## CHAPEL HILL, NC

### Moving Toward Walkable Redevelopment

#### THE SETTING

## BLUE HILL DISTRICT

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Cypress Rd

Clover Dr.

501

























# GOALWalkable redevelopment that helpsGOALpay for infrastructure improvementsand grows the tax base

#### IMPLEMENTATION

#### 3.11.2.5. Frontages



Type A Without On-Street Parking



0000

0000

#### TYPE A FRONTAGE

Bu	iding Location		
0	Front setback (min/max)	0' / 10'	
	Building façade in BTZ (min % of lot width)	80%	
Str	eetscape		
•	Sidawalk (min)	10' with 10' minimum clear zone	
0	Tree planting zone (min)	8'	
	Tree spacing (on center, avg)	40'	
0	On-street parking, where provided (min)	8	

Parking Location Surface parking: Not permitted between building and street Structured parking: 30' minimum behind front building façade for all floors

Canopy trees are required unless utility conflicts exist, in which case an equivalent or better alternative can be reviewed and approved by the Community Design Commission.



Date Adopted: May 12, 2014 Revised: June 27, 2016



#### THE OPPORTUNITIES









#### THE ENVIRONMENT







#### THE OUTCOMES













## 2014 | Stormwater Treatment

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#### 2017 | Stormwater Treatment

400

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Legend

- Parcels Treating Stormwater under District Regulations
- Stormwater Treatment Measures
- Ephesus-Fordham District

#### Streams

- Perennial
- **Project Under Construction** \*
- --- Intermittent
- Ephemeral -
- -

- Unknown
- Culvert

#### Affordable Housing



#### 23% of all units permitted in District

### Walkability



#### Multi-use Path


# Walkability



# Multi-use Path



# Infrastructure Improvements

ii ii ii ii

11/11

## LEARNING







# Matching Expectations



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# Regular Communication





### **Eastland Mall Redevelopment**

American Planning Association

December 8, 2017



**Presentation Agenda** 

- History and Site Context
- Redevelopment Process
- Final Thoughts





#### **Eastland Mall**



Eastland is truly the dawn of a new day in central shopping pleasure and convenience. And every inch of it was planned with you in mind.







History

4



**JC Penney closes** 



History





History





#### **Community Redevelopment Principles**



- Enhance the Perceptions of the Eastland Area and East Charlotte Attract visitors from across the region
- **Unify Local Communities** Build on the Eastside's cultural and international diversity
- Create Connectivity and Walkability for Surrounding Neighborhoods Integrate development into the existing corridors and neighborhoods
- Take Advantage of Natural Features
  Restore water features and create dedicated
  and flexible open spaces

### Create Opportunity for Civic Development

Incorporate public amenities such as a school or library

### Increase Equitable Economic Development

Provide opportunities for businesses, small scale developers, and residents



#### Unique Charlotte Opportunity

- Model for sustainable design
- Civic partnerships (school, park)
- Walkable, mixed use place making
- Integration of existing and future transit

"Everyone has the right to live in a great place. More importantly, everyone has the right to contribute to making the place where they already live great."

- Fred Kent, President Project for Public Spaces





#### **Eastland Concept Plan**





#### Concept Implementation – K-8 School





#### Nationwide Best Practices Westminster, CO





- Modeled generally after Westminster, CO redevelopment process
  - City taking on role of land developer
- Two-phased approach
- Phase One:
  - Developer Forum: Define requirements, identify barriers, and gauge project feasibility/interest
  - Lean Scan: Develop approach to encourage small-scale development and community building
  - Tactical Urbanism Workshop: Identify additional near-term activities for the site
- Phase Two:
  - Market feasibility analysis
  - Master Plan, Design Guidelines, and Regulatory Framework
  - Cost estimates and site programming
  - Marketing plan and solicitation of potential development partners



#### Development Forum / Lean Scan Overview

- Multiple conversations with 50+ professionals within the development and business community
- Participants included developers (small and large), brokers, architects, small business owners, potential non-profit users, and investors
- Collected feedback and perspectives to uncover barriers to redevelopment (perceived and actual)
- Identified potential opportunities for redevelopment





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#### Development Forum / Lean Scan General Findings

#### Barriers

- Achievable rents are too low to support new construction w/o some type of public support
- Infrastructure needs
- Lack of financially viable plan and no consensus around a path forward
- Destination retail or large office space not viable today or in foreseeable future
- Inconsistent and uncertain regulatory environment (particularly punitive to small-scale development)

#### Assets

- City controls land
- Central location with short commute to Uptown
- Local magnet schools have strong reputation:
  - K-8 partial magnet / language immersion school on site is a big asset
- Diverse and entrepreneurial residents
- Stable and strengthening surrounding communities
- Growing momentum in market and improving perceptions



- Site should be divided into manageable pieces or development pods
- Small, incremental development can create authentic destination and could foster larger scale redevelopment interest
- Temporary activation can reconnect people to the site and begin changing perceptions
- Short-term interventions can build sense of momentum; provide opportunities for engagement; introduce new identity to the site; and draw more people to the site
  - Generates greater familiarity and less apprehension with the site
  - Successful early activities can inform incremental redevelopment uses and building types





Tactical Urbanism "Eastland Rising"

- Event to gather data and test concepts ("Questionnaire Village")
  - Past, Present, and Future
  - Activities
  - CIP and Community Letter engagement
- Demonstrated how tactical urbanism can be used as tool for interim activation and long term uses
- Connected community members
- Identified potential tactical urbanism measures to be considered for the site













#### Incremental Development





- Create a financially viable implementation plan to ignite interest and remove uncertainty without constraining creativity or opportunism
  - Operationalize the guiding principals
  - Plan enabling infrastructure links
  - Define potential public investment
  - Establish realistic phasing approach
  - Provide a framework that establishes the street grid, open space plan, and a walkable development
- Strengthen the implementation plan by defining additional appropriate public investment in infrastructure, open space, or related civic amenities
- Issue clear and predictable RFP(s) with provisions and a structure to entice diverse teams or a variety of individual respondents focused on discrete development pods which aggregate to 69 acres
- On to Phase Two....



- Council did not approve recommendation to move forward with Phase Two
  - Anxiety from first RFP process
  - Concerns expressed over spending additional funds without greater certainty
  - Must find private partner to increase certainty for a successful outcome
- Momentum from Phase One garnered support and interest from development community
  - Work through Phase Two effort in partnership with development partners
- Currently in discussions on potential partnership opportunities to redevelop the site and achieve the principles for redevelopment established by the community



- Process is important to achieving the desired outcome
  - The market and recession led to original approach and weighed short term gains over long term benefits
    - Should have focused on an informed RFP process rather than leading with a particular industry in mind (especially a "mobile" industry reliant on state-wide incentives)
  - Perception of failure vs success
    - The right process could lead to a "no go" decision...this is not a bad outcome
- Positive and consistent messaging is crucial to long term success
  - Community stakeholders must stand up and be message bearers
  - Negativity breeds negativity
- Don't be afraid to set high expectations
- Partnerships are a must
  - Recognize and appreciate benefits and concerns from public and private sector perspectives



- Focus on quality outcomes; not saving every dollar possible
  - Not a traditional real estate transaction
- Be willing to say "no" to proposals that don't align with the community's interests
  - Something is not necessarily better than nothing
- It is a marathon, not a sprint
- Supporters are great assets, but champions are required for successful implementation
- Process more political than anticipated
- Adapt or fail...



When a mall falters, the question that needs to be asked is not "How can we save the mall?" but "How can we use this opportunity to create a higher-value, more sustainable real estate development that helps build a more livable community?"

The Urban Land Institute's Ten Principles for Rethinking the Mall

# **Step by Step: Catalyzing Walkable Redevelopment**



#### **APA Webinar Presentation**

John Richardson, Todd DeLong, Adam Lovelady, Ben Hitchings

**December 8, 2017** 



# **The Speakers**

### **John Richardson**

**Operations Manager for Long-Range Planning and Sustainability Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina** 

### **Todd DeLong, AICP**

**Redevelopment Manager City of Charlotte Economic Development Department** 

### **Adam Lovelady**

Assistant Professor UNC School of Government

### Ben Hitchings, AICP, CZO

**Director of Planning & Development Services Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina** 



# **Impediments to Walkable Urbanism**



# 2016 Study on Walkable Urbanism



Metropolitan Renkings

#### WALKABLE URBANISM OF THE 30 LARGEST U.S. METROPOLITANS

#### *Current* Ranking

					OFFICE, RETAIL & MULTI-FAMILY RENTAL OCCUPIED SPACE				Metropolitan areas are ranked according to their	
									school Leosad In MillioPa	current levels of walkable urbinism.
1	Naw York City	61	20340780	317,599	21	55%	13%	39%	38%	The walkable urbanism of
2	Washington, DC	-44	5,037,427	** 6,487	2	53%	20%	23%	33%	each metry is determined to
3	Boston	54	5,095,729	95,256	1	45%	17%	31%	32%	be the share of office, retail,
4	Chicago	38	6,505,057	223,936	13	43%	15%	33%	30%	and multi-family rental occupied space located in its
5	San Francisco Bay	56	2,362,497	101,437	4	37%	21%	19%	25%	WalkUPs in 2015.
6	Seattle	25	3,5°5,65	157,520	6	47%	12%	1/%	22%	
7	Portland	16	2,017,435	125,020	в	39%	15%	12%	19%	Rankings are divided into four levels of wetkable
8	Pittsburgh	11	2,575,124	231.102	15	35%	6%	15%	18%	urbanian, which are described
9	Denver	18	2,942,505	101,59×	7	29%	8%	15%	17%	on the following pages.
10	Philadelphia	17	5,502,196	377,953	20	25%	10%	14%	17%	
11	Atlanta	23	5,025,715	785,952	10	3.8%	9%	11%	16%	
12	Charlotte	8	1,340,006	16(811	8	70%	8%	12%	15%	
13	Minneapolis St. Paul	11	2,925,637	265,512	17	30%	6%	10%	15%	KEY:
14	Cleveland	10	2,061,517	205,452	11	36%	5%	7%	14%	Levels of Current
15	St. Louis	10	2,382,696	255,030	16	26%	4%	9%	12%	Walkable Urbanism
16	Kansas City	9	1,026,562	214,297	12	25%	6%	6%	12%	
17	Los Angeles	53	18,413,855	347,431	22	7.8%	1%	8%	11%	LEVEL 1: HOF-ST WALKARDE LIKSAN (74
18	Cincinnati	1	7,007,335	285,757	18	27%	6%	5%	11%	
19	Baltimore	15	2,704,957	- S0,330	9	18%	9%	2%	11%	LEVEL 2: UPPER MODELE WALKAGES URBANIS
20	Houston	16	6,175/07	395,994	24	29%	6%	4%	11%	
21	Detroit	32	4,706,797	47,097	5	22%	6%	7%	10%	LEVELS: LOWER MIDDLE WALKAGED UPGA
22	Miami	20	5371,020	288,551	19	18%	8%	8%	10%	-
23	Sacramento	5	7,325,199	385,333	25	72%	5%	4%	9%	CHIEF WALKADLE JEAN SM
24	San Diego	14	3 185,145	227,357	14	13%	7%	5%	7%	and a second second second
25	Dallas	18	6694,745	571,714	23	10%	9%	5%	7%	
26	Las Vegas	2	2,014,250	7907,130	29	7%	8%	3%	5%	
27	Tampa	6	3,325,846	354,474	26	11%	2%	2%	4%	
28	San Antonio	7	1,853,532	937,765	28	10%	.3%	1%	3%	
29	Phoenix	4	4.705.087	1,051,227	30	11%	1%	1%	3%	
30	Orlando	3	1921,825	5/0,505	27	11%	1%	2%	3%	



# 2016 Study on Walkable Urbanism





- Studied 30 largest metro areas
  - **Represent nearly half of national population**
- Identified Walkable Urban Places (WalkUPs)
- **Compared to Drivable Suburbs**



# 2016 Study on Walkable Urbanism

- Walkable Urbanism gaining market share for office, retail, and multi-family rental
- Due to revitalization of central city and urbanization of the suburbs
- Substantial rent premium 74% on average
- Most socially equitable
  - Reduced transportation costs
  - > Improved access to employment



# **Planning Tool Box**





### • Plans

• Codes



### • Public investments



# **The Line-up**

### **John Richardson:**

**Chapel Hill case study to establish Form Based Code and make transportation infrastructure investments in Blue Hill District.** 

### **Todd DeLong, AICP:**

**Charlotte case study to redevelop the former Eastland Mall.** 

### **Adam Lovelady:**

**Examples and lessons learned from other parts of the country.** 

### **Ben Hitchings, AICP, CZO:** Introduction and conclusion.


# **Examples from Other Regions**

Finance | Zoning | Warnings



www.sog.unc.edu

### FINANCE









#### Triangle (Austin)









### Triangle (Austin)



#### 

### Belmar (Lakewood/Denver)

#### This park is owned by the Plaza Metropolitan District No. 1 Normal hours of operation: 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM









# This garage is owned by The Plaza Metropolitan District No.1







### PERIMETER CID (ATLANTA)





### PERIMETER CID (ATLANTA)

# ZONING









## Boulder Junction (Boulder)





### Boulder Junction (Boulder)



#### E UNC

### Belmar (Lakewood/Denver)



#### UNC SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT Belmar (Lakewood/Denver)

# (SUB)URBAN RENEWAL





#### **Turner Field Area**

1949

2013



Joseph A Hurley, "How a Densely Populated Neighborhood Became Turner Field: A Map Essay," https://blog.library.gsu.edu/2013/11/14/how-a-denselypopulated-neighborhood-became-turner-field-a-map-essay/comment-page-1,













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https://tinyurl.com/SuburbanSpaces

