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ROCKY RIVER MASTER PLAN

PUBLIC MEETING 3 RESULTS REPORT



December 6, 2017



County Planning

Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

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About County Planning

The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission's mission is to inform and provide services in support of the short and long term comprehensive planning, quality of life, environment, and economic development of Cuyahoga County and its cities, villages and townships.

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INTRODUCTION

PUBLIC MEETING

The third and final Public Meeting for the Rocky River Master Plan was held on October 18, 2017, in Memorial Hall, at the Don Umerley Civic Center. Approximately 45 residents, business owners, and public officials were in attendance.

During the Public Meeting, representatives from County Planning gave a presentation on results from the second Public Meeting and introduced the implementation tables covering potential partners, estimated costs, and project timelines for implementation of the Core Projects and Goals. At the end of the presentation, County Planning asked the attendees for comments and feedback about their priorities for implementation of Core Projects and Goals.

Around the room were boards featuring the Core Projects and Goals, associated images, and information on the feasibility and impact of each project and goal. Residents were given a handout on which to rank their top three priority Core Projects and top three priority Goals after reviewing the boards. Comments could be left on any of the boards as well as the handout.

Attendees were also asked to provide feedback about their preferred development scenario for the Reimagining Marion Ramp Core Project. A board was set up for residents to vote on two development options for the Marion Ramp. The first option described repairing or replacing the ramp, while the second option described removing the ramp. These options were accompanied by additional information about traffic impacts and costs associated with both options.

Following the Public Meeting, materials were posted online to allow additional residents to read the materials, comment on them, and provide feedback. The survey was open from October 18 to November 1, 2017.

This Results Report outlines the implementation priority ranking for the Core Projects and Goals, and common themes derived from the Public Meeting and online survey comments.

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES AND COMMENTS

The third Public Meeting was attended by around 45 residents, and these attendees submitted approximately 70 written comments and 245 votes at the meeting. The online survey was taken by 104 people, and included 76 individual comments and 687 votes.

COMMON THEMES

Respondents' individual comments were categorized by theme. The number of comments in each theme was summed to understand common trends among the comments. These themes are described on the following pages.

NEXT STEPS

This document, as well as the specific comments provided by respondents, was used to update the Core Projects and Goals, and create the priority level of each Core Project and Goal to guide implementation planning. The most common comment themes helped inform the analysis, priorities, and recommendations of the Master Plan document.

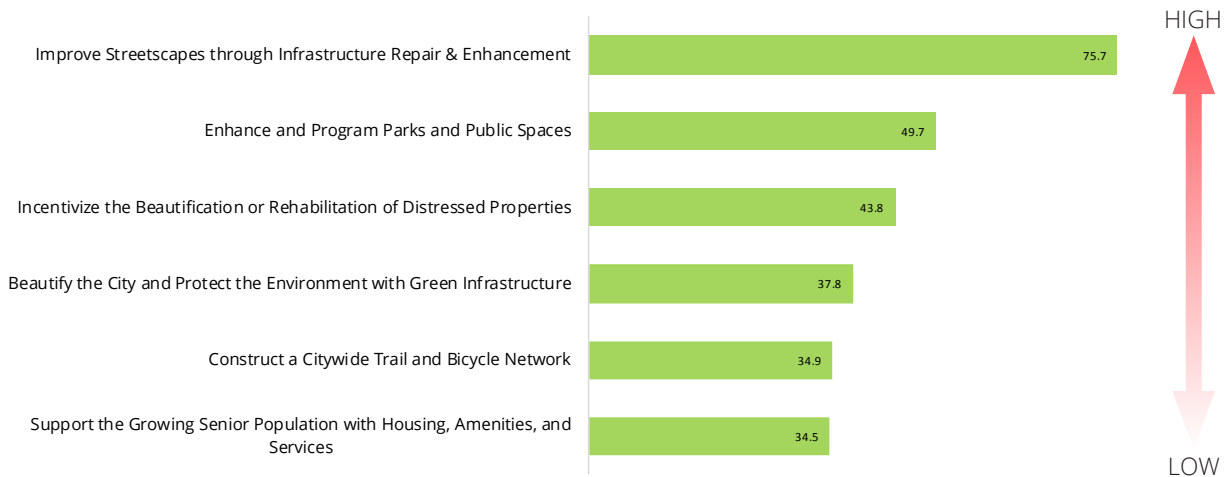
GOALS

PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE RESULTS

Meeting attendees were asked to rank their top three priority Goals. Based on the weighted rankings, respondents' top priority was 'Improve Streetscapes through Infrastructure Repair & Enhancement'. Following that were the 'Enhance and Program Parks and Public Spaces' and 'Incentivize the Beautification or Rehabilitation of Distressed Properties' goals.

Figure 1

Priority Ranking of Goals*



*Priority Ranking was determined using a weighted system taking into account both the number of votes cast and whether it was marked first, second, or third priority by respondents.

COMMON THEMES

Many of the comments received were about transportation and infrastructure in the City. This included topics such as traffic, bicycle infrastructure, walkability, and street and sidewalk condition. Other comments were about access to parks and green space and the state of some housing in the City.

Specifically, residents were concerned about traffic congestion in certain areas of the City, a lack of safe bicycling infrastructure, and the physical conditions of some streets and sidewalks. Improving walkability, increasing bike safety, enhancing access to parks and green space, and addressing distressed properties were important to respondents.

These common themes correlate with the top three Goals chosen by residents as implementation priorities.

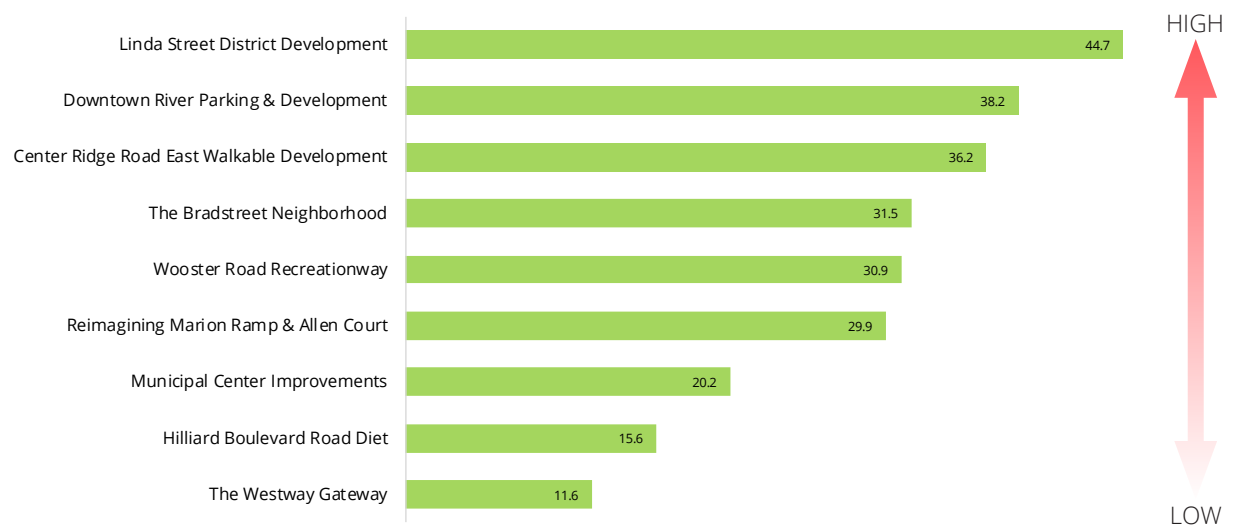
CORE PROJECTS

PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE RESULTS

Meeting attendees were asked to rank their top three priority Core Projects. Based on the weighted rankings, the 'Linda Street District Development' Core Project was the highest priority for the community. The next highest priority projects are 'Downtown River Parking & Development' and 'Center Ridge Road East Walkable Development'.

Figure 2

Priority Ranking of Core Projects**



**Priority Ranking was determined using a weighted system taking into account both the number of votes cast and whether it was marked first, second, or third priority by respondents.

COMMON THEMES

The majority of comments discussed the themes of transportation and infrastructure or housing and City image. Transportation and infrastructure topics included traffic, the Marion Ramp, and walkability. Housing and image topics included gateway signs and property beautification. Other comments covered topics such as access to and the state of parks and green space.

The potential traffic impacts of removing the Marion Ramp and installing road diets in certain places in the City were concerns of some respondents. For others, improving walkability and bicycle safety, as well as calming traffic in appropriate areas were important topics. Respondents also liked the idea of implementing City gateways and encouraging beautification across a variety of areas in the City.

REIMAGINING THE MARION RAMP

VOTING EXERCISE RESULTS

Residents were asked to choose a development scenario for the Reimagining Marion Ramp Core Project. The two options were 'Option 1: Repair or Rebuild the Ramp' and 'Option 2: Remove and Distribute'. The majority of respondents chose the 'Remove and Distribute' option. In combining the online and in-person results, 70 people chose Option 2, while 63 people chose Option 1.

Figure 3
Percent of Respondents Selecting To Remove or Repair/Rebuild the Marion Ramp



COMMON THEMES

Comments about the Marion Ramp included topics of traffic and green space. Many people who responded wanted to keep the Ramp as it is, citing traffic congestion as their reason. Others who wanted to see the Ramp removed liked the increase in green space that scenario provided.

Respondents were concerned about both development scenarios for the Marion Ramp, with increased traffic congestion being the biggest concern for the removal option. Some residents would like further and updated traffic studies to be completed before a final decision is made about the ramp.

NEXT STEPS

UPDATING THE MASTER PLAN

The results of this final Public Meeting have been used to update the Core Projects and Goals in the Master Plan. Feedback on the priority levels of each Core Project and Goal was directly included in the Implementation tables, which will be used by the City as a guide to action for the future. A complete draft Master Plan will be given to the City for final review.

MASTER PLAN ADOPTION

Once the final draft of the Master Plan has been completed and approved by the City, it will be presented to the Planning Commission for review. The Planning Commission can recommend the Plan be adopted by Rocky River City Council. Following a recommendation, the Master Plan will be presented to City Council, which can vote to make the Plan official City policy.

USING THE MASTER PLAN

The final Master Plan is a tool to be used and referenced by the City when considering actions and applying for grant funding. Updates can be made to the Plan throughout its years of use as circumstances or priorities change in the community.



County Planning

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