INCENTINIZ EDUCATE

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SINGLE-FAMILY ZONING ANALYSIS PHASE TWO

Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium 3/3/23

INTRODUCTIONS

Jennifer Kuzma

Director, Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium

Mary Cierebiej, AICP

Executive Director, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission

Chris Ronayne

Cuyahoga County Executive

Gus Frangos

President and General Counsel, Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation

Chalana Williams

SVP, Chief Community Development Officer, First Federal of Lakewood

PROJECT TEAM

First Suburbs Consortium

• Jennifer Kuzma, *Director*

Project Partners

- Patrick Grogan-Myers,

 Director of Planning and Development, Euclid
- Michael Love, Planning & Development Director, South Euclid
- Matt Madzy, Director of Planning, Engineering & Development, Berea
- Coral Troxell, Planning & Development Assistant Director, South Euclid
- Jennifer Vazquez-Norman, Programs Operations Manager, Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corp.

County Planning

- Mary Cierebiej, AICP, Executive Director
- Patrick Hewitt, AICP, Planning Manager, Strategy & Development
- Daniel Meaney, GISP, Manager, Information & Research
- Laura Mendez Ortiz, AICP Candidate, Planner
- Liam Leveto, GIS Technician
- Meghan Chaney, AICP, Senior Planner
- Paul Triolo, *Planner*
- Kevin Leeson, *Planner*

AGENDA

- Project Background
- Phase II
 - Plan
 - Design
 - Incentivize
 - Educate
 - Track
- Questions and Next Steps

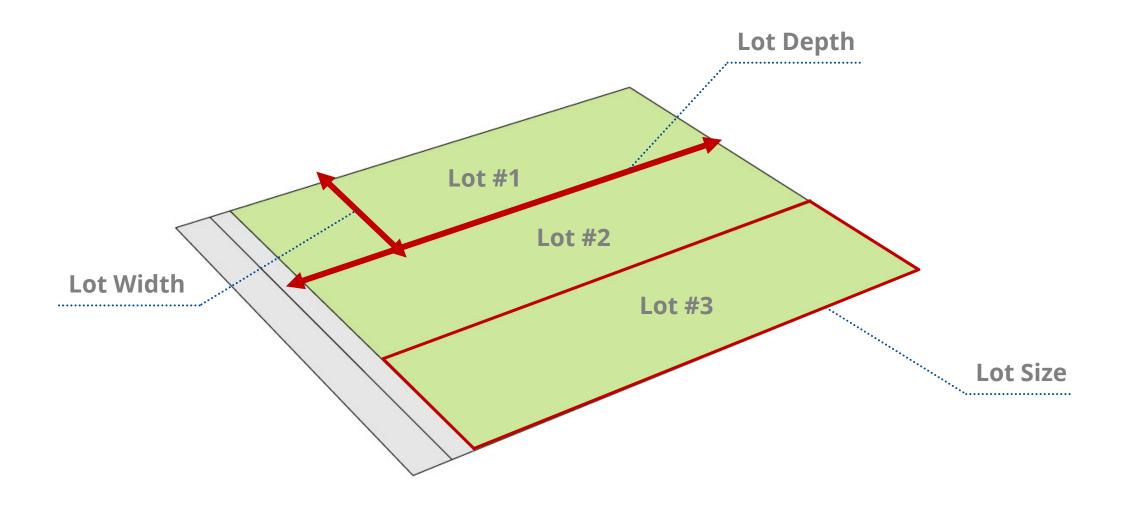
PROJECT BACKGROUND

 Phase 1: Identify issues within zoning regulations that can make constructing desired infill housing difficult or costineffective

 Phase 2: Outline best practices for improving zoning regulations to make infill more practicable, update codified ordinances, and track infill housing construction over time

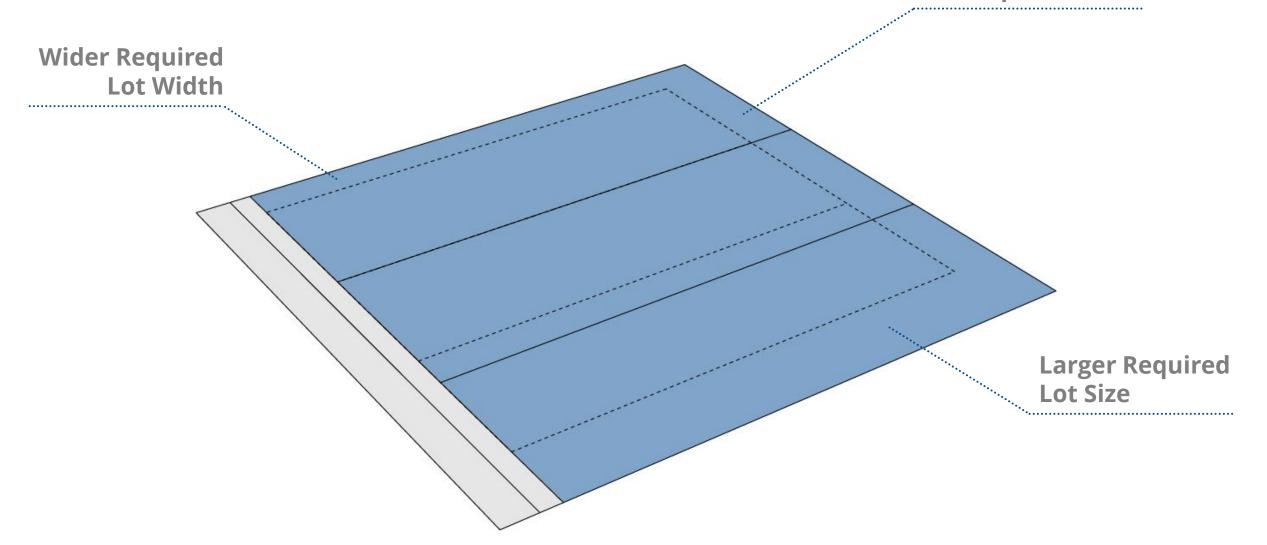
CURRENT STRUCTURES Existing Garages Existing Homes Existing Lots Vacant Lot

CURRENT LOTS

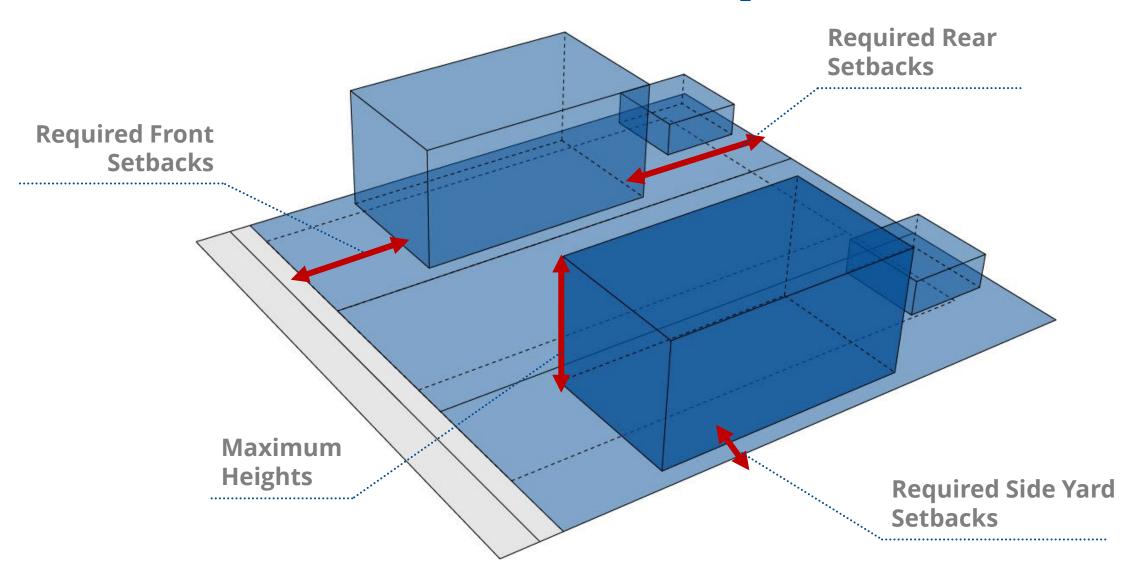


ZONING LOT REQUIREMENTS

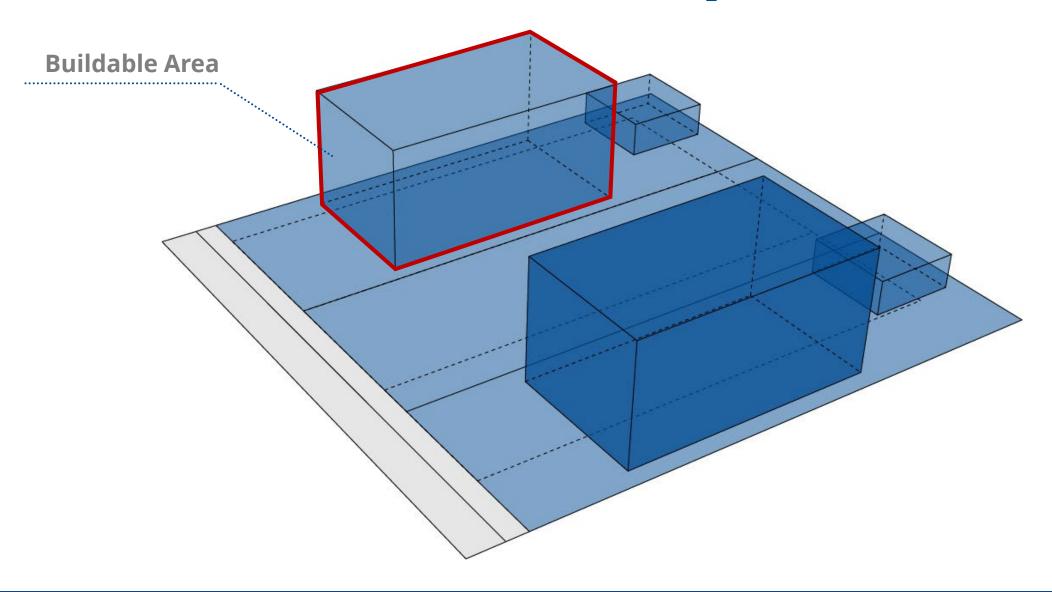
Deeper Required Lot Depth



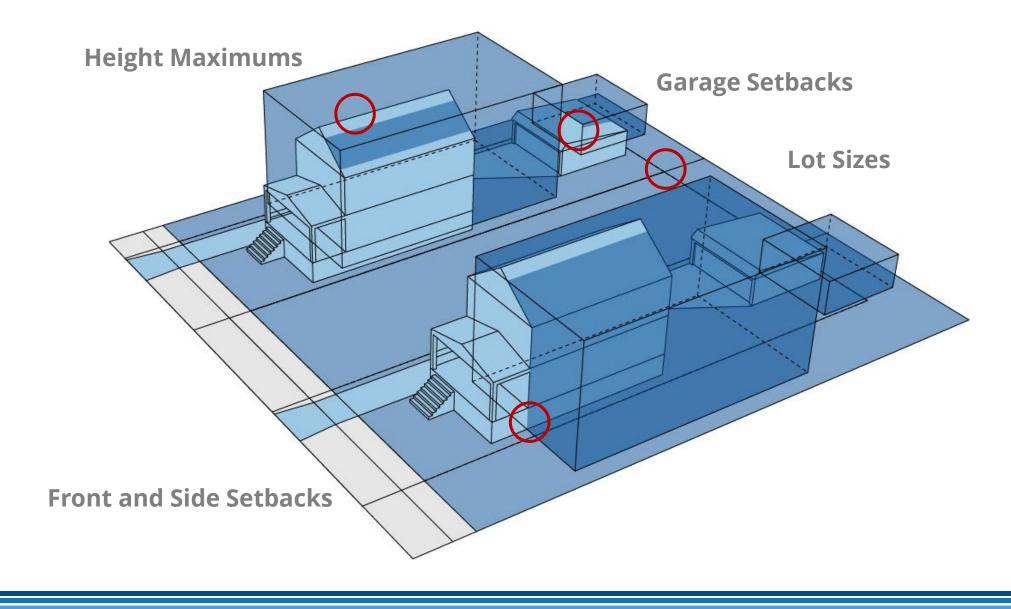
ZONING STRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS



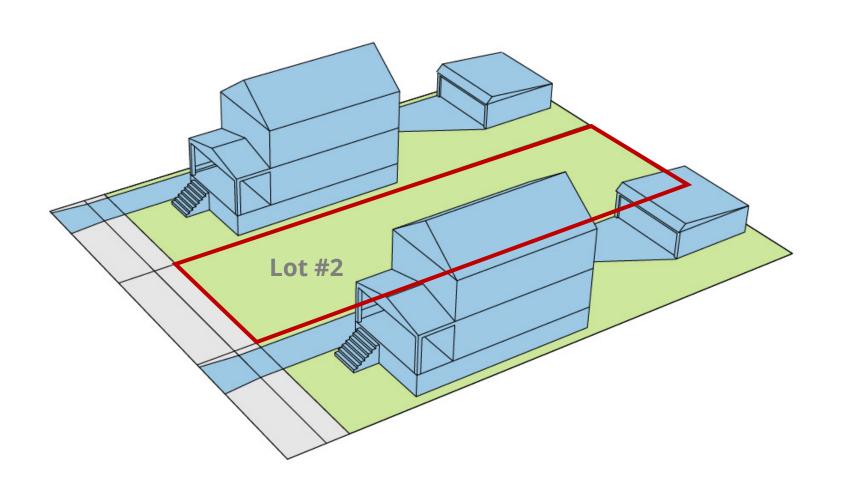
ZONING STRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS

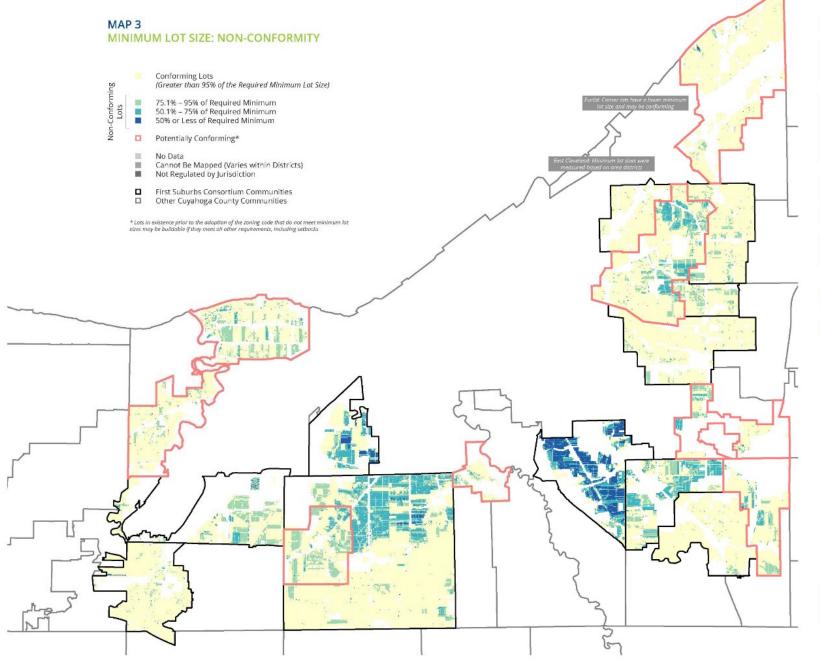


REGULATORY INCONSISTENCIES



ISSUES FOR INFILL HOUSING





MAPPING PROCESS

To map minimum lot size, County Planning used GIS software to measure the square feet of existing lots. The size of these lots were then compared to minimum lot size requirements.

East Cleveland's minimum lot size regulations correspond to area districts rather than zoning districts. Euclid's Zoning Code provides a lower minimum lot size for corner lots. Corner lots were not identified during this process and were treated as regular lots. As such, certain corner lots that may be marked as non-conforming, may actually conform to the smaller required lot size.

Map 3 shows the results of this analysis. Those lots shown in yellow conform to required minimum lot sizes. Those lots shown in blues do not conform to minimum lot size requirements, with darker blues indicating greater non-conformity.

Communities outlined in pink provide a series of exceptions to their regulations meaning lots shown as non-conforming may be buildable.

FIGURE 16
MINIMUM LOT SIZE: NON-CONFORMITY

Non-Conforming Total

196

The maps produced for this report are for reference purposes only. While every effort was made to include complete information, the maps, figures, tables, and other information is not guaranteed to be occurate. The content of this document should not be used far any source. County Planning

LOCAL EXPERIENCES

Michael Love

Planning & Development Director, South Euclid

Patrick Grogan-Myers

Director of Planning and Development, Euclid

SOUTH EUCLID

- South Euclid's existing zoning code was adopted in 1969, and was designed for that era of construction. However, most of the housing stock was postwar (1945-1960) and so a significant amount became non-conforming. The city sought to bring more of this existing stock into conformity.
- Infill Development had become an inefficient and drawn-out process. This was often
 due to the amount of required approvals from various city boards and commissions.
 To encourage more infill development, the city sought to streamline the process to
 allow for a simpler, easier experience for builders, developers and homeowners.
- The new creation of an overlay district for all single-family zoning classifications, along with updated code language will allow for more of the existing housing stock to conform, and will also streamline and encourage the infill development process.

LOCAL EXPERIENCES

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Planning & Development Director, South Euclid

Patrick Grogan-Myers

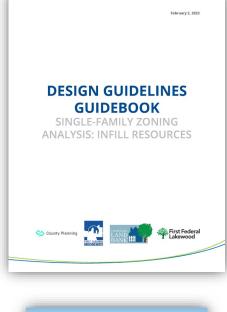
Director of Planning and Development, Euclid

DESIGN INCENTIV EDUCATE

FIVE TASKS

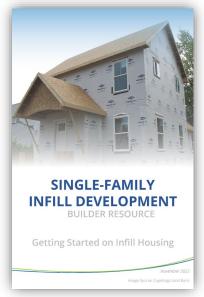
- Plan and Zone for Infill Housing
 - ✓ Development Professionals Survey
 - Code Update Options Overview
 - ✓ Online Zoning Tool
- **Design** Housing to Meet Your Goals
 - ✓ Design Guidelines Guidebook
- Incentivize the Housing You Want
 - ✓ Infill Incentives Options
- Educate Builders and the Community
 - / Builder, Community, Municipal Resources
- Track New Housing Investments
 - Infill Housing Tracker

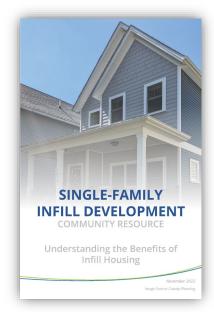
INCENTIVE















PLAN

DEVELOPER SURVEY

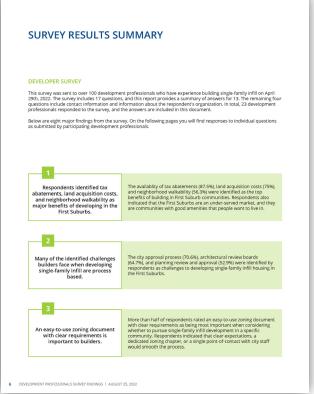
Goal of the Survey

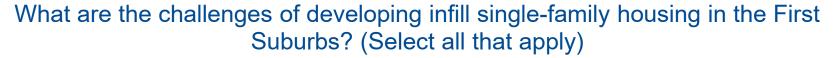
 Understand how builders see single-family infill in the First Suburbs

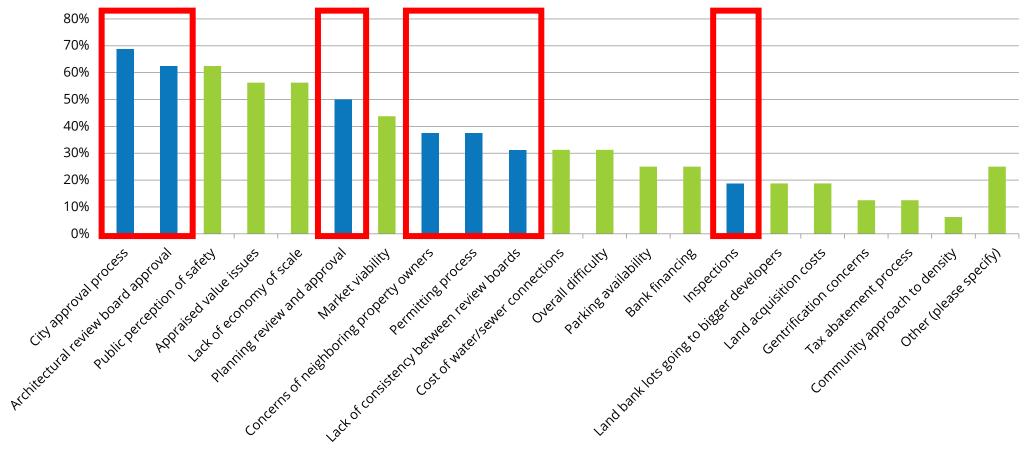
Overview of Responses

- Conducted in Spring, 2022
- Sent to more than 100 developers and builders
- 23 total respondents

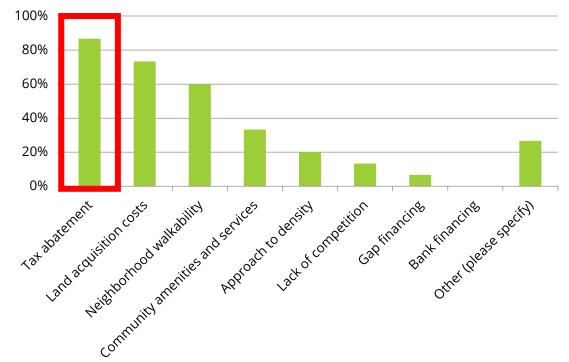




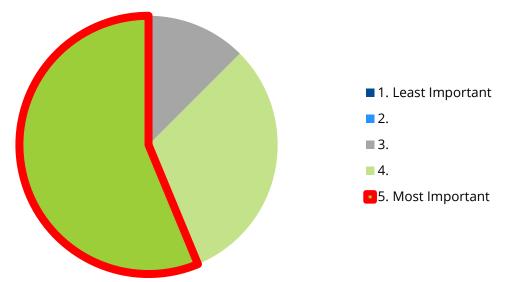




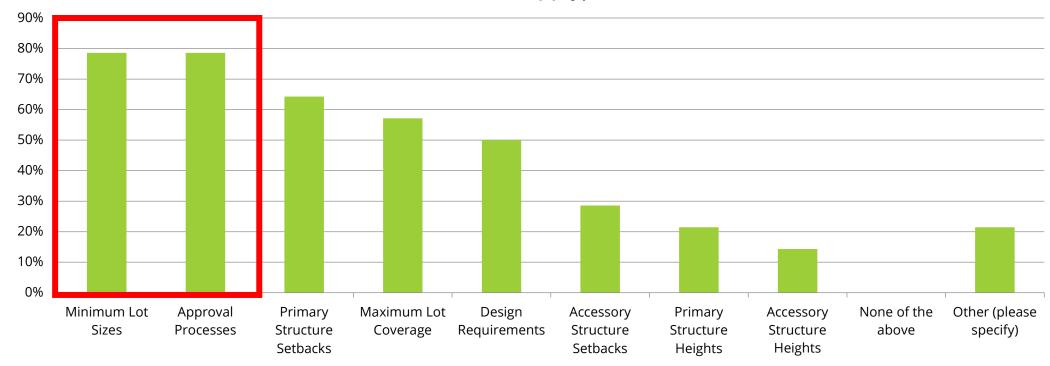
What are the benefits of developing infill single-family housing in the First Suburbs? (Select all that apply)



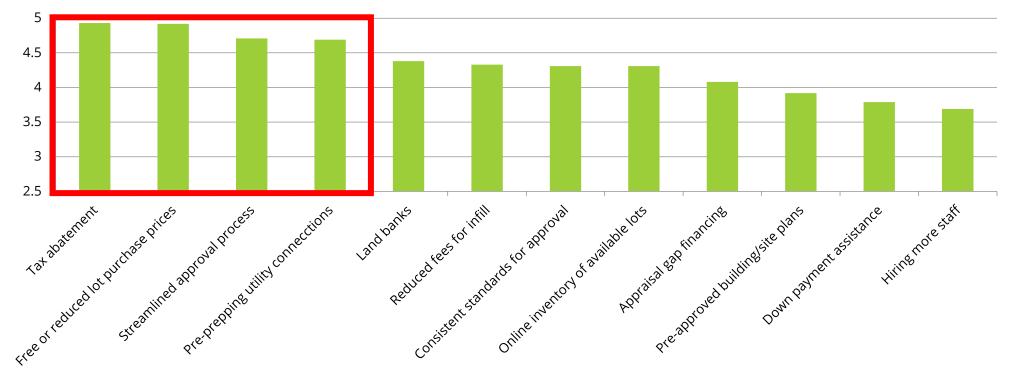
How important is an easy-to-use zoning document when considering whether to pursue new single-family infill housing development? Please select on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being least important, and 5 being most important



Which of the following zoning regulations are the biggest barriers to developing single-family infill housing in First Suburb communities? (Select all that apply)



From your perspective, which non-zoning related incentive programs are the most helpful in supporting infill single-family housing development in First Suburb communities? Please select on a scale of 1-5, with 1 being least helpful, and 5 being most helpf



PLAN

DEVELOPER SURVEY

Core Findings

- Tax abatements are a key incentive
- Many identified challenges are process-based
- An easy-to-use zoning document with clear requirements is important
- Minimum lot sizes and approval processes are biggest barriers

PLAN

CODE UPDATE OPTIONS

Goal of the Tool

Provide generalized approaches to updating zoning codes to facilitate infill development

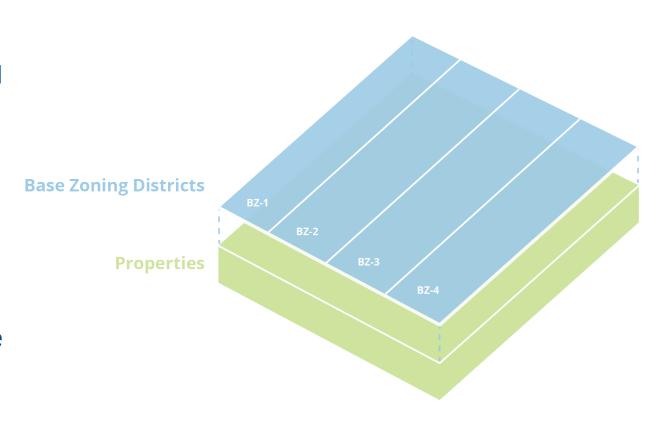
Overview of Document

- Finalizing document
- Zoning Approaches portion outlines ways of applying code updates
- Zoning Strategies portion covers overarching changes to streamline infill

CODE UPDATE OPTIONS

Changes to Base Zone Districts

- Update the permitted uses, lot standards, building dimensions, and other regulatory provisions of existing districts
- Benefits: Affects chosen districts without the need to add chapters, change boundaries, or update the zoning map
- Considerations: May lead to widespread changes throughout the zoning document, could be a more time-intensive undertaking

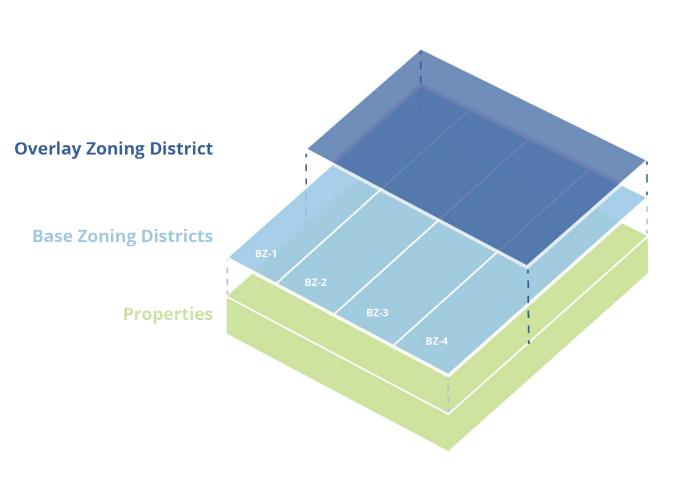


CODE UPDATE OPTIONS

Create an Overlay Zoning District

- Place an overlay district on top of the entire or a portion of the existing zoning district to supplement, modify, or replace the Overlay Zoning District underlying base zoning districts
- Benefits: Addresses the needs of a specific area without comprehensive re-writes; can be more flexible; may be more popular with current residents
- Considerations: Adds extra complexity to the interpretation and administration of regulations

Create a Floating District



CODE UPDATE OPTIONS

Reorganize and Simplify Zoning Code Structure and Language

Examples:

- Reduce redundancies and inconsistencies
- Transform from text-based to graphic- and table-based

Address Infill in the Purpose/Intent

Example: Include text saying that "allowing compatible infill" is a goal of the regulations

Broaden Permitted Use Regulations

Example: Allow ADUs, two-family, and three-family dwellings as permitted uses

Simplify Administrative Procedures

Examples:

- Allow administrative waivers for small deviations
- Create expedited review processes for 1-, 2-, 3-family residential infill applications

PLAN

CODE UPDATE OPTIONS

Adjust Dimensional Standards

Examples (from least to most intensive):

- Allow pre-existing lots to be exempt from lot width and size requirements
- Reduce overall area, width, and setback requirements to bring the majority of lots into compliance without sacrificing neighborhood character
- Allow infill to match setbacks, height, or lot coverages of surrounding properties

ONLINE ZONING TOOL

Goal of the Tool

- Visualize where non-conformities exist
- Test how changes in zoning requirements could reduce non-conformities
- · Reduce the number of variances needed for infill

Single-Family Zoning Tool

Parcel Locator

Select City (Required)

No category selected

Select Zoning District (Required)

Selection required

Select Land Use

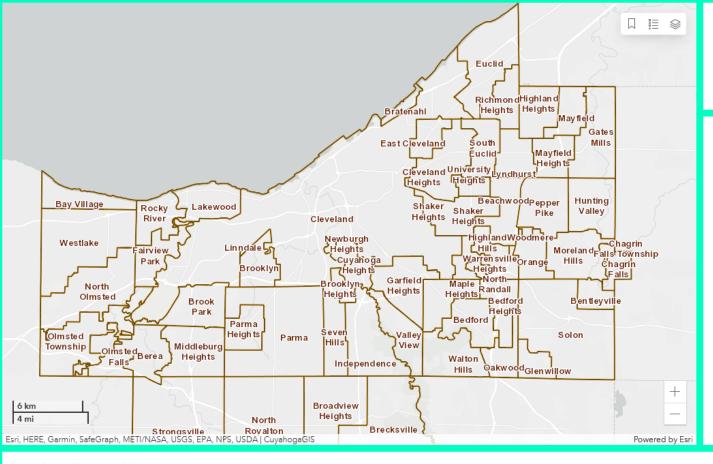
Selection required

Select Parcel Square Footage

Selection required

Select Parcel Frontage

Selection required



Total Parcels

Selection required on one or more elements

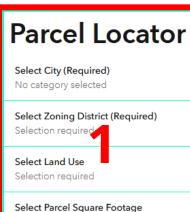
Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District

Selection required on one or more elements

Parcel Attribute Table

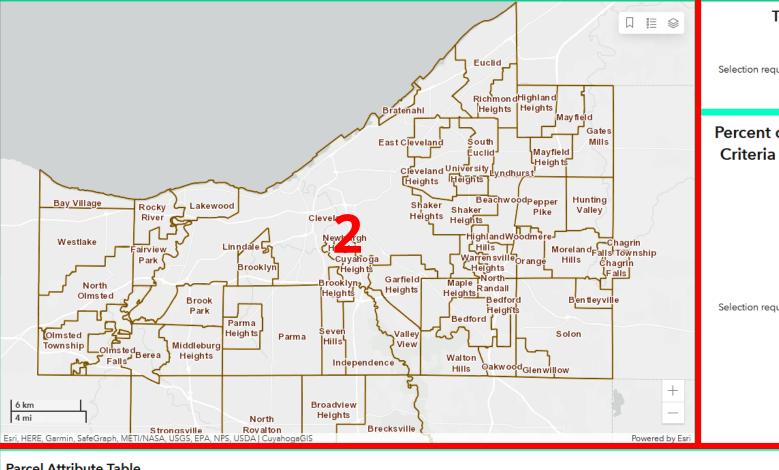
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Select Parcel Frontage Selection required

Selection required



Total Parcels

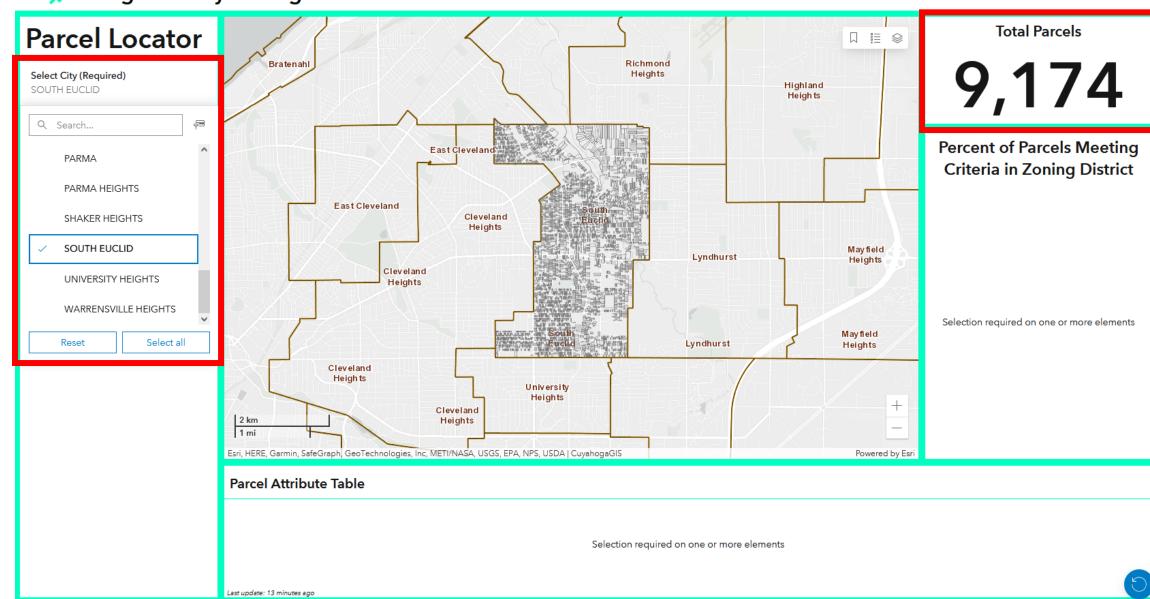
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Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District

Selection required on one or more elements

Parcel Attribute Table

Selection required on de or more elements





Select City (Required)
SOUTH EUCLID

Select Zoning District (Required)
SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

Q |\$earch...

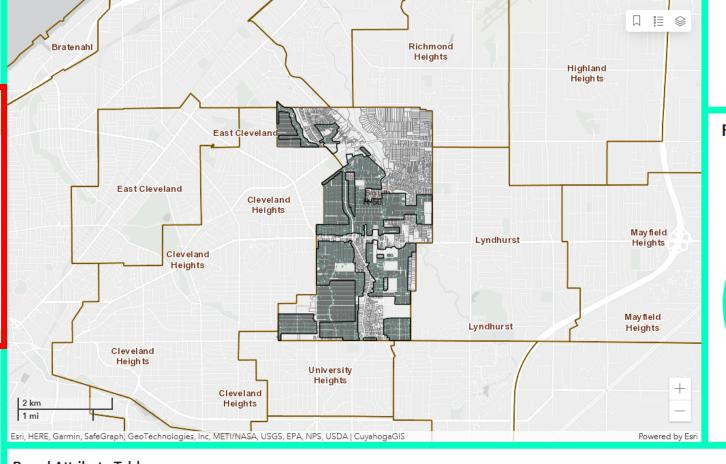
SOUTH EUCLID_R-40

✓ SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

SOUTH EUCLID_R-60

SOUTH EUCLID_R-75

Reset Select all



Total Parcels

4,742

Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District



Parcel Attribute Table

Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Bu
70208004	4246 PLYMOUTH DR, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	6650	0.153000		Υ		^
70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
Last update: 1 minute ago									\bigcirc

Parcel Locator

Select City (Required)
SOUTH EUCLID

Select Zoning District (Required)
SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

Select Land Use

No category selected

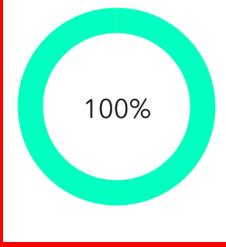
Select Parcel Square Footage 432 - 729,112

Select Parcel Frontage 3 - 864.6

Richmond Bratenahl Heights Highland Heights East Cleveland Cleveland Heights Mayfield Lyndhurst Heights Cleveland Heights Mayfield Lyndhurst Heights Cleveland Heigh ts University Heights Cleveland 2 km Heights Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc. METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA | CuyahogaGIS Powered by Esr **Total Parcels**

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Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District



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Parcel Locator

Select City (Required)
SOUTH EUCLID

Select Zoning District (Required)

SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

Select Land Use

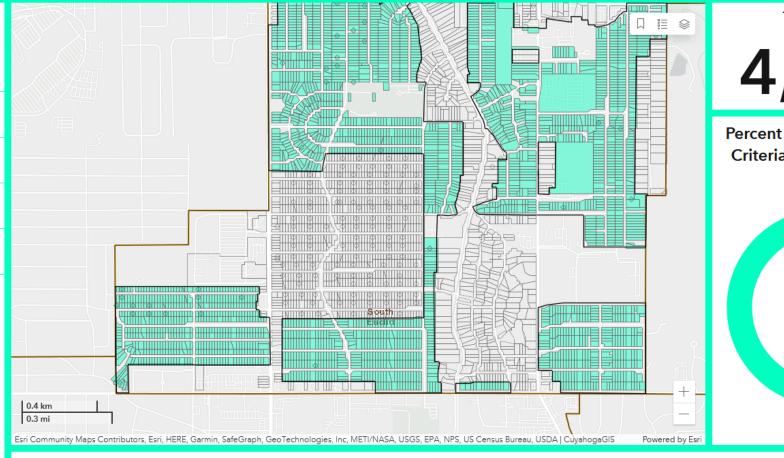
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Select Parcel Square Footage

432 - 729,112

Select Parcel Frontage

3 - 864.6



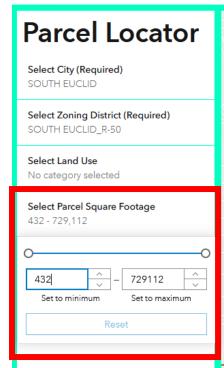
Total Parcels

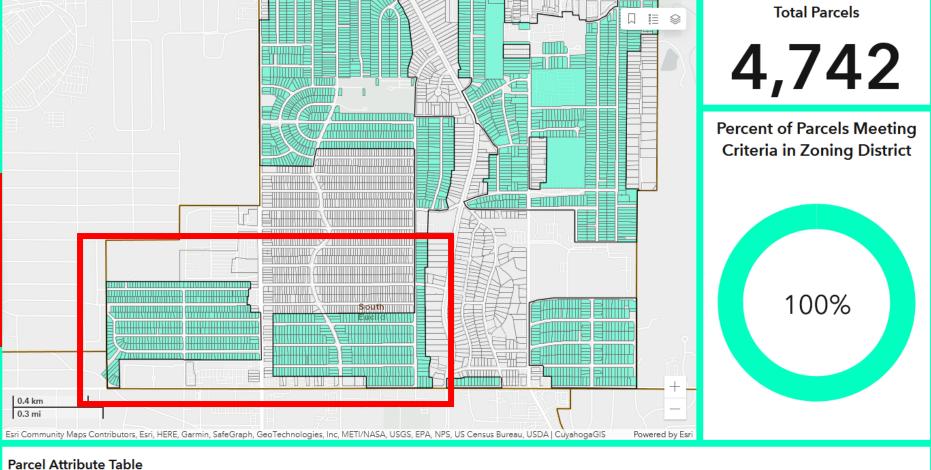
4,742

Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District

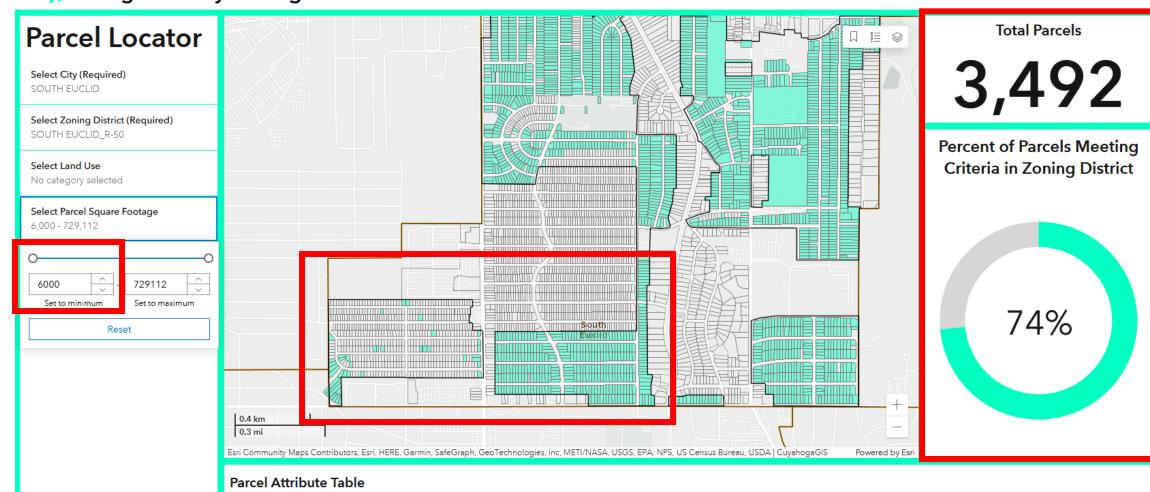


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70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
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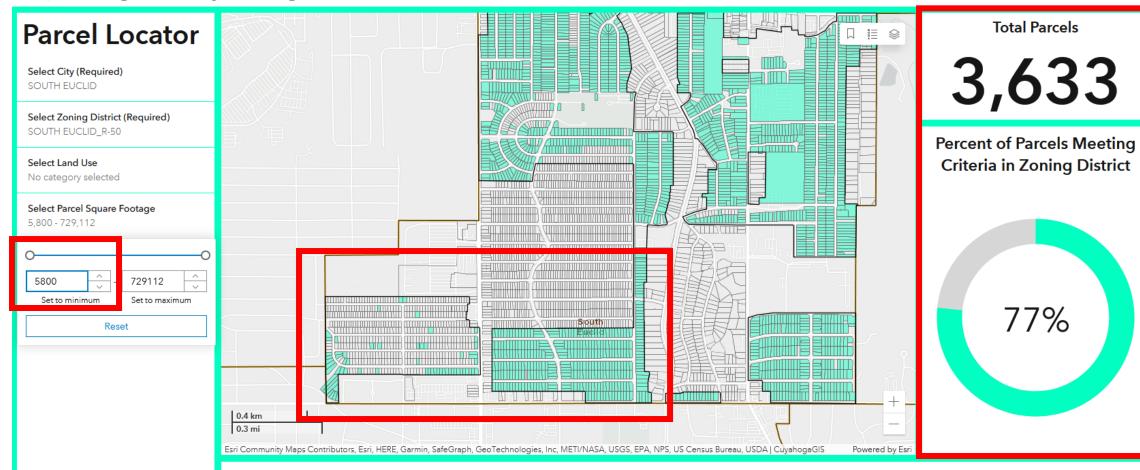




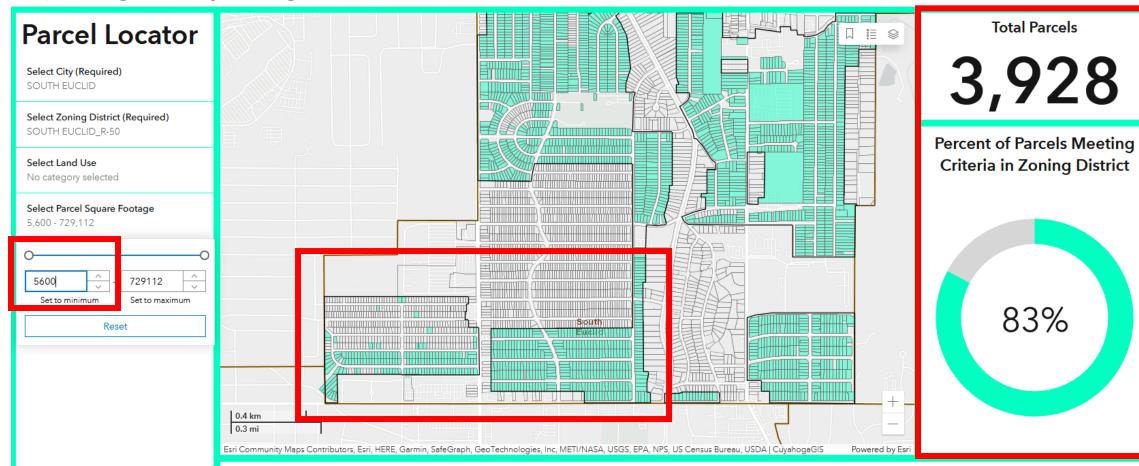
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70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
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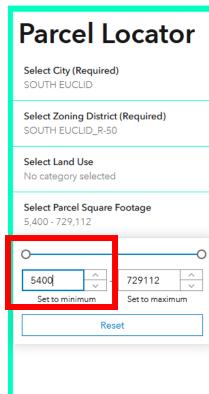
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70302020	1371 SHEFFIELD RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	52.000000	12066	0.277000		Υ		
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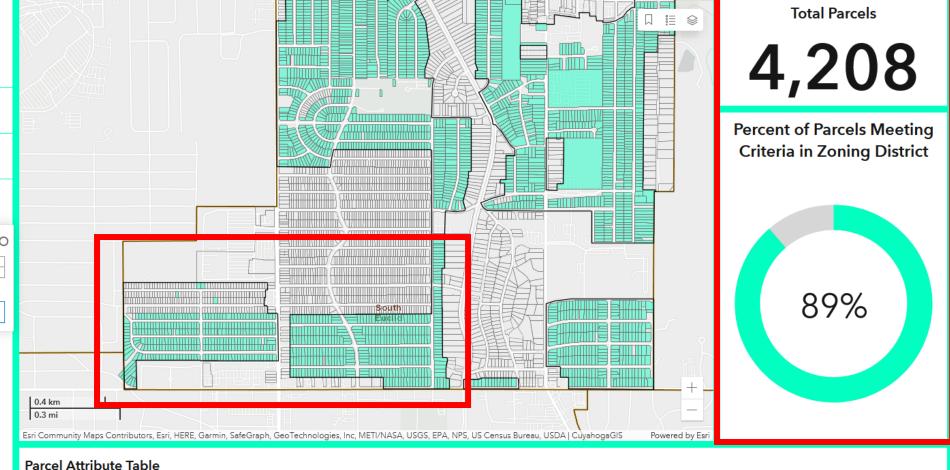


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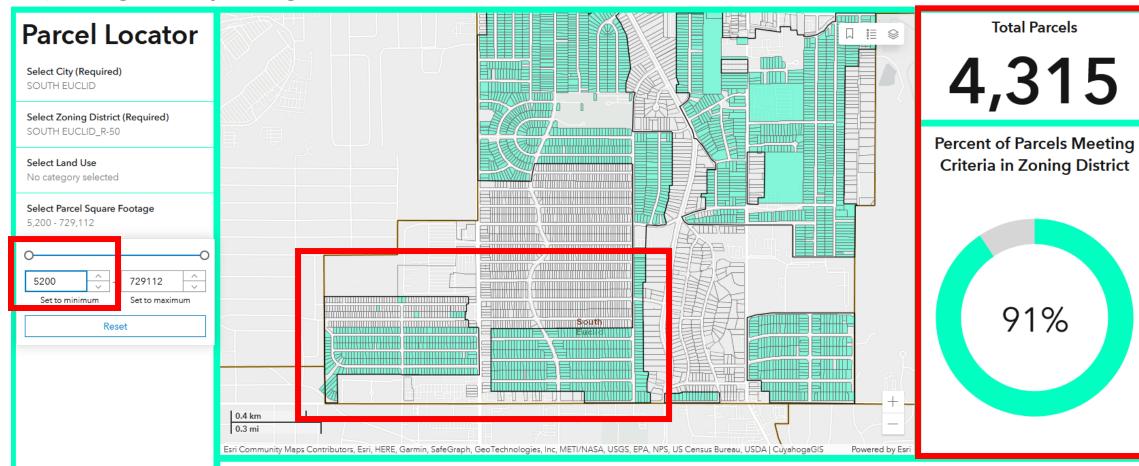


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70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
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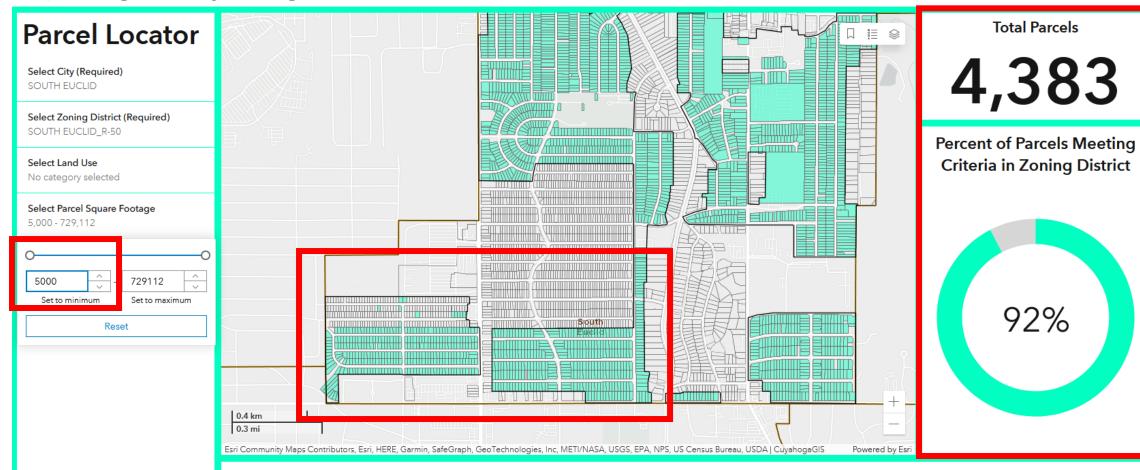




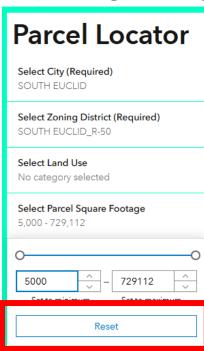
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Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Bu
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Parcel Locator

Select City (Required)
SOUTH EUCLID

Select Zoning District (Required)

SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

Select Land Use

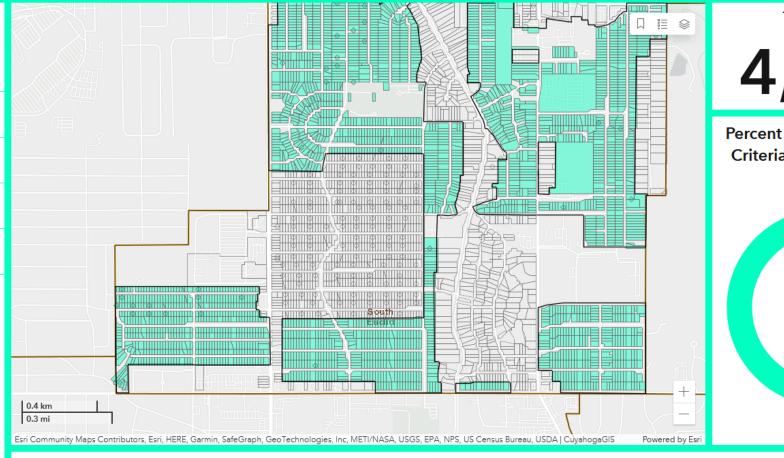
No category selected

Select Parcel Square Footage

432 - 729,112

Select Parcel Frontage

3 - 864.6



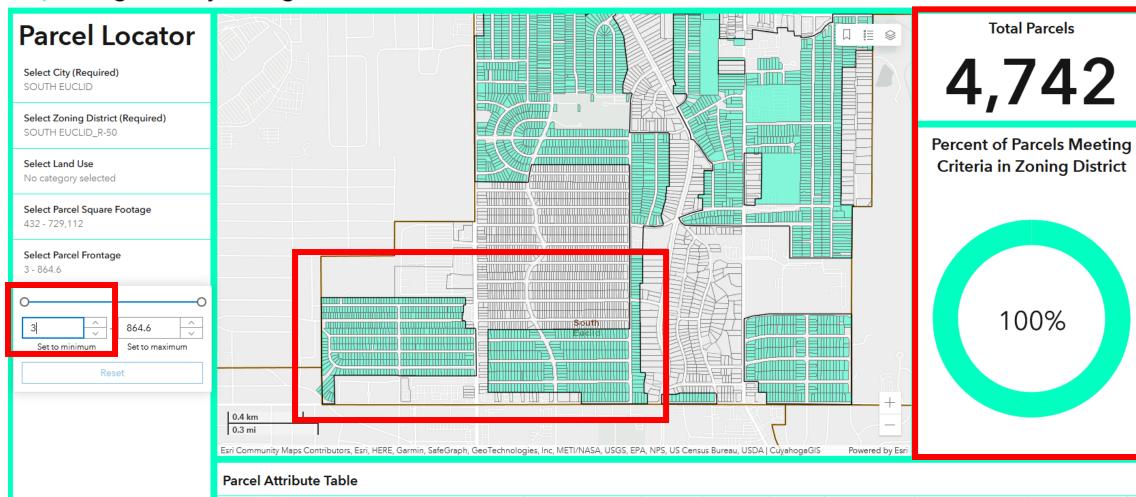
Total Parcels

4,742

Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District



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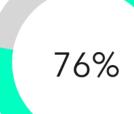


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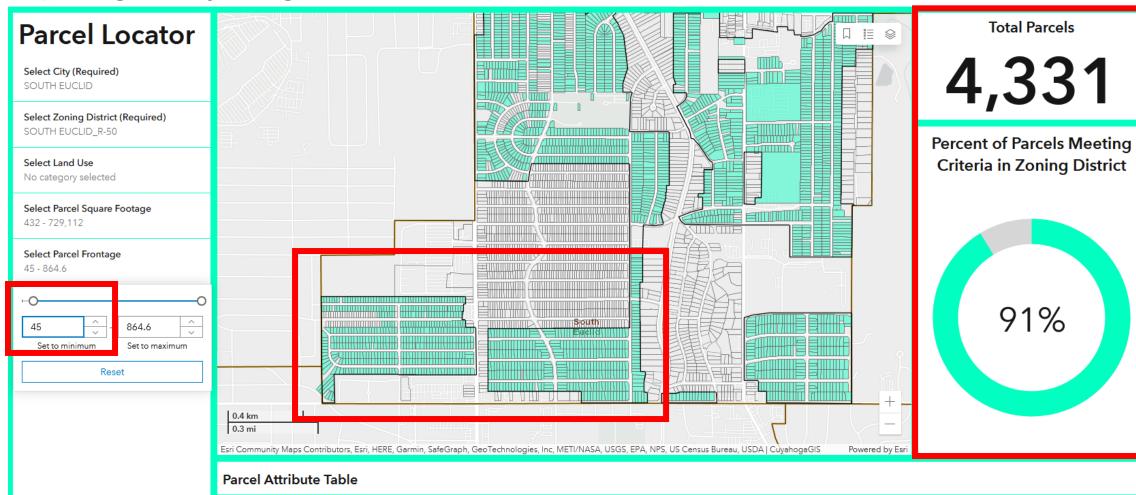
Total Parcels

3,590

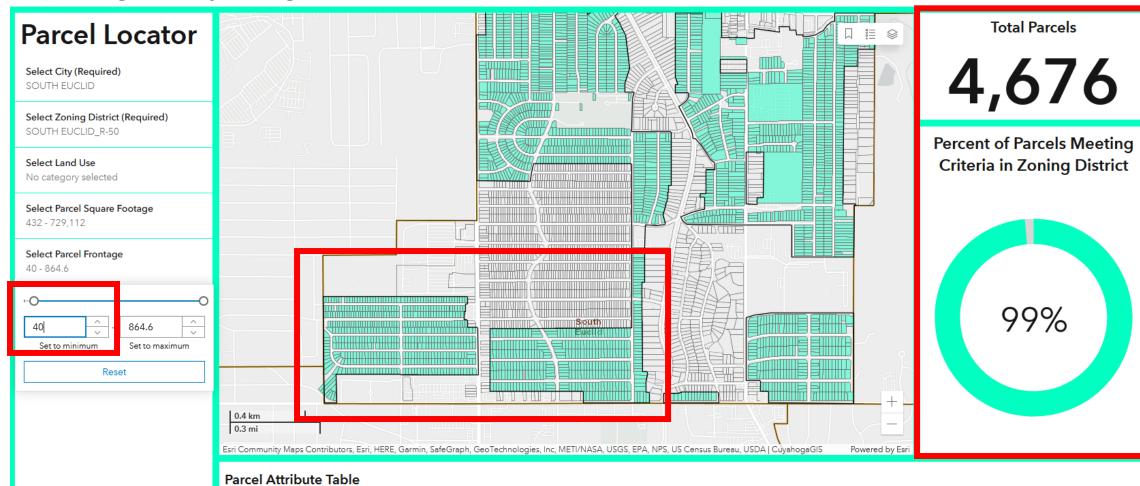
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Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Bu
70208004	4246 PLYMOUTH DR, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	6650	0.153000		Υ		^
70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
Last update: 21 se	eronds ago								\bigcirc



Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Bu
70208004	4246 PLYMOUTH DR, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	6650	0.153000		Υ		^
70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
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Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Ви
70208004	4246 PLYMOUTH DR, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	6650	0.153000		Υ		^
70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
(Leet undate: 1 se	ast undsta: 1 second ann								0

Parcel Locator

Select City (Required) **SOUTH EUCLID**

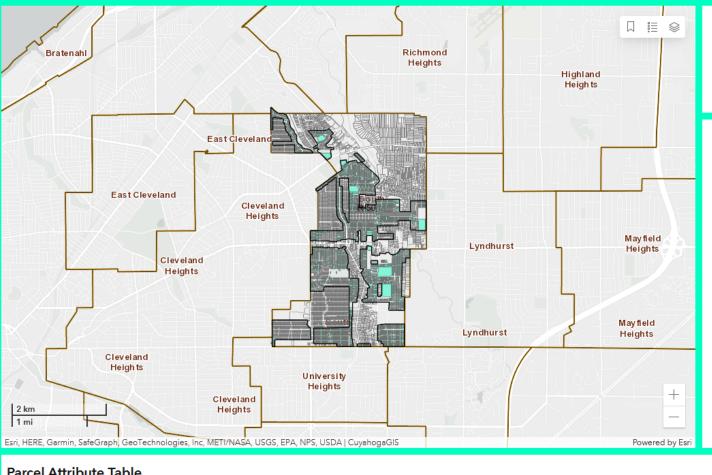
Select Zoning District (Required) SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

Select Land Use

No category selected

Select Parcel Square Footage 6,000 - 729,112

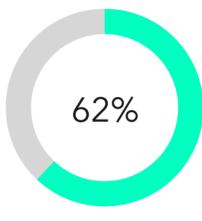
Select Parcel Frontage 50 - 864.6



Total Parcels

2,942

Percent of Parcels Meeting Criteria in Zoning District



Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Bu
70208004	4246 PLYMOUTH DR, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	6650	0.153000		Υ		^
70302020	1371 SHEFFIELD RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	52.000000	12066	0.277000		Υ		
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Parcel Locator

Select City (Required) **SOUTH EUCLID**

Select Zoning District (Required) SOUTH EUCLID_R-50

Select Land Use

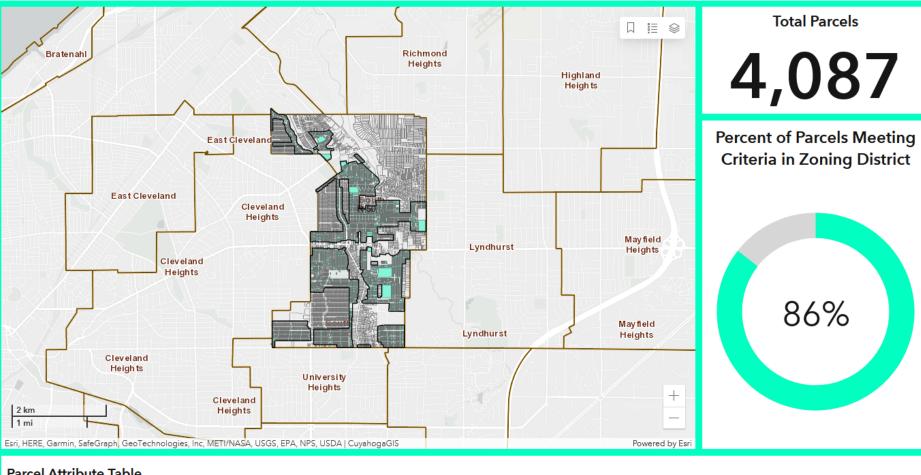
No category selected

Select Parcel Square Footage

5,100 - 729,112

Select Parcel Frontage

45 - 864.6



Parcel ID	Address	Land Use	Frontage	Square Foot	Acreage	Lot Size Violation	Lot Coverage Violation	Lot Width Violation	Bu
70208004	4246 PLYMOUTH DR, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44121	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	6650	0.153000		Υ		^
70423069	3832 WARRENDALE RD, SOUTH EUCLID, OH, 44118	1-FAMILY PLATTED LOT	50.000000	5700	0.131000		Υ		
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ONLINE ZONING TOOL

Using the Tool

- Tool is available to First Suburbs communities that are interested in updating their zoning
- Contact County Planning for a walk-through on other tool details



Goal of the Tool

Provide best practices for developing and administering design guidelines

Overview from Phase 1 and 2

- Some communities do not enforce or were unaware of design criteria in their zoning code
- Many communities have an ARB without design guidelines
- Developers listed ARB approval as #2 challenge

Why a Guidebook?

Section 1: Design Guidelines Overview

- Understanding Design Guidelines
- Informing Design Guidelines
- Administering Design Guidelines

Section 2: Design Guidelines Components

- Commonly Addressed Topics
- Helpful Features

Section 3: Case Studies

- City of Berea, OH Architectural & Site Design Standards
- City of Dublin, OH Historic Design Guidelines

Section 1: Design Guidelines OverviewUnderstanding Design Guidelines

More Certainty		More Flexibility
Standards	Tool	Guidelines
Mandatory	Application	Recommended
"Shall," "Must," "Will"	Language Used	"Should," "May," "Encouraged"
Prescriptive, Quantitative	Attributes	Descriptive, Qualitative
Objective	Decision-Making	Discretionary
Adoption by ordinance	Legislative Adoption	Does not require adoption
Codified into zoning code	Documentation	Published separately

Section 1: Design Guidelines Overview

Informing Design Guidelines



Administering Design Guidelines

Administrative Review	Discretionary Review
 Reviewed by staff or designated administrator 	 Reviewed by an appointed board of volunteers
Streamlined approach	 Group-consensus approach
Takes place alongside zoning review	 Takes place separately zoning review
Communication with applicants is ongoing	Communication with applicants is limited

DESIGN

DESIGN GUIDELINES GUIDEBOOK

Section 2: Design Guidelines Components

Commonly addressed topics

	Site Design		Building Design					
Building Placement	Garages & Parking	Additional Site Features	Architectural Elements	Roofs	Massing & Scale	Facades		
Building OrientationBuilding SpacingBuilding Setbacks	 Front Loading Garages Detached Garages Side Loading Garages 	Trees & LandscapingPaths & HardscapeOpen Space	Architectural StylesDecorative ElementsPorches	 Rooflines & Eaves Pitch Angle Roof Materials & Form 	Massing & Scale Considerations	Siding & Exterior MaterialsFenestration		

Category: Topic → 2.7 BUILDING DESIGN: FACADES

Graphic Illustration -

Key Considerations

Subtopic

Subtopic Description

Example Text ----

- · What materials are the facades of other buildings on the street?
- · How should corner lots be addressed?

1 SIDING/EXTERIOR MATERIALS

One of the most common facade components that design guidelines typically address is the materials of the building exterior. This can have a significant effect, not only on the aesthetics of a building itself and within the context of the neighborhood, but also on its durability, lifespan, and the affordability of the home itself. Design guidelines can recommend specific siding materials or colors for the main facade and accents, as well as either encourage or discourage continuity with what is already built on the block or in the neighborhood.

Example Text "Avoid blank facades and monotony of materials, as well as large surfaces of glass. Recommended materials include: smooth, natural, or cast stone; vertical, horizontal, or shingle style siding, and modular brick."

"Simulated finishes (e.g. artificial stone using pressed concrete, or vinyl siding simulating wood siding) shall be of a high quality that successfully mimics the natural material."

"Materials used should reflect the context of the neighborhood. If new materials are used that are not already in use in the existing neighborhood context, they should make up less than 30% of the overall facade design."

"Materials that have a proven durability for the Northeast Ohio climate should be used."

"Buildings on corner lots should extend facade details and features, finishing materials, and windows to the side facade that faces the flanking street."



Especially in single-family homes, a prominent part of the facade is made up of fenestration, or windows and doors. Design guidelines can use fenestrations to address architectural and design details on the facade that can significantly enhance the scale and feel of a building. This can be done through recommending window orientation and the ratio of glass to solid material; unifying architectural elements, such as consistent patterns and windowsill lines; and stylistically appropriate design details, such as trimming and frames that can add relief and variation to exterior wall surfaces.

Example Text "All window and door openings should be proportional to the building facade and be related in design, operating type, proportions, and trim."

"Windows should be used as architectural elements that add relief to the facade and wall surface."

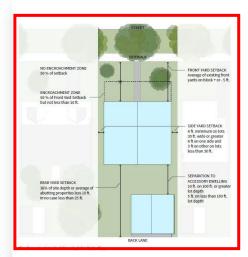
"Windows should be vertically oriented, in order to relate to the human form, unless horizontal windows are appropriate to the style of the home."

"Unifying architectural elements, such as a common sill or header line should be utilized."

"The window-to-wall ratios should be similar to other buildings in the neighborhood."

Section 2: Design Guidelines Components Helpful features

- Clear Language
- **Glossary or Explanation of Design Terms**
- **Bulleted Text, Tables, & Checklists**
- **Visual Representations**
- Map
- **Defined Intended Audience**
- **Vision Statement and Objectives**
- **Background and History**
- **Connection to Plans & Regulation**



- . The minimum rear yard setback of the principal building shall be 36% of site depth or the average rear yard setback of abutting properties less 10 feet (3.05 metres) whichever is less. In no case shall the
- Where there is an attached garage, the rear yard will be

- 1. Lots that are 30 feet wide or greater shall have a minimum side yard setback of 4 feet (1.2 metres) or each side of the huilding
- Lots less than 30 feet wide shall have a minimum sid yard setback of 4 feet (1.2 metres) on one side and may have a minimum side yard setback of 3 feet (0.9 metres) on the other side. In instances where a prop erty is subdivided and two new dwellings are built another between each of the new dwellings. 3. In all cases, at least one side vard setback should be



access will be required to be taken from the lane and no existing vehicle access from the roadway shall be (including detached garages) shall be 440 square f permitted to continue. Any existing front approach

> Where a property does not abut a lane, the drivewa access should not have a negative impact on matur trees within the public right-of-way, and its design

> should minimize conflict between vehicles and

square feet (343 74 square metres) In area The maximum lot coverage for accessory stri metres), to a maximum of 880 square feet (81.8 square

The maximum lot coverage for accessory struc

shall be 30%.

- attached garages for lots less than 3,700 square for (343.74 square metres) in area shall be 30% for the p for the attached garage. The maximum lot cover for principal buildings with attached garages for
- 5. On a lot with a public lane, all living space above attached garage will be counted as part of the lot are
- 6. Unenclosed porches and decks do not o

Where front access driveways are permitted, the design should minimize driveway flares.

block but in no case exceed 10 feet (3.05 metres) for a single-car garage or 20 feet (6.1 metres) for a two-car garage or greater. Reducing the width of driveways allows for more on-street parking, more area for landscaped front vards and minimizes conflict with

LOCAL EXPERIENCES

Matt Madzy

Director of Planning, Engineering & Development, Berea



Goal of the Tool

 Provide a summary of policies and programs that can incentivize single-family infill development

Key Takeaways from Phase 1 and 2

- Most First Suburb Communities offer incentives for infill single-family housing, with most using CRA abatements
- Many identified challenges are process based



Financial	Incentives	Process Incentives					
Buyer Attraction	Cost Reduction	Site Identification and Assemblage	Development Process Simplification	Pre-Development Incentives			
BA1: Tax abatement programs BA2: Down payment assistance	CR1: Fee waivers or deferrals CR2: Infill loans and grants	SI1: Priority infill areas SI2: Vacant land inventory	PS1: Expedited development review PS2: Infill development guide PS3: Infill project review team PS4: Administrative waivers	PD1: Pre-application meetings PD2: Pre-inspection/connection of utilities PD3: Pre-approved building designs			

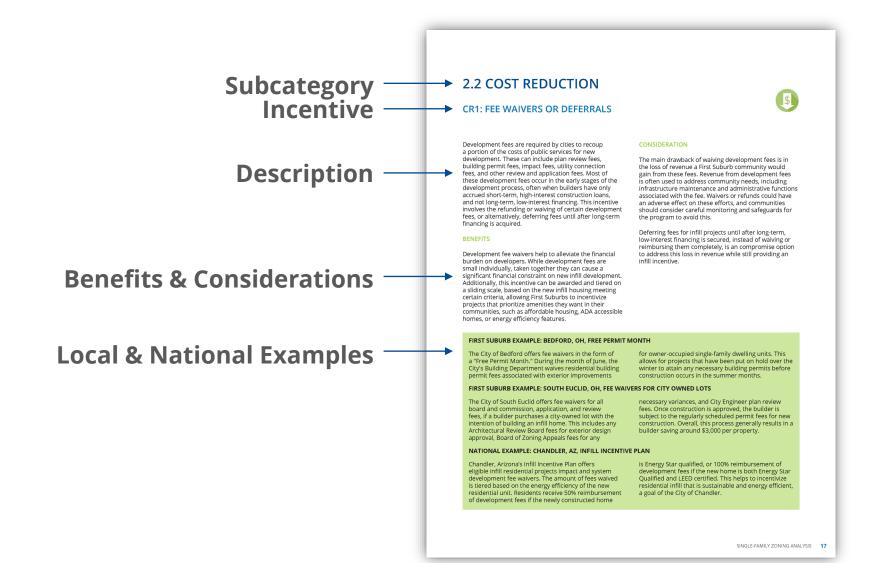












Key Takeaways

- Multiple First Suburb Communities are utilizing incentives, both CRA and others
- Other incentives are available that can reduce barriers at various stages of the development process
- Many incentives are flexible and can be adjusted based on community context



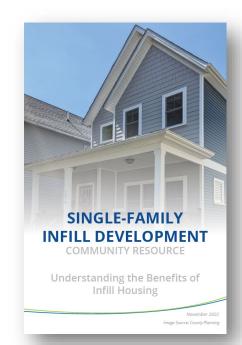


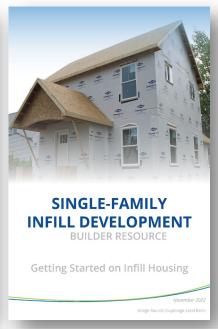
Goal of the Tool

- Establish a better understanding of single-family infill development
- Provide an overview of best practices and commonly asked questions
- Improve communication between municipalities and their constituents

Audiences

 Community members, builders, and municipalities







COMMUNITY BENEFITS OF INFILL

Expansion of residential infill development is an important element in neighborhood reinvestment, allowing communities to address housing demand while maintaining neighborhood character and affordability. Benefits of residential infill development include:



ENHANCING THE HOUSING STOCK

There is an opportunity to develop new housing that accommodates smaller households or intergenerational families, and incorporates marketable elements such as modern floor plans, accessible features, and a variety of price points.



IMPROVING PROPERTY VALUES

Residential infill development attracts investment, thereby marginally increasing adjacent property values, which is important for neighborhoods that have experienced prolonged disinvestment.



LOWERING COST OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Through residential infill development, vacant lots become occupied, further contributing to the tax base and spreading the cost of public services. The additional tax money helps support and maintain transit, sidewalks, utilities, schools, and public safety.



STRENGTHENING NEIGHBORHOODS

Residential infill development eliminates vacant lots and adds new homes to existing neighborhoods—meaning more residents to maintain properties and more appealing and safer streets in vibrant and resilient neighborhoods.

ADDRESSING COMMON QUESTIONS

Since residential infill development takes place in established neighborhoods, community members often have questions. Below are some common questions and general guidance. Contact your local municipality to learn about specific regulations and approaches to residential infill development.

1. How will infill housing near me affect my property?

The impact of infill housing on nearby properties varies depending on the location, the scale of housing investment, the housing market, and a city's regulations. However, typically a marginal increase in property value can be expected. Small-scale infill housing tends to have a more incremental impact.

2.Is infill housing denser or larger than existing homes?

New infill housing can be developed at different scales, which could include single-family homes, town homes, or multi-family homes, depending on what is compatible with adjacent properties. Additionally, a city's regulations can help ensure the new housing is adequately spaced from surrounding homes and located reasonably from the street.

3. Will my neighborhood become overcrowded?

Many neighborhoods often have residential populations well below what they were designed for, as indicated by vacant lots where homes previously stood. These lots are generally smaller and are often redeveloped with single-family infill homes, which helps restore a neighborhood's population size incrementally.

4. Will the character of my neighborhood be changed?

To ensure new housing fits with adjacent properties, municipalities can adopt design guidelines that outline desired or required elements for infill development. Additionally, they can provide pre-approved designs.

5. Will new housing cause flooding or disturb street trees?

Cities will often require supporting information that demonstrate the new infill home will not have unintended consequences such as flooding or disturbances to surrounding landscaping such as street trees.

6. How can disturbances from construction be minimized?

Cities can have regulations and best practices to minimize potential disturbances from infill construction. Some possible interventions include outlining allowable hours of operation to address noise concerns and requiring screening to keep construction from obstructing the sidewalk and to contain debris.

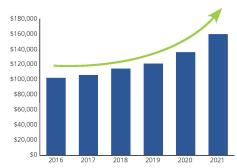
SINGLE-FAMILY INFILL OVERVIEW

Residential infill development is new construction of housing on vacant lots within established neighborhoods, often where homes have been demolished. Residential infill ranges from individual homes and attached homes to large-scale development including multi-family complexes. Singlefamily infill refers to a single home built on a single lot. Infill projects are common in the First Suburbs, as they are typically built-out with only smaller, scattered vacant lots available.

HOUSING DEMAND IN THE FIRST SUBURBS

There is a growing demand for housing in the First Suburbs as families and individuals are seeking smaller homes in walkable neighborhoods. This has led to a significant improvement in the housing market among First Suburbs, as indicated by the increase in the average number of single-family home sales and in median sale price. In 2021, there was an average of 411 homes sold among First Suburbs, representing a 23% increase from 2016, while the median sale price increased to \$159,757, a 56% increase during the same time frame. Although 2021 represents a more volatile housing market due to the Covid-19 pandemic and more modest increases are expected in the future, these improvements point to the growing potential for new infill housing in the First Suburbs.

56% increase in median single-family home sale price in the First Suburbs



Median Single-Family Home Sale Price, 2016 to 2021
Data Source: Northeast Ohio Metropolitan Data Resource

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Outlined below is a general development process with a focus on the typical components of a development review & approval process. Specific timelines and requirements vary across communities. It is important to be aware of a municipality's policies and to review a municipality's zoning code as it dictates what, where, and how something can be built.



Typical Components of a Development Review & Approval Process

- Purpose: Applicants obtain the necessary permits, certificates, and approvals to begin construction
- Submission Requirements: This often includes an application, plans (i.e., general, site, architectural, grading, landscaping etc.), survey, supporting studies, proof of financing, and payment.
- Planning Review: City administrative staff review applications and supporting documents for completion and to ensure compliance with the zoning code and other regulations. Planning Commission can also be involved.
- Zoning Appeals & Variances: An applicant may appeal a
 decision or apply for a variance to allow some deviation
 from the zoning rules. Variances often require a public
 hearing and additional approvals. Variances are common
 for infill projects, as infill lots are often smaller than
 required and oddly shaped.
- Architecture Review: A designated board reviews the external design of the proposed development, based on established design guidelines, general guidance from the code, or city architect. Communication with a city, board members, and community is key, as the board is often given broad discretion. This review is sometimes reserved for larger projects but can include single-family infill.

3 Development Review & Approval

4 Construction & Inspection



Image Source: Cuyahoga Land Bank, Maple Heights, Ohio

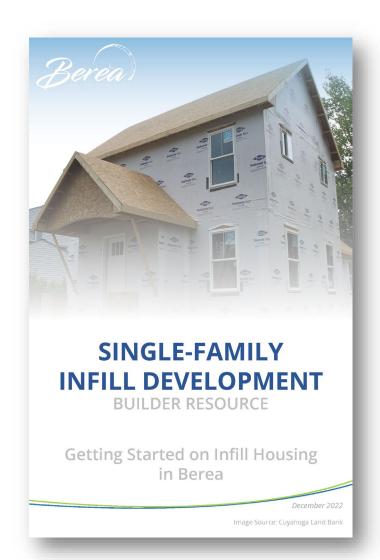
Customization

 Simple customizations are available for Community and Builder Resources

Customizations include:

 Municipal logo, website links, and department descriptions

Additional customizations are available for a fee. Contact County Planning if you are interested.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

This resource was prepared for the City of Berea and is made possible by the Northeast Ohio First Suburbs Consortium in partnership with the Cuyahoga Land Bank and First Federal Lakewood and is designed by the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission.

The City of Berea

www.citvofherea.org

For the most up-to-date information related to residential infill development in Berea—including permit information, zoning, and building codes—visit the City of Brea's Building Department webpage: www.cityofberea.org/149/Building

Northeast Ohio First Suburb Consortium

www.firstsuburbs.org/

The first government-led advocacy organization in the country working to revitalize mature developed communities, and raise public and political awareness of the problems and inequities associated with urban sprawl and urban disinvestment

Cuyahoga Land Bank

www.cuvahogalandbank.o

A non-profit government-purposed entity tasked with acquiring blighted properties and returning them to productive use to increase property values, support community goals, and improve the quality of life for Cuyahoga County residents

Single-Family Zoning Analysis

www.countyplanning.us/singlefamily

The Single-Family Zoning Analysis, completed by the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, aims to identify issues within zoning and outline best practices for making constructing desired infill housing more practicable











TRACK

TRACKING INFILL HOUSING

Goal of the Tracker

 Provide annual updates for new infill housing construction in the first suburbs to determine whether zoning changes increases infill housing

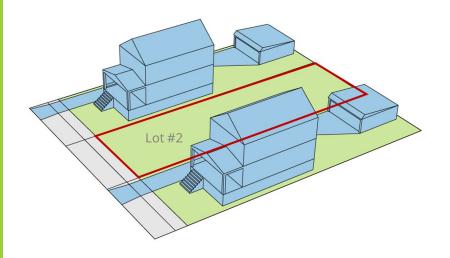
Overview of Tracker

- Finalizing tool
- Determining best way of tracking infill housing: Citizen Serve, building permit reports, occupancy permit reports, others

Next Steps

- Finalizing Code Update Options
- Setting up Tracking System
- Sharing Documents
- Available for Questions/Customizations

FIVE TASKS



- Plan and Zone for Infill Housing
 - Development Professionals Survey
 - Code Update Options Overview
 - ✓ Online Zoning Tool
- Design Housing to Meet Your Goals
 - ✓ Design Guidelines Guidebook
- Incentivize the Housing You Want
 - ✓ Infill Incentives Options
- Educate Builders and the Community
 - ✓ Builder, Community, Municipal Resources
- Track New Housing Investments
 - Infill Housing Tracker









Thank You!