Today’s Agenda

1. Welcome and workshop overview
2. The Russell Neighborhood Vision
3. Neighborhood and Housing Concepts
4. Break-out Discussions - your opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on:
   • Vision
   • Neighborhood strategies
   • Neighborhood housing
   • Beecher Terrace transformation
Creating a VISION for the Russell Neighborhood
Capturing the Past...

...Cultivating the Future
Russell’s rich history can help inspire the future

Lincoln Theater at 9th and Walnut

Downtown Civil Rights Movement

Muhammad Ali attended Central High

Western Branch Library
Building on our STRENGTHS

- Strong community
- Heritage and history
- Location
- Affordability
- Access to quality public transportation
- Architectural character
- Multiple neighborhood schools and community organizations

And more…
Recognizing our CHALLENGES

- Crime, lack of safety
- Limited neighborhood retail, restaurants
- Vacant properties
- Litter and upkeep
- Poor street lighting
- School performance and travel time
- Access to jobs
- Concentration of poverty
- Economic opportunities
Cultivating our OPPORTUNITIES

Youth activities

Improved safety

Housing choices

Connectivity

Gathering spaces

More retail & services

Plus high-performing schools, age-friendly places, traffic calming, vacant lot reuse...
Capturing the VISION: Neighborhood and Housing Concepts
Neighborhood Strategies

Reinforce IDENTITY

Re-create RETAIL SERVICE CENTERS

Enhance EXISTING HOUSING

Develop NEW HOUSING

Improve PARKS and OPEN SPACES

Increase CONNECTIVITY

Improve SAFETY
1. Reinforce neighborhood

IDENTITY

- Place-Making
- Signage
- Heritage and history
- Art and culture
- A strong community
1. Reinforce neighborhood **IDENTITY**

Muhammad Ali Blvd at 13th Street – Today

- Opportunity for identity or artwork
- Lack of streetscape
- No street trees
- Wide, fast one-way street
1. Reinforce neighborhood IDENTITY

Muhammad Ali Blvd at 13th Street – Vision

Street trees and green infrastructure
On street parking
Neighborhood artwork
Two-way street with bike lane
Street frontage
2. Improve actual and perceived SAFETY

- Address vacant properties
- Focus on “hot spot” areas that attract criminal activity
- Increase “natural surveillance” along streets:
  - Front doors for “eyes on the street”
  - Well-lit streets
  - Landscaping
  - Block clubs/social media
- Build partnerships between police + community + schools
3. Improve **CONNECTIVITY** and **TRANSPORTATION** options

- Improve pedestrian safety:
  - Visible crosswalks
  - Curb bump outs
  - Traffic calming
- Enhance transit stops
- Implement two-way streets
- Extend downtown circulator bus
- Add car-share services
3. Improve **CONNECTIVITY** and **TRANSPORTATION** options

18th Street – Today
3. Improve **CONNECTIVITY** and **TRANSPORTATION** options

**18th Street future concept** – Safe, convenient transportation options

- Bus shelter with seating, route info
- Improved street lighting
- Higher visibility crosswalks
- Bus shelter with seating, route info
4. Re-create **STRONG RETAIL / SERVICE / ACTIVITY** centers

- Focus new retail & services around established retail clusters
- Add “pop-up” retail /services
- Coordinate with local hiring and business development initiatives
- Incentivize local small businesses
4. Re-create **STRONG RETAIL / SERVICE / ACTIVITY** centers

26th Street at Muhammad Ali Blvd – Today
4. Re-create **STRONG RETAIL / SERVICE / ACTIVITY** centers

New/expanded retail tenants

Infill of vacant properties bring additional retail and residents

26th Street at Muhammad Ali Blvd – Future Concept – Active Neighborhood Center

“Pocket Park”
4. Re-create **STRONG RETAIL / SERVICE / ACTIVITY** centers

Muhammad Ali Blvd at 18th St - Kentucky Center for African American Heritage - Today
4. Re-create **STRONG RETAIL / SERVICE / ACTIVITY** centers

Muhammad Ali Blvd at 18\textsuperscript{th} St - Kentucky Center for African American Heritage - Future Concept

A place for community gatherings and events celebrating past and present.
5. Improve PARK and RECREATION network

- Lots of Possibility “Pocket Parks” & green spaces
- Community gardens
- Relocate and revitalize Old Walnut St. Park as multi-use sports park
- Renovating Olmsted parks
5. Improve **PARK and RECREATION** network

- Enhance access to existing Central H.S. pool, school playgrounds, YMCA
- Green network connectors: 9th, 11th, Jefferson, Madison
5. Improve **PARK and RECREATION network**

9th Street today
5. Improve **PARK and RECREATION network**

9th Street future concept
Park ideas

- Meditation garden
- Wi-Fi hotspot/gathering space
- Playground
- Dog park
6. Preserve and enhance **EXISTING HOUSING**

- Incentivize repairs/upgrades by owners
- Expand ownership opportunities
- Provide renters means to grow assets
- Provide workshops on home repair, renovation, energy efficiency upgrades
- Incentivize renovation of vacant buildings
7. Develop sustainable **NEW HOUSING**

- Coordinate actions & partnerships by multiple development entities
- Redevelop larger strategic sites in neighborhood
- Transform Beecher Terrace into a vibrant mixed-income/ mixed-use community
Transforming Beecher Terrace

Draft concepts for consideration
Beecher Terrace doesn’t meet resident needs

- Need modern housing units
- Doesn’t feel safe
- Disconnected from downtown + jobs
- Need better park/recreation facilities
-Disconnected from Russell
- Limited neighborhood services
- Lacks identity
Improved connections for residents to surrounding assets

- Into Russell
- To Market/Main, Waterfront Park Phase IV
- To downtown
- A new type of neighborhood “green” street
- To schools, library, YMCA
New centers for neighborhood retail and services

Into Russell

To Market/Main, Waterfront Park Phase IV

Into Russell

Old Walnut Square

To schools, library, YMCA

To downtown

Draft concept
New and renewed public places for recreation and gathering

Baxter Square

Potential relocation site for the Old Walnut Street Park

Recreation center

Old Walnut Square

Mayor’s mile walking loop

Gateway: Russell past and present

Dog park

Draft concept
New and renewed public places for recreation and gathering

- Baxter Square
- Community “heart” space
- Potential relocation site for the Old Walnut Street Park
- Recreation center
- Old Walnut Square
- Gateway: Russell past and present
- Dog park
- Mayor’s mile walking loop

Draft concept
Safe, attractive courtyards for residents to share

- Community garden
- Meditation garden
- BBQ patio
- Kids’ play space
- Water feature
- Seating
- Lighting

Potential relocation site for the Old Walnut Street Park

Recreation center

Old Walnut Square

Baxter Square

Community “heart” space

Gateway: Russell past and present

Dog park

Mayor’s mile walking loop

Draft concept
Building heights that step down toward the neighborhood

- 2 stories
- 2-3 stories
- 2-5 stories
- 3-5 stories
- 5-12+ stories
- 15-20 stories
Options to improve park and make it more central to Russell

OPTION A

OPTION B

Existing park
Example Beecher Terrace transformation – Park Option A

OPTION A

Potential new recreation center site for Russell
Option B: move park near high school

Path connections to Beecher Terrace at 11th and 13th

Potential new recreation center for Russell

Allow community access to existing Central High School pool
Example Beecher Terrace transformation – with park located off-site

OPTION B
A variety of quality homes serving diverse households

Park Option A shown

- 3-5+ floor multifamily
- 3-floor walk-up
- 2-3 floor townhouse

Draft concept
A variety of quality homes serving diverse households

2-3 floor townhouse
3 floor walk-ups
3 floor walk-ups
4-5 floors with elevator
Senior living with elevator
4-5 floors with elevator
Homes that meet your needs
A walk around a transformed Beecher

Safe  Healthy  Active

Smart  Service-enriched

Connected  Local retail

Sustainable and “green”
Liberty at 9th Street

Today: Not welcoming - poor connectivity – little sense of place
Liberty at 9th Street

Vision: Gateway to Russell - expressing identity - re-connecting to downtown

- View to semi-private courtyards
- Extend Liberty St into Russell
- Range of housing types
- Public art and heritage markers in public spaces
- Dog park
- Narrow 9th St, slow traffic
- Create safe crosswalks
- View to semi-private courtyards
Liberty at 11th Street

Today: outdated housing model
Liberty at 11th Street

Vision: Vibrant – heart of the community

- Seating with game tables
- Multi-use path
- Local corner retail
- Attractive, diverse housing
- Splash pad!
- Interactive play sculpture
- Attractive stormwater planters + trees
New Liberty Street is an attractive, quiet neighborhood street for people.
Muhammad Ali at 11th Street

Today: Little street presence - limited retail and services - poor connectivity
Muhammad Ali at 11th Street

Vision: vibrant retail - sense of place and history – strong connectivity

Neighborhood retail and services

Active neighborhood square

Celebrate history and character

Two-way traffic

Off-street multi-use path

Safer crosswalks and crossings
Interior spaces

Today: not inviting, inactive, extensive maintenance needs
Interior spaces

Vision: safe, active and neighborly

Private yards
Long view through courtyard
Kids’ play space
Landscaped parking area

BBQ patio
Community garden plots
Meet your neighbors
Visual preference survey indicated interest in broad range of housing scales and architectural styles across the neighborhood.

Desire for neighborhood services and retail nearby.

Unique, eclectic mix; small independent businesses.

Need youth programming and senior activities.

Improve/expand recreational programs.

Swimming pool, splash pad, etc. a common idea.

Transit good but can be improved – stops, service.

And more…

Break-out Discussions
Break-out discussions

- Visit any/all of four stations:
  - Vision
  - Neighborhood strategies
  - Neighborhood housing
  - Beecher Terrace transformation

- Ask questions
- Share your thoughts on what you’ve heard today
- Hear what your neighbors have to say
THANK YOU!