







The Village of WOODMERE **MASTER PLAN**

PUBLIC MEETING #1 RESULTS REPORT PUBLISHED | MARCH 22, 2019







ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



CUYAHOGA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

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COUNTY PLANNING

The Cuyahoga County Planning Commission's mission is to inform and provide services in support of the short and long term comprehensive planning, quality of life, environment, and economic development of Cuyahoga County and its cities, villages and townships.

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VILLAGE OF WOODMERE

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MEETING RESULTS

PUBLIC MEETING

The first Public Meeting for the Village of Woodmere Master Plan was held on March 5, 2019 at the Pepper Pike Learning Center (Orange Community Education & Recreation) located at 33500 Chagrin Boulevard, Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124.

Representatives from County Planning gave a presentation which outlined the Master Plan Process and how to plan for the future, Current Conditions document, the Community Vision and Objectives, and how residents can continue to be involved throughout the project.

Six (6) Stations with display boards lined the hallway and featured an overall community vision statement, eight (8) objectives, two (2) Investment Areas, two (2) Investment Corridors, Community Identity, Connectivity and Housing. Following the presentation, attendees were asked to review the boards and associated images, and provide feedback by responding to several questions. Specifically attendees were asked: (1) Whether the Community Vision matched their vision for Woodmere; (2) Whether the objectives helped achieve their vision for the community; (3) Whether they liked each Investment Area and Corridor, or preferred to change, add, or remove it; (4) What types of buildings and development they would like to see at Village Square & the I-271 interchange; (5) What types of buildings and development they would like to see in and around the Chagrin Boulevard & Brainard Road intersection; (6) What types of events, activities, and festivals they would like see held within the Village; (7) How they felt about the community's image; (8) How they felt about connectivity in and around the community; and (9) What they liked or disliked about the housing currently available in Woodmere and what they might look for in a new home or neighborhood if they decided to move.

Following the Public Meeting the presentation materials were posted online to allow additional residents to read the materials, comment on them, and provide feedback. Residents were also given the option of completing the exercises at the meeting, or to go online and complete a post-meeting survey. This online survey was open from March 5, 2019 through March 19, 2019 (2 weeks).

This Results Report outlines comments received during the public meeting at the six (6) board stations, on comment sheets submitted at the meeting, and through the online survey.

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES & COMMENTS

Approximately 29 residents, business owners, community representatives, and public officials were in attendance for this first public meeting. Attendees provided ample comments and held conversations with County Planning representatives at the meeting's conclusion, and provided 6 responses to the online survey, which included 96 individual comments.

COMMON THEMES

Respondents' individual comments were organized, tallied, and analyzed for common themes among the board stations and online survey. These comments have been summarized throughout the following pages.

NEXT STEPS

This document, as well as the specific comments provided by respondents, will be used to develop specific goals and actions. This document will also be used to guide implementation upon finalizing these goals and actions. The most common comments and themes will help inform this analysis and prioritize recommendations throughout the Master Plan process.

CONTENTS OF RESULTS REPORT

The contents of this results report include the overall top 10 findings, specific findings organized by board station, and a general overview of final thoughts from the first Public Meeting, as follows:

- Top 10 Findings, page 5
- Station 1 | Community Vision, page 6
- Station 2 | Objectives, page 7
- Station 3 | Investment Areas & Corridors, page 9
- Station 4 | Community Identity, page 11
- Station 5 | Connectivity, page 13
- Station 6 | Housing, page 15
- Final Thoughts, page 16



The Village of Woodmere's Master Planning process is still in its early stages, and obtaining feedback from residents, stakeholders, and other community members is critical to the success of the Plan. Feedback from the community is what will ultimately help shape policies and form recommendations, and only with this community input will the Plan be a successful guide for the Village.

The following is a quick snapshot of the top ten (10) findings as a result of community feedback:

- Overall, feedback from the community was positive about the drafted Vision Statement. Updates could include more of an emphasis on housing and residents.
- Meeting attendees and online survey respondents agree that the Investment Areas and Corridors need a number of improvements to be locations that the community can be proud of and will want to visit.
- Chagrin Boulevard is the main and most critical area within the community that must continue to be a key piece of this Master Plan.
- Both meeting attendees and online survey respondents agree that Chagrin Boulevard is not accommodating for comfortable, safe pedestrian/bicycle active transportation traveling options.
- The community is very optimistic about future development within the Village and would like to see an emphasis on mixed-use areas, to continue to look and feel of ETON Chagrin Boulevard, and promote outdoor dining.
- The majority of meeting attendees and online survey respondents feel that the Village does not have welcoming gateways and they also feel that the "Woodmere brand" gets lost within the community.
- 7 Community members are very enthusiastic about Village events and would like to see more pop-up markets, music and food festivals, and neighborhood gardening.
- The two main areas Woodmere residents wish they could access by walking or biking include the Orange City School Campus in Pepper Pike and the Pinecrest shopping area in Orange Village.
- Meeting attendees and online survey respondents agree that Woodmere's location, "semi-rural" and natural feel, and housing variety just are some of the community's largest assets to attracting residents.
- Some of the most common reasons why residents would consider moving from Woodmere were for more natural/park spaces, better access to parks, and for recreational amenities such as playgrounds.



The Current Conditions analysis, and feedback from Village staff, regional agencies, and Steering Committee members were combined to identify core values and a vision for the future. The results were crafted into the initial draft Community Vision statement, listed below, that describes the desired future for the community.

The Community Vision was a focus of this first Master Plan Public meeting. Attendees were asked if the Community Vision matched their vision for the community. Attendees were also encouraged to write ideas and vision statements of their own to better understand how to adapt the overall vision to incorporate different perspectives.

DOES THIS MATCH YOUR VISION FOR THE VILLAGE?

Overall, meeting attendees and online survey respondents were satisfied with this vision statement. Some potential changes and ideas that were discussed included:

- Village should focus more on residents than businesses
- Country setting in the City
- Need sidewalks near the mall
- More traffic enforcement for cars blocking intersections (Avondale & Irving Park)
- Keep businesses in business areas
- Love residential as it is
- Connect with a park trail

- Need a neighborhood garden
- Desire for cluster style homes
- Enforce property maintenance issues and uphold community pride
- Want the Village to reflect its prominence to the Chagrin Valley and its importance of commercial areas to the region

OVER THE NEXT TEN YEARS:



The Village of Woodmere will be a gateway for business opportunities that welcome innovation and embrace the Village's authentic character, while striving to improve the quality of life for those who call Woodmere home.



In addition to the Community Vision, eight (8) objectives were also formulated to help support the Plan. Survey respondents and attendees were asked whether or not these objectives helped to achieve their vision for the future. Survey respondents and attendees were also encouraged to write ideas and objectives of their own to better understand how to adapt these objectives to incorporate different perspectives of the community. They were encouraged to modify the language of existing objectives or create new ones. There were only two comments provided on the objectives, which are discussed below. No further comments were provided for the other objective areas: Career Diversity, Retail, Connectivity, Housing, Character, and Regional Collaboration.



SUSTAINABILITY STRENGTHEN THE VILLAGE'S POSITION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Our objective is to continue to support green and sustainable development that utilizes natural systems and environmentally friendly design to improve stormwater management, maximizes the use of energy systems, and improves the lives of residents.

COMMENTS & IDEAS

The community should be more "Eco-friendly"



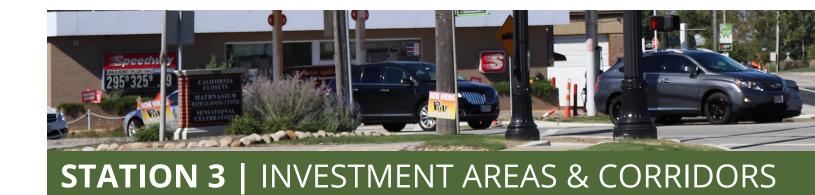
TRANSPORTATION

ENHANCE ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS WHILE MAINTAINING WHAT WE HAVE

Our objective is to use innovative technology and techniques to enhance and encourage transportation choice, while continuing to provide a well-maintained road network within the community.

COMMENTS & IDEAS

Continue the rapid line or extend bus services



Investment Areas and Corridors are locations within Woodmere that will be given special attention during following phases of the Master Plan. This may include more detailed analysis in these areas, requests for additional public input, further interviews with area stakeholders, and more detailed development plans or renderings. Each Investment Area and Corridor is unique and therefore will be studied individually. Public meeting attendees and online survey respondents were provided a framework of the two (2) Investment Areas and two (2) Investment Corridors, and were also asked to discuss what they liked about each and indicate what if anything they would add or change. Respondents were also invited to say if they preferred an Investment Area or Corridor be removed or wanted to see a different one added. On the following pages are a summary of the comments from this exercise.

Village Square & I-271 Interchange Investment Area

LIKE	CHANGES/WANTS
Easy access	Traffic is horrible
	No way to safely cross the road except near McDonald's
	Would be fantastic to have a safe crossing at Chagrin and Orange Place
	Good location for a community center for families/children
	Different uses for parking areas
	Needs a face lift/is very outdated and the area is not welcoming

Chagrin Boulevard & Brainard Road Intersection Investment Area

LIKE	CHANGES/WANTS
Great shopping and eating experience	Chagrin Boulevard needs to be wider
Love the landscaping/streetscaping mixed within the businesses	Chagrin Boulevard needs a face lift
	It is too dark at night and is not inviting or special
	Make it interesting and exciting with local businesses instead of chains

Chagrin Boulevard Investment Corridor

LIKE	CHANGES/WANTS
Great place to shop and dine	Needs to be wide enough for 4 lanes of traffic
	Update Village Square and outdated shopping strips on the south side
	Business signage is outdated and bland
	Make sidewalks inviting
	Need distinction of community when driving down Chagrin Boulevard
	Better lighting, but not large overhead lighting
	Improved signage to identify traffic flow
	Improve how retail land is used

Brainard Road Investment Corridor

LIKE	CHANGES/WANTS
The current look and feel	Add additional driving lanes
Has a better traffic flow than in the past	Pocket parks
Quiet residential area	Home beautification



Both Investment Areas located at the Chagrin Road & Brainard Road Intersection and Village Square & I-271 Interchange have immense potential for development and redevelopment within the community.

Public meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked to select the images they felt would be appropriate for both Investment Areas and describe why they chose the ones they did. The numbers below denote the total amount of "votes" received for each image.

COMMON REASONS FOR IMAGE SELECTIONS

Sidewalks and outdoor seating

New look, quaint, and not too modern

Visionary and updated, walkable, and inviting

Added landscaping, more outdoor seating, inviting, and family friendly

Looks really nice and vibrant

Updated and functional



= Top Selected Images



= Village Square & I-271 "Votes"



= Chagrin Boulevard & Brainard Road Intersection "Votes"



























Community identity is a concept that uniquely encapsulates how residents view their own community and how others view the same community from the outside looking in. Everything from logos, colors, and streetscapes to building designs, events, and marketing all play a role in defining a community's identity. These ideas all form an "image" that is then projected on the community and can effect how others view it. Meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked a series of questions regarding community identity. On the following pages are a summary of the comments from this exercise.

Do you feel welcomed upon entering the community?

YES	NO	COMMON REASONS WHY
3	6	Woodmere signs are too subtle
		Welcome signs are not at entrance to community
	Highway interchange occurs at heavily trafficked intersection	
		Need a sign and lights saying that they are in the "Gateway"

Do you feel the Village has a consistent brand?

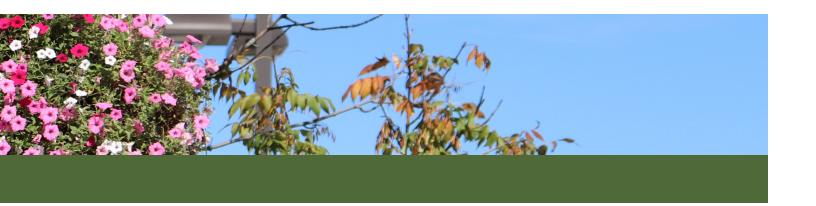
YES	NO	COMMON REASONS WHY
4	5	Brand is not unique and gets lost
		ETON has a brand, but not consistent throughout
		Like the color scheme of the logo, but feels outdated

What do you LIKE OR ENJOY most about the Village's image? What would you CHANGE?

LIKE/ENJOY	CHANGES/WANTS
Where the City meets the country	Make the community feel like a Village instead of just a place to shop
Quaint, small, and welcoming	The level of prestige
Small town feel with modern amenities	Update housing to attract higher income earning residents
	Upgrade the image of the community for seniors
	Upgrade the aesthetics of some businesses

How do you feel other communities view Woodmere's identity?

COMMENTS	
People think Woodmere is Beachwood	A place to do business and shop
Not safe	Perceived as a poor, minority community
Don't speed here	Country feel with modern day attractions
Pinecrest destroyed Maplecrest Road neighborhood	Ponding in front yards



The Village of Woodmere already does an outstanding job with community outreach and events. Public meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked to select the images that represent community events they felt should be encouraged within the community and describe why they chose the ones they did. The numbers below denote the total amount of "votes" received for each image.

COMMON REASONS FOR IMAGE SELECTIONS

Looks like fun

Will fit well into our community

Involves families, the community, and businesses

Family/child friendly

Can walk to enjoy the entertainment

Brings the community together









School Events/Fundraisers



Community Chalk Walks





Job/Employment Fairs





Community Cook Offs







Seasonal Events/Festivals



Carnivals/Kid Friendly Events



Music Festivals





A well connected and accessible network of roadways, sidewalks and trails is imperative for residents to easily reach amenities, community facilities, or other various locations across the Village. Woodmere has a number of high-end and high-quality retail shops, outstanding Village services and departments, and is in very close proximity to other large regional amenities. However, some residents may not have a personal vehicle or are limited by physical accessibility needs, and it is important to ensure that all aspects of the community consider safe connections for persons of all ages, lifestyles, and physical abilities. Meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked a series of questions regarding connectivity in and around the Village. On the following pages are a summary of the comments from this exercise.

Are there any specific concerns you have about walking, biking, driving, or using public transportation throughout the community?

COMMENTS & IDEAS	
Chagrin Boulevard is very dangerous to cross	Roads were just repaved, but are already too bumpy to ride a bike
Some areas do not have sidewalks	Need smoother road surface
Need more sidewalks and bikeways/paths or protected lanes	Chagrin Boulevard is dangerous to walk along comfortably

Which streets could be improved to safely accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists? How should they be improved?

COMMENTS & IDEAS	
Brainard Road needs sidewalks	Bike paths are a good idea
Chagrin Boulevard needs more crosswalks/consistent sidewalks	All main roads should have adequate lighting and sidewalks
Need low level street lighting and signage	Need planters and landscaping
More connectivity reducing street blocks	Keep side streets rural, but a bike path at the ends of streets would be nice
No lighting or sidewalks on side streets	Bike path would be nice with small lights

Do you feel comfortable walking along Chagrin Boulevard?

COMMENTS & IDEAS	
Sidewalks are in poor condition	Biking is a completely unsafe option along Chagrin
Insufficient lighting to make walking a safe option at night	Lack of sidewalks
Need completed sidewalks on Chagrin, it is dangerous	Feels generally safe with a good police presence
It's too congested with traffic to feel safe	There are not enough cross walks
Drivers do not pay attention to pedestrians	Too many driveways that go across sidewalks



The Village of Woodmere is surrounded by a wealth of regional amenities just beyond its borders. Public meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked to place dots on a map to identify the locations they wish they could more easily access by walking, biking, or by using public transit. The map below denote the total amount of "dots" received for various locations throughout the region.

There were a total of four (4) dots clustered near the Orange School District Campus and four (4) dots clustered near the Pinecrest shopping area.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Pinecrest (very difficult to cross Chagrin Boulevard)

Orange School Campus

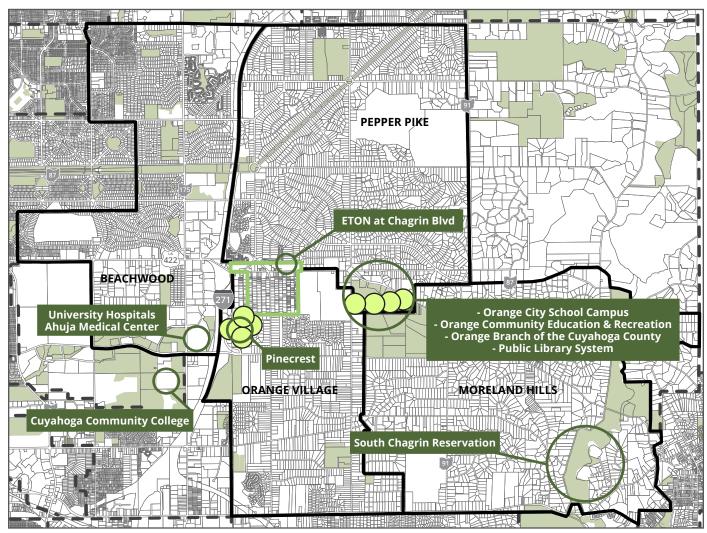
Cleveland Metroparks

ETON Chagrin Boulevard

All regional amenities with bike lanes and /or trails



= Meeting Attendee Selection Dot





Lifelong communities provide housing options that meet the needs of residents of all ages, lifestyles, and physical abilities. Having a variety of housing types at various price points will encourage aging residents to seek suitable options within the community, and will provide homes to younger families entering the community as well.

Meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked a series of questions regarding the types of housing currently offered within the Village of Woodmere, what types of housing they would like to see in the community in the future, and what they would look for in another home or neighborhood if they decided to move. On the following pages are a summary of the comments from this exercise.

What do you like about the housing in the Village of Woodmere?

LIKE
Country Feeling
Country in the City
It has a lot of land/rural
Peaceful and tranquil
Space between properties
Variety of home styles
Residential streets do not have sidewalks or streetlights
Minutes from the City

What would you like to change about the housing in the Village of Woodmere?

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CHANGE		
Vacant land used for the community, nature, and children		
Smooth roads, not a rough texture		
More parks/access to parks and a community garden		
More housing		
Nicer homes/maintenance of homes		
Homes need a face lift and some "TLC"		

If you were to move, what would you look for in another home or neighborhood?

COMMON REASONS		
More green, trees, and natural parks	Chagrin Falls or Gates Mills type of feel-prestigious and safe (Woodmere could be this if we work together to improve it)	
More parks and playgrounds	Additional bedroom	
Better housing	Space for a home office	



The Village of Woodmere has a wide variety of housing types and styles throughout the community. Public meeting attendees and online survey respondents were asked to select the images that represent different housing types and styles that may be appropriate for future development in the Village, and to describe why they chose the ones they did. The numbers below denote the total amount of "votes" received for each image.

COMMON REASONS FOR IMAGE SELECTIONS

Stylish and would attract a nice community feel and residents

Would attract career-minded millennials

Attract first-time homebuyers/families wanting a great school system

Mixed-use at Village Square

Larger yards with smaller houses for a more natural setting

Single-family and ranch styles work well







Single-Family Ranch Style



tr -: # 14

Duplex

Triplex



















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PLANNING PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

CURRENT COMMUNITY GOALS & IMPLEMENTATION FINAL DRAFT

COMMUNITY OF THE PROCESS & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

COMMUNITY OF THE PUB







There will be two (2) more Public Meetings throughout the Village's Master Planning process where there will be ample opportunities to provide community feedback. An online survey will also complement each of these meetings as well to ensure everyone who wants to provide feedback has an opportunity to do so.

If you have questions about the Master Plan process, or would like to find out more about County Planning, please contact us at:

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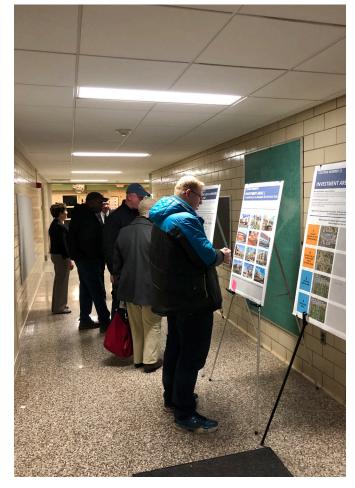
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!













FOR OUR COMMUNITY
FOR OUR REGION
FOR OUR FUTURE