

# THE NORTH LINDEN NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN



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*The North Linden Neighborhood Plan, adopted by City Council on June 16, 2003, is the city's official guide for North Linden. Please direct all questions regarding the content of this plan to city of Columbus, Planning Division, 109 N. Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215*

Dear Citizens:

*On June 16, 2003 Columbus City Council adopted The North Linden Neighborhood Plan as the city's official guide for future development and improvement within the North Linden neighborhood.*

*The North Linden Neighborhood Plan is a result of the hard work and dedication of the North Linden community. Neighborhood leaders, residents, and business interests participated throughout the planning process. Their participation was critical to ensure that the plan would reflect the needs and aspirations of the North Linden neighborhood.*

*On behalf of the Department of Development, I would like to congratulate the North Linden community for their excellent work and their dedication to their neighborhood. I look forward to continuing our partnership with the North Linden neighborhood on future initiatives that will implement the recommendations of the Plan.*



Mark Barbash, Director  
Department of Development

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following people contributed to the North Linden Neighborhood Plan. Their efforts are sincerely appreciated.

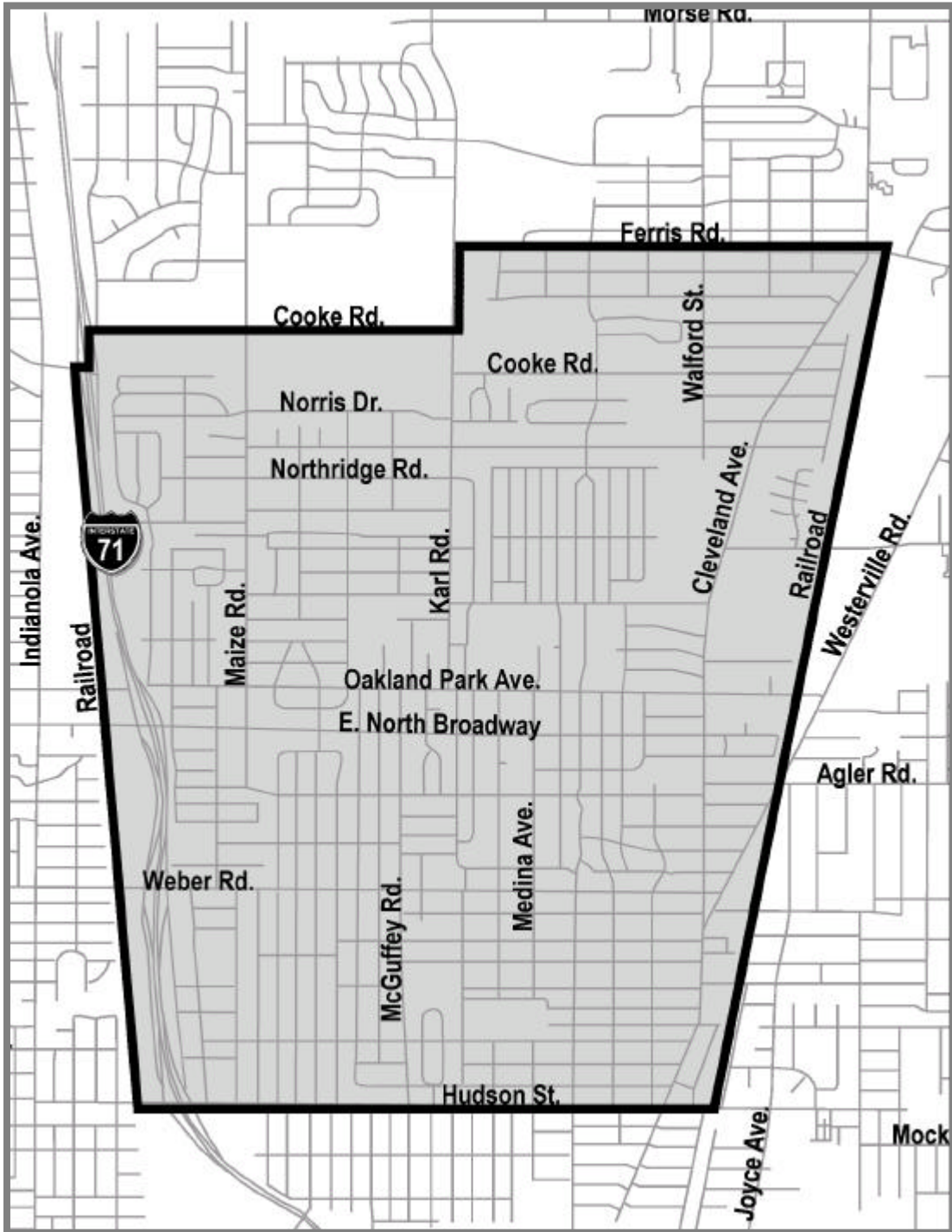
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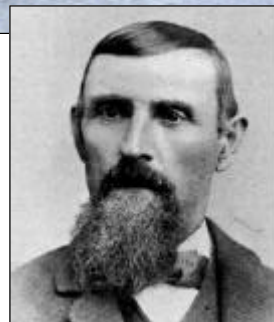
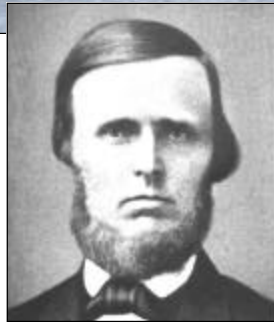
*\*North Linden Area Commission Member*

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# BOUNDARY MAP





## HISTORY OF LINDEN

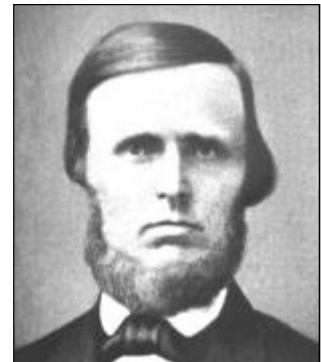
## HISTORY OF LINDEN

The community of Linden has its roots in a federal land grant issued in 1800. On September 1st of that year, President John Adams gave 4000 acres of land to George Stevenson, M.D. of Wilmington, Delaware, in recognition of his military service during the American Revolution. The property was divided among Dr. Stevenson's descendants upon his death, and eventually the land became home to a number of prosperous farms.

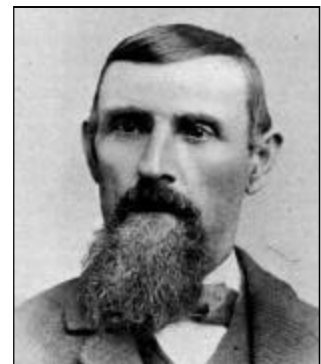
One of the first settlers to purchase land in the area now known as Linden was Frederick Weber. Starting with five acres in 1834 at what is now Weber Road (named for Mr. Weber) and Oakland Park Avenue, Mr. Weber soon owned a prosperous 310-acre farm. Additional early settlers included the Innis family, a large Linden landowner in the early 1800s with 618 acres and Henry Huy who purchased 162 acres on what is now Huy Road in the mid-1800s. The Linden Field Airport was eventually built on the site.

The first streetcar line in Linden, connecting Columbus and Westerville on tracks along Harbor Road (now Cleveland Avenue), signaled the beginning of residential development. In 1893, the real estate firm of Simons, Neil and Simons established Linden Heights Subdivision. In 1901, residents of Linden decided that the area needed its own identity and created Linden Heights Village with boundaries of Weber Road to the north, McGuffey Road to the west, Genessee Avenue to the south and the railroad to the east. At the time, the population of Linden was approximately 1,000 people.

In 1913 Cleveland Avenue was paved with bricks from Seventeenth Avenue to Westerville Road, making it one of Ohio's few paved highways. Streetlights were added by 1920, along with sewer and water lines. With Cleveland Avenue as its major route of transportation, Linden Heights continued to develop south to Eleventh Avenue. Many businesses opened during this time, including William's Hardware Store at 2635 Cleveland Avenue where it remained until Fred William retired in 1957. At the same time, Columbus was developing northward and finally in 1921 Linden Heights was annexed to the city of Columbus. Today Cleveland Avenue continues to hold the most promise as the retail and commercial heart of the Linden community.



*Gustavus Swan Innis*



*Henry Huy*



*1940s commercial uses in Linden*

During this period industrial development was also occurring in Linden Heights. Young's Dairy, Jeffrey Manufacturing, Mulby Brickyard, and the Lincoln Lumber Company all made their home in Linden. Many of these businesses supplied the construction industry that was growing rapidly as new neighborhoods were created. These residential developments became a prime location for Pennsylvania Railroad employees who were looking to purchase homes for a reasonable price in a quality neighborhood. This solidified Linden's reputation as a working class neighborhood.

By the 1930s much of the Lindens had been developed. In what was to become known as North Linden, the neighborhood subdivisions of Homecroft, Sunnyside, Linden Gardens, Kenmore Park, Edgemont Gardens, Oakmont Park Terrace, Highway Park, and Mul-Bur Heights had been built out. In South Linden subdivisions such as Homestead Heights, Hudson Manor, Maple View, Waldemere, Innis Crest, Clevefont, Louis Heights, and Linmoor were thriving neighborhoods.

The period before and after World War II was a flourishing time for Linden. Cleveland Avenue was home to a diverse collection of retail establishments and restaurants. The Avenue was referred to as the "furniture mart" of Columbus with establishments such as Yahr Furniture, Bell Furniture, H. L. Ashworth Appliances, and the E.B. McDermott Furniture Company all prospering in Linden.

Things began to slowly change in the 1950s with the opening of the Northern Lights Shopping Center, located on Cleveland Avenue near Innis Road, in 1954. Many businesses moved off Cleveland Avenue and into the shopping center to take advantage of the increased traffic promised by this new form of retailing. During the 1960s a number of major highway construction projects were undertaken in Columbus. This resulted in new development outside the city limits and led to a slow drain of businesses from Linden as companies either closed their doors or followed the development northward.



One of the most troubling aspects of the freeway building was the disruption of the lives of many of Columbus's African-American residents. Many homes and whole neighborhoods were uprooted in the name of "progress". The move up Cleveland Avenue to the Lindens was the obvious choice for many African-American families. Real estate agents and financial institutions colluded to keep African Americans below Hudson Street. This was the start of the split that resulted in separate community identities for North Linden and South Linden.

The decades of the 70s and 80s saw both positive and negative changes taking place in Linden. In both North Linden and South Linden many of the baby-boomer children grew up and moved to newer homes in the suburbs or out of state. This was especially destructive for South Linden where rapid decline was experienced. Windsor Terrace, a public housing project built in 1959, became the site of frequent police incursions. Many properties in South Linden were purchased by absentee landlords during the early 1960s and allowed to deteriorate.

During this period of change many residents worked hard to create a positive vision for both North and South Linden. The Northeast Community Council, the South Linden Community Council, Project Pride, and Project Linden were some of the organizations that were active in the area during this time. In South Linden, Clarence Lumpkin was one of the most visible activists for change. Mr. Lumpkin was instrumental in creating the South Linden Community Council in the 1960s and then headed the South Linden Area Commission when it was formed in the 1980s.

Over the years a number of a number of notable people have lived and attended school in the Lindens. Buster Douglas, former heavyweight boxing champion, grew up in South Linden and has returned to the neighborhood on several occasions, always to a warm welcome. Columbus Public Schools Superintendent Gene Harris, PhD lived in South Linden and now supports the community by improving the quality of education for all Columbus residents. Longtime North Linden resident and business owner Walt Reiner says that Linden was (and still is) a wonderful community to grow up in. His family has been prominent in Linden since the 1930s and today owns the highly successful Oakland Nursery among other properties. Reiner comments that, "With the cooperation of the community, local business owners, and the city of Columbus, Linden should continue to grow and prosper well into in the future."

In the 1990s, efforts to bring positive change to the Lindens intensified. The North Linden Area Commission, the South Linden Area Commission, the Greater Linden Development Corporation (GLDC), as well as business networks from both areas worked to bring about a positive transformation in both North and South Linden. With the influx of new immigrants from Somalia, North Linden has grown to become a very economically and culturally diverse community within the city of Columbus. The location of the Lindens is a major draw with most of metropolitan Columbus easily accessible, particularly downtown Columbus, The Ohio State University campus and the new developments in the northeast section of the City. The North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association has worked hard to keep the commercial district in North Linden a positive and contributing part of the Linden community.

In South Linden, one of the most important initiatives is the 'Four Corners Project,' located at the intersection of Cleveland and 11th avenues. This project has involved the establishment of a new restaurant, a transit center for the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), an insurance company satellite office, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) office building, and the 'Clarence E. Lumpkin Point of Pride' building, which will honor the long-time community activist.



*The Four Corners Project with view of COTA transit center.*

# INTRODUCTION



## INTRODUCTION

The *North Linden Neighborhood Plan* is a guide for future improvements, investments and actions within the North Linden neighborhood. The Plan identifies the major issues that are impacting the neighborhood and offers specific action steps to address these issues. The principal theme of the Plan is that it takes support and action on behalf of both the city and community to implement the provisions of the Plan.

The boundaries of the Plan are Cooke and Ferris roads on the north, Conrail tracks on the east, Hudson Street on the south, and Conrail tracks on the west. Clinton Township makes up a relatively small portion of the planning area.

The Plan covers issues pertaining to public safety, code enforcement, housing, economic development, land use and zoning, parks and recreation, roadways and sidewalks, public transportation, and stormwater improvements.

One of the major issues addressed in the Plan is safety. If residents and business owners do not feel secure, they will be less likely to continue to invest in the neighborhood. Cleanliness of the neighborhood is also a major focus of the Plan. Both public and private property must be adequately maintained.

Additionally, the Plan recommends concentrating new business development along Cleveland Avenue and on the former Shoe Corporation of America site on Innis Road. The Plan also looks to the future and offers recommendations on how North Linden can fit into, and complement, a light-rail transit system in Central Ohio.

The goal of the Plan is to identify action steps to create a safe, attractive, and viable neighborhood --- a place where people want to live, play, work, and raise a family.

## PLANNING PROCESS

On May 21, 2002, a meeting was held at Huy Elementary School to begin the process of developing the *North Linden Neighborhood Plan*. At that meeting, the attendees were asked to identify the assets of North Linden. The following responses were offered:

- ❖ High level of diversity
- ❖ Two public libraries that serve the neighborhood
- ❖ High quality housing stock
- ❖ Strong home ownership
- ❖ Trees and parks within the neighborhood
- ❖ Cleanliness of the neighborhood
- ❖ Friendliness of residents
- ❖ Location and access to major destinations - downtown, The Ohio State University, and Easton
- ❖ High stability of the neighborhood
- ❖ Numerous families and children living in neighborhood
- ❖ Quality neighborhood schools
- ❖ "Mom and pop" shops located in the neighborhood

The attendees were also asked to identify the major issues impacting the neighborhood. The issues that were identified became the focus of the planning process and building blocks of the plan.

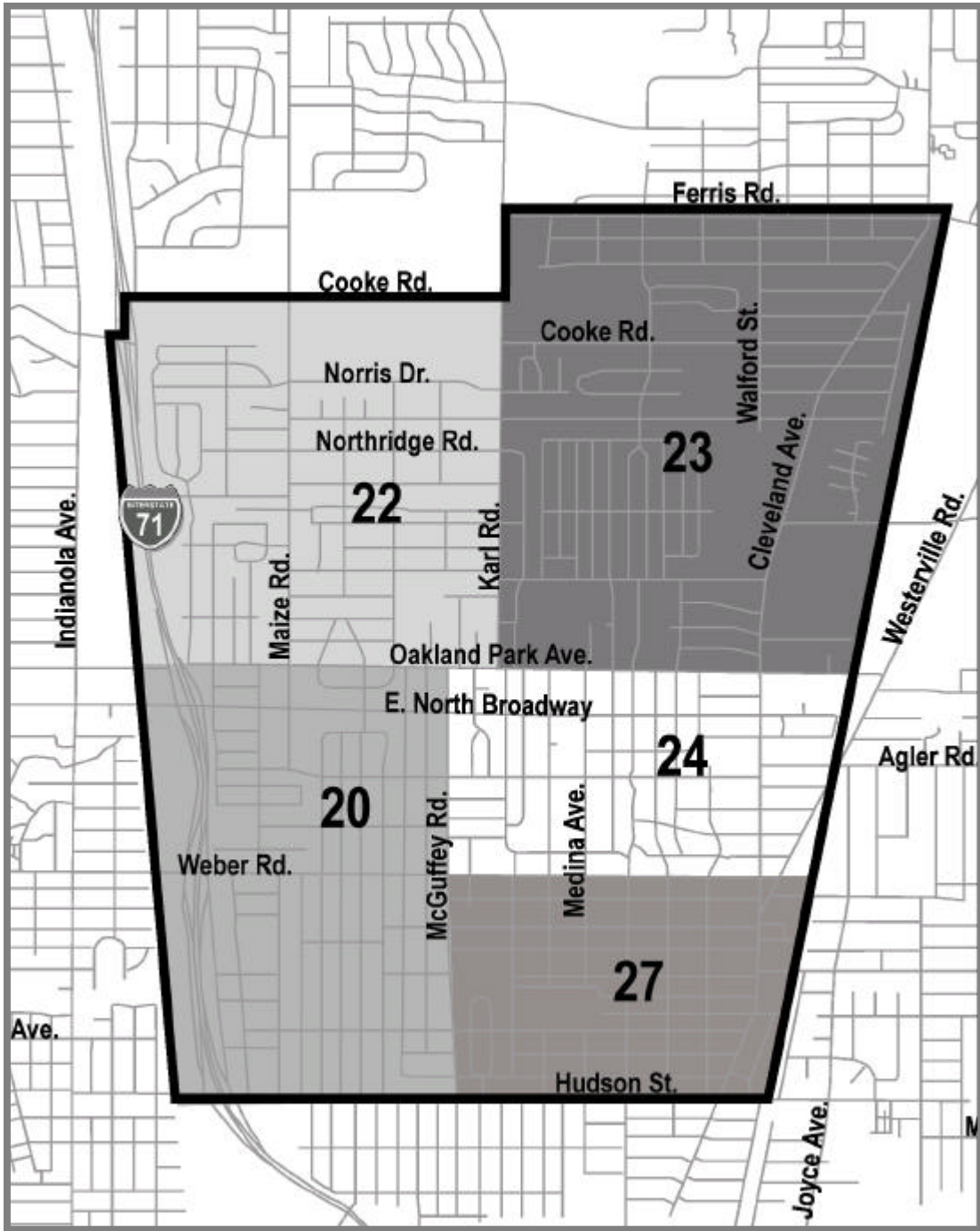
After the May 21, 2002 meeting, a Planning Committee was formed to continue to identify the specific issues impacting the neighborhood. Both the residential and business communities were invited to participate on the committee.

A community open house was held on March 25, 2003 to present the Plan to the larger North Linden community. The North Linden Area Commission, in addition to participating on the Planning Committee, reviewed and endorsed the Plan on April 16, 2003. Following that approval, the Plan was recommended by the Columbus Development Commission and adopted by Columbus City Council on June 16, 2003.

**PUBLIC SAFETY**



# CRUISER DISTRICT MAP



## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

North Linden is within Precinct 2 of the Columbus Police Division. The police substation for the precinct is located at the southeast corner of Morse and Karl roads.

Specifically, portions of cruiser districts 20, 22, 23, 24 and 27 serve the neighborhood. Crime data for these cruiser districts was analyzed for the years between 1997 and 2001. The following crime categories were included in the data collection: murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny, vehicle theft, indecent exposure, and molestation. Crime in North Linden increased by only six (6) percent between 1997 and 2001, as compared to a 13 percent increase citywide.

Fire station #16 is the primary station for North Linden. The station is located at the northwest corner of Weber and McGuffey roads. The station includes a fire engine, a medic and a rescue squad. This station is one of the busiest in the city due to the high population density of the area. There are plans to either rebuild or expand this station so that it can better serve the neighborhood.

Public safety is the number one concern of North Linden residents and business owners. Issues of public safety, such as property theft, personal safety, vandalism, drugs, and prostitution, must be addressed or residents and business owners will decide to leave the neighborhood.

Another major concern of the North Linden neighborhood is excessive vehicle speed throughout the neighborhood. In 2003, the city of Columbus Transportation Division will initiate the Linden Area Traffic Management Plan. This Plan will study existing conditions and offer recommendations for traffic calming and improved pedestrian circulation throughout the area. The community will be involved during all phases of the project.



*Existing fire station on Weber Road*



## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

### **Issue 1: Police presence and response time are not adequate.**

#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Increase the visibility of police officers by increasing the number of officers assigned to duties such as the bike and foot patrols.
- ❖ Promote the use of the city's new 311 non-emergency phone system. This will redirect non-emergency calls from the 911 system and will increase the number of police officers available to respond to emergency calls. Until the 311 system is in place, the Mayor's Action Center line (645-CITY) should be used during normal business hours for all non-emergency calls.
- ❖ Provide information explaining the 911 system. Specific emphasis should be given to explaining how calls are prioritized and when other jurisdictions, such as Clinton Township, are called in to assist Columbus police officers.

### **Issue 2: Crime prevention programs are needed within North Linden.**

#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Increase the visibility of police officers by increasing the number of officers assigned to duties such as the bike and foot patrols.
- ❖ Explore the possibility of a program, such as the Community Crime Patrol, Inc., serving North Linden. Community Crime Patrol, Inc. is a not-for-profit, community-based, crime prevention organization that deploys teams of highly trained citizen patrollers in several neighborhoods around Columbus, as well as on the city's multi-use trail and various parks.

- ❖ Schedule police officers assigned to North Linden to attend area commission meetings on a regular basis. Meetings with residents and business owners in specific areas of North Linden should be scheduled on an as-needed basis.
- ❖ Form blockwatch groups with the assistance of the Columbus Police Division. Additionally, the area commission and blockwatch groups should continue activities that facilitate neighbors getting to know one another. Organizations, such as neighborhood churches, should be involved with the blockwatch program.
- ❖ Invite police officers to neighborhood events to increase their interaction with residents.
- ❖ Work with the Columbus Police Division to identify areas that need improved lighting for safety reasons.
- ❖ Provide literature through the Columbus Police Division that informs residents and business owners of crime prevention techniques.
- ❖ Encourage communication between business owners and police officers. This will allow the officers to know when monitoring and police presence is needed to help prevent crimes against businesses.
- ❖ Encourage residents to participate in the Citizen's Police Academy. The Academy educates citizens about the "hows and whys" of the Columbus Police Division, and the citizen's role in the Community Oriented Policing philosophy. Students are expected to share this realistic view of the Division with other citizens to improve the efficiency of law enforcement in their neighborhoods through shared responsibilities and resources.

### **Issue 3: Vehicle speeds are excessive and dangerous throughout the neighborhood.**

#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Increase police presence and enforcement of the speed limit.
- ❖ Place speed monitoring devices throughout North Linden to determine where excessive speeds are occurring. Target areas should be within the residential areas and around schools and parks. The following specific areas have experienced problems with speeding:
  - ◀ Area between Oakland Park and Weber Road
  - ◀ Area south of Weber Road between McGuffey Road and Cleveland Avenue
  - ◀ Beulah Road and Carolyn Avenue
  - ◀ Near Linden Park Elementary School
  - ◀ Bremen Street
  - ◀ Melrose Avenue
  - ◀ Weber Road
  - ◀ North Broadway, from Interstate 71 to Hiawatha Avenue
  - ◀ Reis Avenue near Como Elementary School
  - ◀ Oakland Park Avenue
  - ◀ Cleveland Avenue
- ❖ Identify measures to reduce excessive vehicle speeds. This will occur as part of the Linden Area Traffic Management Plan administered by the Transportation Division.



*Use of speed humps along a residential street.*



*Example of traffic circles within a residential area*

**Issue 4: Drug crimes, prostitution and alcohol sales are problems within North Linden.**

**Action Steps:**

- ❖ Provide information to residents and business owners that explain what to look for and who to contact within the Division of Police in order to help report and stop drug crimes and prostitution.
- ❖ Work through blockwatch groups to assist police officers in targeting problem areas.
- ❖ Create relationships between the residential community and business owners/operators. This will increase business owners/operators awareness of community issues.
- ❖ Concerns regarding the sale of alcohol to minors and public consumption of alcohol should be reported to the Columbus Division of Police and Liquor Control. A systematic review of liquor licenses and strict enforcement of alcohol sale hours are needed.

**Issue 5: Excessive noise is an increasing nuisance in North Linden. Noise from car stereos, motorcycle exhaust and home stereos are particular problems.**

**Action Steps:**

- ❖ Report problems directly to the Division of Police Community Liaison.
- ❖ Create relationships between the residential community and business owners/operators. This will increase business owners/operators awareness of community issues.
- ❖ Encourage business owners/operators to monitor and report illegal and nuisance activity that may be occurring near their business.

CODE ENFORCEMENT



## CODE ENFORCEMENT

The city of Columbus is responsible for the enforcement of the city codes as it relates to property maintenance and upkeep. In general, the current system of enforcement operates on a complaint-driven basis. The following is a brief review of the code enforcement procedure:

- ❖ A complaint is generated
- ❖ Code Enforcement Officer inspects the property
- ❖ A violation notice is sent to responsible party
- ❖ Reinspection occurs on documented day scheduled for compliance
- ❖ Case goes to court if compliance cannot be negotiated or the responsible party does not respond. The case goes to Franklin County Environmental Court through the City Prosecutor's office.

Additionally, the Code Enforcement Office maintains a database of all properties that have been in violation at one time. These properties are systematically reinspected.

The Neighborhood Pride and Neighborhood Liaison programs, within the Department of Development, have been created to increase the level and quality of service to the neighborhoods. See Appendix, pages 64 -65, for a complete description of these programs.

In general, North Linden contains well-maintained properties. However, there are scattered problems with high grass and weeds and inadequate residential and commercial property maintenance. Effective code enforcement is extremely important to address the issues impacting the neighborhood. The current code enforcement system addresses many of the code violation issues. However, alternative ways to approach code enforcement should be explored.

## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue: Some properties, including owner- and renter-occupied housing and commercial properties, are not properly maintained. High grass and weeds are typical problems.**

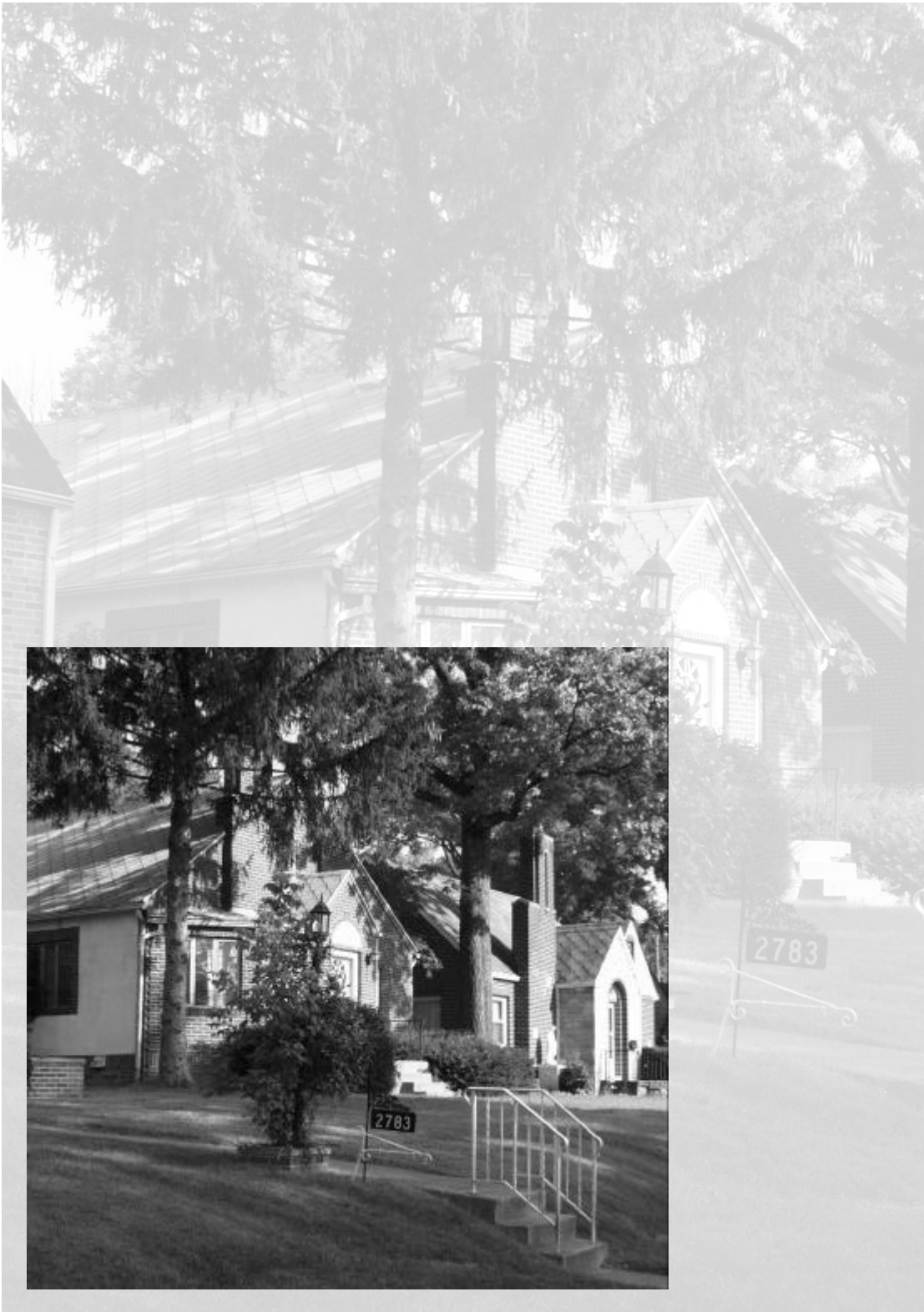
### Action Steps:

- ❖ Contact North Linden's Code Enforcement Officer(s) to report problems. When possible, document problems with photos.
- ❖ Schedule North Linden's Code Enforcement Officer(s) to attend area commission meetings on a regular basis to discuss issues, concerns, and status of pending cases.
- ❖ Utilize the Greater Linden Development Corporation and the North Linden Area Commission for sending letters to property owners regarding alleged code violation. The letters should also be sent to the area's Code Enforcement Supervisor for follow-up.
- ❖ Establish a Neighborhood Pride Center to serve the Northeast area, including North Linden. This will provide another avenue for residents and business owners to report problems and learn of programs being offered or supported by the city.
- ❖ Establish programs and activities that will facilitate neighbors getting to know one another. This may create opportunities for neighbors helping neighbors to achieve code compliance.
- ❖ Encourage business organizations, such as the North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association, to establish voluntary action programs to improve the appearance of businesses.
- ❖ Work with the city's Land Management Office to address vacant land and structures. Tax delinquent properties can be requested for foreclosure and acquired by the Land Management Office. Once acquired by Land Management the property may be sold for rehabilitation or new development.
- ❖ Explore alternative ways to approach code enforcement. Highly effective code enforcement is very important to the long-term health of North Linden.



*Example of high grass in a residential area.*

**RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**





## RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS

Residential uses dominate the land use pattern in North Linden. Additionally, single-family detached housing units account for roughly three-quarters of all the housing units. Most of the housing stock was built prior to 1970, with about 40 percent constructed between 1950-1959.

The condition of the housing in North Linden is generally good. There are scattered problems of inadequate maintenance and vacant structures. According to the 2000 Census, approximately eight percent of the housing units in North Linden are vacant. Additionally, many of the vacant structures have been totally abandoned and are in disrepair. According to the city's Land Management Office, as of February 2003 there were 288 residential properties that were tax delinquent. This compares to 331 in the South Linden neighborhood.

The residential districts of North Linden are to be protected and maintained. Commercial uses should not be permitted to encroach into the existing residential areas. These uses should be concentrated along the existing commercial corridors and at major intersections. Additionally, North Linden is a strong homeownership area. There are scattered multi-family developments. There is a perception that the multi-family units detract from the neighborhood. This is often due to the low level of maintenance some units receive from either the tenants or the owners.

## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

### Issue 1: Residential areas are threatened by encroaching commercial development.

#### Action Steps:

- ❖ Limit new commercial uses to existing commercial corridors and to major intersections to keep commercial uses from encroaching residential areas. It is important to retain existing commercial areas, such as the commercial nodes on Oakland Park Avenue and Weber Road; however, the expansion of these commercial uses into residential areas is discouraged so that the fabric of the residential neighborhood is not impacted.

#### Note:

*Photographs on pages 23-24 illustrate the use of landscaping when commercial uses are adjacent to residential uses. Proper placement and screening of commercial development can promote land use compatibility. The North Linden Area Commission, business organizations and other community groups should work together to develop specific landscape guidelines for North Linden.*

- ❖ Supplement the existing rezoning and variance notification procedure by posting signs, with case number and contact information, on sites and placing case information on the city's website.
- ❖ Create relationships between the residential community and existing business owners/operators. This will increase business owners/operators awareness of community issues.



*Natural landscaping hedge buffers the existing residential from new commercial being constructed along Cleveland Ave.*



*With proper landscaping, a residential use can be properly screened from adjacent commercial development.*



*Commercial uses can thrive within a residential area with the proper placement and buffering.*

**Issue 2: Vacant homes and residential land remain vacant for extended periods of time.**

**Action Steps:**

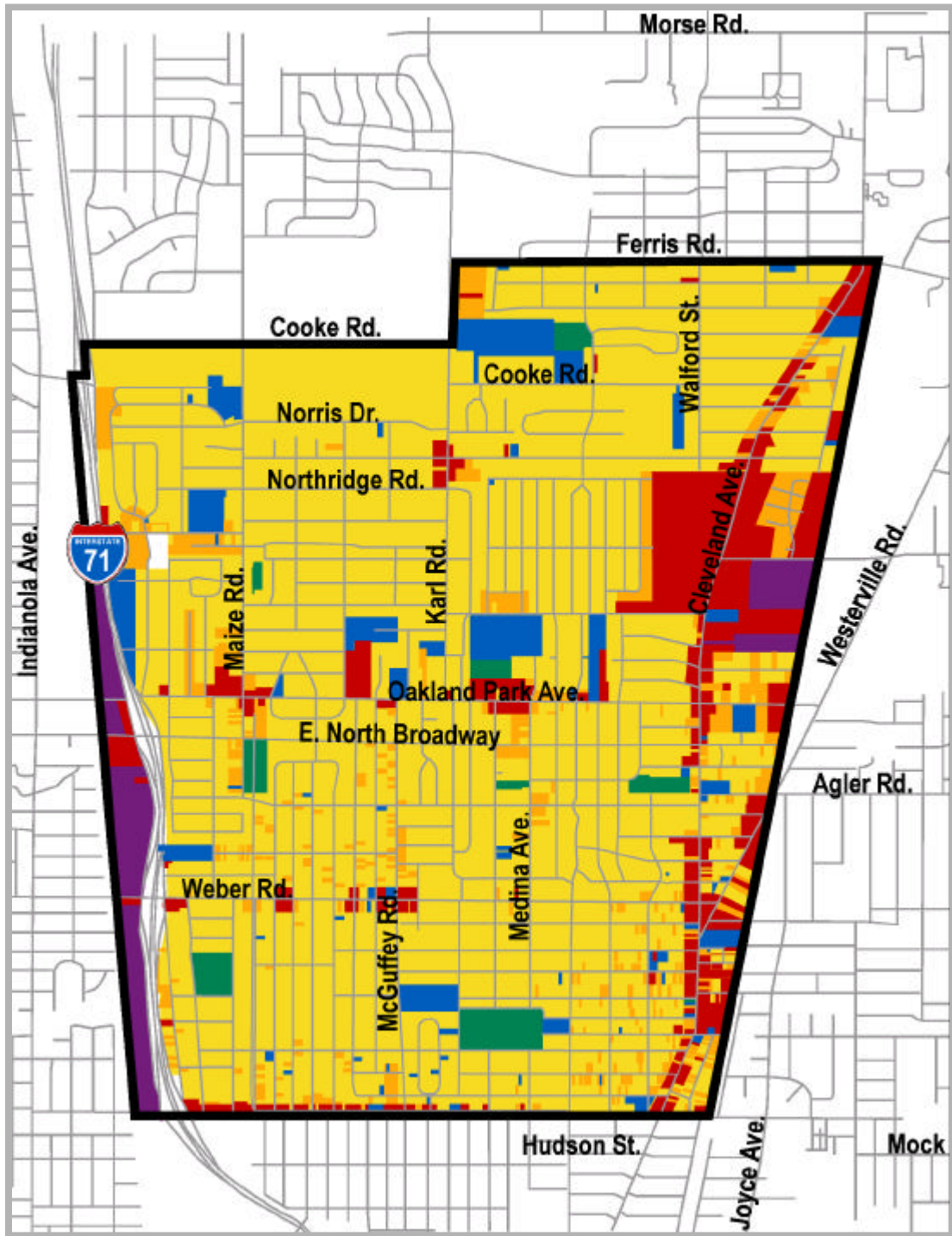
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission should work with the city's Land Management Office on identifying vacant property that may also be tax delinquent. These properties can be requested for foreclosure through Franklin County.
- ❖ Create disincentives to keeping vacant homes. These could be in the form of requiring regular inspections by the city and charging an inspection fee.
- ❖ When feasible, expand the Neighborhood Investment District program to North Linden. Through this program a property owner is eligible for tax abatement when they renovate an existing home or construct a new home.
- ❖ Encourage community organizations to create and maintain pocket parks and community gardens on vacant residential land, where appropriate.

**Issue 3: There is a perception that the existing multi-family units within North Linden detract from the neighborhood.**

**Action Steps:**

- ❖ Report suspected code violations to the North Linden Code Enforcement Officer(s). When possible document problem with photos.
- ❖ Support new residential development that complements the existing development and land use pattern of the surrounding area.

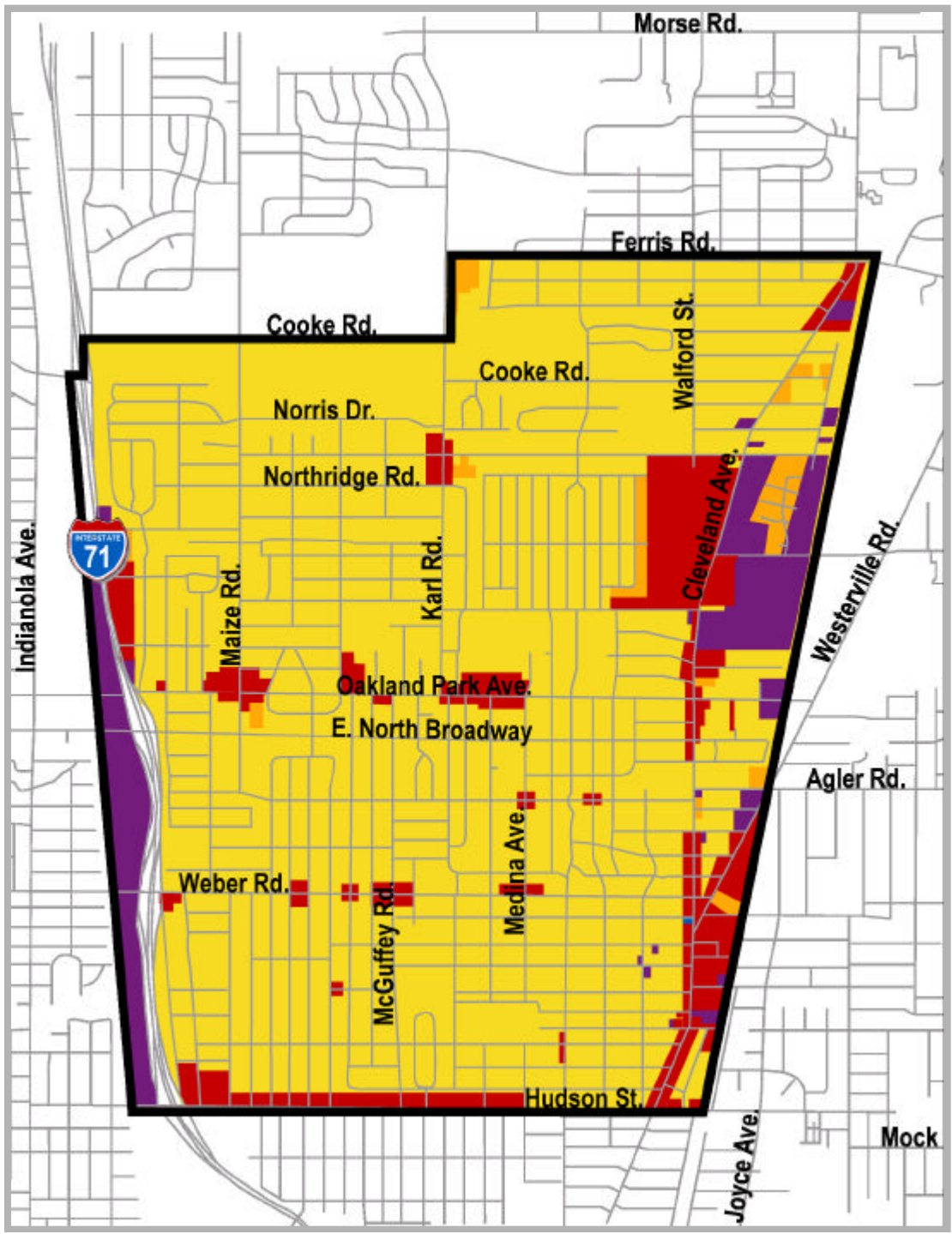
# EXISTING LAND USE MAP



- |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: red; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Commercial       | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: yellow; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Single-Family Residential |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: purple; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Manufacturing | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: orange; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Multi-Family Residential  |
| <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: blue; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Institutional   | <span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: green; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Park                       |



# EXISTING ZONING MAP



- Commercial
- Manufacturing
- Institutional
- Single-Family Residential
- Multi-Family Residential



COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS



## COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS

Commercial uses in North Linden are concentrated along Cleveland Avenue, Hudson Street, Silver Drive, Oakland Park Avenue, and Weber Road. Light-manufacturing uses are located on the east side of Cleveland Avenue and along Silver Drive.

There is a varying degree of vitality among the commercial uses in North Linden. Silver Drive is an example of a thriving business corridor and Hudson Street and Cleveland Avenue are examples of commercial corridors that are being weakened by increasing commercial competition throughout Central Ohio.

Hudson Street specifically lacks amenities such as sidewalks and landscaping. Many of the commercial structures along the street are run down and do not serve as an adequate buffer to the surrounding residential area.

Cleveland Avenue contains the highest concentration of commercial uses in the neighborhood. Existing uses include a major shopping center with two grocery stores, several drive-thru restaurants, automotive repair stores, and scattered office space and small retail stores. The Shoe Corporation of America building is located near Cleveland Avenue on Innis Road. This large manufacturing building has been vacant for several years.

A portion of the commercial and manufacturing land is within Clinton Township. The city and the township must work together to revitalize these areas.



*Neighborhood commercial area on Weber Road.*



## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

### **Issue 1: There are commercially zoned buildings/parcels that are either vacant or underutilized.**

#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ The North Linden Area Commission, with the assistance of the city's Economic Development Division and Land Management Office, should establish and maintain a database of all vacant or underutilized commercial/manufacturing property within North Linden. This inventory should include any potential "brownfield" sites. Work with the Office of Land Management to identify tax delinquent properties and request foreclosure.
- ❖ Focus business retention and expansion efforts on Cleveland Avenue. Encourage both neighborhood commercial and service and professional office uses for vacant buildings/parcels, specifically in the area between Republic and Genessee avenues. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.
- ❖ Form a partnership among the city's Economic Development Division, Clinton Township, North Linden Area Commission, North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association, Columbus Chamber of Commerce, and Greater Linden Development Corporation to direct potential developers and business owners to available sites within North Linden. Incentives should be utilized to attract new businesses into the area. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.
- ❖ Market the Shoe Corporation of America site (on the south side of Innis Road between Cleveland Avenue and Westerville Road) to developers. This site could be used for large office space or as a small business incubator. This site has enormous potential to provide new employment opportunities. Cooperation between city of Columbus and Clinton Township is vital. A revenue sharing program should be considered and, if possible, implemented by the city of Columbus and Clinton Township. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.



*The Shoe Corporation of America site.*

## **Issue 2: Hudson Street is not a vital commercial corridor.**

### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Establish Hudson Street as a parkway and gateway into North and South Linden. See "Hudson Street - Redefining a Roadway" on page 35 for full discussion.

## **Issue 3: Streetscape and façade improvements are needed along Cleveland Avenue.**

### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Expand the Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) program within North Linden. Expansion of the program should begin with Cleveland Avenue, north of Weber Road. By expanding the NCR program, individual businesses would have access to architectural design services and financial incentives for acquisition and exterior rehabilitation of commercial property.
- ❖ Work with existing business organizations to address issues impacting the commercial districts of North Linden. Investigate forming new groups to target specific issues and areas. Business organizations should initiate clean-up/beautification programs and investigate the possibility of forming Special Improvement Districts (SID).
- ❖ Protect buildings that have character and architectural significance from being demolished. Buildings should be renovated so that the streetscape is not disturbed. This is particularly important along Cleveland Avenue. Protection should include the city conducting a survey to determine significant structures. Financial incentives should be available to owners that rehabilitate structures in keeping with the character of the original architectural design. These incentives could include grants, low interest loans and tax abatements on new improvements.
- ❖ Create appropriate development standards for Cleveland Avenue, north of Weber Road, to improve the quality and consistency of development along the corridor.
- ❖ Apply for Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF), or other capital improvement funds, money for streetscape improvements, such as repaving, street trees, street lighting upgrades, curbs, and neighborhood gateways.



*Existing commercial structures on Cleveland Avenue.*

**Issue 4: Commercial corridors lack a vital mix of uses. North Linden does not attract new businesses or customers at a competitive level.**

**Action Steps:**

- ❖ Work with existing business organizations and/or form a local chamber of commerce to help promote the area to new businesses and customers. Activities could include joint advertising and promotions, business development, and recruitment. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.
- ❖ Focus business retention and expansion efforts on Cleveland Avenue. Cleveland Avenue is the "main street" of the neighborhood. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.
- ❖ Provide financial incentives to new or expanding businesses. Incentives should also be given to businesses that hire employees from North Linden. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.
- ❖ Allow on-street parking along commercial corridors. This will provide convenient customer parking, slow down traffic, and help prevent the replacement of existing buildings by surface parking lots. Appropriate signs should be installed to prohibit parking near intersections so that adequate vision clearance can be met.



*Example of a vacant commercial building on Cleveland Ave.*

**Issue 5: Areas adjacent to Interstate 71 and the parallel rail corridor are not developed in a manner that is beneficial to the long-term health of the neighborhood.**

**Action Steps:**

- ❖ Redevelop freeway interchanges and areas adjacent to the rail corridor to be more beneficial to the community in terms of providing services for residents, business owners and visitors.
  - ◀ **Hudson Street.** The area adjacent to the rail line and Interstate 71 should be developed with uses that complement a future light-rail transit stop, including a daycare center, bank, dry cleaners, offices, and restaurants. More intense uses should be concentrated on the western side of Interstate 71 and transition to neighborhood-oriented uses on the eastern side of the freeway. This area should be rezoned to a district that will support these uses.
  - ◀ **North Broadway/Oakland Park Avenue at I-71.** A light-rail transit stop should be located near this interchange. The transit stop will serve the surrounding residential uses. Some retail or office could be developed but should be limited in intensity given the close proximity of the residential uses. This area should be rezoned to a district that will support these uses.
  - ◀ **Weber Road.** The land adjacent to the interchange should be developed with auto-oriented uses, such as gasoline stations and convenience retail. This interchange could also serve as a mini travel center (with automobile parking only) for those traveling through Columbus. This area should be rezoned to a district that will support these uses.



*Weber Road at Interstate 71.*

**Issue 6: Pockets of neighborhood commercial uses along Oakland Park Avenue and Weber Road are beneficial to the neighborhood and should continue to be developed in a manner that is sensitive to the surrounding residential areas.**

**Action Step:**

- ❖ Apply the Urban Commercial Overlay to commercially zoned or used land on Oakland Park Avenue and Weber Road.

# HUDSON STREET - REDEFINING A ROADWAY



Existing conditions along Hudson Street.

## HUDSON STREET - REDEFINING A ROADWAY

Hudson Street is the border between North and South Linden. Currently, it is a roadway that lacks character and the adjacent development does not provide an adequate buffer to the surrounding residential area.

Hudson Street should not compete with Cleveland Avenue for commercial business. Cleveland Avenue has historically served as the commercial spine of the neighborhood and should continue that role in the future.

The concept presented below redefines Hudson from being just a street that moves cars to a parkway that brings neighbors together. The concept includes relocating commercial businesses from Hudson to Cleveland Avenue and creating greenspace with pathways on both sides of the roadway that will provide recreational opportunities for both North and South Linden residents.

### ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue: Hudson Street is not a vital commercial corridor and needs streetscape and pedestrian improvements.**

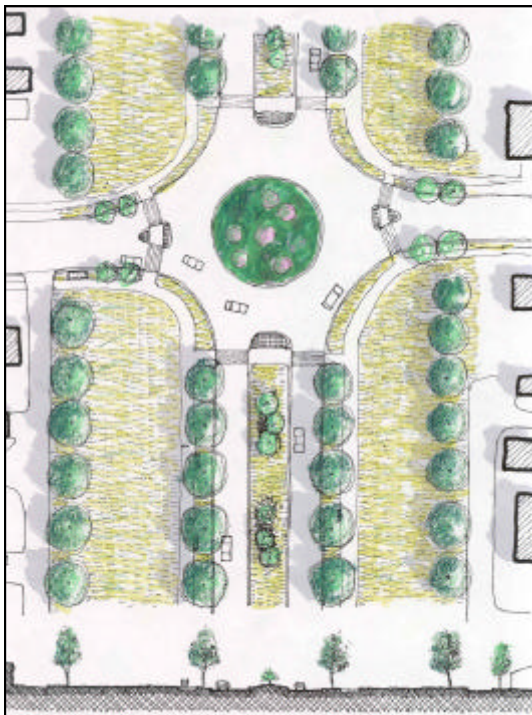
#### Action Steps:

- ❖ Establish Hudson Street as a parkway and gateway into North and South Linden. The following improvements are needed:
  - ◀ Widen the right-of-way from Interstate 71 to Medina Avenue to accommodate greenspace on both sides of the street and a green center median. This will create a linear park for the area.
  - ◀ Place sidewalks/bikeway and landscaping and mounding along the roadway.
  - ◀ Limit the number of intersecting side streets to improve safety.
  - ◀ If feasible, utilize roundabouts to control traffic at intersections.
  - ◀ Install gateway signs or monuments for both North and South Linden.
  - ◀ Rezone the area adjacent to Interstate 71 and the railroad tracks to a district that will promote neighborhood oriented and transit oriented uses. This area is seen as a viable commercial area due to its proximity to the interstate and a potential light rail stop.
- ❖ Once the market can absorb new development, nodes of residential and/or neighborhood commercial/office could be developed. This would be limited and not taken away from the park atmosphere and pedestrian environment.

This is a long-term goal that will require further study and refinement. A partnership between the city and a community development corporation (CDC) should be formed to implement this concept. A CDC could assist with assembling the land needed to implement the design.

As the concept is refined, the following issues should be considered and/or addressed:

- ◀ Conduct a capacity analysis and conceptual design to determine the feasibility and appropriateness of the use of roundabouts.
- ◀ Determine the short-term improvements that are needed for Hudson Street until this design is implemented. Short-term improvements should include pavement, curb and sidewalk repair for safety reasons and street trees that can later be incorporated into the long-term design.
- ◀ Determine the long-term maintenance responsibilities for the proposed improvements.
- ◀ Implement a program to assist existing Hudson Street businesses to relocate along Cleveland Avenue, or other appropriate areas within North Linden, and enhance Cleveland Avenue as the commercial spine of the community. The program should include incentives for businesses to relocate. As properties become available either the city or a community development corporation should acquire them. These sites can be improved to begin the implementation of the parkway design.

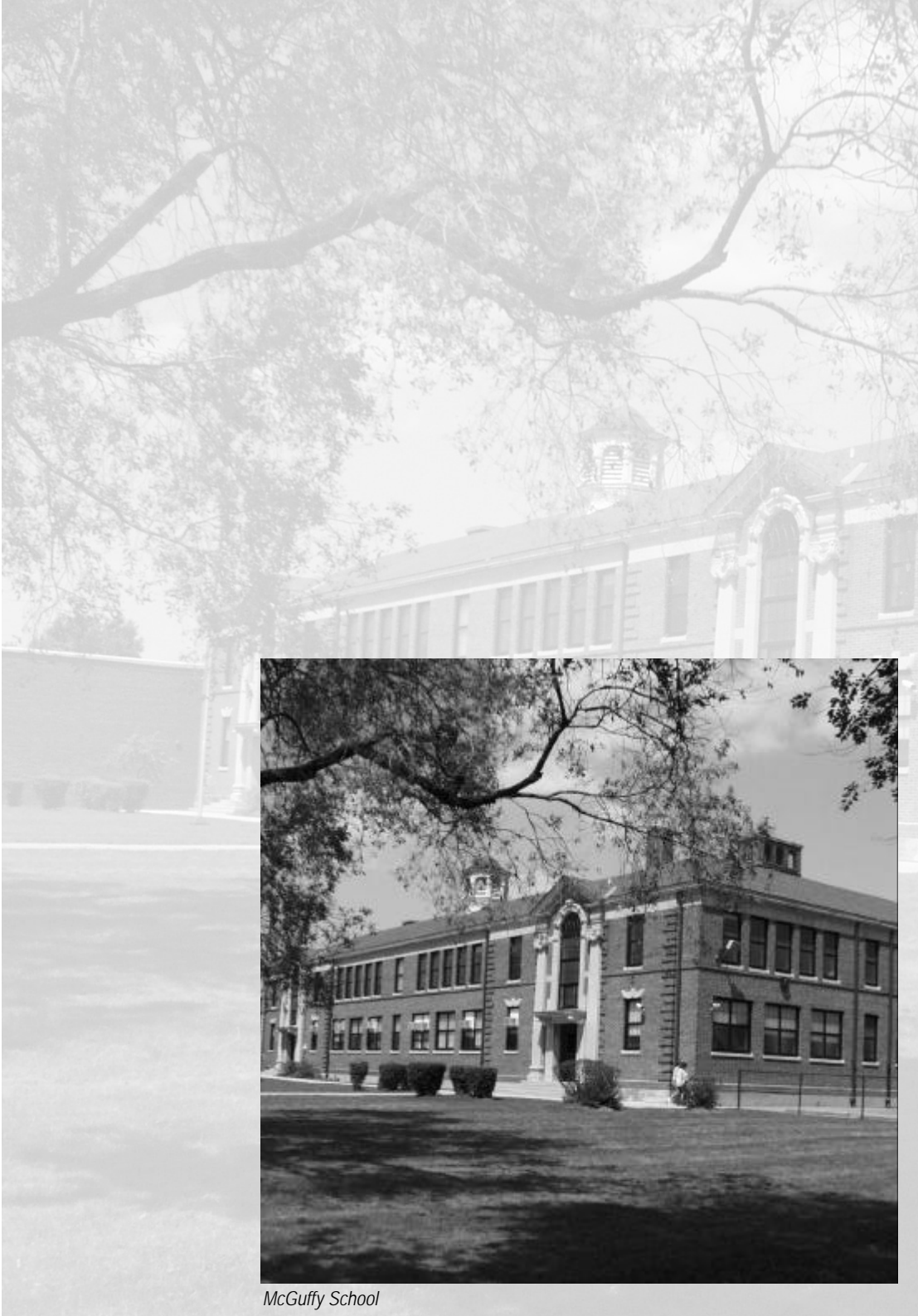


*Linear Park Concept*



*Linear Park Concept with limited development at nodes.*

SCHOOLS



*McGuffey School*



## SCHOOLS

North Linden is home to eleven Columbus public schools. These schools have been a part of the North Linden community for many years. The Columbus Public Schools are currently recommending several facility improvements. Several North Linden schools are included in the facility improvement plan.

As schools within North Linden are renovated or rebuilt, improvements to the sites and surrounding areas should be incorporated into the project. This is an opportunity for the city of Columbus and the Columbus Public Schools to work jointly on improving the community, including opportunities for mixed uses at school locations.



*Oakland Park Elementary School*

## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue: Some existing school sites are in need of improvements, such as site enhancements and increased pedestrian access.**

### Action Steps:

- ❖ Include broad site improvements to any school renovation or reconstruction project. These improvements should enhance pedestrian access, improve safety, and facilitate increased community use of school facilities. The following specific improvements are recommended:
  - ◀ Como Elementary
    - Sidewalks are needed around the school to provide improved pedestrian access.
  - ◀ North Linden Elementary
    - Sidewalks are needed along Cooke Road.
  - ◀ Linden Park Alternative Elementary
    - Sidewalks are needed on the north-south streets in the area of the school.
    - Speeding cars are a major problem in the area near the school. Traffic calming measures are needed.
    - If school is reconstructed within Linden Park, the park needs to be improved to meet the of both the school and the community.
  - ◀ Huy Elementary/AG Bell Elementary
    - Huy Road corridor needs more green space. Include landscaping in the new construction plan.
  - ◀ Oakland Park Elementary
    - Sidewalks are needed along Atwood Terrace.
    - Retain existing open space.
    - If the school is rebuilt, it should be set back farther from Atwood Terrace to provide additional green space along the roadway.
  - ◀ Columbus Alternative High School
    - Driveways into the school need to be improved. They are currently too narrow for the buses.
    - Improve traffic control because most students drive to school.
    - Reinitiate the activity bus service for after-school activities.
  - ◀ McGuffey Elementary
    - Enhance pedestrian access by improving Hamilton and Genessee avenues. There are safety concerns for children who would have to walk to the new school in Linden Park.

## COMMUNITY IDENTITY



*Example of a community gateway.*

## COMMUNITY IDENTITY

When compared to other neighborhoods in Columbus, North Linden does not have an established and well-known identity or image. This impacts how competitive North Linden can be in attracting new residents, businesses, and visitors.

Programs and activities such as building physical gateways into the community, reestablishing a neighborhood newspaper, working with existing business organizations, and forming a chamber of commerce to jointly market businesses within North Linden, can help establish an identity for North Linden.

## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue: North Linden is not well known and has difficulties attracting new residents, businesses and visitors.**

### Action Steps:

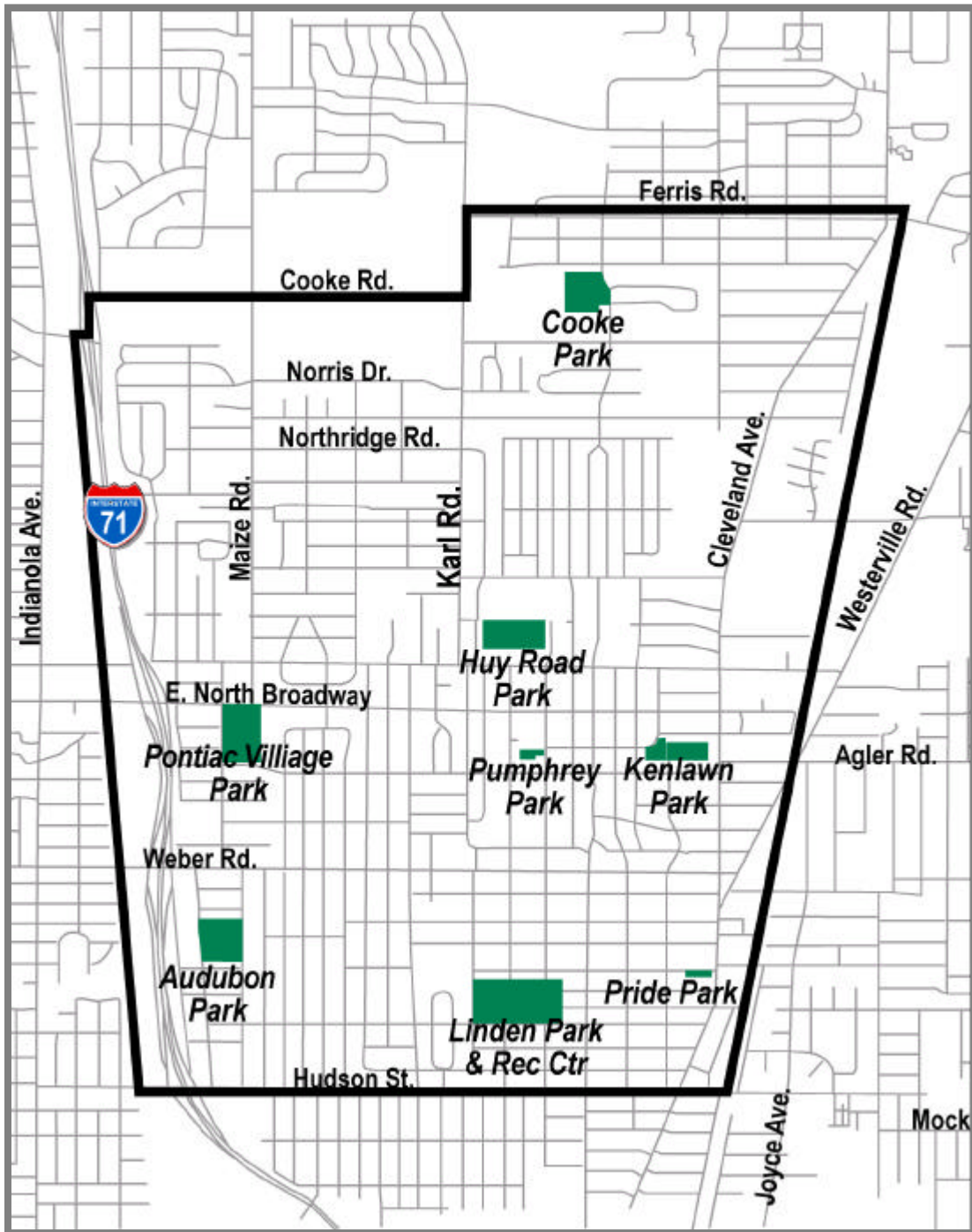
- ❖ Create physical gateways into North Linden. These gateways could be placed along Hudson Street, Weber Road, North Broadway and Cooke Road near Interstate 71, at Cleveland Avenue and Hudson Street, and at Cleveland Avenue and Ferris Road. Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund monies should be requested for the gateways. This program could be accomplished in conjunction with the South Linden neighborhood.
- ❖ Petition residents and business owners to measure the support for a local newspaper that would serve all of North Linden. This could also involve working with the Greater Linden Development Corporation on expanding the distribution area of their existing community newsletter.
- ❖ Work with existing business groups and/or form a local chamber of commerce to help promote the area to new businesses and customers. Investigate forming new groups to target specific areas and issues. Activities could include joint advertising, promotions, business development and recruitment. Refer to Appendix, page 66, for economic development resources.
- ❖ Organize neighborhood tours with area Realtors to better acquaint them with the neighborhood.
- ❖ Consider modifying the name of the neighborhood to help increase its unique identity. The North Linden Area Commission should take the lead on this effort.

## PARKS AND RECREATION



Linden Park

# PARK MAP



## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

The Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks currently operates eight parks and one recreation center within North Linden. These parks range in size from under a half an acre to 20 acres.

The parks provide both passive and active recreational opportunities. The parks are situated within the residential areas of North Linden, with the majority located in the southern half of the neighborhood. There are no immediate plans for new parks or major improvements to existing parks in North Linden. The Linden Recreation Center has recently been renovated.

Residents raise concerns regarding the maintenance of the parks and the level of safety within the parks. To help address the maintenance and safety concerns, appropriate city staff should meet with neighborhood groups on a regular basis to discuss issues pertaining to the park facilities.

## **ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS**

### **Issue 1: Level of maintenance of park facilities and equipment is not always adequate.**

#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Residents should contact Department of Recreation and Parks with maintenance concerns and issues. If possible, document problems with pictures.
- ❖ Department of Recreation and Parks staff should meet with neighborhood groups, such as the North Linden Area Commission, on a regular basis to field questions and concerns.
- ❖ Initiate neighborhood volunteer "clean-up" and "adopt-a-park" programs. Utilize the Keep Columbus Beautiful program and enlist support from community organizations, such as the Boy and Girl Scouts.

## **Issue 2: Community perception that the level of personal safety in and around park facilities is not always adequate.**

### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Increase the visibility of police officers in and around park areas by increasing the number of officers assigned to duties such as the bike patrol.
- ❖ Install, upgrade, and maintain adequate park lighting.
- ❖ Form blockwatch groups to assist police officers with crime prevention in and around park areas.

## **Issue 3: Improvements and additional amenities are needed within some parks.**

### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Work with the Department of Recreation and Parks to prioritize improvements to park facilities. Apply for funding opportunities, such as the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF). Improvements include shelter houses and lighting. One specific improvement is to add a fence where Pontiac Park abuts North Broadway. Residents are concerned with the safety of park users and the proximity of the roadway.
- ❖ Develop links, through on-street bikeways and a signage program, to the Olentangy River Bikeway.
- ❖ Encourage and support a trail system being developed within the abandoned railroad right-of-way adjacent to Westerville Road. This will help link North Linden residents to additional recreational opportunities.
- ❖ The Department of Recreation and Parks and Columbus Public Schools should work cooperatively to provide recreational opportunities within North Linden. School facilities can be used for community recreation during after-school hours and during school breaks.



*Kenlawn Park*



**ROADWAYS AND SIDEWALKS**



## **ROADWAYS AND SIDEWALKS**

North Linden's major arterials include Cleveland Avenue, Karl Road, Hudson Street, and Oakland Park Avenue. These roadways are classified as type 4-2 arterials: streets that have a minimum of 100 feet of right-of-way and four moving lanes of traffic.

Collector roadways include Weber, Maize, Cooke, and Ferris roads. These roadways are classified as type C arterials: streets that have a minimum of 60 feet of right-of-way and two moving lanes and two parking lanes or additional moving lanes in two directions.

In addition to the arterial and collector roadways, North Linden contains many residential streets. Some residential streets are unimproved and were developed by the county prior to being annexed into the city. Some areas also contain alleys to supplement the roadway system.

The existing roadway system is adequate to handle the current traffic volumes. Excessive automobile speed, especially in residential areas, is an important issue within North Linden. This issue will be studied during the Linden Area Traffic Management Plan. The Transportation Division will administer this Plan in 2003.

Additionally, several streets are in need of repaving, curb repair and sidewalk installation. These types of improvements are typically funded through the Capital Improvements Program (CIP), the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF), and the Sidewalk Installation Program. Refer to Appendix, pages 71-75, for projects planned for North Linden.

## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue 1: Several streets, including major arterials, are in need of improvement, such as pavement and curb repairs.**

### Action Steps:

- ❖ Repave roadways and repair/install curbing on heavily used corridors, such as Cleveland Avenue, specifically from Oakland Park to Weber Road, Oakland Park Avenue, and Weber Road.
- ❖ Improve substandard residential streets. The improvements needed include paving, sidewalks, and curb and gutter.
- ❖ Investigate the possibility of reconfiguring the Cleveland Avenue and Weber Road intersection to accommodate a wider turning radius and the addition of turning lanes.
- ❖ Address broader issues when scheduling a roadway to be repaired/repaved. Issues concerning pedestrian and bicycle amenities, landscaping, and on-street parking should be considered in any roadway improvement project.
- ❖ Conduct stronger enforcement of parking regulations. It is common for trucks and cars to park on the curb. This destroys the curb in a short amount of time.
- ❖ Apply for monies through programs such as the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) for roadway improvements, such as repaving and new curbs.



*Sidewalk and curb being installed.*

## Issue 2: Many streets lack sidewalks or have sidewalks in disrepair.

### Action Steps:

- ❖ Install sidewalks in high priority areas. These areas lead to schools, parks, bus stops, churches and neighborhood stores and offices. Areas identified as needing sidewalk installation include:
  - ◀ North-south streets, particularly south of Weber Road
  - ◀ Weber Road
  - ◀ Hudson Street
  - ◀ Oakland Park Avenue from Cleveland Avenue to St. James Church and west of McGuffey Road to Interstate 71
  - ◀ Atwood Terrace
  - ◀ Cooke Road
  - ◀ Reis Road
  - ◀ Hamilton Avenue

The location of existing street trees must be considered with new sidewalk installation. If street trees are not currently installed, they should be planted with the installation of new sidewalks.

- ❖ Property owners must adequately maintain the sidewalk adjacent to their property. Informational brochures on sidewalk maintenance responsibilities should be distributed to property owners.
- ❖ Install sidewalks in conjunction with all roadway improvement projects and with all new development or redevelopment.



*Example of sidewalk and curb in disrepair on Hudson Street.*

### **Issue 3: Vehicle speeds are excessive and dangerous throughout the neighborhood.**

#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Place speed monitoring devices throughout North Linden. Target areas should be within the residential areas and around schools and parks. The following specific areas are among those that have experienced problems with speeding:
  - ◀ Area between Oakland Park and Weber Road
  - ◀ Area south of Weber Road between McGuffey Road and Cleveland Avenue
  - ◀ Beulah Road and Carolyn Avenue
  - ◀ Near Linden Park Elementary School
  - ◀ Bremen Street
  - ◀ Melrose Avenue
  - ◀ Weber Road
  - ◀ North Broadway, from Interstate 71 to Hiawatha Avenue
  - ◀ Reis Avenue near Como Elementary School
  - ◀ Oakland Park Avenue
  - ◀ Cleveland Avenue
- ❖ Identify measures to reduce excessive vehicle speeds. This will occur as part of the Linden Area Traffic Management Plan administered by the Transportation Division.
- ❖ Increase police presence and enforcement of the speed limit.

### **Issue 4: Hudson Street needs streetscape and pedestrian improvements.**

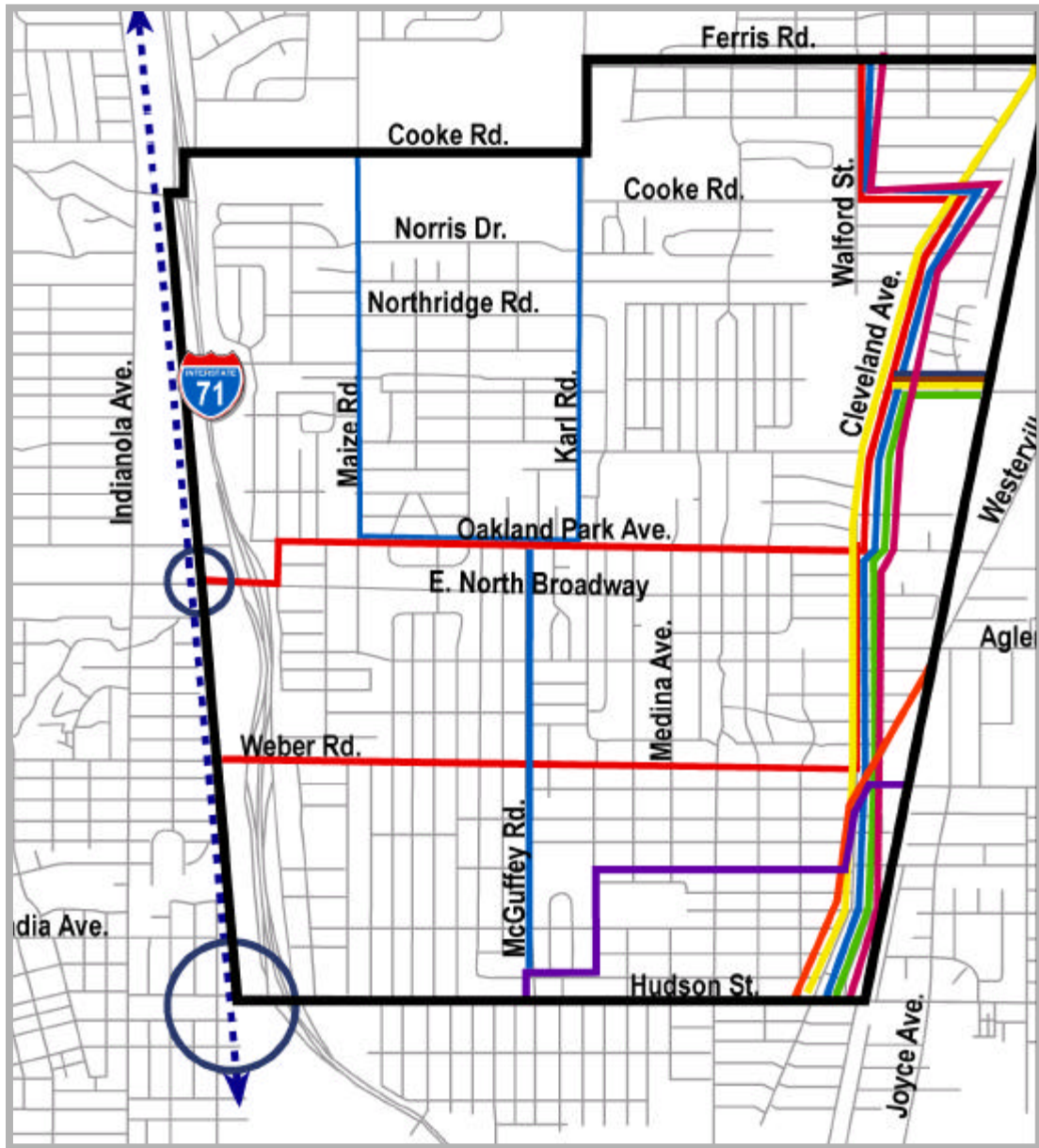
#### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Establish Hudson Street as a parkway and gateway into North and South Linden. See "Hudson Street - Redefining a Roadway" on page 35 for full discussion.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**



# PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION MAP



- |                                                                                     |                                             |                                                                                      |                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | East Westerville Express                    |  | New Albany Express            |
|  | Tamarack Express                            |  | Hamilton Ave. Local           |
|  | Hudson Street Crosstown                     |  | Leonard/Brentnell Aves. Local |
|  | Agler Rd./ Cassady Ave. Crosstown           |  | Potential Light Rail Line     |
|  | Oakland Ave./Weber Rd. Crosstown            |  | Potential Light Rail Stops    |
|  | Livingston Ave. Local & Westerville Express |                                                                                      |                               |

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) provides extensive bus service to North Linden. Bus lines run on the major arterials, including Cleveland Avenue, Hudson Street, Weber Road, Oakland Park Avenue, Maize Road, and Karl Road. There are three crosstown lines, four express lines and three local lines that serve North Linden. Additionally, in September 2002 COTA combined the Hudson Street Crosstown (80) and the Ohio Avenue Crosstown (81) into one line. This new line reduces the need for transfers and increases the convenience of the service for the southern portion of North Linden.

COTA's long-term plans for transit service include the development of a light-rail system in Central Ohio. One potential route would utilize the existing rail line that is just to the west of Interstate 71. This line would run from Downtown to the Polaris area. North Linden is perfectly situated to benefit from this rail line. Potential transit stops could occur at Hudson Street and North Broadway. COTA will ultimately determine the route and the location of the transit stops. However, the North Linden Neighborhood Plan offers recommendations on transit stop locations. Communication will increase between North Linden and COTA as COTA begins the preliminary engineering phase of the light rail project.

It is important to note that improvements to the existing bus service and bus facilities and the development of a light rail program in Columbus are all contingent on additional local funding support through an increase in sales tax.



*Bus stop on Weber Road.*



## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue 1: Transit service is not adequate to meet the needs of all residents and business owners. Additional transit opportunities are needed.**

### Action Steps:

- ❖ Increase local bus service, and provide neighborhood circulators for North Linden. These improvements can be coordinated to also benefit surrounding neighborhoods, such as Northland and South Linden. Additionally, COTA will enhance crosstown service as a part of the light rail program. Timed-transfers between bus service and light rail service will be possible.
- ❖ Increase the frequency of the Oakland Park-Weber Road Crosstown bus service.
- ❖ Work with COTA regarding future light rail plans. Potential light rail transit stops include:
  - ◀ **Hudson Street.** The area adjacent to the rail line and Interstate 71 should be developed with uses that complement a transit stop, such as a daycare center, bank, dry cleaners, office space, and restaurants. More intense uses should be concentrated on the western side of Interstate 71 and transition to neighborhood-oriented uses on the eastern side of the freeway. This stop will also well serve the adjacent Crew Stadium.
  - ◀ **North Broadway/Oakland Park Avenue.** A transit stop at this location will serve the surrounding residential uses. Some retail or office uses could be developed but should be limited in intensity given the close proximity of the residential uses.

## **Issue 2: Maintenance of existing bus shelters is not adequate.**

### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Report issues directly to COTA. Document problems with pictures.
- ❖ Conduct neighborhood clean-up efforts. Encourage the participation of local businesses, churches and schools.

## **Issue 3: Additional bus pads and shelters are needed along major arterials.**

### **Action Steps:**

- ❖ Install bus pads and shelters in conjunction with street reconstruction projects. The city should inform COTA of all street reconstruction projects so that money can be allocated to improve the existing stops or add new stops.
- ❖ Work with COTA to apply for grant money to fund shelters at existing, heavily used bus stops.



*Northern Lights COTA stop.*

**STORMWATER DRAINAGE**



## STORMWATER DRAINAGE

The Stormwater Management Section, Division of Sewerage and Drainage in the Department of Public Utilities is responsible for the management of stormwater. Stormwater management problems are not widespread in North Linden. There have been concerns regarding new development in the Cooke Road area and the impacts on stormwater. Additionally, the Maize Road area has experienced problems in the past. However, the most severe problems lie outside North Linden. Other problem areas include Oakland Park Avenue, and Weber Road, specifically at McGuffey Road.

There are, however, several improvement projects planned for North Linden. Refer to Appendix, pages 71 and 72, for a list of the planned projects.

In general, issues and concerns regarding stormwater are handled on a complaint-driven basis. The Division of Sewerage and Drainage operates a 24-hour, seven day-per-week phone line to address maintenance related complaints such as flooding caused by blockages. Complaints other than blockages that can also be addressed by maintenance are referred to the Stormwater Management Section for investigation. The Division of Sewerage and Drainage also maintains a second phone-in line and a website including e-mail capability to register requests for service.

## ISSUES AND ACTION STEPS

**Issue: Some areas of North Linden experience stormwater drainage problems after heavy rains. The reported problems are almost all related to street drainage and include aging infrastructure, inadequate facilities, existing street profile, and/or system design.**

### Action Steps:

- ❖ Submit problems to the Public Utilities Department by calling the Division of Sewerage and Drainage 24-hour service line (645-7102 or 645-7873). A stormwater questionnaire can be requested to report the details of the problem. It is helpful to document the problem with photographs and return them with the questionnaire.
- ❖ Apply for Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) monies for design and construction of street improvements including curbs and gutters.
- ❖ Work with the Departments of Public Service and Public Utilities to prioritize improvements for roadway drainage.

# APPENDIX



## IMPLEMENTATION - FIRST STEPS

The following action steps are offered as guidelines for organizations involved in the implementation of the North Linden Neighborhood Plan. These action steps take into account the significance of multiple participants and the importance of collaboration toward the achievement of common goals.

The items listed below are intended to be a starting point for the Plan's implementation. This list must be reviewed and revised as time passes and conditions change.

### ***ACTION:* Increase interaction between police officers assigned to North Linden and the residents, businesspersons, and others with a stake in the community.**

- ❖ Schedule police officers to attend North Linden Area Commission meetings.
- ❖ Form blockwatch groups with the assistance of the Police Division.
- ❖ Provide information on 911 to residents.
- ❖ Encourage residents to participate in the Citizen's Police Academy.
- ❖ Assign police officers to duties such as bike and walk patrols so that they are more visible in and accessible to the community.
- ❖ Work to form improved lines of communication and cooperation between Columbus and Clinton Township in terms of responding to criminal activities and crime prevention.

### **Key Participants:**

- ❖ City of Columbus, Division of Police
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ Greater Linden Development Corporation
- ❖ Clinton Township Police Department
- ❖ North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association

***ACTION:* Initiate traffic calming measures within North Linden.**

- ❖ Collect and analyze traffic speeds and counts within North Linden. Target areas should be within residential areas and around schools and parks.
- ❖ Install traffic calming measures in warranted areas.

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ City of Columbus, Transportation Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Division of Police
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission

***ACTION:* Continue to target code enforcement activities within North Linden. This should include utilization of the Neighborhood Pride program.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ City of Columbus, Neighborhood Services Division
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission

***ACTION:* Supplement the existing rezoning and variance notification procedure by (1) posting signs, with case number and contact information, on site, and (2) placing case information on the city's website.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ City of Columbus, Building Services Division

***ACTION:* Create an inventory of vacant structures and land. Work with the Office of Land Management to identify tax-delinquent properties and request foreclosure.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ City of Columbus, Office of Land Management

***ACTION:* Form a public-private partnership to address and promote economic development along Cleveland Avenue and at the Shoe Corporation of America site on Innis Road.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ City of Columbus, Economic Development Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Planning Division
- ❖ Clinton Township Trustees
- ❖ Franklin County, Development Department
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission and adjacent area commissions and community organizations
- ❖ North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association
- ❖ Greater Linden Development Corporation
- ❖ Columbus Chamber of Commerce

***ACTION:* Initiate further study, refinement, and public review of the Hudson Street redesign concept.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ City of Columbus, Transportation Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Planning Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Department of Recreation and Parks
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ South Linden Area Commission
- ❖ Linden Development Corporation
- ❖ North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association



***ACTION:* Initiate neighborhood "clean-up"/beautification programs.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ Greater Linden Development Corporation
- ❖ North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association
- ❖ City of Columbus, Keep Columbus Beautiful Program
- ❖ City of Columbus, Forestry Office
- ❖ City of Columbus, Neighborhood Services Division

***ACTION:* As schools are rebuilt or renovated, improve neighborhood school sites with (1) increased pedestrian access, (2) site improvements, and (3) joint school-community use.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ Columbus Public Schools
- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ City of Columbus, Office of Education
- ❖ City of Columbus, Planning Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Economic Development Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Recreation and Parks Department
- ❖ City of Columbus, Transportation Division

***ACTION:* Create physical gateways into North Linden.**

- ❖ Apply for Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund or other available monies for gateway projects.

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ City of Columbus, Economic Development Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Planning Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Department of Recreation and Parks

***ACTION:* Set priorities for sidewalk installation and apply for appropriate funding.**

**KEY PARTICIPANTS:**

- ❖ North Linden Area Commission
- ❖ City of Columbus, Transportation Division
- ❖ City of Columbus, Planning Division

## NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE PROGRAM

Neighborhood Pride is a team program of city departments, neighborhood groups and individual citizens, businesses and other partners to make our neighborhoods safer and cleaner. It is key to a more vibrant and exciting future for Columbus. For one week, there is an intense delivery of city services (including the cleaning of alleys, mowing high grass in the public right-of-way and neighborhood recreational area, replacing burned out street lights, offering block watch and fire prevention outreach, and evaluating exterior housing for code compliance).

Prior to each "Pride Week", city employees reach out to neighborhood groups in the Pride district to help craft the specifics of each Neighborhood Pride effort. City staff members make presentations to area commission, civic association, business associations and other groups to introduce Pride to the neighborhood. More importantly, City outreach staff field residents' questions and ask citizens to identify their concerns in the area so Pride can efficiently and effectively address those priorities. Before each "Pride Week", neighborhood leaders and key city staff board a city vehicle and drive every street and alley of a Pride district. During this "Pride Tour", neighborhood leaders are asked to point out specific concerns that will be addressed during "Pride Week". This is a key to Pride's success. Each neighborhood is unique and has vital attributes contributing toward making Columbus a great city. Residents' active participation in this process - and other aspects of Neighborhood Pride - is essential for Pride to be a success.

Citizen participation in Pride is necessary before, during and after "Pride Week". Neighborhood Pride is the beginning of a long-term process for changing the way the city does business with its customers to the benefit of residents. Citizens' concerns change with time, as neighborhoods are living, evolving communities. A strong, ongoing partnership between a neighborhood and the city enhances the effort to deliver services to a neighborhood in a more timely, efficient and responsive manner.

**Contact Information: 645-0837 or 645-8927**

## NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON PROGRAM

Community Liaisons staff are responsible for coordinating the exchange of information among citizenry, neighborhood organizations, and city staff concerning city government programs and services. The liaisons also provide technical assistance, consulting and advocacy services to citizens, neighborhood groups and city government to allow greater neighborhood-based capacity building, problem solving and strategic planning.

### Program Summary

- ❖ Assist in implementing programs designed to develop and maintain close positive relations with and between neighborhood area commissions, business and civic associations, task forces, and the city of Columbus.
- ❖ Interact with city officials, community leaders and members of the general public to provide information and technical assistance to formal and informal neighborhood groups.
- ❖ Provide explanation of ordinances, rules and regulations of the city, state or federal government program and services.
- ❖ Confer with department and other city officials in the planning and development of community education and awareness activities focused on the needs of the city's area commissions, business and civic associations, and other neighborhood groups, as necessary.
- ❖ Assist in the development and implementation of targeted training modules for the city's area commissions, business and civic associations, and other neighborhood groups and leaders.
- ❖ Create and maintain a menu of strategies to maintain a strong and clean line of communication between the city and neighborhoods, including but not limited to the Internet, the Columbus Associates, direct mailings, and the city's area commissions, business and civic associations and other neighborhood groups.
- ❖ Neighborhood Relations Partners: Area Commissions (12 active), civic associations (265+), neighborhood business associations (17), Columbus Compact, City Council, Mayor's Office, other city departments and divisions. (Staff maintains an extensive database of all neighborhood partners.)

**Contact Information for North Linden: 645-7510**

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Business development, expansion and retention programs are available through several organizations. The lists of programs below are examples of programs that are available. If interested, a business will need to contact the appropriate organization to obtain the specific requirements of the program.

### CITY OF COLUMBUS:

#### Contact the Office of Business Assistance (645-8135) for the following programs:

- ❖ **New Business Attraction** - Working closely with the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Department of Development, and other development organizations, the Office of Business Assistance (OBA) strives to attract world-class business operations to the city of Columbus. The office can make referrals on available sites and buildings to meet the needs of industrial, office and commercial uses. The OBA also interfaces with electricity, gas and communication companies to provide rate information and utility capacity for any location under consideration.
- ❖ **Retention and Expansion** - The OBA conducts site visits to local businesses to identify specific opportunities for business retention and/or expansion where City efforts could potentially have a helpful impact. The OBA seeks opportunities for helping to create an environment in which all businesses can grow and thrive.
- ❖ **Tax Incentives** - Tax incentives are used strategically to leverage significant business expansions or relocations. Criteria for offering tax incentives are based on the benefits a project represents for the community and whether tax incentives are necessary to secure the project for Columbus. Criteria include the amount of investment and job creation and/or retention, and whether the project involves a priority sector or targeted geographic area.
- ❖ **Infrastructure Assistance** - The OBA can assist businesses in securing public infrastructure improvements critical to the success of expansion, retention, or relocation projects. Typical infrastructure improvements facilitated for business projects in the past are storm and sanitary sewers, water lines, streetscape enhancements and road improvements.
- ❖ **Urban Brownfields Redevelopment** - The OBA assists businesses that seek to develop urban sites requiring environmental cleanup. The OBA can provide brownfield technical assistance and, through the Columbus Urban Growth Corporation and the Clean Ohio program, assistance can be provided to help businesses with site acquisition and environmental remediation.
- ❖ **International Business Assistance** - The OBA assists in the development of international business opportunities that result in local business growth and job creation. Types of assistance provided include the development of business-to-business linkages with Columbus companies, coordination of business visits to Columbus, referrals for local banks, legal firms, and other business services and packaging of available sites, buildings and incentives.

**Contact the Office of Financial Assistance (645-8172) for the following programs:**

- ❖ **Business Development Fund** - Eligible activities include acquisition of land, building, machinery and equipment. Existing businesses with project sites within the City limits are eligible to apply. The City's participation is limited to \$200,000 with a maximum term of 20 years.
- ❖ **Central City Loan Fund** - Loan funds can be used for acquisition and redevelopment of real property and to purchase machinery and equipment. Project sites where new job creation will take place must be located within the Columbus Empowerment Zone or Core Central City. Existing profitable businesses, developers with a proven successful track record and economically viable non-profit organizations are eligible to apply. This program has a two-tiered interest rate structure that can be provided upon request.
- ❖ **Working Capital Loan Fund** - Eligible uses of loan proceeds include purchase of inventory, defraying increased operating costs incurred in business expansion, and acquisition of small equipment. Existing businesses with project sites within the City limits are eligible to apply. Loans start at \$15,000 with a maximum of \$50,000 for up to five years.
- ❖ **Special Improvement Districts** - A Special Improvement District (SID) is a self-help tool that allows property owners to assess themselves for area-wide services and capital improvements. The Office of Financial Assistance works with groups or organizations desiring to form a SID. All SIDs must be created pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code, Chapter 1710. The average time needed to form a SID is approximately two years.
- ❖ **Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund** - This program funds several million dollars of capital improvements per year in central city neighborhoods. Residents themselves propose projects based on a premise that they know best what their neighborhood needs. Since 1992, \$36 million in public roadway and public park improvements have been constructed such as street repaving, alley resurfacing, street lighting upgrades, street trees, curbs and sidewalks, playground equipment, and neighborhood gateways.
- ❖ **Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization Program** - This program offers technical assistance, loans and matching grants, capital improvements, and planning services in conjunction with the established business association in 15 commercial areas surrounding the downtown. Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) staff provide assistance to individual businesses to secure architectural design services and financial incentives for acquisition and exterior rehabilitation of commercial property through the NCR Investment Fund, the NCR Commercial Improvement Loan Fund, the NCR Façade Renovation Fund, and the NCR Storefront Renovation Grant Fund.

## Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce:

- ❖ **Business Tools** - The Chamber Market Research Department provides services such as the New Resident Kit; mailing labels from the Largest Employers Database and New Resident Kit requests; and publications including maps, education and business directories, the membership directory, surveys, a regional profile and several Columbus guides.

Call 225-6084 for more information.

- ❖ **Columbus Venture Network (CVN)** - A forum where business investors and entrepreneurs can make valuable contacts, exchange information and create mutual business opportunities.

Call 225-6938 for more information.

- ❖ **ITC of Central Ohio** - ITC fosters the growth of technology-based companies and the effective use of technology by companies in Central Ohio by providing a forum where high-tech leaders and entrepreneurs can exchange ideas and information.

Call 225-6907 for more information.

- ❖ **Small Business Council (SBC)** - A volunteer organization that acts as an advocate for small business issues. The SBC also offers special business services, networking events, education programs, and seminars and recognition programs to promote the growth of small businesses in Greater Columbus.

Call 225-6938 for more information.

- ❖ **Small Business Development Center (SBDC)** - SBDC counselors help small businesses through the many hurdles they face such as funding and licensing.

Call 225-6066 for more information.

- ❖ **Women's Network for Entrepreneurial Training (WNET) Mentor Program** - A mentor program designed to increase the numbers of women business owners and their success. WNET aids emerging women-owned businesses by linking them with experienced women entrepreneurs who help guide them through the challenges of an expanding woman-owned business.

Call 225-6910 for more information.

## Ohio Department of Development:

- ❖ **Ohio Enterprise Bond Fund** - Provides funding for land and building acquisition, construction, expansion or renovation, and equipment purchases for commercial or industrial projects between \$1.5 million and \$10 million in size.

Call 466-4551 for more information.

- ❖ **166 Direct Loan** - Provides loans for land and building acquisition, expansion or renovation, and equipment purchase.

Call 466-4551 for more information.

- ❖ **Capital Access Program** - Encourages lending by establishing a unique land "guarantee" reserve pool at the lending institution. The State, the lender, and the borrower each make a small contribution into the pool. The reserve pool is available to the lender for recovery of any losses they may have for any loan that is enrolled in the Capital Access Program.

Call 644-7708 for more information.

- ❖ **Minority Direct Loan** - Provides loans for the purchase or improvement of fixed assets for state-certified, minority-owned businesses.

Call 644-7708 for more information.

- ❖ **Ohio Mini-Loan Guarantee Program** - Provides loan guarantees for fixed assets for small business, including start-up or existing business expansion, for projects of \$100,000 or less.

Call 644-7708 for more information.

- ❖ **Urban Redevelopment Loan** - Removes development barriers from urban core property so that private sector job opportunities can be created.

Call 466-4551 for more information.

- ❖ **Ohio Job Creation Tax Credit** - Provides corporate franchise or state income tax credit for businesses that expand or locate in Ohio.

Call 466-2317 for more information.



## **Greater Linden Development Corporation:**

The Greater Linden Development Corporation (GLDC) is a non-profit organization that serves the area bounded by Weber Road on the north, Conrail tracks adjacent to Interstate 71 on the west, Conrail tracks adjacent to Bonham Avenue on the south, and Woodland Avenue on the east.

The mission of the Greater Linden Development Corporation is to improve the quality of life in the community and serve as the area's primary coordination, long-term planning and economic development entity. To fulfill this mission, the GLDC spearheads activities designed to attract, retain and expand jobs, thereby enhancing the economic vitality of the community.

The GLDC's primary functions are centered on the following:

- ❖ Business and Community Development
- ❖ Crime Prevention
- ❖ Economic Development
- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Marketing
- ❖ Planning and Coordination

The GLDC also maintains a community directory of businesses, churches, and schools.

**For more information call 263-2492.**

## **The North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association**

The North Linden-Northeast Columbus Business Association is a non-profit community organization dedicated to helping empower the citizens of the North Linden and Northeast areas of Columbus to improve the quality of their urban, financial, and social lives. The organization strives to create self-sustaining, long-term economic development in the areas of poverty, unemployment, and general distress, and to demonstrate how distressed communities can achieve self sufficiency through innovative and comprehensive plans and approaches, developed and implemented by alliances among private, public and non-profit entities. For example, the organization has worked to preserve the vitality of established retail areas that are experiencing signs of stress. It also co-founded the Linden Resource Center and aided the Greater Linden Development Corporation for many years.

**For more information call 882-0800.**

## **Columbus Metropolitan Area Community Action Organization:**

The Columbus Metropolitan Area Community Action Organization (CMACAO) provides assistance with employment and job training in Columbus. Some of their services include job placement assistance, job coaching, job training, and computer training classes.

**CMACAO's employment and training staff can be contacted at 324-5100.**

## **North Community Opportunity Center:**

The North Community Opportunity Center is run by the Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services. The Center offers an array of employment services for people who meet eligibility requirements. Specifically, employment and education training is offered to help clients find employment.

**Contact number for the Center is 719-8600.**

## **United Way Neighborhood Partnership Center:**

The United Way Neighborhood Partnership Center is a nonprofit organization that is active in Columbus neighborhoods. The Partnership Center offers training, technical assistance, grants programs, and resource development. Workshops are offered for community leaders who want to become proficient in grant writing and non-profit development. The Partnership Center also offers workshops for community members that are interested in starting a business and need help developing a plan.

**Contact number for the Partnership Center is 224-5835.**

## **EnterpriseWorks:**

EnterpriseWorks is a non-profit organization that works with individuals wanting to start their own small business. The program offers intensive instruction in basic business planning, finance, marketing, and management. The three core programs offered are: Exploring Small Business, Financial Literacy, and Business Plan Development. EnterpriseWorks also works to identify business opportunities within the city that require as little as \$5,000 capital investment. This list is based on community need and ease of start-up. EnterpriseWorks accepts Workforce Investment Act (WIA) vouchers as payment for the program. EnterpriseWorks is willing to make presentations to interested groups.

**Contact number for the organization is 228-1043.**

## **Central Ohio Procurement Technical Assistance Center:**

The Central Ohio Procurement Technical Assistance Center (COPTAC) assists small businesses in selling products and services to federal, state, and local governments. Small businesses that have been in operation at least one year and have an established commercial client base are to participate in the program. COPTAC offers free training sessions for eligible businesses. The program provides assistance in finding bid opportunities, government registrations, marketing help, and general counseling.

**Contact number for COPTAC is 365-3200.**

## **Central Ohio Minority Business Association:**

The Central Ohio Minority Business Association runs the Minority Columbus Contractors and Business Assistance Program that is funded by the Ohio Department of Development. The program provides business counseling and assistance to small and developing business owned firms. Specific services include:

- ❖ Contract opportunities
- ❖ Business start-up
- ❖ Business expansion
- ❖ Loan packaging
- ❖ Bond packaging
- ❖ Business certification
- ❖ Economic development
- ❖ Financial referrals
- ❖ Education and training

**Contact number for the group is 252-8005.**

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

### Capital Improvements Program 2001-2006

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is intended to provide a general framework for the city's capital investment over a six-year period. The CIP is subject to change, based on various factors including such things as project-specific issues and funding source changes.

Project #	Project Description	Allocation	Final Allocation	Implementing Division
530301	Bridge Rehabilitation (N. Broadway over railroad)	*	*	Transportation Division
530103	Arterial Street Rehabilitation (Weber Rd.)	*	*	Transportation Division
530103	Arterial Street Rehabilitation (Minnesota Ave.)	*	*	Transportation Division
530103	Arterial Street Rehabilitation (Elmore Ave.)	*	*	Transportation Division
650654	Loretta Ave. Sanitary Relief Sewer	\$186,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage
650652	Garden Rd. Relief Sewer	\$351,000	2003	Sewerage and Drainage
650651	Atwood Terrace/Northridge Relief Sewer	\$481,000	2003	Sewerage and Drainage
650650	Atwood Terrace/Lenore Relief Sewer	\$354,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage
650655	Genessee Ave. Sanitary Relief Sewer	\$229,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage
650656	Weldon Ave. Sanitary Relief Sewer	\$161,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage

Project #	Project Description	Allocation	Final Allocation	Implementing Division
650657	Lenore/Huy Sanitary Relief Sewer	\$381,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage
650647	Hiawatha Park/Azelda Relief Sewer	\$1,109,000	2002	Sewerage and Drainage
650648	Atwood Terrace/Akola Relief Sewer	\$791,000	2002	Sewerage and Drainage
650649	Atwood Terrace/Weber Relief Sewer	\$975,000	2003	Sewerage and Drainage
650659	Maize/Morse Manhole Rehabilitation	\$662,000	2002	Sewerage and Drainage
650658	Maize/Morse Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation	\$2,500,000	2003	Sewerage and Drainage
610945	Cleveland Ave./Morse Rd. Drainage Improvement	\$230,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage
610407	Sewer System I/I Remediation NW Alum Creek	\$3,660,00	2006	Sewerage and Drainage
610850	Maize Road Area Storm/Sanitary Sewer Improvement	\$1,000,000**	2008	Sewerage and Drainage
610840	Oaklawn/Piedmont Road Drainage Improvements	\$1,020,000	2004	Sewerage and Drainage
610704	Linden Area Wide Storm System Improvement	\$3,000,000	2005	Sewerage and Drainage

\* This project is one of many proposed for a single project fund category. For information about the budget and timeframe for this specific project, contact the implementing division.

\*\* Represents as estimate for project(s) recommended in CIP 615850 for the North Linden area.

## URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE RECOVERY FUND

The Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) capital improvement fund is utilized to repair infrastructure such as curbs and streets as well as special features, which help enhance the identity and desirability of the city's unique urban neighborhoods. UIRF projects are nominated, reviewed and prioritized by the residents in each neighborhood with technical advice from city staff.

Project Description	Budgeted Amount	Specific Location
Melrose Circle Curbs	\$200,000	Melrose Ave. circle - one block north of Weber Rd. between Dresden & Bremen streets.
Dresden Traffic Circle Landscaping	\$5,000	Dresden Street traffic circles between Weber Rd. and North Broadway
Howey Road Alley Lighting	\$55,000	Boundaries expanded to Weber Rd., Hudson St., Beulah Rd., and McGuffey Rd.
Cleveland Ave. Curbs	\$200,000	Both sides of Cleveland Ave. from Weber Road to Oakland Park Ave.
Atwood Terrace Sidewalks	\$190,000	Atwood Terrace from Dunedin Park to Norris Dr.
Reis Ave. Sidewalks	\$295,000	Reis Ave. from Wainwright Dr. to Oakland Park Ave.

## SIDEWALK INSTALLATION PROGRAM

The Sidewalk Installation Program is utilized to fund sidewalk installation to serve schools, especially elementary schools.

The following projects have been programmed for North Linden:

- ❖ Dresden Street, between Coronet Drive and Radnor Avenue (also includes a 300-foot section on Cooke Road between North Linden Elementary School and Dresden Street and some missing links in the neighborhood south of Cooke Road).
- ❖ Cooke Road, between Karl and the North Linden Elementary School (north side only).

## CENSUS 2000 DATA FOR NORTH LINDEN

<b>Total Population</b>	<b>28,806</b>
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<b>Race</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
One Race White	19,641	68.2%
One Race Black	7,506	26.1%
One Race Native American	101	0.4%
One Race Asian	512	1.8%
One Race Islander	15	0.1%
One Race Other	291	1.0%
Total Two or More Races	740	2.6%
Hispanic	560	1.9%

### **Sex**

Total Males	13,933	48.4%
Total Females	14,873	51.6%

<b>Total Households</b>	<b>11,906</b>
Average Household Size	2.4

<b>Total Housing Units</b>	<b>12,928</b>	
Occupied Housing Units	11,905	92.1%
Owner-Occupied	7,801	60.3%
Renter-Occupied	4,104	31.7%
Vacant Housing Units	1,023	7.9%

<b>Group Quarters Population</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
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<b>Population in Households</b>	<b>28,778</b>	<b>99.9%</b>
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## CENSUS 2000 DATA FOR NORTH LINDEN

Sex by Age	Male	Female	Total	Percent of Total
Under 5	1,047	1,050	2,097	7.3%
5 to 9	1,172	1,041	2,213	7.7%
10 to 14	1,147	1,036	2,184	7.6%
15 to 17	628	565	1,193	4.1%
18 to 19	344	305	649	2.3%
20	167	161	329	1.1%
21	155	150	305	1.1%
22 to 24	498	540	1,038	3.6%
25 to 29	1,079	1,043	2,121	7.4%
30 to 34	1,141	1,107	2,248	7.8%
35 to 39	1,319	1,289	2,609	9.1%
40 to 44	1,254	1,302	2,556	8.9%
45 to 49	1,068	1,121	2,189	7.6%
50 to 54	681	856	1,536	5.3%
55 to 59	479	633	1,112	3.9%
60 and 61	157	239	396	1.4%
62 to 64	255	341	596	2.1%
65 and 66	148	205	354	1.2%
67 to 69	235	321	556	1.9%
70 to 74	392	574	967	3.4%
75 to 79	334	492	825	2.9%
80 to 84	163	284	448	1.6%
85 and Over	70	217	287	1.0%

**Median Age 34.91**

## CENSUS 2000 DATA FOR NORTH LINDEN

	Number	Percent of Total
<b>TOTAL HOUSING UNITS</b>	<b>12,926</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Occupied Housing Units	11,905	92.1%
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### VACANCY STATUS

Vacant Housing Units	1,023	7.9%
Vacant for Rent	477	3.7%
Vacant for Sale	149	1.2%
Rented or Sold, Not Occupied	60	0.5%
Seasonal, Recreational or Occasional Use	14	0.1%
Migrant Use	0	0.0%
Other Vacant	321	2.5%

### TENURE BY RACE OF HOUSEHOLDER

<b>Owner-Occupied</b>	<b>7,801</b>	<b>60.3%</b>
White Only	6,220	48.1%
Black Only	1,331	10.3%
American Indian Only	24	0.2%
Asian Only	90	0.7%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Only	2	0.0%
Other Race Only	34	0.3%
Two or More Races	99	0.8%

<b>Renter-Occupied</b>	<b>4,104</b>	<b>31.7%</b>
White Only	2,365	48.1%
Black Only	1,541	11.9%
American Indian Only	20	0.2%
Asian Only	40	0.3%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Only	0	0.0%
Other Race Only	39	0.3%
Two or More Races	100	0.8%

## CENSUS 2000 DATA FOR NORTH LINDEN

<b>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS</b>	<b>11,906</b>
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Household Type	Number	Percent of Total
<b>One-Person</b>	<b>3,722</b>	<b>31.3%</b>
Male Householder	1,664	14.0%
Female Householder	2,059	17.3%
<b>Two or More Person Households</b>	<b>8,184</b>	<b>68.7%</b>
Family Households	7,287	61.2%
Nonfamily Households	897	7.5%

### HOUSEHOLD SIZE

<b>Average Household Size</b>	<b>2.4</b>	
1-Person Households	3,722	31.3%
2-Person Households	3,753	31.5%
3-Person Households	1,949	16.4%
4-Person Households	1,398	11.7%
5-Person Households	671	5.6%
6-Person Households	257	2.2%
7 or More Person Households	156	1.3%

### RACE OF HOUSEHOLDERS

White Only	8,585	72.1%
Black Only	2,872	24.1%
American Indian Only	44	0.4%
Asian Only	130	1.1%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Only	2	0.0%
Other Race Only	73	0.6%
Two or More Races	199	1.7%
Hispanic	168	1.4%