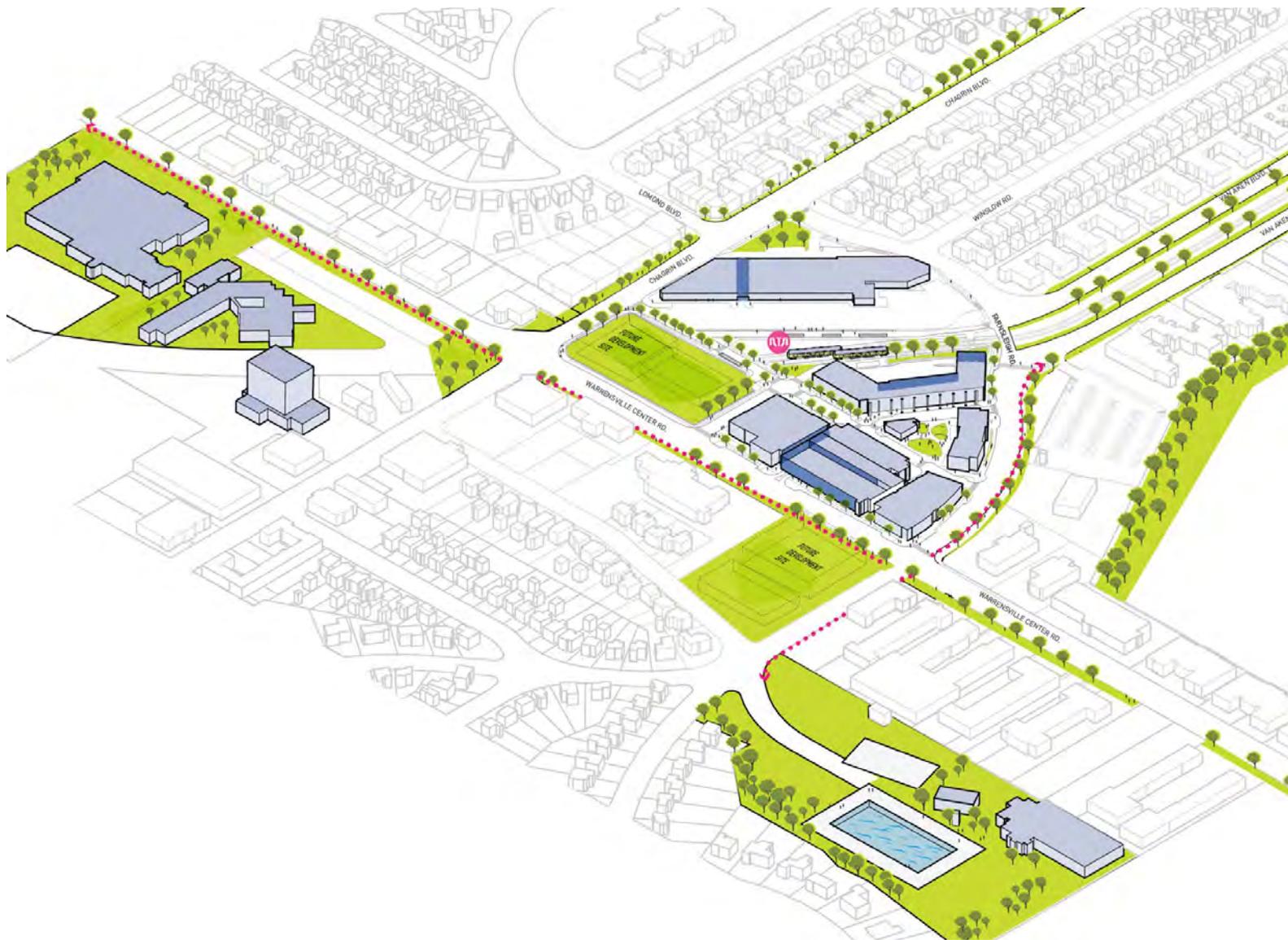


# Van Aken District Public Art Action Strategy

Prepared for the City of Shaker Heights by  
the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative,  
Kent State University

February 2018





stakeholders at the first facilitated work session

## Introduction

The Van Aken District, in the nationally recognized master-planned suburb of Shaker Heights, Ohio, came about as the result of a transformative public/private partnership. The district will function as Shaker Heights' new downtown, with restaurants, retail, housing, and offices around thoughtfully planned public spaces and light rail transit. Inspired by the Shaker Heights spirit of quality, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurialism, the Van Aken District is dedicated to uniting people for generations to come.

In the fall of 2017, the City of Shaker Heights initiated a planning process to develop a detailed and actionable strategy for public art in the Van Aken District. City officials, property owners, and community stakeholders identified the ideas and themes for public art themes described in this report. This work resulted in a set of guiding principles that will give shape to public art installations throughout the district, helping to build and reinforce a distinct identity for the area.

## Public Process

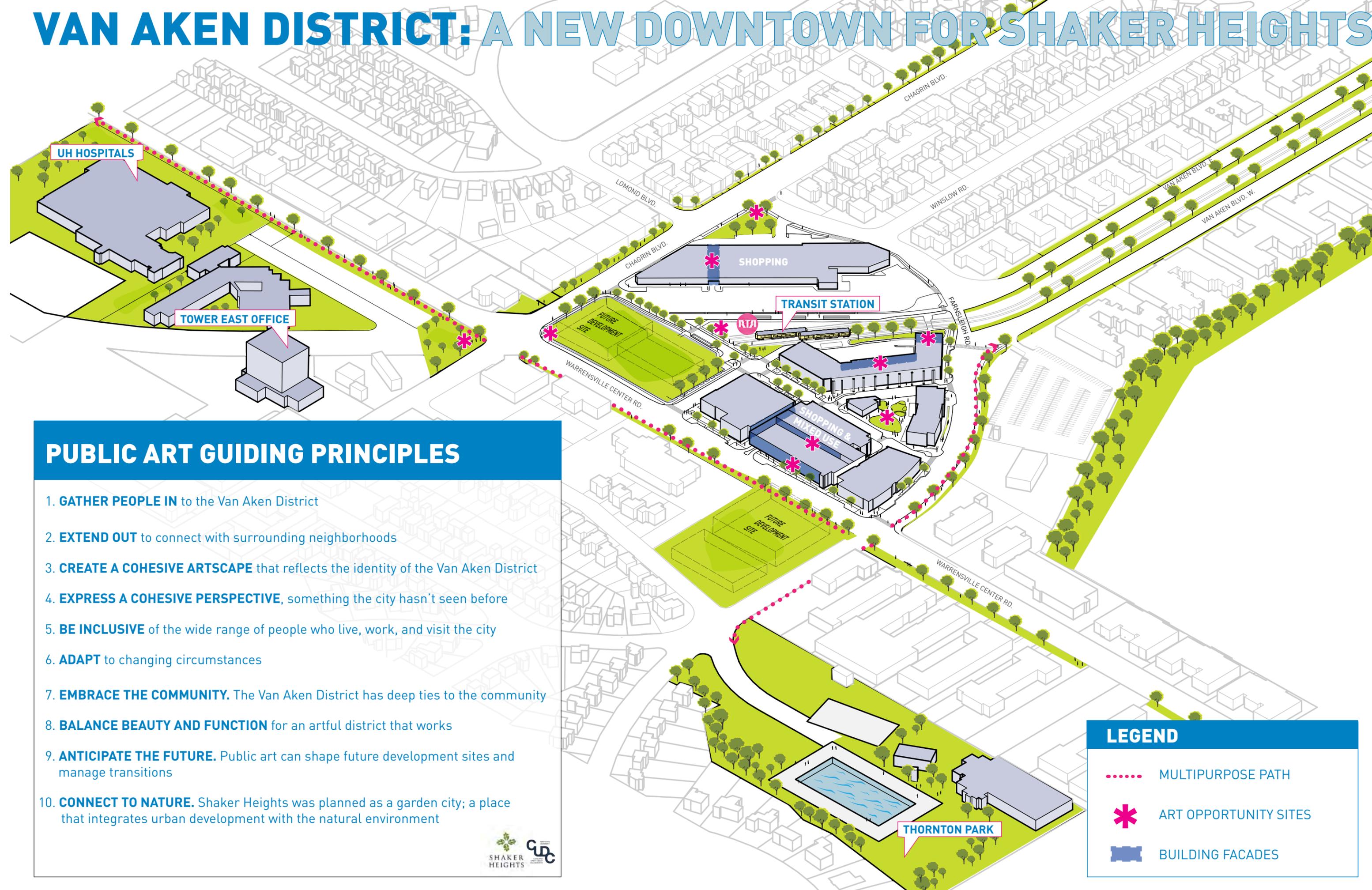
### Key Stakeholder Meetings

The planning process began with a facilitated work session to gather input from key stakeholders, including neighborhood representatives, local merchants, institutional partners, and city staff. A list of these stakeholders can be found in Appendix A.

Stakeholders discussed potential locations and opportunity sites for public art in the district. They also discussed history, identity, and possible themes for public art, and reviewed case studies and examples of public art in other communities. This work led to a preliminary range of ideas and guiding principles, and set the tone for a subsequent community workshop. After the community workshop, the stakeholder group met again to review community input and refine a wide range of ideas into a set of guiding principles.

In addition to the two stakeholder meetings, the process also included a meeting with the development team for the Van Aken District, so that the opportunities and constraints of the new Van Aken District mixed-use development are reflected in the public art strategy.

# VAN AKEN DISTRICT: A NEW DOWNTOWN FOR SHAKER HEIGHTS



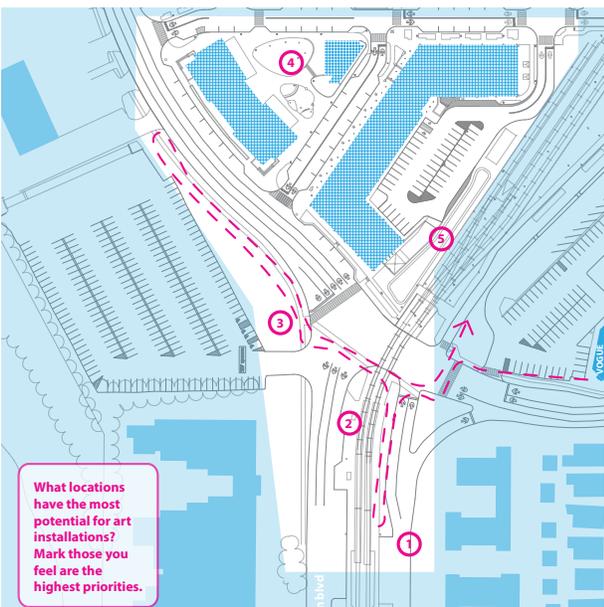
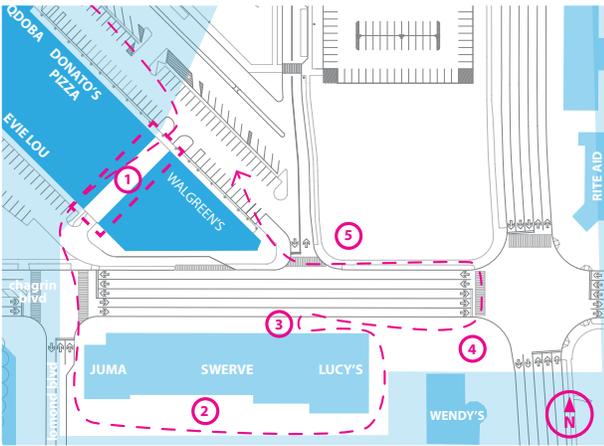
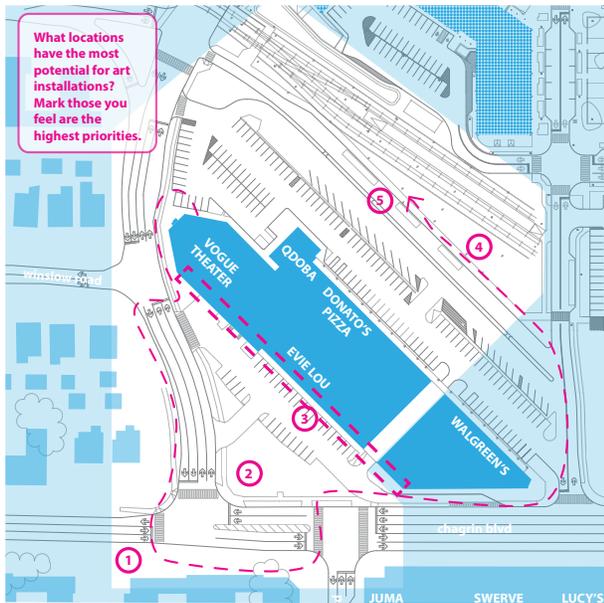
## PUBLIC ART GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. **GATHER PEOPLE IN** to the Van Aken District
2. **EXTEND OUT** to connect with surrounding neighborhoods
3. **CREATE A COHESIVE ARTSCAPE** that reflects the identity of the Van Aken District
4. **EXPRESS A COHESIVE PERSPECTIVE**, something the city hasn't seen before
5. **BE INCLUSIVE** of the wide range of people who live, work, and visit the city
6. **ADAPT** to changing circumstances
7. **EMBRACE THE COMMUNITY.** The Van Aken District has deep ties to the community
8. **BALANCE BEAUTY AND FUNCTION** for an artful district that works
9. **ANTICIPATE THE FUTURE.** Public art can shape future development sites and manage transitions
10. **CONNECT TO NATURE.** Shaker Heights was planned as a garden city; a place that integrates urban development with the natural environment



## LEGEND

-  MULTIPURPOSE PATH
-  ART OPPORTUNITY SITES
-  BUILDING FACADES



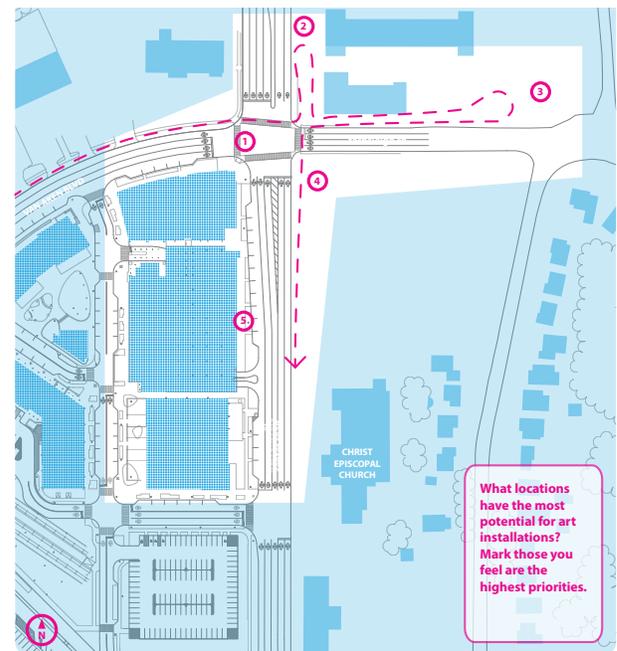
## Public Process

### Walking Tours, Community Conversation, and Survey

Community residents were engaged in the public art planning process through three outreach efforts:

#### Van Aken District Walking Tours

Community members were invited to participate in facilitated walking tours to four different areas of the Van Aken District, offering their ideas for public art while looking at some of the areas where art installations could be located. A summary of the feedback from each group can be found in Appendix D; major themes included connectivity, accessibility, and inclusivity.



left, above:

maps for each of the four walking tour groups show the sub-regions of the District—as well as specific waypoints along the way—that participants were asked to specifically consider.



## Community Conversation

Following the walking tours, there was a facilitated community conversation which began with an update on Van Aken District Development. There is keen community interest in the look of the new development and the kinds of businesses that will be located in the Van Aken District. The developer provided a preview of what is being planned. Then, community participants provided field reports from the four walking tours.

Next, people were invited to share their ideas at four input stations including:

**Vote for Art:** Participants viewed slides with ideas and themes for public art and shared their opinions through digital voting. A summary of input from the voting station can be found in Appendix B.

**Places for Art:** Participants were invited to play with a scale model of the Van Aken District and add their ideas for where art would enhance the area. The model was photographed throughout the process, to record the ideas being shared.

**Conversation Circle:** Participants were invited to take a seat in the conversation circle to discuss ideas for art with their neighbors. A record of the written notes and verbal comments can be found in Appendix E.

**Survey and Coloring Station:** Participants could fill out a survey about public art in the Van Aken District and children shared their ideas on a coloring page.



**top left:**

participants in group #4 of the Van Aken District walking tour

**left:**

participants at the 'Places for Art' station during the Community Conversation portion of the workshop

## Community Survey

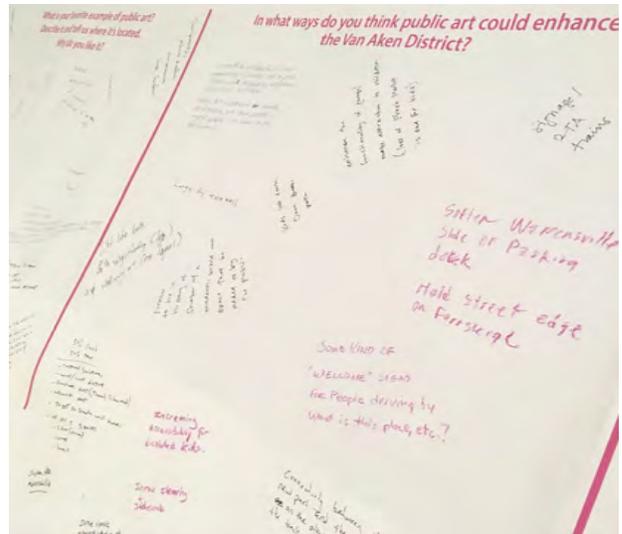
A paper survey was available during the community meeting; an online version was also available for those who couldn't attend the community meeting. In total, 58 people completed the survey, which included questions about:

**The types of art people want to see in the Van Aken District:** Most people wanted to see all types of art—murals, three-dimensional work, temporary installations and events, lighting, and functional art.

**The purposes of public art in the Van Aken District:** Most people think the purpose of public art should be to beautify the district, but others responded that it could also reinforce community identity, promote the community, and inspire creativity, among other responses.

**The words people most often associate with the Van Aken District** include active, inclusive, dynamic, and family-friendly.

A summary of survey responses can be found in Appendix C.



above:  
notes from the Conversation Circle that describe memories from the District, as well as ideas for how public art could enhance the area

## Public Art Elements

To create a unified public art program, art installations will be organized within the following framework:

### Signature

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A major art installation (or installations) that help to establish the identity of the district.



### Supporting

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Art installations that occur throughout the district as a complement or counterpoint to the signature element(s). The intent is to create a cohesive experience within the Van Aken District, made up of a variety of art installations that represent different styles, media, and points of view.

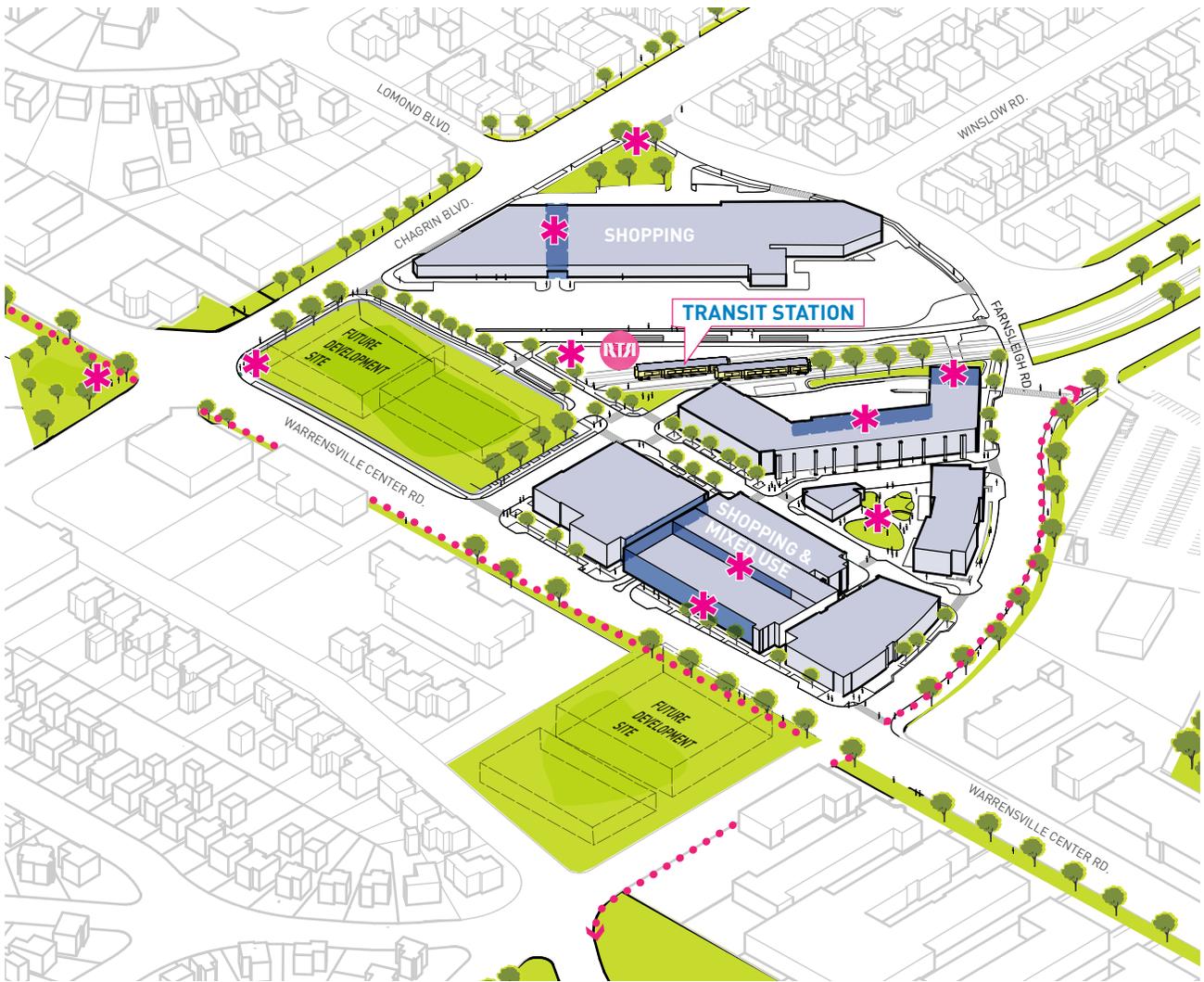


### Functional

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Public art will also be incorporated into some of the functional aspects of the district such as seating, crosswalks, lighting, trash receptacles, and/or transit shelters.





## Significant Element

Art Element	Location	Timeframe
Prominent, Central Artwork	"Living room" public space	2019
Vertical Element at Chagrin & Warrensville	Future development site at Chagrin & Warrensville	2019
Other Locations	TBD	TBD

## Functional Elements

Art Element	Location	Timeframe
Climbing Structure	"Living Room" public space	Soon
Benches/seating	Throughout	Soon
Bike Racks	Throughout	Soon
Trash Cans	Throughout	Soon
Planters	Throughout	Soon

## Supporting Elements

Art Element	Location	Timeframe
Parking garage facade (lower)	Warrensville side of parking garage	2018
Parking garage white wall (upper)	Warrensville side of parking garage	2019
Architectural lighting	Throughout	Soon
Back of residential building	Side facing tracks	2019
Warrensville Multi-Purpose Trail	North side of Farnsleigh Road	2019
Gateways	TBD	TBD
Pass-thru area	Near Walgreens	2018
Alleys	Between Market Hall & Garage	2019
Transit Enhancements	Transit station/bus waiting areas	TBD
Temporary art installations	TBD	On-going

## Guiding Principles

The following ten principles will guide the creation of public art in the Van Aken District...



1

**Extend out** to connect with surrounding neighborhoods.

Although a new mixed-use development will anchor the Van Aken District, the district itself encompasses both the new development and existing institutions, businesses, and residential areas. Public art is the connective tissue between old and new.



2

**Gather People In** to the Van Aken District.

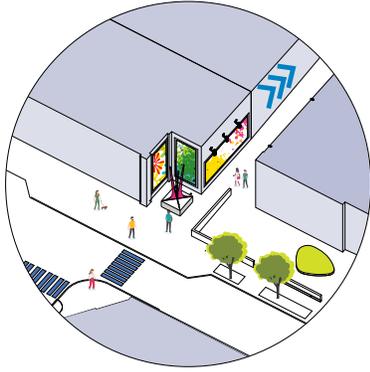
The Van Aken District will attract people from neighborhoods in the City of Shaker Heights and from throughout the larger region. Public art will draw people into the District and help locals and visitors to feel at home in this place.



3

**Create a Cohesive Artscape** that reflects the identity of the Van Aken District.

Shaker Heights is a diverse community where different cultures and perspectives are welcomed and celebrated. All types of art are welcome in the District, but thoughtful design and deployment are essential, so the overall effect is harmonious, rather than chaotic or overwhelming. Instead of a collection of unrelated elements, public art in the Van Aken District will embrace a wide range of interrelated ideas and will be curated so that each art installation fits within an overall vision.



4

**Express a Fresh Perspective,** something the city hasn't seen before.

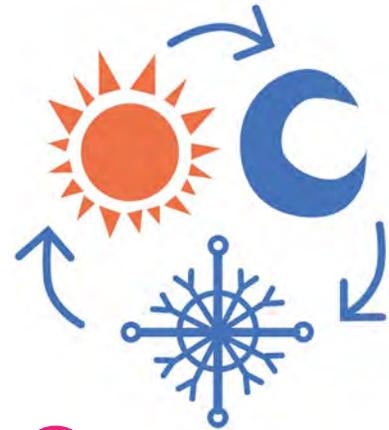
Shaker Heights has a rich history, expressed in the community's architecture, parks, commercial districts, and public spaces. The Van Aken District is a new development in the city where new viewpoints can be expressed through public art.



5

**Be Inclusive** of all residents, visitors and workers in Shaker Heights.

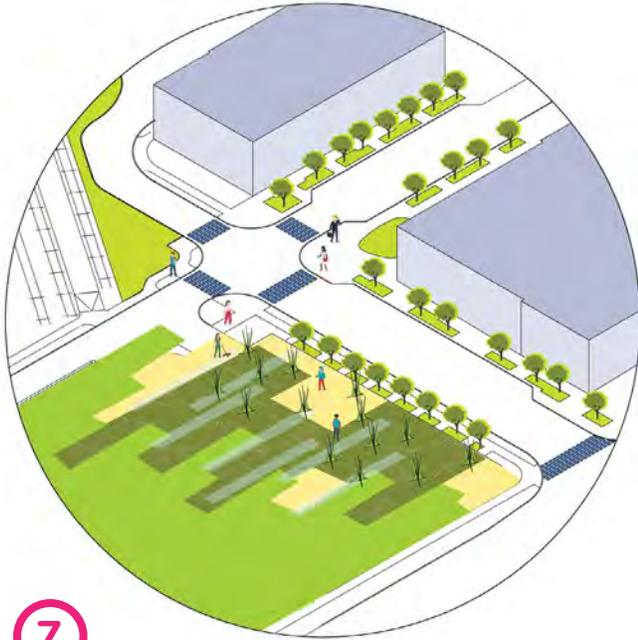
Public art should be fun and family friendly and appeal to people of all ages. Public art can be especially useful for making teenagers and seniors feel welcome. Public art could include opportunities for community members to participate in art-making activities.



6

**Adapt** to changing circumstances.

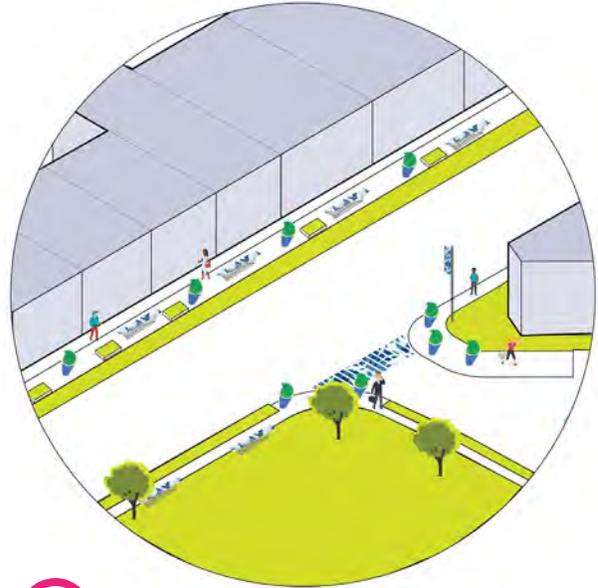
The Van Aken District is a year-round destination. Public art can embrace changing seasons and variable weather. The District is a day-to-night destination. Public art can evolve to appeal to different people at different times of day and night. There's always something new to see and experience in the District, including temporary installations and art that changes over time.



7

**Connect to Nature**, a key part of the identity of Shaker Heights.

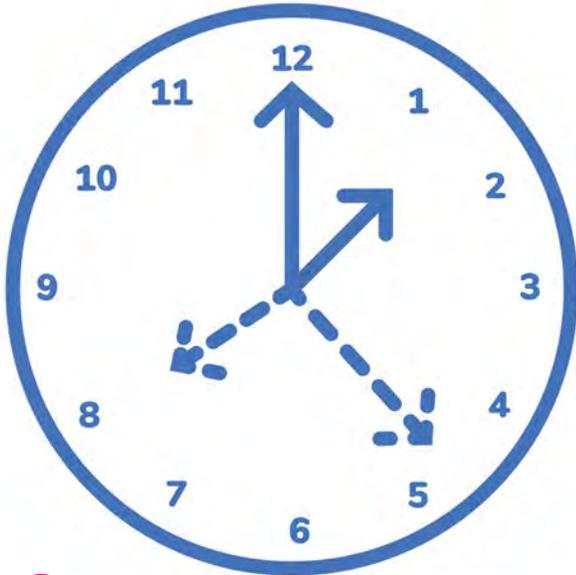
Shaker Heights was planned as a garden city, a place that integrates urban development with the natural environment. Public art can help support a healthy environment and connect people to the natural systems that sustain them.



8

**Balance Beauty and Function** for an artful District that works.

Functional elements (benches, crosswalks, play structures, planters, etc.) can be designed by artists. Public art can enhance connectivity in the District, especially in conjunction with public transit and bicycle/pedestrian facilities. Public art can encourage physical activity and play among people of all ages.



9

## Anticipate the Future of the District.

Public art can shape future development sites and manage the transitions between buildings and public areas that are phased in over time.



10

## Embrace the Community to which the Van Aken District has strong ties.

There's a sense of anticipation about the District, and Shaker Heights residents are excited for decision-making about public art to engage local voices. Public art should spring from community values and not feel imposed or contrived. Long-time residents have fond memories of businesses and institutions that operated in the District in the past that can contribute to the vision for public art in the present and in the future.

# Public Process

Emergent Themes

## Inclusive

Visual Language

Sense of Anticipation

Adaptable

Organic

Connections

Dynamic

Community Ties

Not Contrived

below:

welcome and introductions  
at the Community  
Conversation event



## Appendices

- 15 A: List of Stakeholders
- 16 B: Voting Station Response Data
- 31 C: Survey Response Data
- 43 D: Walking Tour Feedback
- 47 E: Conversation Table Feedback

## Appendix A: Stakeholders

The following individuals participated in one or more of the stakeholder meetings:

Laura Weigand / SHDC  
Joe Lanzilotta / LAND Studio  
Peter Faass / Christ Episcopal Church  
Ann Klavora / City of Shaker Heights  
Leslye Arian / Public Art Committee  
Terry Schwarz / CUDC  
Thomas Starinsky / Public Art Committee  
Tania Menesse / City of Shaker Heights  
Vicki Blank / City of Shaker Heights  
Katharyne Starinsky / City of Shaker Heights  
Joe MacDonald / Thornton Park Association  
Anne Williams / City Council  
Jeremy Paris / SHDC  
Reed Carpenter / Sussex Community Assoc.  
Nick Fedor / SHDC  
Maribeth Feke / RTA  
Joyce Braverman / City of Shaker Heights  
Jason Russell / RMS  
Christian Roadman / City of Shaker Heights  
Mary Beth Levine / University Hospitals  
Katie Slusher / CUDC  
Jeff Kruth / CUDC  
David Weiss / Juma cafe + Board of Zoning Appeals, City Planning Commission

## Appendix B: Voting Station Response Data

The following data includes results from two rounds of voting—the first group answered all (22) questions, and the second group partially completed the station, answering (12) total questions.

**Session Name:** 10-26-2017 7-10 PM

**Date Created:** 10/26/2017 6:51:09 PM

**Active Participants:** 31 of 31

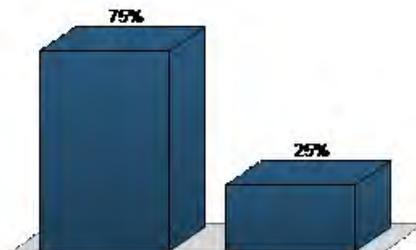
**Average Score:** 0.00%

**Questions:** 34

### Results by Question

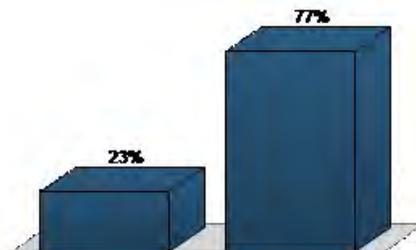
#### 1. Do you live in or near the Van Aken District? (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	75%	15
No	25%	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>



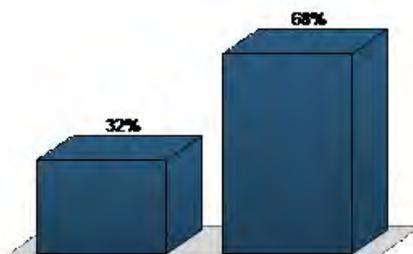
#### 2. Do you live elsewhere in Shaker Heights? (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	22.73%	5
No	77.27%	17
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22</b>



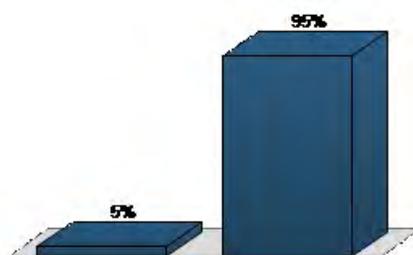
**3. Do you work in or near the Van Aken District? (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	31.82%	7
No	68.18%	15
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22</b>



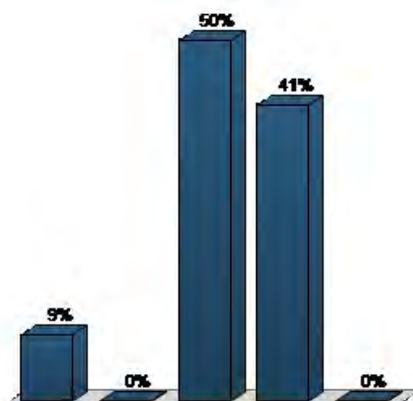
**4. Do you work elsewhere in Shaker Heights? (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	4.55%	1
No	95.45%	21
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22</b>



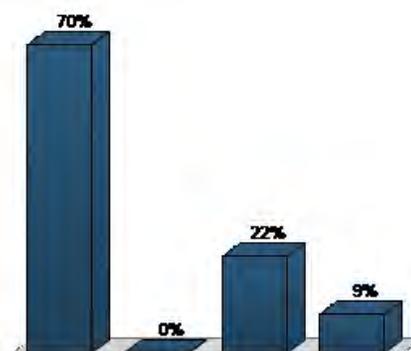
**5. Are you... (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Under 18	9.09%	2
19-30	0%	0
31-60	50%	11
60 or over	40.91%	9
Prefer not to say	0%	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>22</b>



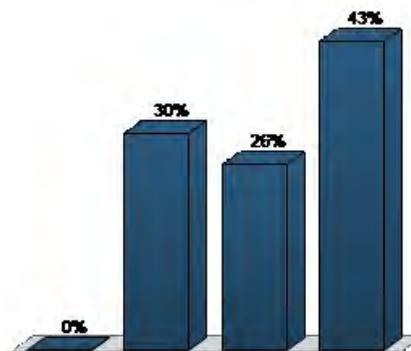
**6. Playful sculptures and installations would be... (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
A unique, fun element in the district for both kids and adults	69.57%	16
Not a good fit for the Van Aken District	0%	0
Nice to have, but only in areas intended for kids' play	21.74%	5
Maybe a good idea, but it depends on the specific design	8.7%	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23</b>



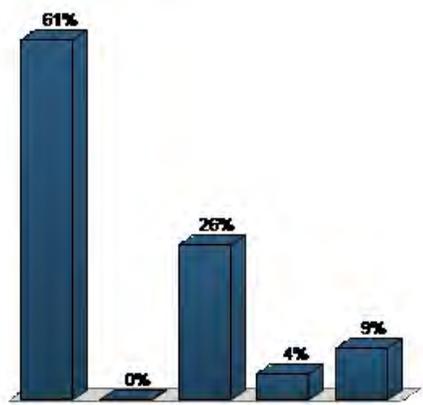
**7. It would be particularly special if public art in the Van Aken District was created by... (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Local youth	0%	0
Artists in collaboration with community members	30.43%	7
A diverse mix of artists from both inside the community and further afield	26.09%	6
Anyone!	43.48%	10
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23</b>



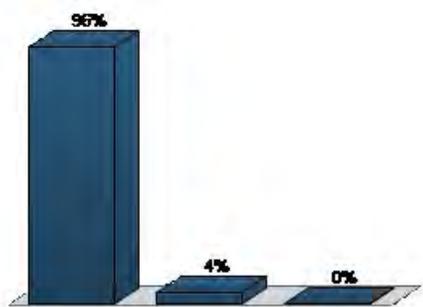
**8. Lighting Installations would be... (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
A great way to activate public spaces at night	60.87%	14
Not a good fit for the Van Aken District	0%	0
Nice to have, but particularly if they are more permanent/practical for safety, navigation, etc.	26.09%	6
Nice to have, but particularly if they are temporary installations	4.35%	1
I'm not sure...	8.7%	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23</b>



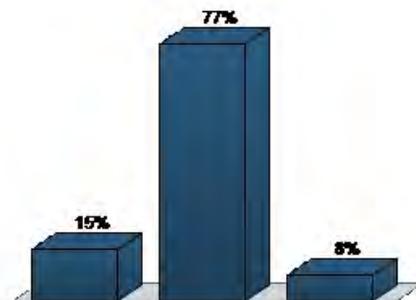
**9. Functional street furniture items like benches and bike racks should also be incorporated in the public art plan. (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
I agree with this statement, these functional art items should be a high priority	95.83%	23
I disagree, I'd rather focus resources in the district on other types of art	4.17%	1
I don't have a strong preference	0%	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>24</b>



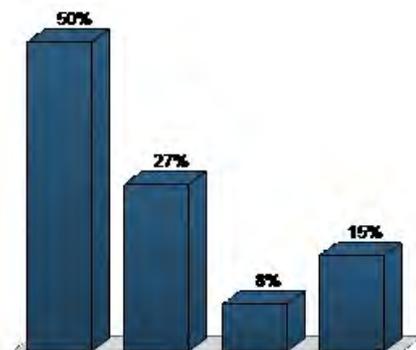
**10. Permanent art pieces are preferable to temporary installations. (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Yes, I agree—the public art plan should focus on permanent pieces that serve as icons for the district	15.38%	4
No, I disagree—the public art plan should include both	76.92%	20
No, I disagree—the public art plan should focus on temporary installations to contribute to a dynamic and active space	7.69%	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26</b>



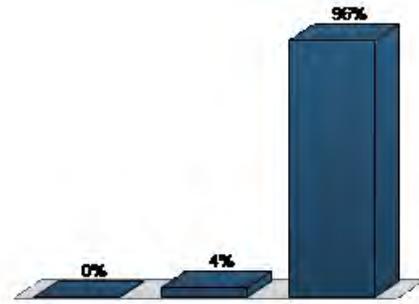
**11. Pavilions, shade devices and other sheltering structures... (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Are a good idea at a small scale for areas like transit stops	50%	13
Are a good idea at a large scale to accommodate big crowds and define public spaces	26.92%	7
I'd rather focus resources in the district on other types of art	7.69%	2
I'm not sure...	15.38%	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26</b>



**12. I prefer public art that is... (Multiple Choice)**

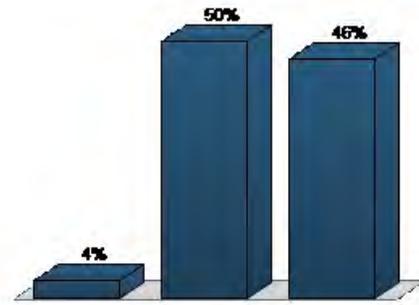
	Responses	
	Percent	Count
2D	0%	0
3D	3.7%	1
Both types!	96.3%	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27</b>



11/1/2017

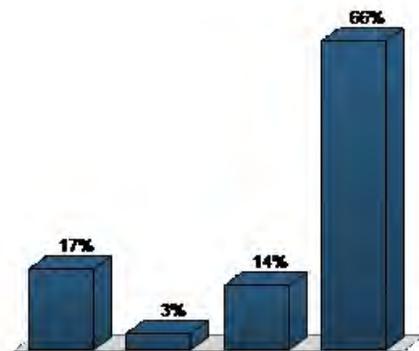
**13. I prefer public art that feels... (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Gritty & urban	3.57%	1
Clean & tidy	50%	14
Both types!	46.43%	13
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>28</b>



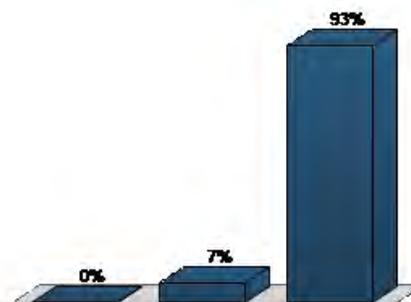
**14. I prefer public art that is... (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Bright colors	17.24%	5
Neutral colors	3.45%	1
Both types!	13.79%	4
It depends on the context...	65.52%	19
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>29</b>



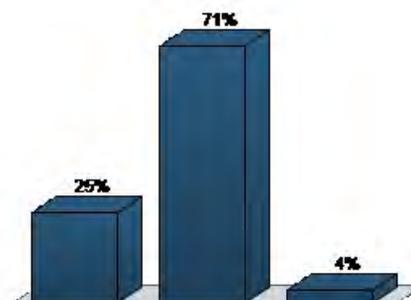
**15. I prefer public art that is... (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
To view only	0%	0
To interact with	7.14%	2
Both types!	92.86%	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>28</b>



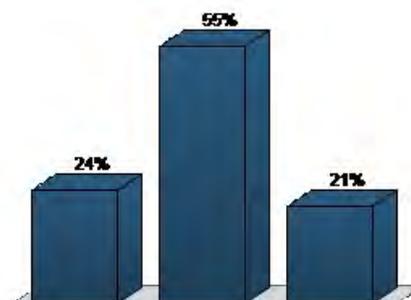
**16. I prefer public art that is Sustainably made and/or features recycled materials. (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes!	25%	7
It's a nice added benefit, but not critical	71.43%	20
No, this isn't important to me	3.57%	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>28</b>



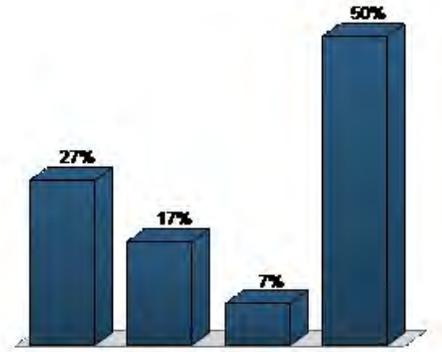
**17. I prefer public art that has historical information and/or educational intent. (Multiple Choice)**

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes!	24.14%	7
It's a nice added benefit, but not critical	55.17%	16
No, this isn't important to me	20.69%	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>29</b>



18. I prefer... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
(left)	26.67%	8
(right)	16.67%	5
Neither	6.67%	2
both	50%	15
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>30</b>



A:

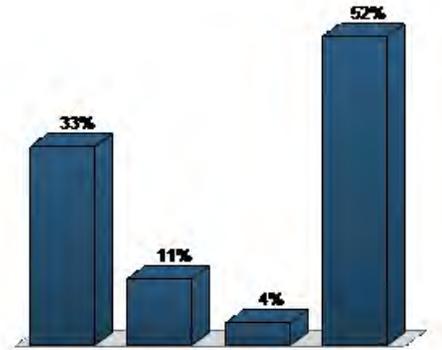


B:

11/1/2017

19. I prefer... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
(left)	33.33%	9
(right)	11.11%	3
Neither	3.7%	1
both	51.85%	14
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27</b>



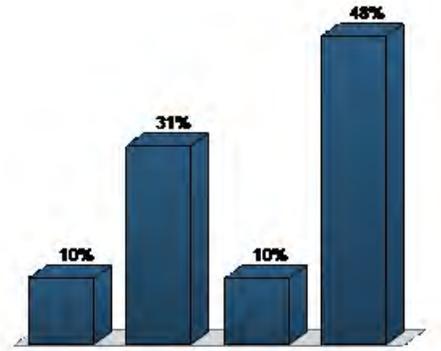
A:



B:

20. I prefer... (Multiple Choice)

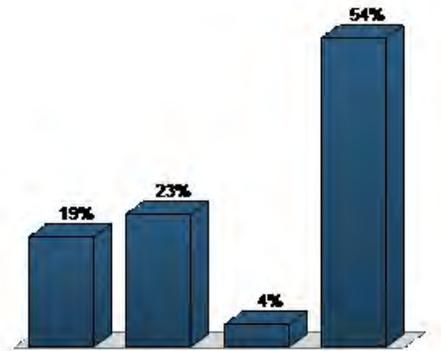
Responses		
	Percent	Count
(left)	10.34%	3
(right)	31.03%	9
Neither	10.34%	3
both	48.28%	14
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>29</b>



21. I prefer... (Multiple Choice)

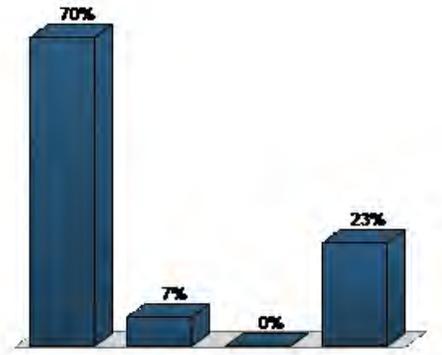
11/1/2017

Responses		
	Percent	Count
(left)	19.23%	5
(right)	23.08%	6
Neither	3.85%	1
both	53.85%	14
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>26</b>



22. I prefer... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
(Left)	70%	21
(Right)	6.67%	2
Neither	0%	0
Both	23.33%	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>30</b>



I prefer...

- A. (Left)
- B. (Right)
- C. Neither
- D. Both



A:

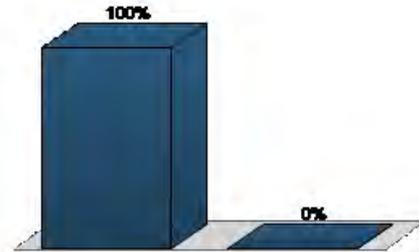


B:

Responses from the second group of Voting Station participants begin below.

23. Do you live in or near the Van Aken District? (Multiple Choice)

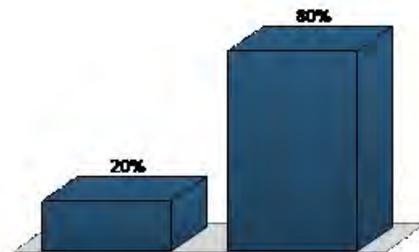
Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	100%	4
No	0%	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4</b>



11/1/2017

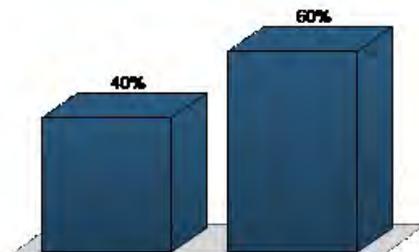
24. Do you live elsewhere in Shaker Heights? (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	20%	1
No	80%	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5</b>



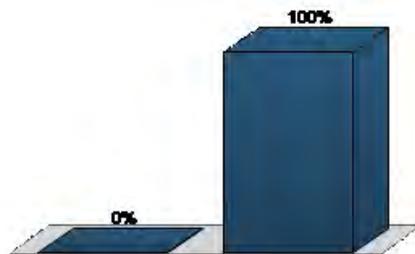
25. Do you work in or near the Van Aken District? (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	40%	2
No	60%	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5</b>



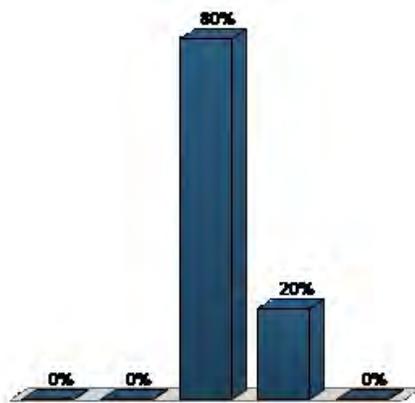
26. Do you work elsewhere in Shaker Heights? (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Yes	0%	0
No	100%	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4</b>



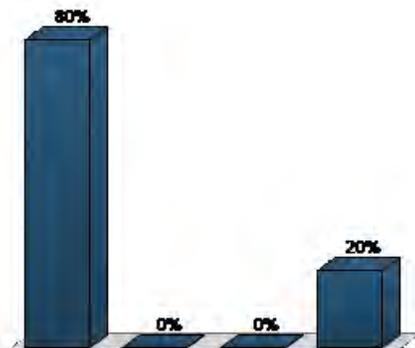
27. Are you... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Under 18	0%	0
19–30	0%	0
31–60	80%	4
60 or over	20%	1
Prefer not to say	0%	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5</b>



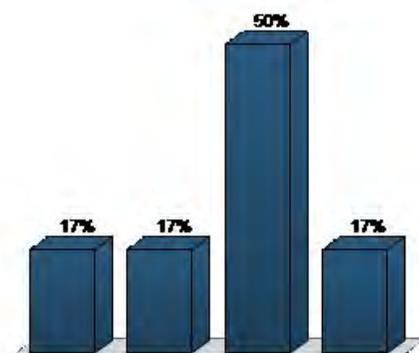
28. Playful sculptures and installations would be... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
A unique, fun element in the district for both kids and adults	80%	4
Not a good fit for the Van Aken District	0%	0
Nice to have, but only in areas intended for kids' play	0%	0
Maybe a good idea, but it depends on the specific design	20%	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5</b>



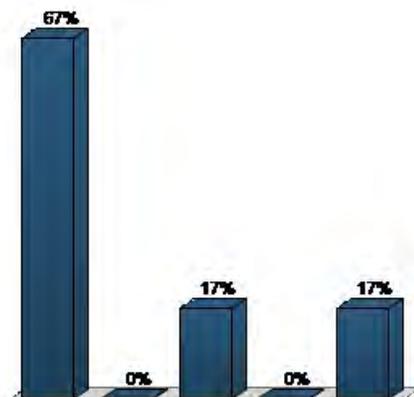
29. It would be particularly special if public art in the Van Aken District was created by... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
Local youth	16.67%	1
Artists in collaboration with community members	16.67%	1
A diverse mix of artists from both inside the community and further afield	50%	3
Anyone!	16.67%	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6</b>



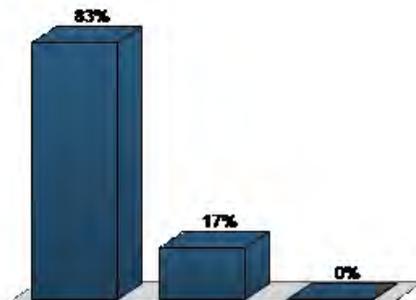
30. Lighting Installations would be... (Multiple Choice)

Responses		
	Percent	Count
A great way to activate public spaces at night	66.67%	4
Not a good fit for the Van Aken District	0%	0
Nice to have, but particularly if they are more permanent/practical for safety, navigation, etc.	16.67%	1
Nice to have, but particularly if they are temporary installations	0%	0
I'm not sure...	16.67%	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6</b>



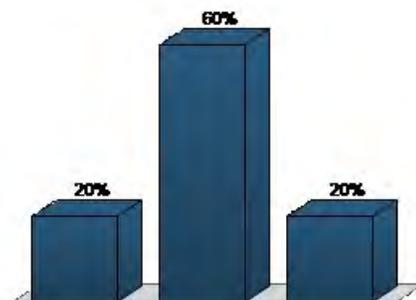
**31. Functional street furniture items like benches and bike racks should also be incorporated in the public art plan. (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
I agree with this statement, these functional art items should be a high priority	83.33%	5
I disagree, I'd rather focus resources in the district on other types of art	16.67%	1
I don't have a strong preference	0%	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6</b>



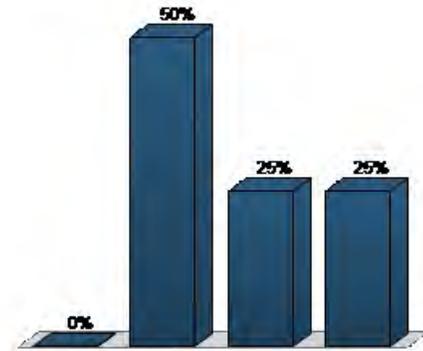
**32. Permanent art pieces are preferable to temporary installations. (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Yes, I agree—the public art plan should focus on permanent pieces that serve as icons for the district	20%	1
No, I disagree—the public art plan should include both	60%	3
No, I disagree—the public art plan should focus on temporary installations to contribute to a dynamic and active space	20%	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5</b>



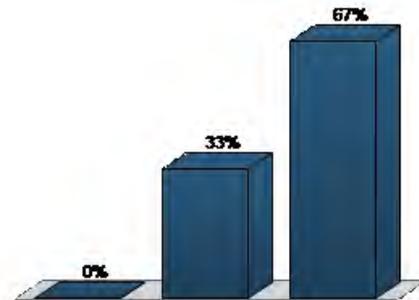
**33. Pavilions, shade devices and other sheltering structures... (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Are a good idea at a small scale for areas like transit stops	0%	0
Are a good idea at a large scale to accommodate big crowds and define public spaces	50%	2
I'd rather focus resources in the district on other types of art	25%	1
I'm not sure...	25%	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4</b>



**34. I prefer public art that is... (Multiple Choice)**

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
2D	0%	0
3D	33.33%	1
Both types!	66.67%	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3</b>



## Appendix C

### Survey Response Data

# Van Aken District Public Art Survey

#### 1. What kinds of public art would you like to see in the Van Aken District?

#### 2. How could your experience arriving to the Van Aken District be enhanced through public art?

#### 3. Check the **TOP 3** words you associate with the new Van Aken District

- |                                       |                                   |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tranquil     | <input type="checkbox"/> Edgy     | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusive    | <input type="checkbox"/> Exciting | <input type="checkbox"/> Kid-friendly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pet-friendly | <input type="checkbox"/> Digital  | <input type="checkbox"/> Green        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Active   | <input type="checkbox"/> Dynamic      |

#### 4. What do you see as the primary role of public art?

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautify the community   | <input type="checkbox"/> Reinforce neighborhood identity | <input type="checkbox"/> Share history      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promote local businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> Attract visitors/tourism        | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide comfort    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the community    | <input type="checkbox"/> Support artists                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspire creativity |

#### 5. Where do you want to see public art?

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building walls   | <input type="checkbox"/> Crosswalks             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public spaces and plazas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transit stations | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and green spaces | <input type="checkbox"/> Along sidewalks          |

#### 6. What kinds of public art do you most enjoy?

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Murals/2D art                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture/3D art     | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental art |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Functional art (i.e. seating) | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor performances | <input type="checkbox"/> Other             |

#### 7. What else is important to consider for art in the Van Aken District?

#### 8. Do you:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live or work in the Van Aken District? | <input type="checkbox"/> Live elsewhere in Shaker Heights? | <input type="checkbox"/> Live outside of Shaker Heights? |
|---|--|--|

Or, complete the survey online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/VANAKENART](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VANAKENART)

## Q1 What kinds of public art would you like to see in the Van Aken District?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 7

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Functional, Durable , local	11/7/2017 2:23 PM
2	Light Art, Sculptures	11/2/2017 2:44 PM
3	Art from local artists (high school, college students, CIA, etc)	11/1/2017 2:14 PM
4	Interactive! Something beautiful that people would come for: swinging benches around the district--each one unique but related. Stones or stumps to step/leap from one to the next. A chalkboard to write thoughts on that has a different monthly prompt	10/31/2017 12:27 PM
5	Art done by local schools/children--University School, HB, Laurel, Shaker Heights could all be a part & interactive. Getting students/young families involved would be exciting. Which school makes the coolest mural/sculpture?!	10/31/2017 12:23 PM
6	Sculptures & wall art that is interesting and quirky. Art that communicates the different flavors, interests, and people in SH	10/31/2017 12:19 PM
7	both temporary & permanent, classic and contemporary	10/30/2017 9:26 PM
8	Mosaics, murals, play space	10/30/2017 3:00 PM
9	Various types including interactive, sculpture, paintings, live (mimes, etc.)	10/30/2017 2:57 PM
10	Art exhibits, murals, interactive screens with short articles, games	10/30/2017 2:56 PM
11	Living green walls--e.g. on garage; e.g. Warrensville Ctr side sculptures--Google "Loveland, CO Sculpture Garden" --way bigger than what we'd dom but it began as an invitational show. That's the point--get artists to enter their sculptures	10/30/2017 2:53 PM
12	Playful, integrated and interactive	10/30/2017 2:50 PM
13	Music, inviting lighting, iconic art, historical based art, cohesive signage, running paths that connect the areas	10/30/2017 2:47 PM
14	Thematic and creative wayfinding; interactive structures; funky bike racks	10/30/2017 2:45 PM
15	Permanent & temporary, 2D & 3D interactive	10/30/2017 2:43 PM
16	Interactive, 3D, 2D, movement	10/30/2017 2:41 PM
17	murals and statues evoking the district	10/30/2017 2:40 PM
18	2D and 3D	10/30/2017 2:38 PM
19	Fun, interactive	10/30/2017 2:36 PM
20	Where you can relate to	10/30/2017 2:35 PM
21	Murals, maybe mosaics, lots of color	10/30/2017 2:33 PM
22	I'd like to see more activities and more street statues	10/30/2017 2:31 PM
23	I would like to see garden and sculptures	10/30/2017 2:29 PM
24	Shade, benches, bushes	10/30/2017 2:28 PM
25	Inspirational. Something that makes you want to do your own.	10/30/2017 2:25 PM
26	Sculptures, murals, lighting	10/30/2017 2:24 PM
27	Several permanent pieces. Some temporary contemporary, but not ultra modern.	10/30/2017 2:22 PM
28	Vertical, colored lights on garage facing Warrensville, murals by local artists on the other walls facing Warrensville. Chicago has wonderful public art, such as the bean.	10/30/2017 2:16 PM

## Van Aken District Art Survey

29	Big, high impact, light, modern, colorful	10/30/2017 2:12 PM
30	sculpture, landscaping/botanicals	10/28/2017 6:10 PM
31	Kinetic	10/27/2017 11:58 PM
32	Beautiful, welcoming art	10/27/2017 5:46 PM
33	interactive, fountains, outdoor skating rink	10/27/2017 11:35 AM
34	A variety	10/27/2017 9:37 AM
35	All kinds	10/27/2017 8:28 AM
36	Sculpture and paintings	10/27/2017 3:51 AM
37	Sculptures. Fountains. Landscaping. Not Murals that are reminiscent of ghettos.	10/26/2017 8:16 PM
38	Fine art produced by local NEO artists	10/26/2017 7:42 PM
39	Art that fits with the space and will not look dated.	10/26/2017 5:49 PM
40	Sculpture, paintings .... things that challenge the local rules about what's ok to display	10/26/2017 3:54 PM
41	Locally produced, not brutalist, murals, more natural	10/26/2017 2:11 PM
42	I like the sidewalk art on Coventry in Cleveland Hts.	10/26/2017 11:31 AM
43	Local artists... sculpture	10/26/2017 11:07 AM
44	Sculptures, murals, light murals at night.	10/26/2017 11:07 AM
45	Rotating exhibits, exterior mural work and sculpture	10/26/2017 10:50 AM
46	Sculptures and other peices	10/26/2017 10:32 AM
47	Something reflective of Shakers rich cultural history and love of nature!	10/26/2017 10:24 AM
48	Functional streetscape items such as park benches pavers and wayfinding	10/26/2017 10:19 AM
49	Art from kids here in our schools	10/26/2017 9:53 AM
50	Murals, sculpture, pop-up performances, decorating eyesores (powerboxes painted, fun bike racks, etc)	10/26/2017 9:32 AM
51	sculpture, murals, community projects	10/26/2017 12:39 AM

Van Aken District Art Survey

Q2 How could your experience arriving to the Van Aken District be enhanced through public art?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 10

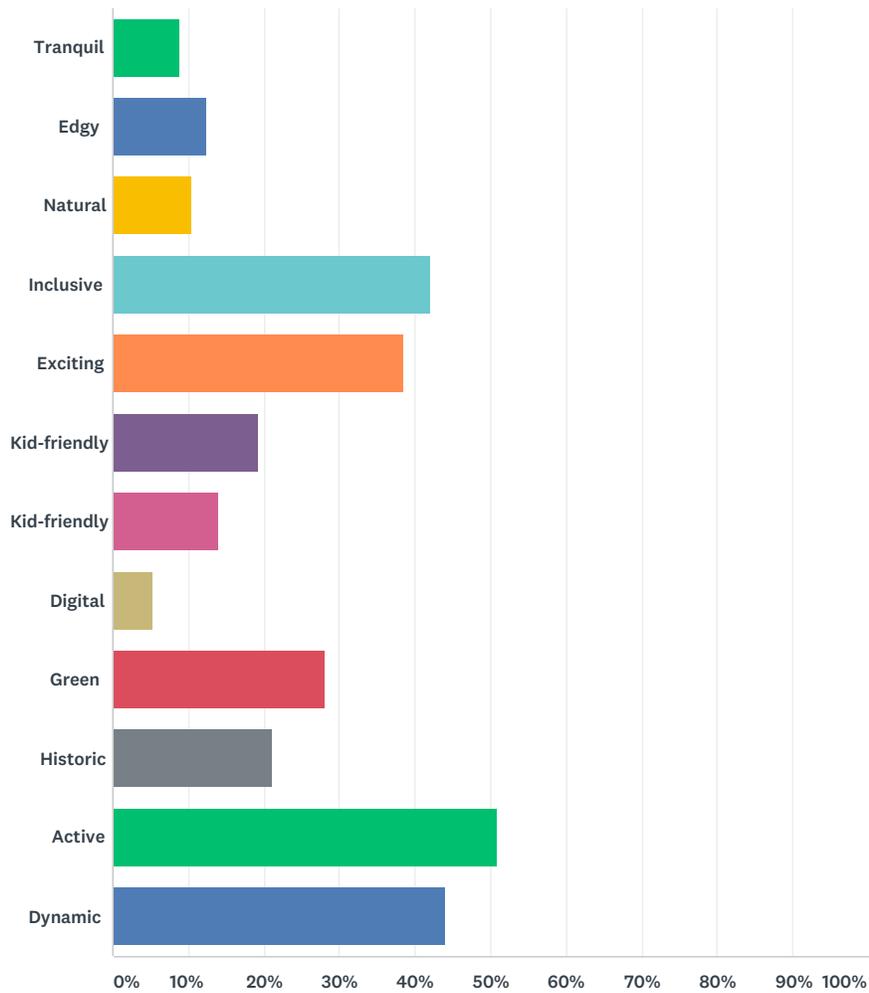
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Uplifted, curious	11/7/2017 2:23 PM
2	Art that makes you smile as opposed to art that makes you think	11/2/2017 2:44 PM
3	By creating a sense of belonging, diverse art that embraces all the unique cultures of the city.	11/1/2017 2:14 PM
4	I think of the Euclid chandelier. A beautiful arch or tall monument at each major entry point--matching one another	10/31/2017 12:27 PM
5	An over-sized Shaker chair that people could sit in would be fun?! Not too bright--but something simple you would like to see.	10/31/2017 12:23 PM
6	The right art can serve as a conversation starter for residents and visitors. It can be memorably SH and a source of pride	10/31/2017 12:19 PM
7	Inviting "gateway" art projects reflecting Shaker history	10/30/2017 9:26 PM
8	Draw us in	10/30/2017 3:00 PM
9	Makes you excited to arrive	10/30/2017 2:57 PM
10	Come and hang out, eat ice cream, walk around viewing, reading, group discussions	10/30/2017 2:56 PM
11	Cohesive looking	10/30/2017 2:50 PM
12	It needs to be a destination. Make it a cool place to hang out through all types of art.	10/30/2017 2:47 PM
13	Welcoming & possibly informative (signage/wayfinding)	10/30/2017 2:45 PM
14	Art provides a sense of place	10/30/2017 2:43 PM
15	Makes you feel excited to be there	10/30/2017 2:41 PM
16	See above	10/30/2017 2:40 PM
17	Create natural gathering spots	10/30/2017 2:36 PM
18	Seeing things that I like and can relate to	10/30/2017 2:35 PM
19	Welcoming art--sculptures, murals--at entry points	10/30/2017 2:33 PM
20	More functional art	10/30/2017 2:31 PM
21	It could make Van Aken more inviting	10/30/2017 2:29 PM
22	It would make me want to visit more.	10/30/2017 2:28 PM
23	It would make me want to come more often.	10/30/2017 2:25 PM
24	Good signage, directions to particular retail at various "cross roads."	10/30/2017 2:24 PM
25	Landscaping to soften building edges	10/30/2017 2:22 PM
26	gateways, plants, green walls (living)	10/30/2017 2:12 PM
27	handsome signage, in keeping with Shaker's history; potentially murals?	10/28/2017 6:10 PM
28	Aesthetic	10/27/2017 11:58 PM
29	Make it so that everyone can feel welcomed and safe	10/27/2017 5:46 PM
30	playful seating, structures would encourage more interaction between people.	10/27/2017 11:35 AM
31	Signage/ wayfinding should be good looking with logo; art should NOT have logo and be welcoming for community members,m	10/27/2017 9:37 AM

## Van Aken District Art Survey

32	It can make me feel happier and welcomed	10/27/2017 8:28 AM
33	The artwork could be the "gateway" to the district and entice one to enter and experience the area.	10/27/2017 3:51 AM
34	Visually welcoming.	10/26/2017 8:16 PM
35	Feels special like art at cleveland clinic	10/26/2017 7:42 PM
36	Perhaps it can obscure the ugly parking garage exterior.	10/26/2017 5:49 PM
37	Everything is better with art. I don't understand this question.	10/26/2017 3:54 PM
38	Increase beauty at the site	10/26/2017 2:11 PM
39	Does landscaping count as public art? The landscaping at Eton in Woodmere is exceptionally welcoming.	10/26/2017 11:31 AM
40	If it is pleasing to the eye	10/26/2017 11:07 AM
41	Art can always help, though I will say the stuff at Shaker Town Square leaves a lot to be desired.	10/26/2017 11:07 AM
42	Art will and always has enhanced the public experience by providing visual stimulation and creating a context for conversation	10/26/2017 10:50 AM
43	More colorful and vibrant	10/26/2017 10:32 AM
44	Fountains incorporating relevant sculpture and floral plantings draw you in and create a welcoming atmosphere.	10/26/2017 10:24 AM
45	The public art can speak about the strengths of Shaker Heights it's culture and diversity	10/26/2017 10:19 AM
46	Make it different and worth stopping to see	10/26/2017 9:53 AM
47	Public art makes it feel more inviting and fun	10/26/2017 9:32 AM
48	take advantage of all the opportunities! From arriving by foot, car, bus, train, to sidewalks, benches, plantings, sculpture, poetry, murals.	10/26/2017 12:39 AM

# Q3 Check the TOP 3 words you associate with the new Van Aken District

Answered: 57 Skipped: 1

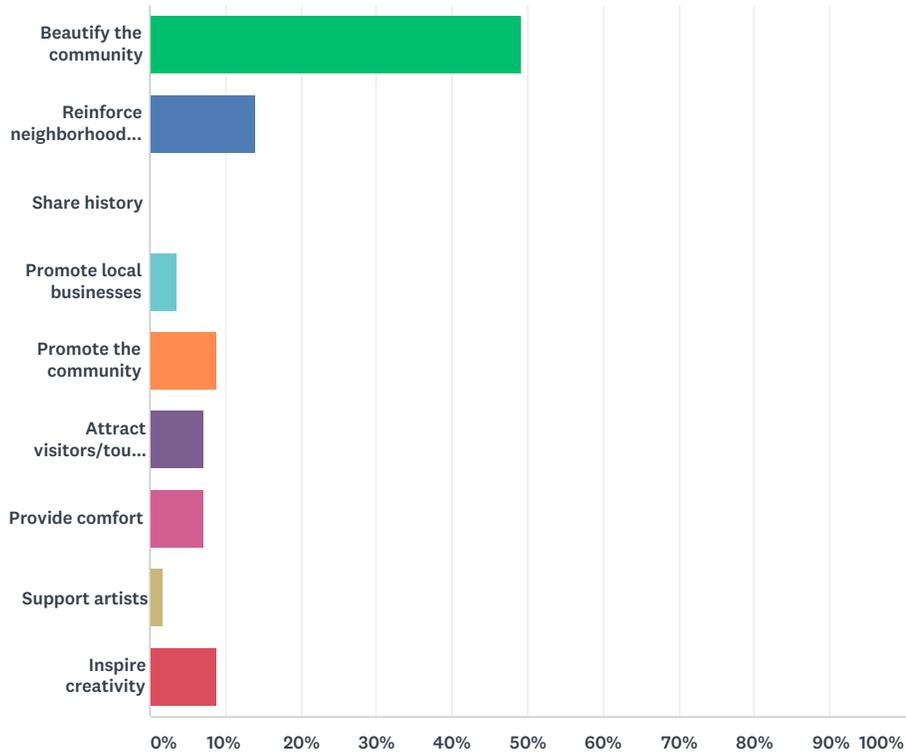


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Tranquil	8.77% 5
Edgy	12.28% 7
Natural	10.53% 6
Inclusive	42.11% 24
Exciting	38.60% 22
Kid-friendly	19.30% 11
Kid-friendly	14.04% 8
Digital	5.26% 3
Green	28.07% 16
Historic	21.05% 12
Active	50.88% 29
Dynamic	43.86% 25
Total Respondents: 57	

Van Aken District Art Survey

Q4 What do you see as the primary role of public art?

Answered: 57 Skipped: 1

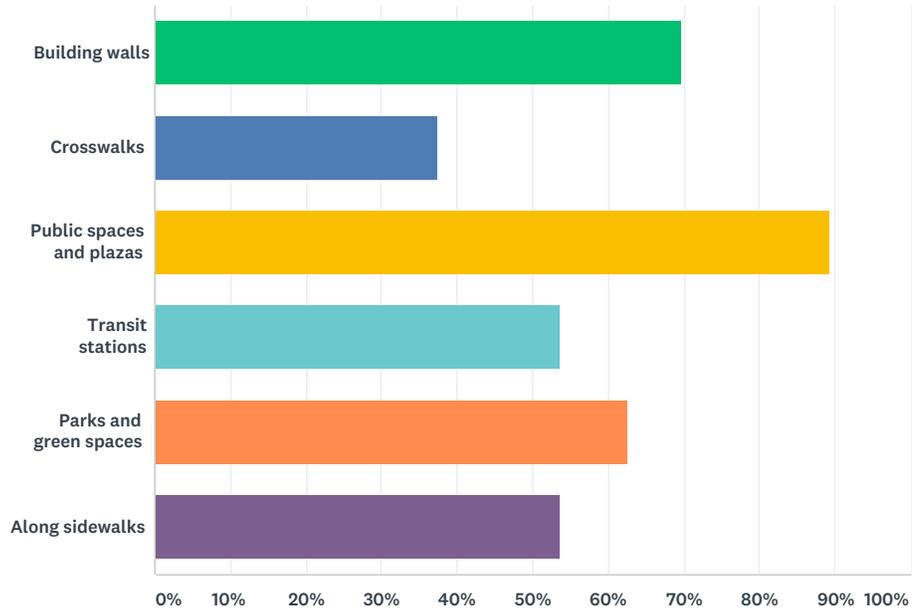


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Beautify the community	49.12%	28
Reinforce neighborhood identity	14.04%	8
Share history	0.00%	0
Promote local businesses	3.51%	2
Promote the community	8.77%	5
Attract visitors/tourism	7.02%	4
Provide comfort	7.02%	4
Support artists	1.75%	1
Inspire creativity	8.77%	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>57</b>

Van Aken District Art Survey

Q5 Where do you want to see public art?

Answered: 56 Skipped: 2

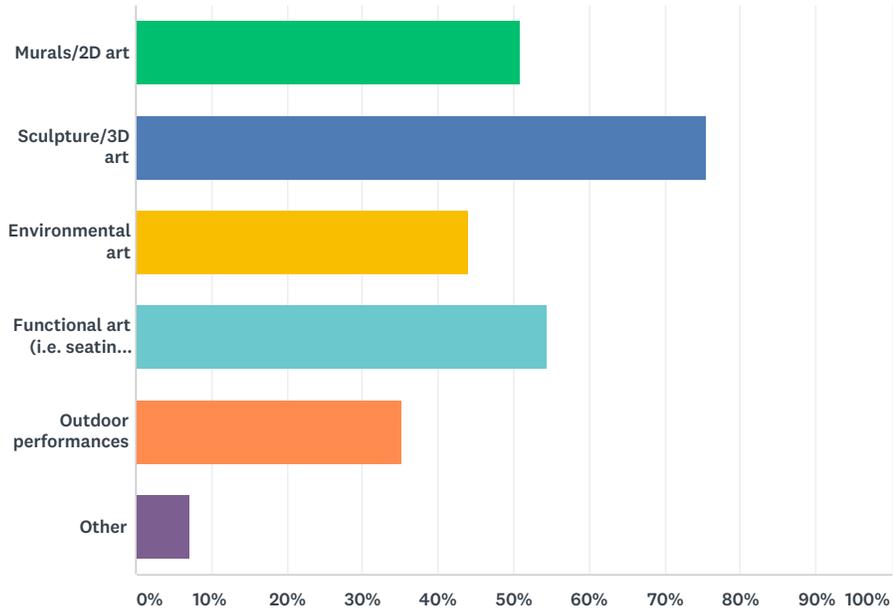


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Building walls	69.64%	39
Crosswalks	37.50%	21
Public spaces and plazas	89.29%	50
Transit stations	53.57%	30
Parks and green spaces	62.50%	35
Along sidewalks	53.57%	30
Total Respondents: 56		

Van Aken District Art Survey

Q6 What kinds of public art do you most enjoy?

Answered: 57 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Murals/2D art	50.88%	29
Sculpture/3D art	75.44%	43
Environmental art	43.86%	25
Functional art (i.e. seating, trash cans)	54.39%	31
Outdoor performances	35.09%	20
Other	7.02%	4
Total Respondents: 57		

Van Aken District Art Survey

Q7 What else is important to consider for art in the Van Aken District?

Answered: 42 Skipped: 16

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Who pays for it?	11/7/2017 2:23 PM
2	1. Possible light posts that have metal designs used by the Shakers in their time. Also, what i would love to see is some innovative and progressive light art. I saw this the the Bay Bridge in San Francisco where lights lined the bridge and came on at dark. It was an ever-changing light show that people would stare at in awe. It would be great if something like this would be included and it could change perhaps quarterly and the show could be designed by local students or residents. Not only could it be attractive, but it could be a feature that draws people to the District to see what the lights are doing.	11/2/2017 2:44 PM
3	I would love to see some historic references to the Shakers; simple, beautiful, natural	10/31/2017 12:27 PM
4	How does it pertain to Shaker dwellers?	10/31/2017 12:23 PM
5	I think it is important to include music and performance art (plays & outdoor concerts) into the plan for VAD. The Beer Gardens and Arts & Music Festival should continue along with other activities on a smaller scale	10/31/2017 12:19 PM
6	Interactive as well as temp (seasonal)	10/30/2017 9:26 PM
7	Welcoming, engaging	10/30/2017 3:00 PM
8	Promote walking and hanging out. Casual, visual, something that makes residents proud of citizenship	10/30/2017 2:56 PM
9	Community bulletin board. Lighting--an idea in our group was overhead lighting in Walgreens pass-thru that would look like railroad tracks and might even turn blue when a train approaches	10/30/2017 2:53 PM
10	traffic flow & how signage could be beautiful/funky/interesting (i.e. University Circle)	10/30/2017 2:45 PM
11	Art that is changing, interactive	10/30/2017 2:43 PM
12	It should be inviting, fun, useful	10/30/2017 2:41 PM
13	Games	10/30/2017 2:38 PM
14	Some permanent and some that changes	10/30/2017 2:36 PM
15	See things with lots of color	10/30/2017 2:35 PM
16	Vibrant colors. Fun art -- clever, interesting	10/30/2017 2:33 PM
17	Who is it for	10/30/2017 2:28 PM
18	Maintenance. Easy to take care of so art doesn't degrade over time.	10/30/2017 2:24 PM
19	Some temporary pieces, now. Help to have respect for visitors/customers.	10/30/2017 2:22 PM
20	I would like to see an opportunity for local artists to sell their hand-made wares, perhaps in the food hall, maybe on a month-to-month basis. Also, a rotating art gallery (indoors) would help promote our local, talented artists.	10/30/2017 2:16 PM
21	Enough art of big enough scale to be noticeable (or design or color)	10/30/2017 2:12 PM
22	Finishes that communicate a fine and historic Shaker "brand"	10/28/2017 6:10 PM
23	Null	10/27/2017 11:58 PM
24	Pay the artists well, make sure you hire skilled ones	10/27/2017 5:46 PM
25	environmentally responsible, sustainable.	10/27/2017 11:35 AM
26	The signage is really important but should be confused with public art. A giant logo isn't public art, it is branding/ advertising	10/27/2017 9:37 AM
27	Supporting local artists	10/27/2017 8:28 AM

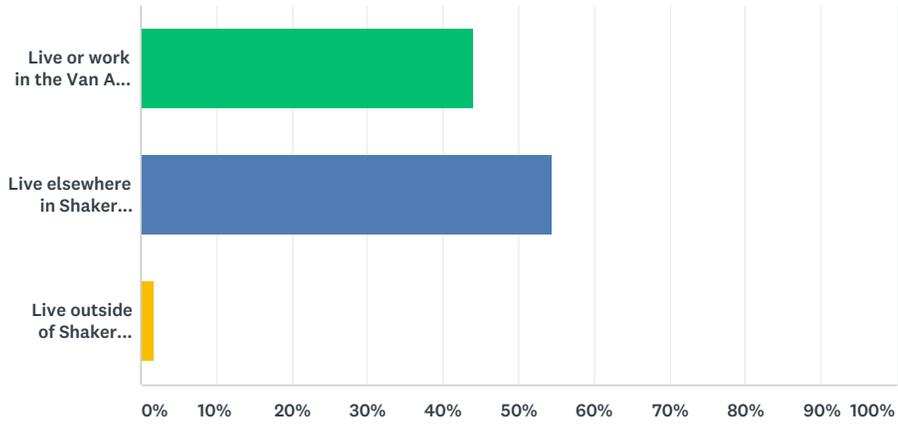
## Van Aken District Art Survey

28	Some Shaker-themed would be appropriate	10/27/2017 3:51 AM
29	Unobtrusive	10/26/2017 8:16 PM
30	Scale and setting and vetted by large group	10/26/2017 7:42 PM
31	Be bold and seek true art that doesn't look cheap or formed by committee.	10/26/2017 5:49 PM
32	Not overpaying for art (fair pricing to artists without breaking the bank)	10/26/2017 2:11 PM
33	NA	10/26/2017 11:31 AM
34	Style should be more accessible to everyone	10/26/2017 11:07 AM
35	That is stands out. And some might be a bit hidden, for closer discovery.	10/26/2017 11:07 AM
36	Consider local and regional artists prior to national	10/26/2017 10:50 AM
37	Try to have both local and national artists showcase their work	10/26/2017 10:32 AM
38	Local talent	10/26/2017 10:24 AM
39	Art should be by Shaker Heights residents we have a lot of talent in this town and should be proud of it	10/26/2017 10:19 AM
40	stress the diversity of our community	10/26/2017 9:53 AM
41	That the art reflects the community's identity, at present and aspirationally	10/26/2017 9:32 AM
42	opportunities to bring people together in meaningful ways, conversations, dialogues.	10/26/2017 12:39 AM

Van Aken District Art Survey

Q8 Do you:

Answered: 57 Skipped: 1

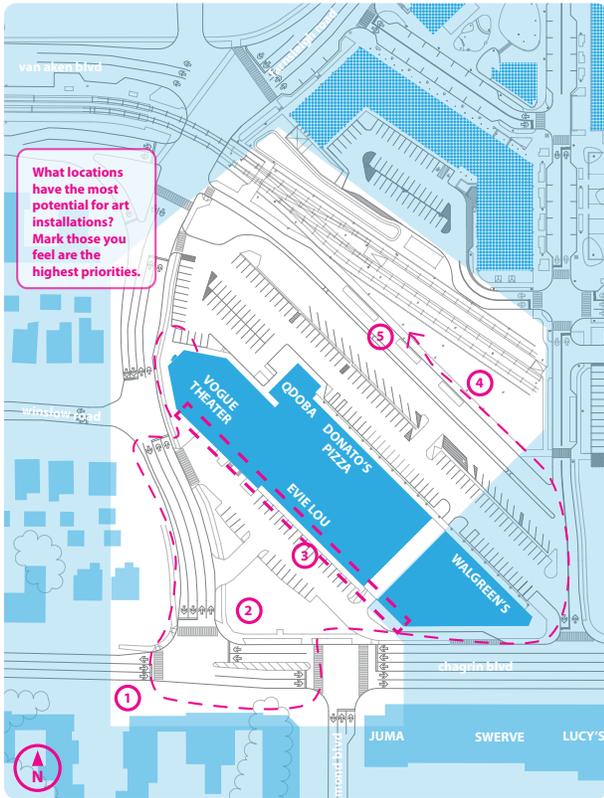


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Live or work in the Van Aken District?	43.86%	25
Live elsewhere in Shaker Heights?	54.39%	31
Live outside of Shaker Heights?	1.75%	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>57</b>

# Appendix D

## Walking Tour Feedback

### Group 1



### General Notes

Various connection points between retail on the south of Chagrin, the Vogue theater retail strip, and the new development create great difficulty in terms of mobility. Improving continuity and clarity are of a high importance, as are safe crossing points to insure pedestrian safety. Several people noted the success of the “beer festival,” and desired a possible space and/or other opportunities to allow for performance and other temporal events to occur. Unsightly edges were also a concern, as many of the transition points involve the “backs” of a lot of buildings in the district.

1 The number 14 bus stops along Chagrin and Farnsleigh are

opportunities for bus shelters and enhanced transit waiting environments, with the preferred location being along Farnsleigh for a shelter, given the amount of space available.

2 This is a prime location for a gateway treatment, in addition to the corner of Warrensville Center Rd. These could be complementary sculptures, lighting features, or other treatment. The enhanced landscape already present was noted for its aesthetic beauty, but it is not inviting for pedestrians to sit, etc.—this could be enhanced through functional art.

3 The improved facade near Evie Lou was well-regarded. The backside of the Vogue theater is as a potential location for a mural. The trash/delivery drive of Walgreen’s was noted as “unsightly.” The area could be edged/treated differently, perhaps along the viewshed from Chagrin Blvd.

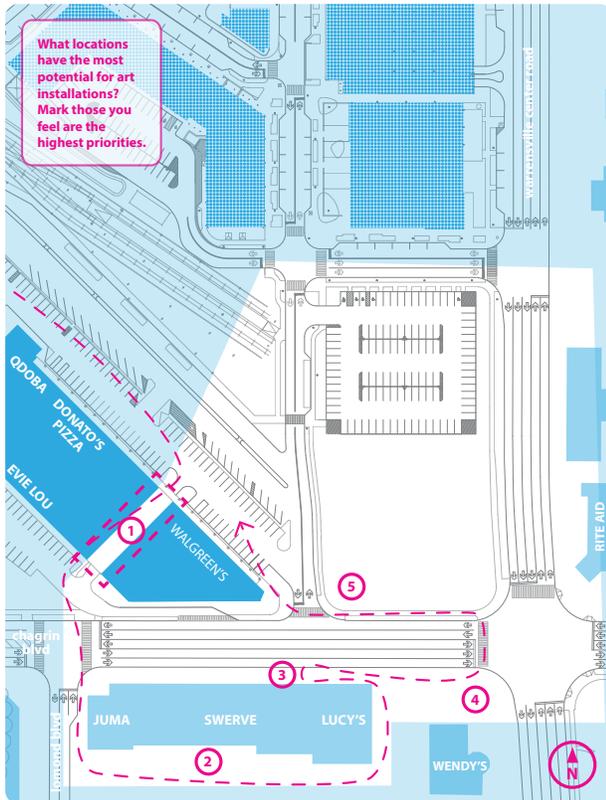
4 The RTA substation is unsightly—landscape edging, fencing, or other 2D art could help remedy this. Of large importance was the perceived connection and aesthetic disconnect between Chagrin Blvd., the retail center parking lot, and the new development. Bike racks were also noted as being of high importance here for RTA commuters.

5 Lighting, landscaping, and wayfinding signage would be useful to direct patrons into and around all the business locations in the district.

# Appendix D

## Walking Tour Feedback

### Group 2



popular in the neighborhood. Living green walls, a linear playscape, and/or colored balls could help improve the pedestrian experience along these storefronts.

4

Landscaping and active crosswalks were recommended to mark gateway entrances to the district, like this corner intersection.

5

There is a great potential in large spaces like this for activating pieces. Recommendations included interactive artwork, a climbing space, and sculptures of Shaker Heights people.

1

This passage is a critical connector, but there are concerns about improving the perception of safety in such a dark, isolated location. Lighting—one participant suggested something similar to the LEDs train lines have for arrival—and/or bright patterned walls or footpaths could be beneficial.

2

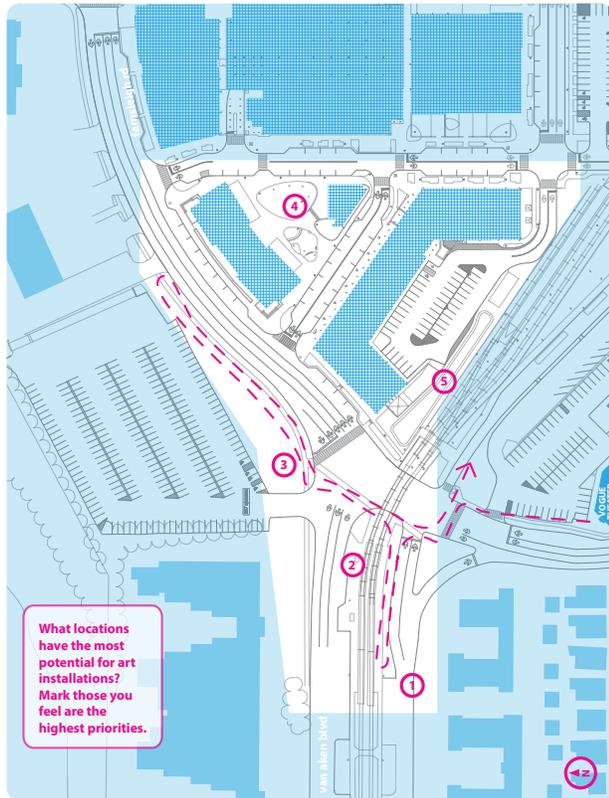
There is a desire for cohesive design in relation to the buildings to enhance the sense of identity. Common signage, pedestrian enhancements, or other kinds of 'connectors' can aid in this effort.

3

Residents noted that Swerve has live music at night, an event that is very

## Appendix D Walking Tour Feedback

### Group 3



but should instead be dispersed throughout the larger neighborhood.

5

The rear face of this large building is visually quite overpowering right now—it is important that this side of the structure and the parking lot not feel like a ‘backside’ to the District, or otherwise feel like it is disconnected from businesses and residences to the south.

1

A wall featuring artwork along the street edge of Farnsleigh could help define the view while driving eastbound on Van Aken Boulevard into the District.

2

Bus stops could use art to enhance shelters and other transit waiting environments

3

Major intersections could feature a tall, beacon-like piece that would be clearly seen from a distance.

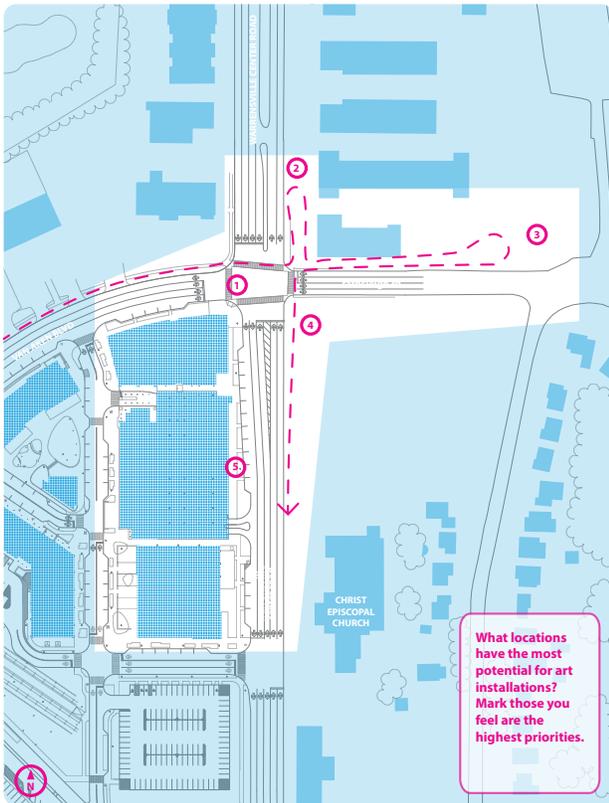
4

While it will be nice to include art elements in this central space, it is important that the art doesn't feel exclusively concentrated in the newer portions of the development,

# Appendix D

## Walking Tour Feedback

### Group 4



- 2 Lots of seniors live in apartments in these adjacent areas, so art, seating, and other amenities should be accessible and inviting for all age groups. Pedestrian connectivity for them is crucial.
- 3 The neighborhood to the east—and areas of the community extending in all directions—need to feel included, so art pieces should extend out rather than remain concentrated in the new development area.
- 4 This space is highly visible (especially to the heavy traffic stopping at this intersection) which could make it ideal for a larger piece.
- 5 The major concern in the group was that this rear side of the garage would feel like the District is ‘turning its back’ on the neighborhood to the east. A mural or art installation on the facade, functional decorative elements like rain chains, and effective pedestrian connections on Warrensville between Chagrin and Farnsleigh (a long block with no east/west connectivity) are all recommended to alleviate these concerns.

### General Notes

Public art could help make the District welcoming to all people, since a lot of the shops and businesses in the area seemed catered to more affluent, non-minority populations. Interactive art pieces or projects would be a great way to activate the area and pull in people. Seating and other functional pieces are a priority, with some participants suggesting an art competition for students to design these pieces. Art inspired by nature or with natural elements was also a popular concept.

- 1 Artistic, colorful, playful designs for crosswalks could make busy intersections like this feel more pedestrian-centered.

## Appendix E

### Conversation Table Feedback

#### Big Takeaways

Do something with the garage: a lot of people have concerns about it being off-putting, and several people gave suggestions of how they had seen similar large structures enhanced through art (ex: Montreal digital projections, Denver parking garage installation)

Interactive pieces—physically, digitally, across various media, etc.—that engage multiple senses

Intergenerational appeal

Sense of ownership: how can neighbors (students, artists, older folks, families, etc) see their community reflected in this new place and feel like they were a part of making it?

[Written notes, Verbal comments]

**What is your favorite example of public art? Describe it and tell us where it's located. Why do you like it?**

Multi-media

Vegas

The 'FREE' stamp

Benches with wifi and phone chargers

Kid-friendly: Steggie at CMNH

Something Shaker Mill/Farm

In Montreal, projections of history, connected to an app

*the app tells you what's going on in the projections. Projections are on the sides of all-brick buildings and are very cool to look at even if you don't have the app to know what's going on. They are really edgy up there, just light years ahead of us*

*I love the Chicago bean, people want to take their pictures with it*

Interactive

Cleveland signs

*People can walk on them, they're so great*

There was a place in Maine where people congregated at tables with drawers. People would write messages and leave them inside the drawers. It was a place for artists and particularly musicians and writers.

Fiberglass "things" on parade (ex: cows in Chicago)

Benches in Rochester, NY

Lame sailor statue in St. Pete's Beach, FL  
*(ed. note: it's an interpretation of the iconic V-day photo of a sailor kissing a woman)*

Large steel trees

Arch across from the Hermitage, St. Petersburg Russia

Shaker Heights is known as the 'city of trees,' consider the 'gateways' to the Van Aken District as places to install tree sculptures. iron-plastic wrapped tubular trees—trees in all materials, even a mural

*Some type of huge tree sculpture, that would emphasize the 'city of trees'*

The sidewalk in Rio de Janeiro is a work of art which unites the entire beachfront area of the city

*I was just in Denver, and this parking garage, on the side of it they had mounted metal plates, and the way the sun reflected in changed from blue to red to green, it didn't move but just the colors were amazing*

**In what ways do you think public art could enhance the Van Aken District?**

It would be wonderful if each neighborhood in Shaker had a piece of public art designed by neighbors and placed at Van Aken

Signage

RTA trains

Softer Warrensville side of parking deck

Hold street edge on Farnsleigh

Enhancing the functioning of garage/make attractive to children—loss of Fresh Market is sad for kids.

We'd stop on the way back from the pool or whatever, and so when it left and they tore it down and put a parking garage, my kids were so upset. So something could be done to make it attractive/fun for kids to mitigate that loss.

Large dry erase wall

No, no, you don't want anything that the teenagers are going to...

I'd like both: way-finding (logo) and welcoming art (no logos)

Timeline to tie in history of shaker with a modern, brand new space that (can) be added to by the public.

The dad from 'Leave it to Beaver' was supposed to be from Shaker Heights. Potentially it could be printed on the wall and be a space where people could add their own memories, just to make it more interactive, and for people to feel like they made it, rather than it just being planted in the space

Kids look down, designs on Doan Brook path

I don't think adults look down, so I think kids will be the ones to find it first and then draw attention to it.

50% fixed, 50% temporary

Wind/light active

Functional art (bench, bike rack)

Whimsical art

Do NOT do simple wall murals

Use all 5 senses: color, sound, smell

Shaker heights memorabilia/ time capsule

Some iconic artwork that people want to take their pictures at: 'Shaker Heights sign' just like the Cleveland sign

Increase accessibility for disabled kids

Snow clearing and sidewalk

Connectivity between the new part and the area on the other side of the tracks (the Vogue space)

Announce the presence of the Van Aken District to people driving east on Chagrin.

Standing at Chagrin and Farnsleigh something dramatic (overhead arches?) to let people know they are entering a unique area

Cincinnati just had an event with lots of laser lights. Laser lights would be cool!

Ways to get students involved, good way to give people ownership of the thing

On that building, that A1 building that's going to be residential, it's the blue smurf wall right now—don't just succumb to murals, that's the easy way out.

Think of it in an intergenerational way: older people need places to sit, kids don't; sometimes it drives me crazy—why aren't there chairs here for seniors to sit?; teenagers need to be treated like future adults

Do you think there would be an opportunity for local artists to sell their artwork? Or like a kiosk? Vogue Theater would be a great location for a pop-up holiday boutique...

**Do you have memories or stories you would like to share about experiences related to any of the following? (Van Aken District, Doan Brook, The Vogue Theater, Draegger's Ice Cream, your first RTA ride, arts & culture in Shaker Heights)**

Last summer, me and my brother were at Thom's (?) ice skating. When I got off, he broke his tailbone

Yes! Families would get their pictures taken there (Draegger's)—baby pictures would be kept up on the wall behind the counter, etc. This, along with the distinctive mint/chocolate smell gave the space a very familiar feel over the years. Also, Draegger's was a good place for teenagers to work—will such opportunities exist for kids in the Van Aken District?

Also in the late 80s/early 90s there were holiday sidewalk events with kids activities—would be nice to have events other than just in summertime.

I grew up going to Draegger's Ice Cream

Shop. When you walked in you knew it because of the little bell and the instant delicious smell of fresh candies, chocolate, and ice cream in the air. I still think about their tin roof sundaes and gummy bears. Also every christmas my dad would buy boxed/gift caramel chocolates wrapped in old-fashioned pink wrapping paper. I wonder if they could recreate the store in some way—it could be a great way to get older people to help the younger generations know more about the historical aspect of Van Aken.

*Everyone loves Mitchell's, but it doesn't feel the same as Draegger's*

Was in a car accident—thanks for simplifying intersection!

*I was coming, with the light, westbound on Chagrin and someone came out of Van Aken and t-boned me on the passenger side.*

**How does the Van Aken District relate to Shaker Town Center and Shaker Square? What makes the Van Aken District distinctive, particularly in comparison to these other areas in Shaker Heights?**

Shaker is in the shape of a triangle bringing Beachwood, Shaker, and Warrensville together. Making sure Jewish people, black people, etc. feel welcome is very important in this new upcoming complex!

Rename Van Aken District to something else. VAD is new “downtown” so call it something NOT related to a street e.g. VSC—Van Sweringen Circle or anything historic

Rename RTA stop to ‘end of line’ not ‘Warrensville’

Copy model of legacy village town square Shaker Town Center—where is this?

Shaker Square lacks a cohesive community feel. It reminds me more of a strip mall. Van Aken needs to be more green, with art, fun places to walk/stroll, well lit, safe and iconic signage and art that attracts artists, young

professionals, and a crowd that will bring positive energy (ed. note: this was written by a younger women, that same one that wrote about Draegger's/working there as a teen)

In response to above: Beg to differ Shaker Square is incredibly coherent and enjoyable. Combines MULTIPLE communities and income levels. Plus, it is a NATIONAL model for organizing highish traffic volumes with walkable urbanism. (ed. note: this was written by an older man, the same one who wrote about getting in a car accident in the VAD)

The rapid train is a connector for Van Aken and Shaker Square. It would be fun to have performers on the train who entice people to get off the train and participate in events at Van Aken.