NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING
CITIZEN HANDBOOK

**LOUISVILLE METRO
PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES**

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*Cover Art: Park Duvalle, courtesy of Urban
Design Associates.*

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Algonquin Parkway in south central Louisville is one of several Olmsted Parkways that interconnect several parks and neighborhoods.

What is a neighborhood?

How would you describe your neighborhood? Is it all about the place -- a network of streets, homes and other buildings that happen to be near each other? Is it about the people, and the shared relationships and associations between neighbors? Or is it some combination of the two?

Ask the residents of any neighborhood and they might begin by describing the homes, businesses, streets and sidewalks around them. They may also mention nearby schools, hospitals, libraries and other public institutions, or local landmarks like parks and playgrounds. Any place where people meet and gather, from the corner hardware store to the movie theatre in the mall, is an important part of the social fabric of a neighborhood as well.

However you choose to describe them, our neighborhoods are fundamental building blocks of our community and a basic planning unit of any urban area. Louisville is fortunate to have many strong, viable and beautiful neighborhoods that combine to make a truly distinctive city.

Phoenix Hill neighborhood, just east of downtown.

Why is neighborhood planning important?

Corner retail along the Bardstown Road corridor is a significant contributor to the area's livability.

The way each of us feels about the places where we live and work can affect our overall health and well-being. Safe, attractive and welcoming neighborhoods make life better for everyone living in them, and a network of great neighborhoods makes our entire city a better place to be.

Exceptional cities, and the great neighborhoods within them, don't just happen. Cities constantly grow and change, and we can ensure that these changes are positive through the plans we make today. Louisville Metro already has an adopted comprehensive plan, Cornerstone 2020, which provides guidance for growth and development in the coming years.

Neighborhood plans are intended to offer this same kind of guidance on a more focused level by providing a means for neighborhoods to:

- *identify, preserve and build on the positive qualities of their neighborhoods;*
- *acknowledge and deal with existing issues or problems; and*
- *set goals and priorities that will shape the future of their area in the years to come.*

"Have a plan. Follow the plan, and you'll be surprised how successful you can be."

- Paul "Bear" Bryant
Legendary Former
Football Coach
University of Alabama

How will a plan benefit my neighborhood?

It's extremely important that the people who live, work and do business in Louisville's neighborhoods participate in the planning process. They are, after all, the individuals who know these neighborhoods best and have the most to gain from their success. A formal neighborhood plan will ensure that all *stakeholders** voices are heard and considered as decisions that affect their future are made. The planning process may also provide additional benefits by:

•*strengthening your neighborhood from within through increased interaction and communication between residents, businesses, and other stakeholders;*

•*ensuring a more fair distribution of public resources;*

•*offering opportunities for your neighborhood leaders to become more involved in citywide affairs; and*

•*making it more likely that the neighborhood vision will become reality.*

Cobblestone alley in one of Louisville's traditional neighborhoods

Just as Cornerstone 2020 represents our vision of Louisville and Jefferson County as a whole, neighborhood plans let stakeholders tailor this larger vision to a more fine-grained approach to local needs. These plans will help our entire community become stronger through attractive, livable and welcoming neighborhoods.

"You've got to be careful if you don't know where you're going because you might not get there."

-- Yogi Berra

***Stakeholders:** All residents, business and institutional representatives or other entities that have a share or interest in the neighborhood and the neighborhood planning process.*

How will the plan be used?

Porches and walkable streetscapes are strong features of many of Louisville's neighborhoods.

The primary function of a neighborhood plan is to establish the guidelines that will govern how land within a specific neighborhood is developed. Stakeholders may decide that a particular street or intersection is especially well-suited for commercial development like offices and shops, for instance, while residential use is much more appropriate in other areas. Issues of this type, directly related to land use within a neighborhood, are governed by the Louisville Metro Land Development Code (LDC). Additionally, many residents also develop other suggestions to improve their neighborhoods, such as adding public landscaping, creating a park or lowering the speed limit on a street. While these ideas are not directly connected to codes and regulations, they can still be included within the neighborhood plan.

A Table of Recommendations developed through the planning process will be included as part of the neighborhood plan. In addition, those recommendations addressing items related to the Land

Development Code or Cornerstone 2020 will be added to the Executive Summary. Once presented to and formally adopted by the Metro Council, the Summary becomes an official amendment to Cornerstone 2020.

Some recommendations, like adding a sidewalk, can be relatively straight-forward. Other ideas, however, call for additional study and may also require coordinated action between Metro agencies, nearby neighborhoods or even other Metro Council districts. Once the neighborhood plan has been formally adopted, it will be shared with appropriate Louisville Metro agencies who deal with neighborhoods, economic development, housing, public infrastructure and other related issues. These agencies, as well as the Planning Commission, are required to consult the neighborhood plan as a guideline for review of future development proposals, such as zoning changes, in the neighborhood.

The Executive Summary and the Table of Recommendations in the completed neighborhood plan will be the stakeholders' voice

in setting priorities, establishing goals and pursuing new approaches to current issues. The opinions and ideas it contains will help Louisville Metro Government and others make sound decisions about development within the neighborhood in the years to come.

Many areas desire to preserve the features that define their rural character as seen here along Wolf Pen Branch Rd.. in northeastern Jefferson County.
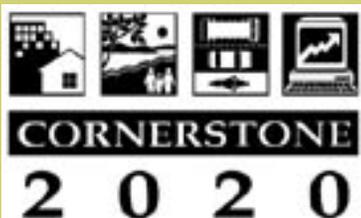
Cornerstone 2020:
A Comprehensive Plan
For Your City

Mixed-use center in the Park DuValle neighborhood.

Kentucky Revised Statutes Chapter 100 (KRS 100) requires that before a community can establish land use regulations, such as zoning, it must adopt a comprehensive plan on which to base those regulations. Cornerstone 2020 is the officially adopted comprehensive plan (2001) for all actions and decisions regarding the use of land within Jefferson County. Developed by hundreds of citizens over a period of seven years, it's a plan to make our community more livable, attractive, mobile, efficient and environmentally sensitive.

Creating a true community with a distinct sense of place was a significant focus of these citizen planners, as reflected in the Vision Statement that serves as the basis of Cornerstone 2020.

Cornerstone 2020 Vision Statement

In our vision of 2020, Louisville and Jefferson County is a community widely recognized for its high quality of life, sense of tradition and competitive spirit. Our children have inherited a livable, vibrant and economically diverse community. We have clearly recognized that quality of life depends upon continued success in the economic marketplace and an ongoing commitment to the conservation of environmental resources which define our heritage and enhance the livability of our community.

Community residents share a sense of place and take great pride in their established and emerging neighborhoods which are culturally and economically diverse. Residents are proud of their differences in heritage and culture. Economic and educational opportunities are available to all residents, in every neighborhood. Every neighborhood is a safe place to live.

The community enjoys a rich fabric of urban and suburban areas, interwoven with environmental resources, accessible parks, open space and the Ohio River corridor, all representing a heritage of natural beauty. A multi-modal transportation system serves and ties together the entire community. Unified government services enhance the ability of the community to speak with a single voice in matters related to the investment of human, environmental and capital resources.

Waterfront Park has developed into one of Louisville's premier park spaces

The Cornerstone 2020 Vision for Louisville and Jefferson County is nothing less than the best of the past merged with the best of the future, creating a community where all residents can grow and prosper.

What's unique about Cornerstone 2020?

New construction in Norton Commons represents Cornerstone 2020's emphasis on architectural compatibility with surrounding structures.

As in many other cities, Louisville's previous comprehensive plans have always dealt with issues concerning land use. For instance, it has been long accepted that an industrial plant should not be permitted within a quiet residential neighborhood. Just like any other profession, however, the focus of city planning has grown and evolved in the years since the adoption of our previous comprehensive plan in 1979. As a result, Cornerstone 2020 has adopted some new planning priorities intended to encourage more creative forms of development.

Cornerstone 2020 Priorities

• Ensure that new buildings are designed to be architecturally compatible with other development surrounding them;

• See that all new development is environmentally sound;

• Provide multiple means of access to new development, including pedestrian, mass transit and other options where appropriate, and consider traffic impacts on existing streets; and

• Encourage redevelopment of deteriorating and neglected neighborhoods.

To help achieve these goals, Cornerstone 2020 includes two distinct tiers of land use codes: zoning regulations and form districts. While traditional zoning regulates the appropriate uses for a particular piece of property, form districts are concerned with both the design and character of new development ensuring that it is compatible with the surrounding area.

Form districts are generally categorized as traditional or suburban. Traditional form districts are typically associated with more urban, pedestrian-based forms of development, while suburban districts must balance the need to encourage and support walking, cycling and mass transit transportation with development that is more auto-based. Land within the Louisville Metro area is classified under one of twelve form district categories.

Form District Categories

TRADITIONAL	SUBURBAN
•Downtown	•Campus
Traditional Neighborhood	•Suburban Neighborhood
•Village (Center)	•Suburban Marketplace Corridor
•Town Center	•Regional Marketplace Center
•Traditional Marketplace Corridor	•Suburban Workplace
•Traditional Workplace	•Village (Outlying)

Each of these form districts has its own set of regulations dealing with how buildings are designed, how they are placed on their parcels and how they relate to one another and to neighboring structures, both new and existing. In addition, form district regulations encourage combinations of uses when they are considered compatible with each other and the surrounding area. This might include, for instance, a commercial center with small-scale retail and office space on the ground floor and residential space above. Each form district category is defined by specific development guidelines which can be found in Louisville Metro's Land Development Code (LDC).

What is the neighborhood planning process?

The neighborhood plan process is designed to encourage public input.

The development of a Neighborhood Plan can be divided into four phases: Pre-Planning, Vision Development, Planning Components, and Approval. The entire process should be completed within 10 to 18 months, although it may require more or less time depending on specific circumstances in each neighborhood.

The first step in the neighborhood planning process is the selection of a neighborhood advisory group. With the support and guidance of Metro Planning and Design Services staff (PDS), the primary responsibility of this group is to help identify important neighborhood issues and explore possible solutions. Consisting of between seven to fifteen neighborhood property owners, business and institutional representatives, and residents, the advisory group is nominated by the neighborhood's Metro Council representative and officially appointed by the Mayor. Because the intention is to include a diverse representation of the neighborhood, only one person per business or residence may serve. All nominees are required to submit a Louisville Metro Boards and Commissions Nomination Form and undergo a records check.

The advisory group will assume responsibility for communicating the results of its ongoing work to neighborhood residents and

Pre-Planning Phase

- Select neighborhood advisory group
- Review demographic data
- Define study boundary

Vision Development Phase

Planning Components Phase

Approval Process Phase

stakeholders. In addition, all interested individuals or parties are encouraged to offer their input on issues at an advisory group or public meeting.

PDS staff members in this phase of the process will compile background research and data that can help the advisory group make informed decisions about the neighborhood's future. This might include data on residents' age, gender, ethnicity, income and education levels, and household size. It might also include an economic analysis of neighborhood businesses and employers, an environmental study, and an assessment of the community services for day care, assisted living and crisis intervention that are already available in the neighborhood.

PDS staff may also hire a private consultant to work with the neighborhood advisory group on its plan. The consultant's role is to set the agenda for each advisory group meeting, guide the overall planning process and produce the final document.

Pedestrian court neighborhoods, like Maplewood in Deer Park, are a unique form of a traditional neighborhood.

Early in the process, PDS staff will present a preliminary boundary for the neighborhood's study area. Confirming or making alterations to this study area will be the first issue to be discussed by the advisory group. The proposed study area must be reviewed and approved by the Planning Commission before the neighborhood planning process can proceed.

To get a true and complete picture of the neighborhood, the advisory group will be asked to help develop to the Neighborhood Identity section of the plan. This section discusses the history, demographics, and defining characteristics of the neighborhood; it tells the story of the neighborhood's past and present. By defining the uniqueness of the neighborhood it will give everyone a clearer view of how it came to be what it is today and help to create the best vision of what it can be in the future. The advisory group, with the help of PDS staff and the project consultant, may choose to develop a neighborhood questionnaire to help gather additional information.

Developing a **vision** of the neighborhood and stating it clearly through words and images is one of the most important tasks of the planning process. It will not only provide a verbal map for setting goals and objectives, but is an expression of the most fundamental values of neighborhood residents.

The vision should be inclusive; it should consider all members of the neighborhood, including those who might feel isolated or disenfranchised. It should also be comprehensive, dealing with all topics that concern neighborhood residents and stakeholders. Economic development and job creation, the natural environment, recreation, housing and quality of life are just some of the issues to consider.
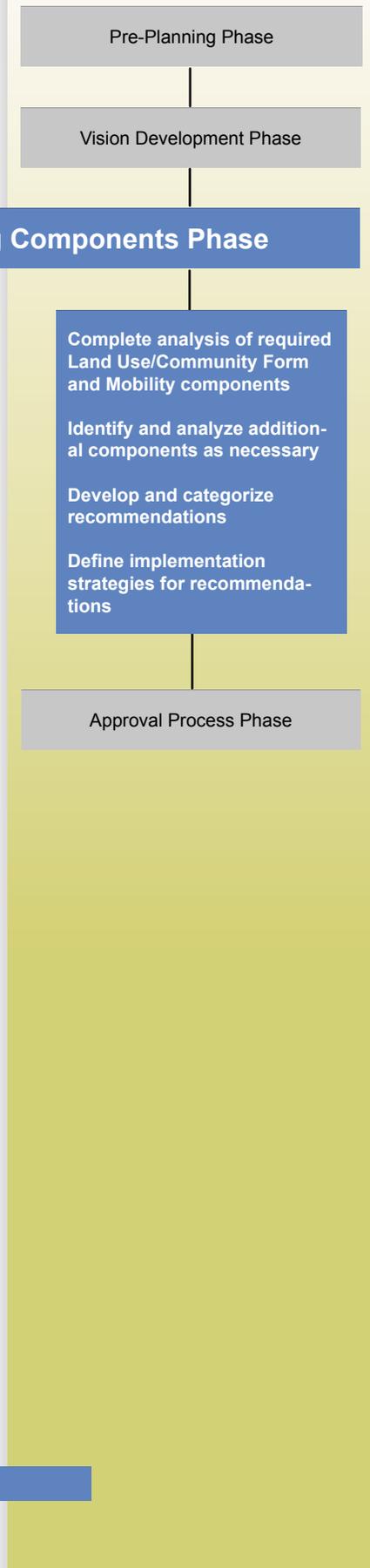
Once a first draft of the vision statement has been developed, a public meeting or open house will be held to seek out the views and opinions of all interested stakeholders. Input from this meeting will be used to finalize the neighborhood's vision statement, which will in turn be the basis for developing a list of neighborhood goals and priorities. At this point, subcommittees may be established within the advisory group to begin working on strategies for dealing with the issues the vision statement has identified.

Pre-Planning Phase

Vision Development Phase

Develop Neighborhood Identity

Develop first draft of vision statement

Collect neighborhood input through public meeting

Finalize vision statement

Planning Components Phase

Approval Process Phase

The **Planning Components Phase** is the heart of the neigh-borhood planning process. The advisory group will begin discussion and analysis of neighborhood and planning issues, which may include additional public meetings and workshops to seek further input from neighborhood residents and stakeholders. The group's main focus is to gather information on existing conditions within the neighborhood, compare them to the vision statement developed in previous discussions, and develop alternative courses of action in accordance with Cornerstone 2020.

Two specific components must be considered as part of every neighborhood plan: Land Use/Community Form and Mobility. The Land Use/Community Form component takes an in-depth look at how properties are used and relate to each other. Start by thinking about these questions:

Land Use/Community Form Component

• Does the existing mix of land uses meet the needs of current residents and business owners?

• Do current land uses enhance the neighborhood's relationship with surrounding neighborhoods?

• Does the neighborhood have an established retail/commercial center? Is there space available for new businesses? Are these businesses actively supported by the residents and the community?

• Does development in the neighborhood fit within both its current form district and the Cornerstone 2020 comprehensive plan?

• Do existing streets and sidewalks fit within the context of the neighborhood?

• Does the neighborhood design support a healthy and active lifestyle for its residents?

Pre-Planning Phase

Vision Development Phase

Planning Components Phase

Complete analysis of required Land Use/Community Form and Mobility components

Identify and analyze additional components as necessary

Develop and categorize recommendations

Define implementation strategies for recommendations

Approval Process Phase

Potential Partners: Local business and neighborhood associations, neighborhood institutions such as museums, hospitals and schools, Metro Councilperson.

The Mobility component is intended to analyze transportation within the neighborhood, including walking, bicycling, buses and cars. Questions to be considered might include:

Mobility Component

• Are residents able to get to the neighborhood commercial and/or shopping center by multiple means other than driving?

• Does the neighborhood regularly experience traffic congestion at certain sites or times?

• Are there dangerous streets or intersections where accidents commonly occur?

The success of TARC's "Bikes on Board" program has enhanced Louisville's mobility in recent years.

• Does the neighborhood have existing bus routes? Is there a need for more?

• Are bus stops safe and comfortable? Are more shelters or benches needed?

• Are congestion levels on the streets rising or falling?

• Is it easy to ride the bus, bicycle or walk to destinations within the neighborhood?

• Is the neighborhood well-connected to neighborhoods around it?

• Does your neighborhood's transportation system support a healthy and active lifestyle for its residents?

Potential Partners: Public Works, KIPDA, the Kentucky Transpor-

tation Cabinet, TARC, PARC, Metro Councilperson

Optional Components

Does the neighborhood's priority list include other issues such as housing, economic development, community services, parks and recreational areas, etc.? Based on input from residents and business owners, additional components may be added to the plan to deal with issues unique or important to the neighborhood. Potential examples include, but are not limited to:

Housing Component

• Is adequate housing available for residents of all ages, young and old, that fits their needs and budgets?

• Is housing available for financially successful neighborhood residents and families?

• Can larger families find affordable housing within the neighborhood?

• Do the housing options within the neighborhood encourage diversity and enable residents to stay in the area even when their housing needs or physical abilities change?

• Are there sheltered housing or nursing homes options for elderly or infirm neighbors? Are there grocery stores, churches, banks and other amenities nearby that are accessible to the elderly?

• Are residents interested in housing options that would let them take care of their day-to-day needs close by? Is there an appropriate site within the neighborhood for this type of development?

An inviting streetscape along one of Butchertown's residential streets.

Potential Partners: Louisville Metro Housing and Community

Development, the Home Builders Association, the Metro Housing Authority, community housing development organizations

Economic Development Component

• What is the status of nearby businesses?   Do they contribute to the long-term stability of the neighborhood?

• What types of businesses would be appropriate and successful in the neighborhood?

• Are there growth opportunities for existing businesses?   Is there a need for additional commercial development?

• Does the neighborhood's Form District cluster commercial development within an Activity Center? Are existing Activity Centers adequate?

• Are there commercial properties in need of revitalization or redevelopment?

A corner cafe, like this one in Old Louisville, provides a convenient neighborhood spot for friends to meet.

Potential Partners: Metro Economic Development Department, Greater Louisville, Inc. (GLI), local business associations

Community Facilities and Services Component

• Does the neighborhood have a need for new schools, medical facilities, libraries or other community services?

• Do existing facilities meet the

neighborhood's needs?

• Are the existing facilities accessible to all neighborhood residents?

Potential Partners: Louisville Gas & Electric, Louisville Water Company, Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD), Louisville Free Public Library, Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS), Louisville Metro Facilities Management, Louisville Metro Health and Wellness Department, neighborhood institutions such as museums, hospitals and schools

Parks, Open Space and Recreation Component

• Does the neighborhood currently have enough parks and open spaces? Are they accessible to all?

• Do the parks and recreational facilities offer age-appropriate services and activities for neighborhood residents?

• Do neighborhood residents have to travel further than one mile to the closest park or open space area?

• Are neighborhood residents interested in a community garden? Is there a site available?

• Is there land within the neighborhood that could be developed as a public park or greenspace?

Potential Partners: Metro Parks, the Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust (LJCET), Louisville Metro Facilities Management, Brightside, community land trust organizations

Urban Design/Special District Component

• Are there special design elements or development

The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it; tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it; and thus, through the influence of the mind over the body gives the effect of refreshing rest and reinvigoration to the whole system.

-Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903)
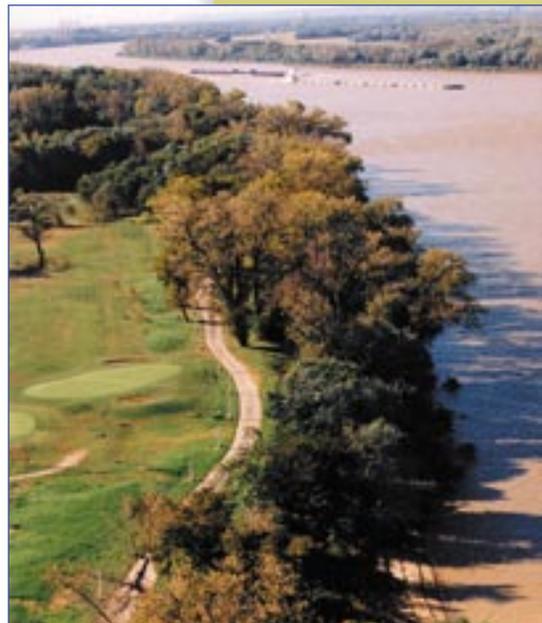
The Riverwalk provides a great opportunity for outdoor recreation.

patterns within the neighborhood that you want to preserve and encourage? What are they?

• What existing development within the neighborhood does not fit these patterns?

• Is there a civic space such as a square, plaza or green within the neighborhood?

• Are there opportunities to improve the appearance of the neighborhood by emphasizing a natural feature, special building or other unique characteristic?

Potential Partners: Louisville Metro Planning and Design Services (PDS), Urban Design Studio, American Institute of Architects/ Kentucky Chapter (KAIA), American Planning Association/Kentucky Chapter (KAPA)

An animated doorway, like this one in Old Louisville, is a characteristic which adds to the charm of many historic neighborhoods in Louisville.

Historic Preservation Component

• Are there historically significant properties or structures within the neighborhood? What is their current condition?

• Which properties merit the greatest preservation efforts?

• Are there potential uses for these properties that would preserve their historic significance and character?

Potential Partners: Louisville Metro Planning and Design Services (PDS), Louisville Metro Landmarks Commission, Kentucky Heritage Council, local historical societies

Environmental Resources Component

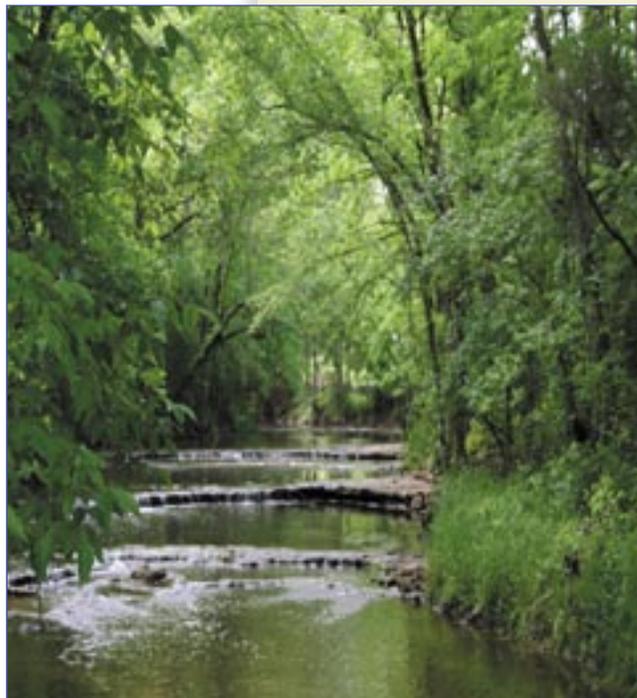• Does the neighborhood have specific environmental issues,

such as air quality or water pollution, that need attention?

• Are there natural features that merit protection or preservation?

• Are there environmentally sensitive areas that would benefit from special management or development techniques?

• Are there particular areas that could be set aside for parks, recreational use or greenways?

Potential Partners: Air Pollution Control District (APCD), MSD, the Kentucky Division of Water, Kentucky Fish & Wildlife, the Louisville/Jefferson County Environmental Trust (LJCET), Louisville Metro Planning and Design Services (PDS), EPA, local agricultural and environmental groups, community land trust organizations

The Floyds Fork Watershed in eastern Jefferson County is an important ecological resource to current and future residents of the County.

Once the advisory group has examined all components related to the neighborhood, the final step is to develop a list of recommendations for future action. The recommendations themselves will be classified into one of three categories: Cornerstone 2020/Land Development Code (LDC); Infrastructure/Capital Improvements; and Policy/Programmatic.

Cornerstone 2020/LDC recommendations will include those that pertain to or require changes in the comprehensive plan or the LDC, such as a change in a Form District boundary or a rezoning. Recommendations in this category will be considered by the Planning Commission as it makes decisions regarding future development in the neighborhood. Infrastructure/Capital Improvement recommendations are concerned with projects that will require funding through city, state or federal budgets, such as the addition

of sidewalks or construction of a new library branch. The Policy/Programmatic group includes those recommendations that deal with public policy or programs. These might include policy issues such as on-street parking or garbage pickup, events such as neighborhood festivals and activities, and government programs such as the development of diverse and affordable housing options.

All recommendations will then be condensed into a simple table that clearly states the recommended action, the public and private agencies and departments that would be responsible for making it happen, and the time frame needed to accomplish it, such as:

RECOMMENDATION	IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS	TIMEFRAME
Cornerstone 2020 / LDC		
1. Conduct a study to create a neighborhood center at the corner of 6th Street and Adams Lane.	Metro Planning and Design, Metro Councilperson, Metro Economic Development	Medium
Infrastructure / Capital Improvement		
1. Bury overhead utility lines on both sides of Adams Lane from 6th Street to 9th Street.	Metro Public Works, utility company(s), Metro Councilperson	Long
Policy / Programmatic		
1. Create a neighborhood block watch.	Metro Department of Neighborhoods, neighborhood association, LMPD	Short

Once a final draft of the neighborhood plan has been produced, another public meeting will be scheduled. This is the opportunity for the plan and all its elements to be presented to the entire neighborhood. After this meeting, Planning and Design Services and/or the consultant will produce the final neighborhood plan document.   The content of the document will include:

- a cover, title page and table of contents;

- the Cornerstone 2020 vision statement;

- Introduction, to include the purpose of the plan, an overview of the planning process, and maps showing the boundaries of the neighborhood and its location within the city;

- Neighborhood Vision Statement;

- Neighborhood Identity section, to include the history, demographics, and defining characteristics of the neighborhood;

- Land Use/Community Form Component section, to include a list of priorities and an analysis of both land use and community form, along with recommendations for each;

- Mobility Component section, to include a list of priorities and an analysis of all forms of mobility within the neighborhood, along with recommendations;

- additional sections for any optional components; and

- Plan Implementation table.
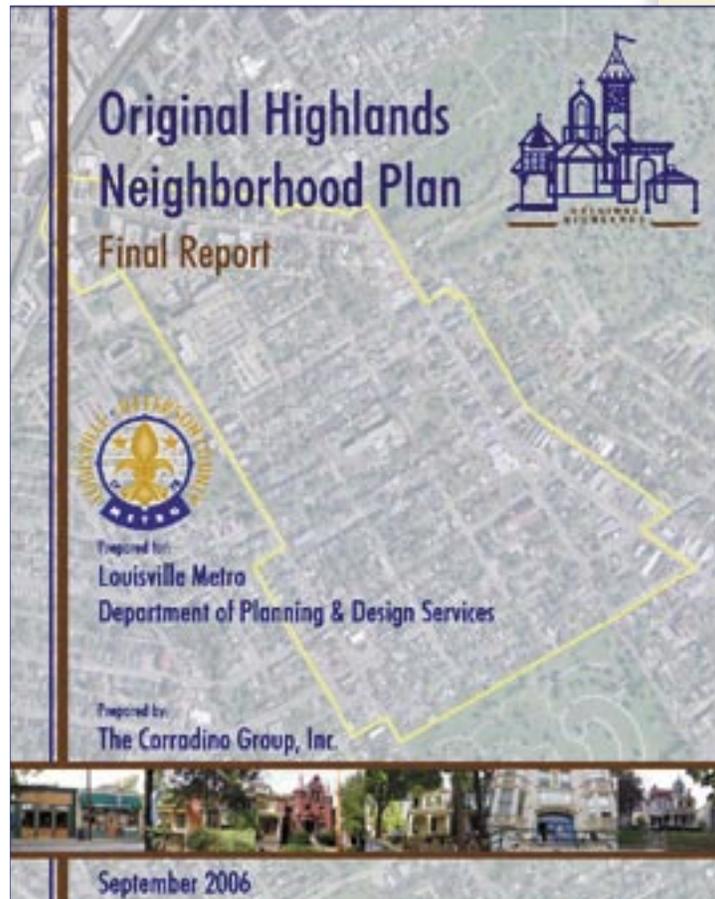
The neighborhood plan document may also include an appendix with additional maps, photos or more detailed information.

In addition to the plan document, an Executive Summary of the plan will be prepared for presentation to the Planning Commis-

Pre-Planning Phase

Vision Development Phase

Planning Components Phase

Approval Process Phase

Hold public hearing for review of Neighborhood Plan and Executive Summary by Planning Commission

Present final documents for adoption by the Metro Council

sion and the Metro Council. This document will include the Neighborhood Vision Statement and a summary of those recommendations related to Cornerstone 2020 and the LDC.

Once the Neighborhood Plan and its Executive Summary have been finalized, the documents are submitted for review and adoption by the Planning Commission and the Metro Council. This becomes the **Approval Process Phase**, the final step in the neighborhood plan process. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing which will be the final opportunity for community feedback on the finished document and the recommendations it makes. The Planning Commission will review the plan and its recommendations to confirm that they are consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of Cornerstone 2020. Then, based on its own review and the results of the public hearing, the Commission will make a recommendation to the Metro Council regarding adoption of both the complete plan and its Executive Summary.

The last step in the planning process is a final review of the neighborhood plan by the Metro Council. Upon approval, the Executive Summary is legislatively adopted and becomes an official amendment to Cornerstone 2020.

Does your neighborhood have a spot where neighbors can gather for a community event?

Neighborhood plans have an important role in providing guidance to the Planning Commission on development cases that may have an impact on the existing character of the neighborhood.

Once the plan has been adopted, the recommendations it contains represent detailed applications of Cornerstone 2020 goals, objectives and policies within your neighborhood. What's more, Cornerstone 2020 expressly states that these specific neighborhood plans and strategies are intended to take precedence over its own more general guidelines.

Including these recommendations in a neighborhood plan, however, is no guarantee that they will eventually come to pass. Neighborhood residents and stakeholders should take advantage of every opportunity to express their views on the record through public hearings as new planning issues affecting the neighborhood emerge over time. They should also continue to work with the neighborhood association, Metro Council representative and the appropriate Louisville Metro government agencies to promote, support and implement

"We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

-Albert Einstein

the ideas outlined in the plan. And, just as it serves as a reference for decision making within Metro Government, the plan can also guide the actions of individuals, neighborhood organizations and other institutions on a neighborhood level.

A more proactive approach toward change and development within the neighborhood would also be appropriate. Using the goals and recommendations outlined in the plan, neighborhood stakeholders may have the ability to attract private developers who share in their vision for the neighborhood and help realize their ideas.

A critical aspect of neighborhood plan implementation is building and sustaining support for the plan among those most directly affected by it: neighborhood residents and stakeholders. Neighborhood awareness of the plan could be improved by publicizing it through Metro Louisville's print and broadcast media as well as the neighborhood newsletter. A presentation could also be developed and a few people designated to speak about the plan to interested civic and social groups. Finally, make sure all interested parties know how and where to find an electronic or printed copy of the plan, in full or in summary.

Recommendations dealing with infrastructure or policy/programmatic issues such as establishing a block watch, improving sidewalks or adding a stop sign can often be implemented by neighborhood residents with the help of their Metro Council representative. Those that require changes in zoning, Form District designation or the Land Development Code, however, must follow

An aerial view of farmland in eastern Jefferson County.

a specific process in order to be implemented. First, a form district or zoning change application must be submitted with Metro Planning and Design Services; this is usually initiated by the neighborhood's Metro Councilperson. PDS staff will review the request thoroughly

and present it to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is required to hold at least one public hearing and offer opportunities for statements from both supporters and opponents of the proposed change. The Commission will then forward the application, along with a recommendation for approval or disapproval, to the Metro Council. Finally, the Council votes to accept or override the Planning Commission's recommendation by simple majority.

The fountain at St. James Court is central to one of Louisville's most picturesque neighborhoods and art festival sites.

At each stage of this process, the neighborhood recommendations as outlined in its officially adopted neighborhood plan, as well as the larger goals, objectives and policies of Cornerstone 2020, are used as the basis for review. The most effective argument, whether for or against a particular proposal, will cite specifics from Cornerstone 2020 and the neighborhood plan to support the viewpoint.

How often a plan is updated can vary considerably from neighborhood to neighborhood, depending on the pace of new development and other changes in the area. PDS or the neighborhood's Council representative should be contacted when the plan should be altered or revised.

What makes a neighborhood plan successful?

Developing a neighborhood plan requires hard work, careful thought and dedication. How can you measure its lasting value?

The ideal neighborhood plan is specific. It recognizes and takes full advantage of your neighborhood's unique characteristics, outlining focused and specific recommendations to both build on its strengths and make the kind of improvements that benefit all. It provides a strategy for quickly accomplishing short-term objectives while maintaining the necessary focus and motivation for achieving long-term goals.

The ideal plan is also far-reaching and inclusive. It actively seeks out and considers the viewpoint of everyone in the neighborhood – all ages, economic, social and cultural backgrounds. The plan is the voice of residents as well as business owners, and promotes the most appropriate and positive environment for both. It identifies potential project partners as well as funding sources. In addition, it provides a basis for ongoing input and evaluation of the neighborhood's real progress in attaining its goals.

Projects like public art and community open space improvements can become wins for a neighborhood plan.

Finally, the plan is comprehensive in the best sense of the word. The plan considers the larger world we live in as well as the immediate needs of the entire neighborhood; it respects the effects of our decisions and actions on all of us. As a neighborhood strengthens and develops, the entire Louisville community is the better for it. As a result, the neighborhood plan embraces the collective vision of Cornerstone 2020 and plays a vital part in creating a community where all residents can grow and prosper.
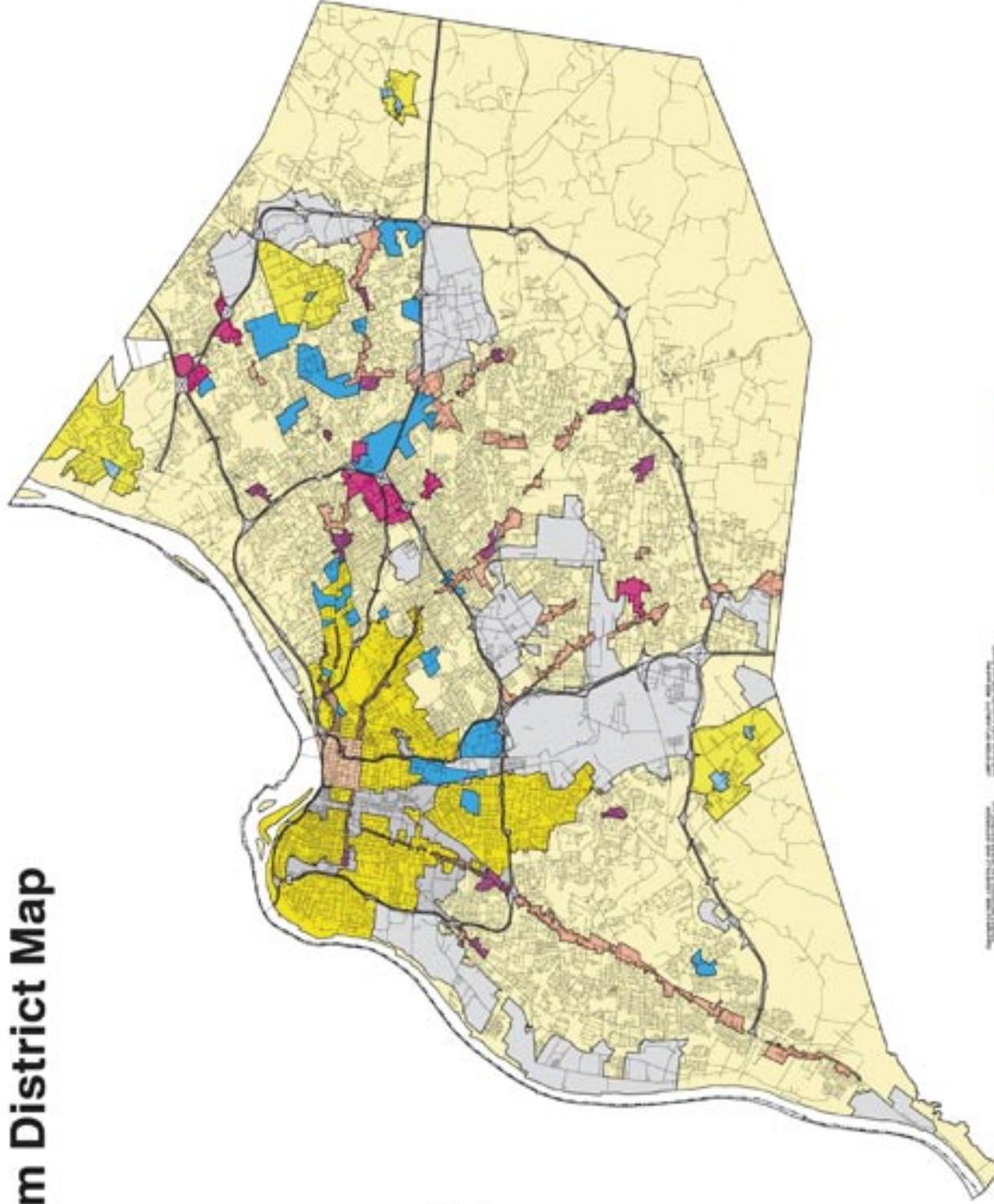
1930s photo from the corner of Garvin Place and St. Catherine Street, Old Louisville (Photo courtesy of Louisville Landmarks Commission.)

APPENDICES

Official Form District Map

Downtown Form District

Traditional Neighborhood Form District

Neighborhood Form District

Village Form District

Village center

Town Center Form District

Regional Center Form District

Traditional Marketplace Corridor Form District

Suburban Marketplace Corridor Form District

Traditional Workplace Form District

Suburban Workplace Form District

Campus Form District

No Form District In Effect

1" = 1 Mile

LOJIC

LOUISVILLE METRO PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES
NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN INVENTORY*

The following table represents a list of neighborhood plans on file in the Planning and Design Services library (444 South Fifth Street, Suite 300). The list is not an official list and may not include all plans (adopted or not). Plans which have been superseded by a subsequent plan or other official document, and plans which were never officially adopted by a legislative body are included in this listing. However, Cornerstone 2020 states that unless plans are officially adopted, they are not considered to represent the specific application of Cornerstone 2020 goals, objectives and policies, and will therefore not be considered as binding recommendations for development proposals within the plan area. Please consult with Planning and Design staff for more information.

Name	Date
Algonquin Parkway: Community Needs Assessment Study	1985
Algonquin Parkway: Proposed Areawide Rezoning	1985
Anchorage Village Plan (Draft)	2003
Auburndale/Iroquis Neighborhood Plan	1990
Bardstown/Baxter	1981
Berrytown Small Area Plan	1976
Bishops Lane Area	1965
Bowman Field	1976
California and Parkland Areawide Rezoning	1984
California Neighborhood Plan	1982
California Neighborhood Plan	1982
Center City Parking Plan	1969
Central Louisville Area Study	1981
Central Park Plan	1990
Cherokee Triangle Neighborhood Plan	1989
Cherokee Triangle Neighborhood Plan	1974
Clifton Heights Neighborhood Plan	2001
Clifton Neighborhood Plan	1989
Clifton Neighborhood Plan	2001
Crescent Hill Neighborhood Plan	1985
Crescent Hill Neighborhood Plan: Supplement to the 1985 Plan	2002
Downtown West Algonquin Plan	1967
Eastwood Neighborhood Plan	2006
Fairdale Area: Phase I	1978
Fairdale Area: Phase II & III	1981

Name	Date
Fairdale Neighborhood Plan	2006
Fegenbush Lane Study	
Fern Creek Neighborhood Plan	2001
Floyds Fork	1993
Frankfort Avenue Study	2002
Germantown-Parispointe: Needs Assessment	1985
Germantown-Parispointe Neighborhood Plan	1985
Griffytown Small Area Plan	1976
Highlands-Douglass Neighborhood Plan	2006
Highland Park	1982
Highland Park Neighborhood Plan	1982
Highlands Community Plan	1984
Hikes Lane/Bardstown/Taylorsville Road Area Study	1979
Hikes Point Neighborhood Plan: Executive Summary	1992
Hikes Point: Executive summary	1992
Hikes Point: Proposed Areawide Rezoning	1992
Jefferson County and Shively Portions Rezoning	1987
Knopp-Melton Plan	1977
Knopp-Melton Plan: Phase II, III	1979
Knopp-Melton Relocation/Reuse Plan	1981
Lake Dreamland Small Area Plan	1977
Limerick Neighborhood Plan	1981
Limerick: Executive Summary	1981
Louisville - Community Priorities and Evaluations	1979

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Louisville - Comprehensive Housing Study, Jefferson Co. Summary	1970	Parkland Neighborhood Plan	1983
		Parkland Neighborhood Plan	1983
Louisville - Housing and Community Development Program: Development Strategy	1980	Parkland Neighborhood Plan: Executive Summary	1983
Louisville - Housing and Household Trends in Kentuckiana	1979	Phoenix Hill Neighborhood Plan	1981
		Phoenix Hill Small Area Study	1977
Louisville - Housing Quality in Louisville and Jefferson County	1983	Pond Creek Task Force Final Report	1997
Louisville - Housing Study	1970	Pond Creek Task Wetlands Delineation Study	1991
Louisville - Housing Study: Technical Appendix	1970	Portland Neighborhood Plan	1983
Louisville - Marketability of Housing Units, 1965-70: Eastern	1965	Portland Neighborhood Urban Renewal Plan	2001
		Portland Neighborhood: Urban Renewal Plan	2001
Louisville - Medical Center Urban Renewal Area	1965	Portland North Proposed Areawide Rezoning	1984
Louisville - Neighborhood Analysis: Community Report for East Community and Old Louisville	1968	Portland Small Area Study	1976
Louisville - Neighborhood Analysis: Sector II	1968	Portland Wharf	1995
Louisville - Neighborhood Analysis: Survey of Residential Structures	1967	Riverside Garden Small Area Study	1978
		Russell Neighborhood Plan	1984
Louisville - Neighborhood Analysis: Survey of Residential Structures	1969	Russell Neighborhood Urban Village & Tax Increment Financing Plan	2004
Louisville - Neighborhood Background Information	1978	Schnitzelburg: Needs Assessment	1984
		Schnitzelburg: Rezoning Information Packet	1985
Louisville - Proposed Program for Neighborhood Analysis	1965	Seventh and Hill Residential Area Assessment	1984
Louisville - R/UDAT	1980	Shawnee Neighborhood Plan	1983
Louisville - Subdivisions	1966	Shawnee Neighborhood Plan: Executive Summary	1983
Louisville Gardens Reuse Plan	1980	Shelby Park Neighborhood Plan	1981
Louisville Survey West	1977	Shelby Park Neighborhood Plan: Executive Summary	1981
Meriwether Neighborhood Plan	1982	Shelby Park Neighborhood Plan: Proposed Areawide Rezoning	1981
Meriwether: Executive Summary	1982	Smoketown and Shelby Park Design Guidelines and Prototypes	1995
Mockingbird Valley Neighborhood Plan	2006		
Norfolk: Revitalization Project	1999	Smoketown and Shelby Park Development Strategy	1995
North Iroquois Action Plan	1983		
Oak Street Commercial Area: Market Analysis/Parking Needs Assessment	1985	Smoketown/Shelby Park Neighborhood Plan	2002
		Smoketown-Jackson Neighborhood Plan	1982
Oak Street Plan: Landmarks Commission	1982	Smoketown-Jackson Neighborhood Plan: Executive Summary	1982
Old Henry Road Subarea Plan	2000		
Old Louisville Neighborhood Plan	1981	Southern Parkway Community Plan	1985
Old Louisville Neighborhood Plan	1981	Southern Parkway Community Plan: Executive Summary	1985
Old Louisville/Limerick Neighborhood Plan	2000		
Orange Drive Residential Relocation and Independence Feasibility Study	1983	St. Joseph Neighborhood Plan	1991
		Tyler Settlement Historic District Plan	1988
Orange Drive Small Area Study Phase II & III	1979	Upper Mill Creek Plan	1980
Orange Drive Urban Renewal Plan	1987	West Broadway Corridor	1994
Original Highlands Neighborhood Plan	2006	West Buechel Small Area Study	1966
Ormsby Village Development Plan	1980	Wolf Pen Branch Neighborhood Plan	2006

NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING RESOURCES

LOUISVILLE METRO PLANNING LINKS:

•*Planning and Design Services Home Page:* **http://www.louisvilleky.gov/PlanningDesign/**

•*Neighborhood Planning Home Page*: **http://www.louisvilleky.gov/PlanningDesign/Neighborhood+Plans/**

•*Cornerstone 2020 Home Page:* **http://www.louisvilleky.gov/PlanningDesign/Cornerstone+2020.htm**

•*Land Development Code:* **http://www.louisvilleky.gov/PlanningDesign/ldc/**

GENERAL PLANNING LINKS:

•**American Planning Association Home Page:** *http://www.planning.org/*

•**The Community Planning Website:** *http://www.communityplanning.net/index.htm*

•**Project for Public Spaces:** *http://www.pps.org/*

•**Smart Growth Network:** *http://www.smartgrowth.org/Default.asp?res=1024*

•**Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center:** *http://www.pedbikeinfo.org*

•**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):** *http://www.hud.gov/*

•**The Congress for the New Urbansism:** *http://www.cnu.org/*

•**National Trust for Historic Preservation:** *http://www.nationaltrust.org/*

•**Urban Futures Network:** *http://www.urbanfutures.org/index.cfm*

•**Smart Growth America:** *http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/*

•**Planetizen - the Planning and Development Network:** *http://www.planetizen.com/*

SUGGESTED READINGS

Alexander Christopher, Ishikawa, Sara , and Murray Silverstein. 1976. *A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction*

Calthorpe, Peter. 1993. *The Next American Metropolis: Ecology, Community and the American Dream.* New York: Princeton Architectural Press.

Fisher, R., W. Ury and B. Patton. 1991. *Getting to Yes: Negotiating Agreement Without Giving In.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Jacobs, Jane. 1961. *The Death and Life of Great American Cities.* New York: Modern Library.

Jones, Bernie. 1990. *Neighborhood Planning: A Guide for Citizens and Planners.* Chicago: APA Planners Press.

LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES
(Listed alphabetically)

Air Pollution Control
502-574-6000
850 Barret Avenue
Louisville, KY 40204
The Air Pollution Control District has worked to ensure cleaner air for Louisville Metro residents for more than 50 years. The department is responsible for developing emission and ambient air standards, monitoring air quality throughout Louisville Metro, and tracking air quality trends in the surrounding metropolitan area. The goals of the department are to ensure healthy air for breathing while helping local industries and businesses meet local, state and national air emission standards.

Animal Services
502-361-1318
3705 Manslick Road
Louisville, KY 40216
Metro Animal Services provides for the care and control of animals within the Louisville Metro area. The agency operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including holidays.

Brightside
502-574-2613
400 South First Street
Louisville, KY 40202
Brightside's mission is to keep Louisville "clean and green!" Created in 1986 by Mayor Abramson, Brightside is focused on beautification, cleanup, and environmental education throughout Louisville. Brightside is a non-profit agency supported largely by generous donations from private citizens, civic organizations and local corporations. A full-time staff works with a volunteer board of directors appointed by the Mayor. Brightside was instrumental in helping Louisville earn the 1995 distinction of All-America City. Brightside is the proud sponsor of neighborhood and community-wide cleanups throughout the year; beautification programs; and environmental education in the Jefferson County Public Schools.

Finance
502-574-3211
611 West Jefferson Street, Room 22
Louisville, KY 40202

The Louisville Metro Finance Department serves the public, vendors, Metro Government employees and agencies by coordinating a fiscally sound budget that is responsive to the community's needs. Finance also ensures vendors are paid for the goods and services received by the government, issues payroll for all Metro Government employees, invests cash resources, issues financial statements, and manages property and liability risks.

Health and Wellness
502-574-6859
400 East Gray Street
P.O. Box 1704
Louisville, KY 40204
The Louisville Metro Health Department protects, preserves and promotes the health, environment and well being of the people of Louisville. Services are provided from the Department's administrative headquarters at 400 E. Gray Street and from 20 satellite and Neighborhood Place sites.

Housing and Community Development
502-574-3107
745 West Main Street, Suite 300
Louisville, KY 40202
Louisville Metro Housing and Community Development is responsible for housing and community development initiatives for the entire Louisville Metro area. Programs include single-family rehabilitation loans, weatherization, roof and emergency repairs, handicapped accessibility construction, non-pro fit based housing support, homeless initiatives, down payment assistance for homebuyers and loans for housing creation or rehabilitation of rental units. Staff coordinates the Mayor's review of all housing projects financed through state and federal agencies.

Human Relations Commission
502-574-3631
410 West Chestnut Street, Suite 300 A
Louisville, KY 40202
The Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission promotes harmony among diverse groups within our community and fights discrimination. A staff citizen advocate helps people with concerns about police conduct.

Human Services
502-574-5050
810 Barret Avenue, 2nd Floor, Room 240
Louisville, KY 40204
Louisville Metro Human Services provides a broad array of services primarily through Neighborhood Place locations. The department has five major areas of direct service: family support, self-sufficiency, senior services, Neighborhood Place and youth development. Direct services to adults and families are designed to offset poverty; vulnerability to abuse, neglect or exploitation; aging; disability; homelessness or immigrant status. Youth programs focus on preparing young people for successful entry into the adult workforce. Many indirect services are offered to support developing public policy. The department awards and monitors funds to non-profit agencies that have complementary goals.

Inspections, Permits & Licenses
502-574-3321
Metro Development Center
444 South Fifth Street
Louisville, KY 40202
Louisville Metro Inspections, Permits and Licenses (IPL) promotes public health and safety through the enforcement of the Metro Property Maintenance Code, Land Development Code, and Kentucky Building/Residential Codes. IPL is also responsible for various licensing and permitting regulations including Alcoholic Beverage Control, taxis and other ground transportation, street vending and similar licenses and permits.

International Affairs
502-574-4774
400 South First Street
Louisville, KY 40202
The Office for International Affairs supports and promotes a vibrant, successful, interconnected, multicultural community through awareness, advocacy and referral.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
502-564-4890
200 Mero Street
Frankfort, KY 40622

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Resources
800-858-1549
#1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY 40601

Louisville Water Company
502-583-6610
550 S. Third Street
Louisville, KY 40202
Louisville Water Company provides water to more than 800,000 people in Greater Louisville and parts of Oldham and Bullitt counties.

MetroCall
311 or 502-574-5000
400 South First Street
Louisville, KY 40202
MetroCall is the customer service and information center for Louisville Metro where individuals can inquire about services, offer suggestions and register concerns that will be forwarded to the appropriate department as needed. Experienced service representatives are available by phone 24 hours a day. You can also send e-mail to MetroCall@louisvilleky.gov.

Metro Economic Development
502-574-4140
Metro Development Center
444 South Fifth Street
Louisville, KY 40202
The Economic Development Department works with other government agencies, Greater Louisville Inc.-the Metro Chamber of Commerce, and the private sector to create jobs, assist business start-ups, improve infrastructure, develop new amenities, and deliver neighborhood services. The services range from loan programs, to assistance in site selection, to client support through the regulatory processes, to referrals to state and local incentive opportunities. Staff builds relationships with businesses, big and small, throughout the community to provide solutions for all client needs.

Metro Parks
502-456-8100
1297 Trevilian Way
Louisville, KY 40213
Louisville Metro Parks operates the community's parks, forests, historic properties, golf courses, swimming pools, community centers and other recreational facilities. The system includes 122 parks covering more than 13,500 acres, offering a wide variety of opportunities to exercise, relax or learn about our natural surroundings.

Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD)
502-587-0603
700 West Liberty Street
Louisville, KY 40202
MSD's role in Louisville Metro is to build, maintain and

operate wastewater and stormwater facilities. It provides sanitary sewer, stormwater drainage and flood protection services to over 200,000 customer accounts. In addition, the agency provides various programs related to greenway development, various education programs, neighborhood maintenance programs, Geographic Information Services (GIS), and many more programs.

Neighborhoods
502-574-4227
400 South First Street
Louisville, KY 40202
The Louisville Metro Department of Neighborhoods builds strong neighborhoods block by block. It works to develop and strengthen neighborhood associations, create safe and beautiful communities, and offer year-round training to empower neighborhood leaders. Addressing specific community needs, the agency includes Brightside, Community Outreach, Office of International Affairs, MetroCall and the Mayor's Special Events Office – working in unison to create a stronger Louisville. Louisville is proud of the vibrant mix of diverse neighborhoods that form the fabric of our city. Department of Neighborhoods' programs such as the Mayor's Neighborhood Summit, Neighborhood Assessments and leadership training give neighborhood organizations the tools to build new and stronger neighborhoods and a better community.

Parking Authority (PARC)
502-574-3817
517 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40118
The Parking Authority of River City provides public parking to serve existing needs and future demands. PARC coordinates with the Transit Authority of River City (TARC) programs that will improve circulation throughout Louisville Metro.

Planning and Design Services
502-574-6230
Metro Development Center
444 South Fifth Street
Louisville, KY 40202
The Louisville Metro Planning and Design Services Department provides planning services that enhance and protect the economic, environmental, cultural and historical resources of the community. The department reviews and promotes appropriate patterns of growth in the community and provides planning and implementation of public improvement projects.

Public Works and Assets
502-574-5810
Metro Development Center
444 South Fifth Street
Louisville, KY 40202
Public Works maintains public streets and right-of-ways, administers capital construction projects, and provides professional engineering and planning services.

Transit Authority of River City (TARC)
502-585-1234
1000 W. Broadway
Louisville, KY 40203
The Transit Authority of River City's Mission is to explore and implement transportation opportunities that enhance the social, economic and environmental well being of the greater Louisville Community.

Solid Waste Management
502-574-3571
600 Meriwether Avenue
Louisville, KY 40217
The Louisville Metro Solid Waste Management Department ensures the cleanliness, health and safety of the Urban Services District through recycling, collection and disposal of solid waste; collection of recyclables and yard waste; quarterly junk pick-up; and street-cleaning. The department also operates Metro-wide services, including drop-off recycling centers, the Household Hazardous Materials Collection Center and the Louisville Waste Reduction Center. The Louisville Metro Waste Management District, a division of the department, is charged with implementing the Metro Solid Waste Management Plan, and the requirements for solid-waste planning and reduction. The District licenses and regulates the solid waste industry in Jefferson County, including landfills, transfer stations, waste haulers and recycling facilities.