

JACKSON WARD



COMMUNITY PLAN

A CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANT

DRAFT PLAN PRESENTATION

City Planning Commission - July 17, 2023

Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee - July 18, 2023

AGENDA

- Choice Neighborhood Overview
- Draft Plan Update



RICHMOND CITY
HEALTH DISTRICT



CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS OVERVIEW



“The Choice Neighborhoods Initiative will transform distressed neighborhoods... into **viable and sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods** by linking housing improvements with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs... Choice Neighborhood grants will build upon the successes of **public housing transformation under HOPE VI** to provide support for the preservation and rehabilitation of public and HUD-assisted housing, **within the context of a broader approach to concentrated poverty.**”

Utilizes the framework of the HOPE VI program, while focusing on the revitalization of the surrounding neighborhoods as well as a public housing site.

CORE GOALS OF CHOICE



NEIGHBORHOOD

Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families' choices about their community.



PEOPLE

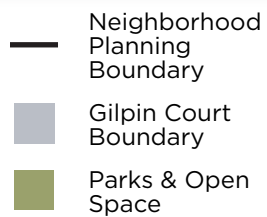
Improve outcomes of households living in the target housing related to employment and income, health, and children's education.



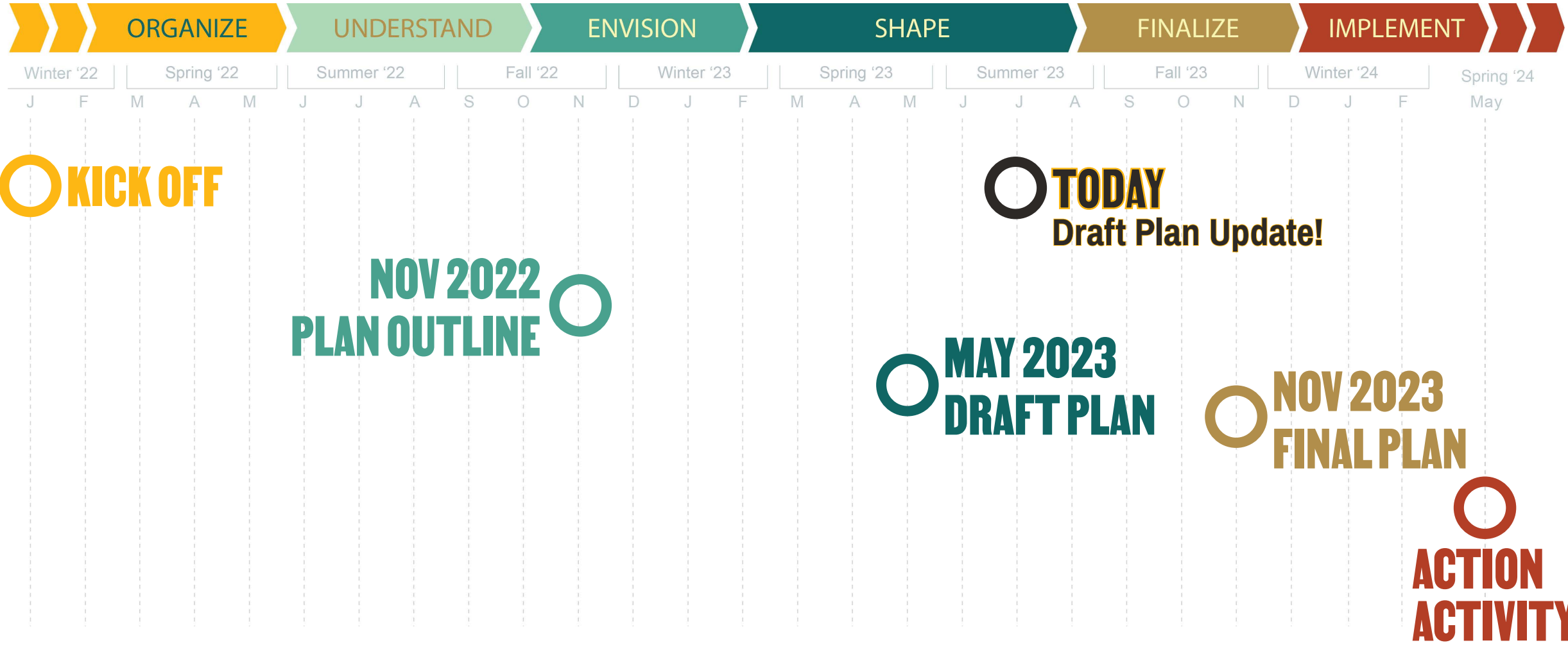
HOUSING

Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood.

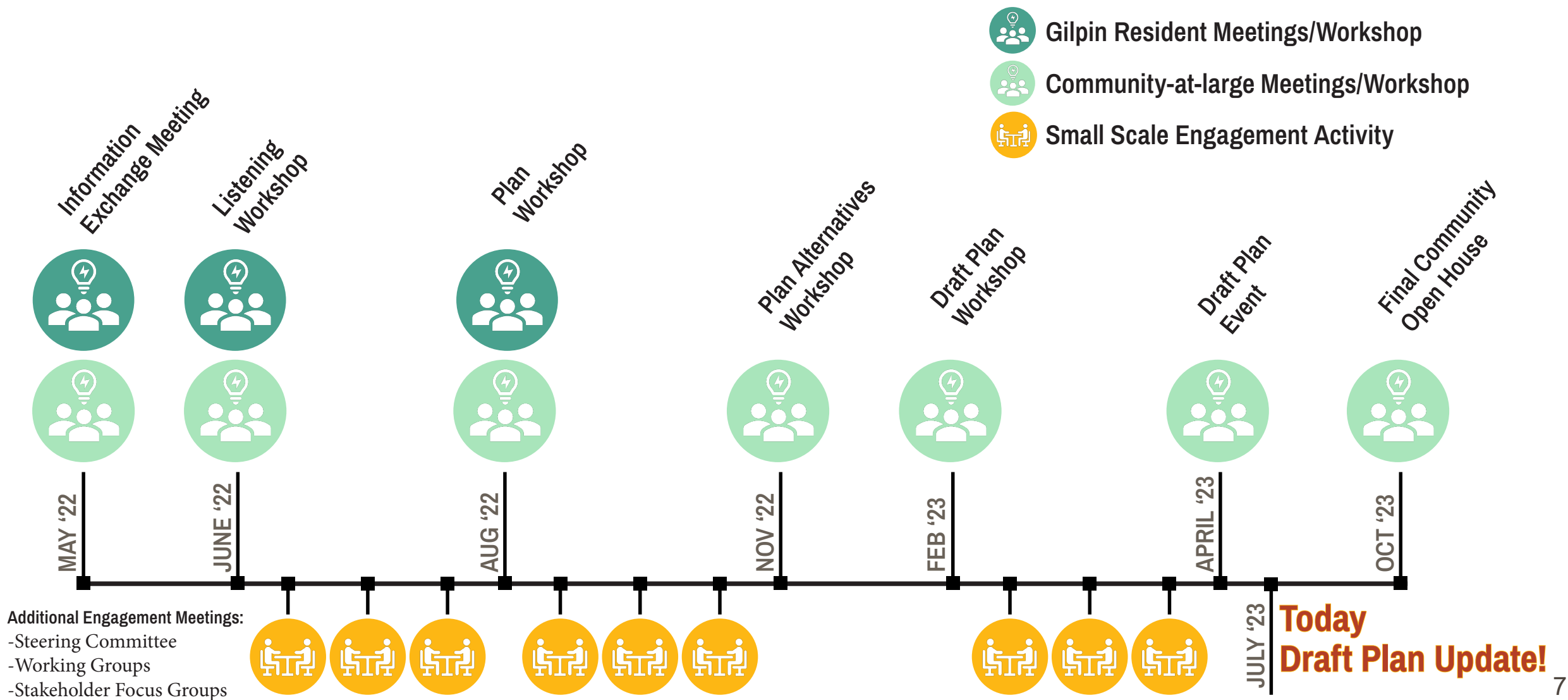
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PLANNING SCHEDULE



ENGAGEMENT PROCESS





WHAT WE'VE HEARD SO FAR: Resident Information Exchange

More discussion about weather groups
Further define home and neighborhood groups
Who will be providing neighborhood
services and what do they include
What does information assistance look like
Concerns about community conflict
associated with relocation
How can we ensure amenities will be what
residents want

May 10th at the Center
- 10 residents in attendance

“Diverse socioeconomic groups live together peacefully. I know my neighbors and believe this day-to-day interaction of different types of people is a unique quality of Jackson Ward.”

Jackson Ward Resident

Gilpin Resident Meeting/Workshop

ENGAGEMENT: Resident & Community



- April 12, 2022: Jackson Ward Working Groups Kick-off Session (38 participants)
- May 10, 2022: Gilpin Court Resident Info Exchange Meeting (23 participants)
- May 12, 2022: Jackson Ward Community Expo (35 participants)
- June 14, 2022: Gilpin Court Resident Listening Workshop (42 participants)
- June 16, 2022: Jackson Ward Community Listening Workshop (21 participants)
- July 11-29, 2022 – Stakeholder Focus Group meetings (38 participants)
- July 26, 2022: Jackson Ward Working Groups Meeting (21 participants)
- July 27, 2022: Storefront Conversations for Jackson Ward (4 participants)
- August 6, 2022: Gilpin Court Resident Plan Workshop (12 participants)
- August 18, 2022: Jackson Ward Community Plan Workshop (17 participants)
- August 4-5, 2022 – Youth Design Workshop (12 participants)
- September 27, 2022: Jackson Ward Working Groups Meeting (23 participants)
- November 1, 2022: Jackson Ward Plan Alternatives Workshop (77 participants)
- Marketing Workshop (7 participants)
- December 14, 2022: Jackson Ward Working Groups Meeting (25 participants)
- February 11, 2023: Jackson Ward Plan Draft Plan Event (22 participants)
- March 6-24th, 2023 Focus Groups (nearly 100 participants: housing, Tourism, Education, Transportation, Health, Sustainability, Safety, Land Use, and Workforce and Businesses)

THE STORY OF JACKSON WARD

- The Skipwith Cottage is Built
Abraham Peyton Skipwith, the first known free Black person, purchases parcels of land on the northern edge of the City of Richmond in what would become Jackson Ward; he built a gambrel-roofed cottage which is one of the city's oldest documented dwellings.



- Jackson Ward Established
Jackson Ward was created as an official, political subdivision in the City (ward); becomes 'city within a city' referred to as the 'Black Wall Street' & the 'Harlem of the South'.

- 1st Black-Owned Bank
Jackson Ward Established
Savings Bank of the United Order of True Reformers established by the 7 True Reformers in W.W. Brown's former home.

- 1st Black Woman-Owned Bank
Wiggin Walker opens the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank.

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1790s

1858

- Ebenezer Baptist Church
Established as the first African Baptist Church

1871

1884

- John Mitchell Jr. & the Richmond Planet newspaper
John Mitchell Jr. was an activist and became the editor of the Richmond Planet, an African American weekly newspaper, promoting civil rights, racial justice, and racial pride.

1888

1902

- Mechanics' Savings Bank
John Mitchell Jr. conceived the Mechanics' Savings Bank and of his home in Jackson Ward. Through a partnership with the African American community in Jackson Ward, the bank was established.

1903

1904

- 1st Black-Owned Bank
Wiggin Walker opens the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank.

1914

1930-1940

- 1st Black Woman-Owned Bank
Wiggin Walker opens the St. Luke Penny Savings Bank.

1941

1947

1957

1976-1987

1987

2021

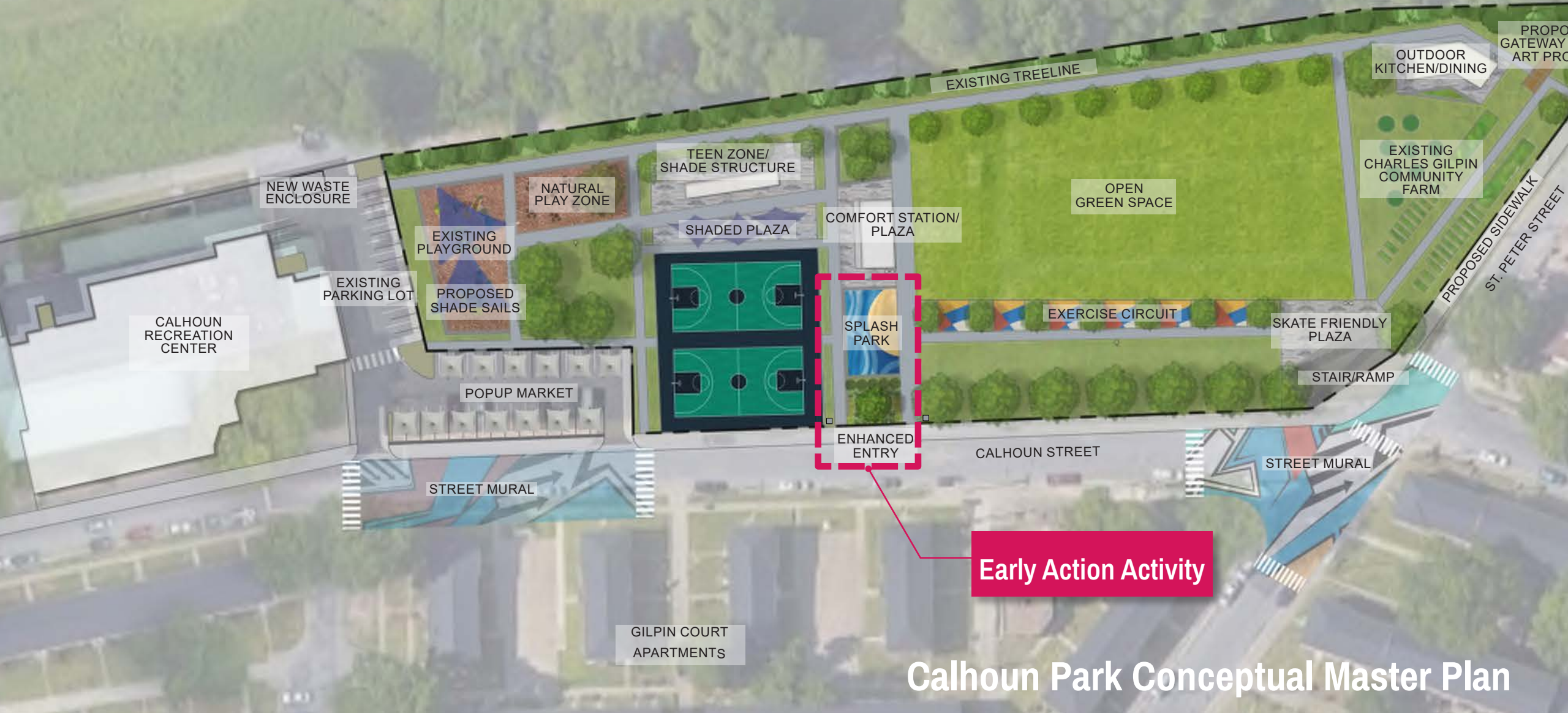
Note: this is a DRAFT timeline. Let us know what's missing or add your own!

"It is going to be a different way of living for current Gilpin residents. They will be more integrated into the community. And you do that with mixed-income and density in a way that is attractive. You start with the urban design and layout, and areas where the concepts of density are appropriate."

Community Stakeholder

Community Meeting/Workshop

EARLY ACTION ACTIVITY UPDATE



Calhoun Park Conceptual Master Plan

EARLY ACTION ACTIVITY UPDATE



SPLASH PAD



SPLASH PAD

AMENITIES



INTEGRAL COLOR CONCRETE

PAVING MATERIALS

- **NOVEMBER 2022-APRIL 2023:** Community Engagement and Conceptual Design
- **MAY 2023:** Survey, Environmental, and Utility Location
- **JUNE 2023:** Schematic Design and Design Development
- **JULY 2023:** Urban Design Committee
- **JULY- OCTOBER 2023:** Construction Documents and Permit Drawings
- **OCTOBER- NOVEMBER, 2023:** Permitting; Procurement, Bidding, Contractor Award
- **APRIL 2024:** Construction
- **MAY 2024:** Grand Opening! (tentative)

DRAFT



PLAN UPDATE



VISION

JACKSON WARD

COMMUNITY PLAN

DRAFT

➤ **JACKSON WARD** is an interconnected neighborhood that celebrates black history, ownership, and culture while supporting a diverse community of current and future residents with quality housing, healthy spaces, and its community traditions of local arts, youth education, and entrepreneurship.

DIVERSE ECONOMY



1. Childcare and K-12 Education
2. Post-Secondary Education & Workforce Development
3. Business Growth
4. Tourism, Arts, & Culture

INCLUSIVE HOUSING



5. Diverse Housing Options
6. Pathways to Homeownership
7. Resident Preparation
8. Displacement Prevention
9. Expanding Housing Opportunities

HIGH-QUALITY PLACES



10. Historic and Historic Preservation
11. Publicly Owned Assets
12. Community Development
13. Safety & Security

EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION



15. Non-Car Network
16. Streets, Bridges & Connections

THRIVING ENVIRONMENT



18. Healthy People
19. Green Structures
20. Resilient Community

5 THEMES 20 GOALS

DIVERSE ECONOMY



1. Childcare and K-12 Education
2. Post-Secondary Education & Workforce Development
3. Business Growth
4. Tourism, Arts, & Culture

INCLUSIVE HOUSING



5. Diverse Housing Options
6. Pathways to Homeownership
7. Resident Preparedness
8. Displacement Prevention
9. Expanding Housing Opportunities

HIGH-QUALITY PLACES



10. Land Use and Historic Preservation
11. Publicly Owned Assets
12. Urban Design
13. Planning Engagement
14. Safety & Security

EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION



15. Vision Zero
16. Non-Car Network
17. Streets, Bridges & Connections

THRIVING ENVIRONMENT



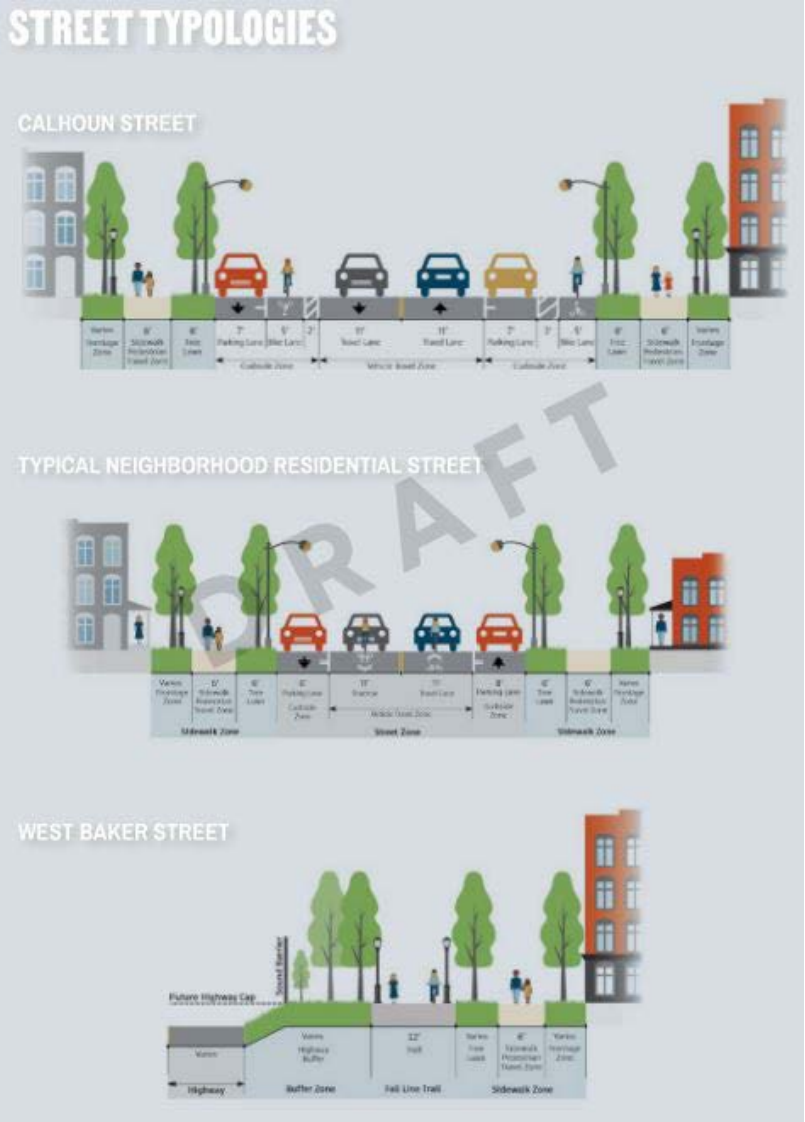
18. Healthy People
19. Green Structures
20. Resilient Community

FOCUS GROUPS



- Focus groups met to collaboratively develop and refine strategies to help reach Plan Goals:
 - Land Use
 - Arts & Culture
 - Education
 - Health
 - Transportation
 - Sustainability
 - Housing (GIRs)
 - Housing (Development Partners)
 - Workforce & Business
 - Safety

PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN



HIGH-QUALITY PLACES



Jackson Ward's unique character and urban fabric are preserved and incorporated in the redevelopment of Gilpin.

10. Land Use and Historic Preservation

11. Publicly Owned Assets

12. Urban Design

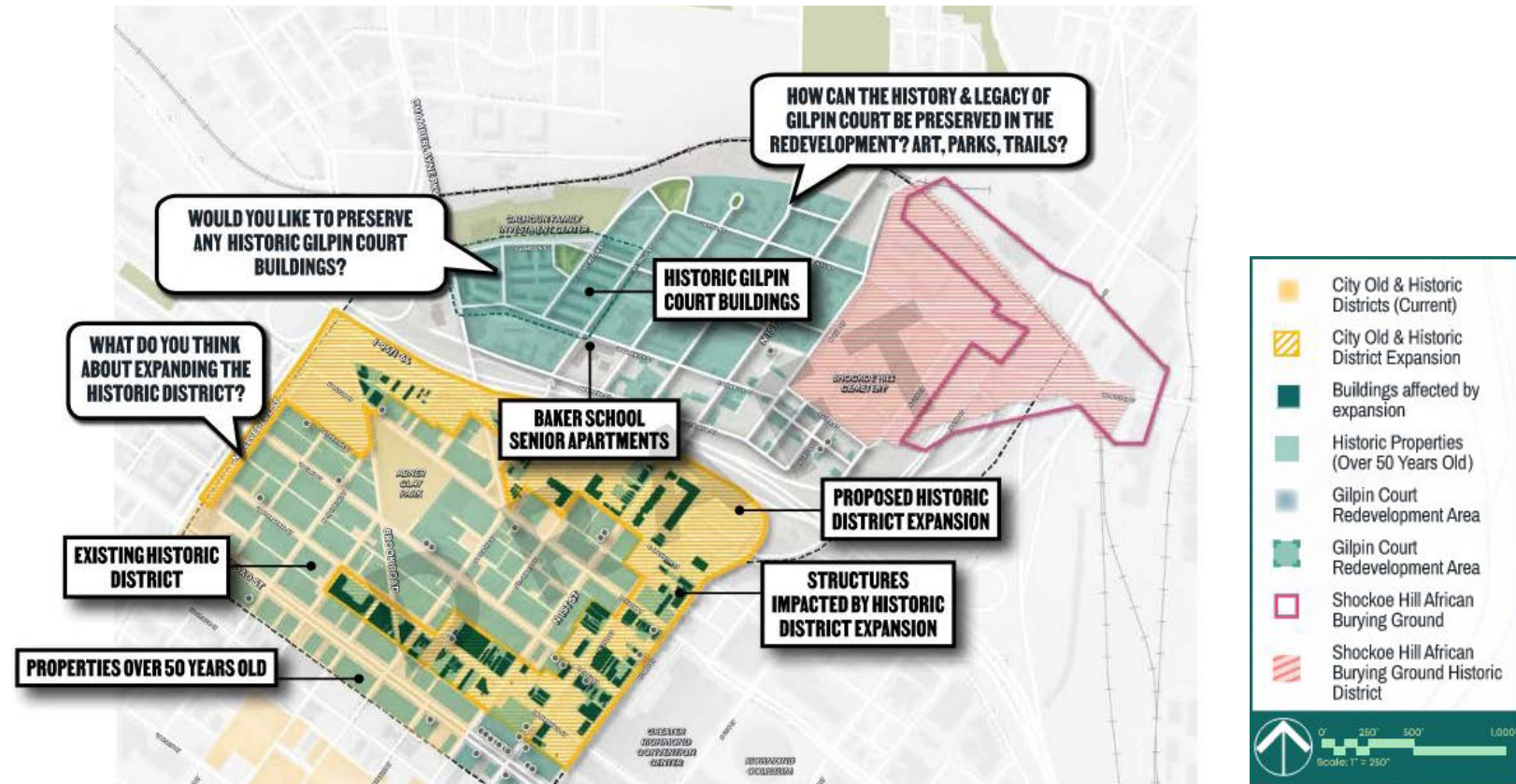
13. Planning Engagement

14. Safety & Security

GOAL #10: LAND USE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Preserve and expand the mixed-use development pattern of Jackson Ward.

- A. Rezone properties to align zoning with the future land use map and the Gilpin redevelopment plan.
- B. Expand the City Old and Historic District.



EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION



Jackson Ward residents, visitors, and employees are able to seamlessly move between parts of the neighborhood and the rest of the city via a multi-modal transportation network.

15. Vision Zero

16. Non-Car Network

17. Streets, Bridges & Connections

GOAL #17: STREETS, BRIDGES & CONNECTIONS

Create more street and bridge connections to make it easier to move within and through Jackson Ward.

- A. Build bridges to connect Gilpin to Downtown and Northside.
- B. Implement infrastructure improvements as phases of Gilpin Court are redeveloped.
- C. Eliminate superblocks and design the street grid to support walkable urbanism.



LEGEND

- Possible Park Area
- Possible Gateway Area
- Possible Buildings
- Community Landmarks
- Multimodal Connection (vehicle, bike, and/or pedestrian, as indicated by icon)
- Pedestrian Connection (at or near grade)
- Stepped Pedestrian Connection (requires grade transition with steps and ramps)
- Significant Edge (significant grade elevation change)
- Lid/Covered Highway Area

NEXT STEPS

- Early Action Project before UDC in July: **Approved**
- Draft plan comment period open through August 27th
- Focus group meetings in July to review and refine strategies
- Final plan celebration in October
- Final plan due to HUD on November 22nd
- Launch Reconnect Jackson Ward design process

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE FEEDBACK!

- Provide comments on the draft Vision, Goals and Strategies!
- Go to the Jackson Ward Community Plan website:

www.jacksonwardchoice.com

- Scroll down and you will find the draft document
- Click anywhere in the document to add a comment.

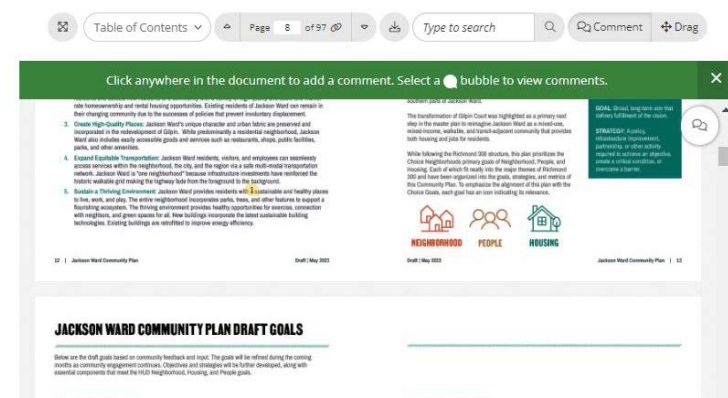


Draft Plan | Public Review Period

The following Jackson Ward Community Plan *draft* was submitted to HUD on May 19, 2023. The public comment period is open through August 27, 2023; please share your feedback using the interactive document below or email.

JacksonWard@RRHA.com

The *final* community plan will be submitted to HUD in November.





JACKSON WARD

COMMUNITY PLAN

THANK YOU

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