

Slavic Village EcoDistrict

Imperatives
Commitment





Slavic Village EcoDistrict Imperatives Commitment

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Adoption Method: The Imperatives Working Group, Slavic Village Community Stewards and Slavic Village Development Strategic Initiatives Committee provided and incorporated comments into the document that follows. Upon review of the final full draft, each member of the Imperatives Working Group confirmed consensus that the Imperatives Commitment that follows is complete, accurate and ready to be submitted for review and endorsement. The District Team as referenced herein includes the following:

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Introduction

Vision

Slavic Village Development is a forward-looking, service-driven organization which honors its neighborhood's resiliency, diverse cultural heritage, and inclusiveness. We are committed to building a community defined by its high quality of life, unique identity, and healthy and active living.

Mission

Slavic Village Development works with and for its residents, businesses, and institutions to promote civic engagement, community empowerment, and neighborhood investment.

Assets

Slavic Village is a five-square mile urban community located two miles southeast of downtown Cleveland. Encompassing the South Broadway, North Broadway, and Industrial Valley neighborhoods, our community is home to a diverse population of nearly 22,000 residents and contains an array of valuable assets that contribute to the area's enduring vitality and position this area for future growth.

People

Our most significant assets are the people who make Slavic Village their home and the rich legacy left by the generations who preceded them. Our area was first settled in the 1790s by New Englanders attracted to the fresh water and power provided by the Mill Creek. In the 1820s, construction of the Ohio & Erie Canal led to commercial and industrial growth, and the area soon became a manufacturing center for iron and steel. At first, immigrants from England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales filled these jobs, creating close-knit neighborhoods within walking distance of the factories where they worked. From the late-19th to the mid 20th centuries, subsequent immigrants from Bohemia, Poland, and Slovenia created many of the durable institutions for which our neighborhood is named and play a vital role in our community today. Starting in the 1980s, the neighborhood became home to increasing numbers of African Americans, who now comprise over half of our population and are bringing new life to our community institutions. Most recently, Slavic Village has welcomed a growing Hispanic/Latinx population centered around Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. As with all the groups that preceded them, our new neighbors seek a safe, affordable, and community-oriented place to call home, and are actively involved in building a stronger neighborhood.

“...our most significant assets are the
people...”

Institutions

Throughout its proud history, each successive community that came to call the neighborhood home established traditions, built faith communities, and formed voluntary associations that enriched the spiritual and social life of the urban community. These institutions remain central to our identity today. Our historic Catholic nationality parishes (Holy Name, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. John Nepomucene, and St. Stanislaus) and ethnic-affinity organizations (the Slovenian National Home, Polish-American Cultural Center and Museum, and Sokol Greater Cleveland) recall the evolving history of neighborhood settlement and continue to serve residents as well as visitors from throughout the region. Elizabeth Baptist Church (formerly St. Hyacinth, a Polish Catholic parish) is now cornerstone of the African American community and a stabilizing and community-oriented force in the Hyacinth neighborhood. Numerous other Black-led churches and faith communities strengthen nearly every area of Broadway Slavic Village. They extend their welcome, hospitality, and care to all of their neighbors, regardless of race, creed, or color. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church was established as a Bohemian Catholic parish and now serves a predominantly Hispanic/Latinx congregation. The historic Broadway United Methodist Church is now home to the Neighborhood Leadership Institute. Jones Road Chapel, whose roots date back to its founding by Welsh immigrants in the 1850s, continues to fulfill its mission of faith and service to the community. All these examples demonstrate how new groups bring new life to community institutions. Membership may change, but the values of active community involvement endure and are woven into the fabric of today's Slavic Village.

Youth and Education

The youth of Slavic Village are served by many quality public, parochial, and charter schools, including the new state-of-the-art Mound-STEM elementary school, St. Stanislaus Catholic elementary school, Holy Name Elementary, and Cleveland Central Catholic High School. The CMSD also recently constructed Fullerton School of Academics, now merged into Albert Bushnell Hart School of Academics, to serve K-8 students in our community.



Slavic Village is also home to the “Broadway Slavic Village MyCom/P-16 Partnership.” Established by the Third Federal Foundation in collaboration with Slavic Village Development, the Cleveland Foundation, University Settlement, and other youth-serving organizations, MyCom/P-16 is building a model for community-supported education that extends from pre-school through four years of post-secondary education (“grade 16”). Now in its eleventh year, MyCom/P-16 addresses the barriers to successful learning, development, and achievement by connecting our approximately 4,000 youth, ages 0-17, to a network of caring adults who partner with parents and caregivers to support their children at school, out-of-school, and

on the job. Through these collaborative efforts, MyCom/P-16 demonstrates Slavic Village’s community-wide commitment to youth achievement.

Amid the coronavirus pandemic, organizations that either directly serve young people or provide support to their families have stepped up to ensure that students may continue their academic pursuits. While students began the 2020-2021 academic year engaged in remote learning, the P-16 Partners have come together to host multiple Academic Learning Pods where small, in-person groups of CMSD K-8 students may learn together with the help of an in-person tutor or teacher to supplement virtual learning.

Business and Infrastructure

Our neighborhood is anchored by key businesses with deep roots and a demonstrated commitment to our city. One of Ohio’s most stable and successful financial institutions, Third Federal Savings and Loan maintains its corporate headquarters and operations center here and is an invaluable partner in our neighborhood’s economic and social redevelopment. Slavic Village’s manufacturing heritage also remains strong, with companies such as Presrite, Cleveland Wire Cloth, Heidtman Steel, and many others staying ahead of the technological demands of a global marketplace.

Slavic Village’s main commercial artery, Broadway Avenue, recently received more than \$8 million in infrastructure investment and upgrades. The historic “downtown” at Broadway and E. 55th Street has been preserved and is now poised for redevelopment. In 2016, the commercial corridor at Fleet Avenue underwent a comprehensive, multi-million-dollar redevelopment resulting in Cleveland’s first “Complete & Green Street.” As a result, Fleet Avenue is now friendlier to pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders and channels storm runoff into landscaped swales that absorb stormwater. Other important commercial assets include three full-service grocery stores, makers of ethnic and artisanal food products, branch offices for all of Northeast Ohio’s major banks, and hundreds of retail and professional service providers.

Recreation and the Arts

Our community’s identity is closely tied to the active-lifestyle opportunities afforded by its proximity to parks and other recreational facilities. In 2003, Slavic Village Development won an “Active Living by Design” grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to foster a culture of health through a multidisciplinary approach focusing on improved access to healthy

“...improved access to healthy eating and physical activity...”

eating and physical activity. Our neighborhoods are adjacent to Cleveland Metroparks’ Mill Creek Falls, Garfield Park, and Washington Park Reservations. Additional connectivity is pro-

vided by the Morgana Run Bike Trail, which bisects Slavic Village and links to the Ohio & Erie-Canal Towpath in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Slavic Village Development, Cleveland Metroparks, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the City of Cleveland, and the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency are partnering to develop the “Downtown Connector Trail” and the “Booth Avenue Connector”, which will provide direct, off-road pedestrian and bicycle access to Downtown Cleveland and the Towpath Trail.

Slavic Village is proud to be home to Velodrome Cleveland, the only such facility in the state of Ohio, and one of only 26 nationwide. Sokol Greater Cleveland offers gymnastics programs and other physical training activities. The Cleveland Boys and Girls Club and the Stella Walsh Recreation Center provide a range of youth programs supporting healthy lifestyles, academic success, character-building, and leadership. First Tee Cleveland in Washington Park offers youth programs at Cleveland’s only 9-hole golf course and is bringing golf training to children and teens of all backgrounds. The neighborhood is also host to youth baseball, football, and soccer leagues.

Iconic public art projects such as the Broadway Cycle of Arches, the murals at Morgana Run Trail, and the Rotaflora installation at East 49th Street are a testament to Slavic Village’s ongoing creative vitality. Our neighborhood is also known for its commitment to the musical arts. Broadway Slavic Village is home to institutions such as Broadway School of Music and Opera Circle Cleveland and have ongoing partnerships with City Music and the Cleveland Orchestra, which bring world-class performances to venues throughout the community.

Housing

Over the course of its history, SVD has developed an array of housing options for a wide variety of potential residents. Higher-end new construction projects such as Mill Creek and The Cloisters draw moderate to higher-income home buyers. Third Federal’s Trailside project represents market-rate and affordable new housing investment. Slavic Village Rediscovered, a for-profit partnership between SVD and Cleveland Neighborhood Progress is a model for rehabilitation of vacant and abandoned homes that are marketed for first-time homebuyers and other households interested in historic homes located in walking distance from Fleet Avenue. Neighbors Invest in Broadway is a “sweat-equity” rehabilitation program that attracts new homeowners and investors who have access to construction services. Finally, SVD’s partnership with the Cleveland Housing Network has made over 700 homes available to households who do not yet have the ability to secure a



conventional mortgage but who are able to build equity through a lease-purchase program with the goal of owning their own home.

Shortly before the 2010 Census, the U.S. entered the Great Recession, and Slavic Village was hit by the foreclosure crisis (and was famously the neighborhood with the most foreclosures in the country at the peak of the foreclosure crisis), which resulted in the average single-family home losing over 90% of its value and a tripling of the number of vacant and abandoned homes. The vast majority of the new homeowners were African American. And, while some of them were able to secure conventional 30- year mortgages, most were preyed upon by predatory lenders who took advantage of first-time homeowners—almost all of whom lost most of their equity in subsequent bank or tax foreclosures.

Community Engagement and Development

In 2016, SVD, with the assistance of Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, developed an organizational strategic plan. As a result of this plan, SVD has devoted more staff time and resources to programs that increase economic opportunity. The gains in housing security and access to high quality education have been made possible due to our renewed strategic focus. However, despite the efforts of SVD and its consultants, the organization failed to get input and direction from households of Color proportionate to the representation of the neighborhood's African American population. As a result of this self-examination, SVD began embarking on a new program to chart our neighborhood's future while cultivating power for disenfranchised people and our communities of Color.

As a result of SVD's partnership with CNP on the Climate Resilience & Urban Opportunity Initiative (CRUOI), SVD began exploring the use of the EcoDistricts Protocol to guide our next neighborhood master plan. This neighborhood planning process began not by issuing an RFP for planning firms to respond to, but by recruiting and securing 21 "Community Stewards" who will receive training and stipends with the goal of building their capacity to elevate the voices of their neighbors, lead (or facilitate) community building projects, direct the goals, strategies, and implementation of a neighborhood plan based on the EcoDistricts protocol, and become board members of SVD (or other organizations), business leaders, elected officials, or take power in whichever ways appeal to them.

SVD staff developed this initiative thanks to lessons learned through CRUOI and through the Racial Equity Institute training completed by its staff. As SVD revamped their internal policies and processes (including review of the board manual and staff manual), the organization will likewise take these lessons to heart.

SVD has been consistent presenters at the Progress Institute, an annual day-long professional development event for nearly 300 community development advocates sponsored by Cleveland Neighborhood Progress. They have also recently presented on the topic of neighborhood-base climate resilience to Building Resilience 19, a national conference focused on resilient buildings and communities. Through their Climate Resilience & Urban Opportunity

Initiative leadership, SVD serves on the Water Equity Taskforce for the City of Cleveland Water Department and NEORSD. Over the past five years, SVD has hosted no fewer than four sessions of the Cleveland Leadership Center. SVD staff regularly attends the Ohio CDC Association Conference, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency Conference, the Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference, the Ohio Land Bank Conference, and of course, the Progress Institute.

SVD's leadership of the Slavic Village P-16 is their most important strategic partnership, allowing SVD to work closely with the Third Federal Foundation, University Settlement, the Boys & Girls Clubs, America Scores, MetroHealth, CPD, CMSD, Cleveland Central Catholic, The Literacy Cooperative, CEOGC, CHN Housing Partners, and over sixty other entities. This partnership concentrated on improving the educational outcomes of young people throughout Broadway Slavic Village. Strategies and programs range from those that focus on in-class activities to the factors in the home environment that can support stability and learning.



The organization has also provided leadership in the development of the City's "Community Engagement Healthy Homes Initiative". SVD's neighborhood stabilization staff has provided training and guidance to Department of Community Development staff members and newly-hired staff of other CDCs. The "Slavic Village P-16" staff have guided the development of "Say Yes" and continue to guide staff in other MyCom neighborhoods. SVD also partners with the City, Cleveland Metroparks, NEORSD, Union Miles Development Corporation, and Burten, Bell, Carr Development, Inc., and others to increase access to trails and greenspace. Currently, University Settlement and SVD have started a "Lead Safe and Healthy Homes" program in the North Broadway neighborhood which will guide the work of Lead Safe Cleveland.

Demographics

Current Conditions and Demographics for the Slavic Village neighborhood vs. the wider City of Cleveland are as follows (present/baseline conditions data provided by The Progress Index, a neighborhood data tool developed by Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development at Case Western Reserve University):

Population (2012-2016 ACS 5-Year Estimates)				
	Slavic Village		City of Cleveland	
	Count	%	Count	%
Total Population	21,618	-	388,812	-
Persons aged under 5	1,676	7.8%	25,902	6.7%
Persons aged 5 to 9	1,643	7.6%	24,185	6.2%
Persons aged 10 to 14	1,767	8.2%	23,863	6.1%
Persons aged 15 to 19	1,748	8.1%	25,845	6.7%
Persons aged 20 to 24	1,374	6.3%	32,754	8.4%
Persons aged 25 to 34	3,035	14.0%	57,933	14.9%
Persons aged 35 to 44	2,822	13.1%	44,190	11.4%
Persons aged 45 to 54	2,986	13.8%	50,992	13.1%
Persons aged 55 to 64	2,545	11.8%	51,323	13.2%
Persons aged 65 to 74	1,324	6.1%	28,697	7.4%
Persons aged 75 to 84	584	2.7%	15,818	4.1%
Persons aged 85 and over	115	0.5%	7,310	1.9%
Race and Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic White	8,265	38.2%	131,338	33.8%
Non-Hispanic Black/African American	11,214	51.9%	193,817	49.9%
Non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander	26	0.1%	7,982	2.0%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	639	3.0%	12,209	3.1%
Hispanic/Latinx	1,473	6.8%	43,466	11.2%

Poverty (2012-2016 ACS 5-Year Estimates)				
	Slavic Village		City of Cleveland	
	Count	%	Count	%
Population living below poverty level / Poverty rate	8,943	41.9%	133,144	35.2%
Population for whom poverty status is determined	21,363	-	377,997	-
Persons aged 1+ living below poverty level in same house 1 year ago	6,221	71.7%	96,280	74.0%
Persons aged 1+ living below poverty level in different house 1 year ago	2,453	28.3%	33,806	26.0%

Employment and Income (2012-2016 ACS 5-Year Estimates)				
	Slavic Village		City of Cleveland	
	Count	%	Count	%
Persons employed / Employment rate	7,585	77.9%	153,354	84.0%
Persons in labor force / Labor force participation rate	9,732	60.1%	182,657	58.9%
Median household income (in inflation adjusted 2016 dollar)	\$24,936		\$27,854	

Education (2012-2016 ACS 5-Year Estimates)				
	Slavic Village		City of Cleveland	
	Count	%	Count	%
Persons (Age 25+) w/ less than high school education	3,275	24.4%	53,293	20.8
Persons (Age 25+) w/ high school degree (includes equivalency)	5,254	39.2%	84,824	33.1%
Persons with some college/associate degree	3,529	26.3%	76,063	29.7%
Persons with bachelor degree or higher	1,353	10.1%	42,083	16.4%

Housing Cost Burden Data (HUD/ACS as of December 31, 2015)				
	Slavic Village		City of Cleveland	
	Count	%	Count	%
Occupied housing units-Housing costs > 30% of household income	4,060	47.2%	68,190	40.8%
Occupied housing units-Housing costs > 50% of household income	2,566	29.9%	37,230	22.3%
Owner-occupied housing units-Housing costs > 30% of household income	1,070	28.4%	20,245	28.7%
Renter-occupied housings units-Housing costs > 30% of household income	2,990	62.0%	47,945	49.6%
Owner-occupied housing units-Housing costs > 50% of household income	537	14.3%	9,465	13.4%
Renter-occupied housings units-Housing costs > 50% of household income	2,030	42.1%	27,765	28.7%

Sources: Population, Employment and Income, Poverty, and Education data for Broadway-Slavic Village and Cleveland are 2012-2016 ACS 5-Year Estimates. Accessed through The Progress Index information system, June 30, 2020; Housing Cost Burden Data for Broadway-Slavic Village and Cleveland, 2011-2015. HUD/ACS. Accessed through The Progress Index information system, June 30, 2020. Analysis by Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. <http://progressindexcle.org>

Equity Commitment

Vision and Scope

The District Team concurs with the EcoDistricts Protocol's definition of equity as all people having full and equal access to opportunities that enable them to attain their full potential. The determinants of equity are the geographic, physical, socioeconomic, and political conditions in which people live and work that lead to a fair and just society. Inequities arise when barriers prevent access to these conditions. The District Team understands that the process of achieving equity is ongoing and requires honest and explicit dialogue about the issues of social and economic injustice, structural racism, and historical power imbalances that have caused inequity, and a commitment to a transparent and collaborative agenda moving forward.

Motivated by Slavic Village Development's forward-looking, service-driven approach dedicated to a community defined by its high quality of life, unique identity, and healthy and active living, the District Team is committed to advancing procedural, structural, distributional, and cross-generational equity in all district activities.

The District Team will serve as connectors, conveners and collaborators rather than merely representatives. The District Team commits to inclusive and authentic engagement of local residents and the diverse community benefit organizations that serve the vulnerable populations of the Slavic Village neighborhood and the surrounding neighborhoods, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Slavic Village Development
- Slavic Village Broadway P-16
- Community Stewards
- University Settlement
- City of Cleveland and Elected Officials
- Boy and Girls Club
- Alexia Manor
- Bohemian Hall
- Community Assessment Treatment Services
- Cleveland Neighborhood Progress
- Cleveland Police
- Cleveland Public Library
- Dr. Mark Joseph and the National Institute on Mixed-Income Communities
- The Absolute House
- Elizabeth Baptist Church
- Local Churches and Pastors
- Marie Kittredge— immediate past Executive Director of SVD
- The MetroHealth System
- Neighborhood Connections
- Third Federal Savings & Loan and the Third Federal Foundation
- Schools, principals, and teachers

The District Team commits to transparent decision-making that fully considers historic inequities that may have subordinated vulnerable populations in the past. Finally, the District Team commits to fair distribution of the burdens and the benefits of district projects and programs across all populations and both current and future generations, as well as equity in all programs and health in all policies.

Current Conditions

The Slavic Village neighborhood is a diverse community, with a racial and ethnic composition closely aligned with that of the City of Cleveland as a whole. As such, the District Team recognizes that any conversation about equity must occur within the existing framework of race and class. The District Team believes it is supremely important that, to build a brighter future, we need to reckon with the past by explicitly addressing issues of social and economic injustice and structural racism. As well, it is necessary to fully understand and acknowledge the power dynamics at play within this context and the historical imbalances that exist primarily along racial and economic lines. The District Team will facilitate and support the means for sharing power and building the capacity to use it, and it will spend time understanding the differences in context, goals, and power.

The District Team commits to employing a community development approach to engagement and to especially connect with people at the margins, those who don't typically have a seat at the table. As one of the most socially and ethnically diverse neighborhoods in the City of Cleveland, the Slavic Village neighborhood is also home to many vulnerable groups who have been historically subordinated - we see conditions similar to those of many post-industrial, legacy cities - and who are likely to be affected by district activities.

The following list of vulnerable groups and conditions have been organized in descending order based on group size and level of vulnerability with additional vulnerable groups included at the end of the table. This format is intended to inform the work of the district by highlighting those most at risk and identifying the most impactful areas for the District Team to focus their attention:

Primary Vulnerable Groups	Context and Historical Conditions
People of Color or including Hispanic/Latinx	Comprising roughly 62% of the Slavic Village neighborhood overall (52% Black, 7% Hispanic/Latinx, 3% Other non-white), People of Color have historically been subjected to structural racism, redlining, discrimination, strained police-community relationship, lack of community trust, lack of sustainable capital investment, and other conditions
Formerly incarcerated	Returning Citizens and others who have been through the criminal justice system are subjected to discrimination and limited economic opportunities in addition to many of the same conditions facing other vulnerable groups in Slavic Village.
People with limited education and literacy skills	Roughly 24% of Slavic Village residents have less than a high school education, limiting employment opportunities, and adding barriers to economic prosperity.
People with low income and people experiencing homelessness	Roughly 42% of Slavic Village residents live in poverty, and this population has been subjected to classism, job dislocation, education disparities, no protection for affordable housing, and other conditions
Renters	Renters are frequently subjected to inferior housing, presence of lead, no protection for affordable housing, and other conditions
Senior citizens	Comprising roughly 9% of the Slavic Village neighborhood overall, senior citizens have been subjected to health and education disparities, lack of multi-modal transportation options, inferior housing, poor food access, and other conditions
Unemployed or underemployed	Roughly 60% of the Slavic Village neighborhood is currently participating in the labor force with an Employment Rate of 78%. The community has been subjected to job and skills dislocation, education disparities, poor access to economic opportunities, and other conditions
Youth	Comprising nearly 32% of the Slavic Village neighborhood, youth in the community have been subjected to health and education disparities, lack of multi-modal transportation options, inferior housing, exposure to lead, poor food access and other conditions

Additional Vulnerable Groups	Context and Historical Conditions
LGBTQ+	The LGBTQ+ community has been subjected to historic discrimination, lack of economic opportunities, health and education disparities, and other conditions. While conversations with individual members of the LGBTQ+ community have provided anecdotal evidence that Broadway Slavic Village is a welcoming community, the relative inconspicuousness of this community compared to other neighborhoods may point to a need for a more embracing environment
Immigrants and migrants, including those for whom English is a second language	This population has been subjected to xenophobia, discrimination (based on language, race, ethnicity, religion, etc.), and other conditions
Disabled persons, survivors of trauma, users of mental health services, chronically sick and frail	These groups are subjected to health and education disparities, lack of multi-modal transportation options, and other conditions

There exists a substantial number of state and local equity policies and programs that are applicable to the district. The following list has been organized in descending order based on likely impact on the district. This format is intended to inform the work of the district by highlighting those most at risk and identifying the most impactful areas for the District Team to focus their attention:

Entity	Program/Policy	Policy Description	Relation to SV EcoDistrict
Slavic Village Development, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, Local bank partners	Slavic Village Rediscovered	Partnership to strengthen the neighborhood's housing market through the renovation and sale to owner-occupied homes that were previously vacant and abandoned	Provides quality, affordable housing in Slavic Village with a focus on improving accessibility for first-time homebuyers
Slavic Village Development	Neighbors Invest in Broadway, Slavic Village Investments	Low-cost housing sale and renovation programs in which the emphasis is placed upon a modest "decent, safe, and sanitary" rehab standard, and buyers are encouraged to utilize sweat equity to drive down the cost of repair.	Programs are designed to promote homeownership opportunities through a focus on rehabilitation and renovation of existing homes in Slavic Village
Slavic Village Development, Slavic Village EcoDistrict	Community Steward Program	Inclusive and transparent approach to neighborhood development based in climate resiliency and sustainability, broad-based collaboration, resident empowerment, and equity	Community Stewards will provide crucial input and help guide the community development process in a way that will most benefit Slavic Village
Slavic Village Development, University Settlement, National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities, Neighborhood Connections, Trusted Space Partners	North Broadway Gateway Project Impact Area	A multi-year program to engage North Broadway's community members as co-investors and co-owners of a community building program to build strong, lasting, and inclusive networks.	By building a culture of "community stewardship" in North Broadway, we may learn important lessons in co-creating empowered communities.
University Settlement, The NRP Group, Ohio Housing Finance Agency	Slavic Village Gateway	Development designed to increase the supply of quality, affordable housing for low- to moderate-income renters and will feature 78 apartments and 10 townhomes in its first phase, including 23 affordable residences that are supported by The Ohio Housing Finance Agency's Housing Tax Credit program.	Quality, affordable housing project in Slavic Village

CHN Housing Partners, Slavic Village Development, Ohio Housing Finance Agency, Huntington Bank, Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corp., City of Cleveland, Enterprise Community Investment, Third Federal Foundation	Slavic Village Green Homes	37 single-family lease purchase project that will use a strong network of community partners to offer residents support systems designed to address long-term economic stability.	Quality, affordable, and sustainable housing project in Slavic Village with a focus on economic stability, connecting residents to community resources, and cost savings achieved through Net Zero design specifications
City of Cleveland Planning Commission	City of Cleveland Equity Planning	Effort to place equity at the center of the planning process by providing resources to economic development organizations, elected officials and government agencies	Ensuring equity is at the center of City planning initiatives will aid Slavic Village in its goal to strive for equity in the district
City of Cleveland Planning Commission	Connecting Cleveland 2020 Citywide Plan	Comprehensive plan for Cleveland; seeks to create connections between people, places, and opportunities	Improving connectivity at the city level will aid Slavic Village in its goal to strive for equity in the district
Mayor Jackson, Cleveland City Council, Local Stakeholder Organizations	Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition	Plan to reduce childhood lead exposure rates by addressing leaded paint in homes. Goal to become lead safe city by 2028	A 2019 study showed 34.6% of kindergartners in Slavic Village have elevated blood lead levels
Cleveland Neighborhood Progress	Racial Equity and Inclusion	Intensive workshops designed to introduce participants to historical, institutional, and systemic racism, challenge deeply held assumptions, and reveal the devastating impacts of persistent racial inequality	Roughly 62% of Slavic Village's resident population is People of Color
Brookings Institution, The Kresge Foundation, Urban Institute, Living Cities	Shared Prosperity Partnership	Convenes leaders in select communities across the U.S. to discuss challenges to inclusive growth and provide data, research, and access to national resources.	42% of Slavic Village's population is living at or below poverty level and the current Employment Rate is 78%
Case Western Reserve University and the MetroHealth System	Center for Reducing Health Disparities	Mission to reduce health disparities through research, education, and partnerships with community organizations and government agencies	Lack of access to quality health insurance coverage is fundamental concern for residents of Slavic Village
MetroHealth System and over 100 additional government, academic, nonprofit organizations	Health Improvement Partnership (HIP Cuyahoga)	Mission to inspire, influence, and advance policy, environmental, and lifestyle changes that foster health and wellness for everyone who lives, works, learns, and plays in Cuyahoga County	Lack of access to quality health insurance coverage is fundamental concern for residents of Slavic Village
National organization working with MetroHealth in Cuyahoga County	Nurse Family Partnership	Nurses visit homes of first-time mothers living in poverty. Beginning during pregnancy and lasting until the child is two, nurses visit homes to educate mothers on parenting, share resources, and perform health checks	64% of Slavic Village residents have a high school diploma or less and 42% of Slavic Village's population is living at or below poverty level line
City of Cleveland, Greater Cleveland Partnership, Cleveland's contractors and building trades unions	Community Benefits Agreements	Standards designed to encourage the use of local labor and local contracting firms, particularly minority and female workers and firms	Labor Force Participation Rate in Slavic Village is 60% and Employment Rate is 78%
MetroHealth System	School-Based Health Program	Basic health care services offered through 9 Cleveland Metropolitan School District schools bringing health services directly to each school	Lack of access to quality health insurance coverage is fundamental concern for residents of Slavic Village

MetroHealth and YWCA of Greater Cleveland	Open Table	National faith-based model to create a family of support around young people leaving foster care homes. Table members help to broaden opportunities for young people who may not have received the guidance that they needed growing up	Important program for at-risk adults, families and youth living in Slavic Village neighborhood
Opportunity CLE (City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Greater Cleveland Partnership, Cleveland Development Advisors, the Fund for Our Economic Future, Cuyahoga Land Bank)	Opportunity Zones	Created as part of the 2017 federal tax legislation, there are 48 designated opportunity zones in Cuyahoga County that are eligible to receive investment from investors' unrealized capital gains. These opportunity zones are intended to spur investment in low-income communities	Portions of Slavic Village are located in designated Opportunity Zones
JPMorgan Chase, Greater Cleveland Partnership, Cleveland Development Advisors, Finance Fund Capital Corporation (FCAP)	Partnership for Raising Opportunity in Neighborhoods	JPMorgan Chase will invest \$5M and CDA will contribute \$3.75M to projects in Opp. Zone neighborhoods. CDA to create fund that qualifying developers can tap for loans at below-market lending rates	Investment in Slavic Village and other Opportunity Zone neighborhoods to support projects with measurable social impacts and attracts additional private and public sector dollars
City of Cleveland, Cleveland City Council, Bike Cleveland, NOACA, additional non-profit community partners	Vision Zero Taskforce & Action Plan	City Council, City Administration, and key stakeholders to create Vision Zero plan to address meaningful changes to traffic enforcement, land use, and transportation ordinances. Goal to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries while increasing safe, healthy, and equitable mobility.	Renewed emphasis on safe access to city streets regardless of mode of transit crucial in a neighborhood where residents utilize a variety transit options.
City of Cleveland	The Land Code (Form-Based Code Districts)	New form-based zoning code will be based on a neighborhood plan developed through a community process rather than a one-size-fits-all zoning code. Goal to provide greater clarity and predictability about what will be built and what uses will be permitted, to deliver a simpler, more streamlined code, and to make the approvals process more efficient	Initial pilot districts located in Detroit Shoreway and Cudell neighborhoods with a plan for adoption in other areas of the city
City of Cleveland Departments of Community Development, City Planning, and Economic Development	10-Year Housing and Investment Plan	Study to understand the degree to which City programs are not only improving the quality of life of residents today, but also development the building blocks to catalyze long term neighborhood revitalization. Results will affirm, modify, and establish new incentive tools for Community Development to stimulate housing investment and will influence the development of an updated City Planning Citywide Plan and City Consolidated Plan	Affordable housing, mixed income development, and municipal growth objectives of plan directly relevant to future vibrancy of SV neighborhood

Work Plan

The District Team will incorporate and integrate the following tasks and actions into the planning, implementation, and certification processes during each phase to endeavor to remove inequalities and strengthen equitable outcomes:

Equity in the Formation Phase

- Procedural Equity
 - Task 1: Utilizing an authentic Community Engagement Process to explain Formation steps and participation opportunities, including but not limited to: Town Hall Meetings, Equity-Centered Design Process, Racial Equity and Inclusion Training (REI, Black and Latinx tracks) and the Racial Equity Screening Tool (Cleveland Climate Action Plan), reach out to identified vulnerable groups (including all appropriate language translations).
- Structural Equity
 - Task 2: Recruit and develop community leaders from historically underrepresented or oppressed groups, (e.g. African American, Latinx, people with low-income, immigrants and refugees, trauma survivors)

Equity in the Roadmap Phase

- Procedural Equity
 - Task 3: Enable and encourage participation of vulnerable groups in Roadmap development, including language translation, process orientations and workshops
- Structural Equity
 - Task 4: Choose performance indicators that reflect a commitment to equity and address historic inequities that may have subordinated vulnerable populations
- Distributional and Cross-Generational Equity
 - Task 5: Evaluate the distributional and cross-generational impacts of project and program proposals during strategy ranking

Equity in the Performance Phase

- Procedural Equity
 - Task 6: Continued education of stakeholders and allies who are in positions of power on issues of systemic oppression and practices in equity and inclusion
 - Task 7: As part of biennial progress reporting, prepare an evaluation of Equity results to date and recommend strategy adjustments to improve outcomes
 - Task 8: Ensure district performance is transparent and accessible to ensure the results can be used to adjust and strengthen the Equity commitment. Report out via website, social media, community meetings, newsletters and any additional methods deemed appropriate, meaningful and effective for the district
 - Task 9: Meet with vulnerable groups to review the equity of burdens and benefits from Roadmap execution, creating an indicator feedback loop that gauges progress made, highlights persistent inequalities and recommends strategy adjustments

- Structural Equity
 - Task 10: Utilize selected performance indicators to evaluate the degree to which decision-making is transparent and historic inequities have been addressed; recommend strategy adjustments to improve outcomes, strengthen the Equity commitment, implement adjustments and report on progress.
- Distributional and Cross-Generational Equity
 - Task 11: Utilize selected performance indicators to evaluate the degree to which the benefits and burdens of district projects and practices are distributed fairly across all populations and current and future generations; recommend strategy adjustments to improve outcomes, strengthen the Equity commitment, implement adjustments and report on progress.

Responsibilities and Schedule

Task 1 (Equity in the Formation Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (REI), Neighborhood Connections and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Community outreach, engagement, REI Trainings
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for December 2020

Task 2 (Equity in the Formation Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from Neighborhood Connections and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for December 2020

Task 3 (Equity in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from Neighborhood Connections and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 4 (Equity in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from Neighborhood Connections and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data design and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 5 (Equity in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from Neighborhood Connections and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 6 (Equity in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from Cleveland Neighborhood Progress (REI), Neighborhood Connections and additional stakeholder groups

- Process: Community outreach, engagement, REI Trainings
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 7 (Equity in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 8 (Equity in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing, data analysis and evaluation
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 9 (Equity in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing, data analysis and evaluation
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 10 (Equity in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing, data analysis and evaluation
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 11 (Equity in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from Neighborhood Connections
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing, data analysis and evaluation
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Indicators

The following indicators of equity developed to date by the District Team are illustrative and not meant to be exhaustive. However, some indicators are more meaningful, relevant and available than others and the District Team understands that too many indicators can be confusing. The four or five indicators most relevant and meaningful to the neighborhood will be confirmed in the Formation and Roadmap Phases:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Access to public transportation, bike lanes | • Lead levels |
| • ADA accessibility | • Legal clinics |
| • Number of community gardens | • Membership in religious organizations |
| • Crime | • Opportunity |

- Employment rates by Race and Ethnicity
- Access to English language classes
- Family support
- Healthy food access
- Health clinics
- Educational Attainment Rates / Graduation Rates
- Homeownership rate
- Housing stability
- Median Income by Race and Ethnicity
- Economic mobility
- Poverty
- Representation on Boards and Commissions
- Trails
- Tree canopy
- Union participation
- Voter participation rate
- Wealth Distribution by Race and Ethnicity

Evaluation and Adjustment

Equity conditions are regularly updated as new data become available (using, for example, the National League of Cities' Race, Equity and Leadership initiative and Racial Equity Tool), and the findings inform program and project prioritization for ensuing work plans. Biennial performance report used as feedback to be cross-referenced for adaptation and adjustment within each Performance Phase Work Plan.

Letters of Support for the Equity Imperative

- Evelyn Burnett, co-Founder, Third Space Action Lab
- Dr. Mark Joseph, Founding Director, National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences

Resilience Commitment

Vision and Scope

The District Team concurs with the EcoDistricts Protocol's definition of resilience as the capacity of all district stakeholders to survive, adapt, and thrive when confronting the social, economic, and environmental stresses and shocks they experience. Stresses such as unemployment, aging housing stock, or crime, weaken a district on a chronic basis, while shocks such as heat waves, winter storms, or the foreclosure crisis, are sudden, single-event disruptions that threaten a district. Through the supportive activities of informal social networks, community and faith-based organizations, and other local actors, the most vulnerable among us are better equipped to overcome these stresses and shocks.

The District Team is committed to building resilience knowledge and expertise that empowers action through effective organizations and networks, enabling people and places to thrive in the face of social, economic, and environmental stresses and shocks. Great care must be taken to protect and strengthen the local culture and cultural history while amplifying support for local resident leaders, institutions, businesses and the arts.

The District Team, commits to leadership and governance that empowers residents, businesses and stakeholders, integrates resilience into the Roadmap and effectively manages current efforts such as the Community Stewards program and Block Clubs and the recently completed Climate Ambassador Project. The District Team will include social groups and economic structures that provide collective identity, social stability and security, and financial resources such as Economic Community Development Institute, Hebrew Free Loan Association, County Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness. Finally, the District Team will strive to mitigate existing and potential social, economic and environmental shocks and stresses and seek varied and authentic means to build wealth in the community.

Current Conditions

The Slavic Village neighborhood and its residents, especially the most vulnerable groups, are subject to the chronic stresses and potential shocks, impacts that hit low-income and disadvantaged communities the hardest. The vulnerable groups who are likely to be affected by district activities include, but are not limited to, those mentioned in the foregoing Equity Imperative. The following list of chronic stresses that impact the community has been organized in descending order of magnitude. This format is intended to inform the work of the district by highlighting those most at risk and identifying the most impactful areas for the District Team to focus their attention:

Stresses	Relative Magnitude	Vulnerable Groups
Structural Racism & Discrimination	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants - especially those for whom English is a second language, LGBTQ+
Poverty/Lack of Community Investment	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants, people with low income, people experiencing homelessness, unemployed or underemployed, digitally disconnected households
Job Dislocation	High	People with low income, people experiencing homelessness, unemployed or underemployed
Lead Poisoning	High	People with low income, youth
Health Disparities	High	Senior citizens, youth, disabled, survivors of trauma, users of mental health services, sick and frail, people without access to health insurance
Public Safety / Crime, violence, and gangs	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants, people with low income, people experiencing homelessness
Aging Housing Stock	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants, People with low income, senior citizens, youth, renters
Police Violence	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage
Food Insecurity & Lack of Healthy Food	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants, people with low income, people experiencing homelessness
Loss of Tree Canopy	Medium	People experiencing homelessness, senior citizens, sick and frail
Reduced Air Quality	Medium	Senior citizens, youth, people experiencing homelessness, sick and frail
Housing Affordability	Medium	Renters, people with low income
Deteriorated Social Cohesion, Family Stability & Social Isolation	Medium	Senior citizens, families, youth
Political Disenfranchisement	Medium	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage
Lack of access to capital	Medium	Small local businesses, people of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants, people with low income
Poor Sidewalk Conditions	Low	Senior citizens, youth, people experiencing homelessness

Shocks	Relative Magnitude	Vulnerable Groups
Climate Related Heat Waves & Extreme Cold	High	Senior citizens, youth, disabled, sick and frail, people experiencing homelessness
Extreme Rainfall & Flooding	High	Senior citizens, youth, disabled, sick and frail, people experiencing homelessness, small, local businesses
Sudden Economic Downturns including Foreclosure Crisis	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, Immigrants and migrants, people with low income, people experiencing homelessness, small, local businesses
Crime and Violence incl. Gun Violence	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, Immigrants and migrants
Closing of Willow School	High	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, youth, families
Health Trauma	Medium	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, Immigrants and migrants, people with low income, people experiencing homelessness, senior citizens, youth, disabled, survivors of trauma, users of mental health services, sick and frail, people without access to healthcare

Epidemics and public health	Medium	Senior citizens, youth, disabled, sick and frail, people of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, people without access to healthcare
Businesses or Local Stores Closing	Medium	Small, local businesses
Power Outages	Medium	Small, local businesses, senior citizens, youth, disabled, survivors of trauma, users of mental health services, sick and frail
Migration & Climate Refugees	Medium	Immigrants and migrants, people experiencing homelessness, renters
Unemployment	Medium	People of Color, people of Hispanic/Latinx heritage, immigrants and migrants, LGBTQ+, people with low income, people without access to health insurance
House Flipping	Medium	People with low income, renters, senior citizens

In response to these challenges, the District Team commits to supporting and fostering current local/state resilience policies and programs applicable to the district including the following:

Entity	Program/Policy	Program/Policy Description	Relation to SV EcoDistrict
Slavic Village Development	Slavic Village P-16 Partnership	Partnership has led to a rise of childhood literacy in Slavic Village has piloted a collective impact model of wrap-around services that is now adopted through Cleveland's "Say Yes to Education" program	Improving access to education and mentorship for the youth of Slavic Village
Literary Lots	Literary Lots 2019	Turned vacant, underutilized spaces into scenes from children's books that inspire, empower, and engage	Literary Lots 2019 held in Slavic Village and attracted over 600 youth and adult to the immersive experience that brought to life <i>The Wild Robot</i> , an award-winning children's book
Slavic Village Development	Young Slavic Villagers	A group of residents and business owners who have recently chosen to move to Slavic Village and who will guide SVD housing development and business development staff to identify messages and programs that will attract like-minded community members	Program focused on attracting residents likely to engage with the community and fostering that sense of community participation to benefit the neighborhood as a whole
Cuyahoga Arts & Culture	Rooms To Let Art Project	An annual temporary art exhibition in vacant spaces and a neighborhood block party since 2014	Creates opportunities for residents and visitors alike to engage with art community in Slavic Village
Slavic Village Development, Community Steward Program	Neighborhood Connections' "Neighbor Up Nights"	Creates a space for community members to gather and develop meaningful social connections with other residents	Meaningful social connections are crucial to developing community resilience
Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism (Serve Ohio), University Settlement, The Literacy Cooperative	NEO Skill Corps	NEO Skill Corps works to address the high levels of poverty and low literacy in Cuyahoga County by recruiting, screening, training, and matching AmeriCorps members with organizations that assist residents who are economically disadvantaged in some of the most vulnerable, chronically distressed neighborhoods	64% of Slavic Village residents have a high school diploma or less and 42% of Slavic Village's population is living at or below poverty level line

City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Case Western Reserve University, MetroHealth System, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospital, Saint Luke's Foundation, Mt. Sinai Health Care Foundation, among other partners	First Year Cleveland	Effort to mobilize the community through partnerships and a unified strategy to reduce infant deaths and, more specifically, reduce racial disparities, address extreme prematurity and eliminate sleep-related infant deaths	Relevant given the racial and ethnic composition of Slavic Village neighborhood
Ohio Department of Health, MetroHealth System	Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone)	Community-based opioid drug overdose education and naloxone distribution program	Cuyahoga County has experienced rise in overdose fatalities attributable to abuse of opioids in recent years
DigitalC	Digital Divide	Non-profit dedicated to making Cleveland's digital future more equitable and achieve success through technology, innovation, and community	42% of Slavic Village's population is living at or below the poverty level, digital access to healthcare improves outcomes and lowers costs
City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability, Cuyahoga County Office of Sustainability	Grid Resilience	Efforts to diversify power grid, including Cuyahoga County Solar Co-op, Solar farm on Brooklyn landfill site, Downtown microgrid	Impacts resilience initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS D)	Project Clean Lake	Consent decree led to Project Clean Lake, a 25-year program that will reduce combined sewer overflow discharging into Lake Erie via large tunnels, treatment plant improvements and expansion and green infrastructure	Slavic Village is located within the NEORS D service area and gets its drinking water from Lake Erie
City of Cleveland, NOACA, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS D)	City of Cleveland's Complete and Green Streets Ordinance	Ordinance passed in 2011 requiring implementation of sustainable policies and guidelines in construction projects; emphasis on creating walking, biking and public transportation-friendly city while also incorporating green infrastructure	Part of Cleveland's Complete and Green Streets network, the reconstruction on Fleet Avenue was completed in 2016. Fleet Avenue is now friendlier to pedestrians, cyclists, and transit riders. It also channels storm runoff to landscaped swales that absorb stormwater.
City of Cleveland, MetroHealth System, Environmental Health Watch, University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's	BUILD Health 2.0 - Cleveland Healthy Home Data Collaborative	Healthy housing data system grounded in neighborhood community engagement and providing useful information to address health disparities (focus on asthma and lead poisoning)	Asthma and lead poisoning have high prevalence rates in the City of Cleveland and the Slavic Village neighborhood
Cuyahoga County Planning Commission.	Cuyahoga County Greenspace Plan and Greenprint.	Live, interactive mapping tool location parks, greenspace corridors, waterways, roadways and trails as well as highlighting priority areas for protection and restoration.	Highlights and maps the existing greenway infrastructure assets in Slavic Village such as Morgana Run and all local greenspaces such as Morgana Park and Barkwill Playground.
City of Cleveland	City of Cleveland's Bikeway Master Plan	City's commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through infrastructure, education programs, and pro-bicycling policies	Important transit corridor for local residents to utilize an alternative transit option
City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability, Cleveland Foundation Neighborhood Connections Initiative	Cleveland Spaces Vital Places Program	A series of workshops designed to help Cleveland residents transform vacant lots into vibrant community spaces	Reduction of vacant lots in Slavic Village increases community resiliency

Work Plan

The District Team will incorporate and integrate the following tasks and actions into the planning, implementation and certification processes during each phase to endeavor to minimize and avoid stresses and shocks when possible and, when unavoidable, mitigate their negative side effects:

Resilience in the Formation Phase

- Knowledge/Expertise & Organizations/Networks
 - Task 1: Inclusive outreach and authentic engagement of stakeholders, particularly vulnerable populations and the organizations that serve them.
- People & Place
 - Task 2: Recruit and develop community leaders from groups that are historically most vulnerable to stresses and shocks, (e.g. African American, Latinx, people with low income, youth, ESL).

Resilience in the Roadmap Phase

- Knowledge/Expertise & Organizations/Networks
 - Task 3: Enable and encourage participation of vulnerable groups in Roadmap development, including language translation, process orientations and workshops
- People & Place
 - Task 4: Evaluate the robustness of strategies to withstand anticipated stresses and shocks and the degree to which they possess the redundancy and diverse capacity to avoid overreliance on single assets

Resilience in the Performance Phase

- Knowledge/Expertise & Organizations/Networks
 - Task 5: As part of biennial progress reporting, prepare an evaluation of Resilience results to date and recommend strategy adjustments to improve outcomes
- People & Place
 - Task 6: Ensure district performance is transparent and accessible to ensure the results can be used to adjust and strengthen the Resilience commitment. Report out via website, social media, community meetings, newsletters and any additional methods deemed appropriate for the district
 - Task 7: Meet with vulnerable groups to review the burdens and benefits from Road map execution, creating an indicator feedback loop that gauges progress made and recommends strategy adjustments

Responsibilities and Schedule

Task 1 (Resilience in the Formation Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for December 2020

Task 2 (Resilience in the Formation Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for December 2020

Task 3 (Resilience in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 4 (Resilience in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 5 (Resilience in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 6 (Resilience in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Task 7 (Resilience in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Ongoing

Indicators

The following indicators of Resilience developed to date by the District Team are illustrative and not meant to be exhaustive. However, some indicators are more meaningful, relevant and available than others and the District Team understands that too many indicators can be confusing. The four or five indicators most relevant and meaningful to the neighborhood will be confirmed in the Formation and Roadmap Phases:

- Community Engagement (voter participation, number of community groups, etc.)
- Educational Attainment by Race and Ethnicity (highest degree of education)
- Percent of Population with Health Insurance
- Small Business Formation Rates (applications for Employer Identification Numbers, EINs)
- Number of Locally owned Businesses
- Number of Vacant Lots

- Percent land area with Impervious Surface or Number of Rain Gardens
- Local Employment Rate
- Households Headed by a Single Parent
- Number of Foreclosures
- Number of Evictions
- Rates of Chronic Disease and Illness (including heart disease, cancer, diabetes, stroke, arthritis, among others)
- Percent Homes not meeting Lead-Safe Housing standard
- Transit Access (distance to stops and destinations accessible by transit)
- Unbanked Population (adults without an account at a financial institution)
- Crime Rate (number of crimes committed)
- Poverty Rate (number of people whose income falls below the poverty line)
- Percent of residents eligible for food assistance programs; Percent of children eligible for food assistance programs
- Tree Canopy
- Access to Greenspace, Parks

Evaluation and Adjustment

Resilience conditions are regularly updated as new data becomes available, and the findings inform program and project prioritization for ensuing work plans. Biennial performance report used as feedback to be cross-referenced for adaptation and adjustment within each Performance Phase Work Plan.

Letters of Support for the Resilience Imperative

- Grace Gallucci, Executive Director, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency
- Greg Zucca, Director of Economic & Community Transformation, The MetroHealth System

Climate Protection Commitment

Vision and Scope

The District Team concurs with the EcoDistricts Protocol's definition of climate protection as actions to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions and reduce global warming. These types of actions, including supporting public transit, initiating beautification projects such as public parks, green spaces and tree plantings, and localizing food and energy production, and improving storm water management will not only positively impact the climate, but they will also enhance the quality of life and health of residents. Working collaboratively and in the interests of the greater good, local actors in Slavic Village can confront the complexities of climate change, strengthen their community, and provide an inspiring example to surrounding communities.

The District Team commits to reaching carbon neutrality in the Slavic Village neighborhood by eliminating, sequestering, and/or off-setting direct and indirect operational CO₂ and CO₂ equivalent emissions from building, water, and infrastructure energy use and production, solid waste and hazardous waste management and transportation within and connected to the district. The District Team further commits to establishing a time horizon for carbon neutrality in the district and pledges that a specific target date for achieving carbon neutrality will be determined during the Roadmap Phase along with a detailed emissions inventory.

Additionally, the District Team will study and pursue the following greenhouse gas (GhG) reduction strategies:

- Energy efficiency in buildings
- Smart Growth and density seeking to reduce VMT, in particular transit-oriented development where applicable
- Incentivizing transit, car share, biking and walking opportunities
- Increased use of tele-presence where appropriate
- Use of renewable energy
- Deployment of zero emission auto fleets

Current Conditions

Cities consume over two thirds of the world's energy and account for 70% of global emissions and are, therefore, at the leading edge of climate change risk (but also opportunity). Like most US cities and their urban neighborhoods, energy consumption in Cleveland and Slavic Village is on the rise due to the high levels of car ownership typical in the US, a dense fabric of homes - in Cleveland and Slavic Village, many are older with limited insulation - filled with appliances.

In Cleveland and in Northeast Ohio generally, power is largely generated using the energy resources of coal, natural gas and nuclear. In the case of the non-renewable, fossil fuel

sources, the highest emitters of carbon, coal is used to generate 47% of the electricity in Ohio. Burning natural gas produces approximately 34% of Ohio's electricity. Nuclear power, also a non-renewable resource albeit with low emissions, is used to generate about 15% of Ohio's electricity. Renewable resources such as wind, biomass and utility-scale solar are used to generate electricity in Ohio but such renewables currently only produce about 3% of the state's electricity. But growth in renewable energy production and technology in Ohio is robust given Ohio and Cleveland's proximity to infrastructure, resources and skilled labor. Ohio is a national leader in solar deployment and Northeast Ohio is a national leader in fuel cell technology.

“...Slavic Village exhibits lower average household carbon footprint as compared to outlying suburban towns and cities....”

Extensive suburbanization in Northeast Ohio contributes to a generally higher and overall net increase in average household carbon footprint for the metro region in the past decade. That said, as an urban core neighborhood with higher density (albeit sparsely populated) and smaller homes on average, Slavic Village exhibits lower average household carbon footprint as compared to outlying suburban towns and cities. Average household CO₂e in Slavic Village (and in zip codes 44104, 44105, 44115 and 44127 overall) is roughly 36 metric tons per year (compared to 85 tons per year in nearby Gates Mills Village). Housing, including many older, drafty homes, contributes the largest share of the total average household emissions at 15-20% of the total.

Energy consumption and emissions overall in Slavic Village generally mirror the City of Cleveland overall and most legacy cities. Power use and industrial processes and products were until recently the largest emissions sources at 27% and 22% respectively. Emissions from transportation are increasing exponentially - the fastest growing of all sources - and today total 28%, the largest economic sector source by percentage. The noted trend is important to be mindful of during the Formation and Roadmap phases. It is important to note that, since 2010, Cleveland, citywide, has, like other cities, seen a small reduction in total carbon emissions. The two major contributors to Cleveland's current reduced carbon footprint are 1) decreased emissions from electricity generation attributable to a shift in the fuel used to generate power (largely from coal to more natural gas) and 2) reduced natural gas use in buildings. However, these reductions have been largely offset by increased emissions from on-road vehicles and industrial processes since 2010, largely due to the economic recovery since the recession.

When the United States announced its intention to pull out of the Paris Climate Agreement in 2017, Cleveland's Mayor Frank Jackson, along with 400 other Mayors across the country (but one of only two in Northeast Ohio!), re-affirmed the city's commitment to climate action by signing the Climate Mayors Agreement, thereby adopting, honoring and upholding the historic Paris climate agreement. And, the 2018 Update to the Cleveland Climate Action Plan, initially launched in 2013, is courageous in a state that produces over 80% of its electricity from non-renewable fossil fuels. As part of the Update, City of Cleveland officials announced a 100% renewable power target that aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80 percent below the 2010 level by 2050. The 2018 Update also builds off previous work by establishing the following crosscutting CAP priorities that serve as a model to pursue within the Slavic Village neighborhood:

- Social and racial equity
- Good jobs, Green jobs
- Resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Business leadership

The following is an excerpt from the 2018 update to the Cleveland CAP:

"Collectively, we've made progress since the first Cleveland Climate Action Plan launched in 2013. We've reduced carbon pollution while growing the economy. Water quality and air quality have continued to improve. The City has been recognized for supporting solar and wind energy. More than 70 miles of bike infrastructure were installed, and bike share system launched. Dozens of organizations created and are now implementing the Cleveland Tree Plan. The Cleveland Climate Action Fund has supported more than 50 resident-led, neighborhood-based projects. Finally, the number of Clevelanders who would recommend the city as a place to visit has more than doubled."

National, state and local climate protection measures will influence the District Team's approach to the Climate Protection Imperative. The following list of policies and programs has been organized in descending order of importance. This format is intended to inform the work of the district by highlighting and identifying the most impactful areas for the District Team to focus their attention:

Entity	Program/Policy	Program/Policy Description	Relation to SV EcoDistrict
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Clean Power Plan (Federal)	2015 plan issued under the Clean Air Act to set limits on carbon pollution from U.S. power plants	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
State of Ohio	Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)	State's requirement that 12.5% of electricity sold is generated from renewable energy sources by 2027. Sets annual benchmarks with which utilities and electric service companies must comply	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
State of Ohio	Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS)	State's requirement on electric utilities to meet a portion of their customer demand through energy efficiency. Sets annual energy reduction targets that utilities achieve via discounts/rebates on energy efficient lighting, weatherization and household appliances	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability	Cleveland Climate Action Plan	Plan for the City of Cleveland to reduce carbon pollution, improve air and water quality, support renewable energy, improve bicycle accessibility, strengthen the local economy, and improve the health and wellness of Clevelanders	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
Cuyahoga County Office of Sustainability	Cuyahoga County 5-year Sustainability Strategic Plan and Climate Change Action Plan	Plan to reduce GHG emissions, increase resources for clean energy and environmentally sustainable programs, increase access to alternative methods of transportation, increase community awareness of climate issues, improve water quality, adopt sustainable practices in County operations, and enhance land use practices to spur clean energy development	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
City of Cleveland, Cleveland Tree Coalition	Cleveland Tree Plan	Community-wide collaboration to rebuild the urban forest and tree canopy in the City of Cleveland	Supports expanding the tree canopy in the Slavic Village neighborhood
City of Cleveland	Cleveland Green Building Standards	City program offering tax abatement on residential properties if Green Building Standards are met	Applicable to properties in Slavic Village neighborhood
2030 Districts Network, City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, various corporate, government, non-profit stakeholders	Cleveland 2030 District	Goal to create high-performance building districts throughout Greater Cleveland to reduce environmental impacts of building construction and operations	Applicable to properties in Slavic Village neighborhood
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency	Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (TLCI)	Provides assistance to communities and public agencies for integrated transportation and land use planning and projects that strengthen community livability	Related to transit corridor development in Slavic Village

Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Watershed Advisory Council	Regional Stormwater Management Program	Educates residents about water and water conservation.	Impacts stormwater management initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District	Water Champions program and Water Equity Task Force	Addresses problems related to stormwater runoff from hard surfaces, offers fee credits to customers who make improvements on their properties to reduce runoff	Residents of Slavic Village are more likely to experience a water shut off and struggle with water affordability.
SVD, Third Federal Foundation, Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland, City Year Cleveland, Holden Forests & Gardens, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, and ArcelorMittal	Morgana Bluffs Nature Preserve and Learning Center / Reforesting Slavic Village	Program prioritizes the identification, maintenance, and planting of trees along rights-of-way throughout the neighborhood	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
Slavic Village Development	Climate Resilience & Urban Opportunity Initiative	Model for community engagement amidst anticipated effect of climate change throughout the Midwest ("Healthy Neighborhood" approach)	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
Cleveland Metroparks	Downtown Connector Trail	Will extend the off-road Towpath Trail connection of the Cleveland Metroparks trail that currently ends at Fleet Ave. and E.49th St. to the existing Morgana Run Trail (located approximately 1/2 mile north on E. 49th St.) and another 1/2 mile north to Pershing Ave.	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood
Local corporate, government, non-profit entities	Other Organizations' Climate Action Plans and Sustainability Programs	Various organizations throughout Cleveland have established their own plans to take action on climate and sustainability. Examples: KeyBank, Cleveland MetroParks, Cleveland Clinic, and others	Impacts sustainability initiatives of Slavic Village neighborhood

Work Plan

The District Team will incorporate and integrate the following tasks and actions into the planning, implementation and certification processes during each phase to endeavor to minimize energy demand, maximize energy efficiency, produce energy from clean and renewable sources, and sequester or off-set CO2 emissions:

Climate Protection in the Formation Phase

- Task 1 Outreach to key stakeholders, design professionals, waste and transportation system operators, energy utilities such as First Energy and Cleveland Public Power), to understand climate protection goals and participation opportunities and explain both to the community all held in multiple population appropriate languages
- Task 2 Recruit and develop climate protection practitioners and interested community group representatives to participate in decision-making

Climate Protection in the Roadmap Phase

- Task 3 Enable and encourage participation of vulnerable groups in Roadmap develop-

ment, process orientations and workshops all held in multiple population appropriate languages

- Task 4 Create and emissions inventory for the district including all current uses and evaluate the carbon footprint of all proposed projects and programs while ranking strategies to achieve carbon neutrality
- Task 5 In collaboration with the City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability and in coordination with the city-wide Climate Action Plan, establish the time horizon for achieving carbon neutrality in the district and pledge a specific target date for achieving carbon neutrality

Climate Protection in the Performance Phase

- Task 6 As part of biennial progress reporting, prepare an evaluation of carbon reduction results to date and recommend strategy adjustments to accelerate the rate of reduction necessary to achieve carbon neutrality by the specific pledged date from the Roadmap Phase
- Task 7 Ensure district performance is transparent and accessible to ensure the results can be used to adjust and strengthen the Climate Protection commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by the specific pledged date from the Roadmap Phase. Report out via website, social media, community meetings, newsletters and any additional methods deemed appropriate for the district
- Task 8 Meet with stakeholder groups to review the burdens and benefits of carbon reductions results from Roadmap execution, creating an indicator feedback loop that gauges progress made and recommends strategy adjustments to achieve carbon neutrality by the specific pledged date from the Roadmap Phase.

Responsibilities and Schedule

Task 1 (Climate Protection in the Formation Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Stakeholder engagement
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for December 2020

Task 2 (Climate Protection in the Formation Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and training
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for December 2020

Task 3 (Climate Protection in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 4 (Climate Protection in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from addi-

tional stakeholder groups

- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 5 (Climate Protection in the Roadmap Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: District Team with assistance from additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion for June 2021

Task 6 (Climate Protection in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from the City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Data analysis, evaluation and research
- Target completion date to align with the specific pledged date to achieve carbon neutrality from the Roadmap Phase

Task 7 (Climate Protection in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from the City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion date to align with the specific pledged date to achieve carbon neutrality from the Roadmap Phase

Task 8 (Climate Protection in the Performance Phase)

- Organization(s) with primary responsibility: Backbone Organization with assistance from the City of Cleveland Office of Sustainability and additional stakeholder groups
- Process: Leadership development and community organizing
- Schedule/Timetable: Target completion date to align with the specific pledged date to achieve carbon neutrality from the Roadmap Phase

Indicators

The following indicators of Climate Protection developed to date by the District Team are illustrative and not meant to be exhaustive. However, some indicators are more meaningful, relevant and available than others and the District Team understands that too many indicators can be confusing. The four or five indicators most relevant and meaningful to the neighborhood will be confirmed in the Formation and Roadmap Phases:

- Zero Energy Performance Index for major building types (ratio of energy performance to the average energy consumption of a similar building in 2000)
- EUI targets for major building types (annual energy consumption relative to its gross
- Number of asthma cases, heat-related illnesses
- Per capita total energy use (Btu per person in the district, including residents and employees)
- Clean-fueled thermal energy produced

- square footage)
- Household vehicle fuel use
- Large employers' employee commuting mode split
- Transit ridership (people served daily by transit lines located in Slavic Village neighborhood)
- Air quality (utilizing NOACA daily ground-level ozone and fine particulate matter data)
- Gallons of storm water diverted from combined sewer overflow
- Acres of green space open to the public
- Acres of food-bearing community gardens
- (heat produced from solar energy or geothermal)
- Renewable energy generated in the district (kWh/day)
- Renewable energy used in the district (kWh/day)
- Per capita net tons of CO2 emissions in the district
- Volume of reclaimed and reused materials
- Number of homes weatherized/solarized
- Number of green jobs created
- Urban tree canopy percentage
- Number of green infrastructure projects in the district

Evaluation and Adjustment

Climate Protection conditions are regularly updated as new data becomes available, and the findings inform program and project prioritization for ensuing work plans. Biennial performance report used as feedback to be cross-referenced for adaptation and adjustment within each Performance Phase Work Plan.

Letters of Support or the Climate Protection Imperative

- Kim Foreman, Executive Director, Environmental Health Watch
- Linda M. Warren, Senior Vice President, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress

