

Fairland & Briggs Chaney Master Plan Visioning Workshop

7/14/2022 (6pm-8pm)

Notes from Breakout Group A

Deficiencies

- Needs more resources at multifamily
- Keep all the green spaces – and expand them with more trails
- Need more banks and retail spaces
- Heavy traffic congestion in the morning
- More local businesses
- Revitalization of police precinct
- Needs more outdoor seating at restaurants
- Needs another urgent care center
- Needs more shade at bus stops
- Briggs Chaney market needs more shade
- Should have yoga and Zumba classes – more activation
- Needs more places to volunteer
- Roads needs improvement
- Too much street parking on main roads

Pros

- Keep the green
- Keep the sense of safety

Open Discussion

Schools

- Renovate Green Castle Elementary – desperate need for renovation, needs be modernized
- Banneker – needs a selling point, needs to revamp, too small

Public Safety

- County facilitate community policing – what it could look like, neighborhoods wouldn't benefit from more cops
- Food Access
- More farmer's markets – access to community gardens
- Safeway in Briggs Chaney used to have farmer's market - even if it's seasonal

Housing

- Housing that we can afford – need for affordable housing, homes priced well, more multifamily housing, more missing middle, garden style apartments, mid-rise condos – something for people who are younger

Development & Design

- Bigger roads – more space for cars, for bikes, for scooters, more bike lanes, accessible sidewalks
- Murals
- Make space presentable
- No high rises – but mid-rise with nice roof tops – integrate green space

Transportation

- Cars go very fast – cars want to get ahead
- Use speed bumps
- Narrow the lines – add medians
- Greencastle is a speedway – need traffic calming
- Trucks parking on Greencastle

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Notes from Breakout Group B

Activity 1

What words or phrases come up when you think about the future of Fairland and Briggs Chaney Plan Area?

1.	Housing diversity	12.	wayfinding
2.	Food access	13.	More amenities
3.	Recreation areas and parks	14.	No more traffic lights
4.	Artsy opportunities	15.	Narrow roads
5.	Clean lakes	16.	Maintain sidewalks
6.	Minimize traffic	17.	Property maintenance
7.	No nightlife	18.	Sprinklers for kids
8.	Transform the area	19.	Working out
9.	Redo area	20.	Kids have nothing to do
10.	Restaurants	21.	Activation – Zumba and yoga
11.	Feel nice	22.	Multi generation

Activity 2

Mapping Exercise

1.	Development Area should be improved for additional dense development in specific areas that are underutilized. Would also like to see more activation areas.
2.	Signage and Wayfinding Briggs Chaney marketplace – entrance with signage to marketplace. Big or small. Also in general have wayfinding signage for parking, recreation, etc. so folks have adequate signage. Also recommend signage be done using multiple languages)
3.	Safety Safe pedestrian crossings recommended all over Briggs Chaney. For instance, for intersection at pedestrians 29 and Greencastle

4.	<p>Destination Areas</p> <p>Have a destination area to save Briggs Chaney. For instance, include a large recreation areas/destination area in the community for bikers in Briggs Chaney. i.e. Have sections with obstacle courses for bicyclists for visitors with different levels of difficulty. This will help bring more folks with different skill level (easy, medium and hard). Consider placing this in area with mid-high development areas.</p>
5.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Lack of community connection in the neighborhood. Would love to see more activities such as mentoring opportunities for instance to connect during different times of the day. Activities for interaction would be recommended to help community.</p>
6.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Announce merge lane northbound on US 29.</p>
7.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Extending sidewalks between route 29 and old Columbia pike and Greencastle road</p>
8.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>BRT station for Greencastle park and ride</p>
9.	<p>Shops</p> <p>Add convenient store near Greencastle lake community</p>
10.	<p>Recreation</p> <p>Increase furniture in key recreation areas More benches inside Fairland recreational park</p>
11.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Create a gateway for the Briggs Chaney marketplace</p>
12.	<p>Development</p> <p>Add a mixed use building at Briggs Chaney Road and Old Columbia pike</p>
13.	<p>Transportation</p> <p>There is a need for better crosswalks, crosswalk timing and sidewalks marked with crossings</p>
14.	<p>Education Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -elementary, middle and high school – recommend programs specific to lifeskills, finance, and growth, mentorships. -Connect the community with local programs -Suggest school programs for all school ages to work with businesses for instance to help the community with finance
15.	<p>Improve nightlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -along 29. There should be mixed use development (include something like chapalas, Fridays, etc with safe lounge spaces).
16. C	<p>Public Services</p> <p>Suggest programs to keep community clean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -public services for tree maintenance, -recommend more property management -need a way to track how neglected areas need to be maintained
17.	<p>Amenities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -recommend incorporating additional amenities for a sports field for residents

	-have more trails in the master plan area. Do not want to drive to access trail.
18. A	Accessibility -lack of pedestrian connection to existing amenities. Do not want to use the car to access amenities. Suggest more publication of amenities and assets in the community

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Notes from Breakout Group C

Exercise 1: Ice Breaker – Envisioning

Prompt: What could be improved? Draw something you'd like to see in the community.

Responses:

- Let's have a bike lane along the ICC- this was a missed opportunity
- The Flash Bus should stop at every major area- especially at Briggs Chaney & 7th Day Adventist
- It would be great to have more bus stops on Route 29. Right now, the stops are so far away from each other; it would be great if we didn't have to walk a mile between stops
- Outdoor eateries
- Bike lanes along Route 29
- Need a (pedestrian?) overpass on Route 29

Exercise 2: Mapping - Locating

Prompt: indicate on the map areas you would like to see improved

Parks/Trails

- It would be great to have outdoor adult fitness stations in our parks. For example, individual spots along the Paint Trail, or where the courts are. Outdoor fitness stations would be great in Fairland Recreation Park too. During the pandemic, folks were working out outside every day. We need more spaces to do this.
- Senior outdoor fitness stations too.
- The recreational trails in Fairland Park are great.
- Kids love to ride their dirt bikes, however, there is nowhere for them to go, so they ride through the neighborhood, and tear up the roads. Perhaps adding a dirt bike trail in Fairland Recreation Park

Transportation/Connectivity

- It would be nice to have direct park access from the community/neighborhood. While Fairland Park is great, one drawback is once you get to the park, you can't connect to the neighborhood.
- We need to connect roads to neighborhoods.
- We need to build an overpass to connect communities
- There is no safe way to cross Route 29 if walking.
- When building an overpass, we need sidewalks and bike lanes to be included.
- The area needs a road that runs all the way up (north/south) to connect more people in the community; we'd like to see a bike lane also that runs north/south.; a bike lane that connects over to the southern portion of the community to have more direct biking access.

- We need more Flash Bus stops. Suggestions include stops at Fairland Road, Briggs Chaney Road, and south of Green Castle Road (on Colombia Pike/29).
- Add a metro stop for Viva White Oak.

Food Access

- We need more places to eat, such as at Briggs Chaney Marketplace for example
- The shopping center on the east side (to north), is dead.

Safety

- There is a lot of crime south of area where there was a golf course. It's a perpetual issue.
- Briggs Chaney Marketplace is not safe to go to.

Group C Summary/Report Out

- Connectivity is a major theme/area we'd like to see improved; how to get north and south, and east and west, as well as up and down Route 29.
- Lots of great ideas to better utilize parks- we need things for parents to do in parks while kids play in the parks, such as outdoor workout/fitness stations along the trail.
- We need more interesting places to eat- more sit-down restaurants vs. fast casual, such as outdoor cafes, and outdoor gathering spaces too.

Exercise 3: Open Discussion/Wrap-up

Prompt: Let's talk about things we haven't discussed yet/expand on initial thoughts.

Discussion

- *There was discussion around the changing demographics of the area, as well as the future generations that will live here, younger folks, and how we need to think and plan.*
 - Population and ages here have changed. There are more people here now.
 - Is (what we are discussing) what they (younger folks) want to see? We should ask them what they need/want, and what they would like to see. They will be the ones living here.
 - One thing we noticed is that with people coming in, there are fewer cars. Young kids don't want cars.
 - Thinking about future generations- we should put in charging stations in and bike lanes for them.
 - The things we grew up doing, is changing.
- *The group discussed energy efficiency and renewable energy.*
 - What about charging stations? Thinking to the future, there will be more electric cars. What are the rules for charging stations? Can we charge in our homes? (yes).
 - It's easier to install charging stations if you have a single-family home, vs. a townhome. Different HOAs have different rules.
 - Giant has two electric charging stations- perhaps there are other parking lots these can be installed in

- What about the installation of solar panels?
 - We looked into a project in the community and found it cost more money to install them than the return over 20 years.
- There should be an incentive by county to put in solar panels- most homeowners will take the county up on this.
- We should be sure to put solar panels in areas where there are no trees, such as over highways.

- *The group discussed the need for more gathering spaces, indoor and outdoor.*
 - We need grant money for the Briggs Chaney Shopping Center- we need a green area, where people can get together.
 - Everybody wants to be outside- especially after the pandemic.

- *New housing and development was mentioned.*
 - Everything is developed and built out, where will things go?
 - The amount of parking has changed- a while ago it was 2 parking spaces per home, now it's 4 spaces per home. Everything is built up-where to put in housing?

- *The group discussed transportation, connectivity, as well as the schools and the growing population.*
 - School expansion has put stress on traffic and roadways.
 - We need more overpasses/
 - It's scary to cross Route 29, dangerous, not safe for biking.

- *Equity*
 - There are communities here that need some serious assistance.