

Citywide Workshop

WELCOME!

How it works...

- 1 HEAR:** about the four neighborhood meetings in October and what residents said about each neighborhood.
- 2 VIEW:** goals, policies and actions for each topic area
- 3 COMMENT:** tell us which goals, policies and actions you think are the most important.

North Adams' Neighborhoods: In Your Words

1 Blackinton

Natural, historic, quiet, safe and secluded Residents love Renee's diner with outdoor seating, kids parks and fields on Protection Ave., the mix of architecture and forest, the connection to the Appalachian Trail, and its river access. Things they would like to see include dog park, traffic calming along Mass.Ave and a Blackinton History Week.

2 Braytonville

Residents love access to the Cascades, and the base of Mt. Greylock. The people are the best, and they feel non-urban while being within a walk to downtown. People are friendly and supportive, and there is a nice community space in the Marion Loop. Historic, peaceful, quiet, comfortable, walkable, friendly, diverse, green, with a new injection of youth were words used to describe Braytonville. Also noted: the historic aspect of the area; the merging of natural and residential; and the large diversities of background s/cultures and religious beliefs.

3 Uno/River Street

Residents love that their neighborhood feels quiet and tucked away, yet within walking distance of downtown. They love the community bake oven; the Houghton Community Garden, the people, the River Street Community Garden; and Berkshire Dream Adopt-A-Block program. Residents described their neighborhood as great, and the people as a "family of friends".

4 Freeman

Residents love being able to walk downtown or to the natural bridge, describing their neighborhood as quiet with well-kept homes, a kid friendly library, and neighbors that watch out for each other.

12 West End

Residents said their neighborhood is Norman Rockwell-esque and peaceful. They love being close to the Hoosic River and the Appalachian Trail, and the movies hosted by the airport. They also love the green space from Greylock School to the baseball complex and soccer field. They say that West End has the best walking in the city, with tree-lined streets, sidewalks and friendly neighbors.

11 Greylock

Residents described their neighborhood as vibrant, busy, commercial and enjoyable. They love the mix of homes and businesses, the quiet, friendly and central location; the church in the area and nice people, and the feeling of being separated from downtown hustle.

10 Greylock Mountain

Residents expressed the sense that homes are well maintained, and that people care about their neighborhood.

9 State Street

Residents want a bike path!

8 South Church Street /West Shaft Road

People love the peaceful country setting, and think their neighborhood is clean and very well maintained. They wish there was greater police presence. They also love the proximity to MCLA fields. Wish there was more transportation for people at Mohawk Forest. Also would like to see more traffic calming, and better lighting.

7 Mohawk Trail

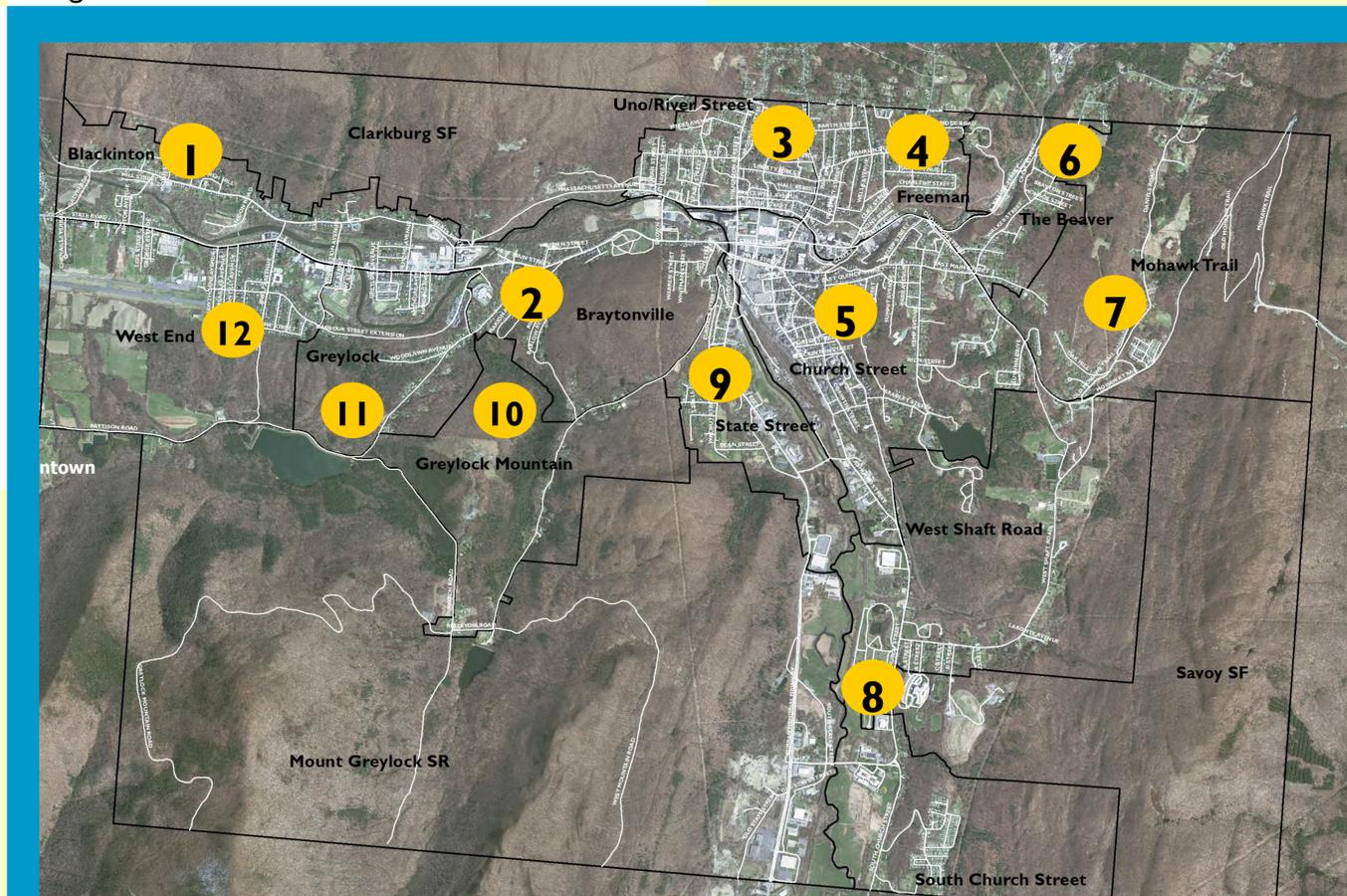
Residents love the colors in the fall, but would like to feel safer when walking, more hiking trails and some cleared land used as an activities centers. Access into the city center can be hard without your own car.

5 Church Street

Historic, central, diverse, convenient, small lots, sidewalks, downtown, quiet, mountain views, beautiful trees, safe, quiet, friendly. Residents said it is a good neighborhood for people wanting to know and talk to their neighbors. They love being so close to MCLA, and using its resources; love walking to the library, Main Street or MCA at any time. They also love living close to the lake and being able to walk to and around it.

6 The Beaver

Residents described their neighborhood as quiet and as a great place to raise a family, and mentioned Kemp Park as a nice place to spend time and be active. They specifically noted the basketball court on Beaver Street an asset they'd like to see improved.



Housing and Neighborhoods

Goal I: Provide High Quality Housing Options That Meet a Variety of Needs and Lifestyles

What we heard at the Neighborhood Meetings

Improve housing stock + increase investment in properties

While residents believe that the city's housing stock is in good condition overall, there seemed to be at least a few properties in poor condition in most neighborhoods. Residents desired responsive, local landlords and had creative ways to increase property investment.

Your Ideas:

- ✓ Attract new young professional families who are inspired to fix up run-down houses
- ✓ Curb out of town landlords
- ✓ Communal living co-housing projects
- ✓ Use houses of historic design as city cultural tourist attraction. Financial support to maintain and fines for not maintaining

Resulting Policies

Policy: Monitor housing supply and demand to proactively plan to meet needs.

Action: Maintain Up-to-Date Housing Needs Assessment

The housing needs assessment works to anticipate housing demand now and in the future as demographics change or previously unmet needs are identified to ensure the city's housing is best meeting the current and future needs of its population.

Action: Create a Municipal Housing Committee

While the city has a housing authority, it does not have a housing committee to track needs and work with a variety of public and private partners to facilitate the addition or improvement of housing units to better meet needs. They can also take a lead role in fundraising and doing some of the ground work to identify and secure sites (e.g., land banking) for future housing needs.

Policy: Support public, private and individual reinvestment into housing and neighborhood conditions.

Action: Support Non-profit Housing Renovation Program Activity

Non-profits can accept properties for renovation and either renting or resale. One program in Raleigh, NC called *Builders of Hope* accepts, or purchases for a low cost, older homes and performs a green gut rehabilitation of the interior to remove high costs to new owners for system repairs and upgrades while also removing potential health hazards like lead and asbestos. This model can help get market rate stock back up to quality after years of deferred maintenance and decay, while still keeping the exteriors historic integrity in place and avoiding unnecessary demolition.

Action: Foster Public-Private Partnerships To Facilitate Investment

The city should continue to grow its relationships, such as with the Partnership for North Adams, but also explore other options to facilitate more private investment in the city's neighborhoods and businesses.

IN FOCUS

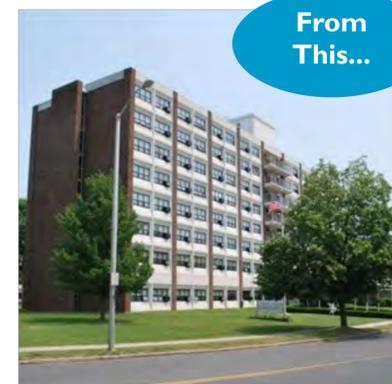
Shifting From Affordable to Mixed-Income Housing

Affordable housing in North Adams is in a number of affordable housing developments as well as a few smaller sites and Section 8 vouchers. Large developments, common in mid-last century, tend to be located away from goods and services with limited road and sidewalk connections between them and surrounding development.

Over the past two decades, affordable housing development has shifted to a mixed income model whereby new housing developments contain a mix of subsidized and market rate units. The fact that the city's major developments are aging and getting (or at) a point where significant investment will be needed for upgrades, the city can assess and plan for replacement options and financing. A number of program are available to help with redevelopment, such as HOPE VI.

What are the potential benefits?

- ✓ The new developments could be more in keeping with the scale of the city and offer more of a neighborhood feel.
- ✓ Research has explored and documented a number of benefits to residents from making the shift including improved job access, school performance, mental health, lower stress, etc.



The 8-story public housing complex on Ashland Ave, commonly referred to as the "high rise."

Redevelopment to a mixed income model could dramatically change the appearance of Ashland Ave—a key corridor between MCLA and the Downtown.

Comments?

Housing and Neighborhoods

Goal 2: Address Blight and Improve Property Values

What we heard at the Neighborhood Meetings

Crime

Residents concerned about home break-ins and the safety of city streets. In addition to greater street patrol, residents suggested a variety of other no- or low-cost alternatives (e.g. neighborhood crime watch groups, streetlights, and college intern programs)

Your Ideas:

- ✓ Larger crime watch coordination among residents, organizations, and the city
- ✓ Additional streetlights
- ✓ Police sub-station
- ✓ Street patrol; bike squad police
- ✓ Youth/college internship to improve crime watch
- ✓ Encourage residents to call police when they see suspicious activity
- ✓ Make city unattractive to thieves
- ✓ Increase awareness of locks, alarms, and safety. Encourage residents to take care of their property
- ✓ Relocate Section 8 tenants to individual landlords

Anti-blight

Residents are quick to point out blighted properties. Through art and landscaping projects and neighborhood cleanups, residents hope to reclaim their city and make it a better place to live.

Your Ideas:

- ✓ Demolish blighted properties
- ✓ Community gardens
- ✓ General neighborhood cleanups
- ✓ Neighborhood volunteer force to beautify public spaces and keep them clean
- ✓ Adopt-A-Block program – work with city on graffiti removal, other repairs and cleaning
- ✓ Open vacant lots to the public
- ✓ Encourage more flowers and plantings along Route 2
- ✓ Place decorated “artist palette” sculptures on railroad beams around city
- ✓ Place gnomes around city

Resulting Policies

Policy: Empower neighborhoods and individuals to combat blight and disrepair conditions.

Action: Offer Creative Programs to Support Owner Action

Create programs such as free “rent-a-tool” programs, paint drop-off pick up sites, volunteer project teams or help-a-neighbor programs to help elderly or lower-income property owners access the resources they need to bring their property into compliance or otherwise maintain their properties.

Action: Continue Community Days of Service

Continue citywide day of service activities to target larger issues of trash buildup on vacant lots and open space areas. In addition, the city should work with major employers to do a workplace day of service program where they could tackle smaller projects, potentially including projects suggested or desired by neighborhood groups for beautification and anti-blight. This could also involve youth groups similar to the Greenagers model in south county.

Policy: Improve issue property identification and enforcement procedures.

Action: Institute Neighborhood Walk-Thrus

On a regular basis, pull a team of public service and safety professionals to walk through each neighborhood to identify code violations, community development and service needs. Identify and prioritize actions within each neighborhood.

Action: Neighborhood Code Violation Monitors

Neighborhood volunteers are trained to identify code violations and report them to city personnel. This helps keep more eyes on the street to find and report issues to free up some staff time. These efforts can be strategically timed, such as a few months before major events and festivals in the city to help present a more attractive city to visitors.

Action: Adopt Vacant or Foreclosed Property Ordinance

The goal of the ordinance is to achieve compliance so that the City is better able to manage and respond to concerns about vacant or foreclosed properties. Similar ordinances have been adopted in Springfield, Boston, Lawrence, Lowell, Methuen, and Albany, New York. Under the ordinance, the maintenance of vacant or foreclosed residential properties would require the owners to:

- ✓ Register their property with the City at a cost (e.g.\$100 per year);
- ✓ Provide the owner’s name and mailing address (which cannot be a P.O. Box) so that the City has a good address for service of legal notices;
- ✓ Identify as part of the registration (and post on the property) the 24-hour contact name, number, and address for a local property manager (either a person or company) who is located within 30 miles of the property; and
- ✓ Maintain the property on a weekly basis including keeping it secured.

Action: Use GIS to Track Geography of Code Violations and Police Calls

As the City grows its GIS capability, efforts should be made to use addresses to track patterns of code violations and police calls to help identify and refine target areas and track properties.

Action: Develop and institute a process for building code violations

Violators of the building code should have to follow a clear and deliberate process to either remediate their properties or be penalized. The process should be made transparent and be enforced for all.

Policy: Create progressive system to bring delinquent, tax title, and tax possession properties back into productive use.

Action: Maintain Property Inventory

The City should work to be proactive about identifying and tracking its tax lien properties to understand and be able to communicate the economic impact of those properties, view them on a map in relation to other criteria or target areas to help set priorities for intervention activities, and to generally help guide a comprehensive strategy to dealing with them. Utilize the Assessors Office’s Patriot Properties Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) software to its full potential to assist in this action.

Action: Streamline Receivership

The city should develop and utilize a receivership program in order to put tax lien properties back into use.

Action: Develop Reuse Strategy to Help Target Efforts

The city can build on the work of the plan and, with ongoing input from residents and other stakeholders, identify reuse options for specific areas. This could include preservation of single-family units, rental units, and transition of buildings to another use or demolition to allow for redevelopment or the creation of supportive spaces (e.g., parking) for adjacent properties.

Policy: Develop clear expectations and offer education for landlords.

Action: Rental Property Registration and Inspection

Require landlords to register all rental units with the City. The City can inspect units prior to occupancy to ensure they are up to building and health code standards. The City can also offer incentives for landlords who have a track record of no findings such as reduced inspection fees and more time between inspections. In the case of landlords who repeatedly have violations, the timeframe can be shortened. Once notified a unit is not up to code, landlords have a timeframe to bring the unit back into compliance before fines are issued.

Action: Create Meaningful Incentives and Penalties to Support Action

Review and revise code enforcement penalties, with a focus on developing a clear penalty process and strong, supported enforcement.

Action: Develop Educational Materials for Future Landlords

Provide a primer for persons entering into the rental business, including permitting and code requirements, and contact information for relevant city staff. Reprint and put online the out of print Landlord/Tenant Handbook. Reach out with this information to real estate agents and banks who work with buyers early in the process.

Comments?

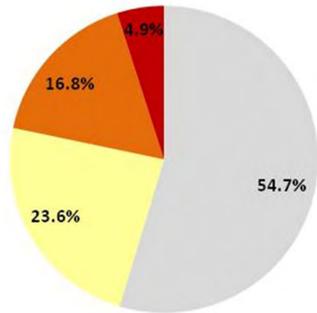
IN FOCUS Targeting investment to maximize impact and positive change in our neighborhoods.

Using multiple programs and tools in one area, rather than dispersed efforts all across the city is one strategy to help improve neighborhoods. The goal would be to focus efforts on areas that are highest need, to improve those areas and also benefit nearby areas who are no longer next to severely blighted streets or blocks.

What did we look at?

Condition:

- ✓ **Tax liens**—where are there concentrations of properties in tax lien?
- ✓ **Demolition List**—where are there concentrations of properties slated for demolition?
- ✓ **Property values**—where are per square foot values of structures the lowest?

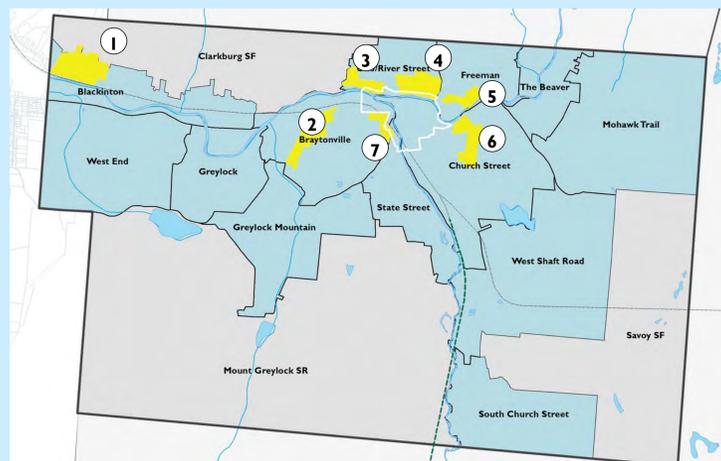


This pie chart shows the breakdown of residential properties' assessed values in the city. By comparison, the pie charts in the table (right) show the value breakdown for the properties within each target area.

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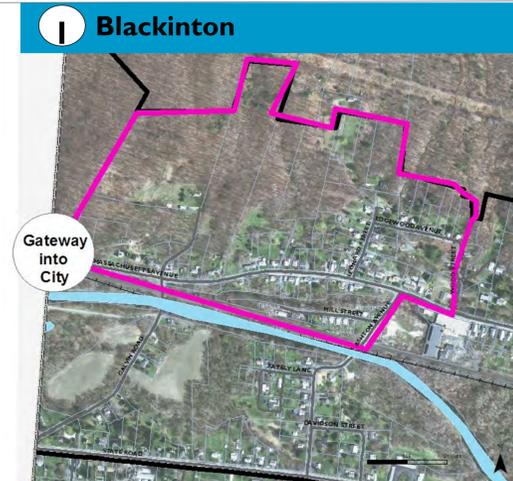
- ✓ **Visual Impact**—are areas in high-visibility areas that can either help or hurt the image of the city for people coming to visit such as in major gateways to the city or neat high-traffic destinations like MoCA and the Downtown?

Seven Potential Target Areas

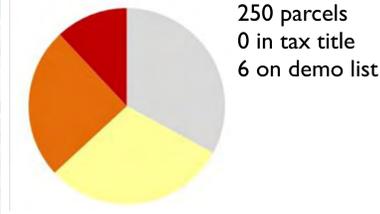
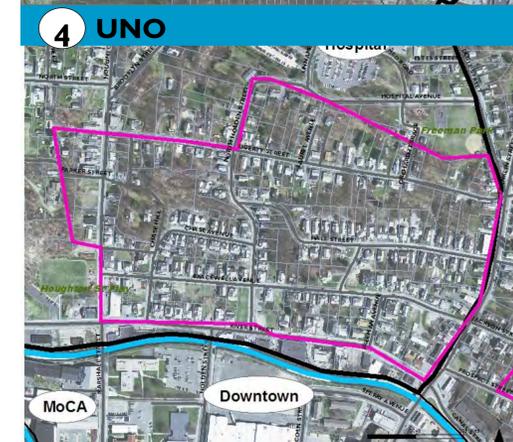
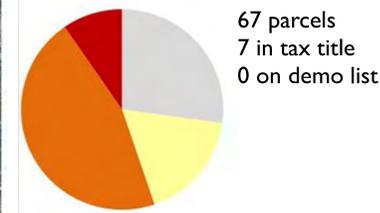
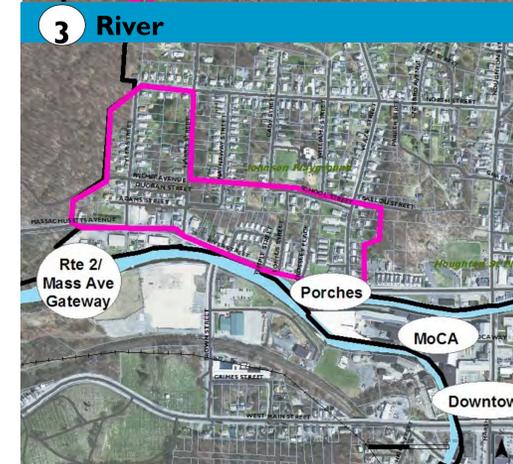
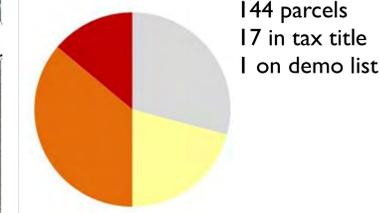
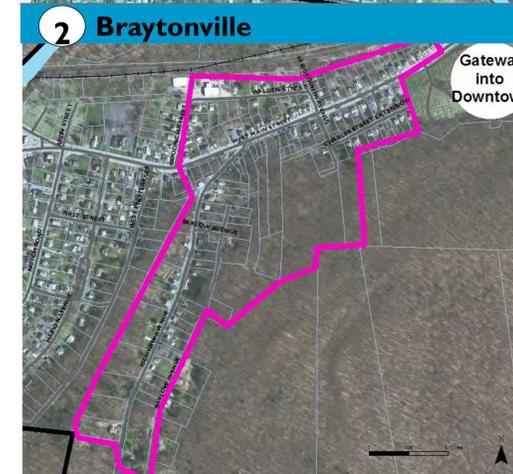
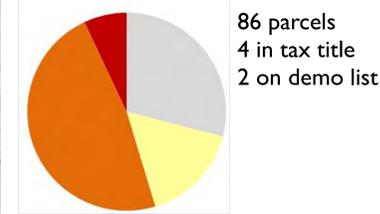


NOTE: These are draft ideas for discussion. What do you think? Do these areas make sense? Would you tweak the boundaries? Are there additional areas that could be looked at? Are there some of these you think should be a higher priority than others—why?

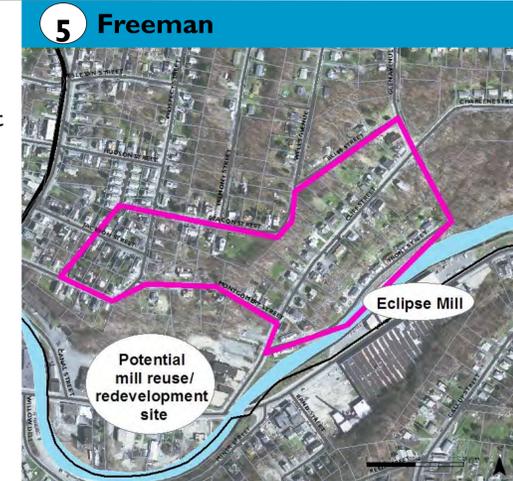
Potential Target Area



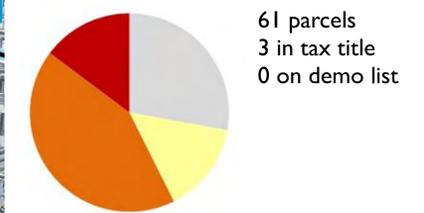
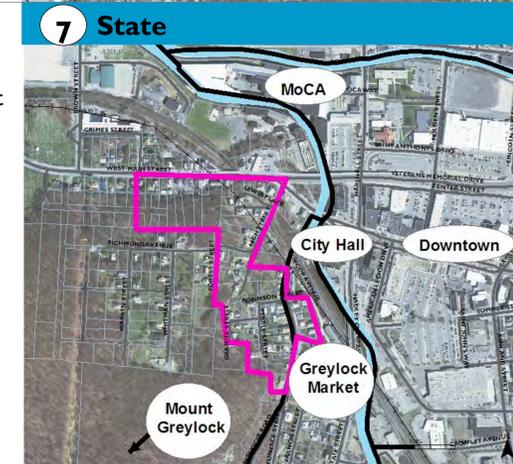
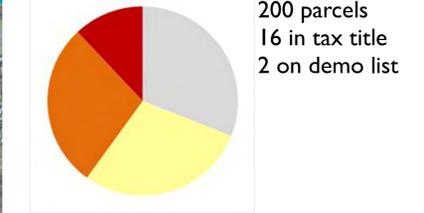
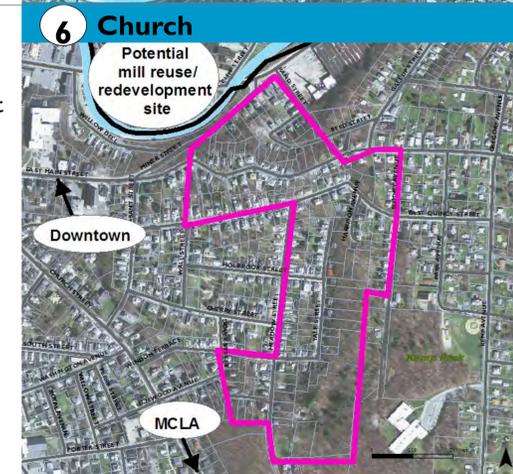
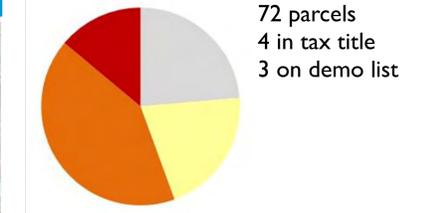
Attributes



Potential Target Area



Attributes



What do you think?

Comments?

Housing and Neighborhoods

Goal 3: Support Strong Community Connection Within Neighborhoods

What we heard at the Neighborhood Meetings

Building a Stronger Sense of Community

Though many residents consider their neighbors to be friendly, they admit rarely having the opportunity to interact. Neighborhood associations, community events, and potlucks were often mentioned. Residents expressed interest in watching out for their neighbors.

- ✓ Block parties; regular neighborhood street parties; potlucks
- ✓ Create neighborhood associations
- ✓ Establish a neighborhood exchange (i.e. people wanting someone to rake leaves could find a neighbor to do this, either volunteer or for pay)
- ✓ Reach out to shut-in/elderly neighbors. Setup daily neighborhood phone check-in
- ✓ Neighborhood space for community meetings
- ✓ Promote “no tech” weeks

Kid/Family friendly spaces

Families are interested in attending events and in having safe spaces for their children to play and learn.

Your Ideas:

- ✓ Encourage MCLA to have a greater role in providing structured recreational activities for neighborhood youth
- ✓ Neighborhood playgrounds
- ✓ More family-friendly events
- ✓ Neighborhood branch libraries, small free libraries
- ✓ Ensure playgrounds and parks are safe for children

Communications with City

Residents desire to stay abreast of all neighborhood developments and to be a part of planning their neighborhoods. They want to be informed through a variety of outlets.

Your Ideas:

- ✓ Keep public informed of everything happening in their neighborhoods (e.g. development plans, brownfield site status, crime statistics) using multiple channels
- ✓ Engage in more outreach to community members for public input forums and planning meetings
- ✓ Better use of automatic safety communication

Resulting Policies

Policy: Collaborate to reduce crime in neighborhoods.

Action: Neighborhood Watch

Work with interested neighborhoods to start a neighborhood watch program and install street signs to help make crime awareness more visible.

Action: Property Security Trainings

Partner with private business to create a grant-based community safety program that can educate owners and renters about how to make their homes more secure and less attractive to thieves. This could include a short class or demo and then free or reduced cost items such as safety lights, locks, window locks, etc.

Action: Neighborhood Beat Officers

Work to create stronger alignment between patrol officers and neighborhoods. In urban neighborhoods, this could include some bike or walking patrol. In more dispersed neighborhoods, this could simply be making sure all areas are patrolled with a certain frequency. Offer officer training on community relationship-building to help them implement this policy shift. The intent is to have officers who know and interact in both informal and formal ways within the communities they serve.

Action: Prioritize Safety Lighting Needs

Work with neighbors to identify areas where dark spots create a sense of insecurity or potential danger from poor visibility.

Policy: Support neighborhood groups and neighborhood activities.

Action: Create a Standing Neighborhoods Committee

Create a city neighborhoods committee with representatives from each neighborhood and relevant city department staff to have a clear and ongoing means of communication between neighborhoods and the city.

Action: Provide Annual Support for Community-Driven Neighborhood Initiatives

Ensure that annual city community grants include competitive grants for neighborhoods to support special projects or community events such as a neighborhood block party.

Policy: Work to create stronger physical and social connections within and between neighborhoods.

Action: Combat Speeding in Neighborhoods

Employ a range of strategies to combat speeding in neighborhoods. In rural neighborhoods, this could include the use of speed cameras. In more urban neighborhoods, this could include traffic-calming treatments, “your speed is” signs, shifting streets to one-ways, stricter enforcement, and additional signage (speed, children at play, yield to pedestrian in crosswalk, etc.).

Action: Bike Path and Walking Connections

Prioritize safe routes between and within neighborhoods and jobs or essential services. This could include building the planned bike path through the Barbour Street connection, sidewalk improvements along Route 2, and maintenance enforcement to ensure those routes stay open year-round.

Action: Continue to Support Programs and Efforts to Create Broader Concept of Neighborhood

For several years, “neighborhoods” in the city referred to affordable housing developments. The new boundaries delineate neighborhoods, of which the developments are one part. This will be supported by creating opportunities for interaction between neighbors of these larger areas, including clean-ups, neighborhood watch, and block parties.

Policy: Ensure each neighborhood has quality local recreation options and easy connections to city- or regional-scale amenities.

Action: Focus Project Priorities on Increasing Variety and Balancing Supply of Recreation Options Across Neighborhoods

Develop a framework for monitoring and prioritizing community recreation options across neighborhoods. This could include classifying types (trails, bike path, pocket parks, community parks, etc.) and inventorying for each neighborhood. Condition issues and new projects could then be considered against this list to focus on adding options and ensuring that those options are improving level of service to each neighborhood in a way that is context and population appropriate (supply versus demand but also age demographics of different portions of the city).

Comments?

From Ideas to Action: Neighborhood Groups and Activities

Get YOUR Neighborhood Organized for Action!

We heard a lot of interest at the neighborhood meetings in neighborhood events and special projects as well as interest from some neighborhoods in forming a neighborhood association.

Here's what we heard so far...

✓ Do you have new ideas to add?

✓ Do you want a neighborhood association?

<i>Neighborhood</i>	<i>Currently has a neighborhood association</i>	<i>Wants a neighborhood association - Don't see your neighborhood listed but you'd like it to be—add a check mark now!</i>	<i>Wants to do neighborhood improvement activities that could be facilitated by a neighborhood association.</i>	<i>What Types of Activities?</i>
Lackinton			Yes	
West End			Yes	
Greylock			Yes	
Greylock Mountain				
Braytonville	Yes	Already Have	Yes	
Uno/River Street	Yes	Already Have	Yes	
Freeman				
State Street				
Church Street		Yes	Yes	
South Church Street				
West Shaft Road				
Mohawk Trail			Yes	
The Beaver		Yes	Yes	

Housing and Neighborhoods & Open Space and Recreation

IN FOCUS Bikepath Planning and Construction

The community's desire for a bikepath has been a repeated theme in discussions of the downtown, transportation, recreation, and now—neighborhoods!

The two main routes would be:

1. **East-West:** along route 2 and the river connecting the city to Williamstown
2. **North-South:** along Route 8 and the river linking into the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail in Adams.

Bikepath project is underway!

Phase I: Finding the Route 2007-2010 Complete!

Local residents and bicycle enthusiasts scoured area that parallels the Hoosic River and Route 2 to identify potential routes for the bike / walking trail. A Preliminary Feasibility Study identified a Draft Preferred Route and Alternate Routes.

Phase II: Design 2013-2016 Now starting!

North Adams: Beginning in winter 2013/2014 we will be asking residents and neighborhood groups to help us identify and finalize the location for the route of the bike trail. We secure the final route throughout the city, including the challenging areas in North Adams. This work will result in a Final Feasibility Study and hopefully also begin to develop designs.

Williamstown: Beginning in winter 2014 the Town of Williamstown will hire an engineering firm to design the Williamstown end of the trail. Finalizing the location of the route on this end of the bike trail is much less complex, because there is very little private landownership here. Most of the land is owned by the Town of Williamstown and Williams College. Here we expect to achieve full engineering designs and secure legal easements for the route where necessary.

What's next?

Phase III: Construction 2016 onward

Williamstown: Funding for construction of this end of the trail has been identified. This route is approximately 2 miles in length.

Public Involvement 2013 onward

The North Adams end of the trail is approximately 2.5 miles, and here the terrain and private property issues are far more complex than in Williamstown. Public input is needed to help us to make decisions about where final routes of the bike trail go in North Adams. The public will also needed to help us make decisions about the design of the trail and the location of amenities. If you are interested in participating on a bike trail committee, please give us your contact information (see sign-up sheet, below).

OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PRIORITY SITES

	Linear and Connected Networks	Desired Connections	Individual Sites or Projects
<p>From the Open Space and Recreation Chapter:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ashuwillticook Rail Trail extension along Route 8, in particular between Hodges Cross Road and downtown North Adams ✓ Shared use path development between downtown North Adams and Williamstown ✓ Revitalization of the Hoosic River ✓ Urban walking route in downtown ✓ Avon/Alton Street river path to downtown ✓ Bellow's Pipe Trail conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Natural Bridge State Park to downtown ✓ Bellow's Pipe, Cascades, downtown ✓ Windsor Lake to MCLA Forest, recreational fields, MCLA towers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Downtown green spaces, pocket parks ✓ Natural Bridge State Park to downtown ✓ Trail Information kiosk in downtown ✓ Windsor Lake trail development ✓ Mohican-Mohawk trail ✓ Armory site amenities ✓ Skateboard park (no site selected)
<p>Your Ideas from the Neighborhood Meetings:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Scenic secondary bike path along river ✓ Reservoir recreation walking loop ✓ Appalachian Trail awareness ✓ Extend Cascades trail up Greylock 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Linear park utilizing levees on east and west bank with access to bridge at south of levees to make a loop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Convert Olympia Square into a park ✓ Use Windsor Lake as a skating rink in the winter
<p>More to add?</p>			

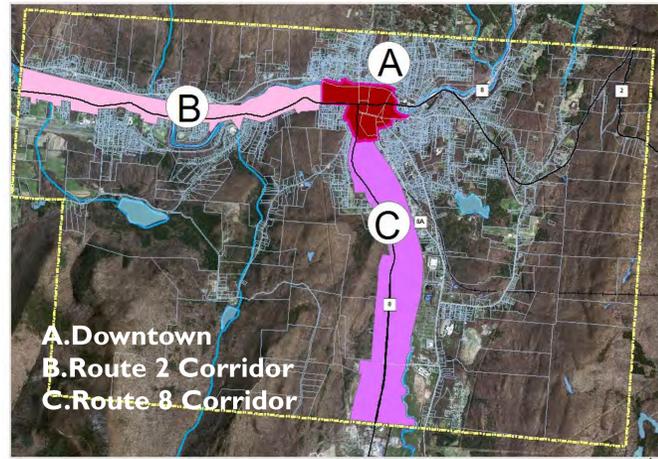
Housing and Neighborhoods & Infrastructure and Services

We are still working on the infrastructure and services chapter of Vision 2030. Some of what you told us at the neighborhood meetings relates to infrastructure and services—are there additional ideas and priorities you want to raise for us to address in those goals and strategies?

Energy	What You Said at the Neighborhood Meetings	What do you think are key issues or opportunities?
<p>The city is currently working on a solar farm at the airport. Other potential locations include the wastewater treatment plant or landfill. Old mill infrastructure offers potential for hydro-power, and high elevations offer potential wind energy resources. The city would like to pursue programs to facilitate residential and commercial property weatherization/energy efficiency efforts.</p>		
<p>Water and Sewer</p> <p>The City has identified system location and condition for water and sewer, and created a plan for system upgrades and funding. Another potential goal is to meter water electronically rather than having readers enter houses.</p>		
<p>Roads, Sidewalks and Bridges</p> <p>The City would like to start a list of priority project eligible for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) funds. It would also like to start proactively upgrading culverts, roads and bridges in response to the current and anticipated impacts from climate change. In terms of snow clearing, it could set priority locations for early snow clearing after snow storms. Snow clearing efforts could be a shared responsibility with neighborhood associations and a standing neighborhood committee.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Create more sidewalks (near Natural Bridge) ✓ Update unsafe sidewalks ✓ Remove trees that are tearing up the sidewalk and replace with dwarf trees ✓ Convert to one way streets (Brooklyn St) ✓ Calm traffic on Route 2 ✓ Snow clearing 	
<p>Schools and Education</p> <p>Education is considered a very important topic, but it has not been discussed intensely during the planning process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use Mike Deep's land as an activity center for schools 	
<p>Public Safety</p> <p>Increased police staffing and a focus on community policing has been identified as a potential strategy to improve public safety in the City of North Adams. Enhancing support systems such as long-term, intensive mental health care is another potential strategy to address root causes of crime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Speed bumps (near Houghton St playground) ✓ No texting and talking on the phone while driving ✓ Police enforcement of traffic laws ✓ Use cameras for speeding tickets ✓ Clear and direct signage 	

Housing and Neighborhoods & Completed Chapters of Vision 2030

Economic
Development



You said...

- ✓ Create restaurants along the Hoosic River
- ✓ Museum of War History

Goals and Policies in Chapter

- ✓ Policy 6.2: Target key pedestrian and bicycle improvements to foster safe and easy movement throughout the downtown and between the downtown and adjacent neighborhoods.
- ✓ Policy 9.2: Cultivate and connect Route 8 gateway district to serve as an attractive gateway and extension to the downtown.
- ✓ Make physical improvements to improve appeal and usability of the Route 2 Corridor.
- ✓ Policy 10.2: Target specific priority sites along the Route 2 corridor for redevelopment and supporting infrastructure improvements.

Historic
Preservation



You said...

- ✓ NAPL offer tours to highlight history of Blackinton; create Blackinton History Week
- ✓ Walking tours through the area
- ✓ Houghton Mansion history and ghost story/folk legend tours
- ✓ Annual home garden tours, with proceeds supporting local gardening efforts
- ✓ Historic house tours, with proceeds supporting historical society
- ✓ Use houses of historic design as city cultural tourist attraction. Financial support to maintain and fines for not maintaining.
- ✓ Historic house tours, with proceeds supporting historical society

Goals and Policies in Chapter

- ✓ Policy HP 3.2: Integrate historic tourism into the city's overall culture and tourism strategy.
- ✓ Policy HP 3.3: Support preservation and robust use of local landmarks and institutional uses.
- ✓ Policy HP 5.1: Build community awareness and support for historic preservation.

Agriculture
and Food



You said...

- ✓ Community brick oven
- ✓ Create an edible fruit and nut forest
- ✓ Support community kitchens and year-round farms market
- ✓ Community gardens and compost
- ✓ Encourage MCLA to have a greater role in providing structured recreational activities for neighborhood youth.

Goals and Policies in Chapter

- ✓ Policy 1.1: Promote urban farming and community gardening as a way to produce and distribute local, healthy foods in North Adams.
- ✓ Policy 2.1: Encourage the growth of businesses that grow, distribute, process and sell local and healthy foods.
- ✓ Policy 3.1: Promote pedestrian-friendly locations for food outlets, including healthy food retail, farmers markets and community gardens within easy walking or cycling distance of low-income neighborhoods, work places and other gathering points.
- ✓ Policy 4.3: Integrate food and agriculture planning efforts into broader policy and governance conversations.
- ✓ Policy 5.1: Encourage sustainable gardening and agriculture practices through community education opportunities and outreach.