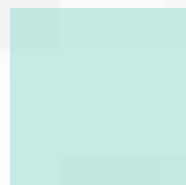
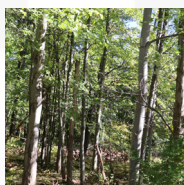
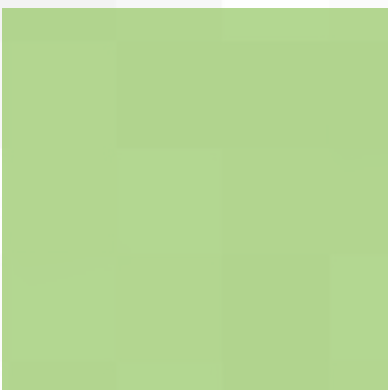
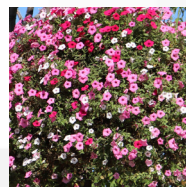
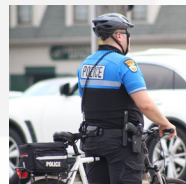
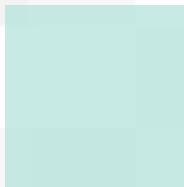


# The Village of **WOODMERE** MASTER PLAN



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



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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.

*Cover Image Sources: County Planning & Village of Woodmere*

# The Village of WOODMERE MASTER PLAN

Accepted by Woodmere Village Council on June 9, 2021



## VILLAGE OF WOODMERE

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Valerie Furst  
Nakeisha Nickerson  
Seth Young  
John Goodman  
Jill Korsok

Morgan Ford  
Nate Phillips  
Anthony Whitfield  
Angela Bennett  
Sheila Wright

Donald Graham  
Erika Hicks  
Carol Neff  
Johnny Williams  
Beth Wilson-Fish

## 2021 VILLAGE OF WOODMERE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nakeisha Nickerson, *Council President*  
Sheryl C. Blakemore, *Council Clerk*  
Tennyson Adams, *Council Member*  
Vivian Walker, *Council Member*

Seth Young, *Council Member*  
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# OUR THANKS

A special thank you to all the residents, groups, public officials, business owners, and community representatives that participated in the Master Plan process. Your input at public meetings, online surveys, interviews, and one-on-one conversations ensured that this document included the thoughts, opinions, hopes, and goals of those who call the Village of Woodmere home.

Thank you especially to those members of Council and the Steering Committee that dedicated their time, energy, and expertise in crafting a Plan for the Village.

## 2018 VILLAGE OF WOODMERE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jennifer Mitchell Earley, *Council President*  
Sheryl C. Blakemore, *Council Clerk*  
Tennyson Adams, *Council Member*  
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Alberta Fanning, *Council Member*  
SharNette McCully, *Council Member*  
Glenda Todd Miller, *Council Member*  
Craig D. Wade, *Council Member*

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Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS D)  
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA)

Finally, a special thank you to Orange Community Education & Recreation (OCE&R) for opening their facility for our Public Meetings throughout this process.

*Image Sources: County Planning & Village of Woodmere*

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Source: County Planning



# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE OF WOODMERE MASTER PLAN

The Village of Woodmere Master Plan is the culmination of community aspirations, dreams, and ambition for future endeavors. Woodmere is on the threshold of exciting undertakings and now is an ideal time to carefully plan how the community should grow and change in the coming decade.

The Master Plan establishes a “snapshot” of the community that examines how the Village looks today, what trends and issues are effecting the community at local, statewide, and national scales, and how land is currently being utilized. By identifying and closely examining these trends, and combining these findings with input from stakeholders and residents, a vision for the future was determined and is outlined within this Master Plan.

As a result of the current conditions analysis, input from numerous stakeholders and residents, and establishing a vision for the future, the Master Plan outlines specific goals and strategies to help focus change in a desirable and predictable manner. These various strategies range from small changes that can improve the daily lives of residents and businesses within Woodmere, to larger changes that will take time to implement. The Plan also identifies potential partners and funding sources to help with the costs of implementation and getting ideas on the ground and impacting change in a positive direction.

The Village of Woodmere is evolving and transforming everyday. This Master Plan is meant to guide ideas and ensure that the dedication of residents, business owners, and Village staff does not go unnoticed. By working together, we can create an even greater Woodmere.

## CONTENTS

- What is a Master Plan, page 10
- Public Engagement, page 12
- History of Woodmere, page 14
- Previous Planning | 1999 Master Plan, page 16
- Relevant Plans & Previous Studies, page 18
- Planning Context, page 24

## 1.1 WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN

A Master Plan is a policy guide created by the Village of Woodmere in collaboration with residents, business owners, stakeholders, and interested groups. It is a long-term plan for how the community wants to grow and develop in the future, and it is intended to look five to ten years into the future from present day.

Generally, a Master Plan inventories what exists today, outlines a community's vision for the future, and describes concrete action steps to achieve that vision. Developing a plan provides the community an opportunity to give input on the general direction of the Village. It prepares residents and business owners for changes, shapes future development, and gives a competitive advantage when the Village applies for grants and funding.

Residents are encouraged to use the Master Plan to see what changes may occur in their neighborhoods, and to assist with implementation by engaging community groups or volunteer organizations to support it. Business owners are encouraged to use the Master Plan to find where the Village is focusing business attraction and retention efforts, and to see what land may be available. The Village is encouraged to use the Master Plan when deciding what infrastructure investments to make, or what grants to apply for. These are substantive ways that members of the community can use the Master Plan to guide their decisions.

### MASTER PLAN & ZONING

The Master Plan is particularly related to land development because it provides a guide for how the community would like to see new uses arranged and developed. While the Master Plan describes potential land use changes, it does not immediately alter any zoning or regulations. Existing zoning remains the same until the Village or a property owner seeks to rezone specific parcels of land or update existing Village codes.

The graphic to the right shows some of the key features that differentiate Master Plans from Zoning Ordinances.

### MASTER PLAN

- A general policy for future growth
- Describes recommendations for what should happen in the future
- Includes broad recommendations that can be undertaken by the Village, residents, or partners
- A flexible document that is intended to be updated as conditions change

VS

### ZONING ORDINANCE

- Specific rules for development
- Describes what is and what is not allowed today
- Includes mandatory regulations on development that are enforced by the Village unless specifically waived
- Relatively rigid set of regulations that can only be changed by a legal process



## PHASES OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Master Plan for the Village of Woodmere was organized into five (5) phases. These phases are described in more depth below:

- **Current Conditions:** In this initial phase, we developed a localized and regional analysis of existing trends and conditions that affect the Village
- **Community Vision:** In this phase, we outlined a vision for how the community wants to grow and develop in the coming decade
- **Goals & Actions:** In this phase, we outlined specific steps that can be taken to achieve the community's desired future
- **Implementation:** In this phase, priorities, time lines, and responsibilities were attached to each strategy to show how they can be accomplished
- **Master Plan Document:** In this final phase, the previous components were combined into a complete, final Master Plan document

## PROCESS



### CURRENT CONDITIONS



### COMMUNITY VISION



### GOALS & ACTIONS



### IMPLEMENTATION



### MASTER PLAN DOCUMENT

## 1.2 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The Master Plan process included numerous opportunities for public involvement to ensure that the Plan reflected the concerns, ideas, and priorities of residents and business owners. Each phase of the process included the involvement of Village staff and the public.

### INVOLVED GROUPS

The planning process involved the input of three (3) groups: the Project Team, the Steering Committee, and the Public. These three groups reviewed the Master Plan at various phases to ensure the goals and recommendations in the Plan fit what the community would like to see.

The Project Team was comprised of Village staff and public officials with an in-depth knowledge of the day-to-day operations of the Village. The Steering Committee was comprised of residents, business owners, and stakeholders that represent a cross-section of the Village. Finally, the Public included any interested residents or parties that would like to be involved during the process. Each group met throughout the planning process, with three (3) Public Meetings that cover the most important parts of the Plan.

The inclusion of these groups were important in confirming that the data, ideas, and policies to be presented were appropriate for the Village of Woodmere. The involvement of the Steering Committee also assisted in identifying areas of the Plan that should be presented to the public for further feedback.

### PUBLIC MEETINGS & ONLINE SURVEYS

The Village of Woodmere Master Plan included three (3) Public Meetings throughout 2019 to allow community members the opportunity to provide input on the Plan and its recommendations. A brief overview of these meetings is provided on the following page.

Meeting information was posted on County Planning's website and social media platforms, shared by the Village, and also included a Village-wide mailing for the first Public Meeting. Following each meeting, a link was provided to an online survey mirroring the activity at the Public Meeting. Each survey was open for at least two (2) weeks to allow those unable to attend the meeting to participate and share their thoughts.

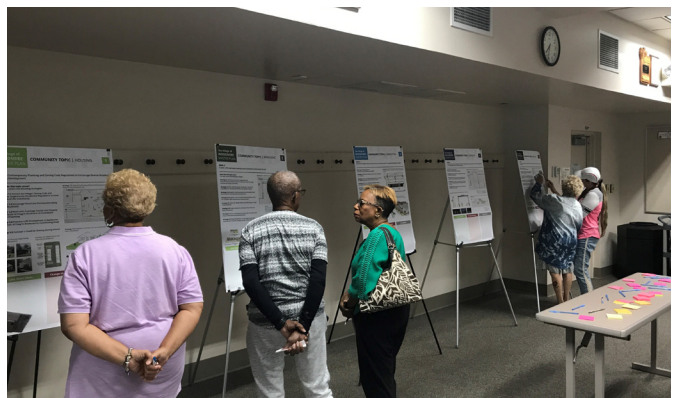
### INTEGRATING THE RESULTS

County Planning used the results from the Public Meetings to inform to the Master Plan. After presenting information to the public, the Master Plan documents were updated to incorporate feedback from the public.

At the second and third Public Meetings, County Planning discussed the results of the previous Public Meetings and showcased the changes that were made to ensure the public was aware of how the Plan was responsive to their comments.



Source: County Planning, Public Meeting #1



Source: County Planning, Public Meeting #2



## PUBLIC MEETINGS

1

### **PUBLIC MEETING #1**

**CURRENT CONDITIONS & COMMUNITY VISION**  
**MARCH 5, 2019**

At the first Public Meeting, representatives from County Planning introduced residents to the planning process, presented Current Conditions information, and gave an overview of the community. Members of the public were asked to review boards at six (6) stations that included a Community Vision, objectives, investment areas, investment corridors, community identity, connectivity, and housing. Residents were invited to say what they liked or wanted to change about each. This meeting was followed up by an online survey, which remained open for two weeks.

2

### **PUBLIC MEETING #2**

**GOALS & ACTIONS**  
**AUGUST 22, 2019**

At the second Public Meeting, representatives from County Planning gave a presentation which outlined the Master Plan Process and where the community was at in that process, and focused on the Recommendations document. Members of the public were asked to review boards at five (5) stations that prompted residents with the following three (3) questions: 1) Which, if any, strategies or goals they liked or are excited about; 2) Which, if any, strategies or goals they felt needed work; and 3) General comments they have about specific goals, strategies, or topic areas. This meeting was followed up by an online survey, which remained open for two weeks.

3

### **PUBLIC MEETING #3**

**IMPLEMENTATION**  
**OCTOBER 30, 2019**

At the third Public Meeting, representatives from County Planning gave a presentation which outlined the Master Plan Process and where the community was at in that process, and focused on the Implementation document. Members of the public were asked to review boards, which outlined the various Recommendations within the Master Plan, and to assign priority levels for implementation. This meeting was followed up by an online survey, which remained open for two weeks.

## 1.3 HISTORY OF WOODMERE

### HUMBLD BEGINNINGS

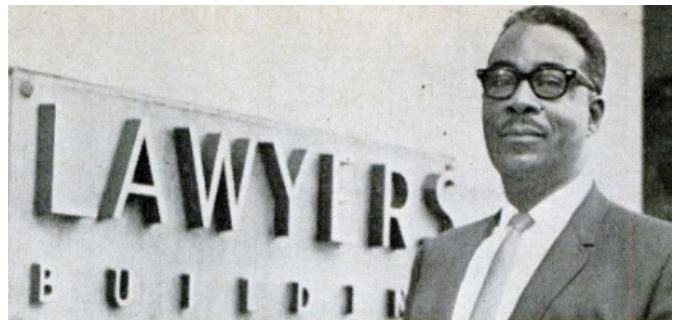
The Village of Woodmere has come a long way from its humbled beginnings. It is rumored that the Village was a stop on the underground railroad and in the community's early years, pioneering black families were faced with adversity and unjust treatment. However, their strength and courage helped pave the way for the tight-knit community that Woodmere has become.

Just prior to adoption and during the WWII era, the Village was a largely wooded area just outside of Cleveland. With limited building regulations that were often not enforced, the Village had been described as a "shanty town." However, surrounding the community were large estates and carefully planned subdivisions that just bordered the Village.

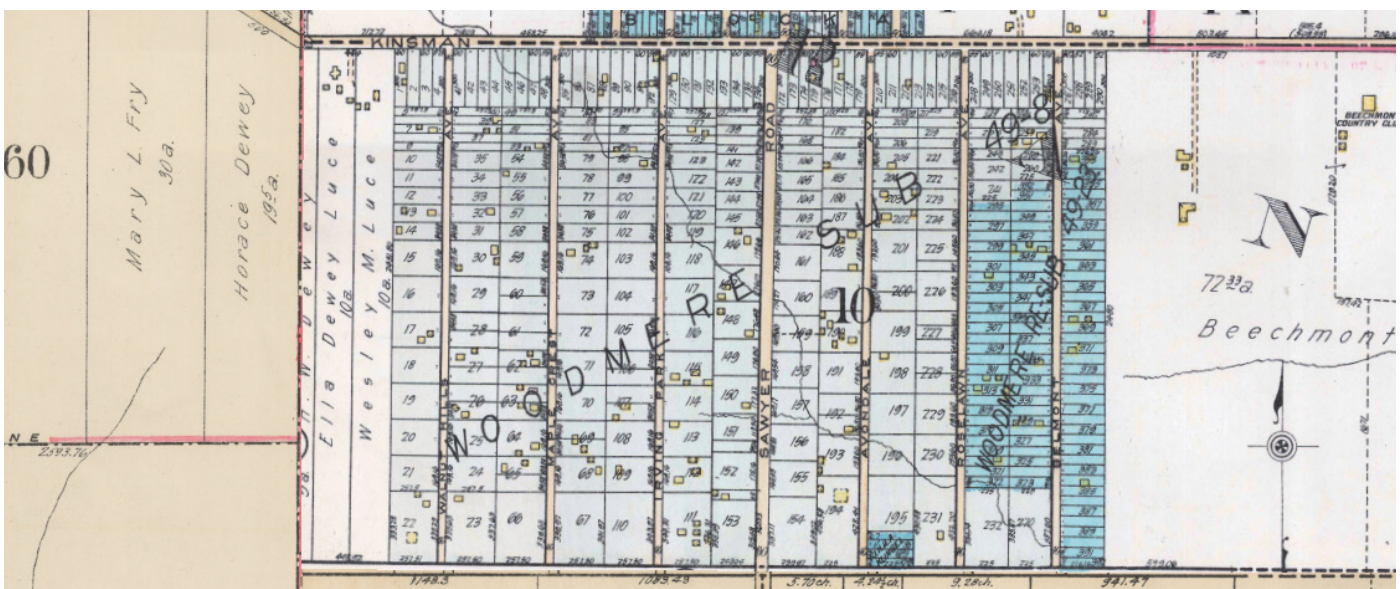
Originally, the Village of Woodmere was a residential subdivision part of Orange Township, which not only included Woodmere, but also Hunting Valley, Moreland Hills, Orange Village, and Pepper Pike. Then in 1944, the Village was fully incorporated into the county with just under three-hundred residents calling the community home.

### PROUD HERITAGE

The Village of Woodmere has a proud and strong footprint in northeast Ohio history. Woodmere was among one of the first places not only in the region, but the entire country to elect a black mayor into office. In November of 1965, residents elected Attorney Samuel S. Perry as the Village's first black mayor, defeating six-time incumbent John Fabian. Then, just two-years later in 1967, the City of Cleveland elected its first black mayor, Carl B. Stokes, into office, who was the first black mayor elected into office of a major American city. The Village of Woodmere once again helped change the face of politics and move government towards a position of inclusiveness and equality.



Source: [www.woodmerevillage.com](http://www.woodmerevillage.com), Attorney Samuel S. Perry, 1965



Source: Cleveland Historical Maps, <http://esriurl.com/cleveland>, Orange Township/Woodmere Subdivision 1927-1937

## THRIVING COMMUNITY

The Village of Woodmere is less than a square-mile in size, but holds its own against other retail giants in the northeast Ohio region, such as Crocker Park, Beachwood Place, Legacy Village, and Pinecrest. Located just off of the I-271 corridor, Woodmere is regionally accessible and offers a wide variety of retail opportunities. With some of the most sought-after shopping in the Midwest, Woodmere is home to over eight-hundred local and national retailers and restaurants. In a single day, the Village can see nearly 28,000 vehicles travel along its main corridor, Chagrin Boulevard, providing for some of the best commercial visibility in the region.

In 1975, the 110,000 square-foot Eton Square shopping center was constructed with a focus on specialized appeal in a relatively pastoral area. However, it was missing large, national tenants that would anchor the shopping collection. Then, in 1990, the name of the shopping center was changed to Eton Collection and by the turn of the century in 2003, Stark Enterprises undertook a \$45 million renovation and redesign that expanded the commercial space to 230,000 square-feet.

An additional expansion was recently completed in 2016, which added nearly 70,000 more square-feet of commercial space. This expansion now houses an AT&T

store, Starbucks, Chipotle, and number of other retailers. This brings the Village up to roughly three-hundred businesses located within the community.

Today, the rebranded Eton Chagrin Boulevard continues to attract premiere retail and brand giants such as Trader Joe's, Tiffany's, Apple, and Kendra Scott. Woodmere's location and now prominent retail footprint proves that although the Village may be small, its influence can go head-to-head with communities a hundred-times its size.



Source: Brenda Cain, [cleveland.com](http://cleveland.com), Cleveland Press File Photo, Eton 1975



Source: County Planning, Eton Chagrin Boulevard today



## 1.4 PREVIOUS PLANNING | 1999 MASTER PLAN

### 1999 MASTER PLAN

The 1999 Woodmere Village Master Plan focused on a number of specific objectives with three (3) main goals: 1) Ensure the economic viability of Woodmere Village's commercial and residential communities; 2) Ensure that the Village's quality of life improves for both sectors of the community; and 3) Better connect the Village's commercial district with surrounding communities in mutually beneficial ways. The Plan was completed by the consultant team of Project for Public Spaces (PPS) and North Coast Urban Consultants in collaboration with Village Officials, Advisory Committee members, and Village residents, businesses, and property owners.

This Plan gave special attention to Chagrin Boulevard and how its future design will impact not only Woodmere, but the larger region as a whole. Chagrin Boulevard is both a positive and negative for the community. As outlined in the 1999 Plan, the six recommendations discussed on the next page were formed to transform Woodmere into a people-oriented community while simultaneously managing the high volume of traffic along Chagrin Boulevard. The Village identifies as the "Gateway to the Chagrin Valley." However, at the time of this Plan Woodmere increasingly saw itself becoming the "Thru-way to the Chagrin Valley" instead.

As seen in the box to the right, the Plan called for very specific implementation steps in order to poise the Village for setting its future in an exciting new direction; one which Woodmere embraces its "small town" qualities, all while supporting the vitality of established and growing businesses within the community. Overall, the 1999 Woodmere Village Master Plan had many successes and laid a solid foundation for future planning efforts to build upon.

### IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

*Approve the Master Plan report by the Advisory Committee and the Village Council*

*Retain a part-time Master Plan Coordinator*

*Solidify verbal agreements with surrounding communities to jointly pay for next step traffic engineering studies*

*Complete detailed traffic engineering studies and analysis of existing conditions*

*Woodmere Village representatives should immediately meet with officials from ODOT and NOACA to review their Master Plan findings, as well as advise on their traffic engineering work status*

*Continue a community process to govern the evaluation of the final plans and designs*

*Refine the concept design for the proposed boulevard and frontage road and develop schematic designs for short-term implementation*

*Develop model easement, management, maintenance, and indemnification agreements*

*Draft necessary changes to the zoning code*

*Undertake a study of the possible conversion of the privately owned sewage treatment plant on Belmont into a pump station*

*Immediately form an Ad-Hoc Village Hall Plaza Committee to implement short-term beautification improvements, which will set the tone for future Chagrin Boulevard improvements to come*

*To ensure that recreational needs of the Village's children are addressed, an additional Ad-Hoc Committee should be established to identify and flush out both short-term and long-term recreational opportunities for Woodmere Village youth*



# 1999 MASTER PLAN KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

## PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

1	<i>Develop Chagrin Boulevard from W. Brainard Road to the Pepper Pike Line as a "boulevard"</i>
2	<i>Hold the line between Chagrin Boulevard development south of Chagrin and the residential community</i>
3	<i>Proactively encourage development of the type and character which will transform Woodmere Village into an interesting destination</i>
4	<i>Reduce present parking ratios to lessen the amount of premium-valued land being devoted to parking</i>
5	<i>Make Woodmere Village more pedestrian, bicycle, and transit friendly by implementing capital improvements</i>
6	<i>Maintain the "country feel" of the Woodmere single-family residential district by retaining residential lot widths of no less than 125-feet, but no greater than 144-feet</i>

# 1.5 RELEVANT PLANS & PREVIOUS STUDIES

## CHAGRIN BOULEVARD CORRIDOR STUDY (2001)

In 1999, the community was awarded a grant from the Transportation and Community and System Preservation Program (TCSP). The study would focus on developing a community-based plan to revitalize Chagrin Boulevard that runs through Woodmere, all while maintaining access to the rest of the community. Additionally, the Village also completed a Master Plan the same year (1999) and the Plan concluded that Chagrin Boulevard should be developed as a true boulevard. However, the Plan offered little detail on how to accomplish such a large and complicated project that has the potential to not only affect Woodmere, but the region as well.

### PROJECT NEED & PROCESS

Chagrin Boulevard is a minor arterial that has been left to function as a major corridor with Average Daily Traffic (ADT) numbers that far exceed what it is capable of handling safely and efficiently. At the time of the study and data collection in 2001, the roadway served approximately 18,700 vehicles per day on the western end and 14,400 vehicles per day on the eastern end. It was then estimated by the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) that by 2021 traffic volumes could increase to 20,000 vehicles per day on the western end and 15,400 vehicles per day on the eastern end. In addition to traffic volumes, other issues addressed within the study included safety, property and street access, property impacts and parking, transit and pedestrian accommodations, and aesthetics.

Based upon these issues and needs, the purpose of the project was to: Improve traffic flow to an acceptable level of service, defined as no intersections functioning below LOS D during peak hour; Improve access management to facilitate efficient movement of traffic and reduce driveway-related accidents; Provide pedestrian accommodations to encourage safe, efficient pedestrian travel; and to Improve the aesthetic appeal of the corridor to enhance the quality of life for residents, businesses, and motorists

The project officially kicked-off in the fall of 2001 and the process included extensive public involvement and the formation of stakeholder committee; which included partners such as local businesses, key Village staff, Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), adjacent community leaders, and other similar groups.

## ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS & PREFERRED STRATEGY

There were three main, alternative solutions presented:

**3-Lane Option:** This option would reconstruct Chagrin Boulevard as a 3-lane roadway from West Brainard Road to Lander Circle. In addition to basic improvements, this alternative would include a 6-foot tree lawn and sidewalk on both sides of the road and minor property impacts would occur.

**4-Lane Boulevard Option:** This option would reconstruct Chagrin Boulevard with two-lanes in both directions and a centralized, landscaped median and turn lanes. Left turns out of businesses would be eliminated in some cases and property owners could expect to see about a twenty-foot loss in front yards due to the right-of-way increasing from 66-feet to 86-feet.

**5-lane Option:** This option would reconstruct Chagrin Boulevard with two-lanes each direction and a center two-way left-turn lane. Property owners could also expect to see about a twenty-foot loss in front yards due to the right-of-way increasing from 66-feet to 86-feet.

Then, in 2002 and with input from residents, the stakeholder group reached a consensus that Alternative 2 for a 4-Lane Boulevard was the preferred alternative. This option was chosen because it would provide the best traffic flow, have the most substantial impact upon safety, and afford the greatest opportunity to improve the aesthetics of the corridor. There were additional design elements recommended by the stakeholder group, but the implementation of the project still hinders on funding. Since the study's completion, there have been minor modifications to Chagrin Boulevard, including light synchronization and intersection enhancements. However, a complete reconstruction has not been undertaken.



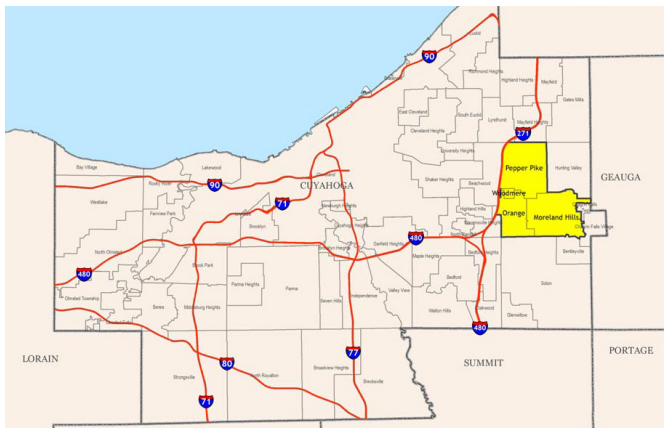
Source: County Planning

## SHARED SERVICES & MUNICIPALITY MERGER STUDY (2012)

In 2012, the communities of Woodmere, Pepper Pike, Orange Village, and Moreland Hills came together and performed a detailed study about the feasibility of sharing or merging services and forming a new city. Each of the four communities operate with consistent, healthy budgets, but the merging of services could help prevent the need for service cuts in the future. The cost of providing excellent services to residents can put a large strain on individual, local governments. However, the merger would help these communities stay resilient to changing demands, to be able to do more with less, and ultimately create a new city of roughly 13,500 residents, cover about eighteen square-miles, and have a budget of \$32.8 million.

### PROJECT APPROACH

The study was a phased, systematic process of understanding the importance of pursuing collaborations through specific units of government. The project divided work into four focused tracks for in-depth analysis: Service Departments, Finance Departments, Public Safety Departments, and Other Departments. Additionally, a “Service Function Team” was established for each track, which consisted of key municipal staff, department directors, and other subject matter experts. There was also an extensive public engagement component that allowed residents to provide their thoughts and feedback in regards to the merger.



Source: Application to the Local Government Innovation Fund Ohio Department of Development State of Ohio, pg. 7 Location Map of Collaborative Partners

### THREE PHASES

The project was divided into three separate phases:

**Phase One | Existing Conditions:** The first phase was a comprehensive and complete analysis of existing conditions within the four municipalities. The goal was to understand the functions and operations of each municipality department by department, across departments, and across service delivery models.

**Phase Two | Opportunities for Shared Services:** The second phase was a look into the opportunities for shared services. The goal was to analyze the potential costs and benefits of the alternatives; debate and synthesize the best ideas from each alternative to determine which has the most potential for immediate and/or long-term implementation; and establish the next steps to begin the implementation process.

**Phase Three | Merits of Merging:** The third phase took a serious look at the merits of a complete merger among two, three, or all four of the communities. The goal was to outline the opportunities and challenges for merging some or all four of the communities.

Throughout the study, community forums were held in each municipality to help residents understand the process and, over the course of the study, come to understand the merits of merging in advance of undertaking the statutory merger process.

### FINAL OUTCOME

The final merger would ultimately be left up to residents to vote on. There would be two votes: one to create a committee of representatives from each community that would study the needs of the four areas; and a second to decide on the actual merger. However, this was never brought to a vote.

In 2013, the push for a municipal merger settled into just a study for shared services as government leaders decided to table discussions for the full merger until further research could be explored on the matter. For now, the municipalities continue to collaborate through contracts and shared service agreements without a need for voter approval.

## 1.5 RELEVANT PLANS & PREVIOUS STUDIES

### NOACA REGIONAL BICYCLE PLAN (2013)

The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) strives to look at ways to improve the region's infrastructure so that bicycling and walking can be safer and more convenient options. The 2013 Regional Bicycle Plan from NOACA not only provides a vision for increasing the use of bicycles as a means for transportation and commuting, but also serves as a guide for developing bicycle infrastructure and physically shows where bikeway facilities should be built.

The 2013 Regional Bicycle Plan serves as an update to the 2008 Regional Bicycle Transportation Plan and as a vital component of NOACA's long range transportation plan, Connections+ 2035. The 2013 update had two main goals: plan and implement bicycle facilities; and create and support new or improved policies and programs related to bicycling. These goals were intentionally left short and straightforward to reduce any chances of overlap and measuring the progress on achieving these goals will be much easier as a result.

### 2013 PLAN GOALS

**Goal 1:** Plan and implement bicycle facilities

**Goal 2:** Create and support new or improved policies and programs related to bicycling

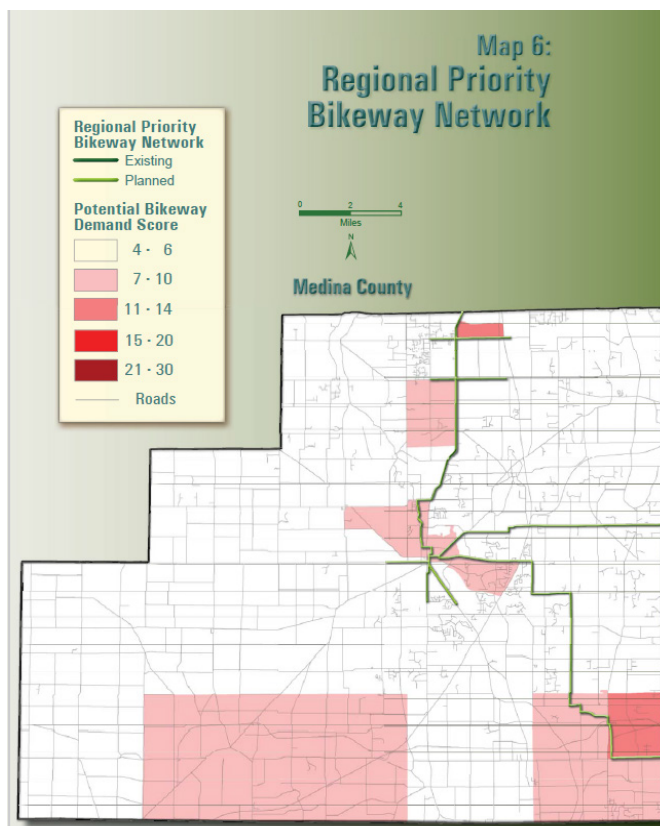
### USAGE & DEMAND

The 2013 Plan looked closely at the region's current bike network and helped explore potential demand for facilities in the future. This framework ultimately helped NOACA identify and prioritize bicycle infrastructure projects. This looked at a number of factors: where people are bicycling, where people want to ride, safety and crashes, and available programs. These factors were then organized by county and placed within a Regional Priority Bikeway Network map, as seen to the right.

### IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS & FUNDING

In order to achieve the Plan's goals, NOACA organized a series of programs, some that exist and some that would need to be created, to act as a guide for communities looking to implement bicycle infrastructure. These four program categories included Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation.

Additionally, the Plan also outlined various funding opportunities and project sponsors to help offset some of the costs for installing newer infrastructure. This list included a number of MPO, State, and Federal sources for communities to pursue.



Source: Map 6, Regional Priority Bikeway Network Medina County, NOACA Regional Bicycle Plan, 2013 Update

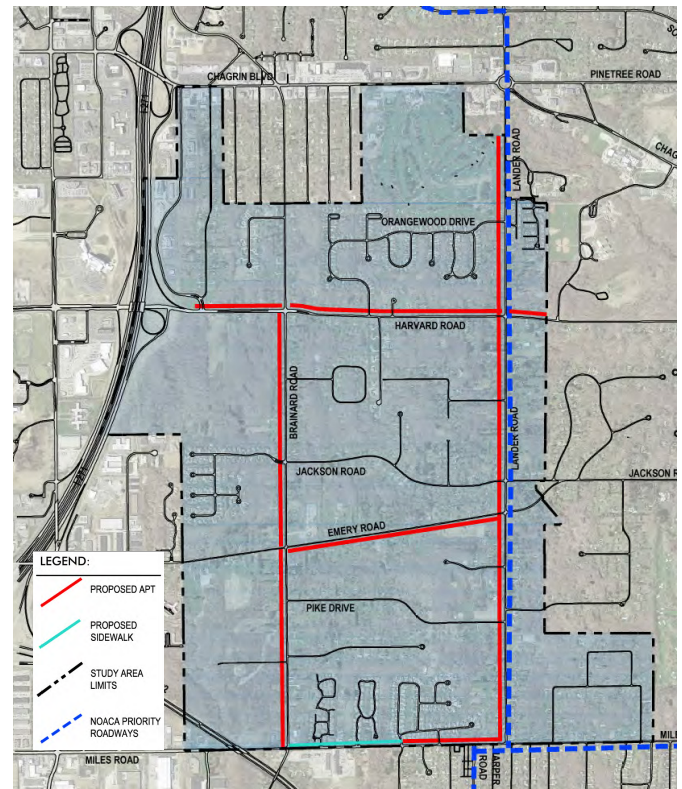


## ORANGE VILLAGE ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2014)

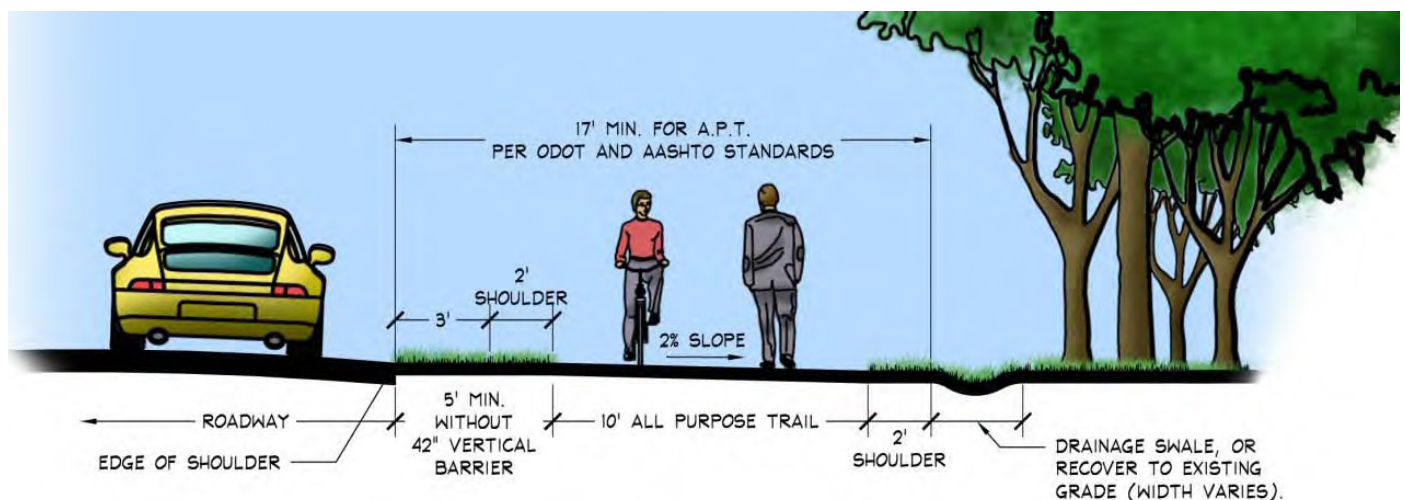
The 2014 Orange Village Alternative Transportation Plan took a close look at active transportation options within the community and how this could be incorporated into future projects to better connect residents to amenities. Overall, the goals of the plan were to identify a network of all-purpose trails, improve motorist and non-motorist safety, and to strengthen connections to key community and regional resources.

Orange Village is a highly desirable community with a wealth of local assets and amenities. However, the Village lacks sidewalks and very few non-motorized connections actually exist between neighborhoods and community destinations. The Plan also focused heavily on trail design standards to ensure the efficiency and safety of all future users. Detailed graphics, as seen below, outline a standard APT (all-purpose trail) section and the pros and cons of asphalt and concrete as a trail surface.

Lastly, the Plan provided conceptual trail alignments and tentative costs for construction within Orange Village. As seen in the map to the right, the proposed APT would follow Lander Road, Harvard Road, Emery Road, and a portion of both Brainard Road and Miles Road and would cost about \$5,085,325 with a total length of 7.14 miles.



Source: Figure 9, NOACA Priority Roadways, Orange Village Alternative Transportation Plan, 2014



Source: Figure 4, Standard APT Section, Orange Village Alternative Transportation Plan, 2014

## 1.5 RELEVANT PLANS & PREVIOUS STUDIES

### VILLAGE OF MORELAND HILLS COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN (2016)

The 2016 Village of Moreland Hills Comprehensive Land Use Plan was the first land use update for the community since the 2003 Comprehensive Land Use Plan and focuses development efforts to match with the Village's vision over the next ten to thirty years.

#### COMMUNITY GOALS & EXISTING CONDITIONS

The 2016 Village of Moreland Hills Comprehensive Land Use Plan provided updated community details, demographic data, economic characteristics, physical characteristics such as topography and riparian corridors, infrastructure, environmental characteristics, and other relevant trends and information.

The Plan also identified five (5) community goals with various objectives that help the Village achieve its vision.

### 2016 PLAN GOALS

**Goal 1:** Preserve and protect the value of residential properties

**Goal 2:** Preserve environmental quality and natural beauty of Moreland Hills

**Goal 3:** Preserve historic and cultural resources

**Goal 4:** Accommodate limited non-residential development

**Goal 5:** Promote efficient, safe, and non-motorized means of transportation

#### PREFERRED LAND USE PLAN & POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS

The Village of Moreland Hills is located within the area known as the "Western Reserve Territory." The community is very proud of its heritage and outlined within the 2016 Plan was a strong desire to maintain preferred land uses and any new development should reflect the Village's existing land development patterns and be compatible with neighboring uses.

As seen in the map below, the Plan also called out specific areas for targeted development. There were eight areas in total and each location varied based on land use, the size of the lot, and physical limitations such as slopes infrastructure, or other significant environmental features.



Source: Figure 20, Village of Moreland Hills Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2016

#### ZONING CODE REVISIONS

The 2016 Plan also called for a number of zoning code recommendations to better accommodate and work towards the "Preferred Land Use Plan". These included:

- **Mixed residential housing within PDA 1 is desirable:** A mix of housing types and densities is encouraged, including smaller homes on smaller lots and townhomes. This type of development would accommodate residents who wish to downsize and remain in the village and may attract younger residents. A PUD is a valuable development tool for this area.
- **Text changes in WEB area are desirable:** Text updates in this area would allow for redevelopment in PDA 3 in keeping with the character of the neighborhood.
- **Public Open Space Classification in the zoning code:** This classification would support the Village's planning goal of preserving environmental quality. The objectives of this goal included encouraging preservation of open space for public use benefits and preservation of community character. This zoning classification can be used to recognize the perpetual public open space use of the South Chagrin Reservation, Forest Ridge, Veteran's Park, the Garfield Birth Site, and any public open space acquired in the future.

## ORANGE VILLAGE MASTER PLAN FOR LAND USE (2018)

The 2018 Orange Village Master Plan for Land Use was a modern update to the previous Comprehensive Plan for Land Use adopted in 2007. Significant land use changes have been made since the original Plan's adoption, such as the Pinecrest Development. The purpose of this update was to create a document that builds upon the Village's previous success, but also carefully guide the community into the future as development pressures continue and unforeseen changes might occur.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION & CURRENT INITIATIVES

The 2018 Orange Village Master Plan for Land Use provided updated community details, demographic data, infrastructure improvements, and other relevant trends and information.

The document also highlighted some of the community's more current initiatives, which include:

- New recreational trail that will be constructed on the north side of Harvard, west side of Lander, north side of Miles, and the north side of Emery. As part of their development agreement with the Village, the Pinecrest developers have committed \$5,000,000 to build this new trail.
- Orange Goes Green Certification Program Manual, which was completed to expand recycling opportunities, establish solar regulations, promote environmental conservation and opportunities for greater sustainability, and advocate low impact design to reduce environmental impacts.
- 2014 Community Survey, conducted by County Planning

### COMMUNITY GOALS & POLICIES

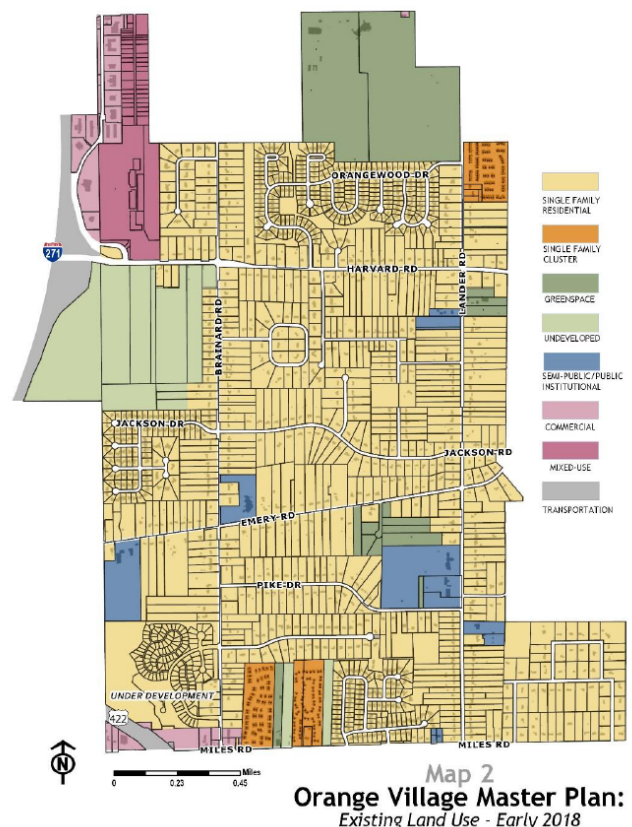
The Land Use Plan also outlined very specific goals and policies to achieve the type of land development that the community desires. The Plan called out eleven (11) goals and numerous policies based on different types of land uses and development patterns, which included Residential, Commercial, Community Facilities & Image, Transportation & Traffic, Environmental, and Community Development.

All of the strategies discussed within the various policies included a key component of collaboration. Orange

Village has identified the importance of working with its neighboring communities to achieve its goals and to ensure the ongoing desirability of not only Orange Village, but its surrounding neighbors.

### WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

The completion of the 2018 Master Land Use Plan has come at an opportune time to examine how Orange's future land use desires could affect neighboring communities, including the Village of Woodmere. There is an intrinsic value in having an open line of communication across municipal borders when policy or land use decisions are being discussed. The Village of Woodmere shares an immense amount of its borders with Orange Village and it is important to work collaboratively on land use decisions. This will not only provide for a more desirable development pattern, but also a more predictable one.



Source: Map 2, 2018 Orange Village Master Land Use Plan



## 1.6 PLANNING CONTEXT

### REGIONAL CONTEXT

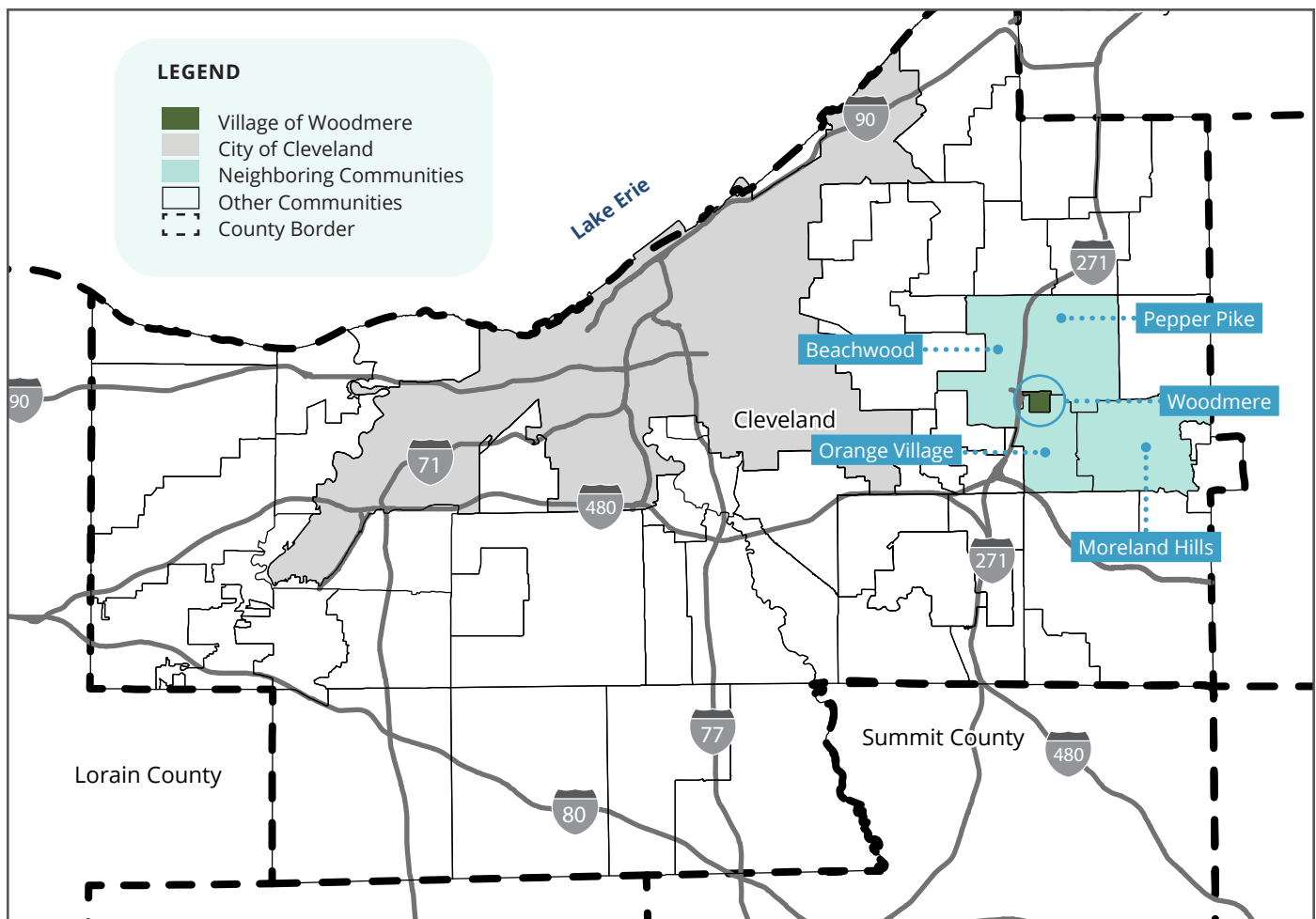
The Village of Woodmere is shown in dark green on the map below. Woodmere is located in the eastern portion of Cuyahoga County, just to the east of I-217. The Village is bordered by the City of Beachwood to the west, the City of Pepper Pike to the north, and Orange Village to the south.

The map below also showcases several neighboring communities: Beachwood, Pepper Pike, Orange Village, and Moreland Hills. These neighboring communities share a border with Woodmere, have similar characteristics, or share other features that make them good comparisons

throughout the Current Conditions document. Additionally, all of these communities are located in the same region of Cuyahoga County and share similar local, regional, and national trends.

Throughout the Current Conditions document, comparisons are made between the Village, its neighboring communities, and the County as a whole.

MAP 1 — REGIONAL CONTEXT





## VILLAGE CONTEXT

The Village of Woodmere is shown in the map below. Interstate I-271 runs north and south near the eastern most border of the community and Woodmere shares its borders with three (3) other communities: Pepper Pike to the north, Beachwood to the west, and Orange Village, which encompasses much of Woodmere's southern borders.

The Village has two (2) main roadways that bisect the community: Chagrin Boulevard that traverses the community from west to east and provides direct access to

I-271, and Brainard Road, which traverses the community from north to south and provides easy connections into residential areas and neighboring communities. The residential areas within Woodmere are largely focused to the south of Chagrin Boulevard are comprised of five (5) dead-end streets: Maplecrest Avenue, Irving Park Avenue, Avondale Road, Roselawn Road, and Belmont Road. There are also homes located along Brainard Road, which is predominantly residential in character.

MAP 2 — VILLAGE CONTEXT

