AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Project Overview

3. Existing Conditions & Planning Context

4. Next Steps

5. Group Mapping Activity
   - Missing links
   - What would you like to see?
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PROJECT OVERVIEW
Cuyahoga County Greenway Plan
• Develop a strategic plan describing a series of interconnected **greenways** and **urban trails** across Cuyahoga County.

• Build on the existing trail network and fill in the major **missing links**.

• Establish a regionally significant network of routes to **serve all users, ages, and abilities**.
GREENWAYS & URBAN TRAILS

• **Greenways** are dedicated, linear spaces that provide opportunities for recreation, non-motorized transportation, and natural features.
  - Typically includes shared-use trails, landscaping, natural amenities, and site furnishings
  - Typically off-street
  - Designed for all ages and all abilities

• **Urban Trails** are dedicated facilities that provide non-motorized connections through and between communities for recreation and access to jobs to community assets.
  - Typically located within public rights-of-way or other constrained spaces
  - Typically includes bicycle facilities and/or pathways separated from vehicle roadways
  - Designed for all ages and all abilities
  - May include additional landscaping, natural features, and site furnishings
BENEFITS OF GREENWAYS

Increases mobility and transportation options
  • Connect jobs, commercial areas, institutions, and residents

Improves community health through active living
  • Create attractive, safe and accessible places to walk, bike, hike, run, and more

Generates economic activity
  • Add to property value, attract businesses and residents, and contribute to tourism

Provides environmental benefits
  • Manage stormwater, protect and restore habitat, and improve air and water quality

Enhancing cultural awareness and community identity
  • Connect to local heritage, interpretive opportunities, and community recreation
PROJECT AREA

- 59 Cities, Villages, and Townships +
- County-wide park district
Three regions established to better focus community engagement and outreach efforts.

Roughly correspond to watersheds.

- WEST
- CENTRAL
- EAST
• **Core Team** - primary contact for this project responsible for providing guidance, direction and decision-making *(15+ meetings)*
STRUCTURE + ROLES

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• **Project Team** - responsible for providing a regional perspective (*6 meetings*)

**Project Team**

Participating organizations:

- NOACA
- Cleveland Metroparks
- NEORSD
- GCRTA
- Bike Cleveland
- City of Cleveland Planning Commission
- West Creek Conservancy
- The Trust for Public Land
- Cleveland Neighborhood Progress
- Greater Cleveland Partnership
**STRUCTURE + ROLES**

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- **Project Team** - responsible for providing a regional perspective *(6 meetings)*

- **Technical Committee** - responsible for providing technical information and review with respect to their individual organizations *(4 meetings)*

**Technical Committee**

Representatives from:

- City of Broadview Heights
- City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability
- City of Cleveland Traffic Engineering
- City of Lakewood
- City of Shaker Heights
- Cuyahoga County Public Works
- Cuyahoga County Dept. of Sustainability
- Cuyahoga Greenway Partners
- Cuyahoga River Restoration
- Cuyahoga Soil & Water Conservation District
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- First Suburbs Consortium
- LAND studio
- National Park Service
- ODOT District 12
- Rails to Trails Conservancy
- UH Bikes
- Western Reserve Land Conservancy
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• **Steering Committee** - responsible for providing perspective on important trail and greenway issues from their respective communities (*5 meetings*)

**Steering Committee**

- **Mayors and City Managers**
  
- **Other Community Stakeholders**
  
Plus...
STRUCTURE + ROLES

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• **Steering Committee** - responsible for providing perspective on important trail and greenway issues from their respective communities *(5 meetings)*

• **Public Engagement** - responsible for providing perspective on important trail and greenway issues from their respective communities
  - 4 public meetings/workshops
  - Surveys
  - Project website / portal

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**Public Workshops**

- Area-wide meetings
- Regional meetings (West, Central, East regions)

**Online Engagement**

- Surveys
- Project website / portal
SCOPE SUMMARY

1: Project Initiation
- Confirm project team compositions and region boundaries
- Initiate logo and branding strategies

2: Current Conditions
- Existing Conditions + Spatial Inventory & Analysis based on critical attributes:
  - Connectivity
  - Economic Impact
  - Health & Safety
  - Environmental

3: Shaping the Vision
- Develop a broad-based vision of candidate corridors

MAY - JUNE
Core Team
Project Team
Technical Team

JULY - AUGUST
Steering Committee
Community Meeting
Stakeholder Interviews

SEPTEMBER
SCAPE SUMMARY

OCTOBER - DECEMBER
4: Concept Development
- Utilize weighted goals/priorities to evaluate trail corridors and identify a connected network

JANUARY - MARCH
5: Draft Master Plan
- With Implementation Strategy + Short & Long-term Recommendations

APRIL - JULY
6: Final Report

Project Team
Core Team
Technical Team
Steering Committee
Community Meeting
Stakeholder Interviews
EXISTING CONDITIONS

Cuyahoga County Greenway Plan
Collaborative Planning:
Trails & Bikeways
Master Plans in:
- Bay Village
- Beachwood
- Brecksville
- Cleveland Heights
- Euclid
- Maple Heights
- Mayfield Village
- Olmsted Falls
- Parma
- Parma Heights
- Richmond Heights
- Rocky River
- Strongsville
- University Heights

TLCI Plans in:
- Highland Hills
- North Randall
- Shaker Heights
- Warrensville Heights
GREENWAY NETWORKING

• Existing greenways and off-road trails mostly within the Cleveland Metroparks system

• Need to integrate and refine the Eastside Greenway into a county-wide network
CLEVELAND METROPARKS

• Greenway origins trace back to the Metroparks system
CLEVELAND METROPARKS

• Park System Today
Internal Planning:
- Walk-Bike Shed Analysis
- Trails Matrix
- Surveys
- Demographic & Trends Analysis
- Studies

External Planning:
- Community Master Plans
- NOACA TLCI Studies
Trail Matrix Attributes

- Tool to evaluate potential opportunities for Cleveland Metroparks to pursue or support
- 14 attributes such as public benefit, user populations, and trail experiences
Regional Trail Planning

• Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail & Scenic Byway (ODOT)

• Industrial Heartland Trail (RTC)

• National and State Bike Routes (ODOT)

• Vibrant NEO 2040 – Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC)/Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)

• Northeast Ohio Regional Parks Group
Regional Trail Planning

- Lake Erie Coastal Ohio Trail & Scenic Byway (ODOT)
- Industrial Heartland Trail (RTC)
- National and State Bike Routes (ODOT)
- Vibrant NEO 2040 – Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC)/Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)
- Northeast Ohio Regional Parks Group
Cuyahoga Greenway Partners is a collaboration to facilitate communication, keep focus and drive the regional trail effort raising the visibility, prioritization, funding methods and implementation of relevant actions in order to complete the recreation, transportation-choice network.

Active member organizations include:
- Bike Cleveland
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Cleveland Planning Commission (CPC)
- Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH)
- Cuyahoga County Planning Commission (CCPC) and Public Works (PW)
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP)
- Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA)
- Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORSD)
- Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC)
- The Trust for Public Land (TPL)
CUYAHOGA GREENWAY PARTNERS

Primary Activities/Goals

• Routine communication & feedback loop with municipalities
  • Tracking progress, coordination with local trail plans, leadership engagement

• Support for regional greenway network planning
  • Trail inventory
  • Build management capacity
  • Leverage & maximize funding

• Develop project sheets for projects

• Voice for trail and greenway advocacy
  • Messaging, marketing, promotion, regional collaboration
What We Are Doing:

- Developing recommendations to improve the safety and functionality of five existing and future trail crossing locations:
  1. Broadview Rd.
  2. Brecksville Rd.
  3. Richmond Rd.
  4. Mastick Rd./Puritas Ave.
  5. Highland Rd.

- Developing crossing typologies, to better understand and improve all Emerald Necklace bike and pedestrian crossings

Public Meeting Schedule:

- Seek public feedback: August 8th and 9th
- Present recommendations to public: January 2018
Planning Process

• Identified “Missing Links”

• Identified other greenway route opportunities

• Developed goals and associated evaluation criteria

• Evaluated the potential benefits of candidate greenway routes

• Selected high scoring and high community priority routes to form a primary network of greenways

• Developed an implementation framework and conceptual design for the primary network.
Priorities
Alignment with CIP and other projects

Funding
Implementation

DATA ENRICHED, COMMUNITY DRIVEN

Planning process uses data and analysis resources to strengthen and empower stakeholder decision-making.

Where are the opportunities?

Identification of “CANDIDATE ROUTES”

Greenways
Off-Street
Open Space

Urban Trails
On-Street
Constrained

Stakeholder Engagement
Known opportunities
Gap Identification
Planning projects

Technical Analysis
Availability of:
Rights-of-Way
Land Properties

Framework Plan
Priorities
Alignment with CIP and other projects
Funding
Implementation

How well do candidates meet our goals?

Development of “EVALUATION CRITERIA”

Equity
Connectivity
Economic
Ecology

Stakeholder Engagement
What are the priorities & critical issues/factors?

Technical Analysis
Metrics and maps
### Key Topics

#### Equity
- **Socioeconomics**
  - Age
  - Household Income
  - Ethnicity
- **Mobility**
  - Car Ownership
  - Types of commute
- **Physical Safety**
  - Crime
  - Bike/Pedestrian crashes
- **Health & Wellness**
  - Activity Levels
  - Fitness
  - Civic Engagement

#### Connectivity
- **Links to Existing Non-Motorized Facilities**
  - GAP analysis
- **Access to Transit Services**
  - Limited transit service vs. high transit service
- **Connectivity to Open Spaces**
  - Parks
  - Linear corridors
  - Natural Areas

#### Economic
- **Connectivity to Assets**
  - Employment Centers
  - Retail / Entertainment
  - Cultural Centers
  - Schools/Universities
  - Institutions / Hospitals
- **Regional Trails & Tourism**
- **Property Value**
- **Visual Character**
  - Industrial
  - Large roadway
  - Tree canopy cover
  - Waterway and water body
  - Landmarks

#### Ecology
- **Habitat Protection**
  - Within existing natural land cover
  - Protected areas
  - Within floodplain
  - Within steep slope
  - Within riparian/wetland buffer zone
- **Restoration & Open Space Creation**
  - Proximity to existing natural features
  - % Tree Canopy Cover
- **Stormwater & Green Infrastructure**
NEXT STEPS

Cuyahoga County Greenway Plan
NEXT STEPS

• Inventory & analysis mapping
• Identify & evaluate candidate routes
• Steering Committee & Project Team meetings
• Community Meetings – January, 2018
• Website/Survey: www.cuyahogagreenways.org

- How you get around (mode)
- Use characteristics (frequency, barriers)
- Greenway benefits
BRANDING & LOGO
DISCUSSION

Cuyahoga County Greenway Plan
GROUP MAPPING SESSION

Use **BLUE** dots/markers to identify destinations that you **currently access** from the non-motorized network.
  - E.g. employment centers, parks, retail districts

Use **GREEN** dots/markers to identify destinations that you would **like to access** from the greenway or urban trail system
  - E.g. “Gaps” in the trail system,

Use **RED** dots/markers to indicate places where major problems or concerns exist.
  - E.g. dangerous intersections, barrier streets

If you leave a dot, leave a note with it!

Website/Survey: [www.cuyahogagreenways.org](http://www.cuyahogagreenways.org)