

Together
with
LSC

EAST SIDE

Launch Report | East Side History | 2022

With Gratitude & Solidarity

The LISC WNY team is immensely grateful to the organizations, residents, and practitioners of the East Side communities who have shared, taught, and trusted us with their thoughts. Their experiences, especially within the context of the Covid-19 era, inspired us, and shaped the creation of this framework. We are constantly humbled by the leadership, strength and resiliency that we encounter daily from the people who call these places home.

We write these words as practitioners, working in partnership with community, centering the needs, lived experiences, wisdom and leadership of our Indigenous, Black and brown neighbors. We honor the sovereign Haudenosaunee (hoe-dee-no-SHOW-nee or hoe-den-oh-saw-nee) Six Nations, original stewards of this land we live on—the Mohawk, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Seneca and Tuscarora—and the places where the following work took place. May all that we do strive toward partnership with a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration. And from this reconciliation, let us begin to heal.

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 Transportation Council
 Greater Eastside
 Field of Dreams Block Club
 Greater Jefferson Avenue
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 Harmac
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 Sattler Theater
 Shared Mobility Inc.
 Sinatra Development
 SUNY Buffalo State
 SUNY Buffalo State-Small Business
 Development Center

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 The Exchange at Beverly Gray
 The Foundry
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 / Wakanda Alliance
 TOP Enterprises, Inc.
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 University at Buffalo
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 University at Buffalo School
 of Architecture & Planning
 University District Community
 Development Association
 Urban Fruits and Veggies
 Urban Land Institute
 Urban Vantage
 vonetta t. rhodes, Poet
 Westminster Economic
 Development Initiative
 White Bicycle Design Studios
 Wise Young Builders
 WNY Foundation
 WNY Minority Media
 Professionals, Inc.
 WNY Urban Arts Collective
 WNY Women's Foundation
 Workforce Development Institute
 WSP

LISC Commitment

At its core, WITHIN makes space for community members to be the architects of their own neighborhoods. As an open, inclusive, community-driven initiative, we bring together neighborhood voices, trusted partners, and supportive funders in an effort to better the wellbeing of all who call Buffalo's East Side home. Together, we collaboratively identify projects that sustain positive momentum, and together, we get things done.

LISC WNY facilitated planning for three focus areas in the East Side, under the WITHIN WNY program. In alignment with the mission of LISC, to “forge resilient and inclusive communities of opportunity”, WITHIN supports community-activated progress. Centering the concept that to invest in a community, one must know the community, LISC WNY designed the WITHIN East Side process as a two-pronged approach—integrating economic development and quality-of-life planning.

Why an integrated methodology? The two types of planning efforts are largely intertwined. Both economic development and quality-of-life planning require understanding community history and dynamics, collaboratively identifying projects, building relationships with diverse stakeholders, and turning community priorities into progress. In this particular case, we also are planning to drive resources to effectively combat the underlying issues that have created inequities in the East Side.

LISC Commitment continued...

These neighborhoods were selected because of the existing dichotomy. People of color make up 78% of the East Side's total population¹, and this section of our city has not received the same level of investment as others. Showing immense resiliency, these communities still find ways to flourish even without resources; but without additional support and investment, these communities are at risk of displacement and erasure of culture and existing rich narratives. Intentionality is necessary to strengthen the connective tissue between residents and the surrounding developments.

In 2022, the neighborhoods are at a critical juncture. The nexus of adversity and previously unattainable support offers a unique opportunity to enhance these neighborhoods. The framework for WITHIN began with intention to ensure that community members were able to capitalize on imminent large-scale programs like the ESD East Side Corridor Economic Development Fund and lift community goals that still need attention and investment, powering the ideas and vision of the people. With the onset of COVID-19, this work became even more critical. The added trauma following the racist massacre on May 14, 2022, at the Tops Markets on Jefferson Avenue intensified the calls for action and assurance that the surge of funds and recovery efforts truly result in positive transformative change.

Throughout this process, we listened to hundreds of community members around their priorities for health, housing, jobs, small business, mobility, safety, development priorities, and culture. We analyzed demographics,

¹ [Buffalo Billion East Side Corridor Fund Report, 2019](#)

LISC Commitment continued...

economics, employment and housing trends, reviewed existing plans, examined neighborhood conditions, and interviewed stakeholders.

Embedded WITHIN is the intention to connect a diverse network of community builders who share a common purpose—to invest resources and exponentially broaden impacts. This document creates a shared understanding of this local multi-sector context with both on-the-ground organizations and regional funders.

The WITHIN East Side report includes:

- A clear statement of the community's guiding principles, goals and objectives;
- A focused list of prioritized investments and action for 2022–23 to kick start the effort;
- A series of initial performance metrics; and
- A list of additional opportunities for community implementation as resources allow.

Rather than asking one entity to adopt this plan, the project website will indicate which organizations have endorsed the plan and are committed to its implementation.

LISC Commitment continued...

This work is supported by an extensive, data rich analysis, outlining existing conditions, and a series of tools to allow community members to lead implementation: interactive online mapping tools, a development project tracker, a rubric for new development, and scenario planning tools.

The WITHIN East Side strategies are inspired and shaped by ideas and lessons from the neighborhoods. When applicable, WITHIN strategies are aligned with investment initiatives to connect the plan to plausible resources. The strategies call on community members to spark a movement, help neighbors thrive, and choose to stay. They call for community partners to forge new partnerships, drive progress, set the pace, and tap into the power of their neighborhoods. And they call for funders to power the ideas of the people, invest in inclusive and sustainable initiatives, and turn community priorities into progress.

LISC is committed to supporting the community's implementation of this vision through ongoing facilitation and communications support, training, technical assistance, grant writing and funding assistance. We are grateful for every community member that brought us to this important launch point. We are committed to supporting your collective implementation of this shared vision.

We look forward to celebrating your success.

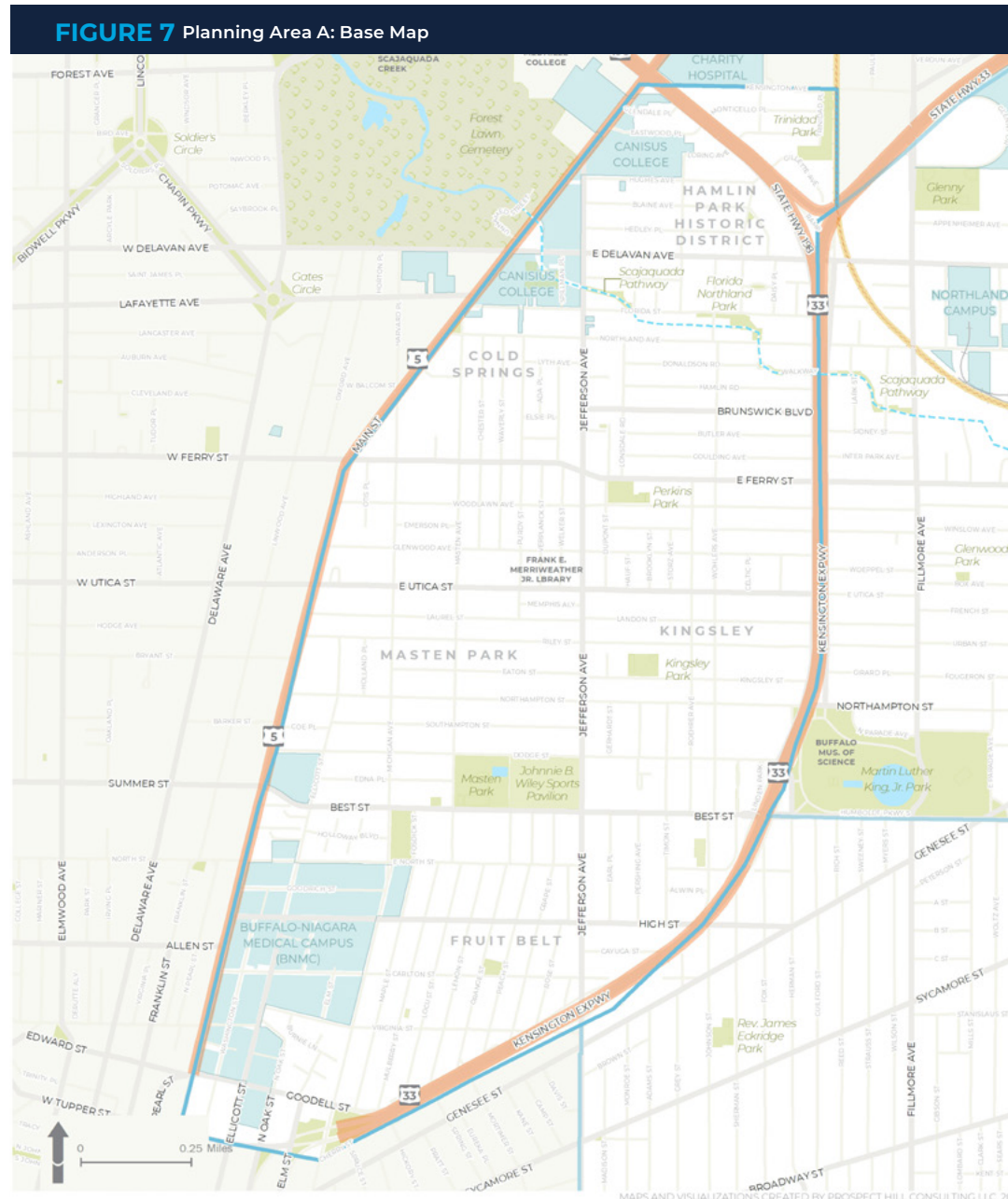
FRUIT BELT NEIGHBORHOOD.
PHOTO: BUFFALO COMMONS PHOTOBANK



East Side History

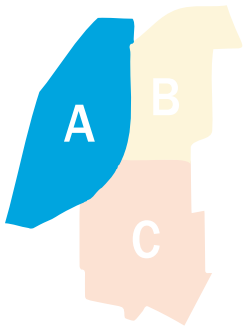
HISTORY OF AREA A	10
HISTORY OF AREA B	17
HISTORY OF AREA C	22

HISTORY OF AREA A HISTORY OF AREA B HISTORY OF AREA C



- Neighborhood Plan Areas
- Anchor in the near East Side
- Park / Open Space
- Cemetery
- Water
- Scajaquada Creek (Buried)
- NYS Highway
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Beltline
- Railroad

HISTORY OF AREA A HISTORY OF AREA B HISTORY OF AREA C



Area A encompasses a grouping of six neighborhoods with Main Street running along the western border, and the I-33 Kensington Expressway on the eastern border. Trinidad Park and Hamlin Park are to the north, Cold Springs and Masten Park to the west, Kingsley on the eastern border, split by the I-33 Kensington Expressway, and finally the Fruit Belt neighborhood is the southernmost neighborhood, adjacent to Buffalo's downtown business district.

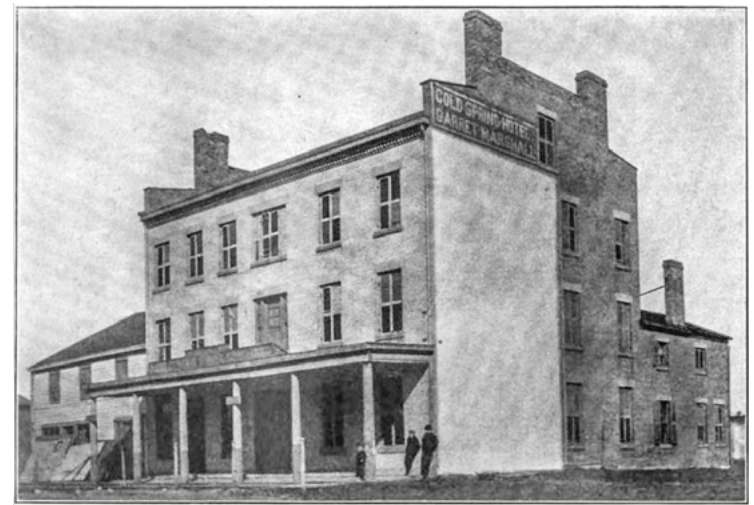
Hamlin Park & Trinidad Park

Hamlin Park and Trinidad Park sit at the most northern edge of the Area A boundary. The neighborhood was first home to German and Jewish-American residents. With the flight of migration to the suburbs and an influx in the African American population post-WWII, Hamlin Park became the first African American middle-class community in Western New York. The 'Hamlin Park Historic District' was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2013, and continues to be an iconic neighborhood in the city.

Trinidad Park, sitting adjacent to Hamlin Park, is a small neighborhood nestled between Sisters Hospital and the I-33 Expressway. The CSX Belt Line also borders this neighborhood. The geography of Trinidad Park was severely altered in the 1960s due to the construction of Routes 198 and 33. Dozens of homes were relocated from Humboldt Parkway to this nine-street section, now isolated from historic Hamlin Park. Though physically separated, the neighborhood shares much of the architectural identity of historic Hamlin Park. In 1971, Trinidad Park was established as a new respite for residents devastated by the loss of the Humboldt Parkway².

60 Hedley Place, a stone farmhouse built around 1850, was recently restored and is home to the Hamlin Park Community Taxpayer's Association (HPCTA), which has been meeting regularly since 1965. In addition to a strong Taxpayer's

Association, the Restore Our Community Coalition (ROCC) is a group whose vision is to restore the historic Humboldt Parkway as a green boulevard and promenade. Before the Kensington Expressway was introduced in the early 1960s, the tree lined Olmsted Parkway framed this neighborhood and there are community-led efforts to bring the tree lined streets back, making way for a more pedestrian friendly lifestyle.



COLD SPRING HOTEL, SOUTHEAST CORNER MAIN AND FERRY STREETS.
BUILT IN THE EARLY '20'S, TORN DOWN ABOUT 1890.

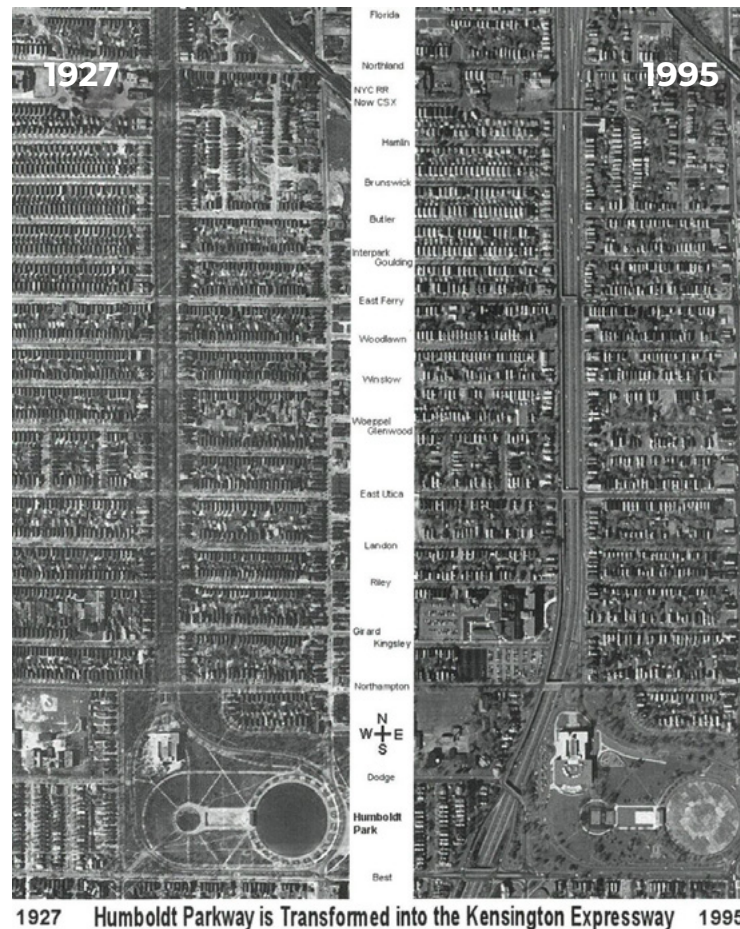
Photo: PBN (Preservation Buffalo Niagara)

Cold Springs & Masten Park

The Cold Spring neighborhood derives its name from a historic spring that formerly stood in the current day intersection of Main and East Ferry Streets. Other springs, which had been frequented by Native Americans for generations, were also present at one point in time. This is attributed to the reason that the neighborhood became known in the plural as "Cold Springs."

Cold Spring developed into an urban residential neighborhood after the Civil War and was mostly occupied by Germans with

HISTORY OF AREA A
HISTORY OF AREA B
HISTORY OF AREA C



1927 Humboldt Parkway is Transformed into the Kensington Expressway 1995

Photo: Google

a small enclave of African American residents. By 1900, most of the German community dispersed, and the neighborhood became home to Polish immigrants. Jefferson Avenue, an important route, was originally planned by Frederick Law Olmsted to be upgraded into a 200-foot parkway, connecting an East Side park on High Street with Delaware Park to the North. The 'East Side park' ended up further east at Genesee and Best Streets, now known as Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

Connecting this park to the north with a new street, Humboldt Parkway, Jefferson Avenue evolved into an important commercial center ([Preservation Buffalo Niagara](#)). After 1940, in a Post WWII society, the ethnic makeup of the Cold Springs neighborhood shifted to predominantly African American. This was viewed as the peak period in the Second Great Migration of African Americans from the American South. From this time on, Jefferson Avenue became known as the major thoroughfare of the Black community in Buffalo³.

Masten Park, just south of Cold Springs, is a 28-block neighborhood, bordered by Main St, Best St, East Ferry St, and Jefferson Ave. The neighborhood began developing in the 1870s with the creation of the Buffalo Parks and Parkway system. The New York Central Railroad built the Belt Line Railroad in 1883, opening new areas for industrial and residential development. In the mid 1880s, a building boom began in the Masten neighborhood.

The Masten Neighborhood Rows are a unique architectural asset showcasing urban architecture in Buffalo that is not present in other neighborhoods. These historic row houses provided an answer to demand for inexpensive housing on little available land, and were built for working class tenants by land associations and developers⁴.



Woodlawn Avenue Historic Row Houses. Photo: Buffalo Commons Photobank

³ [Preservation Buffalo Niagara](#)
⁴ [Living Places](#)

HISTORY OF AREA A
HISTORY OF AREA B
HISTORY OF AREA C



Photo: Google

The Fruit Belt

The Fruit Belt is a 150-year-old predominantly Black neighborhood in Buffalo that has faced a series of systemic hurdles through the years. The neighborhood was named for its bountiful fruit trees. Residents were treated to a bountiful harvest every autumn⁵. After WWII, the segregation of this neighborhood took place with redlining policies dating back to the 1930s, leading the foundation for the expressways that drove through the neighborhood in the 1950s and 60s. The Fruit Belt orchards faded when Route 33 was constructed along Cherry Street. This new construction erased a piece of Buffalo when it arrived: a neighborhood called Brewers Hill.

Starting in the 1960s, large parts of the neighborhood were razed and cleared for the creation of a university-affiliated medical park. For decades following, investments were placed in this medical park. Some maps call the neighborhood 'Medical Park,' rather than the longstanding 'Fruit Belt,' amplifying the risk of erasure surrounding this neighborhood's

'identity and history. Behind the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, the Fruit Belt neighborhood still stands, and a resurgence of energy arrives with it. In 2017, an initiative through [Endless Orchard](#) organized for volunteers to replant the fruit trees that were lost, with the intention of a new orchard growing for the next wave of residents. The [Fruit Belt Community Land Trust](#) is active in this space, incubating permanently affordable housing, garden space, and commercial space.



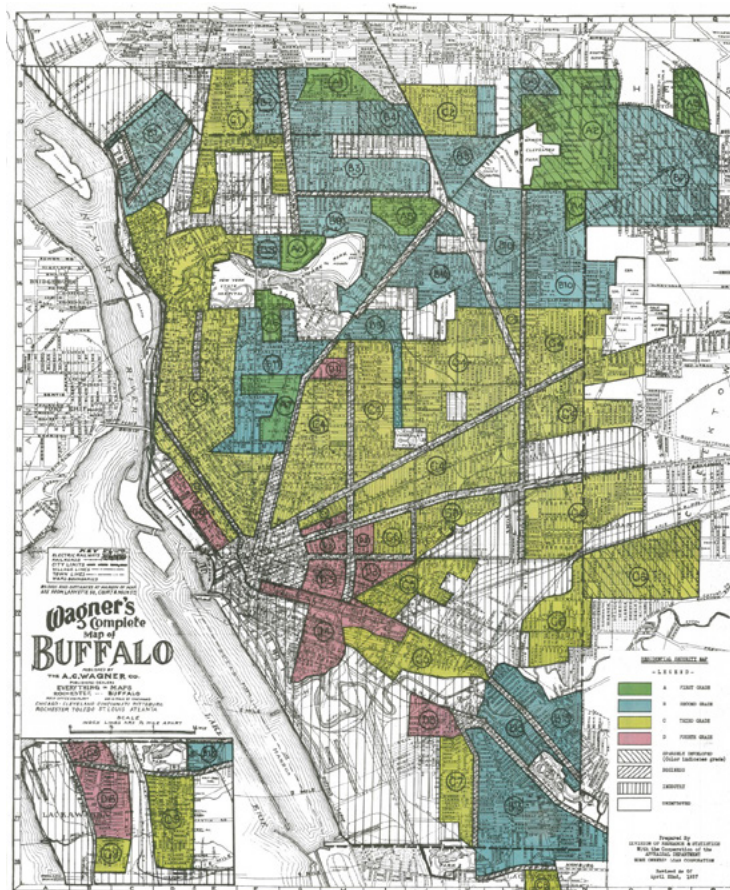
High Street Deli—a historic building
in the Fruit Belt Neighborhood
High Street Deli by Julia Wald Art

“ Main Street is as old as Buffalo...It was this street, that for so many years, like a racial Maginot Lie, has served to divide the East Side from the West Side. ”

Mark Goldman

"City on the Lake"

HISTORY OF AREA A
HISTORY OF AREA B
HISTORY OF AREA C



Redlining map of Buffalo. Photo: Buffalo Commons Photobank

Main Street: The Great Divide

In the early 1800s, when Buffalo was first being planned, Joseph Ellicott's street design did not cross Main Street, and people generally lived on the Western side of what is now Main Street⁶.

Buffalo saw an influx of immigrant groups starting with the Irish and Germans in the early 1800s, followed by Southern and Eastern Europeans between 1880–1920. Throughout the Great Migration from the early 1900s until 1970, African Americans from the South moved North in search of opportunity.

Restrictive covenants, prohibiting white people to sell their homes to non-white people, along with redlining, dictated where the influx of African Americans would live. The Federal Housing Agency (FHA) ranked neighborhoods from 'A' to 'D,' signifying financial stability, and telling the lenders who to lend to. This redlining⁷ restricted the flow of capital in and out of minority neighborhoods, leading to less homeownership, declining property values, and divestment in these particular neighborhoods.

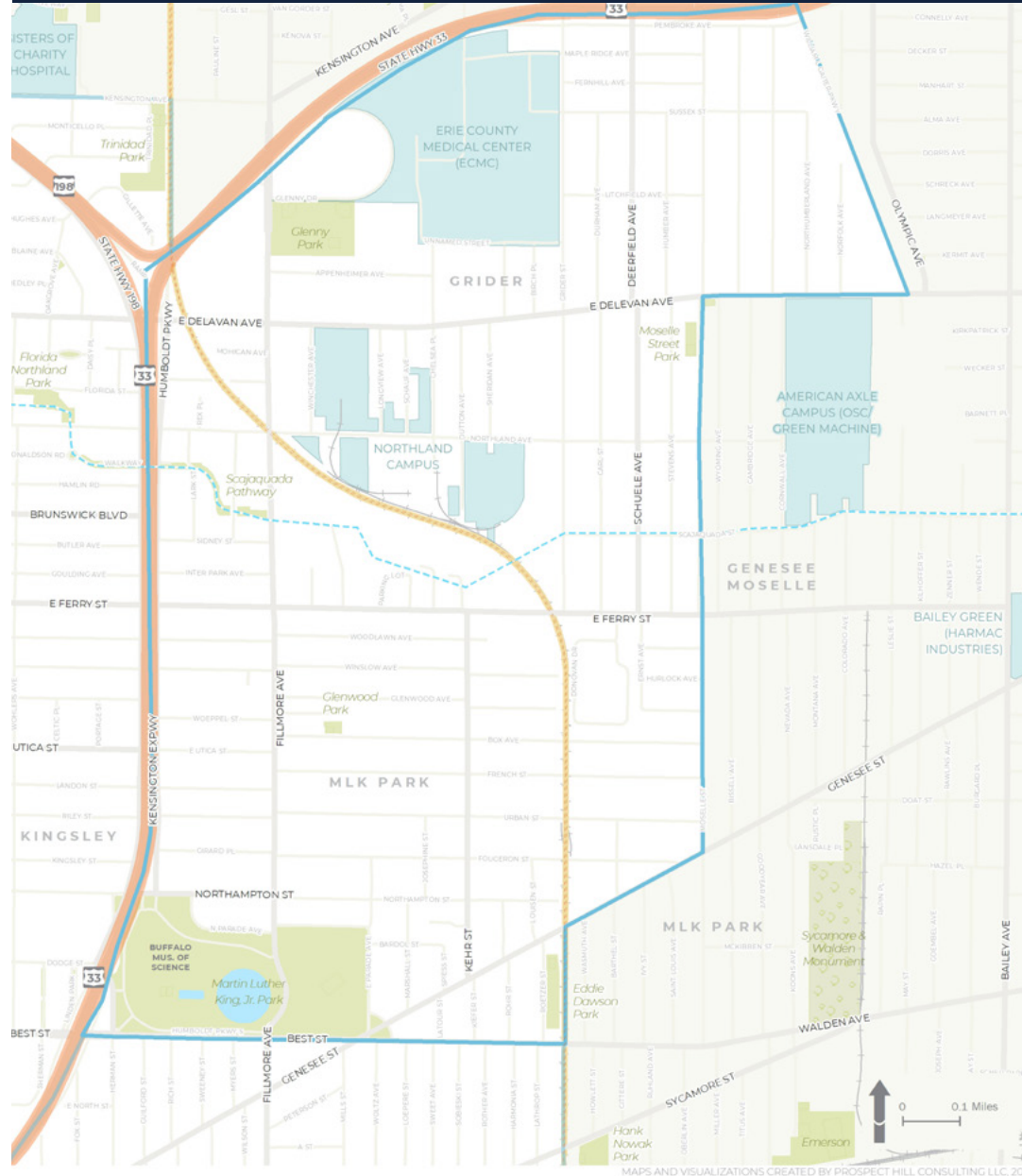
Today, Main Street acts as a physical boundary, but systems of the past create an invisible boundary psychologically and racially. It's the only street where cross streets change name (ie. West Ferry to East Ferry). It's the only street where the tree-line stops from one side to the next. Several transportation and infrastructure projects are currently occurring on Main Street, but the question that still remains, is how our community makes strides in connecting one side to the other, fluidly and equitably.












⁶ [Buffalo News Article](#)

⁷ [Partnership for the Public Good](#)

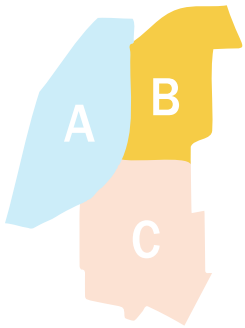
HISTORY OF AREA A HISTORY OF AREA B HISTORY OF AREA C

FIGURE 8 Planning Area B: Base Map



-  Neighborhood Plan Areas
-  Anchor in the near East Side
-  Park / Open Space
-  Cemetery
-  Water
-  Scajaquada Creek (Buried)
-  NYS Highway
-  Major Road
-  Local Road
-  Beltline
-  Railroad

HISTORY OF AREA A
HISTORY OF AREA B
HISTORY OF AREA C



Former Wonderbread Factory. Photo: Google

Area B, slightly smaller in square footage than Area A, encompasses two neighborhoods, each with a larger footprint: Delavan Grider and MLK Park. Delavan Grider is to the North, and also is bordered along the northern edge by the I-33 Kensington Expressway. MLK Park neighborhood encompasses Martin Luther King Jr. Park along the southern border.

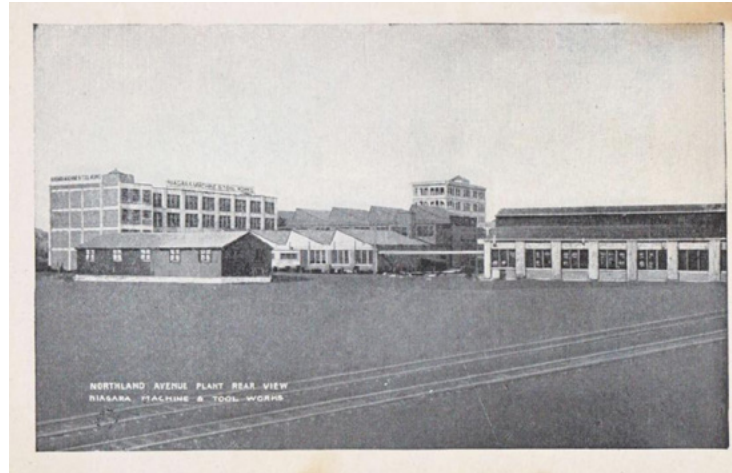
Delavan Grider

Once farm land, the Delavan Grider Neighborhood grew to be an industrial corridor with a neighborhood built around it. Due to the proximity of the neighborhood to the Belt Line, several industrial structures were erected along East Delavan Avenue in the late 1800s. The NYC Belt Line loop was

completed in 1882, and provided both local passenger service, commercial transportation, and connected to America's countrywide railroad infrastructure. Industrial companies expanded in operations and attracted complimentary commercial activity, leading to a hub of manufacturing and raw materials processing facilities. This influence still remains today, with the Northland Corridor being one of the most extensive industrial areas on Buffalo's East Side, and has had a large influence over the neighborhood's development ([Northland Neighborhood Strategy, 2016](#)).

In modern day, the Northland Campus is one of many anchors in and around the Delavan Grider neighborhood. The campus houses the Northland Workforce Training Center,

HISTORY OF AREA A
HISTORY OF AREA B
HISTORY OF AREA C



a \$150 million investment in partnership between the Buffalo Billion and the New York Power Authority (NYPA). The campus also plays host to the \$2 million Buffalo Billion Solar Array investment, a green energy solution and training facility for green energy jobs.

Other anchors include the Erie County Medical Center on the northern end of the neighborhood, and the old American Axle site (Green Machine) campus to the East. Other amenities in the neighborhood include Mt. Olive Baptist Church, and several public schools, including the new \$3.2 million advanced manufacturing initiative at Burgard High School.



Top: THEN Northland Exterior. Photo: Google
Middle: NOW Northland Workforce Training Center. Photo: NWTC
Bottom: Burgard High School Students. Photo: NWTC



Broadway Market 1950s, Broadway Market TODAY. Photos: BFNHS

HISTORY OF AREA A
HISTORY OF AREA B
HISTORY OF AREA C



Humboldt Basin THEN. Photo: Olmsted Parks Conservancy

MLK Park

MLK Park is a neighborhood that developed around the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. The 50-acre park, originally called The Parade (and from 1896 to 1977 known as Humboldt Park), was located near the center of the city's East Side, near the German population. The iconic park was designed in 1868–1870 by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. Fillmore Avenue once ran through the entirety of the park, when it was bordered by Northampton, Best, N. Parade, E. Parade and W. Parade Streets. In the early days, MLK Jr. Park was intentionally designed for military drills and sporting events, as well as a large children's playground. The Parade House, a magnificent restaurant, beer hall, and dance hall designed by Vaux, opened here in 1876 and immediately became a popular attraction for all of Buffalo's diverse population, in an age when immigrants were arriving daily. The Vaux barn, named after one of the original designers of the park, is the last remaining structure of The Parade. There are significant efforts under way to relocate and restore the barn.

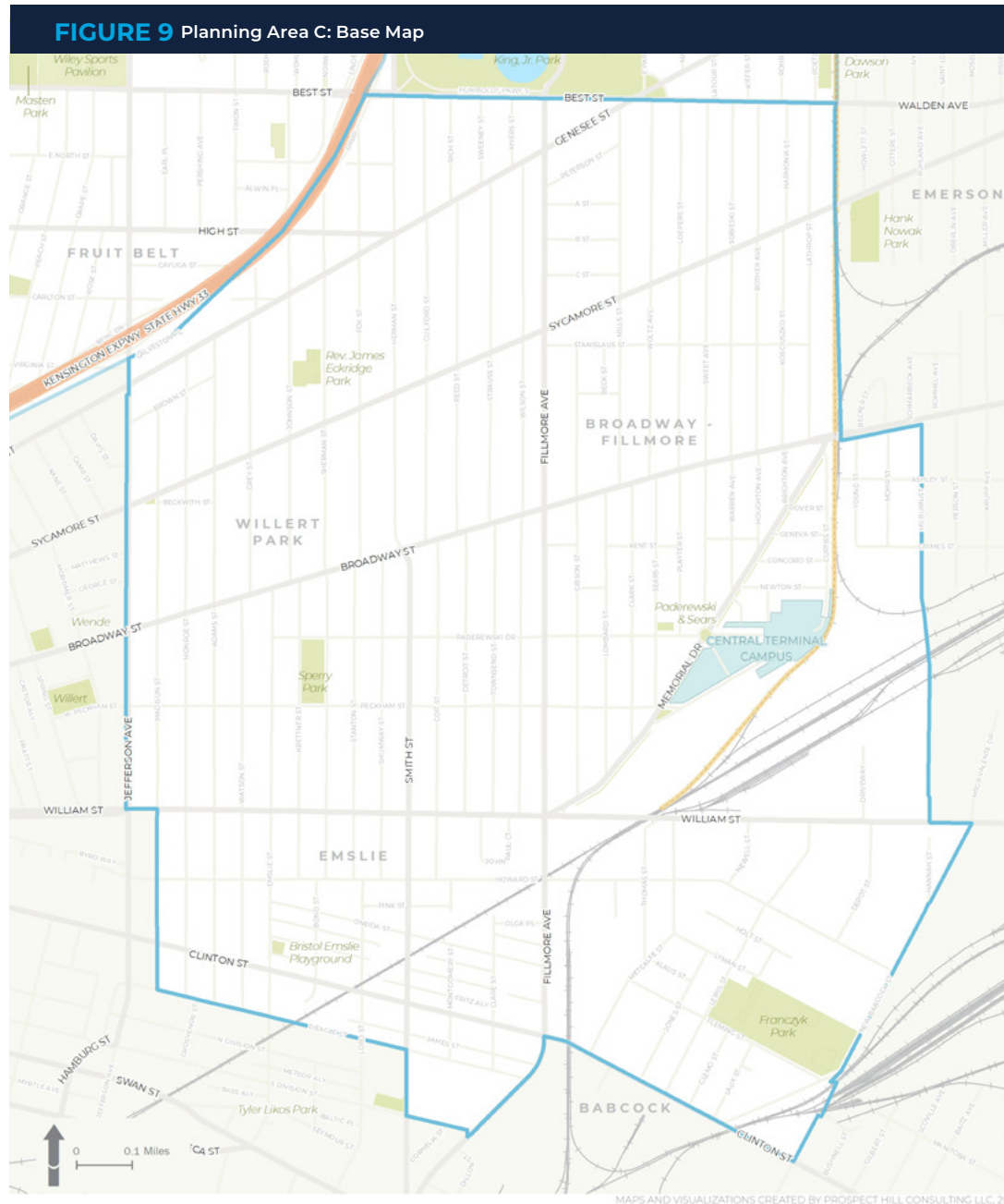


Humboldt Basin NOW. Photo: Olmsted Parks Conservancy

In 1895, the Olmsted firm redesigned the park, replacing the Parade grounds with a nearly five acre reflecting pool, a basin for water plants and the large fountain, which remains in the part to this day. The revised park also became known for its floral displays. In 1977, the park was renamed in memory of the life and legacy of Dr. King. In the 1980s, the Buffalo Arts Commission began an artist search to install a bust of Martin Luther King Jr. in the park as a commemoration. Artist John Wilson was selected to develop this sculpture that currently exists. The park was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982⁸.

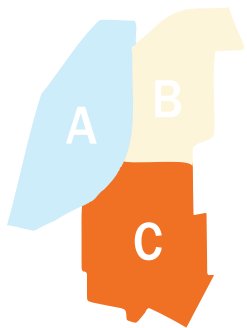
Today, the park is home to the Buffalo Museum of Science building, the brick shelter house from 1904, a greenhouse from 1907, and the Humboldt Park Casino from 1926. It sits at the southern end of the MLK Park neighborhood, whose main commercial thoroughfare is Fillmore Avenue.

HISTORY OF AREA A HISTORY OF AREA B HISTORY OF AREA C



- Neighborhood Plan Areas
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- Railroad

HISTORY OF AREA A HISTORY OF AREA B HISTORY OF AREA C



Area C houses one neighborhood with a slightly larger footprint than the rest: Broadway Fillmore. The geography selected by the LISC team encroaches into the Willert Park neighborhood to the West and Emslie to the south, with the thinking that we wanted to ensure connection with Area A. The planning area is bordered to the West by Jefferson Avenue, and is bordered to the East by the existing rail line.

Broadway Fillmore

The Broadway Fillmore neighborhood of Buffalo follows a similar trajectory of development in the industrial Northeast and Midwest. Though the heart of the neighborhood, at the corners of Broadway and Fillmore, was one of the earliest radials planned for Buffalo, connecting Buffalo to the City of Batavia and beyond, the neighborhood was negatively impacted by urban renewal efforts of the 1960s and sprawl. The district is part of the area known as Polonia, representing the significant history tied with its development and the early Polish immigration on Buffalo's East Side. Polonia was one of the largest Polish communities in the US⁹. The neighborhood is now home to an influx of New Americans, and is considered a melting pot of cultures.

Though the neighborhood has experienced several decades of disinvestment, the remaining buildings retain much of their historic character, forming a tie to a significant era of Buffalo's history. The Central Terminal, built in 1929 is an iconic art deco masterpiece, signifying one of the country's busiest train stations for 50 years. A merger of the Pennsylvania and New York Central Railroads in the 1960s led to a change in ownership. When Amtrak took over the majority of intercity train services in the 1970s, the company moved the location of its hub transit centers to the currently existing Dick Road and Downtown Exchange St stations, with the last train leaving the Central Terminal on October 28, 1979¹⁰.

The late 1990s brought on a new era for the Terminal, with the start of the Central Terminal Restoration Corporation. In 2003, the Preservation League of NYS deemed the Terminal one of seven most endangered properties. Since then, the historic concourse clock has returned permanently to the terminal, the Dyngus Day celebrations were brought back to the Terminal, and programming efforts have been underway, bringing new life and vitality to the building.

9 [Preservation Buffalo Niagara](#)
10 [Buffalo Central Terminal](#)

Appendices & Contributions

APPENDIX A	25
APPENDIX B	30
APPENDIX C	33
CONTRIBUTIONS	35

APPENDIX A

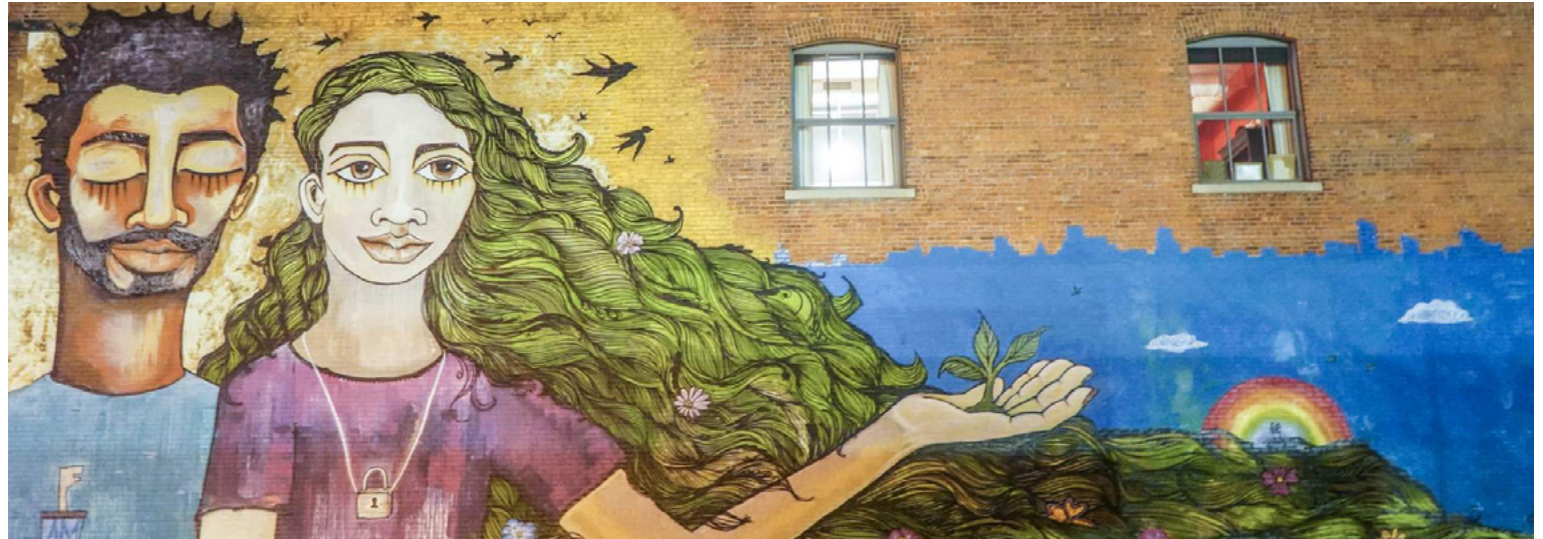
PROCESS

TIMELINE

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C

CONTRIBUTIONS



Voyage by Chuck Tingley. Photo: Google

The WITHIN WNY quality of life planning process, developed with neighborhood partners, uses a comprehensive approach to create a neighborhood action plan that addresses neighborhood priorities across [LISC program areas](#) including Affordable Housing, Community Leadership, Creative Placemaking, Economic Development, Education, Financial Stability, Health, Safety & Justice, and Sports & Recreation. It embodies the LISC model of grounding the pooled public and private resources LISC has access to in local communities by working with place-based neighborhood partners.

The three neighborhood areas located just east of Main Street were selected to launch the new livability planning program based on identified historic disinvestment patterns and the greatest gaps in health and wealth equity compared to the rest of the region. Simultaneously, in late 2019, early 2020, LISC Western New York was building a team to carry out the livability planning program in coordination with the economic inclusion, housing, and capacity building program areas.

COVID-19

Just after hiring the first WITHIN WNY Program Officer, and as we planned for the launch of this process, our community was significantly impacted by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. LISC operations quickly moved to a virtual, work-at-home model and the new team strategized pathways to move forward in the context of the pandemic and lived realities of the communities and partners engaged in the process. The pandemic only exacerbated the health and wealth equity issues within Buffalo. We saw initial, large scale spread of the virus in Black and Brown communities, areas already more significantly impacted by underinvestment in the social determinants of health. Deaths rates resulting from the virus were also disproportionately impacting people of color. Concerted and focused efforts by community leaders like the African American Health Equity Task Force, places of worship, community centers like Delavan Grider, food providers, health

APPENDIX A
PROCESS
TIMELINE
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
CONTRIBUTIONS

providers like Jericho Road and GBU-AHN, and mutual aid efforts were among the most critical community responders who advocated for an intentional County and City focus on the communities of color. Testing centers, and eventually vaccine distribution hubs, were set up in Black and Brown neighborhoods, including the three planning areas, in the first wave of interventions. This intentionality helped to level out the disproportionate impact of the pandemic in these communities, though health data still shows inequities according to race and zip code.

The socioeconomic impact of the pandemic has also had a tremendous impact on the neighborhoods in all of the planning areas. First, a transition to physical isolation meant people lost their jobs and/or had to choose to continue to work in frontline or service industry jobs in the height of the risks from the virus. Children were sent home from school and/or childcare, which also meant parents made difficult decisions to balance work and childcare/schooling. Small businesses were pressed to make rapid transitions to virtual platforms or socially distant services in order to survive, otherwise many closed their doors. The neighborhood environment was brought to the forefront as families looked for safe outdoor places to go, exercise, and access resources. Walkability, food access, the quality of green space, bicycling, and transportation have been critical factors for navigating the pandemic. Affordable, safe housing, an important issue even prior to the pandemic, rose to one of the most significant concerns of families during this time. Spending more time at home meant the need for stable housing with broadband access and adequate utilities. While the renewed focus on these inequities by multi-sector partners is promising, communities continue to be challenged by circumstances related to under investment in their environments and social and economic systems that support their families.

Racial Justice

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the obvious and known race-related health and economic inequities locally and nationally. This was compounded by the renewed racial justice movement that followed the unjust murder of George Floyd by police, also in early 2020. George Floyd's murder was one among many cases of police brutality and murder in the media in 2020. Black Lives Matter brought communities together, amid the pandemic, to demand justice and equity. Locally, Buffalo experienced both the raised community awareness and action and the effects of police brutality.

Organizations and government entities demonstrated a renewed commitment to racial justice and a new wave of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice advocacy continues to be a priority. In this moment, organizations also are beginning to understand the need to center race in order to more effectively close wealth and health equity gaps throughout communities.

APPENDIX A

PROCESS

TIMELINE

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C

CONTRIBUTIONS

Pre 2020

2004

Masten Park Cold Springs Housing Competition

2017–2018 LISC

City of Buffalo hire Urban Design Associates to conduct neighborhood outreach around Masten Park/Cold Spring Housing Goals

2019

East Side Avenues Starts

HUD Section 4 funding administered to BUDC for a Northland Planning Grant

LISC Staff Hired for Economic Inclusion Work

2020

March

COVID-19 Work from Home Begins

April

LISC Staff Hired to manage WITHIN WNY Neighborhood Planning Work

Ongoing Economic Development Report Review-Staff collected and compiled past data to inform Economic Inclusion portion of investment plan

Outcomes: Staff gathers community's previous feedback on Buffalo Billion, REDC Key Industries, Northland Brownfield Opportunity Area, City-released Reports, Neighborhood level reports (like 2017 Fillmore Streetscape Plan, 2004 Masten Neighborhoods Plan, ROCC Studies, etc)

May

AARP Funding Received for Pride in Place. In partnership with the Buffalo Center for Health Equity

August

6 Livability Meetings Summer 2020 - Goals: Learn about each organization's top 3 goals and opportunities for collaboration

September

Attorney General's Affordable Housing 101 Training Released. 8 entities receive pre-dev funding and expected to produce 382 units of affordable housing

October

First Equitable Neighborhood Development Summit kicks off with 116+ virtual attendees



APPENDIX A

PROCESS

TIMELINE

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C

CONTRIBUTIONS

2021

January

Prospect Hill Consulting is hired by LISC team for data mapping and HUB Site development

February-June

Outcomes: Staff gathers data relative to Buffalo Green Code, Main Street e-TOD, Buffalo Sewer Green Infrastructure

Intensive Multi-Sector Data Collection

LISC National Resources available for Economic Inclusion. LISC partners with Buffalo Urban League (BUL)

July

HUD Section 4 funding to Buffalo Urban League assists in hiring Jacques Consulting for outreach assistance.

Economic Inclusion Steering Team Formed

Eight Economic Inclusion Focus Groups: Commercial Districts, Creative & Cultural Economy, Workforce Development, Real Estate, Main Street Businesses (x2), Childcare Economy, New American Business Owners

Regional Housing Report Released in partnership with Partnership for the Public Good

August

Moving Forward Together funding received with several housing partners for East Side modular housing developments

Four public engagement sessions occur at Kuleta Pamoja, Funk Fest, Manna @ Northland, SuperStreet

Individual Interviews ongoing with Economic Inclusion & Livability Partners-Summer 2021

September

Virtual Scenario Planning Event - Sept 2021

Interactive Digital HUB Site available to the public

October

Presentation of Shifting the Narrative: ROI on Healthy Communities

All data and engagement materials get compiled in WITHIN East Side Report draft



APPENDIX A
PROCESS
TIMELINE
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
CONTRIBUTIONS

2021–2022

November–January 2022

6-part Commercial District Management 101 Training Released. Administered by LISC in partnership with ESA. Nov 2021–Jan 2022

Weeks of partner interviews on WITHIN Report for public feedback and investment plan endorsement through Q1 2022

February

Finalist for NYSERDA Clean Neighborhoods Challenge with HOCN, GOBike, SMI, East Side Bike Club, BNMC, CEJ

April

Implementation Council Convenings Kick Off April 2022

May–December

Finalized WITHIN Report is launched

Ongoing fundraising for Investment Plan Implementation

Continue Implementation Council convenings as funding allows.



APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
DEFINITIONS
IMPLEMENTATION
PARTNERS
APPENDIX C
CONTRIBUTIONS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

means that a household's housing costs, including energy, does not exceed 30% of its gross monthly (family) income.

ARPA

American Rescue Plan Act

BIPOC

Black and/or Indigenous People of Color

CDFI

Community Development Financial Institution

CDBG

Community Development Block Grant

DIVERSITY

The terms that most often come to mind are race, ethnicity, and gender - though the term "diversity" is also used in relation to age, national origin, religion, difference of ability, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, education, marital status, language, and physical appearance. It also involves different ideas, perspectives and values.

EQUITABLE / EQUITY

is dealing fairly and equally with all concerned.

ERAP

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

ESA

East Side Avenues

E-TOD

Equitable Transit Oriented Development

HOME

Housing Opportunities Made Equal

INCLUSION

Authentically bringing traditionally excluded individuals and/or groups into processes, activities, and decision/policy making in a way that shares power.

MWBE

Minority and/or Women-Owned Business Enterprise

MOBILITY

is the ability to move or be moved freely and easily.

MULTI-MODAL

simply means involving several different forms of activities.

OPEN4

A private funding initiative focused on regional inclusive entrepreneurship

RACIAL WEALTH GAP

The rate at which white householders own their homes compared to African American householders. Further, the overarching housing values in African American predominant neighborhoods are just a third of values in the region's predominantly white neighborhoods.

RACIAL INCOME GAP

This refers to the income gap between white residents in the region and Black and Latino residents. In Buffalo-Niagara, this gap is more than doubled for white residents compared to Black and Latino residents.

SECTION 8

The housing choice voucher program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market.

TOD

Transit Oriented Development

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

DEFINITIONS

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

APPENDIX C

CONTRIBUTIONS

AFRICAN HERITAGE FOOD COOP

ALBRIGHT KNOX

AMERICAN AXLE

BCCWNY

Black Chamber of Commerce
Western New York

BEAU FLEUVE MUSIC & ARTS

BELMONT HOUSING RESOURCES FOR WNY, INC.

BFNC

Buffalo Federation of
Neighborhood Centers

BFNHS

Broadway Fillmore
Neighborhood
Housing Services

BNMC

Buffalo Niagara
Medical Campus

BTRU

Buffalo Transit Riders United

BUDC

Buffalo Urban
Development Corporation

BUFFALO FOOD EQUITY NETWORK

BUFFALO FREEDOM GARDENS

BUFFALO GO GREEN

BUL

Buffalo Urban League

BURA

Buffalo Urban
Renewal Agency

CANISIUS COLLEGE

CAO

Community Action
Organization

CATHOLIC HEALTH

CDC

Community Development
Corporation

CDFIS

Community Development
Financial Institutions

CEDARLAND DEVELOPMENT

CEJ

Center for Economic Justice

CEL

Center for Entrepreneurial
Leadership

CITIZEN'S ALLIANCE

CITY OF BUFFALO

COMMERCIAL DISTRICT GROUPS

COMMUNITY FIRST

CTRC

Central Terminal
Restoration Corporation

DEVELOPING OUR TRANSIT FUTURE PARTICIPANTS

DOT

NYS Department of
Transportation

EAST SIDE AVENUES

EAST SIDE BIKE CLUB

EAT OFF ART

ECIDA

Erie County Industrial
Development Agency

ECMC

Erie County Medical Center

EFORALL

Entrepreneurship
for All Erie County

ESA

East Side Avenues

ETOD COORDINATING COMMITTEE

FBCLT

Fruit Belt Community
Land Trust

FILLMORE FORWARD

FOOD FOR THE SPIRIT

FOOD FUTURES WNY

GBNRTC

Greater Buffalo Niagara
Regional Transportation
Council

GJABA

Greater Jefferson Avenue
Business Association

GOBIKE BUFFALO

GRASSROOTS GARDENS

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

DEFINITIONS

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

APPENDIX C

CONTRIBUTIONS

HEALTHY CORNER STORES INITIATIVE

HOCN

Heart of the City
Neighborhoods

HOME

Housing Opportunities
Made Equal

HOME HEADQUARTERS

IDA

Incremental Development
Alliance

INCREMENTAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

LINCOLN MEMORIAL CHURCH

LISC (WNY)

Local Initiatives
Support Corporation
(Western New York)

LIVE WELL ERIE

MASTER GARDENERS

MATT URBAN CENTER MISSION IGNITE

MOM MARKET

Market on Michigan
A

NFTA

Niagara Frontier
Transportation Authority
Northland Campus

NYPA

New York Power Authority

OLMSTED PARKS CONSERVANCY

ONE REGION FORWARD

OPEN4

A private funding initiative
focused on regional
inclusive entrepreneurship

PAPPY MARTIN LEGACY JAZZ COLLECTIVE

PROJECT RAINFALL

REGION CENTRAL

RE-TREE WNY

ROCC

Restore Our Community
Coalition

SALVATION ARMY

SBDC

Small Business
Development Center

SHARED MOBILITY INC.

ST. JOHN'S CREDIT UNION

STAND UP BUFFALO

THE EXCHANGE AT BEVERLY GRAY

THE FOUNDRY

TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

UFV

Urban Fruits & Veggies

ULI

Urban Land Institute

URBAN PLAN 4ALL

WAKANDA ALLIANCE

WBC

Canisius Women's
Business Center

WNY COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
FIGURES
REPORTS
REFERENCED
CONTRIBUTIONS

FIGURE 1 (pg 13)
East Side Planning
Areas Base Map

FIGURE 2 (pg 15)
East Side Planning Areas:
Opportunities

FIGURE 3 (pg 17)
Planning Area A:
Opportunities

FIGURE 4 (pg 19)
Planning Area B:
Opportunities

FIGURE 5 (pg 21)
Planning Area C:
Opportunities

FIGURE 6 (pg 23)
East Side Planning
Areas: Challenges

FIGURE 7 (pg 58)
Planning Area A: Base Map

FIGURE 8 (pg 63)
Planning Area B: Base Map

FIGURE 9 (pg 68)
Planning Area C: Base Map

FIGURE 10 (pg 81)
Zoning: Existing Land Use

FIGURE 11 (pg 83)
Zoning: The Green Code

FIGURE 12 (pg 90)
Housing: Demolitions

FIGURE 13 (pg 93)
Housing: Type & Mix

FIGURE 14 (pg 95)
Housing: Ownership Mix

FIGURE 15 (pg 97)
Housing: Renter
to Owner Balance

FIGURE 16 (pg 105)
Housing: Change
in Assessed Value

FIGURE 17 (pg 112)
Economic Inclusion:
Economic Health

FIGURE 18 (pg 127)
Economic Inclusion: Retail
& Main Street Businesses

FIGURE 19 (pg 135)
Economic Inclusion:
Creative Economy

FIGURE 20 (pg 136)
Economic Inclusion:
Cultural Economy

FIGURE 21 (pg 146)
Economic Inclusion:
REDC Key Industry
Connections - Manufacturing

FIGURE 22 (pg 147)
Economic Inclusion: REDC
Key Industry Connections -
Health & Life Sciences

FIGURE 23 (pg 148)
Economic Inclusion: REDC
Key Industry Connections
- Professional Services,
Tourism, Higher Education
& Agriculture

FIGURE 24 (pg 156)
Quality of Life: Transportation
& Mobility

FIGURE 25 (pg 164)
Quality of Life: Food Access

FIGURE 26 (pg 173)
Quality of Life:
Intergenerational
Opportunities

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX B

APPENDIX C

FIGURES

REPORTS

REFERENCED

CONTRIBUTIONS

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APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
CONTRIBUTIONS

Team Support

LISC WNY, with the financial support of the John R. Oishei Foundation, provided capacity and technical support through staff and consultant teams throughout the WITHIN program.

Consultants

Prospect Hill Consulting LLC and JBK Consulting

Prospect Hill is a small, NYS Certified Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) LLC located in the Prospect Hill Historic District within the vibrant West Side community of Buffalo, NY. Prospect Hill has more than 60 years of combined nationwide experience in the environmental consulting industry and provided all of the GIS mapping data analyses, design, construction, and maintenance of the HUB site throughout the WITHIN program. JBK Consulting provided scenario planning analyses, education, and training support for LISC and community partners.

White Bicycle and Renata Toney

White Bicycle is a nationally recognized branding team based in Buffalo, New York. White Bicycle focuses on brand strategy, brand design, and brand content. Part studio, part agency, they are a group of creatives who integrate strategy, project management, and client collaboration into our process. White Bicycle contracted with Renata Toney, owner of On Message Communication and Public Relations Strategist at the Burchfield Penney Art Center, to design and develop the WITHIN WNY / East Side brand and messaging. This incredible report document design was also generated through White Bicycle.

Buffalo Urban League and Jacques Planning & Consulting

The Buffalo Urban League empowers African Americans, other minorities, and disadvantaged individuals to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power, and civil rights. The Buffalo Urban League partnered with Jaques Garcia of Jacques Planning & Consulting Services, LLC to provide support for WITHIN East Side community outreach and focus groups focused on topics in economic inclusion during the summer of 2021.

APPENDIX A
APPENDIX B
APPENDIX C
CONTRIBUTIONS

LISC WNY

Julie Barrett O'Neill, LISC WNY Executive Director 2018-2022;

- Local Government Relations
- Housing processes, including the Regional Housing Market Study, Moving Forward Together Housing proposal and Mission Based Affordable Housing program.

Tyra Johnson Hux, LISC WNY Operations Director;

- Support for emerging Black developers through the Community Based Real Estate Development Training
- Built synergies and connections with regional economic development players
- Anchor institution & workforce development strategies
- Manages our local small business grant programs (ie. General Motors)
- Co-authored the Regional Inclusive Economic Development Agenda

Kate Rebhan, Nonprofit Coaching & Capacity Support

- Provided one on one assistance to nonprofit organizations
- Manages our LISC AmeriCorps & Section 4 grant programs
- Manages all general office grants and contract management

Saira Siddiqui, Neighborhood Business Support

- Manages neighborhood based economic development initiatives, including commercial corridor program management and placekeeping initiatives
- Co-authored the Regional Inclusive Economic Development Agenda
- Co-authored the WITHIN East Side Neighborhood Plan
- Assisted in AARP Pride in Place project & early win activities

Brittany Perez, Livability Program Support

- Secured AARP grant funding for the Pride in Place project & early win activities
- Secured Regional Plan Association funding
- Manages LISC's health equity portfolio inclusive of transportation and food access work
- Co-authored the WITHIN East Side Neighborhood Plan

Maggie Hamilton Winship, Real Estate & Lending Support

- Support for emerging Black developers through the Community Based Real Estate Development Training
- Mission Based Affordable Housing & Affordable Housing 101 Trainings
- Provides direct financing & real estate assistance to partner organizations and businesses

Thank you.