to each placemaking action, ranging from Short-term (1-2 years), to Mid-term (2-5 years), and Long-term (5+ years). Transforming a neighborhood placemaking vision into reality is a complex process that can take many years to fully realize. Continued coordination and communication will be necessary to ensure all projects are completed in a manner aligned with community support.



**GREENWAY**



**POCKET PARK**



**PUBLIC ART**




**STREETSCAPE**



**LANDSCAPE**

ACTION	PROPOSED LOCATION	CONNECTIONS	TIMEFRAME
<b>GREENWAY</b>			
1  Pathway	Extends from Woodlawn Ave. to Wadena St.	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
2  Seating	Locations between Woodlawn and Wadena	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
3  Public Art	Various locations along the Greenway	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
4  Trees	Various locations along the Greenway	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
<b>POCKET PARK</b>			
5  Picnic Tables	Forest Hill Ave between Woodlawn and Penrose	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
6  Playscape	In park near Penrose Ave	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
7  Plantings	In park near sidewalks	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
8  Shade Structure	In park near Penrose Ave	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
<b>PUBLIC ART</b>			
9  Wall Mural	Mickey’s building eastern wall	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
10  Bike Racks	Adjacent to bus shelter on Euclid Ave, Pocket Park, Greenway, and other locations	Cuyahoga Land Bank, GCRTA, City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
11  Cardinal Sculpture	Suitable location along Euclid Ave	City of East Cleveland	Long (5+ years)
12  Bus Shelter Graphics	Bus shelter on Euclid Ave near Woodlawn	GCRTA, Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
13  Manhole Covers	Various locations on streets	City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
14  Mickey’s Storefront Art	Mickey’s building	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)

ACTION		PROPOSED LOCATION	CONNECTIONS	TIMEFRAME
<b>LANDSCAPE</b>				
15	 Walking Trail	Route connects Euclid, Woodlawn, Forest Hill, Penrose, and Lake View Cemetery	City of East Cleveland, Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
16	 Rain Garden	Locate based on water drainage assessment	Cuyahoga Land Bank, City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
17	 Street Trees	Various locations along residential streets	Cuyahoga Land Bank, City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
18	 Landscape Planting Beds	Various locations	City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
19	 Sidewalk Planters	Euclid Ave and Woodlawn Ave	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
<b>STREETSCAPE</b>				
20	 Café Seating	In front of the Mickey's building	Café Operator	Short (1–2 years)
21	 Welcome to East Cleveland Sign	Along Euclid Avenue, site TBD	City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
22	 Benches	At edge of Greenway and park space	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
23	 Crosswalks	Across Woodlawn Ave and Penrose Ave	City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
24	 Curb Bumpouts	Euclid Avenue and side streets	City of East Cleveland, GCRTA	Long (5+ years)
25	 Wider Sidewalks	Where possible	City of East Cleveland, Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)
26	 Streetpole Banners	Along Euclid Ave between Lakeview & Lockwood	City of East Cleveland	Long (5+ years)
27	 Parking Lot Fence	Behind Mickey's parking lots	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
28	 Residential Streetlights	Woodlawn, Penrose, Lakeview, Brightwood, Wadena, Farmington	City of East Cleveland	Mid (2–5 years)
29	 Circle East District Signage	Various locations	Cuyahoga Land Bank	Short (1–2 years)
30	 Walking Route Signage	3/4 mile loop along Euclid, Greenway, and Park	City of East Cleveland, Cuyahoga Land Bank	Mid (2–5 years)

# Project Locations

**Guided by feedback received through the mapping exercises conducted during the engagement process, the placemaking actions were assigned locations throughout the Circle East District.**

The 30 actions and their corresponding locations are shown in the Action Map on the following pages. As the neighborhood redevelopment process is evolving and must consider potentially unexpected circumstances, the exact locations may change. But the design rationale and community insights behind the selected places should continue to drive decisions for implementation.

As shown in the Action Map, many of the placemaking recommendations concentrate along Euclid Avenue, the greenway, and pocket park. In general, residents were eager to locate projects where they would be most visible. Euclid Avenue is a main transportation corridor through East Cleveland and Cleveland, providing a highly visible zone to express the Circle East District's distinct character. Many of the streetscape elements and public art opportunities are located along this "front door" to the district.

The greenway area is located in the center of the neighborhood and stretches across three blocks, from Woodlawn Avenue to Wadena Street. In addition to providing recreational and relaxation amenities, the greenway also serves to shorten the length of the long blocks between Euclid Avenue and Forest Hill Avenue. Shorter blocks are desirable to improve walkability, reducing the distance neighbors need to walk get to parallel streets.

Although the pocket park is currently shown at the end of Woodlawn and Penrose Avenues, the exact placement may move to another available site within the target area. Long-term stewardship and maintenance of park spaces are critical to ensuring safety and repeated use by residents. So, the ultimate location of the park must consider suitable sites where stewardship of the space can be ensured.

In between Euclid Avenue, the greenway, and park space, a variety of landscape and streetscape elements connect the placemaking identity together. As whole, the 30 Placemaking Actions provide needed resident amenities and help tell an authentic placekeeping story.



# ACTION MAP

## GREENWAY

- 1 Pathway
- 2 Seating
- 3 Public Art
- 4 Trees

## POCKET PARK

- 5 Picnic Tables
- 6 Playscape
- 7 Plantings
- 8 Shade Structure

## PUBLIC ART

- 9 Wall Mural
- 10 Bike Racks
- 11 Cardinal Sculpture
- 12 Bus Shelter Graphics
- 13 Manhole Covers
- 14 Mickey's Storefront Art

## LANDSCAPE

- 15 Walking Trail
- 16 Rain Garden
- 17 Street Trees
- 18 Planting Beds
- 19 Sidewalk Planters

## STREETSCAPE

- 20 Cafe Seating
- 21 Welcome to East Cleveland Sign
- 22 Benches
- 23 Crosswalks
- 24 Curb Bumpouts
- 25 Wider Sidewalks
- 26 Streetpole Banners
- 27 Parking Lot Fence
- 28 Residential Streetlights
- 29 Circle East District Signage
- 30 Walking Route Signage





## GREENWAY

**A greenway is a strip of undeveloped land, repurposed for recreational use, that is preserved in an urban area. The proposed greenway can serve various functions for the Circle East District. Some of the key features and benefits of the greenway include:**

**Recreation:** The greenway provides a multi-use trail for walking, jogging, cycling, and other recreational activities. It is a safe, off-street path connecting neighbors parks, cultural landmarks, or natural features.

**Habitat Preservation:** Greenways serve as corridors for local wildlife, especially in urban areas where habitat is fragmented. This is crucial for the movement and survival of various species.

**Environmental Protection:** Greenways can improve water quality by acting as buffers to filter pollutants from stormwater runoff.

**Transportation:** When integrated into the transportation network, the greenway provides a safe, non-motorized route for commuting and traveling.

**Cultural and Historic Preservation:** Greenways can be designed to highlight and recognize local historic or cultural sites.

**Economic Benefits:** Greenways can boost local economies by stabilizing property values and attracting residents. They can also provide opportunities for local businesses, by providing better mobility connections for nearby neighbors.

**Connection:** The greenway can serve to connect neighborhoods, parks, schools, and other key destinations, fostering a sense of community and making it easier for residents to access various amenities.

**Urban Heat Island Mitigation:** The vegetation in the greenway can help reduce the urban heat island effect, a phenomenon where urban areas become significantly warmer than their surroundings due to human activities and infrastructure.

**Education:** Greenways can be used as outdoor classrooms where people can learn about local ecology, history, and environmental stewardship.

**Aesthetic Benefits:** They provide scenic value and opportunities for reflection and relaxation within urbanized settings.





**GREENWAY CONCEPTUAL RENDERING**  
**Between Woodlawn Avenue**  
**and Wadena Street**

5 minutes

Outdoor Exercise Equip.

Community Garden Beds

Pedestrian Lightpoles

12' Multi-Use Path

Greenway expanded to include Pocket Park

BBQ Grills

Benches

Pavilion

Natural Play Area

Wood Vertical Fence

Picnic Tables

Townhomes connection to Greenway

Midblock Crosswalk

Planting Bed

Safety Bollard

Stone Block Seating

Bench w/ Trash Can on concrete pad





## GREENWAY Between Woodlawn Avenue and Wadena Street



The greenway section between Woodlawn Avenue and Penrose Avenue could include a number of amenities for local residents and visitors to the neighborhood. The winding 12' wide multi-use path could provide a safe and comfortable surface for walking, jogging and riding a bike. Lawn spaces open up amongst the trees for small events. A pavilion could serve as a covered outdoor space for block club meetings or family celebrations.



## GREENWAY

Greenways can vary in size and length, from narrow ribbons of green that wind through urban settings to wider corridors that might span several municipalities or even entire regions. The greenway highlights the recognition that preserving and creating green spaces within urban environments is essential for the well-being of residents, environmental health, and overall urban sustainability.

- 1 Pathway:** 12' wide multi-use pathway constructed of chipseal or asphalt, suitable for walking, jogging, and riding bikes comfortably.
- 2 Seating:** Fixed bench seating wide enough for 3-4 individuals to relax.
- 3 Public Art:** The greenway may include spaces for various public art uses along the trail, such as mosaic artwork created with local artist.
- 4 Trees:** A variety of tree species could be planted along the greenway, providing visual interest and shade.





# GREENWAY

2

**Seating:** Residents shared a preference for fixed benches along the Greenway, providing comfortable spots to relax and socialize with neighbors. Examples below illustrate benches with seatbacks, natural materials, and pops of color. These characteristics reinforce the placemaking main themes derived from the public feedback.

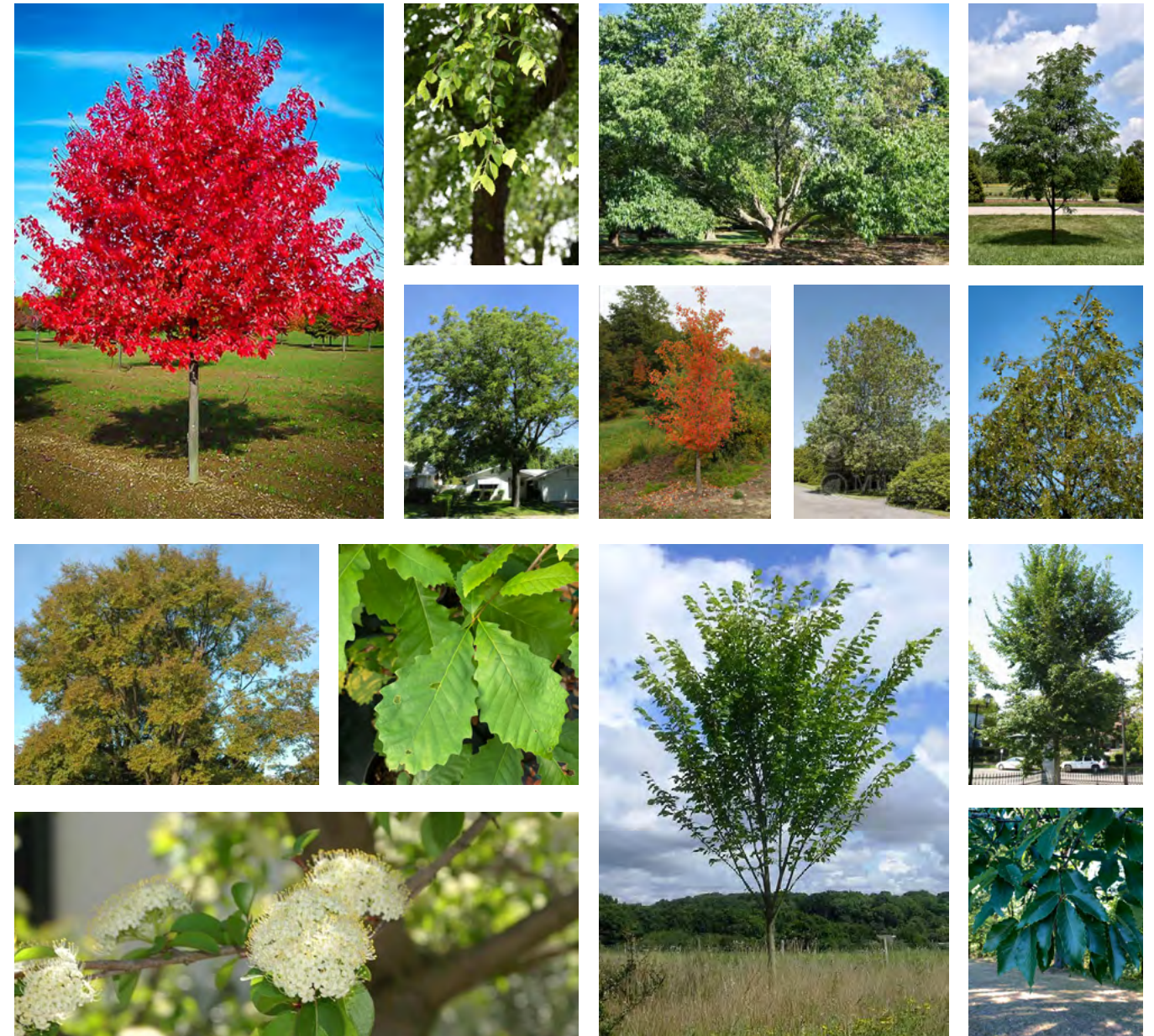
Right: The soofa bench provides solar powered charging ports.

Below and bottom right: The BLOCQ bench with lights and power outlets.



4

**Trees:** Over 14 species of trees, shown below, will be planted in the Greenway, providing a variety of colors and natural habitats.





**GREENWAY**



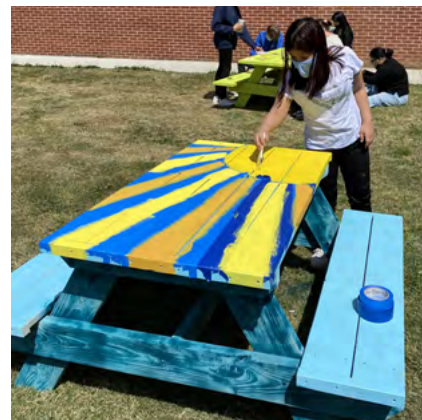


## POCKET PARK

A park provides needed greenspace for a range of uses desired by residents. A pocket park, often referred to as a mini-park, is a small urban green space that provides recreational and aesthetic benefits to the surrounding community.

Typically situated in urban areas with limited open space, these parks are usually only a few house lots in size or even smaller. Despite their small size, pocket parks play a vital role in the urban fabric.

The actual location of the park in the Circle East District may vary based on available land, suitability of adjacent development, and maintenance potential. Regardless of the final location, the pocket park should provide the scale and features that local residents prefer. Key features of the pocket park are included in the Action Plan and further explained below.



**5 Picnic Tables:** Seating opportunities that afford amenities to both sit and eat, while providing flexibility in terms of location. The picnic tables also offer an opportunity for community participation. Organized as an activity for all ages, the picnic tables could be painted with local residents, increasing a sense of ownership and long-term stewardship.



**6 Playscape:** A space dedicated within the park for young people to play and socialize is an important amenity for community members. The playscape could be constructed from natural elements, including soft wood chips, tree stumps of various sizes, and large rocks for climbing to encourage creative exploration, while reinforcing the Nature-inspired Design placemaking theme.



**7 Plantings:** Native plant species offer the benefits of colorful visual appeal, while requiring lower water and maintenance needs. A few planting beds within the pocket park can provide the vibrant moments community members desire, as well as natural habitat for pollinator species.



**8 Shade Structure:** Many residents shared their desire for a shade structure or pavilion in a park setting. A small outdoor space protected from rain and direct sunlight would greatly expand opportunities for neighborhood gatherings and events. Combined with fixed benches, the shade structure provides an ideal location for block club meetings, birthday parties, or community cookouts. The management and process for residents to reserve the space is an important consideration that should be included in the implementation plan.



# POCKET PARK CONCEPTUAL PLAN



Community members were eager to see a new and inviting green space within the Circle East District. A small pocket park offers a scale large enough to include a range of amenities, while limiting the maintenance requirements for a larger space. The exact location of the park may change to best align with available land, adjacent uses, and long-term stewardship agreements.



## PUBLIC ART

**Public art refers to art that is located in public spaces, usually outside and accessible to all. It is specifically created for the public to experience. Public art can take a wide range of forms, including sculptures, murals, installations, landscaping, and even performances, among others. Here are some key aspects of public art:**

**Accessibility:** One of the defining characteristics of public art is its accessibility to the general public. It's not confined within the walls of a museum or gallery but is integrated into the urban or natural landscape where people can experience it as part of their daily lives.

**Engagement:** Public art often engages with its surroundings, either by reflecting the nature of a specific place, its history, or its community. This engagement can be aesthetic, social, political, or a combination of these and other factors.

**Diverse Forms and Media:** While traditional forms like statues and murals are common, public art also includes digital projections, sound installations, temporary interventions, and community art projects.

**Community Involvement:** Many public art projects involve the community, either in their conceptualization, creation, or both. Such projects can foster community pride, create a sense of ownership, and strengthen communal bonds.

**Economic and Social Impact:** Public art can have a positive economic impact on a community by attracting tourists and enhancing the appeal of public spaces. Furthermore, it can serve as a medium to address social issues, foster dialogue, or celebrate community identity.

**Temporality:** While some public art pieces are meant to be permanent fixtures, others are temporary installations that might exist for a short duration. Temporary works allow for more flexibility and experimentation, and they can respond to immediate contemporary concerns.

**Maintenance and Conservation:** Being exposed to the elements and public interaction, public art often requires maintenance. This can pose challenges, especially for unconventional materials or interactive installations.

**Funding:** Public art is often funded through a combination of public and private sources. Some municipalities have percent-for-art programs, where a percentage of the budget for a public project (like a new building or infrastructure) is set aside for public art.

**Integration with Urban Planning:** In some cities, public art is integrated into the urban planning process, considering how it can enhance public spaces, transportation hubs, and other communal areas.

Overall, public art enriches the cultural, social, and visual experience of public spaces, making art a shared experience that sparks conversation, reflection, and community engagement.

Below: Image of a wall mural design concept expressing an Afrofuturism theme generated with Midjourney, an Artificial Intelligence (AI) software tool.





## PUBLIC ART

The blank wall on the northeast side of the Mickey's building offers one of the only opportunities for a large public art mural in the neighborhood. Clearly visible from Euclid Avenue, the blank canvas is a prime location for a defining and memorable public art project.

9

**Wall Mural:** A public art wall mural is a piece of artwork that is painted or applied directly on a large permanent surface, typically on the exterior wall of a public or private building.

Ideas and preferences for a wall mural were captured through a range of public engagement methods. Initially, three conceptual ideas were presented through a placemaking survey and display boards. Historic/Performing Arts, the most popular, received 46% of the votes. Cardinal/Children's Illustration received 32% and Bold Patterns/Afrofuturism received 29%. In addition to the survey method, community members were also given the opportunity to generate their own mural images using Artificial Intelligence software, UrbanistAI, resulting in the examples on the adjacent page. The wide range of creative images are organized in four general themes: Nature; Local Artists and Performers; African Culture; and Diverse Children. These examples are intended to provide inspiration to the artist selected, who will create the mural.



The Mickey's building offers a potential blank canvas for a large public art wall mural. Preferences gathered and example images generated by the community can help inspire the creative work of the artist ultimately chosen to design the actual mural. This placemaking action is a valuable opportunity for a local artist to interpret and express a meaningful identity for the Circle East District and its residents.



Images below created by community members using Artificial Intelligence tool UrbanistAI.

**Nature:** local wildlife, trees, flowers, and natural patterns



**Local Artists and Performers:** images or portraits of notable figures in music, theater, and the visual arts



**African Culture:** colorful african patterns, cultural garments,



**Diverse Children:** images of young people of different backgrounds







## PUBLIC ART

10

**Bike Racks:** In support of the Safe Circulation project priority, bike racks provided needed amenities for bicycle riders and encourage people to stop by local businesses. It's hard to beat the tried and true design of the basic circular bike rack. But the color can add a pop of vibrancy, while reinforcing the Circle East District brand identity.



11

**Cardinal Sculpture:** A red cardinal, the mascot for Shaw High School, is a recurring element residents felt expressed a unique local identity. Conceptual images of a large cardinal statue, created with generative AI software, are shown below next to a real example from Vancouver.



Actual statue from Vancouver.

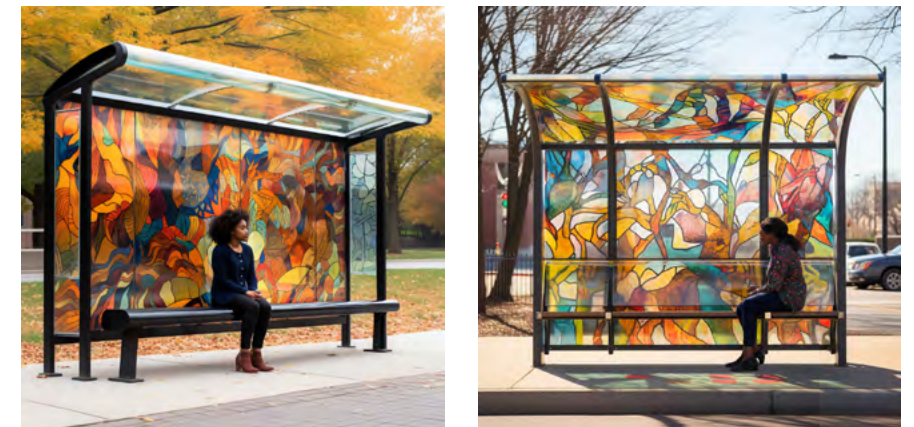


12

**Bus Shelter Graphics:** Access to RTA's HealthLine is a valuable amenity for residents of the Circle East District. The BRT bus stations will likely require design updates in the near future. In partnership with RTA, the new bus stations could incorporate temporary or permanent public art elements to reinforce the district's placemaking themes.



The bus shelter examples to the right are AI generated images created to express nature-inspired and colorful patterns in alignment with the placemaking themes.



13

**Manhole Covers:** Commonly overlooked infrastructure can also function as a canvas for creativity. Increasingly, cities across the world are collaborating with artists to transform manhole covers into delightful moments to look down and appreciate memorable works of art.





# LANDSCAPE

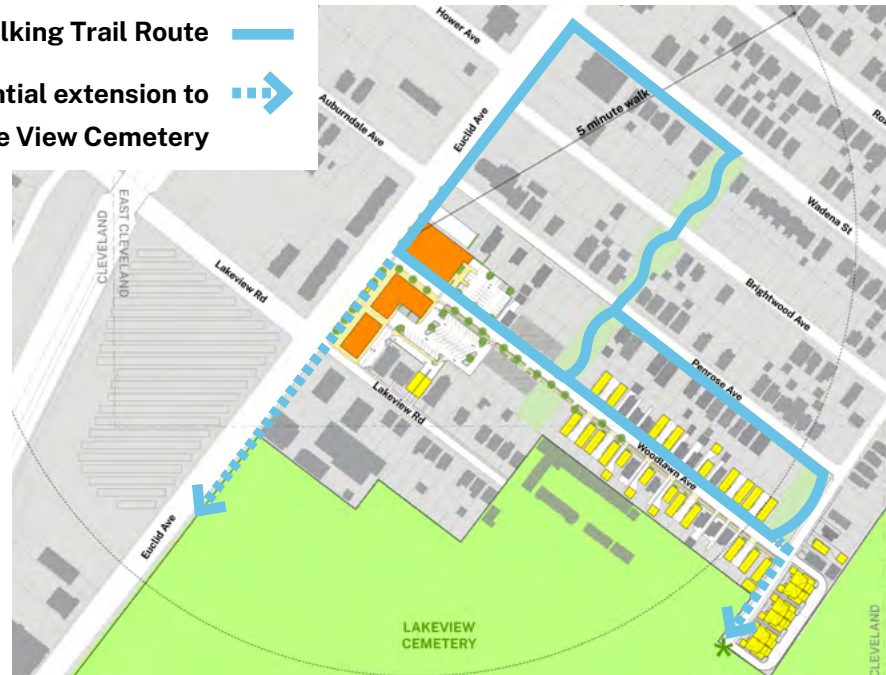
The placemaking actions identified in the landscape category include a range of interventions to increase human exposure to nature beyond the boundaries of the greenway and park. Through plantings or walking trails, these actions expand the benefits of engaging with nature to experiences on the street.

15

**Walking Trail:** Initially introduced by attendees at the first public meeting, the idea for a walking trail was repeatedly mentioned in the resident feedback. Comments shared during the Neighborhood Walking Tour highlighted the need for clearly identified and safe walking routes. Currently, many of the sidewalks in the neighborhood are in disrepair, overgrown, or too narrow for comfortable use. The walking trail is essentially a 3/4 to 1 mile loop through the neighborhood. Utilizing the greenway multi-use trail, pocket park, and newly widened sidewalks, the figure-8 layout of the walking trail could provide different route options for daily walkers. Walking route signage located at key intersections would provide useful distance information and include wayfinding directions to micro-destinations in the neighborhood.



**Walking Trail Route** ———  
**Potential extension to Lake View Cemetery** - - - ->



18

**Landscape Planting Beds:** The redevelopment of the Circle East District includes opportunities to expand existing sidewalks and introduce needed greenery in the urban environment. Landscape planting beds provide a valuable placemaking enhancement by creating buffers between car traffic and pedestrian walking areas. The three landscaping options above were presented to community members and the option on the far right was chosen as an overwhelming favorite. It features low landscape fencing, street trees, benches, and maintains high visibility at eye level.

19

**Sidewalk Planters:** In locations where the sidewalk is not sufficiently wide to create landscape planting beds, movable sidewalk planters offer small-scale moments of vibrant color and natural vegetation. Selected by community members as the preferred short-term action to happen first, sidewalk planters could enhance the visual appeal along Euclid Avenue's commercial corridor and adjacent segments of residential streets. The eye-catching red color of the planter recalls Shaw High School and contrasts with the natural green tones of plants used throughout the seasons.





## STREETSCAPE

A streetscape refers to the visual elements of a street, including its design, the layout and character of buildings and open spaces, the plantings and features, and all other elements that constitute the physical character of the street. In essence, it is the collective visual identity of a street or series of streets in an urban setting. The placemaking actions in the streetscape category include a wide variety of functional elements, like benches, crosswalks, and signage. Intentionally designing or selecting existing products for streetscape elements that align with the placemaking main themes will help create an attractive and cohesive sense of place.

20

**Café Seating:** The preferred design for sidewalk seating selected by community members was the most bright and colorful option. As shown below, the modern red chairs create a visual attraction along the street corridor, inviting locals and visitors to patronize the adjacent café. The final selection of the sidewalk furniture should be coordinated by the operator of the business establishment.



23

**Crosswalks:** During the neighborhood walking tours, one of the first comments residents made focused on the need for improved crosswalks. Particularly, the intersections at Euclid Avenue and adjacent side streets. Three crosswalk design options were presented through the survey and the clear favorite was the colorful example above, shown on the far right. A new crosswalk could be painted with community participation. Residents of all ages could contribute, filling in a design created by a local artist. This placemaking action would increase safety by drawing vehicle driver attention to pedestrian spaces, while building community in the process.





# STREETSCAPE



The renovated Mickey's building at Euclid Avenue and Woodland Avenue is a highly visible location that incorporates a variety of placemaking actions.

- 10 Bike Racks
- 14 Mickey's Storefront Art
- 19 Sidewalk Planters
- 20 Café Seating
- 22 Benches
- 23 Crosswalk
- 24 Curb Bumpout
- 25 Wider Sidewalks
- 26 Streetpole Banners
- 28 Residential Streetlights
- 30 Walking Route Signage

# APPENDIX

## SURVEY DATA

1. If a painted mural was created by an artist on the Mickey's building wall, which style of wall mural appeals to you most for this location?



2. Why did you choose the wall mural option?

- Black excellence. Bright colors.
- Bold patterns, more diversity with different ethnicities and different cultures.
- Community painted mural
- Afrocentric, family oriented, community driven
- "Love the mural idea! Historic, bold, and afro-future. Hough Bakery? Ed?
- A little bit about history + cultural arts w/ modern twist? Theatre
- Soothing, joyful
- Because its important to celebrate the history of the arts. This district also connects to the museums and severance hall.
- Because this wall would be an entrance into University Circle where indigenous need to advance for inclusion. It is also an art work that speaks to the young in that the future is now and that education opportunity is now on the other side considering their possibilities.
- It represents the past, present, and future for black people.
- Afro futurism points to future possibilities. I appreciate the music one but East Cleveland needs to be able to envision future possibilities.
- I think that the colors of this mural will change people's perspective
- Because I like the bird and the leaves and the colors
- It looks nice
- It makes people learn about history
- It shows a lot of history and culture
- Rainbow colors
- The colors and women's hair
- It speaks to the black history in the community

# SURVEY DATA

I like it  
I like the arts  
The power of history and legacy  
History is important  
Children & Nature  
More African history. Some performing arts. Our African heritage was taken from us!  
We do not know enough about our culture!  
Calming  
Light, easy on the eyes  
The colors  
It's prettier, but we need more \*diversity\*. East Cleveland residents are not all the same.  
I want to see our kids having fun in their neighborhood  
Serene feeling  
A more culture setting for the types of events that'll take place by the people of E.C.  
Showing off different cultural arts in the area, The library, E.C. Theater.  
I love the bold colors and striking features of the young ladies.  
Contemporary  
To pay homage to the past  
It's all about the next generation.  
Very colorful  
Bright! Future-facing  
History which can tell a lot of stories  
Historical & says a lot about the culture  
I love murals with kids  
To show diversity with in the community  
I feel like it gives pride to community members and every loves music and entertainment.  
We need young professionals excited to live in this district.  
The Future  
its vibrant and gives good energy  
I feel it brings class and style.  
Cleveland has a rich & diverse art district.  
Captures a variety of our culture  
This wall mural is modern but displays history.  
The children of East Cleveland needs to see accomplished African Americans as much as possible

It celebrates the brilliance of Black people and artistry throughout history.  
The Mickey's building was built decades ago, and is a historical building in the city of East Cleveland.

I'm interested in having a safe place for children in a creative learning atmosphere to learn to appreciate the changes in their neighborhood.

I would love to have a project entitled "Let your BRAIN do it's thing. This project will educate the youth to become active participants in their community using creative expression such dancing, learning new skills and challenging them to appreciate the MIRACLE happening in East Cleveland.

### 3. What else would you like to see in the future at this location?

Playground

Free parking

Safe seating far from the curb, dust debris

Some parking is better than none. Although the there is plenty of on street parking. Would like seating out here.

Outdoor seating

Music

Informed, Black families who own their homes.

Benches, take pictures?

Great shops and cafes

It open. It has been sitting there all of my life. I walked those streets and wondered what it was. Many people have inquired and it was always not an option. Its been a dead sleeping stone block we walked past for decades.

Luxury, high rise 3-4 bedroom affordable condos with amenities. Police presence for safety. Single standalone business buildings-affordable for new business owners.

Opportunities for new black owned restaurants. Community Park for Circle East residents only. Community input.

I think the people of East Cleveland would like it

A little park or benches

More people

A tree and a bench

More seating

Bench

A charging station and metal trash can to keep the area clean and neat

# SURVEY DATA

- Did not go there yet.
- Ice cream
- Greenery & lights
- African History Museum
- The sign fixed
- A place for senior hang out
- Diversity, trees, flowers, rehab existing homes.
- Playground
- More with children of all races
- A movie theatre place
- Outside concerts
- More community festival hosted by the City. More home renovation funding/projects for residents.
- Patio
- After school programs & an area where people can buy food (grocery store).
- A small entertainment district would be nice.
- More art
- Something EC-specific
- Decorative lighting, food centre, rec hall
- A nice family restaurant
- more community meetings
- Maybe some community meeting space.
- Outdoor seating and landscaping
- Museum History of East Cleveland
- starbucks and eatery
- a park area for gathering
- Neighborhood garden
- Plants and flowers.
- Food Bank
- I know several young entrepreneurs that have mastered new skills that need work space so they can improve their brands.

## 4. At the corner of Euclid Ave. and Woodlawn Ave., which style of new crosswalk appeals to you the most?



## 5. Why did you choose the crosswalk option?

- Brightens the community
- Colorful in the community.
- Colorful
- Clean and clear. Making crosswalks too busy is distracting and can cause more accidents.
- It's beautiful and colorful.
- No one tries to cross Euclid (in car). No lights, too much speeding. Everyone loves the colors (is it too modern?) We like color!
- Because it is beautiful
- Let's have some fun. The pattern is uplifting.
- Because it is a more modern look, which will go along with the look of the houses
- Because colorful crosswalks on this side of town have a tendency to come out as rainbows.
- Color brings life, happiness, and a more futurist look to a new community. I want to see this entire new community with the same coordinating murals and buildings.
- I think the color will help the imagination of small children
- Because I like the color
- It looks nice
- Because it's colorful
- It pops out and it's not plain
- Like white and gray color contrast

# SURVEY DATA

The people and sidewalk design

The vibrant and colorful walkway brings a unique light and positivity to the community

Not yet visited

I like it.

I am more traditional than modern. Plus colors may fade.

Simple and easy to blend

Colorful

African pattern. Our heritage.

Pep up the neighborhood

Again easy on the eyes / relaxing

Traditional

Colorful pattern makes me safe & happy

It catches the attention better.

We need them for safety

Easy to see, not so busy looking

Better path design for crosswalking. It more visible & updated. It'll likely last longer.

Enhance the beauty

We need to breath life back into our community with color, shapes and positive images.

Easy to maintain

Traditional looks last a long time & never goes out of style

Historical

Colorful

Biggest, most colorful, most visible possible.

Beauty, happy feeling

Traditional

It is different

will blend in with the mural

It would be a nice tie-in to the mural on the opposite side.

It can't look like all the rest

Energy

To brighten the area up

Brighten up the depressing area

The gray stone enhances modern look of the building.

Like best

I like the traditional red brick because it is a style that can be easy to repeat throughout the city.

Because its attractive and appealing to the eye makes the mind wonder, "whats in there?"

Colors are vibrant, they create a happy feeling. Please! Not the LGBT colors. This isn't that community.

The modern gray stone feels "light" and "fresh". The traditional red brick feels "academic". The colorful pattern feels out of place.

I love the color scheme and feel that hopefully drivers will notice something different and slow down

## 6. What else would you like to see in the future at this location?

Stop sign. Stop light back at Lakeview.

Play areas

Dog park

Outdoor game area

An area for children to play and learn. Community gardens.

Stoplight on Woodlawn

What are people walking to on N. side of Euclid? Sidewalk: needs wider high curbs

Flowers and other plants. Great landscaping

Workspace

New opportunities for black people to own homes, businesses, and have input in the decision making process. East Cleveland is a predominately black community I don't want to see them pushed out. Extend the offer of home/business ownership to the residents throughout East Cleveland first. I want to see stand alone commercial buildings not just mixed purpose buildings. I would love to purchase a home and standalone business building for my businesses and youth organization. I do not mixed use. I do not like residents over my business. I also want to see more shopping opportunities that cater to black families.

More perspective

A food place

People

To add more colors

Bike racks nearby for those that ride them on the street/sidewalk

Not yet visited

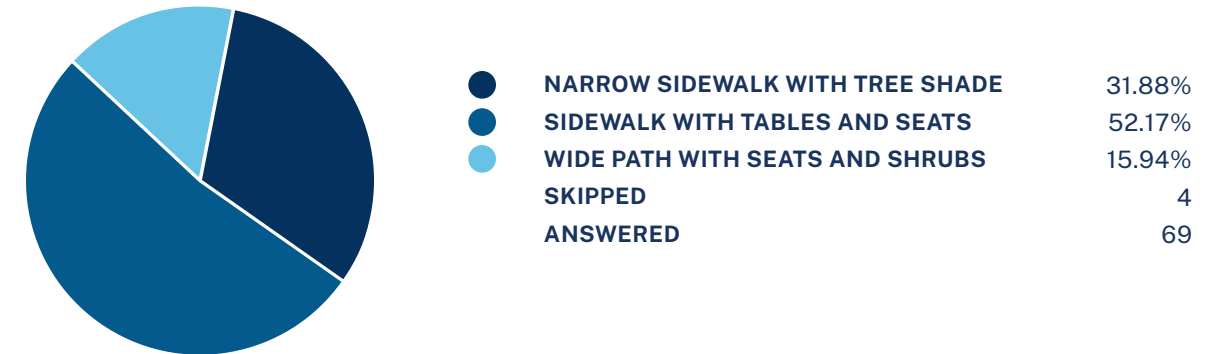
Restaurants & ice cream shop



# SURVEY DATA

- Business meeting space
- Crosswalk > safe
- Anything to mobilize and motivate our people.
- A mailbox
- Area for pre-teen
- Flowers
- More restaurants, speciality stores
- Native flowers. A stop light.
- Colorful flowers, trees, bushes
- Benches
- A restaurant - fish spot or vegetarian
- Flowers
- Hanging flowers, banners
- Keep the Mickey's sign--and get it working!
- Please refer to previous page
- More trees
- All possible traffic calming
- Cultural Arts Center
- A grocery store
- Trash cans
- Not sure
- new street signs
- open for suggestions
- Trees, benches
- A small bus stop for people living in area.
- Bike Rack maybe a metal bench and trash can
- Love the flashing automatic yellow walkway lights
- A quiet space to read or meditate( easy listening music and minimal talking.
- A sensory room to help children and Adults.

7. At the midblock of Woodlawn Ave, which greenway option appeals to you most? (FYI: A greenway transforms back-to-back vacant lots into a narrow green space with a path that connects two streets.)



8. Why did you choose the greenway option?

- Community friendly
- Like seating. Like a little bit both. The last one is too much hard scape.
- More greenery
- Looks more welcoming and warm. Open enough to feel seen and safe. Enough green space to feel Earth, not cement.
- Beautiful & brighten up the neighborhood
- Trees are better than bushes. Watch for homeowners. Add in fences or bushes.
- If they want to stay, they are helping stay.
- I'd like to see a combination of the first two. Tables and seats with more trees.
- Because it has a park like feel to it
- My preferred option is not available. I want to see a green space with tables, comfortable seats, shrubs, colorful flowers, and tree shade.
- I chose this option because the area still has a significant amount of homelessness and while I don't want to discriminate for this option allows for place making to happen.
- So people will have more seats and nature
- The big lawn and rocks because I like it
- It looks nice
- It's cool and I like it
- So people would be able to maybe go on a lunch break and relax.
- Trees, grass, benches

I like it.  
Residents can sit in the park  
Peace and fresh look  
Homey looking  
Less space to make it a teenage hang out spot.  
We need more trees  
I like it  
I like trees. They cool the city.  
Because it's beautiful  
Can sit and enjoy the view  
I love flowers & the outdoors. It helps people relax as well.  
No loitering. Easy maintenance.  
Tables & seats will bring out people to socialize  
More accommodating  
Big trees! Places to sit.  
Spacious  
Offers free space with plants & trees cooling out area  
A sidewalk would draw people with kids and the elderly they could rest  
It will bring color back to the community  
We need trees!  
open traffic and safety with visibility  
Nice for families  
The surrounding area needs trees and shade in contrast to houses & vacant lots.  
More appealing  
I chose the greenway option because the trees are good for the environment.  
The city of East Cleveland is a forest. Some sections of the city have names reflecting the forest connotation. I hope we strive to keep that old world charm found in the city mixed with just enough new innovation to place East Cleveland at its peak.  
Probably impossible for a large gathering. Neighbors can walk and ride their bikes  
It's nice to be able to sit outside!  
;seating areas and shade trees

## 9. What else would you like to see in the future here?

Dog friendly areas  
Maybe a walking path with markers. I like exercise, but not adult except use machines.  
Water aspect in the green space  
Safe, clean, well policed environment.  
manhole covers -color? Or emboss/deboss covers  
I would like to see that it is well maintained  
Shrines to respect the dead and the fallen.  
I want to see a green space with tables, comfortable seats, shrubs, colorful flowers, and tree shade. A fun space for kids. A space for teens to socialize. Something for seniors.  
More people liking nature  
A little park  
People  
A slide and a pond  
Public water fountains and maybe a little library for reading in the park  
A water feature  
Space for 50 people to share space  
Garbage cans  
Provide something constructive for youth to do.  
Sculpture  
I don't know  
Lighting, maybe tables (a few)  
We also need flowers and benches -in the shade. And a rain garden.  
Lights  
Potted flowers  
Safety patrol  
Small gatherings & community organized events  
Smoothie vendor  
dog park  
open  
More sidewalks, benches, shrubs & less vacant lots in East Cleveland.  
I would like to see a few more small business in the area.

# SURVEY DATA

Theatre  
 Playground  
 Ample amounts of trash cans, security and people assigned to keep areas maintained.

## 10. At the corner of Woodlawn Ave and Forest Hill Ave, which small park option appeals to you most?



## 11. Why did you choose the park option?

Seems dog friendly  
 Blend of both shade and lawn. A labyrinth would be interesting.  
 Plant life and benches  
 It's calming  
 So people can have shade  
 "I like the building" AKA shade structure  
 It would be nice having a place for shade during the hot weather days  
 Together but separate  
 Open spaces  
 people friendly  
 The flowers  
 Because it will beautify the area. Plus open jobs to take care of area.  
 It's prettier + more natural, but we need a rain garden.  
 Because it has more plants and a more welcoming feel  
 Easy to keep clean  
 Flowers, benches  
 It just looks more inviting/welcoming!

Easy to maintain.  
 No particular reason  
 spacious  
 For small kids to play more and bring good vibes  
 Beauty, appreciation of nature  
 Offer decorative appeal  
 Because it has shade from the sun and a place to sit down  
 Shelter with some shade  
 Something with a climber/playground for children.  
 Walking  
 For events  
 Appearance looks great  
 It will elevate the look of the neighborhood from rundown vacant homes.  
 Open lawn with a few benches is appealing to people traveling by foot, bike or motor vehicles.  
 The environmental impact of the park is relaxing  
 The shade structure would be perfect for the four seasons  
 I just love it!

## 12. What else would you like to see in the future here?

FIXED BENCHES	51.52%	ADULT EXERCISE EQUIPMENT	10.61%
LARGE GRASSY LAWN	24.24%	MOVABLE CHAIRS	0.00%
TABLES	42.42%	SHADE STRUCTURE / CANOPY	33.33%
BARBEQUE GRILLS	27.27%	FLOWERS	54.55%
COVERED PAVILION	42.42%	PAVED AREA FOR EVENTS	34.85%
TREE SHADE	46.97%	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)*	9.09%
WALKING PATH	50.00%	SKIPPED	7
PLAYGROUND	34.85%	ANSWERED	66

**\*OTHER**  
 Rain Garden  
 Labyrinth  
 Shade and internet access  
 Excercise equipment for younger people  
 I want a multi-use area, a meeting space

# SURVEY DATA

13. If you lived nearby this location at the end of Forest Hill Ave, how important would it be to you to have a new gateway entrance into Lake View Cemetery?



14. How do you think a new gateway to Lake View Cemetery could benefit the surrounding neighborhood?

- Encourage people to walk more, exercise more. Be outside more.
- Don't want it
- I don't see the benefit. It's a private area, not sure how it connects openly to the community.
- Not at all.
- Yes, we use Lakeview + drive through. I love that place!
- Yes, if I lived here.
- The cemetery is a great place to walk; be surrounded by green to refresh and relax; enjoy quiet. Also, the wall "says" stay out; you don't belong here. Not a good feel.
- It wouldn't
- Represent those whom died and lived in this area, apart from Lakeviews colonizers
- Easy access to cemetery activities if desired. I personally would not want the traffic that will come with a gateway entrance.
- Only thing that comes to mind is ease of traffic during funeral processions.
- Yes, it's important for people to see their lost loved ones
- Not that much
- It would make it look nice
- It will be easy to get to
- More people can easily access the cemetery
- Can keep people safe and prevent loitering
- Not at all. Will create traffic on residential streets.
- Introduce a great site to a great community

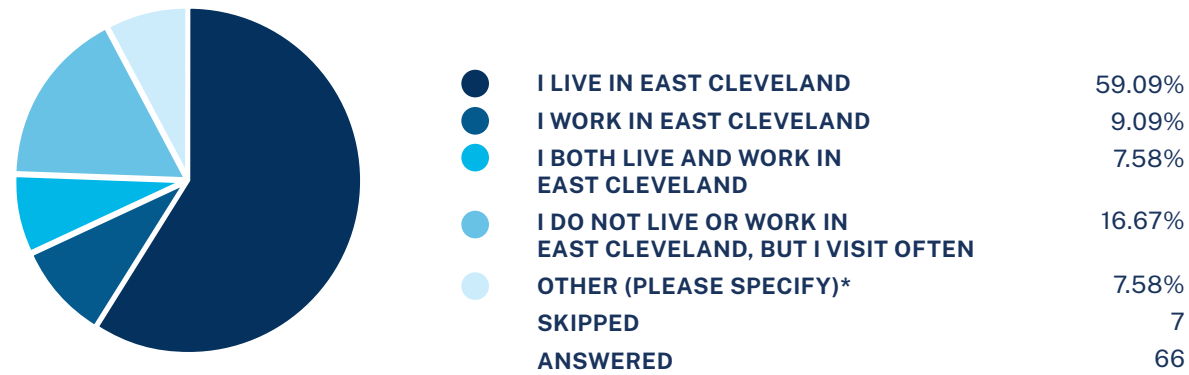
- Tourist attraction -draw visitors to the city
- Get people walking safely
- Show off the beauty at Lake View Cemetery. Show the historical people who are there.
- It would be an entry into a natural, pretty place.
- It would be a shortcut
- No benefit
- Not so important
- I'm a long-time resident. So, I'm okay with the 2 entrances that we currently have. I have no complaints.
- Street appeal
- Yes it would light up & brighten the area so that it would not look so dull.
- Easy access for walking.
- Loved ones buried
- to open access
- Easy to walk to. Many of us have numerous relatives there
- It will allow access - the old walls are an eyesore and separate East Cleveland from the cemetery.
- Unless required by Lake View Cemetery a new gateway is not necessary. The historic Lake View Cemetery or Forest Hill Ave should not become a high traffic area.
- Lake View Cemetery is a direct access route from East Cleveland to Mayfield Road, nearby Cedar Rd. and the southerly portion of Cleveland Hgts.
- The people in the community doesn't visit the cemetery. A entryway would not benefit the community.
- Sometimes vagrants hang out in cemetery and this would be added safety

15. What else would you like to see in the future here?

- Landscape
- A nice site to walk to enjoy a sitdown meal
- Can we get a swimming pool somewhere? Our youth need to know how to swim!
- A rain garden.
- Colorful bushes, flowers
- Flowers
- I would love to see a friendlier looking neighborhood there.
- Keep it clean
- Exercise court
- A walking trail.

# SURVEY RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

16. How would you best describe your relationship to East Cleveland?



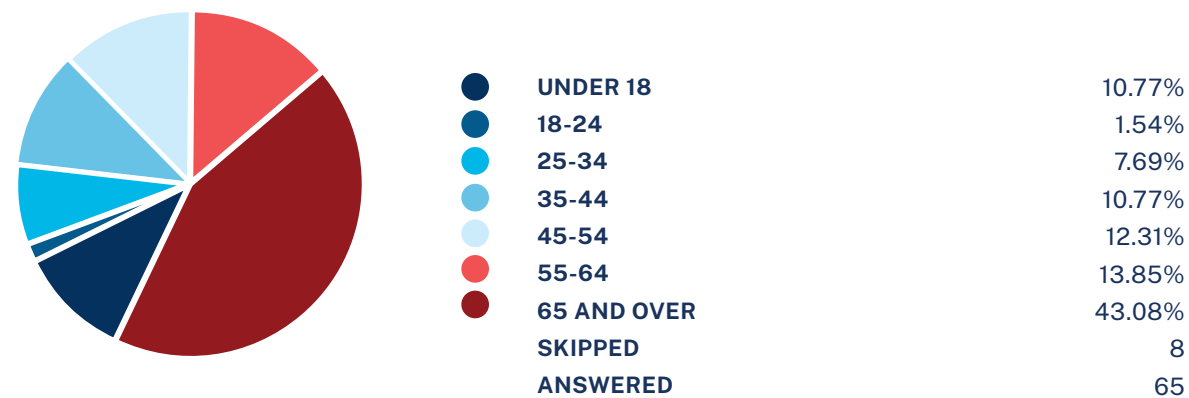
\*OTHER

I don't live in E.C. but I do live on Woodlawn  
I grew up in East Cleveland on Shaw Ave  
Work on the border of East Cleveland and Cleveland Heights

17. Do you live in the Circle East District target area (Between Lake View Rd and Lockwood Ave)?



18. What is your age?



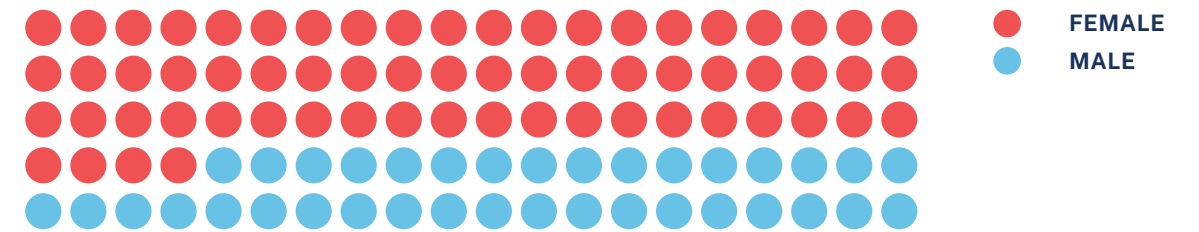
19. What race or ethnicity do you consider yourself? (Mark all that apply.)



\*OTHER

Human race  
Black and Hispanic

20. What is your gender?



21. Please enter any additional questions or comments you may have for the project team.

Thank you!  
Like BBQ grills outside and more community events  
How can I get involved?  
There has been so much flooding lately that we need many rain gardens.  
Thank you, please keep up the hard work! Add fruit trees.  
Sign up to vote  
Where is the garden space?  
When are you planning on getting started?  
Beautify the Euclid Street w/ plants, flowers, maybe a walking trail would be appealing  
We need restaurants, grocery stores, playgrounds and walking trails  
So glad to have input. Arrived late so could not give more details. Great survey.  
I think however the street name is Terrace, as opposed to Forest Hill Blvd, in your survey locations. Thanks  
Thank you  
Redo the euclid and superior plaza

# Acknowledgments

## SPECIAL THANKS

We extend our deepest gratitude to Mayor Brandon King, the East Cleveland City Council, and the dedicated staff at City Hall for their invaluable assistance and participation in the Connect East Cleveland placemaking process.

In addition to the consultant team, several organizations and individuals contributed critical support to ensure the project's success. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following partners:

### **TFizzle Photography**

[www.tfizzlephotography.com](http://www.tfizzlephotography.com)

Event photography and images used in the report.

### **CollectivExpress**

[www.collectivexpress.org](http://www.collectivexpress.org)

Community event activation and participant engagement.

### **Salvation Army East Cleveland**

[easternusa.salvationarmy.org/northeast-ohio/east-cleveland](http://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/northeast-ohio/east-cleveland)

Venue for first community event.

### **East Cleveland Public Library**

[www.eastclevelandpubliclibrary.org](http://www.eastclevelandpubliclibrary.org)

Partner to help distribute outreach materials to community members.



## PROJECT CONSULTANTS

The consultant team for Connect East Cleveland is comprised of individuals from different design firms, contributing a multidisciplinary skillset to the placemaking process. All team members contributed to the design development, participated in the community outreach, and created content for the final report document.

### **Seventh Hill**

[www.seventhhilldesign.com](http://www.seventhhilldesign.com)

David Jurca, Principal

Jordan Wright, Civic Engagement Intern

### **Layer Cake Design**

Drew Sargeant, Landscape Designer

### **Agnes Studio**

[www.agnes-studio.com](http://www.agnes-studio.com)

Danielle Rini Uva, Co-founder

Katie Parland, Partner

Annie Crotty, Designer



### **Street Team Leader**

Najae Jackson, East Cleveland Resident





Building community  
& connecting  
East Cleveland