

Housing as Health: Lessons from the Canton for All People Journey

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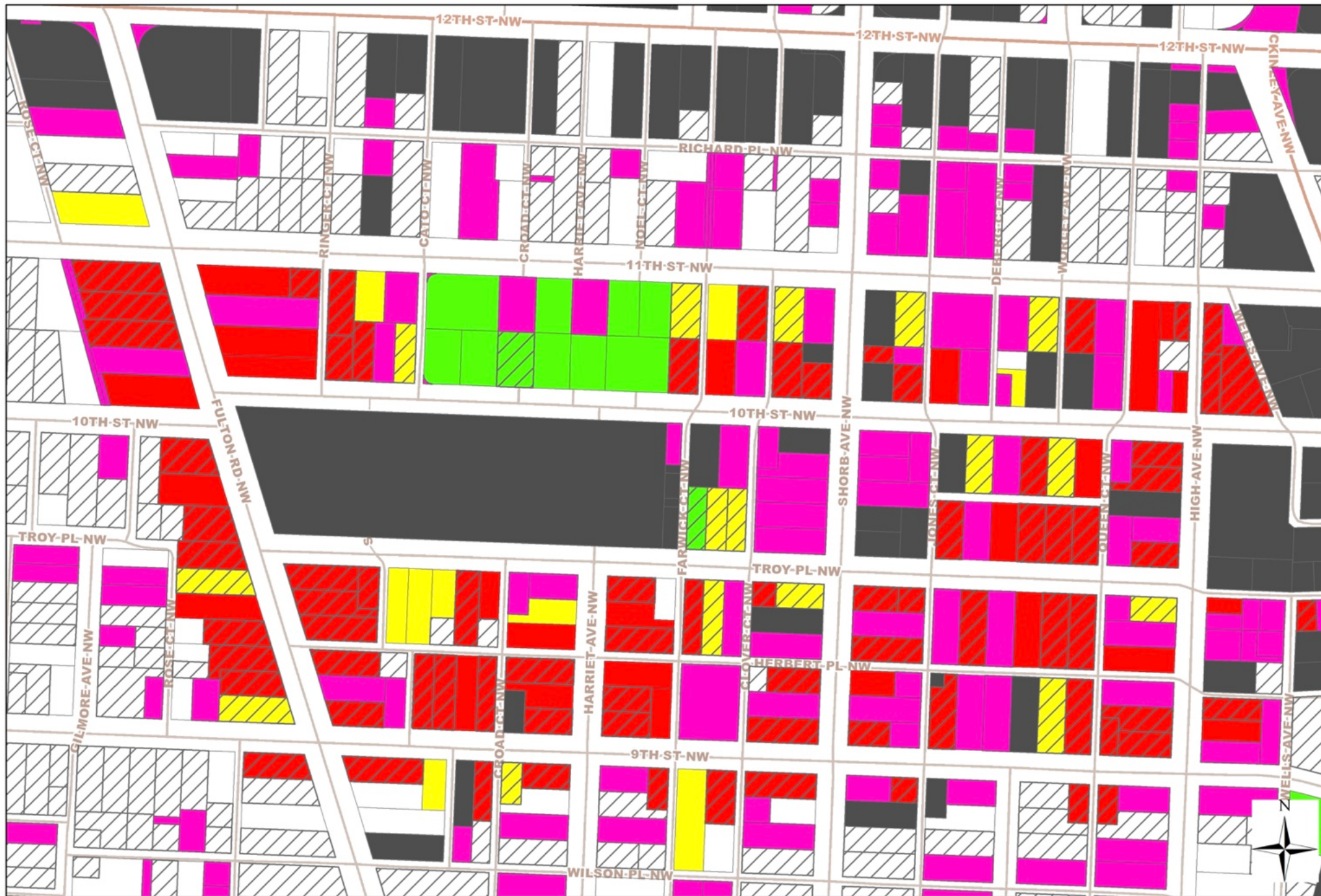
Agenda

- History and Mission
- Systems and Barriers to Housing
- Early Learning
- Results and Impact
- Lessons Learned
- What's Next
- Questions and Discussion!

Overview of Canton for All People

- Our mission is to improve the quality of life for the residents of Canton
- Placed based strategies focus on Canton's legacy neighborhoods surrounding its downtown area. Key areas of focus include:
 - Housing
 - Public Safety
 - Public Health
 - Education
- **“Neighborhood Capital Stack” approach** - housing supports social supports including childcare, commercial redevelopment, grants and supports for local business and support organizations, and neighborhood infrastructure.
- Community Organizing informs our neighborhood strategy and focuses on grassroots leadership development and talent retention.
- Radical focus on simple and achievable improvements and outcomes for the area.





Legend

- Vacant Land
- Non-Residential

Occupancy

OWNER_OCCU

- No
- Yes

Condition Ratings

Rating

- 1
- 2
- 3



Getting The Work Done

- 28 Home Rehabilitations
- 26 New Homes Constructed in house since 2023 (52 in the 2026 pipeline for Build Ohio - 100+ for 2027) - all but one purchase were first time home buyers.
- 52 newly constructed rental units
- 70,000+ services of fresh produce annually.
- 35% reduction in crime in the 44703 zip code since 2021 (formerly one of the highest crime rates in the State of Ohio).
- 5 commercial rehabilitations
- 68 new jobs created in the downtown area due to Build Ohio / CFAP investments.
- 4 new businesses, 2 Neighborhood associations, and 2 new nonprofits started post leadership academy graduation.
- \$34.6 million of neighborhood investment coordinated since 2023.



The Reality

- Prevalence of indifference and apathy
- Constrained funding due to policy changes
- Over 1,000 households on a waitlist
- Thousands more live in sub-standard living conditions
- Environmental remediation is enormous in rust-belt cities
- New investments rarely consider legacy areas and people are the collateral damage of a rapidly changing economy



Lessons Learned

- Start simple and show results
- Be ever present in the neighborhoods and with the people you serve
- Radical focus on simple and achievable improvements and outcomes for the area - plans that everyone understands and that are articulated simply.
- Long-term approach to improvement of environments and neighborhoods beyond election cycles and short term-interests
- More and better people - talent recruitment and retention toward any effort is key.



What's Next

- The Station Development
- Mckinley Park
- Assisting our neighboring areas
- More housing folks can afford
- Improvement of legacy neighborhood environments - new sidewalks
- Food Truck!
- Athens Restaurant reopening!



Get something done!

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