



Great Neighborhoods: Neighborhood Area Planning for Crossroads & Newport Engagement Plan Summary

PROJECT BACKGROUND & TIMELINE

With the major update to the Comprehensive Plan expected to be adopted in fall 2024, the City will now shift its focus to developing neighborhood area plans to guide future growth and development at a local level. These plans will translate the citywide vision into local action by defining neighborhood identities, identifying community assets and improvement opportunities, and influencing urban design for key gathering spaces. They will replace outdated subarea plans in Volume 2 and align local visions with the city's broader goals. Planning for Crossroads and Newport, which have experienced significant growth in the past two decades and have not been updated since the late 1980's and mid 1990's, will begin in fall 2024 and continue through 2025, with planning for additional neighborhood areas starting in the fall of 2025.

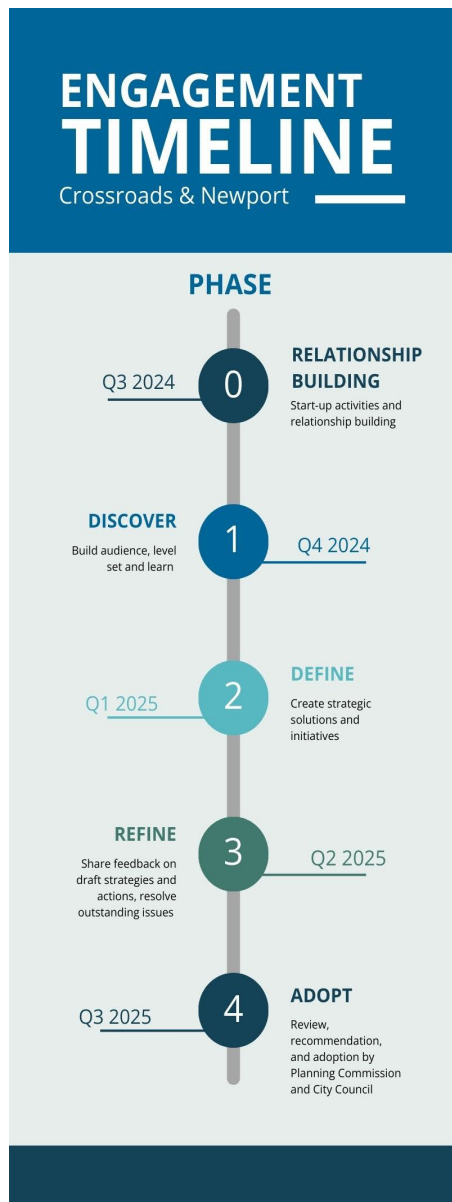
ENGAGEMENT SCOPE

The Neighborhoods Element of Volume 1 of the Comprehensive Plan offers guidance for neighborhood planning by focusing on meeting core needs, fostering social connectivity, and enhancing neighborhood identity. Neighborhood area planning provides a policy framework for addressing neighborhood issues through future city projects and initiatives. Key areas of focus include defining neighborhood identity, developing urban design frameworks to enhance community spaces, identifying public realm improvements based on community input, improving mobility and access through a comprehensive network, and supporting land use changes to create community gathering spaces. This process integrates citywide goals into local contexts and allows for neighborhood-specific solutions.

STAKEHOLDER OVERVIEW

Residents of the neighborhood are the heart of the neighborhood area planning process. Whether a person has lived in the neighborhood for decades or only a few weeks, they have direct experience and expertise about neighborhood issues and opportunities that need to be addressed in the planning process. Intentional outreach to homeowner associations, neighborhood groups, and individual households will be the core focus of outreach and engagement throughout the process. Within the broad group of residents in the neighborhood, it will be important to consider the needs and ideas of specific groups, and targeted outreach will be conducted to reach members of the following communities: youth, older adults, foreign-born and non-English-speaking individuals, racial and ethnic minority groups, people with disabilities, among others. There are also other constituent groups and organizations that play an important role in the community that the planning team will also seek to engage with, including local business owners, faith-based organizations, and nonprofit organizations.

Summary of Engagement Approach



Phase 1: Discover (October – December 2024) focuses on setting expectations and building awareness about the neighborhood planning process. The planning team will gather community input through mailed and online questionnaires, hybrid information sessions, kick-off events, data walks, tabling at community events, and ideas fairs. Key activities will include sharing data, understanding community assets and issues, and engaging with diverse groups to form a comprehensive policy framework that reflects neighborhood values and priorities.

Phase 2: Define (January – March 2025) involves refining the neighborhood vision, context, and urban design framework based on initial feedback. Community members will review drafts of the Neighborhood Vision and policies, provide input on potential public realm improvements, and participate in urban design workshops. Engagement activities will include open houses, workshops, Planning Commission reviews, and online feedback opportunities to further develop and validate draft plans.

Phase 3: Refine (April - June 2025) offers a second opportunity for the community to review and provide feedback on the completed draft neighborhood area plans. The focus will be on ensuring that community feedback has been incorporated and addressing any missing elements. Engagement will involve online reviews, information sessions, and Planning Commission study sessions where the public can provide comments and ensure the draft plans accurately reflect their input.

Phase 4: Adopt (July – October 2025) is when the final drafts of the neighborhood plans will undergo public hearings before the Planning Commission and City Council for review, recommendation, and ultimately, adoption. The community can provide comments during

these hearings, but the planning team will not actively solicit feedback during this phase. The draft plans will be available for review on relevant web platforms throughout the adoption process.

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY TABLE

TIME	PHASE	FOCUS	ENGAGEMENT GOALS	ENGAGEMENT TOOLS & ACTIVITIES
June – Sept 2024	0	Relationship Building	▪ Connect with key individuals, community partners, and neighborhood groups. ▪ Gain a broad understanding of neighborhood concerns and opportunities. ▪ Establish opportunities for collaboration on communication and events. ▪ Build list of contacts who want to engage once the project launches.	▪ One-on-one meetings ▪ Tabling at community events
Oct – Dec 2024	1	Discover	▪ Build awareness of Neighborhood Area Planning process. ▪ Build list of people and organizations who wish to participate in process. ▪ Set expectations and clarify timeline for community members. ▪ Understand the community's core values that should guide the neighborhood plan. ▪ Identify community features and assets that define neighborhood identity. ▪ Identify opportunities for enhancing the public realm, gathering spaces, and improving mobility & access.	▪ Mailed and online questionnaire ▪ Recorded informational presentation ▪ Kick-off event and data Walk ▪ Open House ▪ Presentations to neighborhood groups ▪ Tabling at community events
Jan – Mar 2025	2	Define	▪ Share initial draft of Neighborhood Vision for review. ▪ Share potential policy updates for review. ▪ Work with community to develop urban design framework based on feedback received.	▪ Urban design workshop/ Neighborhood center walks ▪ Tabling at community events
Apr – Jun 2025	3	Refine	▪ Share full draft plan for community review. ▪ Ensure community members know how their input shaped the draft plan. ▪ Incorporate additional community and stakeholder feedback prior to review by the Planning Commission.	▪ Info session ▪ Presentations upon request ▪ Planning Commission Study Sessions
Jul – Oct 2025	4	Adopt	▪ Ensure community members understand the legislative process and know how to share comments with the Planning Commission and City Council.	▪ Review, recommendation, and adoption by Planning Commission and City Council