



Flint CN Steering Committee

Housing Priority Discussion – 1/20/16 Meeting

Considerations identified previously

- Access to transportation
- Proximity to services (e.g., grocery store, pharmacy, etc.)
- Proximity to schools and parks
- Size of development
- Noise and air quality (e.g., highways, railroads, and factories)
- Potential for nearby investment

Of these, which are most important?

- **Proximity to schools, parks, and services**
- **Creating a mix of people, incomes, and housing options is critical**
- **Potential for nearby investment**
- Smaller size development and creating a “neighborhood” feel to the development
- Limiting noise and air concerns by avoiding development near industrial uses or major transportation lines

Are there any considerations that are missing?

- Providing multiple housing options within the same community (e.g., apartment, townhome, single-family detached)
- Access and traffic; currently there are too many ways to quickly come in and out of Atherton East
- Creating a sense of family, community, and positivity
- Safety and isolation concerns, especially in a larger development with multiple abandoned/empty buildings





Flint CN Steering Committee

Exercise Notes – 1/20/16 Meeting

Jobs and Economic Development

Issues previously identified:

- Unused/available space along Saginaw St
- Proximity to employers and recreation
- Opportunity to locate more services within the community
- Public safety issues
- Substantial investment needed
- Demand for entry-level workers at area employers
- Available jobs / existing skills mismatch
- Limited mobility and access to childcare reduces opportunities

List any issues that are missing

- Job training programs, specifically focused on youth and young adults
- Resume workshops, general “how to get employment” and “how to stay employed” training
- Childcare is critical, parents (especially single parents) need to have peace of mind that their children are safe while at work
- Provide different options for different people (e.g., GED programs, apprenticeship, job shadow, certificates, financial literacy, etc.)
- Provide opportunities for “hands-on” experiences for youth (e.g., field trips to colleges and universities or workplaces)

Who is working on this issue? Who should be involved in developing strategies?

- The Ruth Mott Foundation sponsors a summer program for teenagers. Each young adult is assigned a job for which they are paid, taught basics such as resume development, how to dress professionally, timeliness, reporting to a supervisor, etc.
- There was formerly a “Junior Achievement” program that taught children how to “make things” (e.g., food, clothing, and other goods) that they would sell at fairs or other community events. This would teach children entrepreneurship and hands-on skills.
- There is a young girls life skills/goals program (not sure the name) that teaches skills such as goal development, life visioning, and requires the girls to research the necessary steps to achieve their goals (i.e., “what are the steps to get me from A to B?”)
- Diplomat, colleges and universities, and service jobs (generally) should be represented at the Job Fair



Most Important Issues

- Skills and employment opportunities mismatch
- General life and financial literacy skills that are necessary to **keep** a job

Housing

Issues previously identified:

- Pockets of unused/available space to provide additional housing in the community
- Stable neighborhoods exist in the community
- Income constrained residents have limited options
- Safety and maintenance issues for private rental properties
- Current housing units need renovations/rehabilitation
- Pockets of blight throughout the community

List any issues that are missing

- Be sure we aren't moving people into similar circumstances
- Focus on the future of the area, not just how it appears today
- Education is necessary on homeownership and everything that comes along with it (e.g., maintenance)
- Potential for additional investment (e.g., grocery store) is critical
- Lack of interest in current Flint Housing Commission (FHC) projects reflects a negative perception of public housing

Who is working on this issue? Who should be involved in developing strategies?

- The group did not get to this point in the exercise

Most Important Issues

- Education about maintaining one's home
- Ensure a potential site isn't just appropriate now, think about the future as well

Education and Youth

Issues previously identified:

- Existing educational infrastructure, programs, and resources
- Limited public education funding
- Low educational attainment levels among residents
- Limited access to resources for low-income residents
- Limited mobility and childcare access; lowering the effectiveness of existing programs

List any issues that are missing

- Programs must have transportation for everyone to attend
- More weekend programs for youth would be beneficial

Who is working on this issue? Who should be involved in developing strategies?

- Head Start at Manley
- International Academy
- Freeman Elementary
- Genesee County Parks and Rec
- Mott Children Health Center
- Shelter of Flint
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- Priority Children
- Vista Center
- Boys and Girls Club
- Genesee Health Center

Most Important Issues

- Ensuring city owned facilities are fully and effectively utilized
- After school and weekend programs could be improved
- Transportation for children, getting to and from programs safely and easily
- Water. Ensure children have the opportunities necessary to level the playing field.

Health and Safety

Issues previously identified:

- Well established existing assets (Genesee Community Health Center)
- Limited ability to improve health outcomes for low-income residents
- Significant environmental health concerns (smoking, asthma, pollution)
- Partnerships with Flint Police Department and private security companies
- Strong resident organization presence
- High crime rates / poor perception of safety
- Speeding / vehicular safety

List any issues that are missing

- Too many “outside visitors” during late hours and security isn’t doing enough to stop these visitors
- Add a stop sign at Chambers and the Atherton East Office for vehicular safety
- Lack of lighting and cameras
- Need better coordination of security services
- While there are well-established existing assets, security patrols need to be strengthened around these assets

Who is working on this issue? Who should be involved in developing strategies?

- See something, say something (1-800-SPEAK-UP)

- NKFM (not sure what this stands for)
- Walker Electric
- FPD
- Private security companies

Most Important Issues

- Lighting and overall visibility of a sense of “security” in the neighborhood
- Speeding and multiple access points to the Atherton East development