

May 1, 2024



JOE  
LOUIS  
GREENWAY

# NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING STUDY

JLG Westside

# WELCOME!

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## TODAY'S AGENDA:

- Quick Presentation 20 min
- Q+A 20 min
- Breakout Tables 60 min



JOE  
LOUIS  
GREENWAY



The Joe Louis Greenway is a recreational pathway that will unify Detroit's neighborhoods, people and parks. Through this greenway, we strive to honor Joe Louis by providing equitable spaces through arts, programming, and economic opportunities for all

# JLG Framework Plan, 2021

## GOAL 1

THE GREENWAY  
WILL ENHANCE  
RESIDENTS'  
QUALITY OF LIFE  
AND PROMOTE  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT

## GOAL 2

THE GREENWAY  
WILL PROMOTE  
EQUITY

## GOAL 3

THE GREENWAY  
WILL BE A UNIFYING,  
CONNECTIVE,  
MULTI-MODAL  
TRANSPORTATION  
NETWORK



# WHO IS IN THE ROOM TONIGHT?

## CITY OF DETROIT

### PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

*JOE LOUIS GREENWAY, GSD  
DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS  
HOUSING & REVITALIZATION  
OFFICE OF MOBILITY & INNOVATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS*

## CONSULTANT TEAM

INTERFACE STUDIO

SIDEWALK DETROIT

*SMITHGROUP  
SMM  
NOELL CONSULTING  
MASS ECONOMICS*

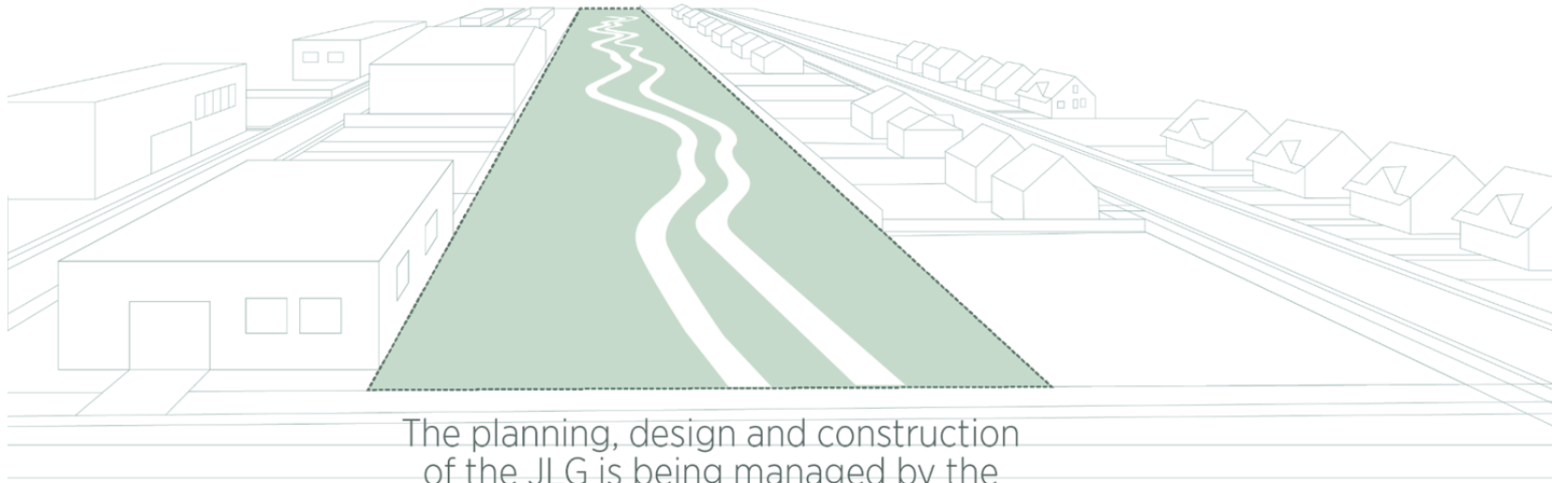
## OTHER PARTNERS

JLGP

MOGO



This **JLG Planning Study** is  
**not** about the Joe Louis  
Greenway itself



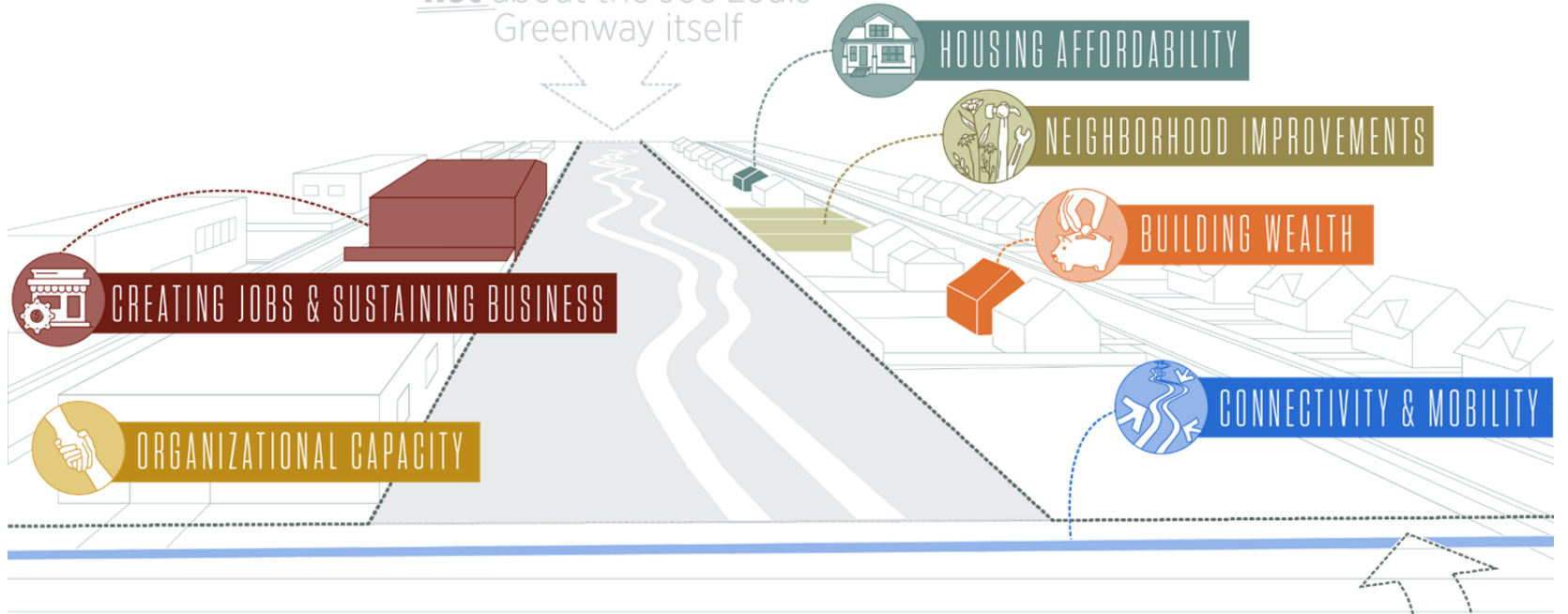
The planning, design and construction  
of the JLG is being managed by the  
General Services Department (GSD)

This **JLG Planning Study** is  
not about the Joe Louis  
Greenway itself

*Have a question about the  
greenway itself? Talk to GSD!*

The planning, design and construction  
of the JLG is being managed by the  
General Services Department (GSD)

This **JLG Planning Study** is not about the Joe Louis Greenway itself



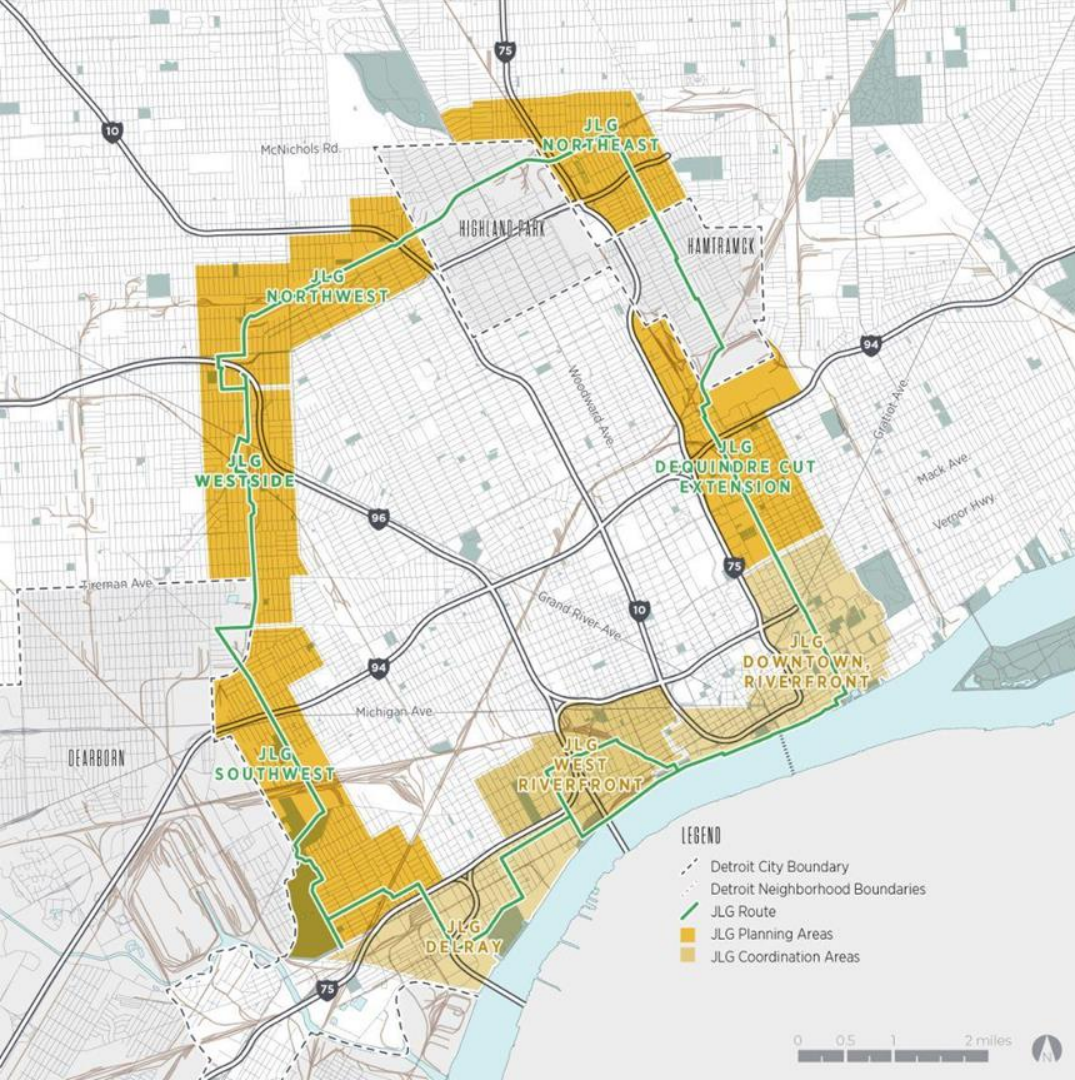
This **JLG Planning Study** **\*is\*** about making sure the investment in the greenway **benefits the neighboring communities**



# OUR PROCESS

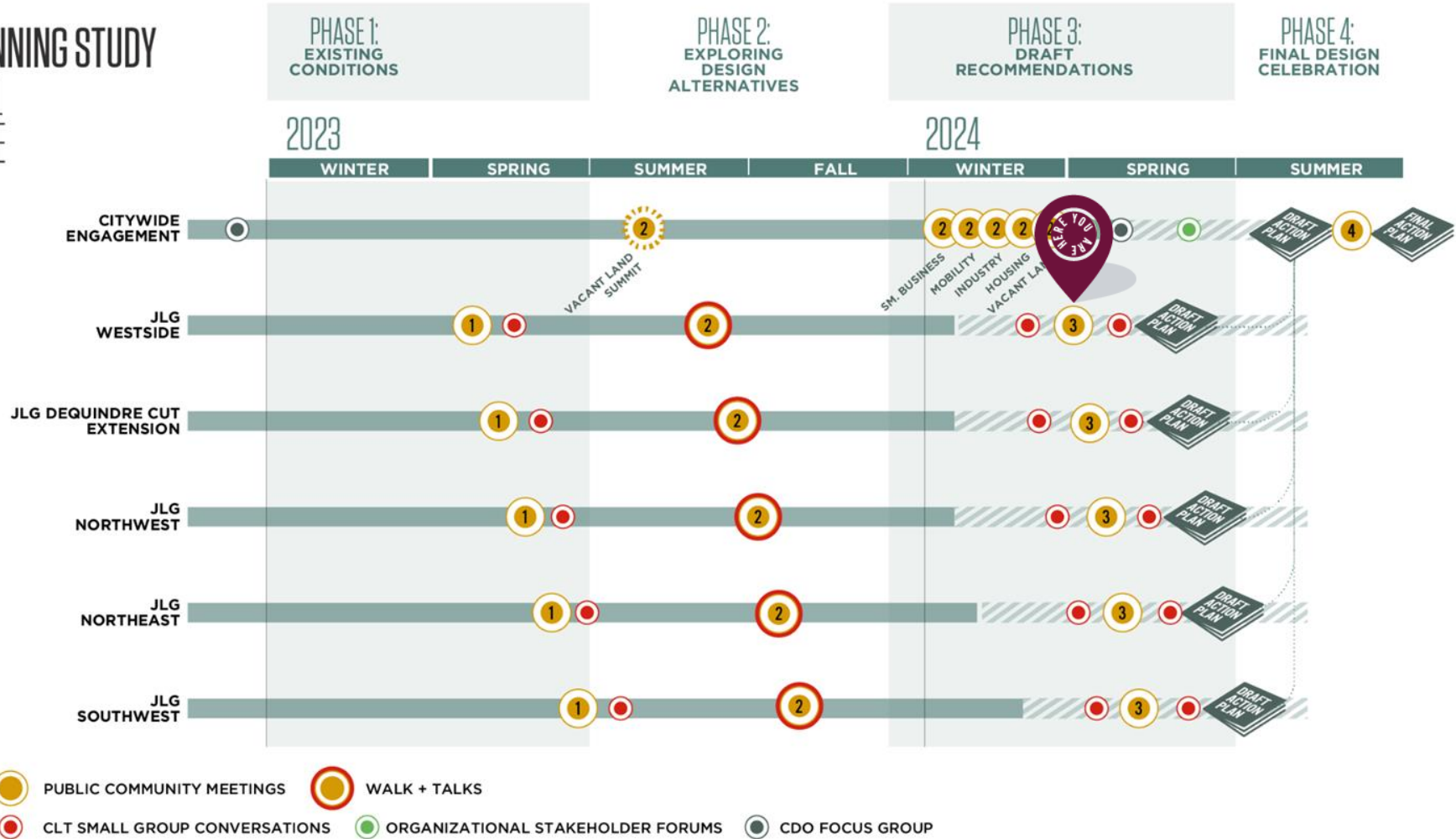


# JOE LOUIS GREENWAY PLANNING AREAS



# JLG PLANNING STUDY

## OVERALL TIMELINE





# COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP TEAMS

15 COMMUNITY MEMBERS leading neighborhood-focused engagement



# VACANT LAND SUMMIT

250+ PARTICIPANTS on vacancy-focused workshops, resources and presentations



# MOVE & TALK SESSIONS

5 MOBILITY AND ACCESS DISCUSSIONS on the ground



# COMMUNITY MILESTONE MEETINGS

16 PUBLIC MEETINGS with a city-wide and neighborhood-centered focus



# WHAT WE HEARD

Westside - Public Meetings, CLTs, Move and Talks

## PRIORITIES:

1. *Neighborhood Quality of Life.*
2. *Connectivity and Accessibility.*
3. *Use of the JLG.*

## What can be BUILT ON?

- Engaged, vocal community.
- Community institutions.
- Solid neighborhood infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, houses, trees).
- Neighborhood history.
- Children are beginning to use the greenway.

## What is a CHALLENGE?

- Improvements:
  - Safety on construction sites.
  - Condition of vacant lots and alleys.
  - Better lighting.
- Connections:
  - **Major roads as barriers to access amenities.**
  - Commercial traffic on residential streets.
  - **Improve pedestrian safety,** with a focus on seniors, children and residents with disabilities.
- Livability + Quality of life:
  - Dumping and no animal control.
  - **Concerns about speculation.**
  - **Incompatible businesses/zoning.**
  - **Safety concerns.**
  - Vandalization and police response on the JLG.

## What are your HOPES & VISION?

- **Mobility options and safety for all users.**
- **Multigenerational engagement and programming on the JLG.**
- **Access to amenities on the JLG (shelters, restrooms, etc.).**
- **Community ownership and investments.** (“A blueprint of beautification without gentrification”).
- Better relationships between new and old residents
- Clean-ups and resident-led action.
- **Community center.**

# JLG Westside STUDY AREA

This study area includes the neighborhoods of Littlefield, Barton McFarland, Midwest, Grand River I-96, and Oakman Blvd.



- JLG Planning Area  
(within 1/2 mile of the JLG route)
- Detroit Neighborhood Boundaries
- JLG Route
- Proposed Spurs & Connectors



# TONIGHT!

We want to know your thoughts about the DRAFT strategies for the Greenway

**01:**

Are these draft strategies heading in the right direction?

**02:**

Is there an idea that excites you?

**03:**

Are there potential strategies missing that you would like to see?

# DRAFT STRATEGIES

COMMERCIAL  
+ SMALL BUSINESS

MOBILITY  
+ ACCESS

INDUSTRY  
+ JOBS

HOUSING

VACANT  
LAND

All public meetings recordings are  
available online at

[DETROITMI.GOV/JLGPLANNING](https://DETROITMI.GOV/JLGPLANNING)





# BUSINESSES & JOBS

## SUPPORT EXISTING BUSINESSES

i.e. building stabilization, beautification grants

## REDUCE POTENTIAL IMPACTS

i.e. opportunities to downzone to light industrial, strategic tree planting and buffering



## CONNECT RESIDENTS TO JOBS

i.e. vacant building reuse, supporting new business along the greenway, training programs

## EMPOWER ENTREPRENEURS

i.e. pop-up ready vacant lots, better connections to the JLG

# POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO COMMERCIAL STREETS



**GRAND RIVER OVER 96**





# CONNECTIVITY & MOBILITY

## IMPROVE BIKE ACCESS

i.e. bike to work programs, slow streets connections to the JLG

## SAFE PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS

i.e. improve sidewalks, bike lanes, programming

## ACCOMMODATE CAR ACCESS

i.e. on-street parking, parking lots at major access points

## REDUCE CONFLICTS

i.e. road rightsizing, crossing enhancements

## IMPROVE TRANSIT ACCESS

i.e. prioritize bus shelters and amenities





TOW LOT

JLG TRAILHEAD

SHADED SEATING

ENHANCED BUS STOP

BIKE LANE CONNECTION

GRAND RIVER

POTENTIAL MOBILITY HUB



NEED A RIDE?

# GET A FREE BIKE

Do you live in Detroit, Hamtramck, or Highland Park and experience transportation problems? You may be eligible for a free new bike from Bikes 4 Employees.



*7 BIKES ALLOCATED TO RESIDENTS AROUND THE JLG*





# HOUSING

## EXPAND OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

i.e. homeownership programs, community land trust models

## SUPPORT EXISTING HOMEOWNERS

i.e. increased housing assistance, targeted resident outreach

## PRESERVE EXISTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

i.e. landlord outreach and incentives, code enforcement

## IMPROVE HOUSING QUALITY

i.e. home repair grants, low interest financing

## CREATE NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING

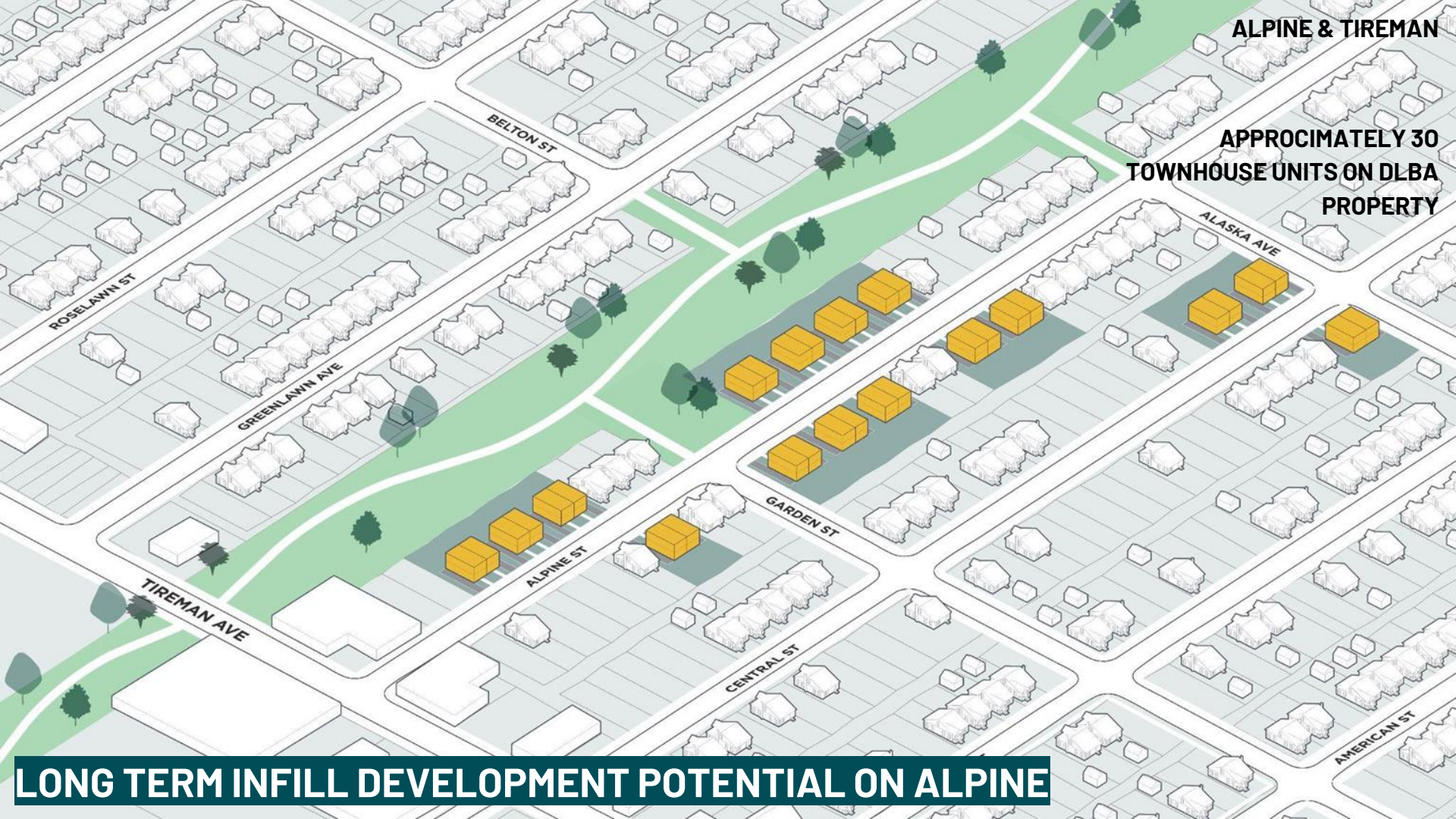
i.e. leverage public land and grants for new construction, expand targeted multifamily areas





**ALPINE & TIREMAN**

**APPROXIMATELY 30  
TOWNHOUSE UNITS ON DLBA  
PROPERTY**



**LONG TERM INFILL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL ON ALPINE**



# BEAUTIFICATION & VACANT LAND

## BEAUTIFICATION

i.e. public art, partner collaborations, tree plantings

## COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

i.e. pop-up market, community garden

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

i.e. vacant lot clean-up and maintenance, demolition of hazardous structures

## NEIGHBORHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE

i.e. high speed internet





CHICAGO & OAKMAN

POTENTIAL NEW PARK & JLG CONNECTION

SLOW STREETS & STREET IMPROVEMENTS

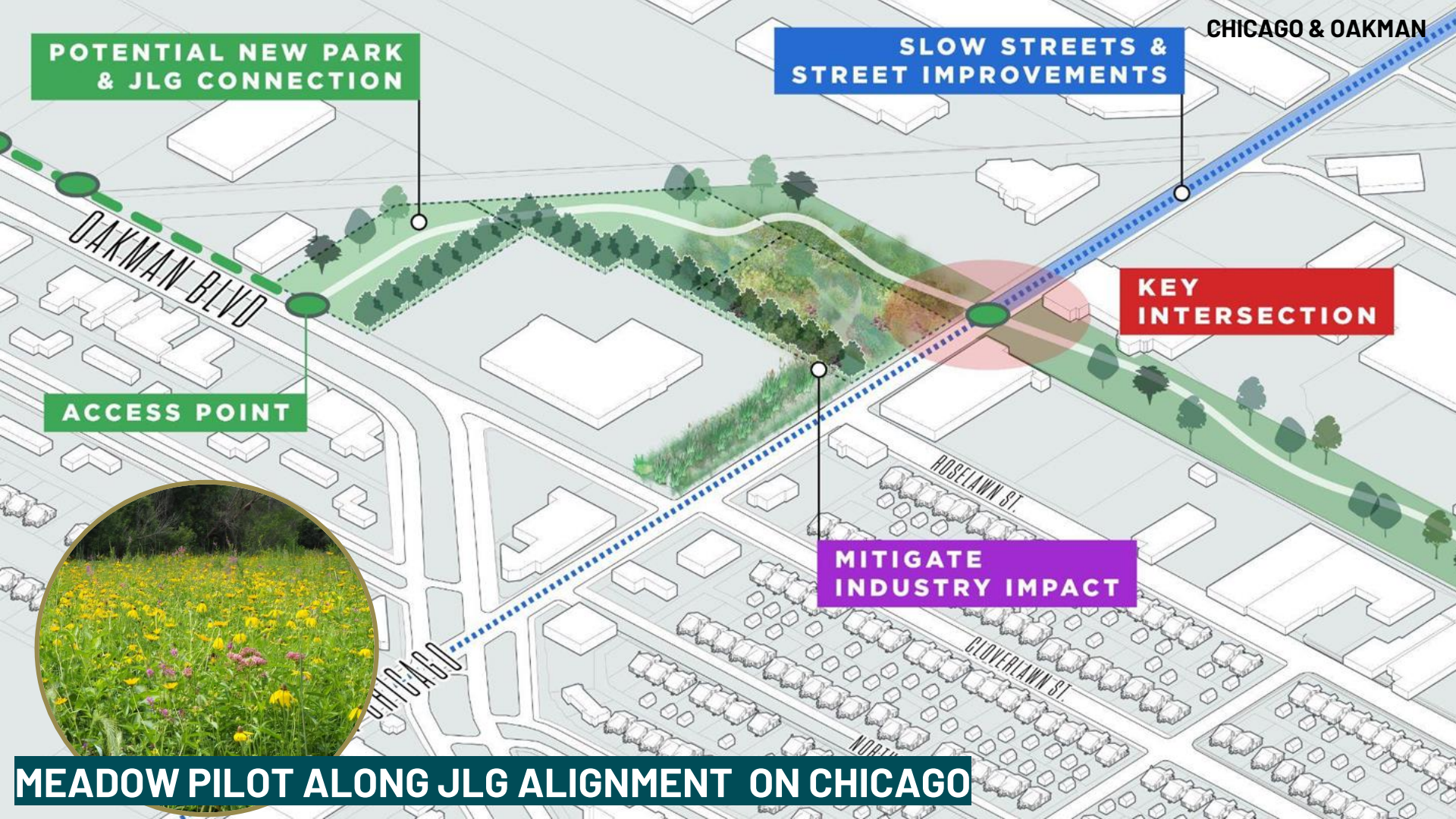
KEY INTERSECTION

ACCESS POINT

MITIGATE INDUSTRY IMPACT



MEADOW PILOT ALONG JLG ALIGNMENT ON CHICAGO







**GRAND RIVER & OAKMAN BLVD**

**SLOW STREETS**

**POTENTIAL NEW PARK**

**IMPROVED CROSSWALKS**

**ACCESS POINT**

**STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

**BUFFERED TOW LOT EXPANDED TO THE NORTH**

**PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITY**

**2ND STORY OPPORTUNITY**

**INFILL DEVELOPMENT ON GRAND RIVER**

**REPOSITION AS A LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT**

**CONNECTION TO**  
 UNION CARPENTERS & MILLWRIGHT SKILLED TRAINING CENTER

**STOREFRONT ACTIVATION & POTENTIAL FOR 2ND STORY APARTMENT**

**JLG ROUTE**

**BIKESHARE STATION**

**ACCESS POINT**

**PARTNERSHIP WITH GREAT FAITH MINISTRIES & THE BEVERLY EVENTS CENTER TO LEVERAGE EXCESS PARKING**

**38 BUS RE-ROUTING**

**CONNECTION TO**  
 MERIT PARK

**Bringing it all together...**





Q + A

## DISCUSSION GUIDELINES

- **Take space & make space** for others
- For productive conversation, comments should **address issues, not people**
- **Listen carefully and deeply**
- **Do not freeze each other** in time
- Challenge oppressive remarks and behaviors but **not with blame or shame**
- Practice **“both/and”** thinking.
- If a statement has already been made, feel free to utilize the time to **explore new issues and opportunities**
- **Expect/accept discomfort** and unfinished business

# NEXT STEPS

## 1. Upcoming public meetings:

**April 04** - JLG Westside Public Meeting

**May 01** - JLG Westside Public Meeting

**May 16** - JLG Northwest Public Meeting

**June 05** - JLG Northeast Public Meeting

**June 26** - JLG Dequindre Cut Public Meeting

1. Stay tuned via **[detroitmi.gov/jlgplanning](https://detroitmi.gov/jlgplanning)** for more details about the release of the final plan at the end of the summer!

Visit each station to  
provide your feedback!



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION CHECKLIST

**5** STATIONS FOR DISCUSSION TONIGHT:

- HOUSING
- BUSINESSES & JOBS
- BEAUTIFICATION & VACANT LAND
- MOBILITY
- ABOUT YOU: SURVEY + HOME MAP

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!**  
HAVE GENERAL COMMENTS?  
PROVIDE THEM ON THE BACK

