



2018 Council Priorities

2018 Priority Area		2Q2018 Progress Report
1. Housing	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Assess the current state of the vacant and abandoned housing problem with supporting data/statistics and vigilant monitoring, oversight and robust updating/reporting to Council. Have staff design and implement an effective reporting structure. Staff to consider engaging an outside expert on how to address and abate neighborhood blight (e.g. Kermit Lind). <i>(Housing & Transportation Committee)</i></p>	<p>Housing Department staff is tracking several indicators and data points related to status of housing and neighborhoods. Relevant measures for regular reporting to City Council are being compiled and will be presented quarterly beginning 3Q2018. Housing staff are consistently in contact with outside experts and interested parties including but not limited to Kermit Lind, GCC Cleveland Heights Housing Team, Home Repair Resource Center, FutureHeights, neighboring communities, and First Suburbs where Director Butler serves as chair of the Housing Committee.</p>
	<p>b) Pursue aggressive tax foreclosure on income residential properties and commercial properties. <i>(Housing & Transportation Committee)</i></p>	<p>Housing staff continues to closely monitor tax delinquent properties for action. Properties are prioritized by high delinquency and nuisance status. The new tax delinquent rental program began in September 2017 with warning letters to delinquent property owners. Occupancy permits were not issued for delinquent rental properties unless taxes were brought current or proof of a payment plan was submitted. Non-compliant properties are now matriculating through the court system.</p>
	<p>c) Increase the housing supply and favor home ownership. <i>(Planning & Development Committee)</i></p>	<p>Infill housing was identified as the priority activity for the proposed CDC. An agreement is currently being negotiated with FutureHeights to serve in this capacity.</p>
	<p>d) Provide tax abatement for Community Reinvestment Areas. <i>(Planning & Development Committee)</i></p>	<p>First reading for the City-wide CRA program was held June 18, 2018. The redesign includes a year-long effort of research, analysis and stakeholder input. The program has been shaped to include feedback from City Council, staff, the State Department of Development, and interested</p>



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	<hr/> <p>Priority:</p> <p>e) Council to create a Housing Committee charged with studying, exploring and communicating to Council and staff regarding strategies for attacking problems, including consideration of foreclosure bonds. Examine best practices in other cities and consider legislation based on same. <i>(Housing & Transportation Committee)</i></p>	<p>parties such as FutureHeights and real estate brokers and developers. Pending Council action, the program will be implemented in 3Q2018 including marketing and promotion.</p> <hr/> <p>The Housing & Transportation Committee met on May 31, 2018, to discuss the foreclosure bond proposal. The meeting including staff as well as interested parties such as the GCC Cleveland Heights Housing Team and Future Heights. The committee charged staff with additional research to be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
<p>2. CDC and Economic Development</p>	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Execute on Top of the Hill. <i>(Planning & Development Committee)</i></p> <hr/> <p>b) Continue economic development focus on Noble Corridor and City-owned property at Noble and Glenwood, Taylor-Tudor neighborhood and the west side of Taylor. <i>(Planning & Development Committee)</i></p>	<p>The development agreement with Flaherty & Collins was executed following Council’s approval on February 20, 2018. The school compensation agreement was approved by the CH-UH Board of Education on March 13, 2018, and the Tax Increment Financing agreement was approved by City Council on March 19, 2018. A second community input meeting was held June 19, 2018. Several stakeholder meetings were also held including meetings with the Cedar/Fairmount business community, residents of the Buckingham Condos, and Nighttown Owner Brendan Ring. Detailed design is currently underway along with traffic and parking studies. The project is expected to begin the Planned Overlay District process in September 2018 with construction expected mid-late 2019.</p> <hr/> <p>Noble - The City submitted a census tract in the Noble neighborhood for the Opportunity Zone program and was approved. This program will help to catalyze private</p>



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	<p>c) Finalize agreement to establish a CDC and establish measurable goals and accountability standards. <i>(Planning & Development Committee)</i></p> <hr/> <p>d) Address safety issues and beautification plans and development/enhancements of key</p>	<p>investment in the Corridor. The City continued beautification efforts of City-owned property along the Noble Corridor. Business outreach continues along with support of the Noble Neighbors group including partnering on their We Are Noble event held in May 2018. Staff has reached out to the owners of the former Center Mayfield site and the office property adjacent to Noble/Glenwood to discuss a joint RFQ/RFP process. Interest was expressed; however the Center Mayfield site was involved in the medical marijuana dispensary process at the time of the discussion. The sites were named in June and Center Mayfield was not included. Staff will re-engage with the owners in 3Q2018.</p> <p>Taylor-Tudor – The City gained ownership of the vacant parcel at Superior Park and Taylor in January 2018. The adjacent tax delinquent commercial structures are matriculating through the foreclosure process. Once site control is secured for all three a planning process/feasibility study should be convened to determine redevelop options for the properties in partnership with the neighborhood and surrounding business community, followed by an RFQ/RFP process.</p> <hr/> <p>The CDC Working Group presented its recommendation to City Council on March 26, 2018. Council approved negotiations with FutureHeights on April 2, 2018. Two meetings have been held with FutureHeights to discuss terms. Agreement is expected to be executed in 3Q2018.</p> <hr/> <p>The Police Department continues to work closely with</p>



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	commercial districts. (e.g. Noble, Taylor) <i>(Safety & Municipal Services Committee)</i>	<p>Noble area residents, including Noble Neighbors, as well as commercial property owners on Taylor regarding safety. Lighting was improved and cameras were installed in the Stadium Square property and special patrols continue in that district, the Noble area, and all key commercial districts. The Police Department has continued the Business Liaison Officer to work directly with businesses to address their concerns and provide safety suggestions.</p> <p>Beautification efforts along the Noble Corridor continued from 2017 to include new tree plantings. Warrensville Center Road from Noble to Mayfield is being resurfaced.</p> <p>The City continues to work closely with the merchants at Cedar and Taylor regarding the business association's efforts to beautify their area. A plan for the area north of Cedar is being developed for implementation next spring.</p>
3. Operations/High Performing Organization	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Council Operating Guidelines to comport with our Charter and enhance council effectiveness and operating efficiencies and ensure solid partnering relationship with Staff. <i>(Administrative Services Committee)</i></p> <hr/> <p>b) Digitally record all meetings. <i>(Administrative Services Committee)</i></p> <hr/> <p>c) Evaluate Boards and Commissions to determine relevancy in addressing current needs. <i>(Recreation, Community & External Relations)</i></p>	<p>To be reviewed at a future Administrative Services Committee meeting.</p> <hr/> <p>Implemented new system in Executive Conference Room in late June. Committee of the Whole meeting recordings began with July 2, 2018 meeting.</p> <hr/> <p>To be reviewed at a future Recreation, Community, & External Relations Committee meeting.</p>



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	<p>d) Adhere to the Master Plan - updates from the City Manager to Council and the community and regular inclusion on the agenda. <i>(City Council)</i></p> <hr/> <p>e) Realign selected Council Committees to be congruent with priorities and define specific tasks with time frames for completion. <i>(Mayor)</i></p>	<p>City Manager provided a quarterly written report and presentation on the Master Plan's progress at the April 16, 2018 City Council meeting. Quarterly reports are scheduled going forward including the implementation of a new public dashboard.</p> <hr/> <p>City Council adopted priorities for 2018 on March 19, 2018. Priorities have been assigned to committees along with additional proposed tasks.</p>
4. Collaboration and Regionalization Efforts	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Restructure joint Council/School Board meetings to promote open and more productive dialogue. <i>(Mayor)</i></p> <hr/> <p>Priority:</p> <p>b) Work with East Cleveland and Cleveland Metro Parks (and other potential stakeholders) to enhance and transform Forest Hill Park into a true regional community asset of the highest caliber. <i>(Recreation, Community & External Relations)</i></p> <hr/> <p>c) Explore the possibility of regionalization of Municipal Courts, Building Department and Animal Control. <i>(Recreation, Community & External Relations)</i></p>	<p>Mayor Roe and BOE President Posch have planned and coordinated the March 12, 2018 and June 25, 2018 Joint City/BOE meetings to align with the collective interests and priorities of each entity.</p> <hr/> <p>To be reviewed at a future Recreation, Community, & External Relations Committee meeting. Staff has had one meeting with the East Cleveland Parks Association regarding Forest Hill Park. No discussions to date with MetroParks officials.</p> <hr/> <p>To be reviewed at a future Recreation, Community, & External Relations Committee meeting. Before the topic is scheduled for committee discussion, additional research is needed on municipal court regionalization, including discussions with Judge Costello. The animal control and building department ideas have been previously discussed with the County's former Director of Regional Collaboration. This position has been vacant since January 2018. Staff will meet with the department to refresh these topics once the role is filled.</p>



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5. Fiscal Stability	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Establish a policy goal for the reserve amount. <i>(Finance)</i></p> <hr/> <p>b) Determine long-term fiscal strategy for capital expenditures. <i>(Finance)</i></p>	<p>To be reviewed at a future Finance Committee meeting. In the absence of a policy, the City continues to rebuild the reserve by applying fiscally conservative budgeting practices.</p> <hr/> <p>This item will be on the July 6, 2018 Finance Committee for discussion. Additional research and analysis are needed and will be conducted over the next six months.</p>
6. Quality of Life/Green Initiatives	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Continue the Complete Streets policy. <i>(Housing & Transportation Committee)</i></p> <hr/> <p>Priority:</p> <p>b) Study and pursue greener sustainable waste management and recycling programs. <i>(Safety & Municipal Services Committee)</i></p>	<p>The Complete & Green Streets policy was adopted by City Council on May 8, 2018. Staff will continue to use the policy to guide our actions.</p> <hr/> <p>Staff is preparing to present research at the September 12, 2018 Safety & Municipal Services Committee meeting</p>
7. Measuring Progress and Metrics	<p>Priority:</p> <p>a) Develop SMART Goals to use in helping to evaluate delivery of services. (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time Bound) <i>(Finance)</i></p>	<p>SMART Goal development training was held January 30, 2018 in preparation for ENVISIO software implementation for Master Plan progress tracking. Directors are learning to write SMART goals using their Master Plan work plans.</p>
8. Miscellaneous/Other	<p>Highest Priority:</p> <p>a) Promote our city with more external focus on, e.g., University Circle, developers, realtors, etc. <i>(Recreation, Community & External Relations)</i></p>	<p>Mayor Roe and City Manager met with UCI representatives on February 9, 2018 to discuss partnership opportunities. CH Advertisements ran in Edible Cleveland (December), Cleveland Magazine (May), and Crain's (July). National and local development community engaged through the Meadowbrook & Lee RFQ/RFP process (March). Real Estate Brokers & Developers meeting to promote the proposed City-wide CRA was held June 1, 2018. Ten positive media mentions and/or features since January 2018.</p>



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	Priority: b) Explore sidewalk snow removal program <i>(Safety & Municipal Services Committee)</i>	To be reviewed at a future Safety & Municipal Services Committee.