

# DO *You* LIVE CT?

## A Neighborhood Plan

Columbia Tusculum  
Cincinnati, OH

Columbia Tusculum Community  
Council

**Approved 11/21/22**

City Planning Commission  
**Approved 05/05/2023**

City Council  
**Approved 05/24/23**



COLUMBIA  
TUSCULUM

EST 1788



# APPROVED

**Columbia Tusculum Community Council**  
**Interdepartmental Review**  
**City Planning Commission**  
**Equitable Growth and Housing Committee**  
**City Council**

11/21/2022  
04/26/2023  
05/05/2023  
05/23/2023  
05/24/2023



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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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### **Special Thanks To...**

The Carnegie Center  
Streetside Brewery  
Columbia Tusculum Community Council  
**and more.**

This plan could not have been completed without all of those who contributed by sharing your stories, ideas, expertise, and most importantly, time.





## **DEDICATION**

**Do You Live CT?** is dedicated to former City of Cincinnati employee, colleague, and friend, **Jared Ellis**.

Jared was with Columbia Tusculum at the very start of the neighborhood plan process, and helped step up the success of this neighborhood plan. Humorous, passionate, kind, and dedicated are just a few of the million words to describe Jared. He was a hard-working and proud city planner and all the community members loved working with Jared. He was a prime example of the perfect public servant.

This plan will continue to carry Jared's spirit forward.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of City Planning and Engagement, along with the Columbia Tusculum Community Council, **Do You Live CT?** Steering Committee and community members are pleased to share the results of a two and a half year effort to create the most recent neighborhood plan for Columbia Tusculum. In early 2020, the Columbia Tusculum Community Council requested assistance from the Department of City Planning and Engagement to prepare an updated plan for the neighborhood. The purpose of this new plan was to establish an innovative direction for the eastern community, updating it to 2022 and to plan out the next ten-fifteen years of the neighborhood.

This plan documents the neighborhood's vision for the future while focusing on four Theme Areas: **Transportation & Connections, Business, Housing & Development, and Public Space & Community.** These Theme Areas were created by the Steering Committee at the beginning of the planning process and helped shape the outline and vision of this document. The Theme Areas may be found below in addition to the theme vision.



## **BUSINESS**

CT strives to preserve and grow its strong collection of local businesses through emphasizing business diversity, walkability, and accessibility to Cincinnati's greatest playground while honoring our colorful heritage as Cincinnati's oldest community.



## **TRANSPORTATION & CONNECTIONS**

Increasing safety and efficiency to promote a vibrant and diverse neighborhood for residents and visitors by implementing pedestrian safety, traffic calming, and beautification. Thereby creating connectivity within a balanced network of transportation and recreation options including enhanced roads, walkways, and trails.



## **HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT**

CT is a community embracing its historic roots and is inclusive to all incomes and backgrounds. We strive to maximize the 15-minute community model with an emphasis on walkability and accessibility, integrate business assets and housing in a safe and "green" way, and grow with a diverse range of structure types, sizes, costs, and uses.



## **PUBLIC SPACE & COMMUNITY**

Building on our history, CT is committed to developing and preserving a safe, walkable neighborhood filled with charm and areas for recreation and community engagement.

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## INTRODUCTION

Columbia Tusculum has not had a plan since the Columbia Tusculum Urban Design Plan Phase II which was adopted in 1999. **Do You Live CT?** is the first plan dedicated to the entire neighborhood as a whole. In addition to the Urban Design Plan, the Columbia Tusculum Neighborhood Business District Plan was adopted in 1996. Both of these previously approved plans were re-reviewed to continue the same vision but updated to the 2020s.

**Do You Live CT?** showcases the entire neighborhood's vision and goals for the next few decades. Located on the east side of the City of Cincinnati and being the City's oldest neighborhood, Columbia Tusculum offers a unique and historic experience to residents and visitors. Although, primarily a residential community, Columbia Tusculum boasts a number of well-known businesses such as Allyn's Café, Stanley's Pub and The Precinct, and is home to the Carnegie Center. Containing a number of historic homes, Columbia Tusculum is known for its prestigious, hillside housing stock which offers beautiful views of the surroundings areas.

This document outlines the history, acknowledging the neighborhood's rich past and present, existing conditions, goals and strategies, and implementation timelines. This plan, created through the community-led, lengthy process, will guide Columbia Tusculum for future policy and development recommendations, investment and programming decisions, identification of key aspects for safe and viable connections, business-promotion, and community engagement.



# History

# HISTORY

Benjamin Stites, **the founder of Columbia**, first explored the area when pursuing a band of Native American horse thieves up the Little Miami Valley while on a trading expedition in Kentucky. He returned to his family in Pennsylvania and traveled to New Jersey where he spoke to John Cleves Symmes, a member of Congress. Symmes had made a large purchase of land in modern-day Ohio and agreed to sell a parcel of 20,000 acres to Stites located near the junction of the Ohio and Little Miami River in what was known as the Northwest Territory.

Benjamin Stites gathered a party of 26 settlers, and they landed at the first high bank approximately one mile north of the mouth of the Little Miami on November 18th, 1788, establishing Columbia. It was the only second white settlement in Ohio and was competing to be the major village in Symmes' purchase. Due to frequent flooding from the Ohio River and the United States Army's decision to build Fort Washington at Losantiville (modern day Cincinnati), the dominant community in southwest Ohio became Cincinnati instead of Columbia.

Columbia's early days began with the establishment of guards and blockhouses, which became a fort known as Fort Miami. The settlers had initial friendly contact with the Native Americans, and the Native Americans would make visits to the blockhouses and join the settlers in festivities, but this uneasy calm lasted only a few months. In 1789, several settlers were killed and captured by the Native Americans. The conflict between the Native Americans and the settlers in the first years of Columbia was so severe that early maps marked the name of the settlement as "Slaughterhouse".

Columbia established the first school in Hamilton County on June 21st, 1790, along with a cornmill, and by the end of 1790, there were 50 cabins. However, Columbia never flourished into a major commercial center due to its flooding problem, which led to the residents of Columbia moving between 1800 and 1815 to slightly higher ground at the base of Tusculum hill. The only remains of the first location of Columbia are the Pioneer Cemetery, and the last blockhouse from the first settlement collapsing in 1838 due to an unusually large wake created by two passing steamboats.

Compared to the earlier years, Columbia became a fairly prosperous community in the 19th century and was home to an economy based on agriculture, manufacturing, and river trade due to the fertile land and the nearby Ohio River. Columbia became a center of transportation early on in its history with a road surveyed from Cincinnati to Columbia, the Anderson Turnpike passing through Columbia on its route to Chillicothe in 1835, and the incorporation of the Little Miami Railroad in 1836. The town also witnessed the evolution of flatboats to steamboats that utilized Columbia as a place to dock and trade. In 1866, the Cincinnati and Columbia Railway Company began operation of "steam dummies," which were a popular way for residents to get from Columbia to Mt. Lookout.

In 1863, Nicholas Longworth, who was the largest landowner and Cincinnati's first millionaire, passed away, and the land was subdivided and would come to be known as Longworth's Tusculum. The area covered from modern-day Eden Park to Alms Park and once held vineyards, which deteriorated due to black rot and loss of laborers during the Civil War. In 1866, Joseph Longworth laid out two major subdivisions, Undercliff and Mt. Tusculum, in that area of Columbia. The latter subdivision, which included Nicholas Longworth's vineyards, had lots ranging in size from 5,000 square feet to twelve

acres, which were intended for the well-to-do. These sold very slowly, while the lots in Undercliff that included smaller lots aimed at nearby workers sold three times as fast.

Due to numerous transportation connections, Columbia officially became incorporated as a village in 1868 and was annexed by the City of Cincinnati in 1873. Columbia had an extensive business district and was home to major employers such as the Boldt Glass Company on Davis Lane. In 1907, the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad, which then controlled the old Little Miami line, purchased land in Undercliff and constructed a mile-long railyard, solidifying Columbia as a hub of railroad activity. This resulted in industrial and lower-income housing being established near the river and railroad while the hillsides and hilltops of Tusculum remained middle-income and wealthy residential areas. In 1925, E.H. Lunkenheimer donated 204 acres of ground in modern-day Linwood, right next door to Columbia, for the construction of Lunken Airport, which would come to be known as one of the largest and finest municipal airports in the world in the 1930s.

Between 1930 and 1937, Columbia Avenue was improved to establish Columbia Parkway, which became the main artery connecting communities across the East End of Cincinnati, including Columbia and Tusculum.

While the town did rely on the Ohio River for its economic success in its early years, the river would cause major floods in 1913, 1918, and 1924, with the worst flood being in 1937, reaching a final crest of 80 feet and submerging most of Columbia. After the end of WWII, and with soldiers returning from the war, many people in Columbia-Tusculum started to move out to the suburbs, which resulted in a decline in the area. There were waves of migrants through the 1970s, with new residents from eastern Kentucky looking for job opportunities and moving to Columbia-Tusculum.

Starting in the late 1970s, there was renewed interest in both living in the city and Victorian architecture, which resulted in many young people returning to the area and restoring the historic homes to their former glory. New construction followed, and new businesses, including specialty stores, started establishing themselves in the commercial district along with new firms, taking the place of older industries.



Lunken Airport 1940 (Cincinnati Museum Center)



Lunken Airport 1940 (Cincinnati Museum Center)



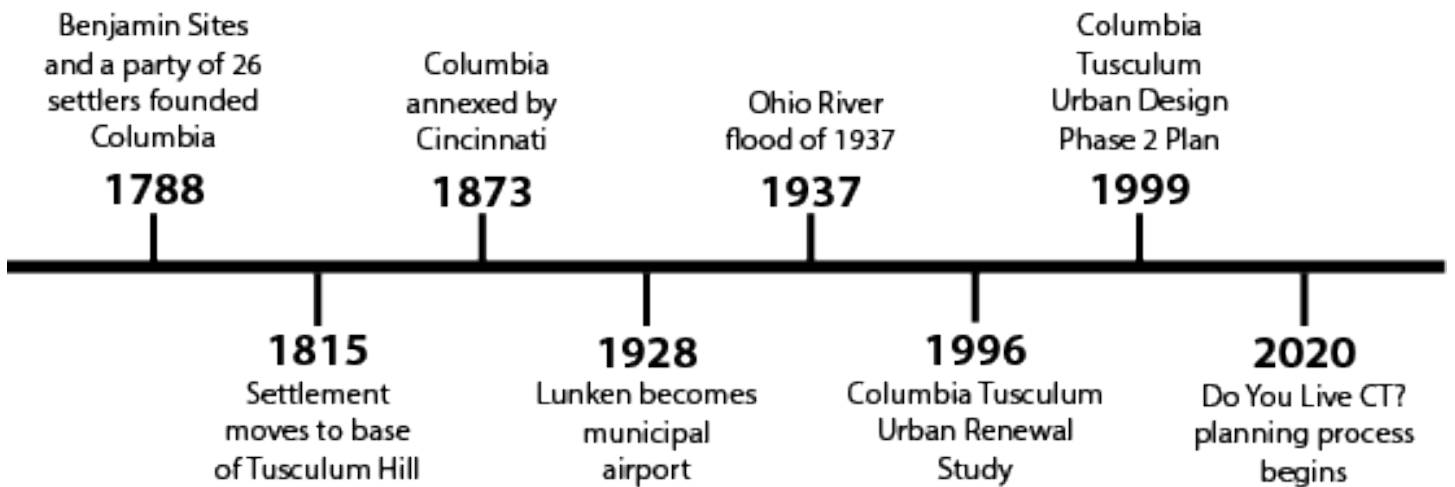
Columbia Parkway 1938 (University of Cincinnati Library)

There are many historic areas and buildings in Columbia-Tusculum such as the Columbia Business District, Columbia Baptist Church, St. Stephen’s Roman Catholic Church, Spencer Township Hall, Odd Fellows Temple, Columbia post office, Sixth District Police Station, McKinley Public School, and the American Legion Hall.



Source: **The Bicentennial Guide to Greater Cincinnati: A Portrait of Two Hundred Years**

### History Synopsis Timeline



*A Columbia Tusculum History*

# Historical Housing

Columbia Tusculum has a beautiful stock of historic housing that ranges over the span of the past two centuries. Additionally, the neighborhood was the site of Homearama 2020, which added a fair amount of new luxury housing to the area. With housing stock ranging from the early 1800's homes of prominent families to modern-day mini-McMansions, the neighborhood has homes from every decade, with surpluses of housing occurring during the neighborhood's most popular decades.

With railway, streetcar and steamboat transportation methods allowing the area to be substantially more accessible, a multitude of housing was built during the late 1800's up until the early 1920's. Classic Victorian homes were built to line the streets of the neighborhood, creating a uniform-looking area.

It wasn't until the late 1970's and into the 80's that after a gradual decline in population due to a want for a more suburban lifestyle, Columbia Tusculum gained a revival of interest due to the oil crisis and new interest in Victorian architecture. This resulted in another surplus of new homes to be built, in addition to the Victorian homes being renovated and restored to the glory of their earlier days.

This new interest towards living in the city while still being able to live within a small, suburban-style community has only gained more momentum since the late 1970's and as such, a combination of modern row houses and luxury suburban homes have been built throughout the neighborhood.

**31%**  
1930 & Before  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

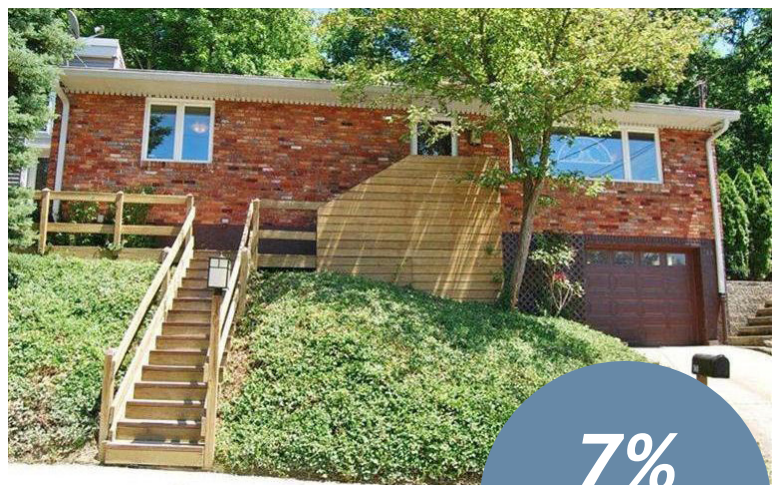


533 Tusculum Ave  
circa **1880**  
(zillow.com)



**1%**  
1940 - 1949  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

617 Athens Ave  
circa **1946**  
(realtor.com)



548 Hoge St circa **1959**  
(realtor.com)

**7%**  
1950 - 1959  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

*Historic Homes*



**7%**  
 1960 - 1969  
 Source: 2016-2020 ACS

736 Elsinboro Dr circa **1969**  
 (realtor.com)



**18%**  
 1970 - 1979  
 Source: 2016-2020 ACS

701 Reisling Knoll  
 circa **1978**  
 (realtor.com)



**8%**  
 1980 - 1989  
 Source: 2016-2020 ACS

443 Flinn Ave  
 circa **1938**  
 (realtor.com)



**15%**  
 1990 - 1999  
 Source: 2016-2020 ACS

606 Athens Ave circa **1994**  
 (realtor.com)



**5%**  
 2000 - 2009  
 Source: 2016-2020 ACS

533 Hoge St circa **2000** (realtor.com)



**8%**  
 after 2009  
 Source: 2016-2020 ACS

558 Empress Ave circa **2015** (zillow.com)

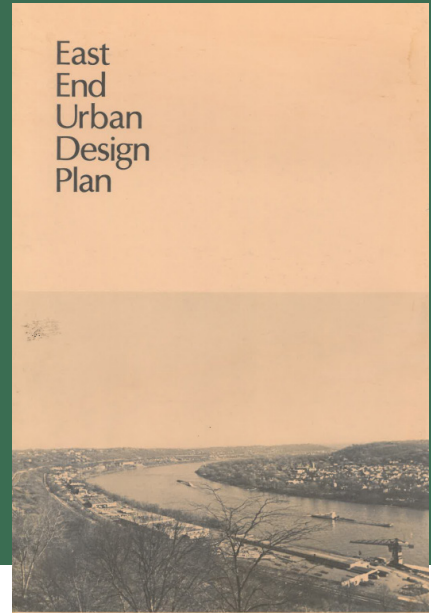
# 1977 East End Urban Design Plan

The 1977 plan was developed as an outline for the future of East End, giving direction for future public improvement projects. A general focus of the design plans was to encourage rehabilitation and preservation of exiting residential units where economically feasible with a lesser emphasis on commercial and industrial development.

Although the 1977 East End Urban Design Plan encompasses goals and strategies for the entirety of the East End Area, Columbia Tusculum was designated as the focus area since it contained the largest concentration of people, and the neighborhood's location lent the area to be a "major image-maker" for the rest of East End.

## The plan identified five major goals for the Columbia Tusculum Area:

- 1) Create a "new" historical image tied to the community's river heritage,
- 2) Reinforce an active neighborhood center on Eastern Avenue including a revitalized commercial district and public events,
- 3) Develop safe and attractive linkages to connect the community,
- 4) Provide a reasonable balance between pedestrian and vehicular needs, and
- 5) Upgrade the visual image of the community through good urban design.

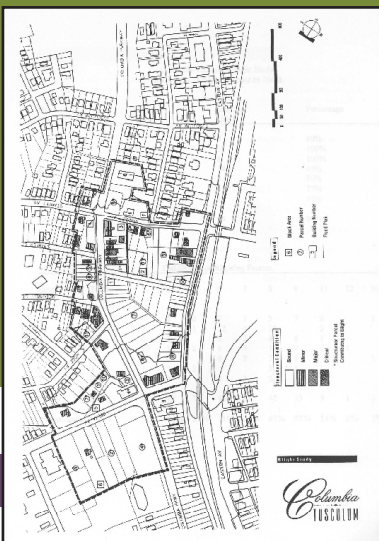
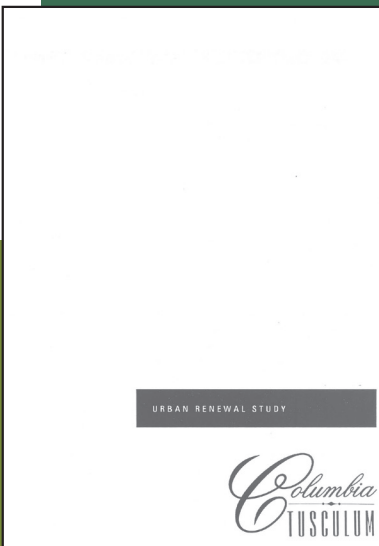


# 1996 Columbia Tusculum Urban Renewal Study

The 1996 study of Columbia Tusculum's Neighborhood Business District (NBD) focused on determining whether the study area should be considered blighted based on the definition laid out in the Cincinnati Municipal Code.

Based on fourteen (14) factors of blight, the study found that 89% of structures or vacant parcels in the study area fulfilled the outlined criteria.

The study concluded that Columbia Tusculum's NBD should be designated as a "blighted area," proposing development options for large vacant parcels at Delta Avenue and Columbia Parkway to improve and further develop those areas.





# PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PLANS

Columbia Tusculum has had two past plans – one **Neighborhood Business District Urban Renewal Study** (1996) and one **Neighborhood Business District Urban Design Plan** (1999) – and was also mentioned in the **East End Urban Design Plan** (1977). These plans were considered in the creation of this plan. This section provides an overview of the past plans for the neighborhood.

## 1999 Columbia Tusculum Urban Design Phase II Plan

Following the 1996 urban renewal study, the goal of the 1999 Neighborhood Business District Urban Design Plan was to modify and direct new strategies for development and the community based current conditions and a review of the goals, strategies, and implementation of the earlier Phase and the Columbia Tusculum Focus Area of the 1977 East End Urban Design Plan.

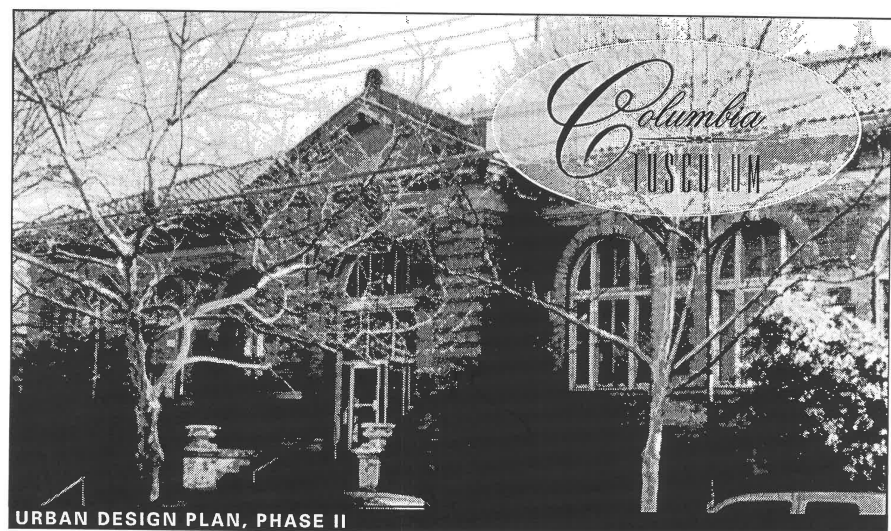
Under the three umbrellas of Image & Identity, Design & Infrastructure, and Business Development, Retention & Recruitment, the Phase II Plan identified the following goals:

- Create an attractive, positive image and identity for the district;
- Provide attractive, safe, and serviceable vehicular and pedestrian circulation into and through the district;
- Improve the serviceability of flood prone areas;
- Maintain the existing historic architectural character of the district;
- Improve alternative transportation options through the district;
- Reconnect Columbia Tusculum to the river and its river history;
- And maintain and strengthen the neighborhood's economic environment.

Neighborhood plans are crucial for residents to have a concrete vision of their neighborhood which may be used to reference and guide the future of their community.

Neighborhood plans also make it easier to obtain grants or other funds for recommendations in their plan.

Lastly, plans make it easier to get support from City Council on the direction the community wishes to proceed in regarding development.



Prepared for  
Department of Economic Development  
City of Cincinnati

Final  
February 17, 1999

Prepared by  
Office of Architecture and Urban Design  
Division of Engineering Works &  
Department of Public Works &  
Department of City Planning  
City of Cincinnati

# EXISTING CONDITIONS

Columbia Tusculum offers residents a **dense suburban feel**, often referred to as “the San Francisco” of Cincinnati. As the city’s oldest neighborhood, it maintains its historical housing stock proudly, being famous for its many “Painted Lady” Victorian houses. The neighborhood is home to many young professionals as it offers an easy commute Downtown and boasts a variety of restaurants, bars, and breweries.

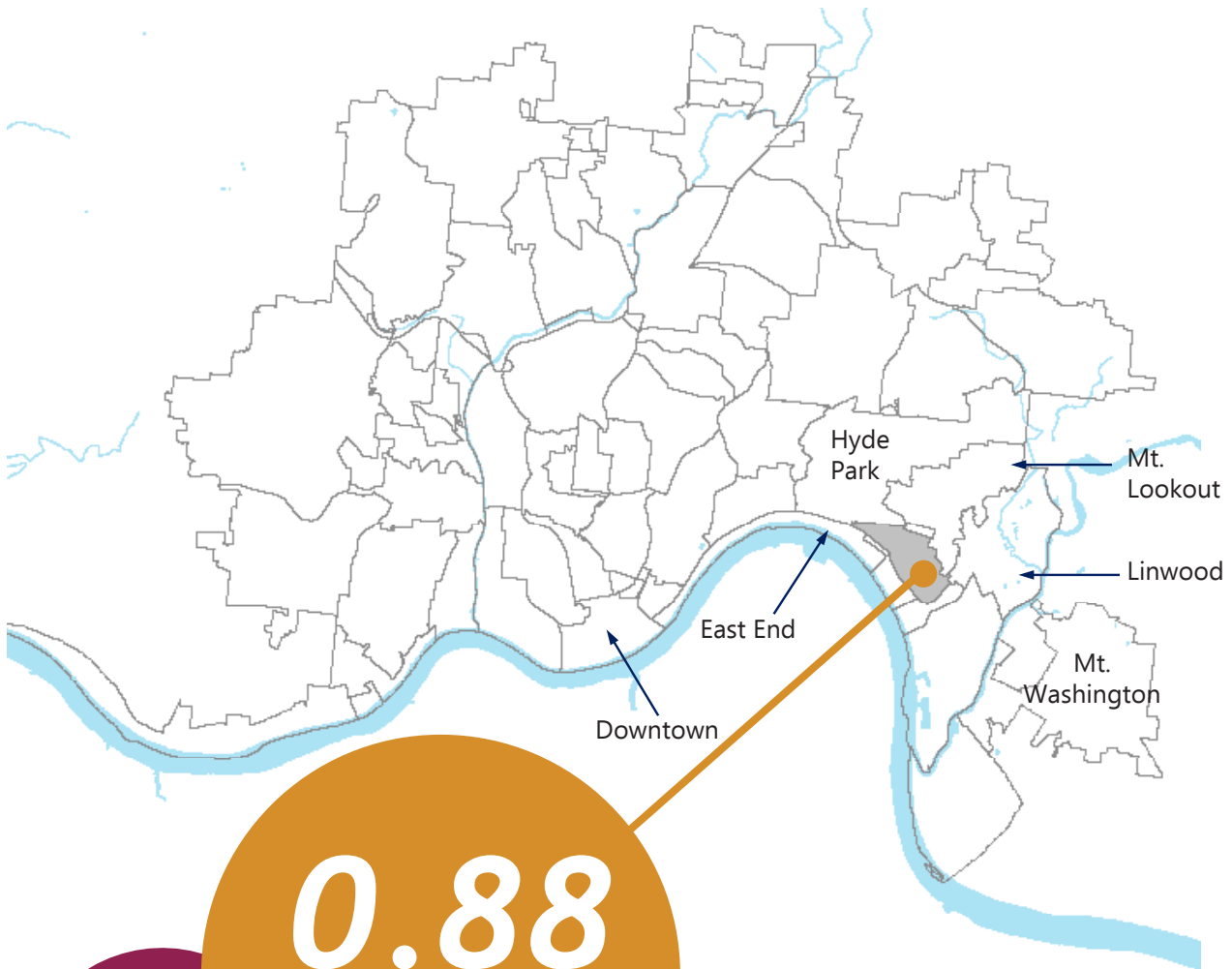
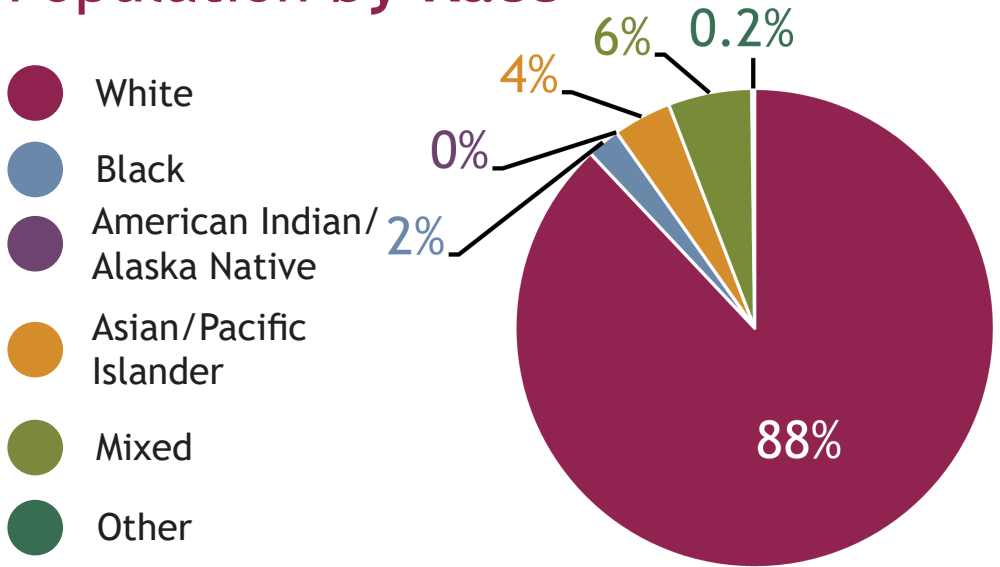
The map below outlines the boundary of Columbia Tusculum, also displaying the Urban Design Overlay District, Neighborhood Business District, and the Overlap Boundary with the East End. Columbia Tusculum is one of Cincinnati’s smallest neighborhoods at 0.88 square miles (563.2 acres).



# Population by Race

Columbia Tusculum is situated in the "east side" of the City and is directly adjacent to the neighborhoods of Hyde Park, Mt. Lookout, Linwood, and the East End.

There is additionally an Overlay portion of the neighborhood shared with the East End.



**0.88**  
Square Miles

563.2  
acres

42nd largest  
neighborhood

Map of the City of Cincinnati

# Population

**1,523**  
Total Population  
*Source: 2020 Census*

**32**  
Median Resident Age  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

**32.4**  
Cincinnati

**17%**

Population increase  
from 2010 to 2020

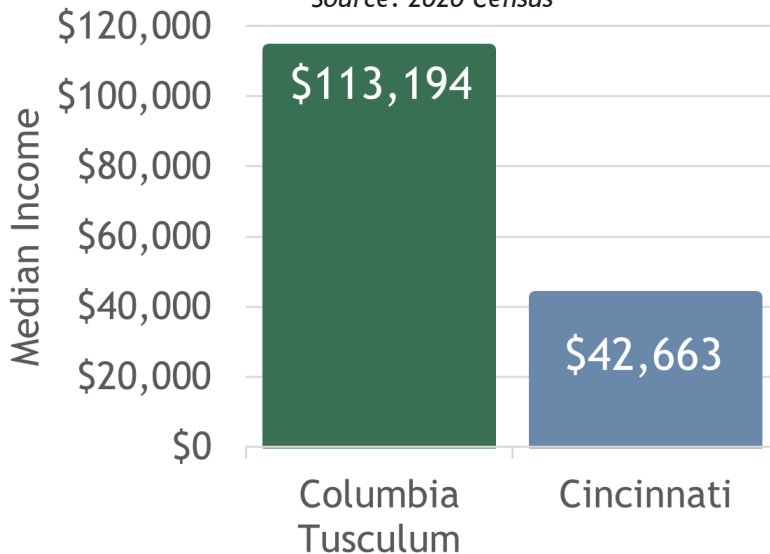
*Source: 2010 & 2020 Census*



**71%**  
of residents moved to  
Columbia Tusculum  
after 2010  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

Columbia Tusculum and  
Cincinnati 2020 Median Income

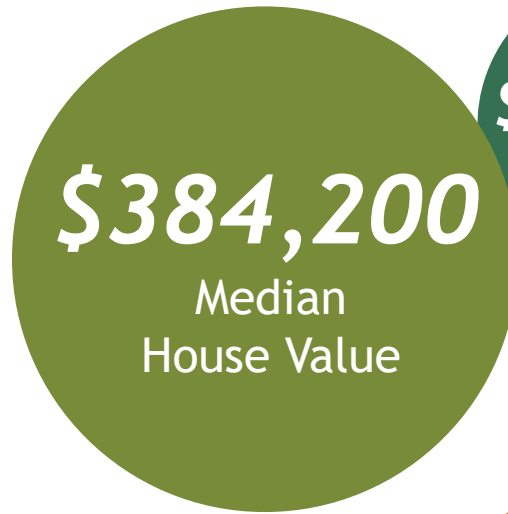
*Source: 2020 Census*



**90%**  
commute alone by  
personal vehicle  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

**99%**  
of households own  
at least 1 vehicle  
*Source: 2016-2020 ACS*

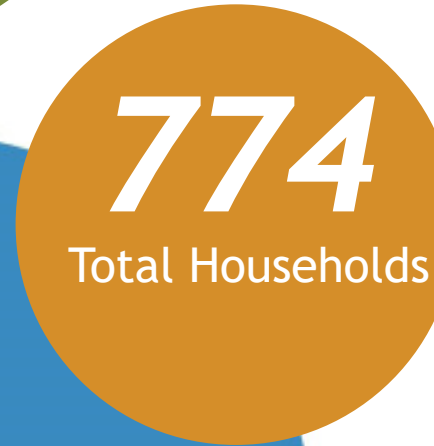
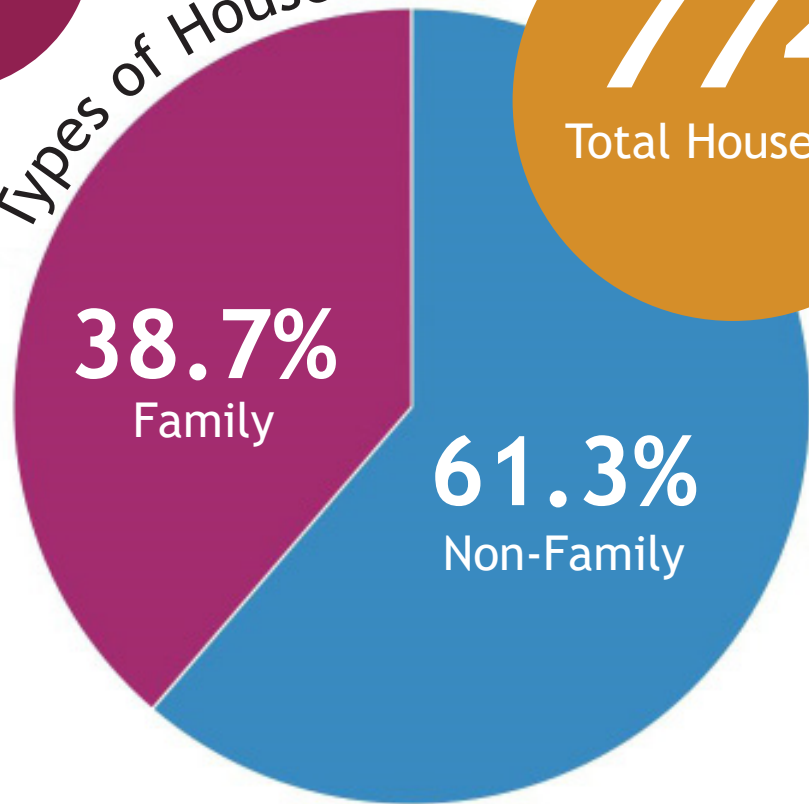
# Housing



With being the **42nd largest neighborhood** in Cincinnati, Columbia has a population just over 1,500 residents and is 0.88 square miles.

The housing stock and historic homes in Columbia Tusculum are the main components on what makes the neighborhood the way it is today. The median home value of \$384,000 is nearly three times more than the City-wide median which is \$138,000.

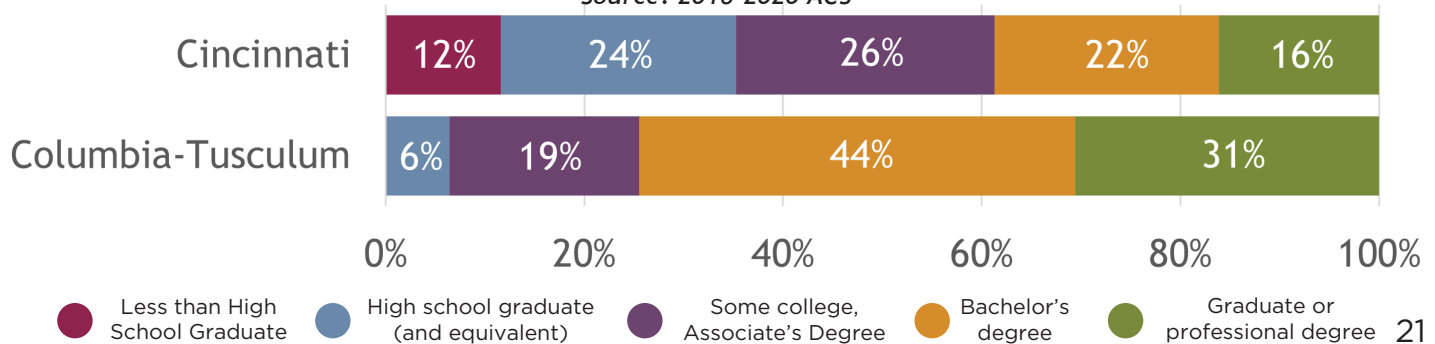
## Types of Households



# Education

## Educational Attainment in Columbia Tusculum compared to Cincinnati

Source: 2016-2020 ACS



# What does CT mean to you?



## DO YOU LIVE CT? COLUMBIA TUSCULUM

DO YOU LIVE CT? is a neighborhood plan focused on Columbia Tusculum's new visions for the future. You are invited to attend our upcoming Working Group meeting to discuss goals and action steps focused around accomplishing this revitalization in the following theme areas:

-  Business
-  Housing & Development
-  Transportation & Connections
-  Public Space & Community

All are welcome and encouraged to join!

If you are interested in learning more, signing up for a working group, or attending the meeting, please contact:  
Jesse Urbancsik at [jesse.urbancsik@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:jesse.urbancsik@cincinnati-oh.gov)

### WHEN + WHERE

**MONDAY, November 29, 2021**

Starting at 6:00pm

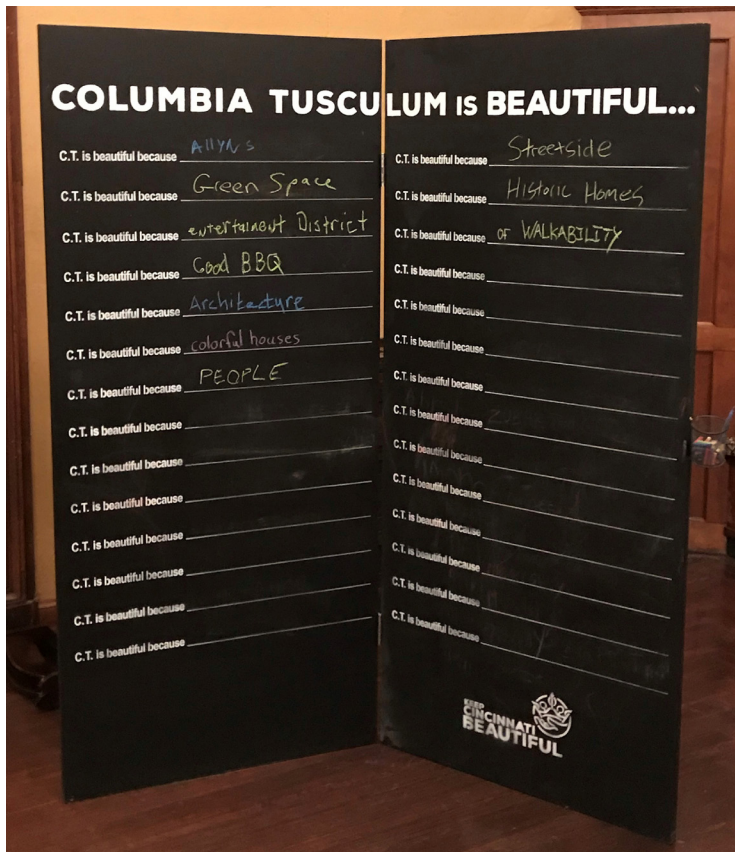
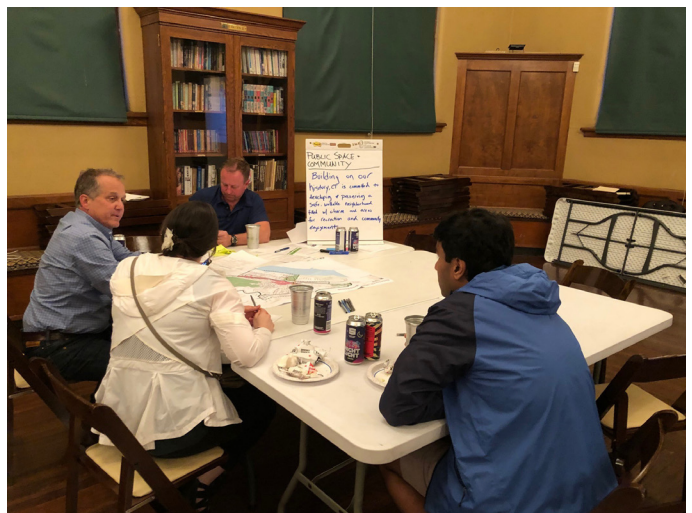
at the CARNEGIE CENTER

3738 Eastern Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45226

SCAN ME



For more information, please visit <http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/planning/> or scan the QR Code above



All photos on this page were provided by: Andy Juengling and Jesse Urbancsik

# PLANNING PROCESS

The **Do You Live CT?** planning process consisted of a two-and-a-half-year long community-led process. The Columbia Tusculum Community Council requested a neighborhood plan through the Department of City Planning and Engagement. This planning process began in early 2020, right before the Covid-19 Pandemic commenced.

The kickoff meeting for **Do You Live CT?** was held on February 24, 2020 at the Carnegie Center, much like the rest of the working group meetings. The kickoff was a huge success with over 35 residents and community members attending. This meeting allowed community members to become familiar with and learn about the neighborhood planning process and to voice their comments regarding their vision for the neighborhood. The Kickoff had boards and input stations showcased at the Carnegie Center to gather feedback on what the priorities of the plan should be, including the plan name, **Do You Live CT?**, which was picked by residents.

The goal of the Kickoff meeting was to identify the potential themes of the plan, while establishing a steering committee of residents, business owners and community council officials who would oversee the planning process along with the Department of City Planning & Engagement. Four official theme areas were created: Transportation & Connections, Business, Housing & Development and Public Space & Community. These theme areas ultimately guided conversations between the steering committee, staff, and residents to assist them in moving forward in the formation of the goals, strategies, and action steps found in this plan. (These Theme Areas are additionally found on p. 7).

The steering committee held meetings to plan future working groups and to prioritize topics and future goals. The working groups were split up and identified by the themes mentioned above. The first working group meeting was held on June 21, 2021 at the Carnegie Center to outline the roles of each working group and to develop vision statements for each theme. The second meeting was held on September 20, 2021 with a focus on creating goals for each of the four themes. The third meeting was held on November 29, 2021 which finessed the goals and drafted strategies and action steps for the theme areas. The last meeting was held on March 28, 2022 which finalized these strategies and action steps as well as oriented the conversations around land use and zoning. All working group meetings were notified via social media and the Department's webpage, as well as the inclusion of physical flyers in which steering committee members passed out to businesses and residences.

A total of four steering committee meetings were held, mostly virtually via Zoom due to the Pandemic, and a total of four working group meetings were hosted and held for the public. Snacks and beverages were additionally provided by generous members of the steering committee. Over 50 individuals from the Columbia Tusculum neighborhood attended or participated in providing input for this plan.

The planning process was also uplifted by assistance from a University of Cincinnati student who curated a website that described the ongoing planning process, in addition to the draft priorities, existing conditions, history, and past plans. The webpage also enabled additional involvement from the public by allowing residents to sign up for updates, take a survey, and upload their favorite photos of the neighborhood!

*Visit!*

Columbia Tusculum Neighborhood Planning Process ArcGis Hub:  
<https://do-you-live-ct-ucgissa.hub.arcgis.com/>

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# PLAN THEME AREAS

The steering committee worked to identify **Theme Areas** that will transform into Working Groups for the planning process. These themes are centered around transportation and connections, business, housing and development, and public space and community. All four of these themes were developed through collaboration with city planners as well as the working groups representing the Columbia Tusculum neighborhood.

These Theme Areas will help to guide conversations moving forward and assist in the formation of the goals and strategies that will be identified in this plan. Each of the theme areas will be found on the next several pages, including the goals, strategies, and action steps for all four. The vision statements for all four may are below:



## **BUSINESS**

*CT strives to preserve and grow its strong collection of local businesses through emphasizing business diversity, walkability, and accessibility to Cincinnati's greatest playground while honoring our colorful heritage as Cincinnati's oldest community.*



## **TRANSPORTATION & CONNECTIONS**

*Increasing safety and efficiency to promote a vibrant and diverse neighborhood for residents and visitors by implementing pedestrian safety, traffic calming, and beautification. Thereby creating connectivity within a balanced network of transportation and recreation options including enhanced roads, walkways, and trails.*



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*CT is a community embracing its historic roots and is inclusive to all incomes and backgrounds. We strive to maximize the 15-minute community model with an emphasis on walkability and accessibility, integrate business assets and housing in a safe and "green" way, and grow with a diverse range of structure types, sizes, costs, and uses.*



## **PUBLIC SPACE & COMMUNITY**

*Building on our history, CT is committed to developing and preserving a safe, walkable neighborhood filled with charm and areas for recreation and community engagement.*

**Photo by:** Moey Inc



Photo by: Moey Inc

# BUSINESS THEME AREA

## Goal 1 Increase Business Density



### 1.1: Fill empty storefronts and prioritize filling of empty lots

- 1.1.1: *Identify anchor businesses and create a map to share with business owners and community members*
- 1.1.2: *Identify property owners and find out why lots or properties are vacant*
- 1.1.3: *Conduct exercises and participatory mechanisms where residents and stakeholders can provide input on priority reinvestment areas*
- 1.1.4: *Continue to work with business owners, developers, and real estate agencies to enhance and maintain relationships for the good of Columbia Tusculum*

### 1.2: Encourage a mix of developments within the neighborhood consistent with existing businesses in scale

- 1.2.1: *Analyze existing areas within the neighborhood where multi-use development can occur and where it is appropriate with the permitted land use*
- 1.2.2: *Incentivize energy efficient and sustainable developments*

### 1.3: Establish and promote clear incentives for redevelopment of certain types of projects

- 1.3.1: *Work with current and future property owners for the potential of creating Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)*
- 1.3.2: *Research existing incentives and resources that could assist property owners or future developers for infill development*
- 1.3.3: *Explore additional development incentives including tax incentives, density bonuses, reduce and alternate parking requirements to attract appropriate and meaningful development*
- 1.3.4: *Collaborate with the Department of Community and Economic Development to utilize existing incentives such as Tax Increment Financing (TIFs), Community Reinvestment Area Tax Abatements, and Neighborhood Business District Support Grants (NBDSG)*
- 1.3.5: *Set up a business sub-committee of Columbia Tusculum Community Council*

# Goal 2

## Invest in a multi-modal connection between businesses and community members/visitors

### 2.1: Make Columbia Tusculum a unique destination by looking for opportunities to enhance social interaction on foot, bicycle or in vehicles

- 2.1.1: *Encourage new amenities and activities that will continue to make Columbia Tusculum a more attractive community to business, residents, and visitors*
- 2.1.2: *Expand partnerships with City Departments, Cincinnati Parks, Carnegie Center, and other visual arts programs or organizations to promote a variety of arts and cultural components*
- 2.1.3: *Encourage the community council to invest in guerrilla urbanism to help make roads safer for pedestrians and bicyclists*
- 2.1.4: *Continue to sponsor events that bring attention to the neighborhood like the annual Flying Pig Marathon water station, Historic Home Tour, and more*

### 2.2: Capitalize on proximity to bike trails

- 2.2.1: *Implement more signage to encourage walking/biking*

# Goal 3

## Focus our community on local business programs and certifications

### 3.1: Emphasize the importance of Business Enterprises

- 3.1.1: *Focus on Small Business Enterprises (SBEs)*
- 3.1.2: *Focus on Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBEs)*
- 3.1.3: *Focus on Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs)*

### 3.2: Collaborate with different organizations in the City to promote the incentives of existing programs

- 3.2.1: *Continue to promote the Columbia Tusculum Business Association to get more businesses to join*
- 3.2.2: *Promote the City's Small Business Assistance funds (MicroCity Loan and Grow*

# Goal 4

## Encourage and promote affordability options in businesses

**4.1: Support creative options in order to attract new businesses, restaurants, and local entrepreneurial efforts**

*4.1.1: Catalog and identify grants and resources to help offset costs of opening business or remediation of environmental issues*

*4.1.2: Create affordable rent program for small businesses*



**Photo by:** Moey Inc



Photo by: Google Maps

# Transportation

# TRANSPORTATION & CONNECTIONS THEME AREA



## Goal 1 Capitalize on regional bicycle connections

**1.1: Promote completion of trails in the vicinity of Columbia Tusculum that are identified in adopted or officially recognized trail plans**

- 1.1.1: Identify regional trail network gaps in Columbia Tusculum vicinity*
- 1.1.2: Identify preferred locations for trail heads, bike rental (Red-Bike), and bike racks, using zone districts to avoid incompatible areas*
- 1.1.3: Track and report on City/OKI/State trail planning efforts for Columbia Tusculum trail advocacy*
- 1.1.4: Partner with neighborhood institutions, and public agencies (i.e. Cincinnati Parks and Recreation) to share underused surface parking lots and locate bike racks*
- 1.1.5: Invite trail planning and funding agencies (OKI, Green Umbrella/Tri-State Trails, and Devou Good) to CTCC meetings or Transportation Committee working groups to inform CT on proposed routes/plans*

**1.2: Develop & maintain accessible, well-lit entrances to the trail network**

- 1.2.1: Optimally use available parking and commercial zone districts to locate bike amenities*

## Goal 2 Promote pedestrian safety & connectivity throughout the neighborhood

**2.1: Partner with DOTE to identify best practices and locations for traffic calming, focusing on pedestrian safety along Columbia Parkway between Tusculum Avenue and Delta Avenue (in the Neighborhood Business District (NBD))**

- 2.1.1: Submit speed cushion locations*

*2.1.2: Contact DOTE-Transportation Planning and Design (TPUD) Street Calming Program to discuss problem areas that may warrant speed bumps/cushions, traffic signs, pavement markings, and other Ped. Safety Program tools*

*2.1.3: Contact DOTE-Traffic Engineering for new or replacement signs, signals, and pavement markings*

## **2.2: Prioritize sidewalk safety and maintenance**

*2.2.1: Partner with DOTE (Street Rehab Program and Sidewalk Safety Program) to identify and map gaps in sidewalk network*

*2.2.2: Prioritize areas for sidewalk construction and submit requests via the City's Community Budget Request process*

## **2.3: Employ a carrot and stick approach to discourage or eliminate truck traffic on one-lane residential streets, such as Morris Place, and direct it to Kellogg Ave and Eastern Ave**

*2.3.1: Request DOTE truck traffic management tools and work with local businesses to educate truck drivers on appropriate and efficient travel routes through Columbia Tusculum*

# *Goal* **3** **Promote access to quality transportation alternatives and options**

## **3.1: Promote alternatives to personal gas-powered vehicles including bus ridership, bike share, ride share, electric vehicles (EV) and other alternative transportation modes**

*3.1.1: Participate in METRO planning studies and widely circulate surveys to residents*

*3.1.2: Apply to CNBDU for additional bus stop amenities consistent with existing Columbia Tusculum urban streetscape*

*3.1.3: Identify optimal Red-Bike station locations in Columbia Tusculum and work with Red-Bike to install*

*3.1.4: Promote group ride share trips to the CBD and other common destinations*

*3.1.5: Partner with OES to pursue grants for public EV charging stations in Columbia Tusculum*

## **3.2: Explore opportunities to expand connectivity to adjacent neighborhoods**



*3.2.1: Complete a neighborhood survey to gain insight into residents' transportation preferences. Use this information to promote neighborhood preferences (could include additional opportunities in bus ridership, bike share, electric vehicles)*

*3.2.2: Promote trails and paths north of rail road tracks to minimize rail crossing*

**3.3: Coordinate with Planning & Development to encourage future developments to include adequate parking where on-street parking is saturated**

## Goal 4

## Maintain and enhance community character while expanding transportation infrastructure

**4.1: Expand place-making and wayfinding opportunities to complement existing urban design**

*4.1.1: Identify funding sources or other resources for urban design and street amenities*

*4.1.2: Photo, document, and map thoroughfares in need of urban design (e.g. Eastern Avenue between Delta Avenue and Carrel Street, Stanley Avenue between Kellogg Avenue and Vineyard Place)*

*4.1.3: Engage landscape architecture professionals and City resources to create a vision for significant thoroughfares (Eastern, Stanley) and develop streetscape proposals to beautify streets, as well as enhance connectivity and calm traffic*

*4.1.4: Consult with Urban Forestry on street tree availability*

*4.1.5: Apply for CNBDU funding or other sources to fund gateways or wayfinding systems (in conjunction with the Public Space & Community Committee)*

*4.1.6: Partner with DOTE-UD (Graphic Design) to develop CT identity, gateway, or wayfinding concepts that reflect CT community character and compliment or tie into existing systems*

**4.2: Continue the ongoing maintenance of existing infrastructure**

*4.2.1: Assemble a neighborhood committee to complete improvements and maintain the railroad tunnel at Congress Avenue & Eastern Avenue*

*4.2.2: Report city roadway and sidewalk maintenance issues via Fixit Cincy App or the City 'Contact Us' online portal - Publicize reporting contact information*



**Photo by:** Google Maps

# *Housing*

# HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT THEME AREA



## Goal 1 Embrace and promote density in the neighborhood

### 1.1: Provide and increase a full spectrum of housing options and price points

1.1.1: Focus on not just single-family, but also two-family, four-family, and multi-family developments

### 1.2: Use the existing development momentum to further spur development activity

1.2.1: Ramp up housing production to catch-up with other regions

1.2.2: Continue educating residents and promoting progressive trends that correlate with City- and Region-wide goals such as: Transit-Oriented Development (TODs), Microneighborhoods, and Placemaking

### 1.3: Review existing guidelines and codes to identify potential adjustments

1.3.1: Support the future inclusion of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) into the Cincinnati Zoning Code

1.3.2: Review the existing Historic District Conservation Guidelines and consider potential changes

## Goal 2 Continue embracing Columbia Tusculum's historic roots while welcoming all backgrounds and incomes

### 1.1: Target future residential (or mixed) developments in transit- and amenity-rich locations

1.1.1: Educate neighborhood about existing incentives/assistance for tax abatements, code compliance (to improve existing housing stock/conditions), infill housing, and assisting seniors in staying in their homes or neighborhood



Photo by: [365cincinnati.com](http://365cincinnati.com)

# Community

# PUBLIC SPACE & COMMUNITY THEME AREA



## Goal 1 Foster relationships within the community

**1.1: Continue building relationships with existing organizations within Columbia Tusculum**

*1.1.1: Foster relationships specifically with Alms Park Allies, 3 East Business Association, CROWN, Irish Heritage Center of Cincinnati, St. Stephen Catholic Church, and Columbia Baptist*

**1.2: Focus on programming and events to improve community interaction and communication**

*1.2.1: Leverage the existing Cincinnati Park Advisory Council (CPAC) for Alms Park improvements and potential programming*

*1.2.2: Build a calendar of community-focused neighborhood events to highlight events such as Street Fest, Fall Festival at the Carnegie, Flying Pig and Queen Bee cheer stations, Wine Tasting and Art Show, and more*

*1.2.3: Share event information on Facebook and in the monthly e-newsletter*

## Goal 2 Celebrate CT's historic charm

**2.1: Continue ongoing maintenance of existing historic buildings and aesthetic details, as well as find financial support for historic recreation**

*2.1.1: Create a historic maintenance plan for areas and buildings within the Historic District (i.e., period lighting, brick alleys)*

*2.1.2: Consider the use of tax credits for capital projects*

*2.1.3: Consider revisions to the Historic District Conservation Guidelines*

*2.1.4: Apply for Certified Local Government funding from the State Historic Preservation Office to create self-guided walking tours*

*2.1.5: Identify and create a map of unique assets, landmarks, natural features, streetscapes, and patterns of development that distinguish each character area and create a “sense of place”*

## **Goal 3** Ensure complete, safe connections within the neighborhood

### **3.1: Ensure continuity and access of sidewalks for a more walkable neighborhood**

- 3.1.1: Identify missing sidewalk and pedestrian connections and promote ideas to integrate them into the existing pedestrian network*
- 3.1.2: Determine the appropriate funding mechanism and partners for connectivity opportunities*
- 3.1.3: Connect with Cincinnati Riding or Walking Network (CROWN) regarding the Oasis Trail*
- 3.1.4: Gain an understanding of the proposed route/plans and insure the implementation of the Transportation & Connections strategies and action steps*



**Photo by:** [weddingwire.com](http://weddingwire.com)

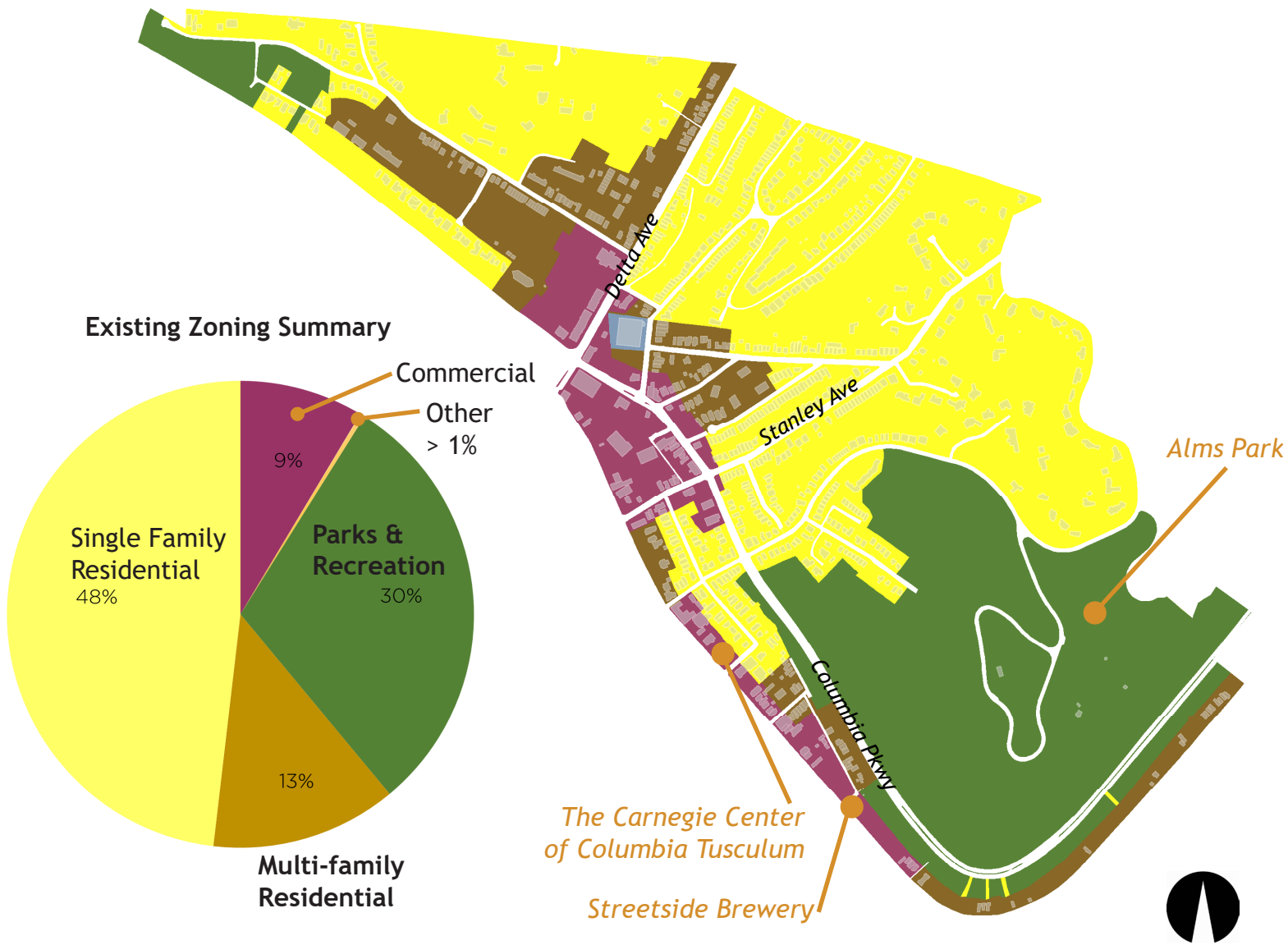
# EXISTING LAND USE

The **existing land use** of Columbia Tusculum may be found on the map below. It is important to note that land use and zoning are different terms. Land use refers to the building and occupancies of the land while zoning highlights the activities and development permitted.








# EXISTING ZONING

The **existing zoning** of Columbia Tusculum may be found on the map below. The majority of the existing zoning in Columbia Tusculum is single-family, which consists of Single Family SF-2, SF-4, SF-6, and SF-20. The second largest zoning district is Parks and Recreation, with the majority of the space being taken up by the well-known Alms Park.



## Zoning Districts

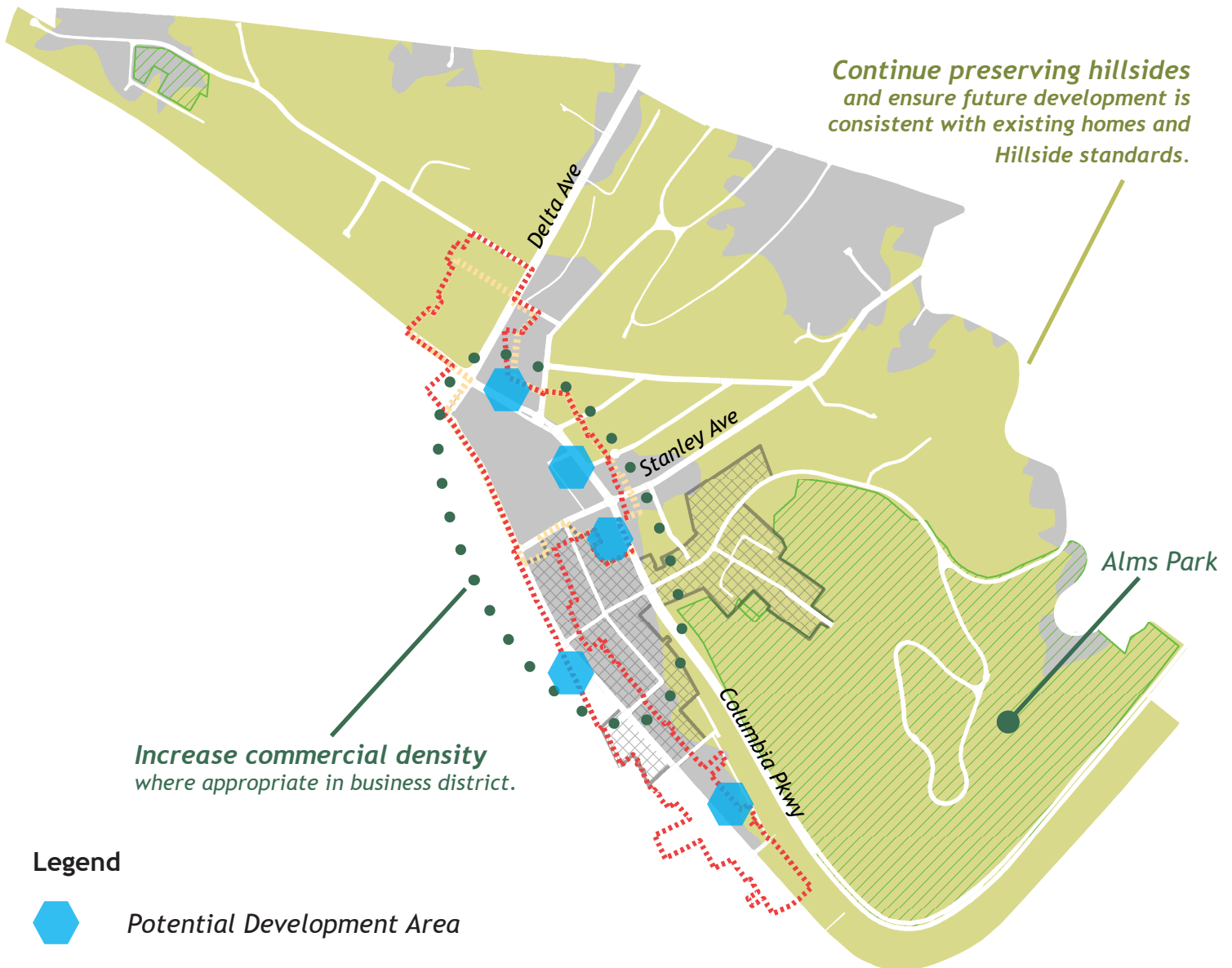
- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  Single Family Residential<br>(SF-2, -4, -6, & -20 Districts) |  Multi Family Residential |
|  Parks and Recreation   |  Planned Development*     |
|  |  Commercial               |

\*Planned Development means a large, integrated development adhering to a comprehensive site plan and located on a single site (§ 1401-01-P12).



# FUTURE LAND USE

For Columbia Tusculum being one of the smallest neighborhoods in Cincinnati, it has many important districts located within it: an Urban Design Overlay District, Historic District, Hillside Overlay District, and its own Neighborhood Business District. The map below highlights this including possible opportunity areas.







*Continue preserving hillsides and ensure future development is consistent with existing homes and Hillside standards.*

*Increase commercial density where appropriate in business district.*

**Legend**

 *Potential Development Area*

**Special Districts**

-  *Business District*
-  *Urban Design Overlay*
-  *Historic District*
-  *Hillside District*

**\*\*This map does not deviate significantly from existing zoning or preliminary land development code updates but should be used to guide potential zoning changes and redevelopment, and to encourage a land use planning process that emphasizes community input.**

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# CONSISTENCY WITH PLAN CINCINNATI (2012)

**Do You Live CT?** is consistent with all five Initiative Areas of **Plan Cincinnati** - Compete, Connect, Live, Sustain, and Collaborate.

These Initiative Areas align with the Guiding Policy Principles by increasing our population, building on our assets, becoming recognized, being aggressive and strategic in future growth and development, and to develop a culture of health embodied by thriving residents.

## **Compete** | *Be the pivotal economic force of the region.*

Goal to “Foster a climate conducive to growth, investment, stability, and opportunity” (p. 102) and the Strategy to “Pursue new growth and business recruitment efforts in target industries” (p. 108). This plan is additionally consistent with the Goal to “Become nationally and internationally recognized as a vibrant and unique city” (p. 121) through the Strategy to “Promote Cincinnati’s lifestyle” (p. 122).

As it states in Plan Cincinnati, “Cincinnati is a special place...our distinctive housing, unique and walkable neighborhoods...Cincinnati can begin to grow into a large city while maintaining the benefits of a smaller community” (p. 122).

## **Connect** | *Bring people and places together.*

Goal to “develop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood vitality” (p. 129) and the Strategy to “support regional and intercity transportation initiatives” (p. 144).

## **Live** | *Strengthen our magnetic City with energized people.*

Goals to “build a robust public life” (p. 149) and “create a more liveable community” (p. 156) and the Strategies to “develop and maintain inviting and engaging public spaces to encourage social interaction between different types of people” (p. 150), to “become more walkable” (p. 157), to “support and stabilize our neighborhoods” (p. 160).

## **Sustain** | *Steward resources and ensure long-term vitality.*

Goals to “become a healthier Cincinnati” (p. 181) and to “preserve our natural and built environment” (p. 193) with the Strategies to “protect our natural resources” (p. 194) and “preserve our built history” (p. 197).

## **Collaborate** | *Partner to reach our common goals.*

Goal to “Work in Synergy with the Cincinnati Community” through the Strategy to “unite our communities” (p. 210).



# APPENDIX

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# ABBREVIATIONS

- B&I** – Department of Buildings and Inspections
- CP** - Cincinnati Parks
- CPAC** - Cincinnati Park Advisory Council
- CPD** – Cincinnati Police Department
- CPS** – Cincinnati Public Schools
- CRC** - City Recreation Commission
- CSR** – Customer Service Request (system)
- CTCC** – Columbia Tusculum Community Council
- DCED** – Department of Community and Economic Development
- DCPE** – Department of City Planning and Engagement
- DPS** – Department of Public Services
- DOT** – Department of Transportation and Engineering
- ODOT** – Ohio Department of Transportation
- OES** – Office of Environment and Sustainability
- OKI** – Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments
- TST** – Tri-State Trails

# CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION



CHM

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. 44 - 2023

**APPROVING** Do You Live CT? as the planning guide for the Columbia Tusculum neighborhood.

WHEREAS, beginning in 2020, the City and a group of community stakeholders formed a Steering Committee to champion a planning process to develop an innovative, comprehensive plan for the Columbia Tusculum neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, community stakeholder engagement led to the creation of Do You Live CT? (“Plan”) to serve as the guiding instrument for the future development of the Columbia Tusculum neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the Plan identifies four theme areas to guide containing the goals, strategies, and action steps to achieve the desired vision for the future development of Columbia Tusculum; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Tusculum Community Council and community stakeholders desire for the Plan to be officially approved by the Council so that it may serve as the City of Cincinnati’s official planning guide for the Columbia Tusculum neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the Plan is consistent with the Strategies for all five Initiative Areas of Plan Cincinnati (2012), including the “Compete” Initiative Area goal to “[f]oster a climate conducive to growth, investment, stability, and opportunity” as described on page 102; the “Connect” Initiative Area goal to “[d]evelop an efficient multi-modal transportation system that supports neighborhood vitality” as described on page 129; the “Live” Initiative Area goal to “[d]evelop and maintain inviting and engaging public spaces to encourage social interaction between different types of people” as described on page 150; the “Sustain” Initiative Area goal to “[p]rotect our natural resources” as described on page 194; and, the Collaborate Initiative Area goal to “[w]ork in synergy with the Cincinnati community” as described on page 210; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on May 5, 2023, the City Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and recommended it for approval; and

WHEREAS, a committee of Council considered and approved the Plan, finding it in the interest of the public’s health, safety, morals, and general welfare; and

WHEREAS, Council considers the Plan to be in the best interests of the City and the public’s health, safety, morals, and general welfare; now, therefore,

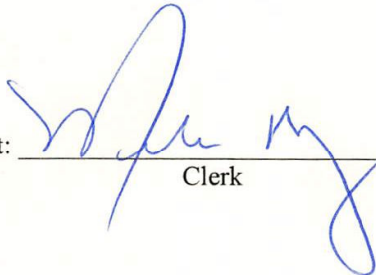
**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

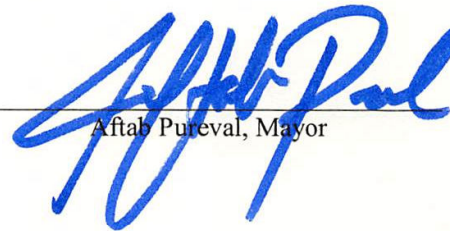
Section 1. That Do You Live CT? furthers the goals, strategies, and visions of the City of Cincinnati and its comprehensive plan, Plan Cincinnati (2012).

Section 2. That Do You Live CT? attached hereto as Attachment "A" and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby approved.

Section 3. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council, and that the Clerk of Council send a copy to the Columbia Tusculum Community Council at P.O. Box 68075, Cincinnati, OH 45206.

Passed: May 24, 2023

Attest:   
Clerk

  
Aftab Pureval, Mayor

# IMPLEMENTATION TABLES

## BUSINESS THEME AREA

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Increase Business Density	Fill Empty Storefronts and prioritize filling of empty lots	Identify anchor businesses and create a map to share with business owners and community members	Medium	3-6 Months	DCED, DCPE, Business Owners, CTCC
		Identify property owners and find out why lots or property is open	Medium	3-6 Months	Hamilton County, DCED, DCPE, Realtors
		Conduct exercises and participatory mechanisms where residents and stakeholders can provide input on priority reinvestment areas	Medium	Ongoing	Business Owners, Residents
	Encourage a mix of developments within the neighborhood	Continue to work with business owners, developers, real estate agencies to enhance and maintain relationships for the good of Columbia Tusculum	High	Ongoing	Business Owners, Residents, Realtors, CTCC
		Analyze existing areas within the neighborhood where multi-use development can occur and where it is appropriate with the permitted land use	High	3-6 Months	DCPE, DCED
		Incentivize energy efficient developments	High	Ongoing	Developers, OES



Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Increase Business Density	Establish and promote clear incentives for redevelopment of certain types of projects	potential of creating Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)	High	2-3 Years	Residents, DCED
		Research existing incentives and resources that could assist property owners or future developers for infill development	Medium	Ongoing	DCED, DCPE, Business Owners, CTCC
		Explore additional development incentives including tax incentives, density bonuses, reduce and alternate parking requirements to attract appropriate and meaningful development	Medium	1-2 Years	Parking Services, DCPE
		Collaborate with the Department of Community and Economic Development to utilize existing incentives such as Tax Increment Financing (TIFs), Community Reinvestment Area Tax Abatements, and Neighborhood Business District Support Grants (NBDSG)	Medium	Ongoing	DCED, CTCC
		Set up a business sub-committee of CT Community Council	Low	1-2 Years	CTCC

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Invest in a multi-modal connection between businesses and community members/visitors	Make Columbia Tusculum a unique destination by looking for opportunities to enhance social interaction on foot, bicycle or in vehicles	activities that will continue to make Columbia Tusculum a more attractive community to business, residents, and visitors	High	Ongoing	CTCC, Residents
		Expand partnerships with City Departments, Cincinnati Parks, Carnegie Center, and other visual arts programs or organizations to promote a variety of arts and cultural components	Medium	Ongoing	Parks, CTCC
		Encourage the community council to invest in guerrilla urbanism to help make roads safer for pedestrians and bicyclists	Medium	Ongoing	CTCC
		Continue to sponsor events that bring attention to the neighborhood like the annual Flying Pig Marathon water station, Historic Home Tour, and more	Low	Ongoing	CTCC, City Departments
	Capitalize on proximity to bike trails	Implement more signage to encourage walking/biking	Medium	2-5 Years	City Departments, Tri-State Trails
		Plan out and identify potential opportunities for new trail expansions	Low	1-2 Years	Tri-State Trails, CTCC

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Focus our community on local business programs and certifications	Emphasize the importance of Business Enterprises	Focus on Small Business Enterprises (SBEs)	High	Ongoing	DCED, Business Owners
		Focus on Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (MBEs)	High	Ongoing	DCED, Business Owners
		Focus on Women-Owned Business Enterprises (WBEs)	High	Ongoing	DCED, Business Owners
	Collaborate with different organizations in the City to promote the incentives of existing programs	Continue to promote the Columbia Tusculum Business Association to get more businesses to join	Medium	Ongoing	Business Owners, CTCC
		Promote the City's Small Business Assistance funds (MicroCity Loan and Grow Cincinnati Fund) to encourage expansion within the small business community	Medium	Ongoing	City Departments
	Encourage and promote affordability options in businesses	Support creative options in order to attract new businesses, restaurants, and local entrepreneurial efforts	Catalog and identify grants and resources to help offset costs of opening business or remediation of environmental issues	Low	1 Year
Create affordable rent program for small businesses			Low	2-5 Years	City Departments, Hamilton County, State of Ohio

# TRANSPORTATION & CONNECTIVITY THEME AREA

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Capitalize on regional bicycle connections	Promote completion of trails in the vicinity of CT that are identified in adopted or officially recognized trail plans	Identify regional trail network gaps in CT vicinity	High	3-6 Months	OKI, TST
		Identify preferred locations for trail heads, bike rental (Red-Bike), and bike racks, using zone districts to avoid incompatible areas	Medium	1 Year	OKI, TST, CTCC
		Track and report on City/OKI/State trail planning efforts for CT trail advocacy	High	Ongoing	City Departments, OKI, TST, ODOT
		Partner with neighborhood institutions, and public agencies (i.e. Cincinnati Parks, and Recreation) to share underused surface parking lots and locate bike racks	Medium	Ongoing	CP, CRC

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Capitalize on regional bicycle connections	Promote completion of trails in the vicinity of CT that are identified in adopted or officially recognized trail plans	Invite trail planning and funding agencies (OKI, Green Umbrella/Tri-State Trails...) to CTCC meetings or Transportation Committee working groups to inform CT on proposed routes/plans	Medium	Ongoing	TST, OKI
		Optimally use available parking and commercial zone districts to locate bike amenities	Medium	Ongoing	DCED, DCPE, CTCC
		Submit speed cushion locations	High	Ongoing	CTCC, City Departments
	Partner with DOTE to identify best practices and locations for traffic calming, focusing on pedestrian safety along Columbia Parkway between Tusculum Avenue and Delta Avenue (in the Neighborhood	Contact DOTE-Transportation Planning and Design (TPUD) Street Calming Program to discuss problem areas that may warrant speed bumps/cushions, traffic signs, pavement	Medium	2-3 Years	DOTE

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Promote pedestrian safety & connectivity throughout the neighborhood	Neighborhood Business District (NBD)).	traffic signs, pavement markings, and other Ped. Safety Program tools			
		Contact DOTE-Traffic Engineering for new or replacement signs, signals, and pavement markings	Medium	Ongoing	DOTe
	Prioritize sidewalk safety and maintenance	Partner with DOTE (Street Rehab Program and Sidewalk Safety Program) to identify and map gaps in sidewalk network	High	1-2 Years	CTCC, DOTE
		Prioritize areas for sidewalk construction and submit requests via the City's Community Budget Request process	High	1 Year	DOTe, City Departments
	Employ a carrot and stick approach to discourage or eliminate truck traffic on one-lane residential streets, such as Morris Place, and direct it to Kellogg	Request DOTE truck traffic management tools and work with local businesses to educate truck drivers on appropriate and efficient travel routes through CT	Medium	Ongoing	DOTe

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Promote pedestrian safety & connectivity throughout the neighborhood	Promote alternatives to personal gas-powered vehicles including bus ridership, bike share, ride share, electric vehicles (EV) and other alternative transportation modes	Participate in METRO planning studies (CTCC) and widely circulate surveys to residents	Medium	Ongoing	METRO, CTCC, DOTE
		Apply to CNBDU for additional bus stop amenities consistent with existing CT urban streetscape	Medium	Ongoing	City Departments
		Identify optimal Red-Bike station locations in CT (see map for sites to be approved by CTCC) and work with Red-Bike to install	Low	3-6 Months	CTCC, Red Bike
Promote access to quality transportation alternatives and options	Promote alternatives to personal gas-powered vehicles including bus ridership, bike share, ride share, electric vehicles (EV) and other alternative transportation modes	Promote group ride share trips to the CBD and other common destinations	Low	Ongoing	CTCC
		Partner with OES to pursue grants for public EV charging stations in CT	Low	Ongoing	OES
		Complete a neighborhood survey to gain insight into residents' transportation preferences. Use this information to			

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
<b>Promote access to quality transportation alternatives and options</b>	<b>Explore opportunities to expand connectivity to adjacent neighborhoods</b>	preferences. Use this information to promote neighborhood preferences (could include additional opportunities in bus ridership, bike share, electric vehicles)	<b>Medium</b>	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>City Departments</b>
		Promote trails and paths north of RR tracks to minimize rail crossing	<b>High</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>TST, OKI</b>
	<b>Coordinate with Planning &amp; Development to encourage future developments to include adequate parking where on-street parking is saturated</b>	Optimally use available parking and commercial zone districts to locate bike amenities	<b>High</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>City Departments</b>
		Identify funding sources or other resources for urban design and street amenities	<b>High</b>	<b>1-2 Years</b>	<b>City Departments</b>



Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Maintain and enhance community character while expanding transportation infrastructure	Expand place-making and wayfinding opportunities to complement existing urban design	Photo document and map thoroughfares in need of urban design (e.g.: Eastern Avenue between Delta Avenue and Carrel Street, Stanley Avenue between Kellogg Avenue and Vineyard Place)	Low	6-8 Months	CTCC
		Engage landscape architecture professionals and City resources to create a vision for significant thoroughfares (Eastern, Stanley) and develop streetscape proposals to beautify streets, as well as enhance connectivity and calm traffic	Low	2-5 Years	CTCC
		Consult with Urban Forestry on street tree availability	Low	Ongoing	City Departments
		Apply for CNBDU funding or other sources to fund gateways or wayfinding systems (in	Medium	Ongoing	DOTe

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
enhance community character while expanding transportation infrastructure		Apply for CNBDU funding or other sources to fund gateways or wayfinding systems (in conjunction with the Public Space & Community Committee)	Medium	Ongoing	DOTE
		Design to develop CT identity, gateway or wayfinding concepts that reflect CT community character and compliment or tie into existing systems	Low	2-3 Years	DOTE
	Continue the ongoing maintenance of existing infrastructure	Assemble a neighborhood committee to complete improvements and maintain the railroad tunnel at Congress Avenue & Eastern Avenue	Low	1-2 Years	CTCC
		Report city roadway and sidewalk maintenance issues via FixIt Cincy App or the City 'Contact Us' online portal. Publicize reporting contact information	Medium	Ongoing	DOTE, City Departments

# HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT THEME AREA

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Embrace and promote density in the neighborhood	Provide and increase a full spectrum of housing options and price points	Focus on not just single-family, but also two-family, four-family, and multi-family developments	High	Ongoing	DCPE, DCED, City Departments
	Use the existing development momentum to further spur development activity	Ramp up housing production to catch-up with other regions	Medium	Ongoing	Developers, DCED
		Continue educating residents and promoting progressive trends that correlate with City- and Region-wide goals such as Transit-Oriented Development (TODs), Microneighborhoods, and Placemaking	High	Ongoing	City Departments
	Review existing guidelines and codes to identify potential adjustments	Support the future inclusion of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) into the Cincinnati Zoning Code	High	Ongoing	DCED, DCPE, City Council
		Review the existing conservation guidelines and consider potential changes	Low	2-3 Years	City Departments
	Continue embracing Columbia Tusculum's historic roots while welcoming all backgrounds and incomes	Target future residential (or mixed) developments in transit- and amenity-rich locations	Educate neighborhood about existing incentives/assistance for tax abatements, code compliance (to improve existing housing stock/conditions), infill housing, and assisting seniors in staying in their homes or neighborhood	High	Ongoing

# PUBLIC SPACE & COMMUNITY THEME AREA

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Foster relationships within the community	Continue building relationships with existing organizations within Columbia Tusculum	Foster relationships specifically with Alms Park Allies, 3 East Business Association, CROWN, Irish Heritage Center of Cincinnati, St. Stephen Catholic Church, and Columbia Baptist	Medium	Ongoing	Alms Park Allies, 3 East Business Association, Irish Heritage Center, Churches
	Focus on programming and events to improve community interactive and communication	Leverage the existing Cincinnati Park Advisory Council (CPAC) for Alms Park improvements and potential programming	Medium	Ongoing	CP, CPAC
		Build a calendar of community-focused neighborhood events to highlight events such as Street Fest, Fall Festival at the Carnegie, Flying Pig and Queen Bee cheer stations, Wine Tasting and Art Show, and more	Low	Ongoing	CTCC
		Share event information on Facebook and in the monthly e-newsletter	High	Ongoing	CTCC, DCPE
Celebrate CT's historic charm		Create a historic maintenance plan for areas and buildings within the Historic District (i.e., period lighting, brick alleys)	Medium	1-2 Years	City Departments
		Consider the use of tax credits for capital projects	High	Ongoing	City Departments

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
Celebrate CT's historic charm	Continue ongoing maintenance of existing historic buildings and aesthetic details, as well as find financial support for historic recreation	Consider revisions to the Historic District Conservation Guidelines	Low	2-3 Years	Cincinnati Preservation Association
		Apply for Certified Local Government funding from the State Historic Preservation Office to create self-guided walking tours	Medium	Ongoing	City Departments
		Identify and create a map of unique assets, landmarks, natural features, streetscapes, and patterns of development that distinguish each character area and create a "sense of place"	High	3-6 Months	DCPE
Ensure complete, safe connections within the neighborhood	Ensure continuity and access of sidewalks for a more walkable neighborhood.	Identify missing sidewalk and pedestrian connections and promote ideas to integrate them into the existing pedestrian network	High	1-2 Years	DOT, ODOT, City Departments
		Determine the appropriate funding mechanism and partners for connectivity opportunities	Medium	Ongoing	City Departments
		Connect with Cincinnati Riding or Walking Network (CROWN) regarding the Oasis Trail	Medium	5-10 Years	TST, DOT, City Departments

Goal	Strategy	Action Step	Priority Low, Medium, High	Time Frame Short, Medium, Long	Partners/ Resources
		Gain an understanding of the proposed route/plans and insure the implement of the Transportation & Connections strategies and action steps	Medium	2-5 years	DOTE, ODOT, City Departments

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