



SHAKER HEIGHTS

City Council Agenda City Hall Council Chambers Monday, July 8, 2019 at 7:00 pm

WORK SESSION

1. Forward Together Future of Facilities Priorities Exercise
 - Joyce Braverman, Planning Director
 - Ann Klavora, Principal Planner
 - Cameron Roberts, Planner

Documents:

[SURVEY OPEN HOUSE BOARDS_070819 COUNCIL.PDF](#)

SPECIAL MEETING

Executive Session: Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment; personnel matters, including the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of one or more public employees or officials; and the purchase, sale or the development of real property where premature disclosure of information would give an unfair competitive or bargaining advantage to a person, or otherwise adversely affect the general public interest.

To request an accommodation for a person with a disability, call the City's ADA Coordinator at 216-491-1440, or Ohio Relay Service at 711 for TTY users.

PRIORITIES OPEN HOUSE WORKSHEET

The following survey is an independent activity. Please help the Task Force understand your priorities for the future of Shaker Heights facilities along with the big ideas that are most important to you.

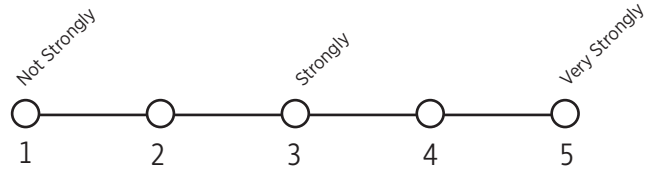
ACTIVITY 1: VISION FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Please review the following vision statement and provide your reactions and ideas.

Shaker Heights will lead in providing community facilities that are...

Modern and innovative while respecting historic character of our assets; inclusive and accessible to all people; adaptable and multifunctional; responsible in stewardship of costs and the environment and; collaborative in the broadest sense.

How strongly do you support the vision statement?



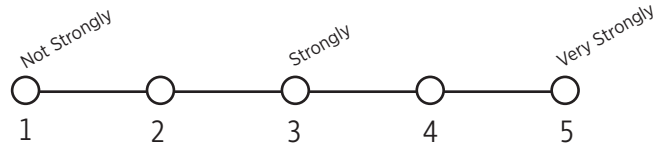
REACTIONS OR IDEAS:

ACTIVITY 2: GOALS FOR COMMUNITY FACILITIES

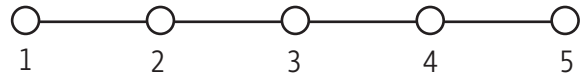
Please review the following goals and provide your reactions and ideas.

1. Gather. Places and programming that bring the entire community together in recreation, fun, fitness, educational and social opportunities that strengthens the sense of community.

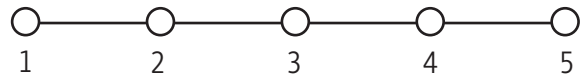
How strongly do you support each goal?



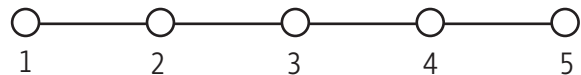
2. Connect. A network of safe and easily accessible routes that connect the community facilities to one another and to the neighborhoods they serve, as well as the infrastructure that supports digital connections within the community.



3. Utilize. A well-maintained network of facilities that are adaptable, multifunctional, efficient and utilized to their full potential.



4. Collaborate. A commitment to continuing the conversation to engage the City of Shaker Heights, the Shaker Heights City Schools and the Shaker Heights Public Library to work together in the best interest of the larger community.



REACTIONS OR IDEAS:

ACTIVITY 3: BIG IDEAS

Please review the following questions related to Big Idea #1.

Explore the potential for creating a central recreation and community center. A central recreation and community center would bring together both recreation/fitness spaces and programming with general community meeting/class space and additional civic and social services into one central community hub. This facility could include a special area or wing for seniors and youth/teens within the facility.

3a. Would you like to see a central recreation and community center facility or a more dispersed approach?

- A central facility.** (combined recreation/fitness and community center and services facility)
- A dispersed approach.** (separate smaller facilities dispersed throughout the community focused on different types of spaces, i.e. fitness, community center/services, youth, seniors)

WHY?

3b. If a central facility is explored, what are the top three types of spaces that you would like to see in a central recreation and community center facility?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness equipment/work out space | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and crafts room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness class space for group classes | <input type="checkbox"/> Community kitchen/teaching kitchen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor pool | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated teen drop-in center area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting space | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated senior center area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community/multipurpose space | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater/performing arts space |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3c. Which of the following sites do you think is best for locating a central recreation and community center? Choose only one. The following locations were identified as being potential sites for change within the community based on public input from the Future of Facilities workshop in April.

- Middle School and Bertram Woods Branch site.** In the short term this could include looking at the existing buildings and site for opportunities to renovate or add on to existing footprints to accommodate more community use. In the long term it could mean reimagining the existing facilities into a new type of facility.
- Thornton Park and adjacent greenspace.** Thornton Park and its adjacent facilities (tennis courts and outdoor pool, etc.) could be re-imagined as a central recreation center to expand and compliment current programming options.
- Main Library, Community Building and adjacent greenspace.** In conjunction with the Main Library renovation project, study the opportunity to re-imagine how the Main Library, Community Building and adjacent greenspace work together to create an intentional campus and the possibility for increased area for additional community space. This would also include studying how the Community Building could be re-programmed to accommodate additional community activities.
- Other** (fill in area, be as specific as you can): _____

1. WELCOME. START HERE.

WHAT IS FORWARD TOGETHER?

Forward Together is a process to develop a forward-looking strategy for current and future community facilities. The City of Shaker Heights, the Shaker Heights City Schools and the Shaker Heights Public Library have come together to jointly fund and lead a process to develop a Coordinated Facilities Master Plan. With limited resources and high expectations, it is important to leverage and strengthen current relationships and look for new ways to collaborate and think creatively about the current and future state of the community facilities.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

- 1. To be fiscally responsible.** We are in a new economy of sharing and partnerships are becoming essential to getting things done in a fiscally responsible way. Local municipalities are having to do more with less and collaboration allows for more creative ways to address issues and problem solve solutions.
- 3. To help attract and retain residents.** Shaker Heights sits within a region that has had steady population decline and while it has not lost population at the rate of the county or similar inner-ring suburbs, it is still impacted by the larger regional dynamics. Since 2000, the population of Shaker Heights has decreased 6% versus 10% for Cuyahoga County, 7% for University Heights, 10% for Lakewood, 11% for Cleveland Heights, and 12% for Warrensville Heights. Civic assets can be an important tool in helping to stabilize and attract new residents to the community.

WHY IS A COORDINATED FACILITIES MASTER PLAN NEEDED?

In general, planning represents good stewardship. Shaker Heights is known as a great place to live, go to school, raise a family and have fun. The Shaker Heights we know and love today is the result of a tradition of working together to leverage the most of our community assets. It is with this spirit that the City, School District and the Library system are coming together to envision the future of their facilities together.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY FACILITY?

Community facilities include the city administration and recreation facilities such as City Hall, community building, playgrounds, parks and recreation fields, fire and police stations as well as the main and branch libraries and all public school buildings and supporting facilities.

- 2. To be more innovative.** The Shaker Heights we know and love today is the result of a tradition of working together to leverage the most of our community assets. But traditionally, each entity has taken a siloed approach to building, maintaining and operating facilities. Now is the time to think differently about this approach.
- 4. To promote diversity and inclusion.** Shaker Heights is proud of its diversity and strives to be an open and welcoming place for all. Community facilities play an important role in creating healthy civic engagement and resiliency by providing residents with places to gather, share, and get to know each other.



2. PROCESS SO FAR...



PANEL DISCUSSION

This exciting collaborative City-Libraries-Schools project kicked off with an educational and inspirational speaker panel on March 26. Thought leaders discussed the future of cities, libraries and education and shared what they thought the trends and themes mean for the **future of our civic assets**.

VISION WORKSHOPS

The Future of Facilities Vision Workshops took place on April 11. Nearly 100 people participated at two different workshops and another 200 participated online. A brief presentation highlighted what was learned through interviews and technical analysis. Participants were then able to **share their ideas and insight** through four interactive activities focused on the future of facilities throughout the City.

PRIORITIES OPEN HOUSE

This Open House event allows participants to learn about the draft vision, goals, and big ideas that were developed as a result of the ideas and input provided during the Future of Facilities Vision Workshops. Participants are able to review the draft vision, goals and big ideas before the vision is finalized into a **final vision document**.

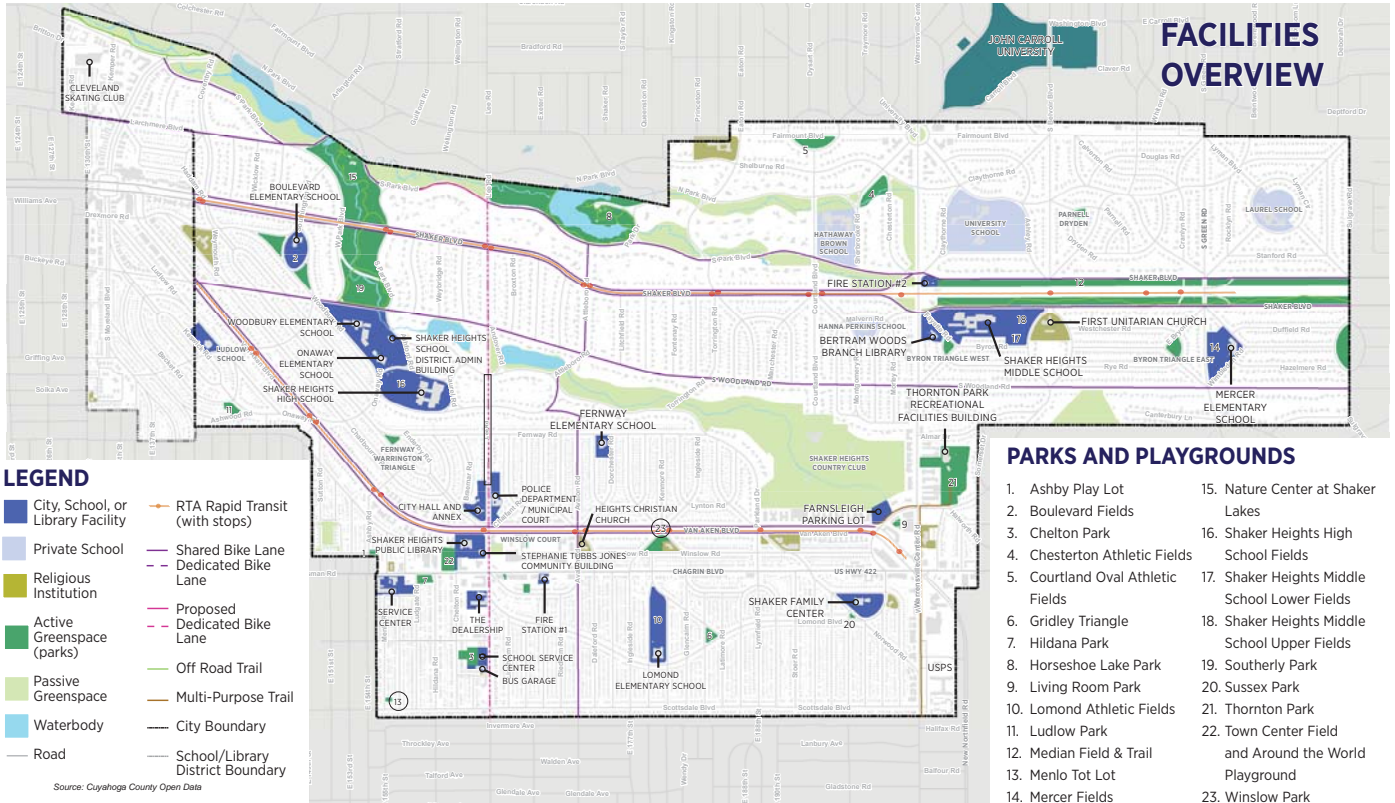
WHAT'S NEXT?

A detailed **master planning** phase will follow the visioning phase to lay the foundation for realizing the big ideas. The master plan will have recommendations for the most efficient and best use of current and future community facilities.



3. FACILITIES INVENTORY

A summary of existing facility types that includes three entities:
City of Shaker Heights, Shaker Heights Public Library, and Shaker Heights City Schools

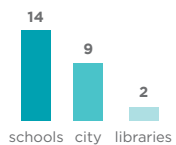


FACILITIES

The majority of overall facilities are for city use, however schools own the most buildings. All facilities employ a significant number of individuals, but are also aging.

40
total facilities

24 city use
14 school use
2 library use



out of 25 total buildings

68.5
average building age (years)

255
total site acreage

(city buildings, schools, libraries, and parks)

1,424
people employed (FTEs) across all facilities

PARKS

Over half of entity owned land is park land. Shaker Heights has good access to parks (equal distribution of parks and a low residents per park ratio), but lower overall acres per resident, compared to the national median.

139 acres of park land¹
5.06 park acres per 1,000 residents

4 publicly accessible natural water features (Horseshoe Lake, Doan Brook, Green Lake, Lower Shaker Lake)

90% of Shaker Heights is within a quarter mile walk to a facility (park, school, playground, library, etc.)

PLAYGROUNDS AND RECREATION

Shaker Heights residents per number of playground exceeds the national median. The number of recreation centers per residents is also higher, but the space could be better utilized as not all space is being used as recreation space.

47 total outdoor sport courts and recreation amenities (i.e. athletic fields, pool, skate park, etc. includes one indoor ice rink)
7 sites contain recreation trails

shaker heights **.66**
national median* **.33**
playgrounds per 1,000 residents

41,000 total square feet of recreation and/or senior centers (Thornton Park and STJ Community Building) This amounts to about 1.5 square feet of recreation / community center per resident, exceeding the national median of 0.8. However, not all of STJ Community Building is being used in a publicly accessible way.

MOBILITY AND CONNECTION

Shaker Heights currently has limited connectivity to multi-purpose trails, though many facilities are located along bike routes.

9 total trails
4 dedicated multi-use paths → **7.9** miles of trails (national average is 10m)
5 bike routes (sharrows) → **30.6** miles of routes

National median figures were used in certain cases to compare Shaker Heights to other communities across the country. Sources include the National Recreation and Parks Association, International City/County Manager's Association, and US Census.

4. VISION AND GOALS



VISION

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GOALS

- 1. Gather.** Places and programming that bring the entire community together and strengthens bonds through recreation, fun, fitness, educational and social opportunities.
- 2. Connect.** A network of safe and easily accessible routes that connect the community facilities to one another and to the neighborhoods they serve, as well as the infrastructure that supports virtual connections within the community.
- 3. Utilize.** A well-maintained network of facilities that are adaptable, multi-functional, efficient and utilized to their full potential.
- 4. Collaborate.** A commitment to continuing the conversation to engage the City of Shaker Heights, the Shaker Heights City Schools and the Shaker Heights Public Library to work together in the best interest of the larger community.

BIG IDEAS

