

THE IDEAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN 2030

In the year 2030, central city neighborhoods will have almost completed their metamorphous from the declining, deteriorating state they were in during the last half of the 20th century. The movement back to the city, along with other trends, has brought much needed reinvestment. Central city neighborhoods will be distinguished by five major characteristics:

I. Mixed-Use Buildings Are Prevalent in Neighborhood Commercial Areas

[The City's population has continued to grow, thereby making increased density both necessary and desirable. Downtown has continued to grow as a job center and a cultural center, which has contributed to central city property becoming more desirable and valuable.]

- A. Historically and architecturally significant commercial buildings have been restored to their former glory.
- B. New, infill buildings complement existing architecture and provide a compact development pattern.
- C. A mix of housing, shopping, jobs, and recreation opportunities provide things to do in all seasons for everyone in the neighborhood.
- D. Neighborhood residents are able to do most of their shopping at local businesses.
- E. Sidewalks are wide, streetscaping is well maintained, and streets have traffic calming measures - all to accommodate the number of people walking.
- F. Goods and services needed by neighbors, such as a neighborhood food mart, bank, pharmacy, etc. are within walking distance.

II. Every Neighborhood Is a Mixed-Income Neighborhood

[Economic, social and racial integration have been key objectives as the ethnic and racial populations have increased. The goal has been for everyone who desires to live within walking distance of one's place of employment can find appropriate housing. Many development projects have involved private-public-nonprofit partnerships.]

- A. There is good housing diversity:
 - 1. units to accommodate the aging population
 - 2. all housing is accessible to those with physical limitations
 - 3. both rental and home ownership opportunities are available to all income levels
 - 4. attached and detached, condos, apartments, single family, and cooperatives are all available
 - 5. each building offers a range of units so that various household income levels can be accommodated
- B. Market rate and affordable housing units have been created through incentives while luxury housing has been privately developed.
- C. Children from diverse households are playing together.

III. A full-range of transportation modes exist.

[The costs of nonrenewable energy have continued to rise. While cars are allowed, the emphasis is on the pedestrian. Increasing density has helped to make many forms of transportation desirable. The number of households without cars has increased.]

- A. Bike lanes line most streets, and children are able to safely ride their bikes to the library, Post Office, park, and other public spaces.
- B. A Bus Rapid Transit line runs through most neighborhoods.
- C. A street car system runs throughout downtown into the neighborhoods
- D. The first tracks are being laid for a light rail system.
- E. There is an enhanced transit center in each neighborhood.
- F. Transit-oriented development has created many, new housing units for households of diverse sizes and incomes.
- G. Local mass transit connects with national transit.

IV. Sustainability/Greening

[The fresh water supply from the Great Lakes has become a huge attraction to both businesses and residents, aiding in the City's population growth. The successful development of alternative energy sources has led to the creation of new jobs. Urban food production has increased, contributing to the buy local practice.]

- A. Green areas, public spaces, and gathering places are located throughout the neighborhood.
- B. Green roofs, rain gardens, management of storm water runoff, and other natural methods of conservation are prevalent.
- C. All dwelling units, businesses, and institutional buildings are energy efficient.
- D. Locally grown food is readily available at reasonable costs.
- E. Everyone recycles.
- F. The neighborhood's carbon footprint is miniscule.
- G. Neighborhood business owners also own their buildings.
- H. Employment opportunities are available in or near the neighborhood.

V. Social Equity

[Many social networks exist within the neighborhood and provide opportunities for interaction among many different individuals and organizations. The design of the physical infrastructure has assisted in achieving the formation of human connections and the building of relationships. People are involved.]

- A. There is an Area Specific Plan for the entire neighborhood, created by all segments of the neighborhood.
- B. Several, strong citizen-based organizations are actively involved in improving the quality of life within the neighborhood.
- C. Residents are part of the decision-making process that has helped to develop policies affecting their neighborhood's living environment.
- D. There are residents of all races living in harmony with each other.
- E. The entire neighborhood is easily accessible by residents with disabilities.