October 21, 2024



West Henderson Road Vision Plan

CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING











Agenda & purpose

» Process overview and background	5 min
» Community themes	10 min
» Priorities, principles, & BIG ideas	30 min



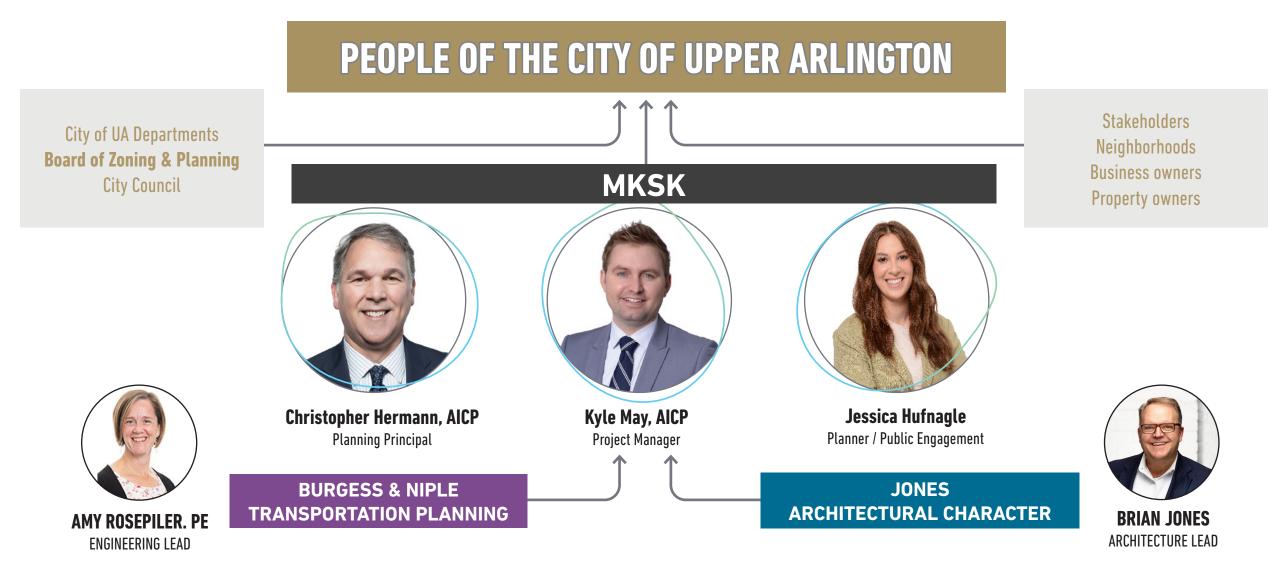
SOURCE: CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON



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Project team





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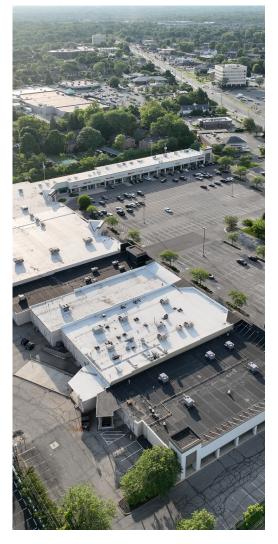
Overview & Background Kyle May, Associate Principal, MKSK Studios





Why now?

- » The **Central Ohio region is growing rapidly**, and every community Upper Arlington included is feeling the impacts and pressures of this growth. How communities prepare for what's to come, will be key to their longterm health, identity and vibrancy.
- » West Henderson Road is the **last major business district within the City** with the potential for significant change.
- » Henderson Road serves as the boundary between Upper Arlington and the City of Columbus. With multiple property owners, and different zoning and design standards for each jurisdiction, the resulting developments over the years have created an inconsistent look and feel.
- » The district is located at the northern edge of the community instead of a more central location, with diminished access to the region's network of highways, and lacks a defined sense of place within Upper Arlington.
- » The current roadway configuration **does not reflect contemporary safety, access, streetscape and aesthetic expectations**.
- » Other initiatives, like LinkUS and Zone In Columbus, will impact this district and now is the time to be proactive about the changes that occur.



SOURCE: CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON



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Outcomes

- » Another, great community conversation broad engagement that combines education, brainstorming, and idea-building.
- » Clarity, connection, better understanding
- » A bold vision A statement of intention, on behalf of citizens of Upper Arlington, focused on the rich opportunities along the Henderson Road corridor. A community-written, data-informed plan that is inspiring, clear, and connected to a sequence of actions and investments.
- » Clear objectives what are the needles we're trying to move? How do we know we're making progress? Measurable, achievable, important, tight connection to the vision.
- » **Stacked and sorted actions** community investments and policies that support one or more objectives.



SOURCE: MKSK, CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON







Project Schedule

Initial Stakeholder Engagement		
City Council 2x2 Meetings		
Community Meeting #1: Kickoff		Preferred Corridor Concepts
Community Meeting #2: Choices & Concep	ots	Policy Recommendations & Implementation Matrix
Follow-up Stakeholder Engagement		Final Corridor Vision Plan
Community Meeting #3: Priorities	Ý	City Council Final Presentation
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEBRUARY - OCTOBER '24	_	PLAN SYNTHESIS & FINALIZATION OCTOBER - NOVEMBER '24
Component 2	Component 3	Component 4
	CONCEPTS & ALTERNATIV APRIL - OCTOBER '24 Corridor Improvement Opportunities & Transportation and Infrastructure Pavie	& Challenges
	Conceptual Design Options	
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Communications & Engagement Brief		
	City Council 2x2 Meetings Community Meeting #1: Kickoff Community Meeting #2: Choices & Conce Follow-up Stakeholder Engagement Community Meeting #3: Priorities COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEBRUARY - OCTOBER '24	City Council 2x2 Meetings Community Meeting #1: Kickoff Community Meeting #2: Choices & Concepts Follow-up Stakeholder Engagement Community Meeting #3: Priorities COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FEBRUARY - OCTOBER '24 Component 2 Component 2



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Community Themes Kyle May, Associate Principal, MKSK Studios

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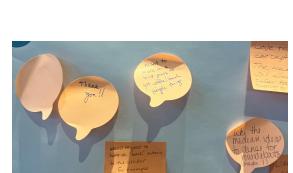
The Community Process

- » Multi-round engagement series featuring in-person and virtual meeting options
- » Campaign focused on three goals:
 - » Educate Provide important background information to "level set"
 - » Gather Collect concerns, opportunities, and ideas
 - » Inspire Test priorities and set the direction









COMMUNITY KICKOFF APRIL 10, 2024 LIVE MEETING ★ VIRTUAL SURVEY ★COMMUNITY POP-UPS

MUNITY CHOICES AUGUST 24, 2024 LIVE MEETING ★ VIRTUAL SURVEY



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October 21, 2024

Total Envision Henderson Participants

+900

Sharing more than **2,500** comments, reactions, and ideas via in-person and online activities



Major themes

- » The planning team, including MKSK and Burgess and Niple, reviewed each of the responses and developed a responsive categorization scheme.
- » Based on this thorough reading and review, several overarching themes have been identified. These provide a high-level perspective on what was shared through the thousands of responses.
- » Crosscutting themes and takeaways from the community conversations focused on major issues like safety, aesthetics, vibrancy, mobility, jobs and fiscal outcomes, and the qualities of place.
- » The following themes are not exhaustive but **representative of the major, emergent themes** in the 2,500+ comment database.





SOURCE: MKSK, CITY OF UPPER ARLINGTON



The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

Movement inside, into, and across the corridor should be made safer for motorists and, especially, non-motorists.

- » There are areas where these dangers cluster, but generally, safety along the corridor should be looked at holistically.
- » Access management is a key challenge.





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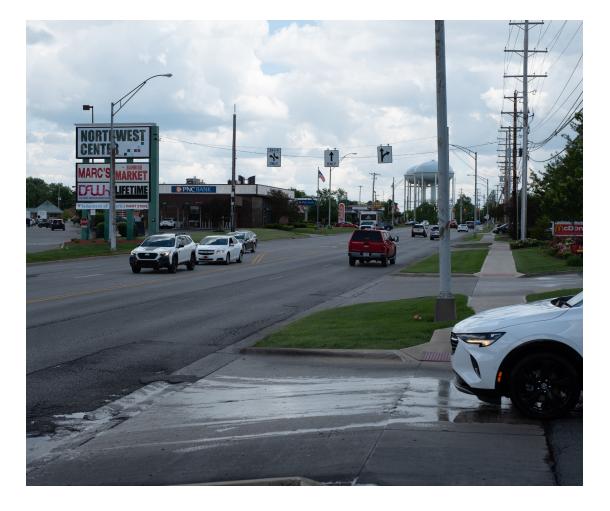




The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

The qualities of place are important in Upper Arlington, but they are lacking throughout the Henderson Road corridor.

- » There is a general lack of consistency with respect to architecture, site design, landscaping, signage, and other visible elements of the built environment.
- » The pattern and architecture of sites and buildings is haphazard and negatively impacts the area's overall sense of place.





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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

The market processes that are currently playing out could be harmful to the quality of the built environment and the fiscal position of the city.

- » These processes are not self-correcting.
- » The softening retail and office markets especially as they are impacting more dated products – could act as a drag against community priorities.





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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

There is a opportunity to move beyond simple, single-use spaces.

- » Spaces are transactional and disconnecting
- » A fragmented building pattern and overbuilt or redundant infrastructure and parking





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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

The character, quality, and consistency of future projects is a priority.

- » New projects should meet the community's high standard for form and function, mixing timeless materials with a land use profile that meets current and emerging market demands.
- » These projects can have mixed uses but should be scaled and placed appropriately.

"Make buildings unique to Upper Arlington not any town in the USA"

-Round One Kickoff Participant





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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

There are residents here and they are important and part of the broader Upper Arlington community.

- » The communities tucked into the corridor are, in some cases, more than 50 years old and are generally more affordable because of their range of housing types.
- » These neighborhoods are an important part of the cities of Upper Arlington and Columbus and should be connected into, rather than fenced out of, complementary spaces as they evolve along the corridor.





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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

The stitching between the cities of Columbus and Upper Arlington will define the future success of this planning effort.

- » Work in either community will have an impact on the other.
- » Coordination and collaboration are key to the plan's success. The Zone In (City of Columbus zoning code updates) and LinkUS (Central Ohio Transit Authority Bus Rapid Transit proposal) processes will have a profound impact on the north side of the corridor with respect to development opportunities.
- » The communities should continue to work together to achieve shared, strong outcomes along Henderson while maintaining their unique identities.



"There is a GREAT multi-use path on Dierker north of Henderson. Can we have a stronger connection to it from Upper Arlington"

-Round One Kickoff Participant



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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

The "gateway" aspect of the corridor can be better embraced and enhanced.

- » Henderson makes up the northern boundary for the city and this "gateway" should showcase the best aspects of the community.
- » The corridor's larger lots and existing mix of uses make it an ideal location for addressing latent community needs without overburdening existing neighborhoods.





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The following themes are not exhaustive but representative of the major, emergent themes in the 2,500 comment database.

Not all redevelopment is inherently "good" or "bad".

- » Change should be considered and metered, following a strategy, and leading to incremental transformation of the corridor.
- » The design, integration, materials, architecture, landscaping, and market fundamentals make up a short list of elements to consider for any proposed project.
- » Additionally, these decisions are important. The city has very few simple redevelopment or development sites remaining.



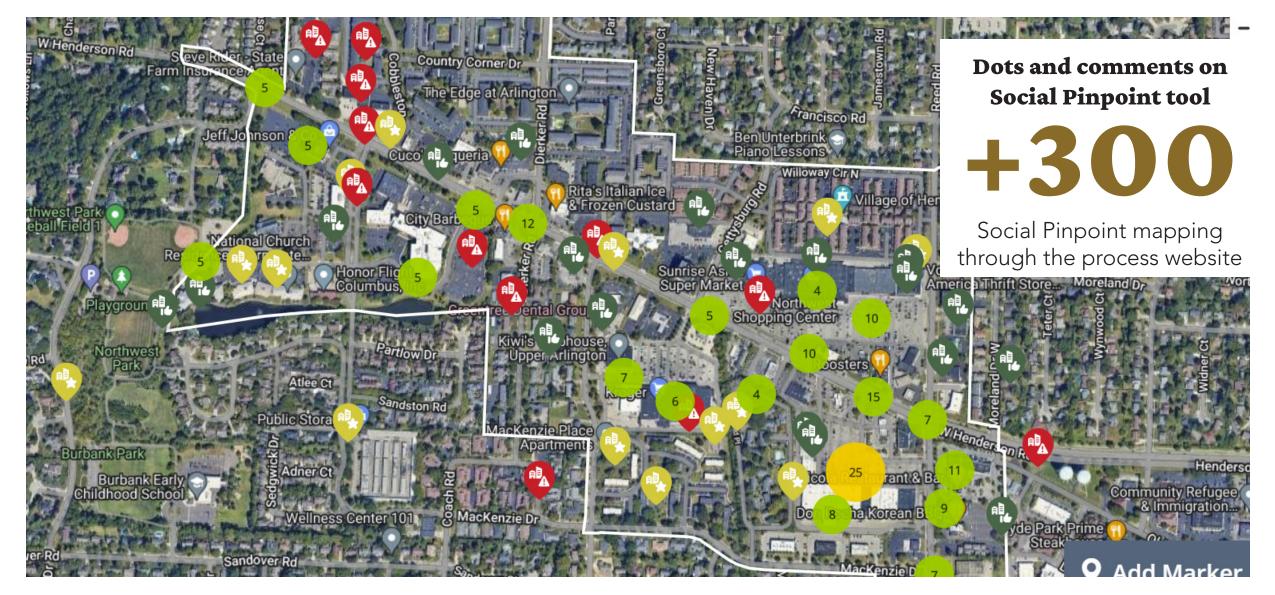




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"Place" mapping





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Priorities, Principles, & BIG ideas Kyle May, MKSK

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Moving from conditions to concepts

- » Connecting community priorities to actionable projects, policies, and/ or programs
- » Considering with **levels of control** or what can we do alone, where do we need partners?
- » The corridor plan is focused on two, integrated environments: **Inside** the right-of-way and **outside** the right of way.
- » All concepts, recommendations, and BIG ideas will be tied back to the priorities of the community through:
 - » Statements of intent / priorities why we're doing what we're doing. Our expected outcomes. Our connections to critical community needs, gaps, etc.
 - » **Principles for growth** directional statements informing, bounding, or directing project development. Establishing character expectations.

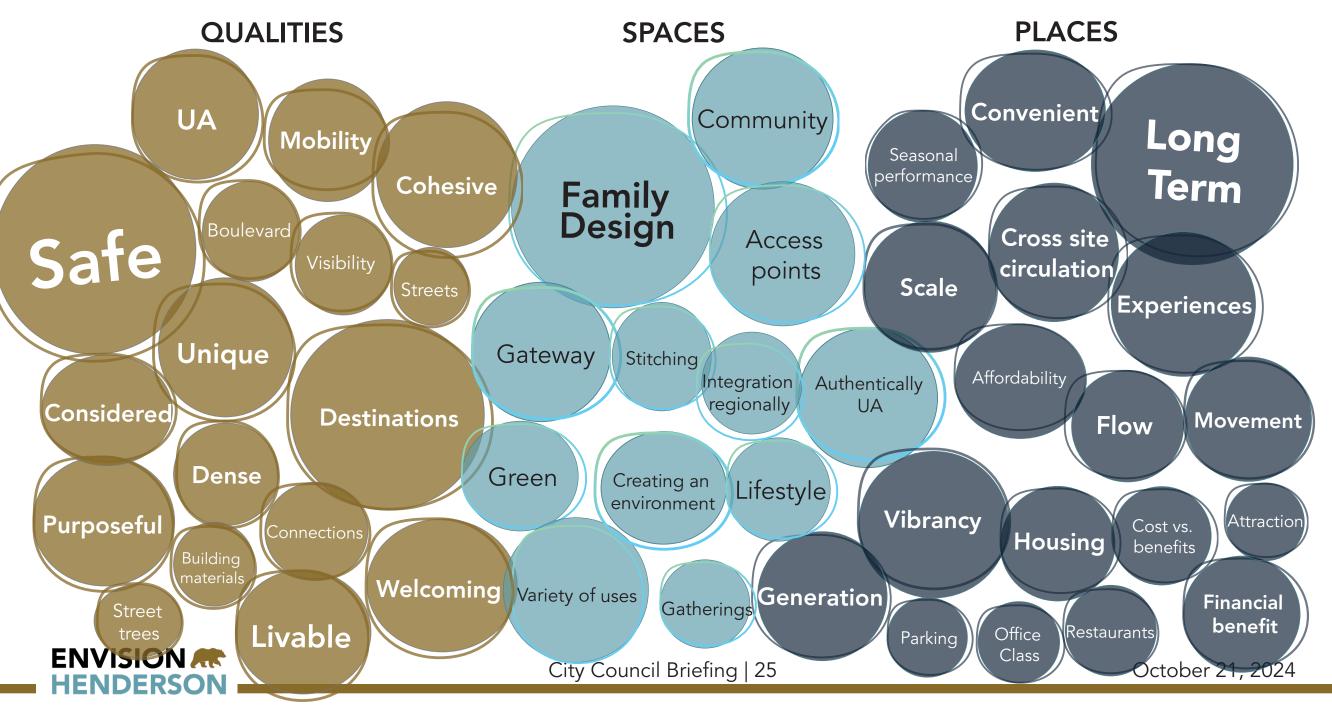




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Statements of Intent







Principles



Enhance ...

the right of way, enabling a safe, connected, and well-planned corridor for all users.

Inspire

great projects that better serve the community and meet our standards for quality, connectivity, and viability.

Build ...

on past investments in infrastructure and maintain the economic productivity of the district and the city's fiscal sustainability as a result.

Integrate ...

and leverage regional opportunities that enhance connections and improve the stitching between communities.

Generate ...

places for people. Places that - through their considerate site planning, development, and architecture - are vibrant, productive, and beautiful.

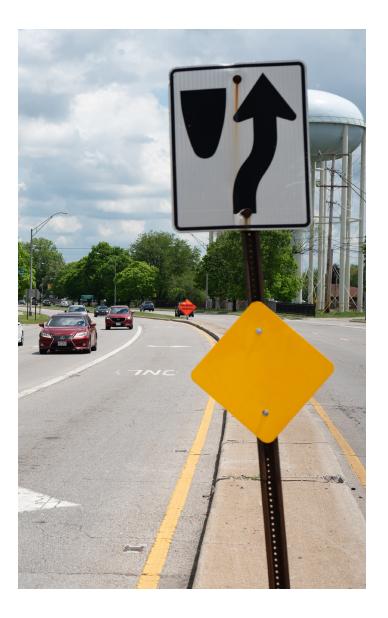


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Taking action

- » Connect the community's priorities and principles with action
- » Identify best practices, catalysts, and transformational ideas
- » Link the priorities with possibilities
- » What is a **BIG idea**?
 - » Transformational investments and major moves
 - » **Elevate** the function, viability, and livability of the corridor for its residents, workers, and visitors
 - » Mitigate current and emergent challenges and headwinds
 - » Help **push** the conversation and deliver on community expectations
 - » **Build** a connection between the current state of the corridor and the community's vision

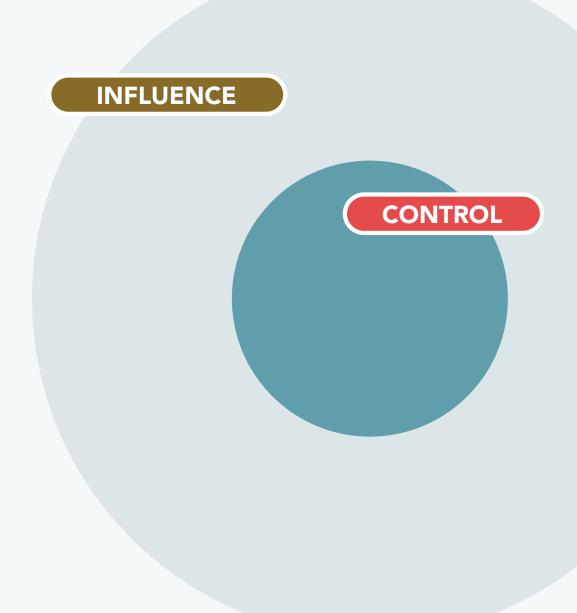




ADVOCATE

Assigning action

- » Plan will propose a collection of projects, policies, or programs (actions) that move the community toward its vision for Henderson
- » We have varying levels of control over implementation of these actions, the opportunity extends beyond the city's purview. Focus on three levels:
 - » **CONTROL** Potential for unilateral implementation through capital projects, etc.
 - » **INFLUENCE** City not (solely) responsible but plays a significant role in setting direction, framing goals, directing outcomes (ex. Zoning)
 - » ADVOCATE Draw attention but ability of the city to influence outcome limited





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Control / Influence / Advocate







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So, what's the BIG idea?



A starting point ...

- » Building on your priorities, market and policy realities, and where we want to go
- » Starting point for the "how"? From addressing, to enhancing, to transforming



Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community ~ THE BIG IDEAS ~ The Northern Gateway

A lively mixed-use district, brimming with activity, and serving as a welcoming gateway

Live+Work Neighborhood

A new community blends the traditional office park with the traditional neighborhood, creating a more resilient, green, and walkable district

~ ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ~

Trail Connectors Neighborhood Regional Investment Collaboration



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Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community



KEY FINDINGS FROM TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

- » Between 2018 and 2022, there were a total of **139 crashes** along the corridor. Many of the crashes were right angle type collisions due to **limited access control** along the corridor.
- » Sporadic commercial development along the corridor led to uncoordinated site access management, **38 curb cuts**
- » Aesthetics (landscaping, signage, etc.) are highly variable, lacking



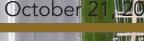
PRIORITIES FROM THE COMMUNITY

"Revitalize the corridor, provide better traffic control on Henderson Road. Aesthetically pleasing entrance to U.A."

"Install speed calming features in the corridor, eg., roundabouts, electronic speed indication signs, etc."



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What's in a right-of-way?



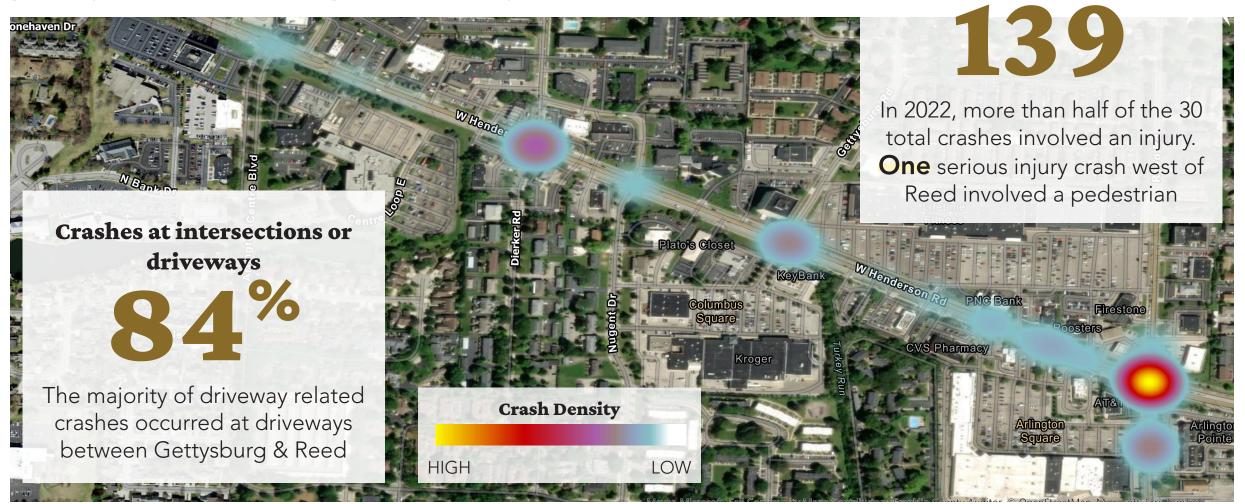


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Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community

Total Crashes 2018-22

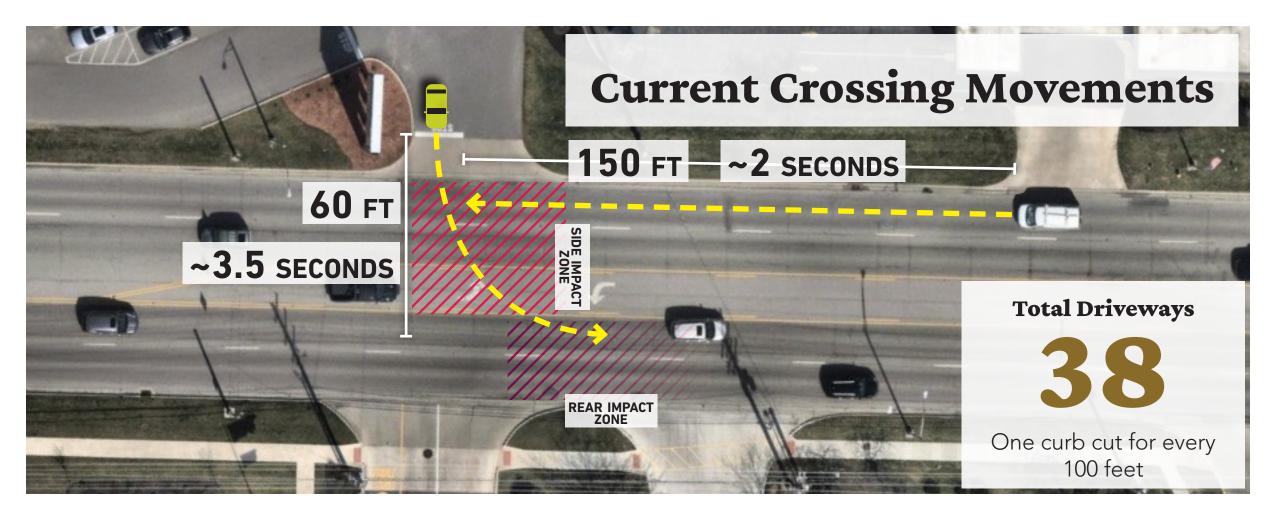




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Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community

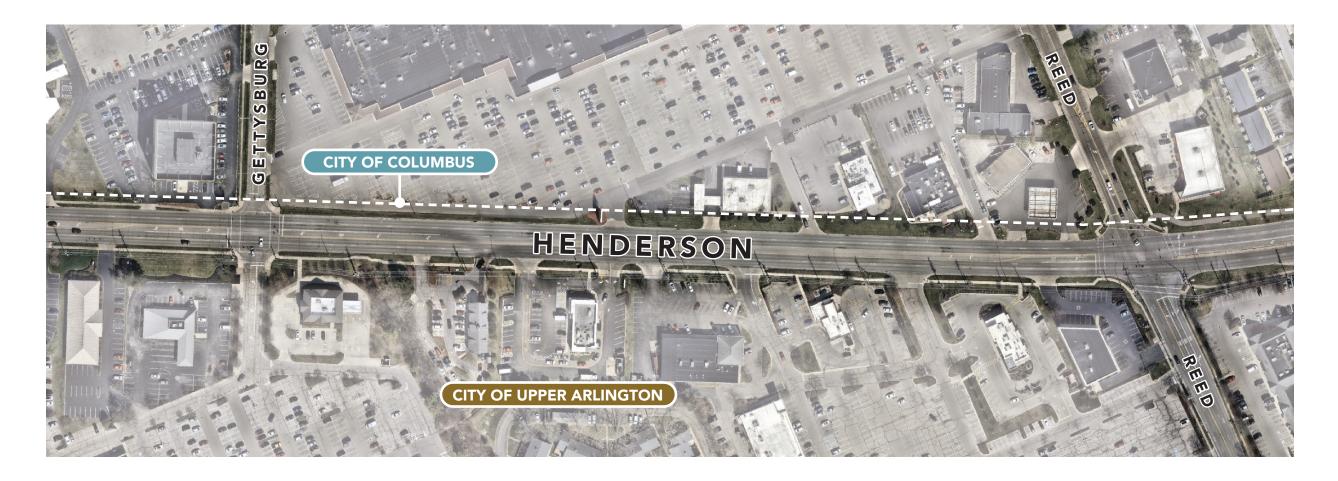




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Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community





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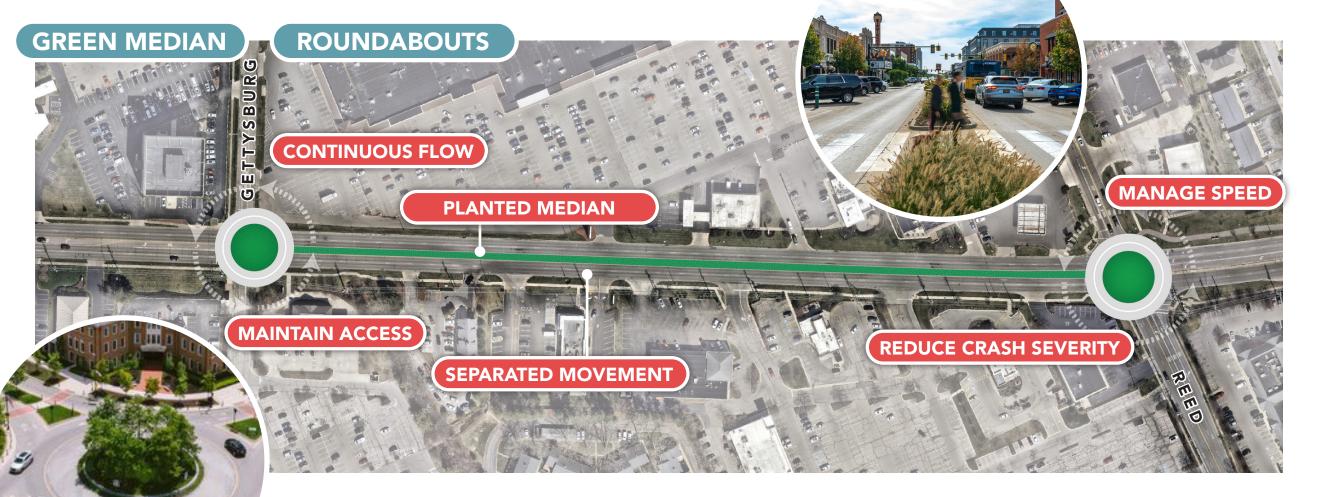


CUT TO ME-

DIAN

The Henderson "Boulevard"

Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community



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The Henderson "Boulevard"

Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community





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The Henderson "Boulevard"

Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community



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The Henderson "Boulevard"



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GATEWAY

BURIED UTILITIES

TREES

15

STREE

MULTI-USE PATHWAY

LIGHTING



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CROSSWALK TREATMENT

PLANTED MEDIAN



A starting point ...

- » Building on your priorities, market and policy realities, and where we want to go
- » Starting point for the "how"? From addressing, to enhancing, to transforming



Trail Neighborhood Regional Connectors Investment Collaboration



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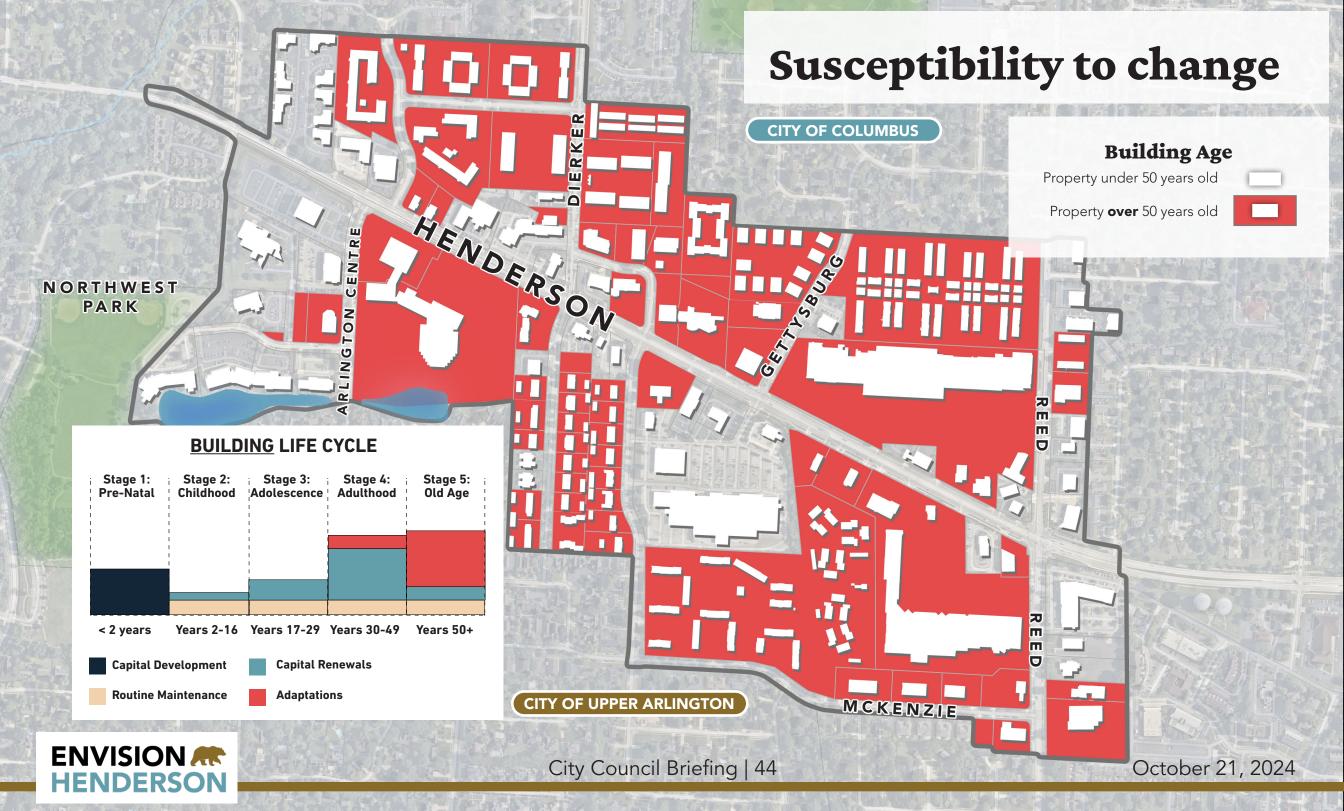


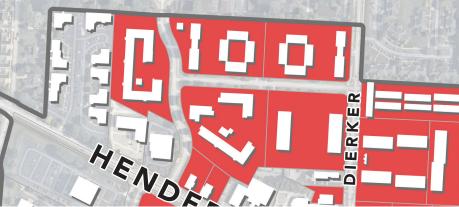
Susceptibility to change

- » Underdeveloped properties are buildings who--based on a host of criteria--have a high susceptibility to change in the near term (the next five to ten years).
- » Given the age of the commercial building stock along the corridor and the diminishing developable land resources across the community, underdeveloped properties are increasingly **targets of redevelopment proposals**.
- » There are several factors that contribute to whether a property is "underdeveloped" based on the latent market demands. These include market viability, building age, vacancy, ownership and tenure, access, environmental constraints, among others.
- » Let's consider two criteria across the Henderson Planning Area: **Building age** and **parking-to-building ratio (FAR).**









Susceptibility to change

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CITY OF COLUMBUS

ETT

Building Age

Property under 50 years old



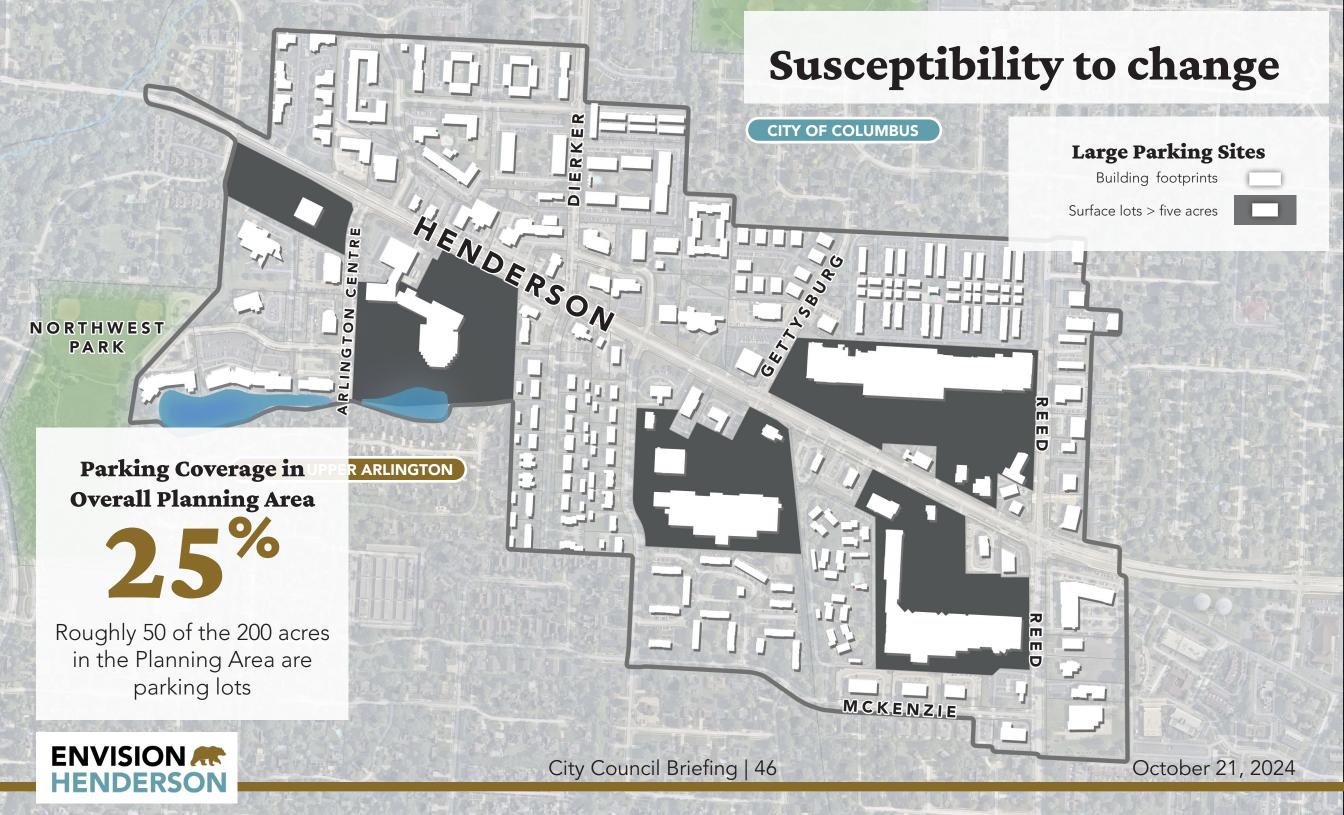
October 21, 2024

BUILDING LIFE CYCLE

	Stage 1: Pre-Natal	Stage 2: Childhood	Stage 3: Adolescence	Stage 4: Adulthood	Stage 5: Old Age	ET
						ALC: 1
	< 2 years	Years 2-16	Years 17-29	Years 30-49	Years 50+	
	Capital Development		Capital R	Capital Renewals		
	Routine Maintenance		Adaptations			
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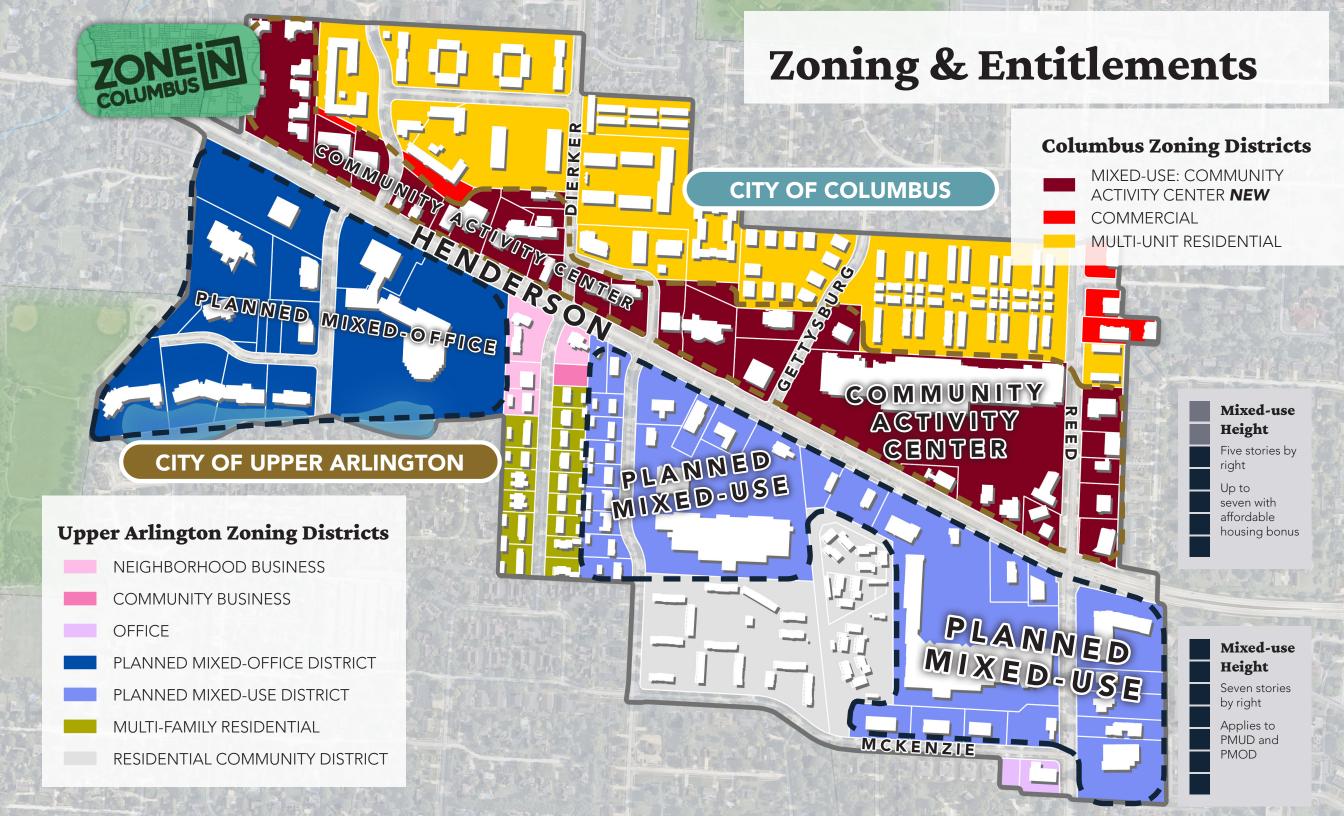


Large Parking Sites





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A starting point ...

- » Building on your priorities, market and policy realities, and where we want to go
- » Starting point for the "how"? From addressing, to enhancing, to transforming



Trail Neighborhood Regional Connectors Investment Collaboration



Opportunity Areas

HENDERSON

The Northern Gateway

A lively mixed-use district, brimming with activity, and serving as a welcoming gateway to the Upper Arlington community

Live+Work Neighborhood

A new community blends the traditional office park with the traditional neighborhood, creating a more resilient, green, and walkable district

The Northern Gateway

A lively mixed-use district, brimming with activity, and serving as a welcoming gateway to the Upper Arlington community



- » Retail and service businesses are under-performing when compared to peers in other parts of the metropolitan or state market
- » Vacancy creeping up; 45% of businesses have experienced a decrease in visitors since 2022
- » 77% of the buildings in the Planning Area are at least 50 years old



PRIORITIES FROM THE COMMUNITY

"Create a destination area by building an architecturally significant town square with shopping/restaurants and green spaces." "The market processes that are currently playing out could be harmful to the quality of the built environment and the fiscal position of the city."



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The Northern Gateway

A lively mixed-use district, brimming with activity, and serving as a welcoming gateway to the Upper Arlington community

- » Prepare for the next generation of development projects along the corridor with a compelling, community-derived vision for "what's next?"
- » Move past transactional, single use spaces and toward a more dynamic mix of vibrant public and private districts



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- » Mix complementary businesses, residences, and public uses in a wellconceived and attractive site plan
 - » Create walkable spaces through pedestrian-oriented street design

- » Introduce new housing opportunities for current and future residents
- » Enhance the fiscal position of the city and school district
- » Establish a characterrich gateway to Upper Arlington at its northern border



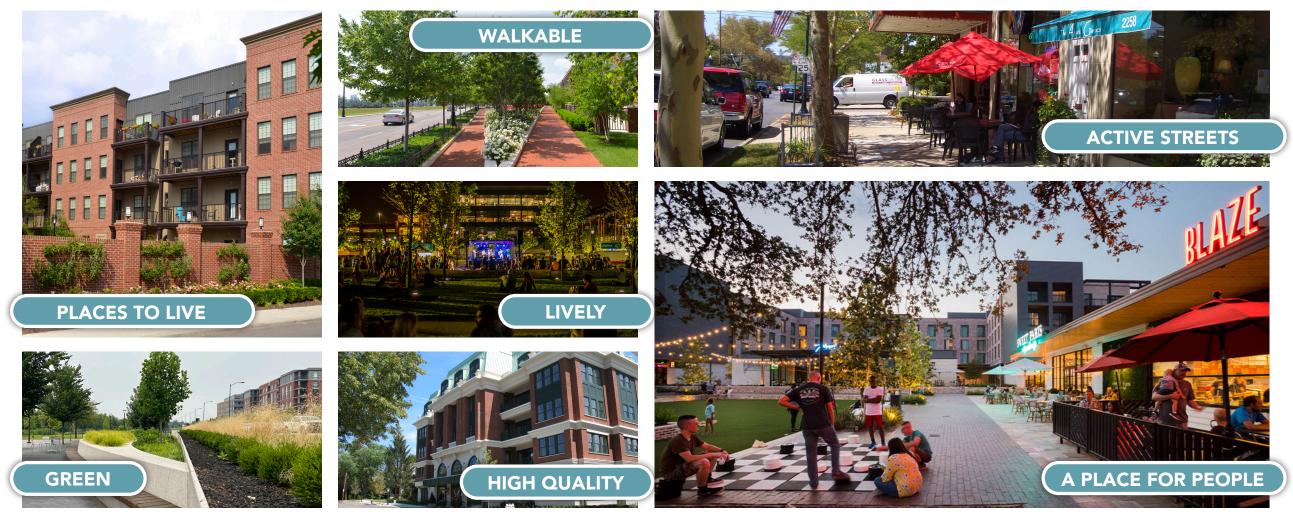


The Northern Gateway









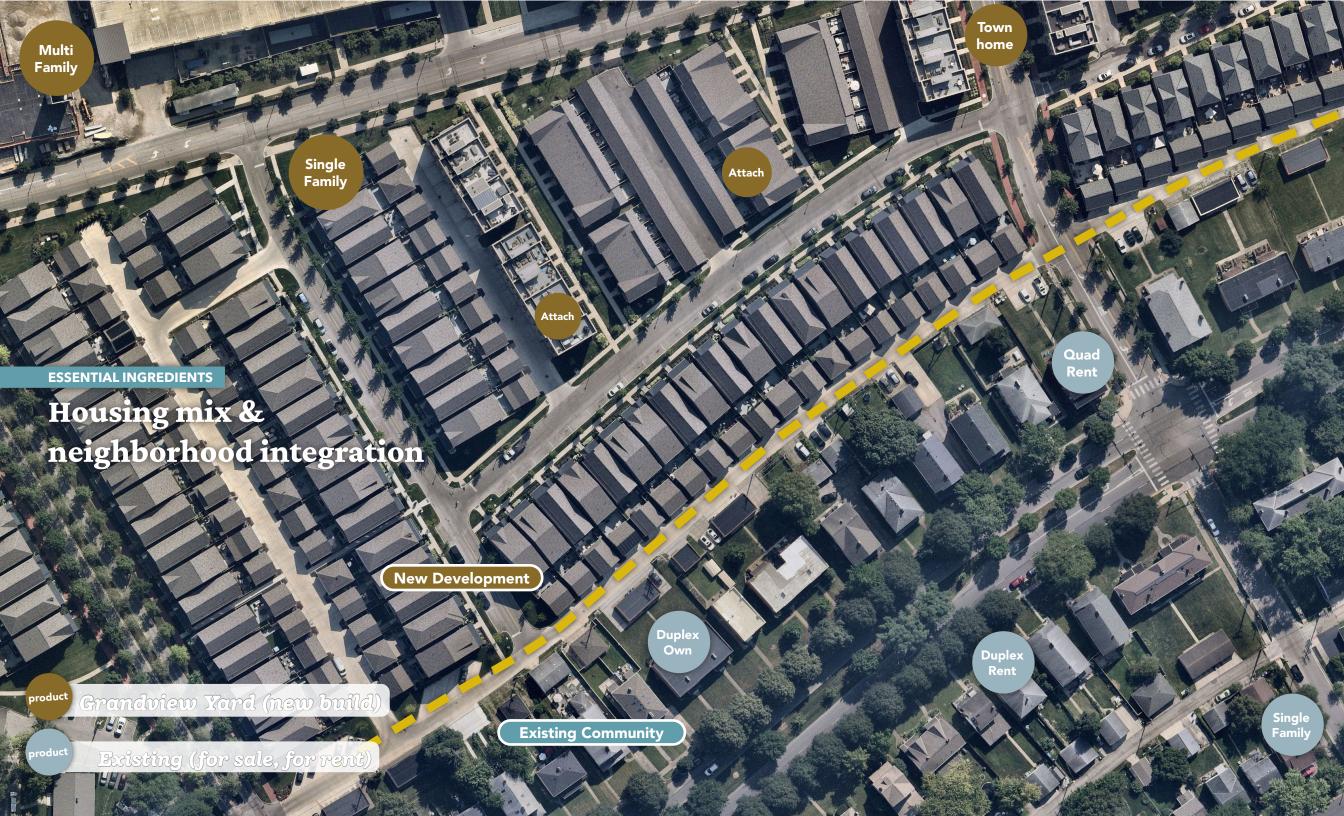


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A mix of housing products & neighborhood integration

- Matching the area's mix of housing types or products including multifamily and middle types (quad, duplex, garden, etc.)
- » Foster a multi-generational and social neighborhood
- » Stitch new development into existing neighborhoods through a thoughtful and matched product and design
- » Promote a "neighborhood first" approach to district design







Great streets

- » Consider and accommodate all forms of movement with emphasis on **walkability**
- » Tame vehicular movement throughout the district, most especially at intersections and structure entrances or exits
- » Provide ample landscaping and hardscaping that integrates green spaces, ground cover, street trees, etc.
- » Consider a **mix of hardscape** and paving materials like granite, brick, etc.
- » Create consistent signage, lighting, and street furniture





"Baked-in" complementary elements & activities

- » Enable a **18-hour district** that balances work, living, and leisure
- » Locate destination dining overlooking central green / plaza space, "patio-first" environments
- » Consider unique, **reinforcing elements** like a boutique hotel that can serve local demand
- » **Right-size retail**, creating an active shopping space at the center of the neighborhood
- » Locate modern, amenitybased, Class "A" office space







High quality design & materials

- » **Incorporate** innovative design elements that reflect both functionality and aesthetic appeal, ensuring buildings are visually striking and timeless
- » Utilize durable, sustainable materials that enhance longevity, reduce maintenance, and promote environmental responsibility
- Prioritize architectural consistency and cohesion, ensuring that designs complement the surrounding environment and contribute to a unified sense of place
- » Emphasize the use of natural light, open spaces, and thoughtful details that enhance both the user experience and the overall community appeal





Central public space

- » Establish a **"heart"** that centers the space, collects trees and greens spaces, and establishes an internal courtyard for the neighborhood
- » Mix passive and active uses
- » Allow third places to mix-in
- » Design for an all-ages environment, build a "back yard"
- » Make space for more active programming like concerts, festivals, and other activations
- » Ensure the space is authentically Upper Arlington













Live + Work Neighborhood

A new community blends the traditional office park with the traditional neighborhood, creating a more resilient, green, and walkable district



KEY FINDINGS FROM TECHNICAL ANALYSIS

- » Suburban office vacancy among non class "A" creeping up; still very low in UA overall
- » Previous development patterns single-use, large parking allocations
- » Split between several sites and employers, the Upper Arlington portion of the planning area includes around 500 office workers

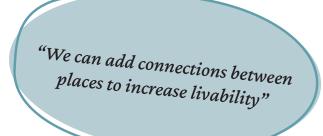


PRIORITIES FROM THE COMMUNITY

"There's an opportunity to do more here, improve the environment for office workers, and create a great place!"

ENVISION M

DERSO







Live + Work Neighborhood

A new community blends the traditional office park with the traditional neighborhood, creating a more resilient, green, and walkable district

- » Merge community goals for housing diversity and fiscal sustainability within an additive multiuse site plan
 - » Create walkable spaces through pedestrianoriented street design



 Introduce new housing opportunities for current and future residents

- » Enhance the fiscal position of the city and school district
- » Improve access to Northwest Kiwanis Park through new trail connections
- » Leverage the city's
 Planned Mixed Office
 District (PMOD)
 zoning



Live + Work Neighborhood







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A starting point ...

- » Initiating a discussion through this round on major actions
- » Building on your priorities, market and policy realities, and where we want to go
- » Starting point for the "how"? From addressing, to enhancing, to transforming



Envisioning a safe, accessible, and attractive signature street and gateway to the Upper Arlington community The BIG IDEAS ~ The Northern Gateway

A lively mixed-use district, brimming with activity, and serving as a welcoming gateway Live+Work Neighborhood

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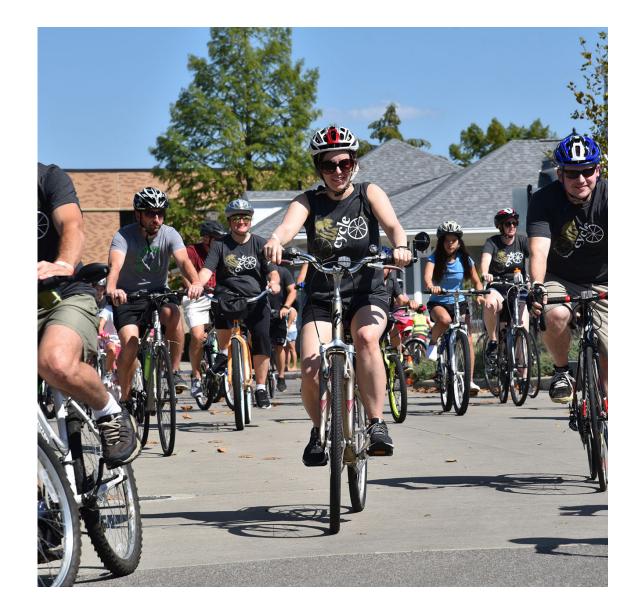






Trail Connectors

- » Opportunities to **better connect** the corridor and neighborhoods locally and regionally
- » Sidewalk coverage lacking; internal site connections strained
- » Regional trails (ex. Olentangy Trails) expanding, substantial expansion possible with the passage of LinkUS
- » LinkUS Northwest corridor stops planned at Dierker and Bethel, half mile from the planning area connected by an existing multi-use trail
- » Henderson Boulevard, provide a **10' multi-use trail** on the north side of Henderson connecting to existing trail (city of Columbus) east of Reed



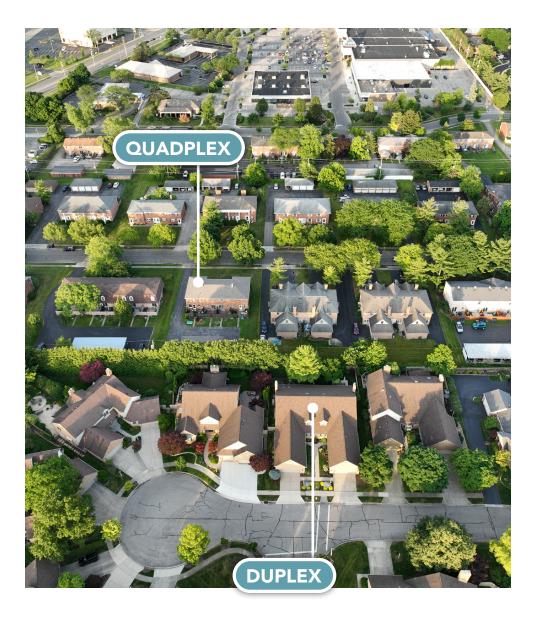


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Neighborhood Investment

- » 250 housing units in the planning area
- » Unique stock, mostly **"missing middle"** duplex, triplex, quads, etc. Owner-occupied and renter-occupied
- » The age and diversity of units preserves a **pocket of affordability**. This neighborhood is one of the few affordable entry points into Upper Arlington, largely due to the older age of many of its residential buildings.
- » Units are on average more than 60 years old
- » Maintenance critical to long-term preservation
- » **Stitching** into any changes to surrounding commercial property, complementary development





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Regional Collaboration

- » The Central Ohio region is growing rapidly, and every community – Upper Arlington included – is feeling the impacts and pressures of this growth. Henderson Road serves as the **boundary between** Upper Arlington and the City of Columbus.
- » Major regional plans and projects could have an impact on the planning area and the broader Upper Arlington community
 - » **Zoneln** significant up-zoning of property along the north side of Henderson adopted by Columbus City Council July 29, 2024. Five stories by-right, with two story affordable bonus
 - » **LinkUS** Northwest transit corridor less than 1/2 mile from Henderson, sales tax vote set for November 5, 2024
 - » **Central Ohio Greenways** continued expansion of regional trail system, additional funding linked to LinkUS vote in November
- » Work with regional partners and **advocate for great projects** and policies that lead to great outcomes.

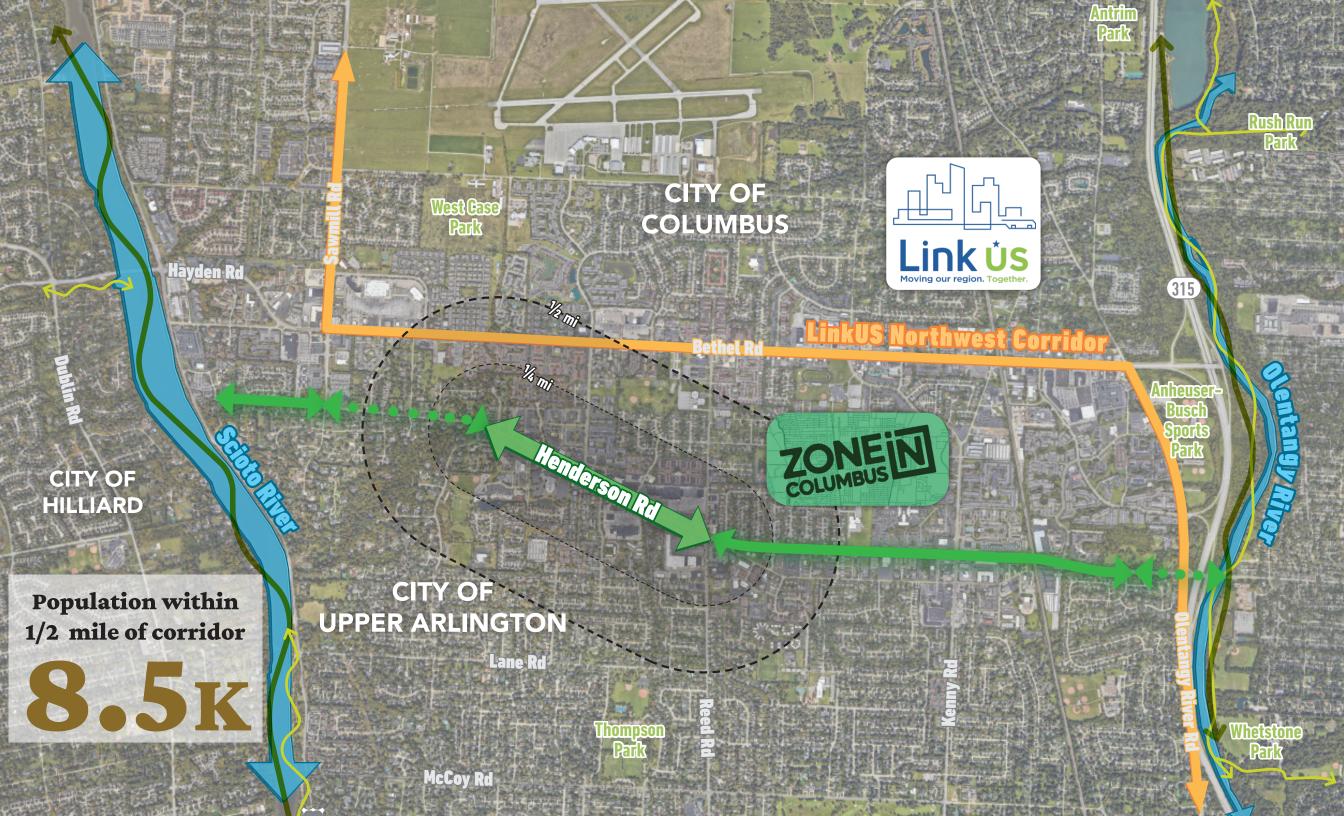


SOURCE: CENTRAL OHIO TRANSIT AGENCY (COTA)





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A starting point ...

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~ ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ~

Trail Connectors Neighborhood Regional Investment Collaboration



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Thank you!

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