



**PARKS COMMISSION
Heman Park Community Center
975 Pennsylvania**

**Tuesday, September 19, 2023
6:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1) August 15, 2023 – Draft

E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

F. DEPARTMENT REPORT

G. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

H. COMMISSION MEMBERS PARK INSPECTIONS REPORT

I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) Parks Centennial Update

J. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Story Walk Program – Library
- 2) Tennis Court Usage – James Hoskins
- 3) School District – Justin Wilhite
- 4) Alta Dena Marker Sign Request – Discussion
- 5) Pickle Ball Discussion – Lisa Frumhoff
- 6) University City Comprehensive Plan
- 7) No Smoking in Parks – Discussion Request
- 8) Golf Course Fees/Clayton Agreement – Discussion Request
- 9) Management Policies – Introduction (29)

K. COMMISSION COMMENTS

L. ADJOURNMENT



We Make UCITY



Resilient. Livable. Prosperous.

Park Commission Update

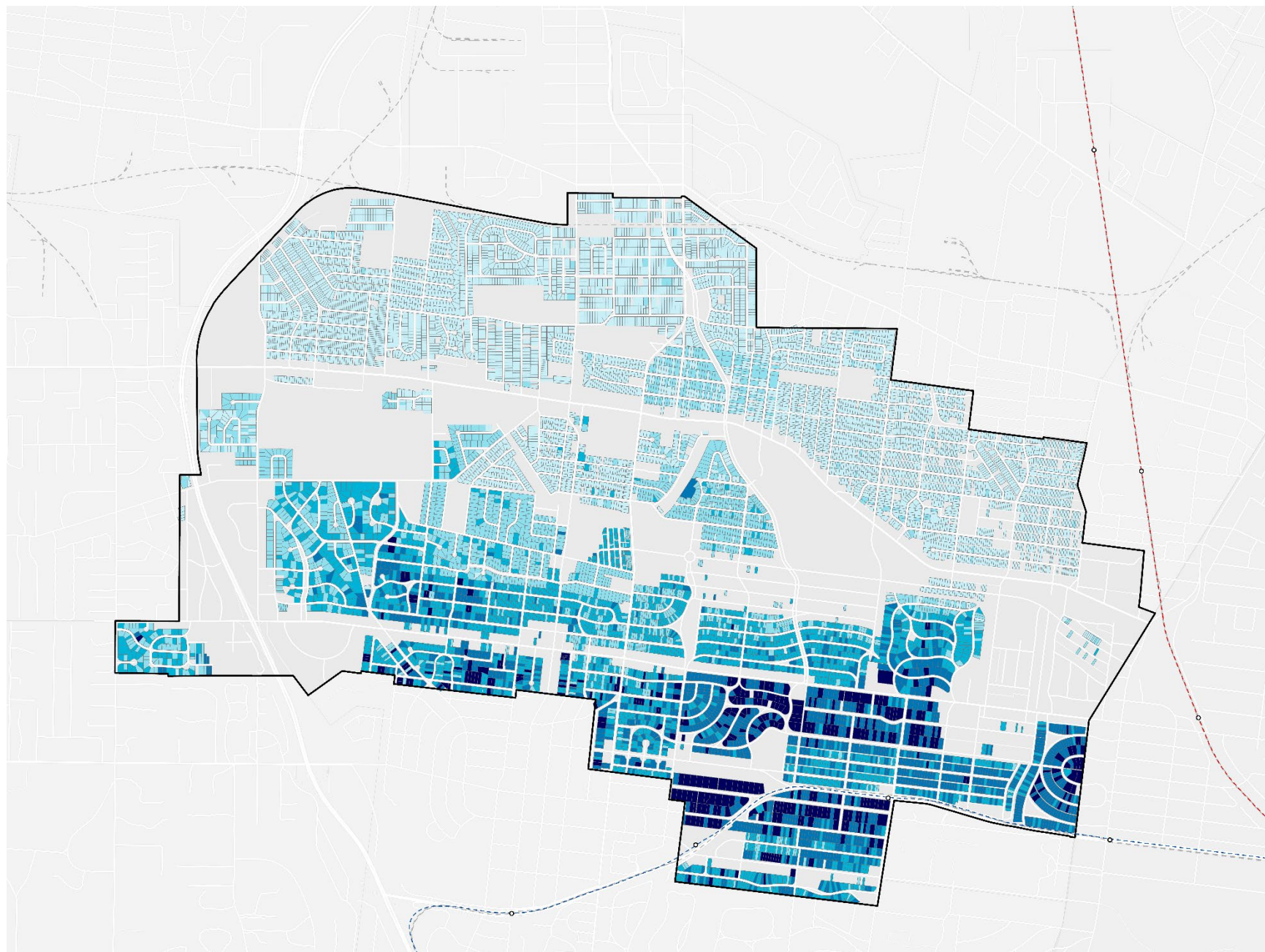
July 18, 2023

Agenda

1. Guiding Ideas
2. What We've Heard
3. Key Recommendations for Park Commission
4. Future Character & Land Use
5. Next Steps

Property Values (Single Family Homes)

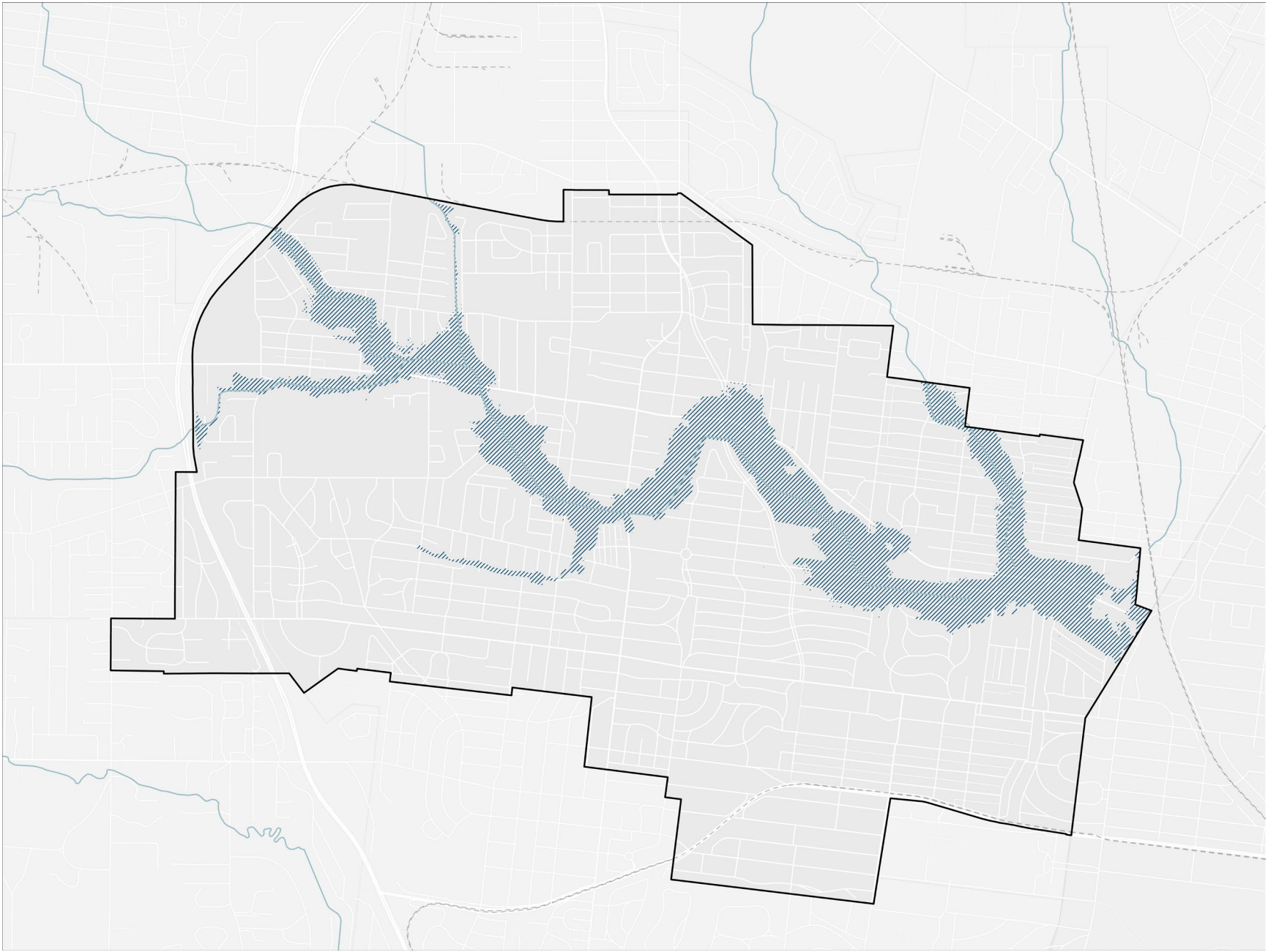
Property Values, January 2023



Flood Prone Areas



Flood Prone Areas (Areas in Floodplain or in 2022 Flood Boundary)



Guiding Ideas



The Comprehensive Plan is an opportunity to...

- Manage a smaller population while improving quality of life for the community
- Address unequal access to University City's different neighborhoods and improve diversity of housing choices
- Address impacts of segregation and improve freedom of movement

The Comprehensive Plan is an opportunity to...

- Share a vision for the physical environment of flood prone areas
- Make it easier and safer for people to move through the City without a car
- Improve access to retail, services, and amenities in neighborhoods where they are lacking
- Commit to a long-term strategy for maintaining parks and open spaces

The Comprehensive Plan is an opportunity to...

- “Make space for everyone” in a diverse community where everyone is valued
- Define a mutually beneficial and equitable relationship with Washington University
- Build a framework to coordinate with the schools to strengthen our community and make opportunities for youth central a top priority
- Recommit to transparency and cooperation in University City’s government

What We've Heard



Who we heard from the community

- More than 520 people participated in workshops, online activities, paper surveys, or focus groups
- Overall representation was similar to the City except for people aged 25-34, who were underrepresented
- Most people heard about We Make U City through word of mouth and city communications



What we heard from the community

- The goals and objectives were generally popular and well-supported
- Respondents like the sentiments of the Vision Statement but do not feel the City is living up to that vision currently
- The Round 1 Summary Memo contains more key takeaways



What we have heard from Council

Discussed key topics in one-on-one interviews

1. Flood prone areas
2. Housing vacancy
3. Mixed-use areas

Key Recommendations



Goals

- A. Preserve and Enhance Great Places
- B. Advance Shared Prosperity
- C. Connect Community
- D. Leverage Assets
- E. Strengthen Livability
- F. Improve Collaboration



Goal A: Preserve and Enhance Great Places

Maintain existing character, while encouraging creative development, and building resilient, vibrant places.

Goal A: Preserve and Enhance Great Places

- Prioritize City control of vacant parcels when possible. Use the City's Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority (LCRA) (or similar mechanism) for acquisition of vacant properties.
- Pursue opportunities to expand publicly accessible and connected open space apart from formal parks.



Goal A: Preserve and Enhance Great Places

- Promote green reuse strategies for utilizing vacant parcels in partnership with existing organizations and programs (e.g., MSD, Missouri Botanical Garden, U City in Bloom).



Vacant lot repurposed for stormwater management



Goal C: Connect Community

Invest in community connection to increase mobility options, improve social cohesion, and encourage civic involvement.

Goal C: Connect Community

- Work with neighborhoods, businesses, and community groups to promote streetscape projects and corridor improvements.
- Complete the Centennial Greenway as a fully contiguous trail through University City.
- Coordinate with MODOT to reconfigure Olive Boulevard to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety.



Before



After

Goal D: Leverage Assets

Capitalize on University City's diverse cultural, historical, and physical assets while investing in new amenities.

Goal D: Leverage Assets

- Update the University City Parks Master Plan to include a maintenance management plan for parks, prioritizing strategic investment in maintenance, programming, and naturalized spaces.
- Expand parks and recreation funding mechanisms.
- Celebrate the city's history and diversity through parks, historic preservation, and public art.



Goal D: Leverage Assets

- Consider cross-community partnerships and park programming and how to encourage participation by community members across racial and ethnic groups.
- Expand parks and recreation programming for seniors and youth.



Goal D: Leverage Assets

- Create a Safe Routes to Parks plan to improve pedestrian and bicycle access.
- Develop youth sports programming that engages university students as mentors and coaches.
- Continue to expand public art in the city.



Goal E: Strengthen Livability

Enhance neighborhoods as the building block of the community and center of day-to-day life and provide community members with choice in where they live in the city.

Goal E: Strengthen Livability

- Expand park coverage and stormwater management through reuse of vacant parcels.
- Incorporate Low Impact Development strategies into the City's capital improvements (e.g., permeable pavement for road resurfacing).
- Develop parks and open space in flood prone areas that are designed to accommodate water inundation provided that maintenance and security can be addressed.



Goal F: Improve Collaboration

Prioritize commitment to action through responsive governance and strategic partnerships to realize the community's vision.

Goal F: Improve Collaboration

- Maintain quality infrastructure in the University City School District that can be utilized by the entire community.
- Make City assets available for use by the University City School District.



Future Character & Land Use



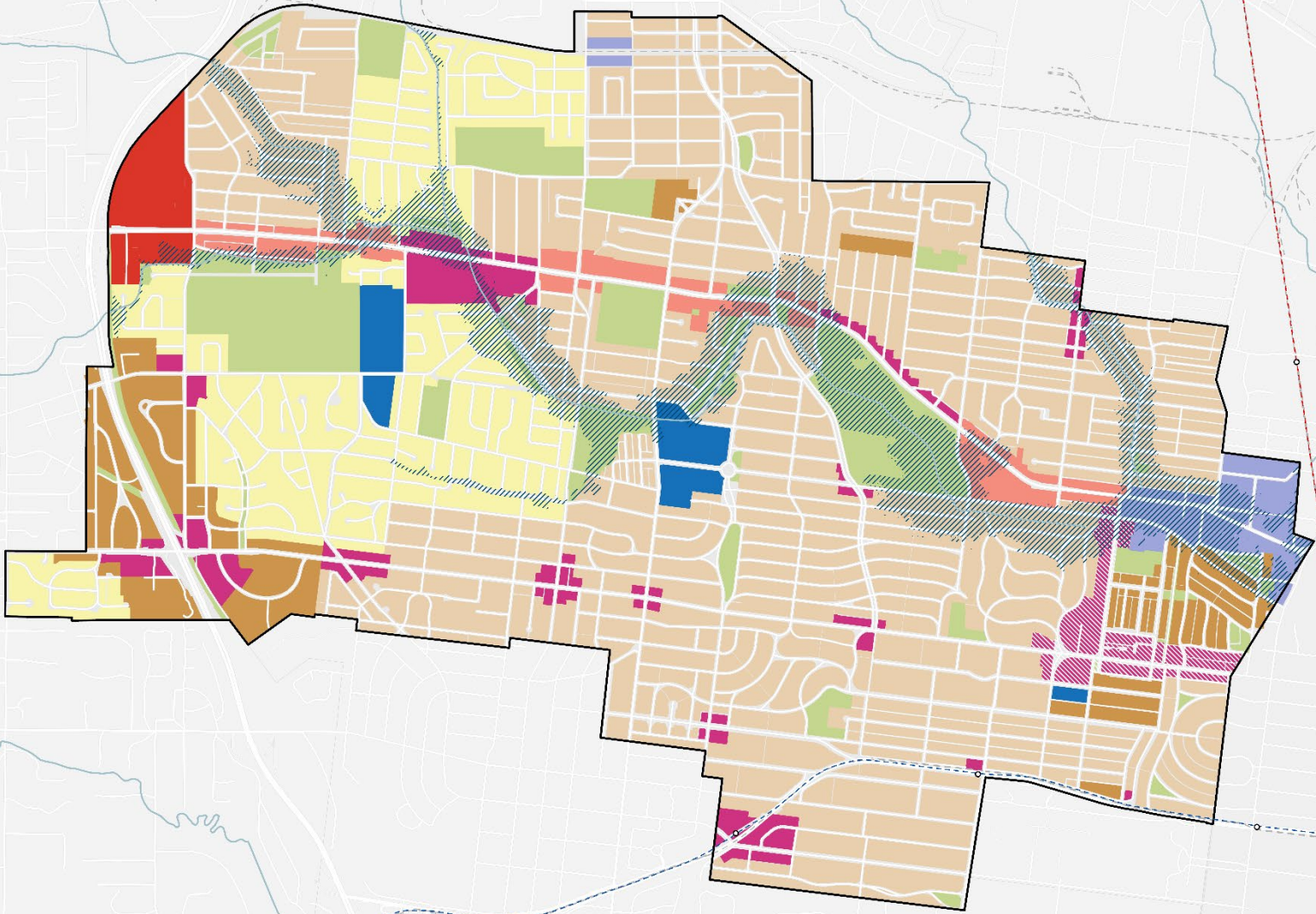
What is the character and land use map for?

- To assist the Plan Commission and staff with **review of development proposals** so that future development conforms to desired character in different parts of the City
- To provide **guidance to developers** regarding the Plan Commission's expectations for quality and characteristics of development
- To provide **predictability for residents, business owners, and others** with respect to the kind of development they can expect to be approved by the Plan Commission
- To provide a **common, citywide** understanding—including by other City Commissions and departments as well as the public—of where and how University City should change over time
- To serve as a **foundation for zoning code changes and design guidelines**, including the possibility of additional zoning standards that better regulate physical form and the quality of the public realm

Draft Future Character and Land Use

Character Types

- Activity Center
- Loop Overlay
- Regional Retail District
- Community Corridor
- Innovation District
- Compact Neighborhood
- Traditional Neighborhood
- Suburban Neighborhood
- Public/Semi-Public
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
- Flood Prone Area Overlay



Next Steps



Purpose of Round 2 Engagement

- Build off Community Vision 2040 process and Round 1
- Focus on key actions that will be most critical to the plan
- Provide opportunity for community to give input on draft actions and Future Character and Land Use Map



Picture the Possibilities

See the draft recommendations for the City's comprehensive plan, which will impact how University City looks and develops in the future. Share your feedback and help shape the future of University City!

Three ways to participate!

In-Person
Attend the Picture the Possibilities Open House! **Wednesday, July 19**
Drop in any time from 3:00 to 7:00 pm
University City High School Library

Surveys
Fill out an online or paper version of the activities. Complete the activities online at WeMakeUCity.com or pick up a paper version at City Hall or the Public Library. Available July 19 - August 21

Monday, July 25 - 1:00 pm
Tuesday, July 26 - 9:00 am
Wednesday, July 29 - 10:00 am

To learn more, visit: WeMakeUCity.com



Picture the Possibilities

Shape the future of University City!

WeMake UCITY
Resilient. Livable. Prosperous.

There are many ways to get involved!
Visit WeMakeUCity.com for more information.

Schedule of Engagement Opportunities

In-Person Open House

- July 19, 3pm-7pm (drop-in event)

Virtual Open Houses

- July 25, 12-1pm
- July 26, 8-9 am
- July 29, 9-10am

Online and Paper Surveys

- July 19-August 21

Road Show

- Centennial Commons
- Public Library

Pop-up Events

Next Steps

- Conduct Round 2 Engagement
- Revise Actions and Future Character and Land Use Map
- Conduct Commission and Council updates
- Prepare draft plan

Thank you!

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