

## Summit Lake Choice Neighborhoods - Neighborhood Task Force Meeting

January 20, 2022

Attendees: G. Stephens, Inc. – Riana Pogue; Summit Lake Resident & SLCDC – Grace Hudson; AMHA – Katie Jakubcin, Erin Myers; The Liou Choice – Nina Liou; REACH – Greg Guarneri; Seventh Hill – David Jurca; Interface Studio – Stacey Chen; City of Akron –Dylan Garritano, Michelle DiFiore; Alpha Phi Alpha Homes – Tom Fuller; Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance – Tina Boyes; Summit Metro Parks –Demetrius Lambert, Nick Moskos; Development Finance Authority – Kyle Julien; Open M – Christine Curry; South Street Ministries – Joe Tucker; METRO RTA – Emily Baarson; Summit Lake Nature Center - Meghan Doran

### 1. Choice Neighborhoods Updates

- a. Submitted first deliverable under grant on December 15, 2021 – Annotated Outline
- b. Included draft data book – summary of the information collected to date
  - i. Analysis of census plus city data
  - ii. Draft housing market study
- c. Have verbally been informed that HUD will be accepting the Annotated Outline.
- d. Draft Vision Statement

Vision Statement – “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.”

- i. How do you feel about this draft vision?
  - ii. Is there anything missing?
    1. Could be clearer about the boundaries that are included with this vision – Still have confusion about what Choice is and what it covers vs. Land Use and how that aligns with the City’s official definition of what Summit Lake is
      - a. City boundary map:  
[https://www.akronohio.gov/cms/SummitLakeProfile/summit\\_lake.pdf](https://www.akronohio.gov/cms/SummitLakeProfile/summit_lake.pdf)
    2. AMHA needs to prioritize marketing conversation about uniting all efforts (Choice, Land Use, Akron Civic Commons) under one umbrella
- ### 2. Early Start Projects - \$375,000 available - These projects are intended to support smaller scale improvements that can be done now. – To improve the confidence of long-term residents and exemplify the seriousness of the City and AMHA to make changes.
- a. Summit Lake Community Clean Ups – Partnered with Summit Lake CDC (SLCDC), Akron Civic Commons (ACC), and City of Akron
    - i. SLCDC is developing a program with the aim to distribute applications in February 2022 - Application can be accessed online through websites and social media, plan on doing door-to-door canvassing as well with print outs
      1. Partners are willing to have applications available at their sites as well for distribution
    - ii. SLCDC will work to provide the residents with materials to orchestrate clean-ups but clean ups will be led by residents. – Materials include resources and contacts to maintain clean-ups.

- b. Improvements to slow down traffic – Partnered with the City of Akron
    - 1. Working with the city traffic engineer to explore possibilities.
  - c. Pilot greenway on vacant land – Partnered with City of Akron
    - 1. Working with city to identify location and partners which will possibly begin in summer 2022.
  - d. Exterior home renovations – Partnered with City of Akron
    - 1. For existing homeowners in the community, potentially as part of citywide rehab program.
  - e. Informational kiosk off Towpath Trail @ Lewis Street – Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance and ACC
    - i. South end of Summit Lake.
    - ii. Includes wayfinding and map for Summit Lake and Kenmore destinations.
    - iii. Summit Metro Parks noted that there are issues with the kiosk and maintenance and they should be included in any conversations about this project
3. Neighborhood Activities and Next Steps
- a. Meeting with residents to discuss full realm of what Choice covers based on confusion expressed during market study call
  - b. Followup on ProPublica article – if NTF is interested in a meeting with Akron Air Quality to discuss the facility in question, they are available and willing
  - c. Will be sending flyer to the neighborhood providing an update on Choice activity to date and what is to come in 2022
4. Akron Civic Commons Update
- a. Summit Lake Loop Trail
    - i. Ohio & Erie Canal Summit Lake trail is approximately 95% complete.
    - ii. The goal is to finalize the design plan by the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022 and bid the trail in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022.
  - b. Summit Lake North Shore
    - i. City Architecture was hired to finalize the North Shore design plan and it is currently underway.
    - ii. The planning process will take 9 months and completion is anticipated for the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2022.
5. Land Use Update
- a. At the end of the planning process for Land Use and moving forward to acting on plans.
  - b. Next Steps
    - i. Process feedback from Virtual Community Meeting.
    - ii. Coordinate meeting with Choice Neighborhood
    - iii. Intergenerational/Resident Advisory Board Meeting in February
  - c. What is the schedule and activities to be done after the land use plan is finished?
    - i. Is it adopted/approved by the City?
    - ii. What also needs to be done – updating Zoning was mentioned
    - iii. City to provide this information during next NTF meeting
6. Next Steps
- a. Choice Neighborhoods:
    - i. People – Focus groups with residents and service providers in February or March.

- ii. Housing – Developing site plan options for Summit Lake Apartments and selection of developer.
- iii. Neighborhood – Preliminary ideas