

Monthly Newsletter

September 2024

North End Neighborhood Framework Plan

Hello North Enders!

The City of Detroit released the North End Neighborhood Framework Plan in December 2023. The plan was created with residents and city staff working together from July 2022 to December 2023, to determine future growth and development in the neighborhood. The planning process engaged residents to produce strategies providing guidance on integrating the deep cultural heritage and historic nature of the North End while tackling affordable housing concerns, reactivating Oakland Avenue as a commercial corridor, and addressing quality of life and safety issues related to vacant lot activation, recreation, and safer streets. The outcome is a plan focusing on five main areas: Cultural Heritage & Historic Preservation, Parks & Open Space, Housing & Neighborhood Stabilization, Streets for People, and Commercial Activation.

[Click here to read the plan.](#)

Meet your New Planner

Hey North Enders! My name is Melanie Batke, and I am the newest Central Region planner for the City of Detroit's Planning and Development Department. I grew up on the Eastside but my spouse's job transfer in 2014 led me to Memphis, TN, where I worked for the City of Memphis for eight years in a similar capacity. I am excited to be back home and serve the residents of Detroit.

Continuing the work of your previous planner, Calvin Johnson, I will focus on implementing the North End Neighborhood Framework Plan. See below for more information.



North End Framework Implementation

The Planning and Development Department (PDD) is not ultimately responsible for fully implementing the Framework. Instead, it is a tool used by other City departments, governing bodies, agencies, and organizations for implementation - identifying where and what types of investments are needed.

PDD will only directly implement recommendations for our department's functions, including zoning, design guidelines, and community engagement. However, PDD supports the implementation of the framework by working directly with other City departments to ensure new development in the neighborhood reflects the framework, advocate for the prioritization of capital improvements (such as street trees and improved sidewalks), and form partnerships to pursue grants for neighborhood improvements when they become available.

Implementation Project – North End Alley



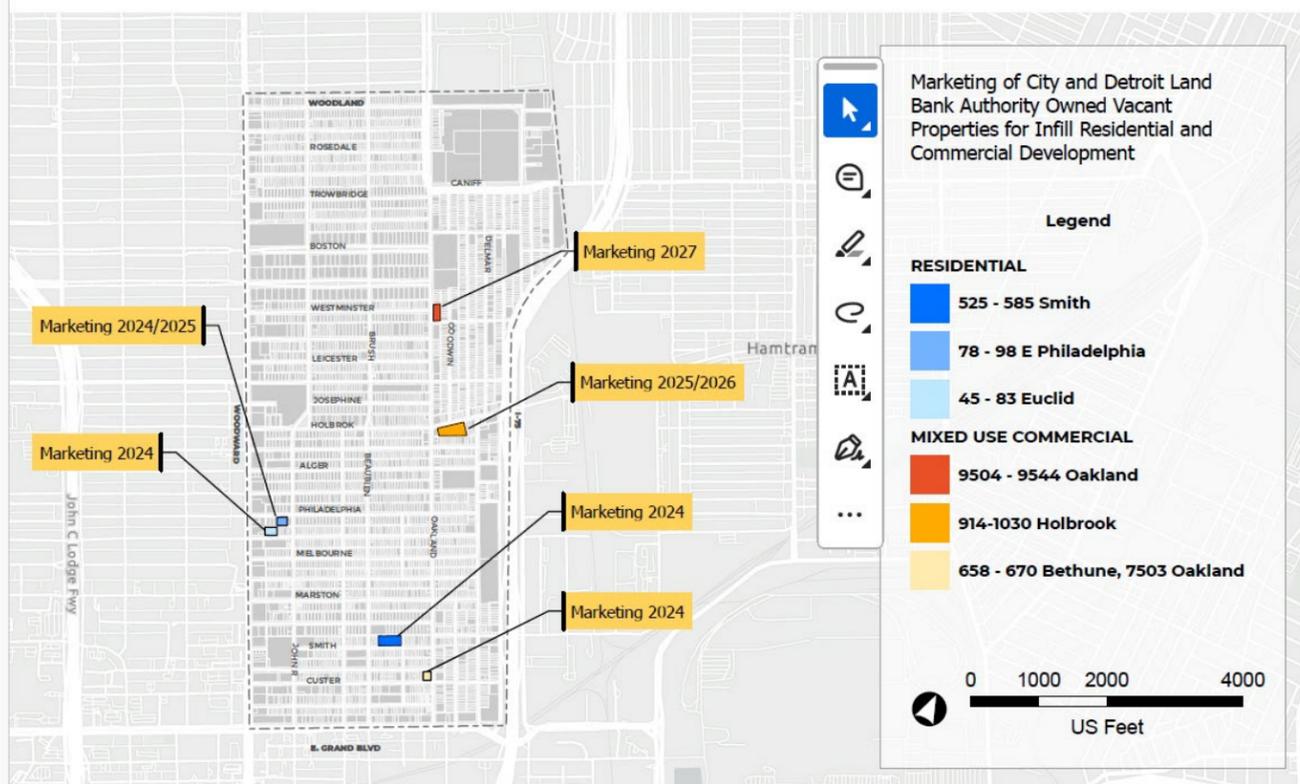
Detroit’s Office of Arts, Culture & Entrepreneurship started construction this month on the City's first Agri-Arts alley.

The project works towards implementing two goals identified in the Framework – *Integrate North End stories into significant spaces through the development of cultural heritage pathways, placards, and focused experiences* and *Establish and enforce standards for community-stewarded spaces*. North End Alley highlights how another City department uses the North End Neighborhood Framework as a tool for implementation.

Anchored by Oakland Avenue Urban Farm and in partnership with artists from the Oakland Avenue Artists Coalition, the alley will feature a mural, custom arbors, and a rose garden. Completion of the mural and arbors is expected in Fall 2024 and completion of the rose garden is planned in Spring 2025.

Implementation Project – North End Alley

NORTH END FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY SITES



The marketing of vacant properties for infill development are strategies in the North End Framework and work towards implementing two Framework goals: *Allow and Encourage a Wide Variety of Housing Types & Reestablish Oakland Avenue as a Thriving Commercial Corridor*. To view marketed sites, visit buildingdetroit.org

The marketing of City and Detroit Land Bank Authority owned vacant properties for infill residential and commercial development work toward implementing two Framework goals: *Allow and Encourage a Wide Variety of Housing Types & Reestablish Oakland Avenue as a Commercial Corridor*.

To download a copy of the map [click here](#).

To view marketed sites, visit buildingdetroit.org.

Questions or thoughts?

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