

## Summit Lake Neighborhood Taskforce Meeting Notes – 11.18.21

### Choice Neighborhood Update

- Last week of October hosted two neighborhood workshops, one outside of the REACH opportunity and Summit Lake Community Center and another one outside of the Front Porch Fellowship. Between both workshops there were about 60-80 attendees
- AMHA also held a Halloween parade at Summit Lake Apartments where staff wore sandwich boards and went door to door getting resident feedback. Almost 70 residents participated.
- Five questions were asked at each of the workshops and attendees selected their top choices for each question.
  - Vision – Draft vision statement based on feedback
    - Summit Lake is a safe and thriving community with quality housing, local businesses, spaces that support active and healthy lifestyles, and residents who take pride in their community and work together to improve the neighborhood.
  - Building Community Pride
    - Dan Rice brought up which of these activities can we get started on? What are the low hanging fruit that we can tackle so that the neighborhood starts to see some activities started with all of the feedback that has been provided thus far.
      - AMHA to determine the top priorities and break them into sub-working groups. Someone from AMHA and/or taskforce/ leadership team to lead each sub-working group with taskforce members/neighborhood residents.
        - Top three things listed here are:
          - Neighborhood Clean Up – Dan offered to get this initiative started since he already does this near the lake and we can easily expand into the greater neighborhood.
          - Exterior Home Improvement – Would need to be a city-led initiative
          - Pop-up event spaces – Emily from Metro stated some interest (who else can we get to help organize it?)
      - These are the beginning discussions of the doing while planning/early action activities to be done as part of the Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant
        - We have \$375k designated for early action items
      - Joe Tucker stated that we could possibly start a community RFP for some of these projects that residents can submit to help create some community and resident buy in and support in the work itself
      - Each of the top priorities might have a different way of coming to fruition - may not be one approach for all of them
      - Essential that the community and residents are a part of this and really have a leadership role in these initiatives
      - Ms. Grace- “we heard what you said and now that we’ve heard you and we want to act on it we need your participation”. A good way to get residents to get involved but “we need you to be involved with what you said you wanted to see within your community”.

- Somehow get this information out to them and let them know that we heard you all. We want to act on it but we want you involved in the process
- Co-creation and Co-designing
- Next steps – AMHA to determine top priorities for possible early action and follow-up as appropriate

#### **Akron Civic Commons Update**

- City of Akron Summit Lake Vision Plan American Rescue Plan Act funding announcement
- One of our taskforce members was highlighted in the ABJ
- Had about 80 attendees out by the lake
- Phase 1 & 2 are proceeding and are fully funded but still have to raise money for the west side of summit lake.
  - Trail design is going to be completed by the first quarter of 2022 with construction starting early 2022

#### **Land Use Plan Update**

- Resident advisory board is tonight Thursday, 11.18 – will share draft land use and greenway plan for feedback/comment