



PUBLIC MEETING RESULTS

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Blacklick-Madison Area Plan

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ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT



Land use planning improves communities by empowering residents to collectively envision their future.

The planning process involves identifying current conditions, creating a vision for the future and developing ways to achieve that vision.

About the Blacklick-Madison Area Plan

The Blacklick-Madison Area Plan focuses on the unincorporated territory within the planning area boundaries outlined below, outside of municipal jurisdictions. The planning process is divided into four phases: information gathering, creating a vision, developing policies and assembling the plan.

This document is a product of the information-gathering phase.

Planning Area Boundaries

The planning area is located in southeastern Franklin County approximately five miles from downtown Columbus. The planning area includes all of Madison Township, except the areas south of Rohr Road and west of Pontius Road, plus the portion of Truro Township south of Refugee Road.

The unincorporated area is approximately 20 square miles or 12,839 acres.

Public Meeting Results

This document contains the results from a public meeting held on September 27, 2010 to gather input from a wide range of people: residents, business owners, land owners and anyone else with an interest in the community.

Those unable to attend could complete an online survey. The survey questions mirrored those on the public meeting feedback form.

Next steps

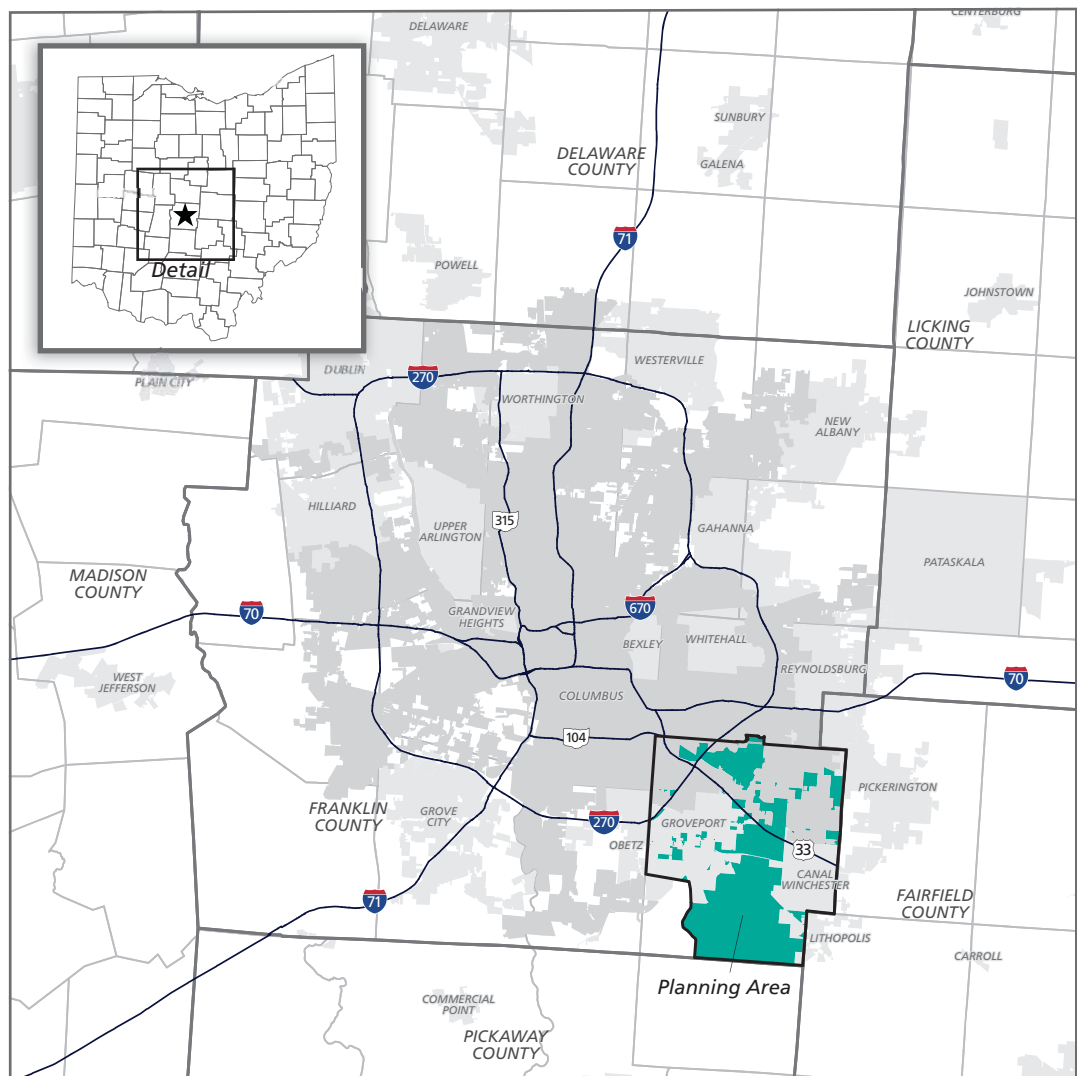
Using the results from the public meeting and online survey, the project team and working committee begin to shape a Community Vision. The vision is composed of statements and maps that describe the community's future.

The proposed vision will be presented for review at the next public meeting in January 2011.

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PLANNING AREA



The Blacklick-Madison Planning Area is shown in green.



PUBLIC MEETING RESULTS



Public meetings allow community members to provide input on their community's future. For the purposes of the Blacklick-Madison Area Plan, the future includes how land is used, how buildings look and how people get around.

First public meeting

The first of four Blacklick-Madison Area Plan public meetings was held on September 27, 2010 at Asbury United Methodist Church South, 4760 Winchester Pike.

Over 70 residents, property owners, business representatives and other interested individuals attended the meeting.

Gathering input

After a brief presentation by the project team, meeting attendees were divided into four groups according to geographic area: Blacklick Estates, Edgewater Park/Marwick Estates, Central Madison and South Madison.

The project team conducted the following three exercises to gather detailed feedback from participants.

1. Feedback form: Each attendee filled out a form, composed of two types of questions: questions to answer on a scale from

strongly agree to strongly disagree and open-ended questions asking attendees to indicate their general likes and dislikes about the community.

2. Group discussion: Within the small groups, attendees discussed their likes and dislikes. Participants then grouped their comments according to topic area, to see which likes and dislikes were most common.
3. Favorite places maps: For the final exercise, attendees placed green and red dots on a map to indicate their top three favorite and least favorite places.

Those unable to attend the public meeting could complete an online survey. The survey questions mirrored those on the public meeting feedback form.

Using the results

Results from the meeting and the online survey are used to establish a community vision for the future. After understanding what people like, and what they want changed, we develop policies and actions to achieve that vision.

The proposed vision for the future will be presented at the next public meeting, where we will gather more feedback.

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FAVORITE PLACES

MAPS AND COMMENTS



PLANNING AREA

About the exercise

At our large-scale public meeting in September 2010 we conducted a mapping exercise to gain an understanding of how attendees feel about their community. During the exercise attendees placed colored dots on a map to indicate their favorite and least favorite places in and around their community.

The results

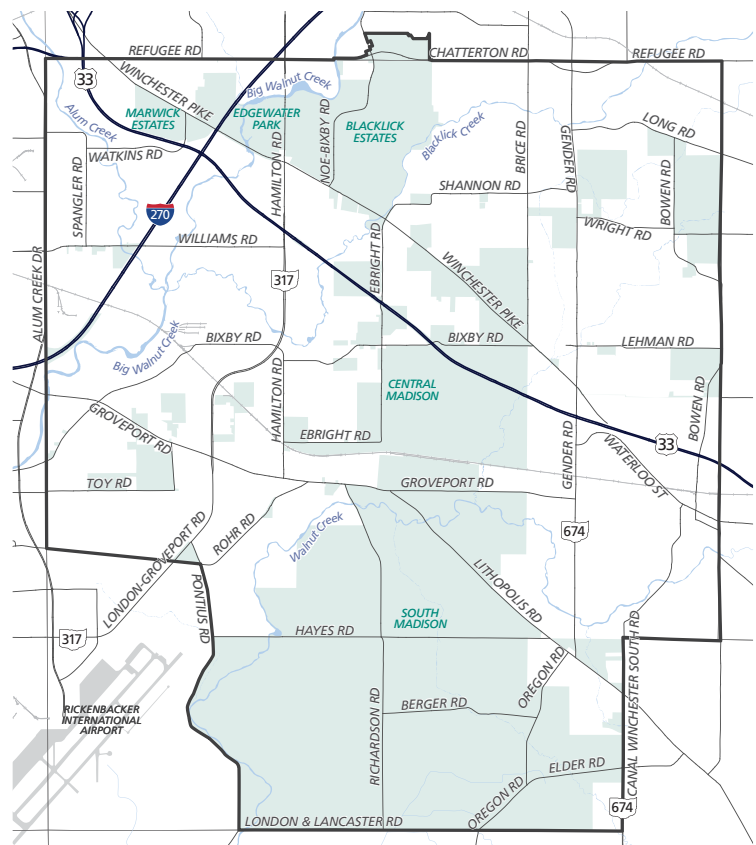
We determined the community's overall favorite and least favorite places by identifying the locations with the most dots. The following pages contain the exercise's results.

Blacklick Estates map, p. 9

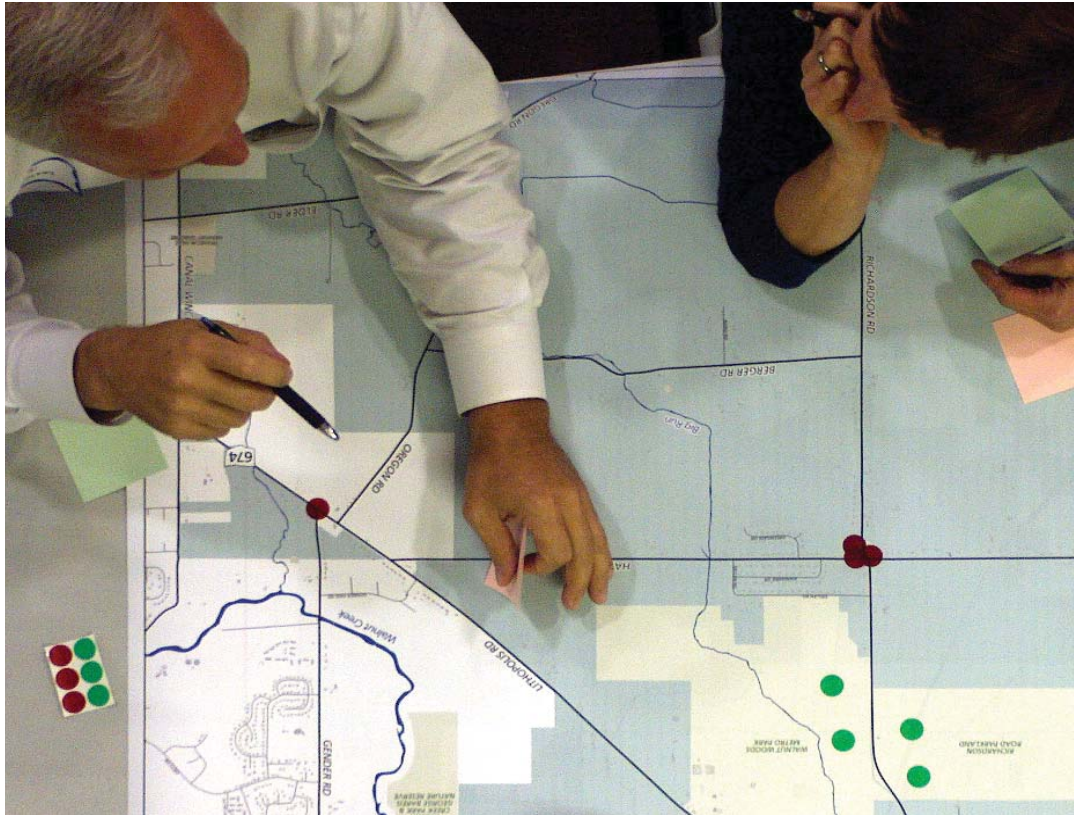
Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates map, p. 10

Central Madison map, p. 11

South Madison map, p. 12



Unincorporated Areas



Favorite Areas

Nafzger Park: Located north of Refugee Road, attendees enjoy the recreational facilities at this Columbus park.

Dairy Queen/State Farm shopping center: Attendees like the shopping center's updated appearance on Noe-Bixby Road.

Positive comments

Land use and development: Nearby businesses meet daily needs.

Housing and community: Quiet neighborhood and friendly people

Transportation: Roads are well maintained.

Least Favorite Areas

Refugee Center shopping center: Attendees dislike the shopping center's appearance and types of businesses.

Former Walnut Knolls apartments: The large, vacant apartment building on Noe-Bixby Road concerns attendees.

Negative comments

Land use and development: Businesses along Chatterton, Hamilton and Noe-Bixby Roads are poorly maintained.

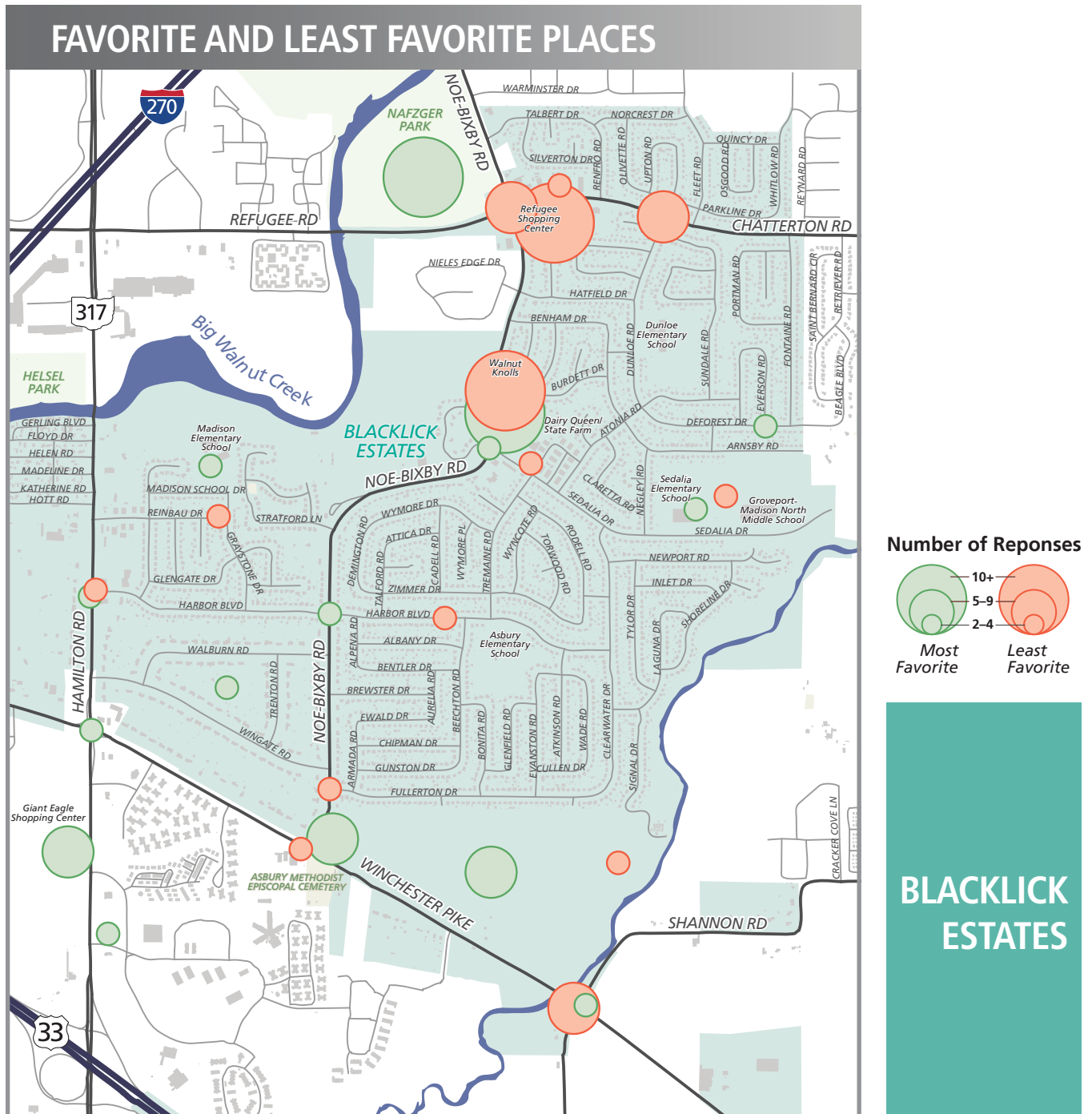
Housing and community: Too many vacancies and poor property upkeep, particularly at rental properties

Public services: High water rates

Recreation: Lack of recreational facilities and parks

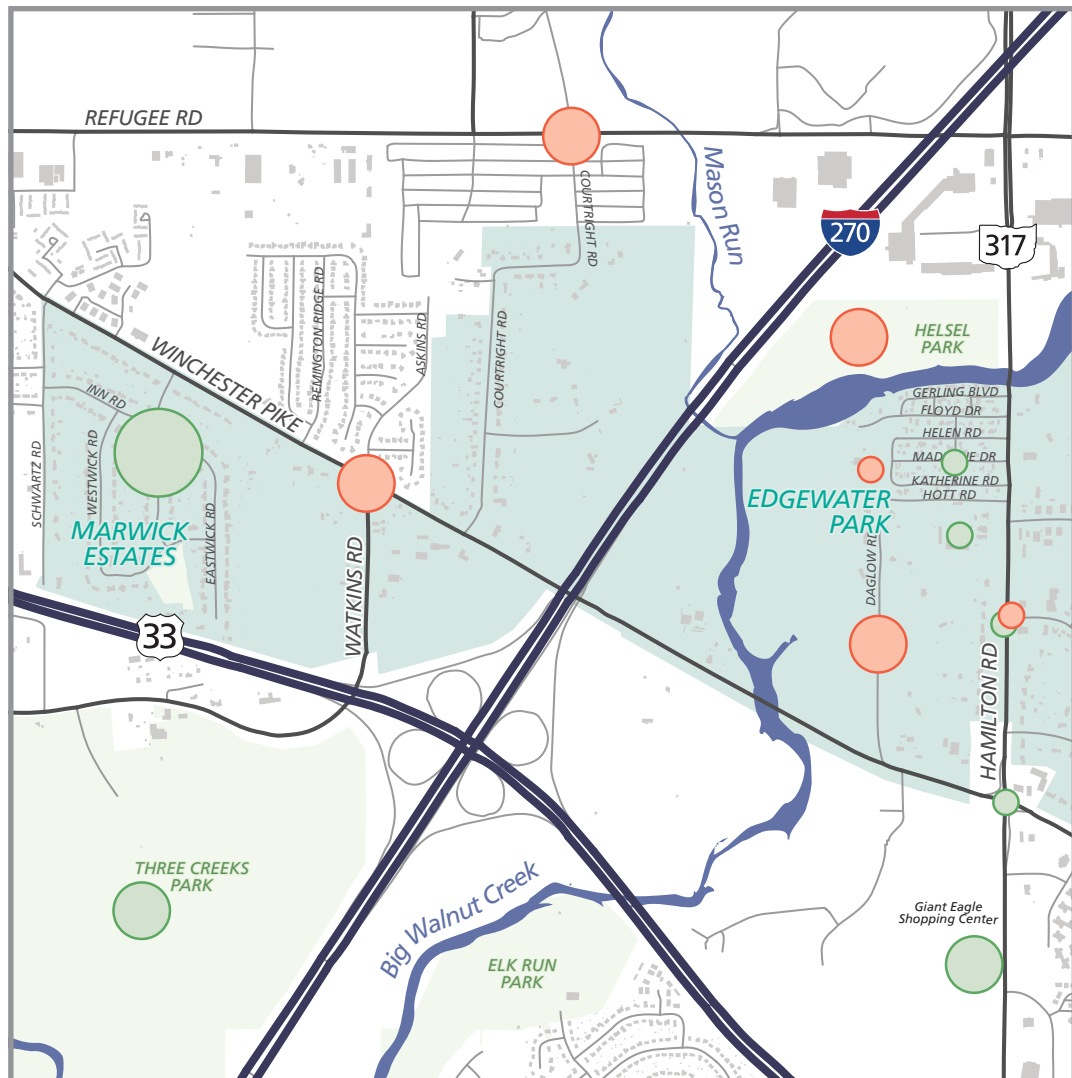
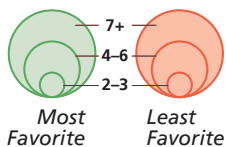
**BLACKLICK
ESTATES**

See map on next page ►



◀ See map explanations on previous page

Number of Responses



EDGEWATER PARK / MARWICK ESTATES

Favorite Areas

Marwick Estates: Attendees enjoy the quiet, friendly neighborhood.

Giant Eagle Shopping Center: Attendees like the new shopping center on Hamilton Road.

Three Creeks Park: Attendees enjoy living near the park and would like a bikeway connection.

Positive comments

Public services: Good fire and police protection

Transportation: Easy access to freeways and downtown Columbus

Land use and development: Proximity to parks, shopping and the public library

Least Favorite Areas

Helsel Park: Attendees believe illegal activities occur at this Columbus park.

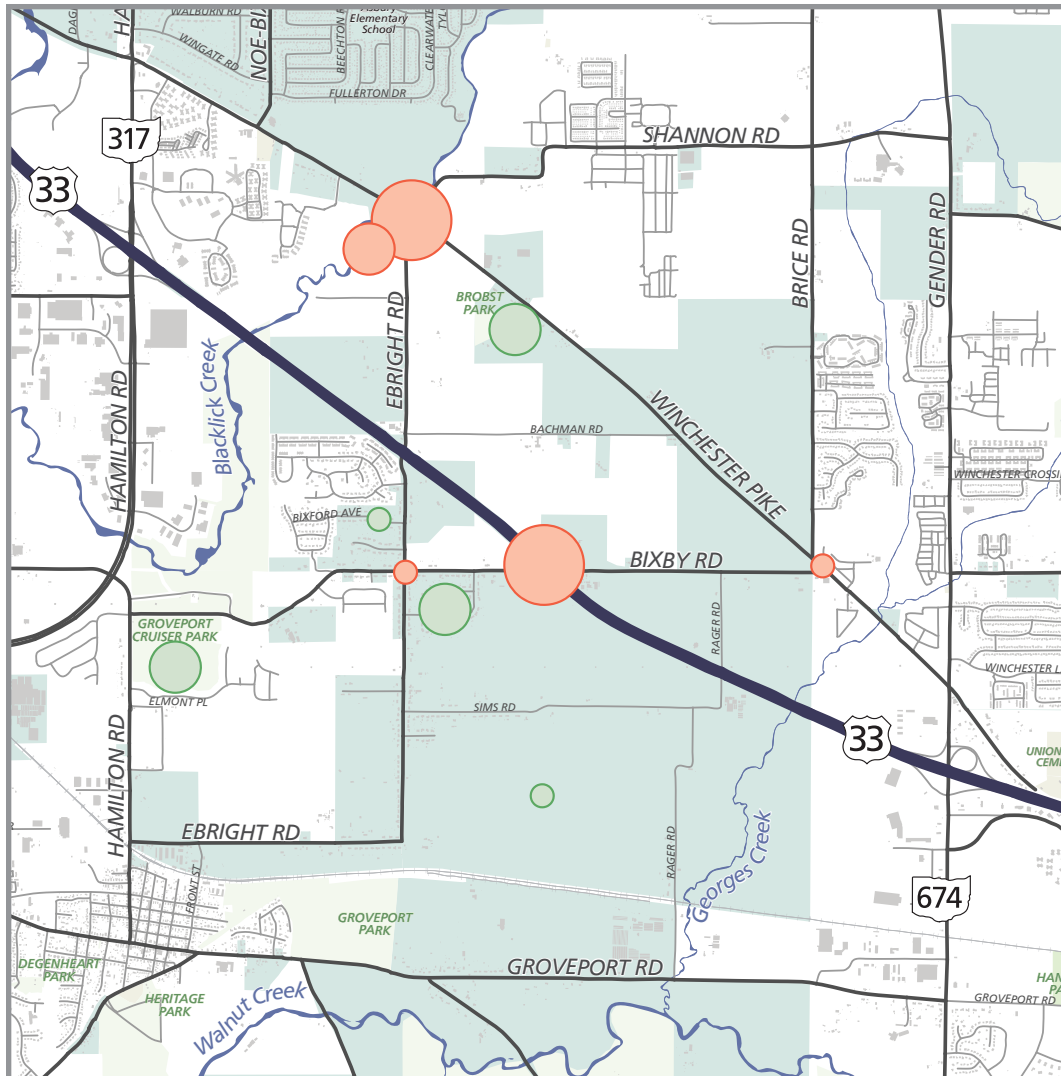
Winchester Pike and Watkins Road intersection: Heavy traffic, too much speeding and poor visibility concern attendees.

Negative comments

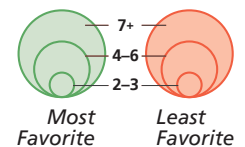
Housing and community: Too many vacant homes and poor property upkeep

Public services: Attendees said that schools need improvement but did not provide specific suggestions.

Transportation: Too much traffic



Number of Responses



Favorite Areas

Groveport Cruiser Park: Attendees enjoy the park's playing fields.

Robert M. Brobst Park: Attendees like the recreational facility with ball fields, basketball courts and play areas.

Positive comments

Land use and development: Rural character, quiet and solitude

Housing and community: Neighborhood feel and friendly neighbors

Transportation: Convenient access to Columbus

Least Favorite Areas

Bixby Road / Route 33 Interchange: Attendees expressed concern about the interchange's potential to increase traffic and development.

Winchester Pike, Ebricht Road and Shannon Road intersection: Heavy traffic, too much speeding and poor visibility concern attendees.

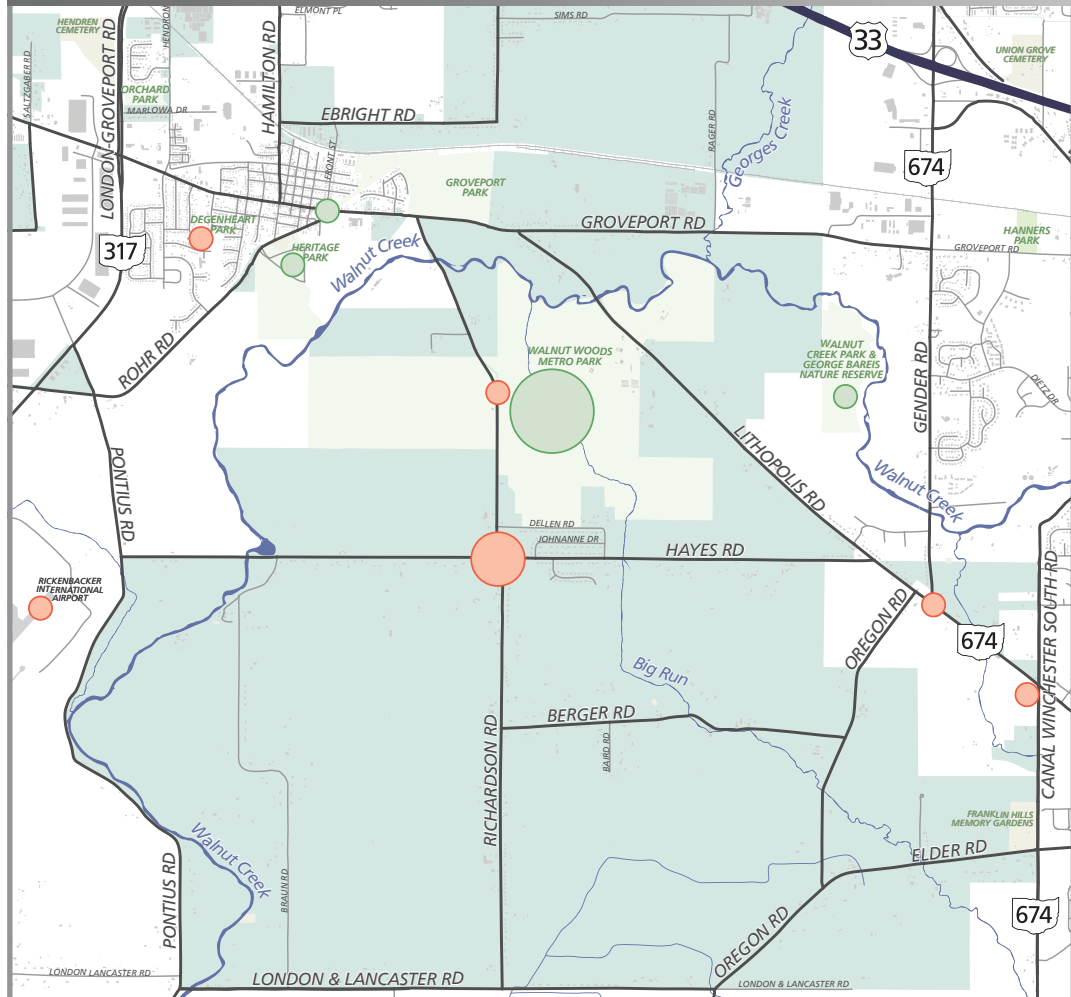
Negative comments

Transportation: Too much traffic, roads in disrepair and highways difficult to access

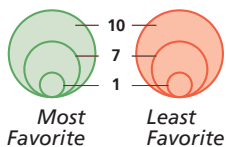
Land use and development: Increasing amounts of residential development and losing township area to annexation

**CENTRAL
MADISON**

FAVORITE AND LEAST FAVORITE PLACES



Number of Responses



SOUTH MADISON

Favorite Areas

Walnut Woods Metro Park: Attendees look forward to the new Metro Park that will include new bicycle paths, nature trails, picnic areas and an adventure course.

Positive comments

Recreation: Abundant parks and easy access to bicycle trails

Land use and development: Quiet, solitude, farmland, large lots and no commercial development

Least Favorite Areas

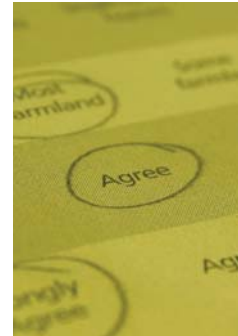
Richardson Road and Hayes Road intersection: Attendees worry about heavy traffic and speeding cars.

Negative comments

Transportation: Need more traffic control, turn lanes and road realignments

Land use and development: Threat of annexation, encroaching commercial and industrial development, loss of farmland, and traffic and noise from Rickenbacker International Airport

FEEDBACK FORMS



About the Feedback Forms

At our public meeting in September 2010 we asked participants to complete a feedback form to gain an understanding of how the community feels about various topics. The feedback form's topics included land use, environment, community identity and transportation.

The feedback forms contained questions to answer on a five-point scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree. Questions requiring written responses asked respondents what they like and dislike in their neighborhoods and in commercial areas.

The results

Results of the feedback forms are on the following pages. In addition to the graphs, we also list written and oral comments provided by attendees.

Topic areas

Responses are sorted by the topic areas below:

Land Use: Residential, p. 14

Land Use: Commercial, p. 15

Parks and Nature, p. 16

Community, p. 17

Transportation: Walking, p. 18

Transportation: Bicycling, p. 19

Transportation: Transit, p. 20

Transportation: Car, p. 21



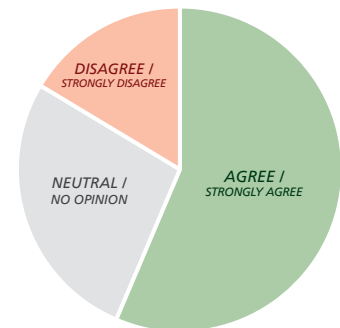
LAND USE: RESIDENTIAL

In general

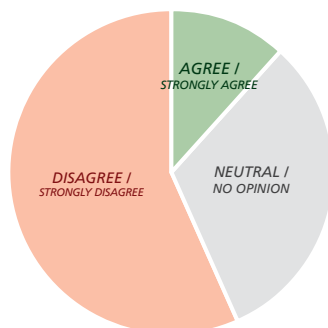
Respondents report a sufficient range of housing options and do not want more residential development. They want to see all or most farmland preserved.

If residential development occurs, respondents prefer single-family homes over condos, townhomes and apartments.

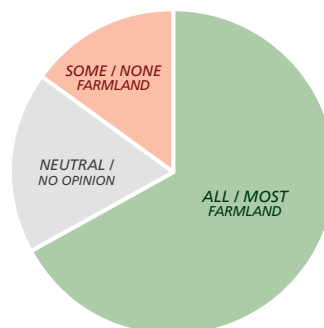
The only exception was found in Blacklick Estates. Respondents here are dissatisfied with the available housing options, do not want to see more homes built and have no opinion about preserving farmland. If development does occur they want a mix of single-family homes, condos and townhomes.



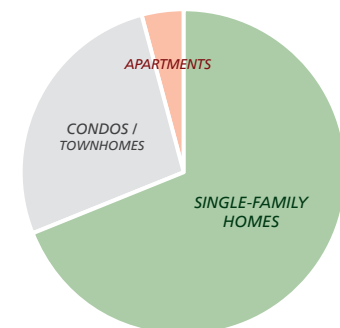
There are enough housing options available in my neighborhood to allow me to remain as I get older



I want to see more houses built in my general area



How much farmland should be preserved in the planning area?



If residential development occurs, what type of housing would you like to see in your area



LAND USE: COMMERCIAL

In general

Respondents report that a consistent visual appearance is important in commercial areas. Overall, respondents are satisfied with the number and variety of businesses.

By area

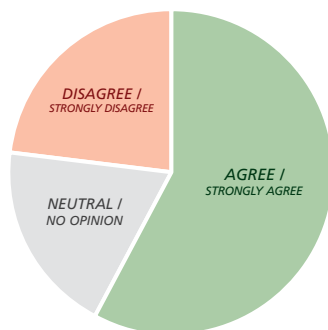
Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates: Half of respondents are dissatisfied with how commercial properties look.

Blacklick Estates: Most respondents are dissatisfied with the number and variety of businesses nearby. The appearance of commercial proper-

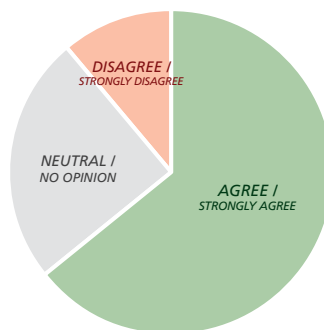
ties on Chatterton, Noe-Bixby and Hamilton Roads also dissatisfies respondents.

Central Madison: Most respondents visit commercial areas in Columbus, Groveport or Canal Winchester.

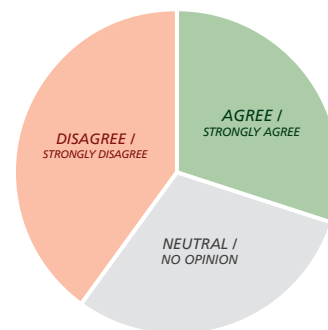
South Madison: Respondents visit commercial areas in Groveport and Canal Winchester. They do not want to see commercial uses in their area.



The number and variety of nearby businesses meet my needs



It's important to have a consistent appearance such as welcome signs, decorative street lights and building design in commercial areas



Commercial properties nearby look nice



PARKS AND NATURE

In general

Respondents overwhelmingly believe that clean streams, wooded areas and natural areas are important to the community.

Respondents believe there are enough parks and recreational facilities. They also feel that parks and playgrounds are well maintained.

The one exception is Blacklick Estates where respondents believe there are not enough natural areas or recreational opportunities. Playgrounds and ball fields on school properties serve as recreational facilities.

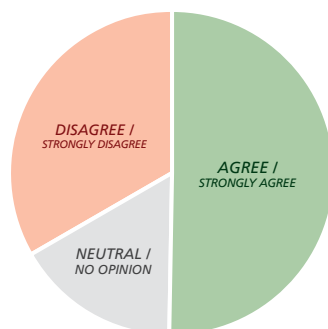
By area

Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates: The majority of respondents visit parks less than once a month.

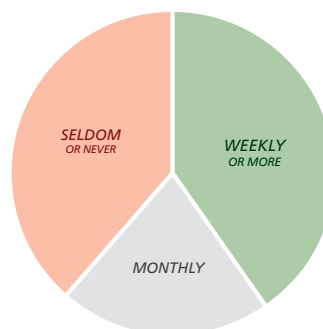
Blacklick Estates: Most respondents visit parks monthly.

Central Madison: The majority of respondents visit parks monthly.

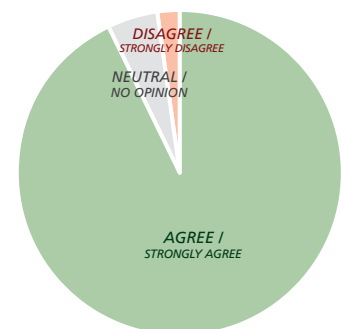
South Madison: Respondents visit parks on a weekly basis.



There are enough parks, playgrounds, ball fields and other places to play in my neighborhood



How often do you/your family visit parks?



Having clean streams, wooded areas and natural areas is important to me



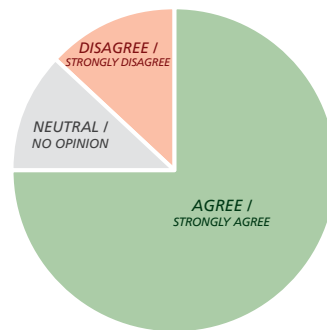
COMMUNITY

In general

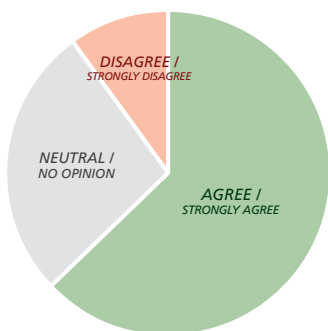
Respondents reported a strong desire to stay in their neighborhoods as they grow older.

Most would like to see a consistent neighborhood appearance such as entrance signs, streetlights, and street signs. The only exception was in South Madison where respondents had no opinion about having a consistent look in the area.

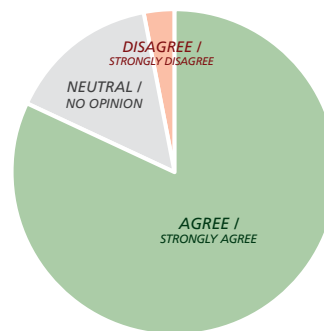
Respondents desire access to fresh, locally grown food.



Staying in my neighborhood is important to me/my family as we get older



Having a consistent neighborhood look/feel such as neighborhood entrance signs, decorative street lights and uniform street signs is important to me



Consuming fresh, locally-grown food is important to me/my family



TRANSPORTATION: WALKING

In general

Respondents reported that walking around their neighborhoods is easy, whether there are sidewalks or not. Walking to commercial areas is difficult due to a lack of sidewalks.

By area

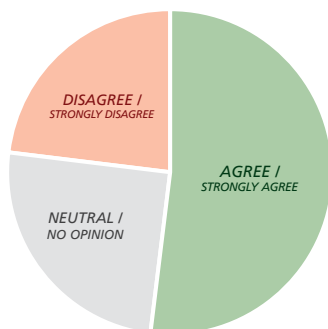
Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates: A lack of sidewalks, heavy traffic and high vehicle speeds along Hamilton Road and Winchester Pike makes walking to commercial areas difficult.

Blacklick Estates: Gaps in sidewalks along Noe-Bixby, Chatterton, and Hamilton Roads make walking through commercial areas difficult and

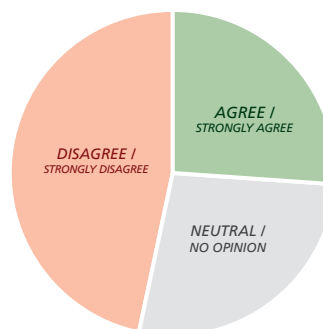
unsafe. Sidewalks along residential streets make walking safer.

Central Madison: Walking along residential streets is easy despite a lack of sidewalks. Walking to commercial areas is impractical due to long distances and a lack of sidewalks. A lack of sidewalks also makes walking along major roads difficult.

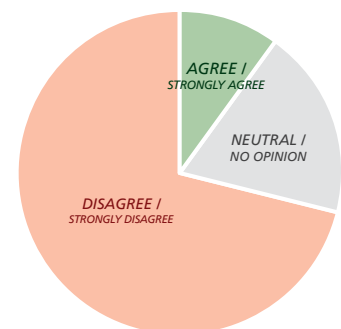
South Madison: Respondents had no opinion about the safety of walking. High vehicle speeds, heavy traffic and a lack of sidewalks or paths make walking along major roads unsafe.



It is easy and safe to walk around my neighborhood



I can easily walk to commercial areas near my neighborhood



It is easy and safe to walk along main roads



TRANSPORTATION: BICYCLING

In general

Riding a bicycle to commercial areas is generally difficult.

While responses were mixed, many expressed a desire for better connections to bicycle trails. Several trails pass through the planning area, but a lack of connection forces bicyclists to travel long distances via busy main roads to access the trails.

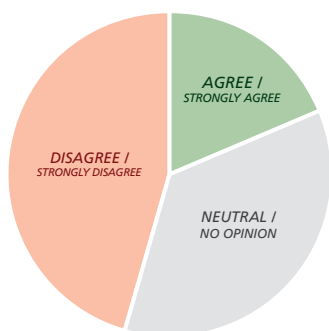
Blacklick Estates: A lack of bicycle trail connections to the Blacklick Creek Trail frustrates respondents. More than one-third of respondents find it difficult to reach trails.

Central Madison: Respondents find it easy to access nearby bicycle trails.

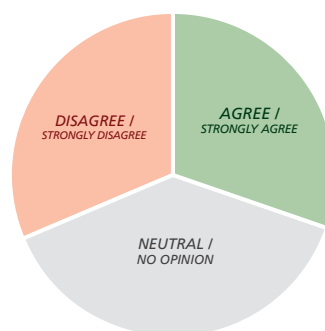
South Madison: Most attendees had no opinion regarding bicycle access to commercial areas and trails.

By area

Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates: Respondents desire a connection to the nearby Alum Creek Trail.



It is easy to ride a bicycle to commercial areas



It is easy to get to bicycle trails



TRANSPORTATION: TRANSIT

In general

Most respondents had no opinion regarding bus routes and bus stops.

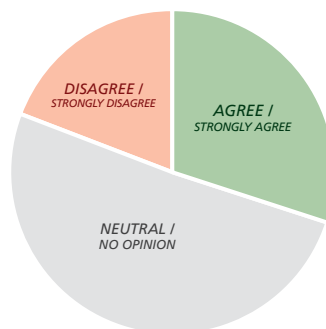
By area

Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates: Respondents report that sufficient bus routes serve the area. The majority stated that bus stop improvements would not increase their ridership.

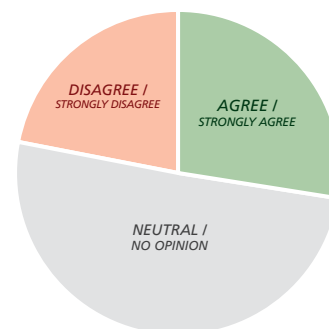
Blacklick Estates: Sufficient bus routes serve the neighborhood. Respondents reported that bus stop improvements would increase ridership.

Central Madison: Respondents report a lack of transit routes. They had no opinion on whether bus stop upgrades would increase ridership.

South Madison: No bus routes serve the area. Respondents had no opinion of whether there were enough routes.



There are enough bus routes in my area to get where I need to go



Bus-stop upgrades (benches, shelters, etc.) would increase my use of buses



TRANSPORTATION: CAR

In general

Respondents report easy access to main roads throughout the planning area.

The table below lists roads with the most reported speeding. Respondents desire improvements at major intersections.

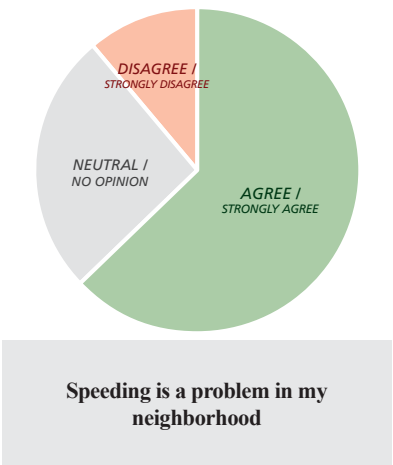
By area

Edgewater Park / Marwick Estates: The intersection of Winchester Pike and Watkins Road has heavy traffic and poor visibility. Residents desire a traffic light to improve safety. Respondents report that roads in Edgewater Park need to be repaved.

Blacklick Estates: Respondents report the need for turn lanes, sidewalks, crosswalks and pedestrian signals at the Chatterton and Noe-Bixby Roads intersection.

Central Madison: Respondents are dissatisfied with access to major roads. Bixby, Rager and Sims Roads need to be repaved. Bixby Road needs to be realigned with Brice Road at Winchester Pike.

South Madison: Respondents believe a four-way stop is needed at Hayes and Richardson Roads. Respondents feel that Gender and Oregon Roads need to be realigned at Lithopolis Road.



- Top speeding concerns:**
- Harbor Boulevard
 - Noe-Bixby Road
 - Fullerton Drive
 - Winchester Pike
 - Chatterton Road
 - Hamilton Road
 - Richardson Road
 - Ebright Road
 - Bixby Road
 - Bixford Avenue

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The project team thanks the following individuals and groups for input, technical advice and assistance overall with the Blacklick-Madison Area Plan:

Greg Bachman, *Pickerington Engineering Department*

Robert J. Bates, *Madison Township Fire Department*

Ted Beidler, *Franklin County Engineer's Office*

Gary Bepler, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Becky Bickerdt, *Asbury United Methodist Church South*

Stacey Boumis, *Obetz Planning and Zoning Commission*

David Brobst, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Susan Brobst, *Madison Township*

Dave Burgei, *Fairfield County Auditor's Office*

Gary "Dane" Clark, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Amelia Costanzo, *Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission*

Susan Crotty, *Pickerington Economic Development Department*

Anne D. Cyphert, *Bloom Township Zoning Department*

Warren Diehl, *Franklin County Engineer's Office*

Edward B. Dildine, *Madison Township*

Andrew Dutton, *Canal Winchester Development Department*

James Dydo, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Steve Farst, *EMH&T Geospatial Solutions Department*

Jeff Fasone, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Larry Flowers, *Madison Township*

Terry Frazier, *Pickaway County Development & Planning*

Ariel Godwin, *Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission*

Jeff Green, *Groveport Economic Development Department*

Erin Grushon, *Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission*

Steven Hein, *Truro Township Fire Department*

Ava Johnson, *Kingston Crossing/Walnut Bluff Block Watch*

Stan Knoderer, *Truro Township Road Department*

Susan K. Liggins, *Pickaway County Office of Development and Planning*

Maureen Lorenz, *Columbus Recreation and Parks Department*

Pat Mahaffey, *Truro Township*

Kim Martin, *Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District*

Holly Mattei, *Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission*

Michael McCann, *Central Ohio Transit Authority*

David McCoy, *EMH&T Geospatial Solutions Department*

Barbara Morris, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Charles Muller, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Dennis Nicodemis, *Truro Township*

Natalie Nicodemis, *Truro Township*

Victor Paini, *Madison Township*

Jim Ramsey, *Franklin County Drainage Engineer's Office*

Dave Reutter, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Larry Ricchi, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Cornell Robertson, *Franklin County Engineer's Office*

Sandy Rose, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

David Roseman, *Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries*

Gregory Ryan, *Madison Township Police Department*

Eric Sandine, *Village of Lithopolis*

Brian Sarkis, *Columbus Regional Airport Authority*

Lance A. Schultz, *Pickerington Planning and Zoning Department*

Thomas Schwing, *Ohio American Water*

Terry Spangler, *Madison Township Road Department*

Robert Stapleton, *Truro Township*

Mike Stokes, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Chris Strayer, *Canal Winchester Development Department*

Barbara Strussion, *Truro Township*

Steve Studenmund, *Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park Dist.*

Connie M. Tursic, *Columbus Regional Airport Authority*

Ed Van Vickie, *Village of Lithopolis*

Nathaniel Vogt, *Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission*

Paul Wenning, *Franklin County Board of Health*

Kevin Wheeler, *Columbus Department of Development*

Charles Wilde, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Ruby Wolfe, *Blacklick-Madison Area Plan Working Committee*

Kristine Yania, *Central Ohio Transit Authority*

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