Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook

Partnering for TOD

Cuyahoga County TOD Summit June 11, 2025

Agenda

INTRODUCTIONS

PURPOSE STATEMENT & BRIEF BACKGROUND

DEVELOPER & DESIGN PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE

ZONING

COLLABORATION & TACKLING ISSUES HEAD-ON

WEATHER THE STORM & POST-SCRIPT

KEY TAKEAWAYS & CLOSING REMARKS

Q&A

Introductions



Eric Zamft, AICP

Director of Planning, Neighborhoods & Development





Karen Knittel

Assistant Director of Planning





Alex Pesta, AIA, AICP, LEED AP

Big City





Nancy Lyon-Stadler, PE, PTOE

Transportation Planning Section Leader



QUESTION: When did Cleveland Heights reach its peak population?



a. 1950s

b. 1960s

c. 1980s

d. 2020s

QUESTION: When did Cleveland Heights reach its peak population?



a. 1950s

b. 1960s

c. 1980s d. 2020s

1960 61,813 60,767 1970 1980 56,438 54,052 1990 49,958 2000 2010 46,238 2020 45,312 2024 Est. 44,064

Year

1950

Population

59,141

Purpose Statement

An example of how the Public Sector and Private Sector can trust each other to work collaboratively to achieve (transit-oriented) development

Brief Background on the Site and the Project



Cedar site – 1.62 acres

- *Lee site 2.11 acres*
- Meadowbrook site 1.07 acres
- TOTAL 4.80 acres
- Total "Buildable" Area ~3 acres (Total minus the garage and access)

History of the Redevelopment Area

- 1930's-1950's Meadowbrook site housed two (2) gas stations
- 1950's-1960's, the northernmost gas station was replaced with the Ohio Savings Bank building and parking
- 2005 City received \$400,000 grant award from US EPA for Brownfields remediation; building and parking removed
- Fall 2006 Remediation completed
- October 2007 A NFA (no further action) letter was provided from the Ohio Department of Commerce
- 2007 Cedar-Lee Garage built
- 2013-2015 Over \$3 million in streetscape improvements along Lee Road, including Innovative Stormwater Demonstration project







2004 Rezoning

Ordinance No. 100-2004(PD) was adopted in 2004 that established the C2-X Multiple Use District

WHEREAS, it would be in the City's best interest to amend Part Eleven, Zoning Code, of the City's Codified Ordinances to establish a new Commercial Zoning District to be known as a C2X Multiple Use District which would permit greater density mixed uses in certain commercial areas of the City in which customers are drawn both from Cleveland Heights and a regional area outside of the City, and which districts are serviced by a system of public parking facilities.

Planning Foundations



2011 Strategic Development Plan

Goal One: Increase Tax Base

Develop City-owned 1-acre property and create \$12 million in property improvements with 40 to 90 dwellings above 15,000 square feet of commercial space. Estimated income tax of \$140,000 annually is created.



Planning Foundations

2017 City Master Plan

Strong Business Districts Goal D: Develop Vacant and Underutilized Parcels

Filling parcels with new development can contribute to positive momentum and expand the City's tax base.

The Future Land Use Map shows the Redevelopment Area as mixed-use

Redevelopment Starts and Stops – 2006-2019



- Many attempts before 2006
- 2006 RFP
- Cedar Lee Garage built in response to this effort in 2007
- The Great Recession prevented the project from moving forward at that time
- 2011 Request for Development Proposal (RFDP)
- Utility Issues
- 2013 RFP
- No responses
- 2018 RFQ/RFP
- Site area too limited; suggestion to expand
- 2019 RFQ/RFP
- Couldn't finalize agreement

2020: Finally Things Get Moving

- 10/22/2020 City issues RFQ/RFP
- 12/30/2020 Two (2) responses received 1) Flaherty & Collins; 2) City Six & M. Panzica Development
- 2/8/2021 Flaherty & Collins/Panzica presentations to Council
- Council approves start of negotiations on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Flaherty & Collins
- 6/29/2021 Council approves MOU with Flaherty & Collins
- 7/13/2021 MOU signed

By approving the MOU, Council charged City staff, stakeholders, and the community with partnering with Flaherty & Collins on the redevelopment of all

three (3) sites



Developer & Design Professional Perspective



| | : | | - | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---------|--|
| Engagement Strategy | Purpose | Representative | Contrib | |
| | | Organizations | | |
| | Leveraging Existing Allies | Cedar Lee SID | | |
| etablished Support | A number of local organizations with influence and captial have documented their support for this project | City of Cleveland Heights | | |
| Established Support | Capital nave documented their support for this project Can this support be leveraged to garner the local | FutureHeights | | |
| | politcal support required to advance the project? | CHUH School District | | |
| | bourden patholes and an end and and the biologes. | CHUH Library System | | |
| | | Cleveland Heights Business Community / Small Business (| Owners | |
| | Critical Support | Councilpersons | | |
| Government Obtain drive ti | Obtaining the support of councilmembers in order to | All Council Members | 1 | |
| | drive the positive messaging associated with the | Philodulei Melibers | 1 | |
| | project | City of Cleveland Heights | | |
| | 1. den | Administration | | |
| | | Planning Commission / Design Review Board | | |
| | | | | |
| | | Cain Park Neighborhood | | |
| | | Single Family Homes | - | |
| nmediately Adjacent Residents | | Cedar Lee Neighborhood | | |
| | | East of Lee | 1 | |
| | | West of Lee | | |
| | | North | | |
| | | South | | |
| | | 1 | | |
| | | GCRTA | | |
| | | Maribeth Feke (message related to TOD with bus stop) | 1 | |
| | | Business Community | 1 | |
| | | Rudy's Pub | | |
| | | Cedar Lee Theater | | |
| | | Wine-Spot (Adam and Susan Fleischer) | | |
| | | Doug Kata | | |
| | | Tommy Fello Tay Co (Chris) | | |
| | | Boss Dog Brewery | | |
| | | CLE Urban Winery (Destiny) | | |
| | | Dawn and Alex Quintana | | |
| | Local and Citywide Organizations that Serve the Community & Have Influence | John Zagara Forest Hills church / religious leaders (John Lentz) | | |
| | | Toreschills charch Trenglous readers (John Lence) | | |
| ommunity Influencers | Understanding their position | Residents | | |
| oninianty initiations | How might this elevate, expand or positively impact | Catherine Osborn | | |
| | their current mission/work | Gayle Lewin | | |
| | Critical Allies to form that can amplify the correct messaging | Organizations | | |
| | messaging | Home Repair Resource Center (Housing Options) | | |
| | | Heights Bicycle Coalition | 1 | |
| | | Heights Tree Group | - | |
| | | Arts | | |
| | | Heights Arts | 1 | |
| | | Dobama Theater (Nathan Motta) | | |
| | | Youth Art Installation (mural wall) | _ | |
| | | | | |
| | | NOACA | | |
| | | Grace Galluci (Consistency with Vibrant NEO / long-range | | |
| | | regional planning that levearges exist. Infrastructure) | | |
| | | | 1 | |
| | | Itent | | |
| | | Local Heights Observer | | |
| | | Cleveland.com | | |
| | | Olevelond.com | - | |
| | Telling the Real Story | Digital / Social | | |
| | When the timing is appropriate, engagement of both | Output to District | 1 | |
| | local and national media to help redefine the narrative & spread awareness about the project | Website | 1 | |
| | | Social Media Accounts (various) | | |

Developer & Design Professional Perspective



Understanding the Context



Developers making profit from dense infill transit-oriented development

Developers making a profit from sprawl

Translating "Engagement" into "Developer"



49 3+ YEARS OF PROCESS ESCALATION LOST RENT/REVENUE



8 MONTHS OF PROCESS 207 UNITS X \$1,800/MO. = \$372,600 / MO. = \$4.47M / YEAR X 2 YEARS= \$8.94M + 2 YEARS OF ESCALATION





 The Site is within the C2X Multiple-Use District

Zoning

- Most of Cedar-Lee is C2X
- To the east is A Single-Family
- To the west is B Two-Family
- Meadowbrook to the east is MF-2 Multiple Family

Intention is to utilize the existing C2X Zoning; No special district (overlay) is proposed

Zoning

Mixed-Use Development



Purpose of the C2-X District (Section 1131.01(c)

The C2-X Multiple-Use District is established to provide standards for the continued operation of mixed use neighborhoods and to provide for dense, mixed uses along main thoroughfares and to concentrate mixed-use buildings to promote and encourage pedestrian activity. Parking and driveways are generally located so as not to disrupt the pedestrian activity.

Zoning

<u>Uses (Sections 1131.02, .03, and .14(a)(b)(c)(d))</u>

| Use Type | Permitted | Conditionally Permitted | Not Permitted | Accessory |
|------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Free-standing Multiple-Family | | | | |
| Mixed-Use (MF and commercial) | | | THE A | |
| Live/Work | | | | |
| Single-Family | | | | |
| Two-Family | | | | |
| Townhouse | | | | |
| Office | | | | |
| Retail/Restaurant/Personal Service | | | | |
| Hotel | | | | |
| Automotive Use | | | | |
| Parking Lot/Parking Deck | | | | |
| Entertainment/Private Recreation | | | | |
| Light Industrial | | | | |
| Storage/Warehousing | | | | |
| Educational | | | | |
| Community Facilities | | | | |
| Certain Accessory Uses | | | | |

Zoning



Bulk and Lot Regulations (Sections 1131.04, .05, .06, .07, and .14)

- Minimum Development Area
- Minimum Land Area per Dwelling Unit
- Minimum Lot Width
- Minimum Lot Frontage
- Yards
- Height
- Specific Standards for the C2-X District





<u>Maximum Height</u> (Section 1131.14(g))

- Measured in feet
- Upper floors stepped back

- C2-X was the right district, but still presented challenges to the development
- Site(s) shapes complicated things
- Variances required
- Lesson learned: the C2-X should be tweaked = resulted in updated zoning that was developed as part of the Cain Park Village project in 2023

A - Sideyard Setback Distance

2X/ZONIS

Zoning: Outcomes

RESIDENTIAL

BEILIEI

- B Front Setback
- C Upper Floor Setback
- D Landscaping and Fencing

Collaborate to Tackle the Key Issues Head-On and Engage



- Identify key issues
- Don't be afraid to discuss them directly with the public – but be clear
- Hire professionals to assist

Understand who the 'client' is

Key Issues for CLM and How We Handled it

mi

<u>Key Issues</u> Parking, parking, parking

Traffic

Open space

How We Handled It - Collaboratively

- Schedule
- Engagement
- City hired Desman and WSP general district
- F&C hired Desman and WSP project specific

12:06

Agreed on a scope

Review was limited to each client

NEW AT NOON PARKING PROBLEMS PLAGUE BUSINESS DISTRICT 19 NEWS IS EVERYWHERE: CLEVELAND HEIGHTS

Vision: Strengthen the Cedar-Lee District and businesses city-wide, provide a greater range of residential opportunities, and enhance the desirability of the City of Cleveland Heights through inspired new mixed-use development.

Goal #1: Promote Cleveland Heights' rich legacy and progressive future

Goal #2: Support Cedar-Lee businesses, residents and visitors

Goal #3: Provide new housing options for Cleveland Heights

Goal #4: Create integrated, inclusive and connected public spaces

Goal #5: Capitalize on recent district investments

Develop a Schedule and Stick to It

Initial Community Meetings

- 1. Kick-Off Parking & Traffic Community Workshop #1 on existing conditions (completed 8/5, 6 PM at the Library)
- 2. Public Spaces and Connectivity Open House (completed 8/11, 6 PM, Atrium at City Hall)
- Planning & Development Committee of Council Meeting including Committee workshop on redevelopment of Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook (completed – 9/1, 6 PM in Council Chambers; Open House in Atrium at City Hall)
- 4. Transportation & Environmental Sustainability Committee (completed 12/1, 7 PM, Virtual)
- 5. Parking & Traffic Community Workshop #2 on recommendations (12/14, 6 PM at the Community Center)

Formal Review Process with Opportunities for Public Comment

- 6. Planning Commission Public Meeting #1 Preliminary Presentation (12/8, 7 PM, Virtual)
- 7. Architectural Board of Review (ABR) Public Meeting #1 Preliminary Presentation (12/21, 7 PM, Virtual)
- 8. Planning Commission Public Meeting #2 (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers or virtual)
- 9. Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) Public Meeting (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers or virtual)

10. ABR Public Meeting #2 (Date and Time TBD, Council Chambers or virtual)

Engage the (Business) Community



CEDAR-LEE AREA

MEET THE PLANNING DIRECTOR, Eric Zamft, from 6:15-7:15 PM on Wednesday, November 17th at the Vorell Lewin Household

OVERVIEW



Following a successful aftermoon "meet and greet" along Noble Road earlier this year, the City of Cleveland Heights Planning Director, Eric Zamft, will be holding "meet and greets" in the Cedar Lee District the week of November 15, 2021 whereby anyone from the public can meet the Planning Director, learn about the City's planning and zoning boards and commissions, and discuss general planning matters. Further, there is a proposal for new residential apartments and commercial spaces to be built on the <u>Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook</u> site. The Planning Department is committed to hearing as many suggestions 4 concerns regarding that proposal from neighbors as it can and will be hosted at the Vorei Lewin household on the 17th from 6:15-7:15 PM, in addition to other scheduled stops in the area.

SCHEDULE

- Monday, November 15 from 3:30-5:30 PM Lee Road Library, Room 'A'
- Tuesday, November 16 from 11 AM-1 PM Meadowbrook site (weather permitting)
 Tuesday, November 16 from 4-6 PM CLE Urban Winery (2180 Lee Road)
- Tuesday, November 16 from 4-6 PM CLE Orban Winery (2180 Lee Road)
 Wednesday, November 17 from 11 AM-1 PM Wine Spot (2271 Lee Road)
- Wednesday, November 17 from 11 AM-1 PM While Spot (227 Lee Ro.
 Wednesday, November 17 from 6:15-7:15 PM Vorell Lewin Household
- Thursday, November 18 from 3-7 PM Zagara's (1940 Lee Road)
- Friday, November 19 from 9-11 AM Meadowbrook site (weather permitting)

Please go the Planning Department's webpage for more information about the schedule: https://www.clevelandheights.com/183/Planning-Department.

To learn more about the Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook redevelopment project and leave a comment, please visit the project webpage: https://www.clevelandheights.com/clm



ents from residents; a comments section is provided at the

COMMUNITY NEWS

isior

Cleveland Heights Planning Director Eric Zamft, left, continued his "Meet & Greet" sessions this week on Cedar-Lee, this one Tuesday (Nov. 16), and the Meadowbrook site, where he spoke with Cedarbrook Road resident John Fleshin, right. Weather permitting, another "Meet the Planning Director" is set for Friday (Nov. 19) from 9 to 11 a.m. at Meadowbrook. Tom Jewell/ Special to cleveland.com

Cleveland Heights to introduce development

agreement for Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook site

Cuyahoga Recycles We're kicking off summer and planning for low-wate outdoor events. Provide reusable plates, utensils, cups for picnic guests. Serve Deverages in recyclable bottles and cans. Place well-marked receptacles so they know where and what to throw. Click for more ideas!



à

ctor" is ell/ LEARN MORE



Traffic: Existing Conditions Analysis



Traffic Recommendations: Site-Specific

Signalized driveway West of Wendy's to be removed. Crossing to be evaluated.

Bollards restricting access into neighborhood to remain

Full movement access to be provided for driveway on to Cedar

233

Full movement access to be provided for driveway on Tullamore

Cedar Lee Meadowbrook – Traffic Study

Traffic Recommendations: Off-Site

Remove signal at driveway that is being removed. Evaluate if ped crossing can be removed

Additional items

- Evaluate signal timings along corridor (ensure timing for pedestrians to cross)
- Install raised crosswalks

Modify loading zone parking. Increase enforcement.

> Evaluate replacing RRFB with PHB

Evaluate replacing RRFB with PHB

Evaluate speed limit sign locations (NB & SB) Evaluate replacing RRFB with PHB

Traffic Recommendations: Transit



Death, Taxes, and....Parking

Miss Manners: My neighbor's son died on Christmas. His car is still in my parked in my spot.

Published: Sep. 02, 2024, 3:00 a.m.



In today's Miss Manners column, advice columnist Judith Martin advises how to gently approach a grieving neighbor. You can send your questions to Miss Manners through her email, dearmissmanners@gmail.com.



VETCONNECT / VETERAN STAND... The Cuyahoga County Veterans Service...

Sign up now

Parking: Existing Conditions Analysis



- 23 Off-street facilities provide 1,410 parking spaces (including High School Lots)
 - 59% Public (City Controlled)
 - 27% Semi-Public (H.S. and Library Controlled)
 - o 14% Private
- 46 Metered on-street spaces
- Existing parking supply evenly distributed north to south, but mostly concentrated on east side of Lee Road.
- Parking demand typically peaks on Fridays and Saturdays between 5:00pm and 10:00pm
- DESMAN has Pre-COVID parking survey data for the area from 2019



Parking: Impact of the Proposed Development on Public Parking



PUBLIC PARKING SUPPLY REDUCTION:
572 Existing spaces
<u>164 Lot spaces eliminated</u>
408 Spaces to be retained
<u>225 Spaces reserved for project</u>
183 General public spaces retained



Parking Recommendations: On-Site

Physically segregate projectreserved spaces from general public spaces

ID and informational signage and interior light levels at the garage need to addressed. Optimize transient parker access during peak demand periods by limiting future the sale of garage parking permit to M-F daytime parkers.

Upgrade fee collection pay stations kiosks in garage stair tower lobby

Provide ADA spaces west side of garage along access drive



Parking Recommendations: Off-Site



Relax existing onstreet parking restrictions to along side streets on Friday and Saturday evenings.



Modify existing parking striping layout at selected existing City lots to gain spaces Work with School and Library for special event parking





Understanding the Context

· 4/4/22 ····

Will you vote YES for a PUBLIC PARK. No,we can't have draft horses put in an appearance at the PUBLIC PARK at Meadowbrook-Lee.We CAN have pet shows,petting zoo, maybe a friendly goat for kids to pet.Opportunities for fun, community and activities for children at the PUBLIC Park.





A MEETING ABOUT THE BALLOT INITIATIVE CREATING A PARK ON LEE ROAD AT THE CORNER OF MEADOWBROOK AND TULLAMORE WILL BE HELD AT THE

HEIGHTS MAIN LIBRARY ON LEE RD

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 9 FROM 7-8:30

TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND HAS BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK.

LOTS OF Q & A ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THIS PARK AND THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT.

SEE YOU THERE!

WILL THE FLAHERTY & COLLINS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT CLOSE

THE CEDAR-LEE THEATER?

An end of the second s



Understanding the Context

| (VOTE FOR 1) | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Scanners Upload | led: 26 of 26 (100%) | | | | |
| Vote-by-Mail Votes: Partially Reported | Early In-Person Votes: Partially Reported | | | | |
| Yes | | | | | |
| 2,358 | 27.17% | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| No | | | | | |
| 6,320 | 72.83% | | | | |

Weather the Storm & Post-Script

Voting 'yes' on a park referendum in Cleveland Heights could kill a \$50 million development and set a bad precedent for Northeast Ohio -Commentary

Updated: Apr. 30, 2022, 8:21 a.m. | Published: Apr. 29, 2022, 8:00 a.m.





Voting 'yes' on a park referendum in Cleveland Heights could kill a \$50 million development and set a bad precedent for Northeast Ohio -Commentary

0 ü D

By Steven Litt, cleveland.com

Cedar-Lee-Meadowbrook project to move forward after park issue defeated

JANE KAUFMAN

jkaufman@cjn.org Posted May 4, 2022 at 12: 17 PM Updated May 5, 2022 at 8: 58 AM



Rendering / City Architecture of Cleveland

Developer to rebuild after Cleveland Hts fire By Ken Prendergast / January 29, 2025



Looking west down Cedar Road from the front yard of Cleveland Heights High School, firefighters from 17 different communities joined forces Jan. 25 to quickly contain a rapidly spreading fire at the Marquee at Cedar Lee apartments. But it took 20 hours before the fire was completely extinguished (City of Cleveland Heights). CLICK IMAGES TO ENLARGE THEM.

Weather the Storm & Post-Script



Marquee at Cedar Lee apartments. But it took 20 hours before the fire was completely extinguished (City of Cleveland Heights). CLICK IMAGES TO ENLARGE THEM.

Key Takeaways & Closing Remarks

- Collaborate
- Set up regular meetings
- Don't be afraid to discuss key issues
- Share resources
- Find local champions









Questions?

(We may not have the answers, but we'll try)