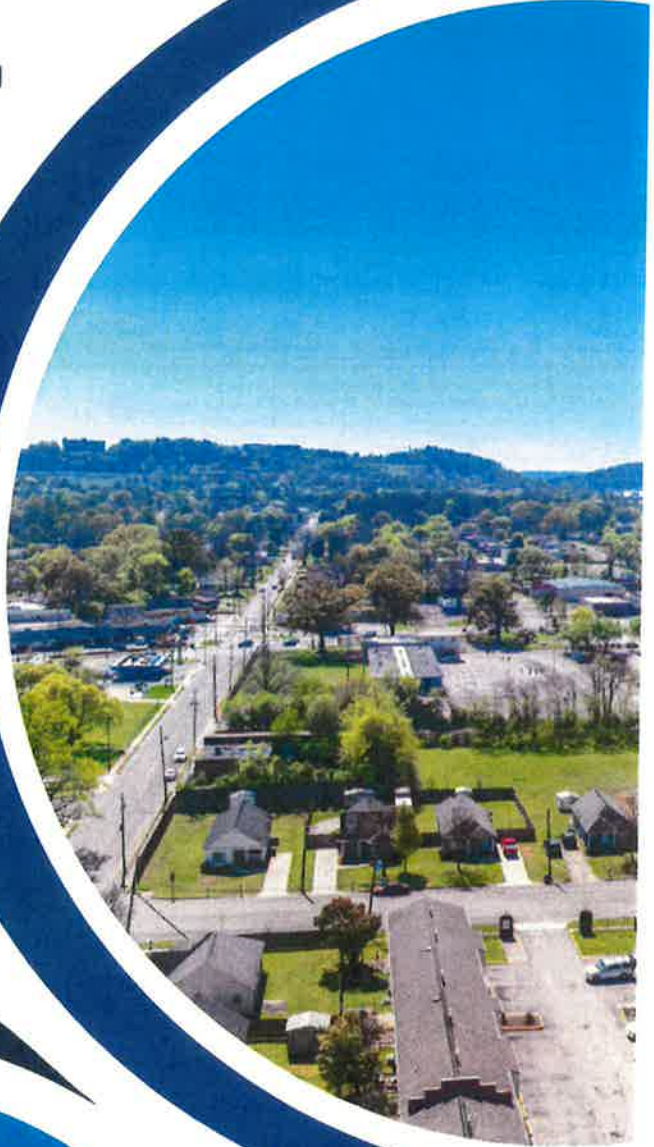


TITUSVILLE REPORT 2024

Brief on the progress of the
2015 Titusville Community
Framework plan



Goal	Progress	Notes	Resources
Community Renewal Goal 1: Our Beautiful Community			
Strategy A: Enhance property condition collection, code enforcement and beautification			
Point 1: <i>Develop a publicly accessible database with the property condition and code enforcement statuses of each property.</i>	Inconclusive	From our research, both in-person and online, this goal has yet to be accomplished. However, it remains an ideal method for code enforcement by the community as it would enable homeowners and renters alike to hold themselves and others accountable for the stewardship of property.	
Point 2: <i>Create a citizen's guide for code enforcement that enables citizens to report blighted properties.</i>	Accomplished	Online research determined that this resource is present and accessible. The Department of Planning, Engineering and Permits Code Enforcement Division (PEP) outlines the necessary steps for citizens to report blighted properties. This resource can be accessed through the PEP website.	Department of Planning, Engineering and Permits Code Enforcement Division Simplified Code Enforcement Process manual

<p>Point 5: <i>Dedicate more staff to code enforcement.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>From our attendance of a Woodlawn neighborhood meeting, we were able to find an increased presence of staff dedicated to code enforcement. Specifically, the presence of a community developer that fielded the questions of those living in the neighborhood acted as a marked example of staff presence.</p>	
<p>Point 6: <i>Create a vacant property registration ordinance.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>The City of Birmingham's Community Development Building Department offers an easily accessible form to register vacant properties. The form includes a step-by-step guide to further the ease of completion for concerned citizens.</p>	<p>City of Birmingham Community Development - Building Department Application for Vacant Property Registration.</p>
<p>Strategy B: Target blighted properties for renovation, demolition, adaptive reuse, and acquisition.</p>			
<p>Point 1: <i>Identify deteriorated and dilapidated properties for renovation using the property conditions data collected from the community assessment.</i></p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>By the means of a windshield survey through the neighborhood of Titusville, we were able to identify vacant lots that had once housed dilapidated properties. Moreover, in an interview with Dr. Bayles, he informed us of the</p>	

<p>Point 6: Repurpose publicly owned abandoned facilities to meet the needs of the community.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>This goal continues to be implemented in Titusville. Many "pocket parks" have been created out of vacant lots. In addition to this, light industrial entities, such as DC Blox, have repurposed publicly-owned abandoned facilities to fit the needs of their plants. Nevertheless the Marc Steel plant remains a prominent abandoned facility yet to be utilized.</p>	
<p>Point 7: Acquire blighted properties under the provisions in the Urban Renewal and Urban Plan for North Titusville.</p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>In our interview with Dr. Bayles described the methods with which blighted properties are acquired. In some cases, the properties are privately purchased. In others, the properties are acquired from the Land Bank that controls tax delinquent properties.</p>	
<p>Point 8: Acquire tax delinquent properties through the Land Bank to reduce blight and stabilize the community.</p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>Previously addressed</p>	

<p>Point 1: <i>Implement the Future Land Use Map/Plan to allow mixed-use development and encourage more services and retail within walking distance.</i></p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>This goal continues to be at work in Titusville. Though mixed-use development is a much-sought after use of Titusville's community space, it has only recently been planned to come to the area. The revitalization of the Golden Flakes manufacturing plant promises to bring a mixed-use market to Titusville.</p>	
<p>Point 2: <i>Convert vacant properties into parks and playgrounds to increase accessibility to recreational activities.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>Previously addressed</p>	
<p>Point 3: <i>Integrate Complete Streets to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>Through a windshield survey, we were able to determine the presence of Complete Streets, or streets with designated pedestrian, bike, and bus lanes, in Titusville.</p>	
<p>Strategy C: Improve access to fresh produce.</p>			
<p>Point 1: <i>Create community gardens on vacant and other underutilized properties.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>Previously addressed</p>	

<p>Point 2: <i>Establish a community watch group to provide police with additional "eyes and ears" and to promote cooperation among residents and police.</i></p>	<p>Inconclusive In progress ?</p>	<p>Unsure whether there is an "established group" (At community meetings this was discussed)</p>	<p>https://www.titusvillebirmingham.com/titusvilletitans</p>
<p>Point 3: <i>Create a streetlight outage form to enable citizens to report streetlights that are out.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>Form provided by the City of Birmingham.</p>	<p>https://www.birminghamal.gov/transportation/faqs/</p>
<p>Point 4: <i>Incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) guidelines into the Design Review process for public spaces and facilities.</i></p>	<p>Inconclusive</p>	<p>Unsure where to find information on where these were incorporated.</p>	
<p>Point 5: <i>Demolish dilapidated structures proximate to crime hotspots.</i></p>	<p>Accomplished</p>	<p>Discussed with TDC.</p>	<p>https://www.titusvildevelopment.org/</p>

Community Renewal Goal 3: Mixed-Income Community

Strategy A: Improve the quality of existing housing in Titusville.

affordable housing options.			
Point 5: Establish a rent-to-own program to help residents afford owning a home and increase home ownership in the neighborhood.	Inconclusive		
Point 6: Work with the local employers, such as UAB, to create an employer-assisted housing program in Titusville.	In progress	Had discussions in meetings about student housing and further opportunities in working with UAB.	
Strategy C: Support mixed-income developments through infill.			
Point 1: Conduct a housing market analysis to evaluate housing demand and preferences.	Accomplished and ongoing	Through TDC	https://www.titusvilledevelopment.org/
Point 2: Work with HABD, private developers, nonprofits and other organizations to infill single and multi-family housing on underutilized properties.	In progress	Briefly discussed in meetings with TDC	https://habd.org/

<i>establish a point of contact for each partnership.</i>			
Point 3: <i>Develop a "Community Feedback Loop" that allows residents, community leaders, the City and other vested partners to stay updated on community renewal efforts.</i>	Inconclusive		
Green Systems			
Green Systems Goal 1: Our Active and Green Community			
Strategy A: Expand recreational opportunities for residents.			
Point 1: <i>Acquire blighted properties to expand recreational opportunities for residents.</i>	Accomplished	TDC	https://www.titusvilledevelopment.org/
Point 2: <i>Convert blighted properties into recreational amenities.</i>	Accomplished	TDC	https://www.titusvilledevelopment.org/
Point 3: <i>Consider expanding Memorial Park to include a skate park.</i>	Inconclusive		
Strategy B: Ensure parks and recreational facilities are safe and well-maintained.			

<p>Point 4: Create "Friends of Parks" groups to support funding and maintenance of parks and other recreational amenities.</p>	<p>In Progress</p>	<p>The incorporation of Titusville Day and the organization of neighborhood meetings helps to involve the Titusville community in caring for and enjoying their parks and recreational amenities.</p>	<p>https://www.al.com/spotnews/2010/07/rich_history_of_birmingham_titusville.html</p>
<p>Point 5: Work with the Parks & Recreation Board to host Little League baseball games at Memorial Park as a way to generate revenue for park maintenance.</p>	<p>Inconclusive</p>	<p>We were unable to find any research on if these Little League games occur.</p>	
<p align="center">Green Systems Goal 2: Our Environmentally Friendly Community</p>			
<p align="center">Strategy A: Incorporate green systems to support stormwater management and mitigate flooding.</p>			
<p>Point 1: Conduct hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) modeling to assess and refine the impact the recommended green systems have on flood reduction.</p>	<p>Inconclusive</p>	<p>While there is record of a project on 6th Ave. S to ease flooding, I am unaware if this was completed as it was scheduled to in 2021. There also appeared to be a good deal of flooding and runoff near construction sites during our visit to Titusville in the rain. The City of Birmingham Stormwater Management</p>	<p>https://www.birmingham.gov/sixth-avenue-south-drainage-project/</p>

Strategy B: Provide programs and services to support workforce development.			
Point 1 <i>Partner with local, regional and national groups to improve access to workforce development resources.</i>	In Progress	Dr. Bayles informed us that UAB is an asset that offers \$15k to live within 10 miles of the campus (Titusville is 2-3 miles away).	
Point 2: <i>Create dual-enrollment opportunities between high schools and local colleges in order to prepare students for local industry needs.</i>	Accomplished	AH Parker High School has partnered with Miles College to create a dual-enrollment program for students.	https://www.bhamcityschools.org/o/aes/article/1541372
Point 3: <i>Conduct a career development fair to connect residents with employers and workforce development groups.</i>	In Progress	Many community members advocate for different fairs, and fairs are conducted, according to Dr. Bayles of TDC.	
Economic Vitality Goal 2: Our Prosperous Community			
Strategy A: Nurture local business development and entrepreneurship.			
Point 1: <i>Establish a Titusville Merchants Association (TMA) to help improve business development.</i>	Incomplete	It has been thought of, however it has not yet been established.	

		providing many new jobs for the community.	
Strategy C: Encourage developments that provide a variety of commercial and employment opportunities			
<p>Point 1: <i>Collaborate with private developers and the Jefferson County Economic and Industrial Development Authority (JCEIDA) to redevelop the Trinity property</i></p>	Accomplished	<p>The 2015 Plan recommended that the Trinity Property should be utilized for mixed-use development or as a STEM Hub. DC Blox was recently built on the property. It raised all the property values of things around it. DC Blox is helping with the STEM development. The company has donated a \$10,000 computer lab to the Memorial Park Recreation Center.</p> <p>The Marc Steel buildings have had a makeover by Navigate Affordable Housing Partners. Their goal is to improve the perception of the area for future development. On their website they said "We plan on transforming the 6.5 acres into an economic hub for the community that will host a market for local vendors selling various types of food, arts, crafts, and more."</p>	

		the Golden Flake property is having four million dollars worth of investments for mixed use development.	
Strategy D: Offer resources to support local businesses, entrepreneurs and redevelopment efforts			
Point 1: Consider the implementation of a Birmingham Community Payroll Tax Exclusion Program.	Inconclusive	It is unknown if there is a payroll tax exclusion program, but there is financial support for local businesses. The Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) is a law that requires banks to meet the credit needs of the communities they serve.	
Transportation and Infrastructure			
TI Goal 1: Our Pedestrian-Oriented Community			
Strategy A: Build a multimodal transportation network			
Point 1: Build out the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System.	In progress	There is a plan to connect Red Mountain Park to UAB. This trail reconnects Titusville to downtown Birmingham.	
Strategy B: Improve urban form.			
Point 2: Develop and adopt a Form-Based Code.	Accomplished	The City of Birmingham has Form-Based Code that is enforced by The Town Planning	

		Neighborway. There was flooding around vacant lots in the neighborhoods.	
Point 2: Implement an alleyway cleanup program.	In progress	At a neighborhood meeting there was an organized trash pickup. However there is a need for more participation in these.	
TI Goal 2: Our Transit-Oriented Community			
Strategy A: Plan for transit.			
Point 1: Plan for Titusville as a transit community	Accomplished	This has been planned for and accomplished.	
Point 2: Plan for high capacity transit	Accomplished	This has been planned for and accomplished.	
Point 3: Streamline public transit service delivery.	Accomplished	There has been an implementation of the Birmingham X-press in Titusville.	
Point 4: Develop neighborhood and activity center transit stops	Accomplished	There are four bus stops that have good lighting, a bench and shelter. Everything in the plan has been accomplished.	
Point 5: Improve transit stops and amenities.	Accomplished	The transit stops have amenities and are well maintained.	
TI Goal 3: Our Well-Maintained Community			
Strategy A: Investing in Our Transportation System			
Point 1: Develop a capital	Inconclusive	Birmingham has a maintenance and	

		commercial areas have been improved as well. (See points about the transportation system and commercial development)	
Strategy B: Promote Mixed-Use Medium Development for the 6th Street South and Golden Flake Drive area (Trinity Property).			
Point 1: Designate the Trinity Property, 6th Avenue South and the City Jail site Mixed-Use Medium Development	In Progress	The Trinity property is being used as STEM development through DC Blox. Marc Steel has seen discussion about it being used for mixed development in the future. The Golden Flakes factory is going to be used for mixed-use development. I could not find anything about the City Jail site being used for mixed development.	
Strategy C: Promote Form Based and urban design regulations in and around mixed-use areas			
Point 1: Concentrate Form Based and urban design regulations in and around mixed-use areas.	In progress	Birmingham has been working on adopting form-based codes to enhance urban design and walkable, mixed-use developments.	
Strategy D: Promote a variety of residential uses to allow more flexibility for developers and housing options for residents.			
Point 1: Increase Residential	In progress	Birmingham's North Titusville neighborhood has	

Titusville Community Ambassadors Development Project

The Titusville Community Ambassadors Program will create a way for community members to learn about and teach others the history of the three neighborhoods of North Titusville, South Titusville, and Woodland Park in Birmingham, Alabama. We hope the program will provide a spark for dialogue and a desire for cooperation to work collectively toward addressing long-term problems that have contributed to blight, flight, and barriers to generational wealth. The expectation is that both the process of discovery and the revelation of its rich history will spur economic growth and vitality within the community.

The assignment for the Samford University MICAH Fellows will be a project to work with the community to develop the program – helping to create a study guide for learners and guidelines for instructors. They will also help to train the pilot group of ambassadors and assist in gathering and analyzing feedback about the pilot training and overall project. The learning materials and procedures will be modelled after a similar program created to teach the Jewish Civil Rights history in Birmingham. The Beth-El Civil Rights Experience is a highly regarded educational program developed by staff and members of Temple Beth-El. The program successfully provides elements to engage all the senses in immersive moments of discovery and understanding. We fully anticipate that the Beth-El program's creators and Docents will happily consult on the development of the Titusville project

Long-term, we anticipate that community ambassadors will be called upon to give talks and conduct virtual, walking, and riding tours. They will be valuable resources for neighborhood school children and educators, as well as participants at the annual Titusville Day celebrations and other special events. Community ambassadors' presentations will also become one aspect of a program to welcome new residents to the community (something neighborhood groups have expressed a desire to do). The program itself should become an amenity and a contributor to the tourism economy of the community, city and county.

Based on the Beth-El model, the study guide and materials should take about ten- twelve months to complete. The pilot training of the initial group of learners should be implemented over a two to three- month period. A small stipend may be available for work on this project, pending grant approval.