Maple Street Green Space Background

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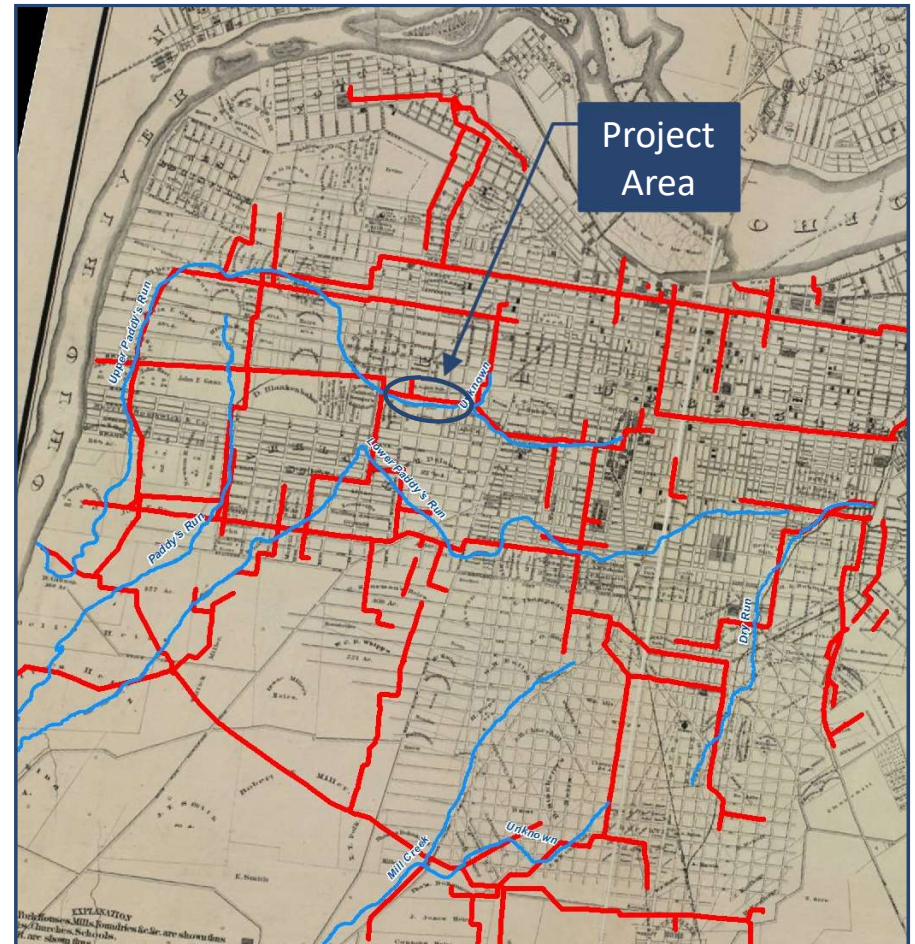
Historical Flooding and Combined Sewers in Maple Street Area

- Louisville's oldest combined sewers began construction in late 1800's

- Generally in the alignment of historic stream networks

- Maple Street area lies in a "bowl" along one of these streams and is susceptible to flooding

FEMA Grant Buyout for Maple Street

- August 4, 2009
  - Wide-spread flash flooding
  - ~7.5-inches of rain fell in 75 minutes
  - Victims included thousands of West Louisville residents
- Presidential disaster declaration for KY (flood mitigation funds available)
- $9.75 million authorized for acquisition and demolition
  - 128 flood prone homes
  - Allow residents opportunity to move out of harms way
- Grant effectively complete as of December 2017

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Green Space Opportunities from Flood Prone Risks

- FEMA grant implementation was successful in allowing at-risk residents the opportunity to move out of harm's way

- Community engagement forums for long-term use idea-generation are essential as grant implementation draws to a close

- Shared interests in developing a sustainable model for currently vacant land

Before

Current

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Community of the Future Advisory Committee (CFAC)

Community of the Future Advisory Committee

Stakeholders identified through close coordination with Louisville Forward and Metro Council Representatives (55 total)

- 22 Community Organizations
- 4 Residents
- 4 Elected Officials
- 4 Educational Sector
- 4 Neighborhood Businesses
- 16 Partner Agencies

Community of the Future Advisory Committee (CFAC)

Two main objectives:

1. ***Define a publically acceptable, beneficial use*** for flood prone properties acquired during buyout.

2. ***Define ownership*** options for end use, funding, construction, and ***long-term operation and maintenance*** of the selected land use.

Comprised of:
- Residents
- Community leaders
- Elected officials
- Local business owners
- Agency Partners

More than 55 community organizations and neighborhood leaders were invited to participate

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Progression from CFAC to Maple Street Champions

20+ activities over 3 years

- Educate
- Generate feedback
- Discuss preferences and suitability of potential uses

Community Outreach

Public Engagement Events Included:

- 2/9/19: CA & Victory Park Neighborhood Plan Update
- 12/4/18: CA & Victory Park Neighborhood Plan Open House
- 3/14/18: Passport groundbreaking and reception
- 2/6/18: One West Community Meeting
- 11/28/17: Passport & YMCA Community Mtg
- 11/14/17: CFAC Meeting (open to public)
- 7/1/17: Eastern Star Baptist Church Community Yard Sale (87 surveys completed)
- Summer 2017: YMCA Chestnut Street surveys
- 6/1/17: One West Community Meeting
- 4/14/17: Building our Blocks – door-to-door canvassing in California Neighborhood
- 3/18/17: Louisville Grows California tree planting event

- 3/16/17: Youth Build Meeting partnership meeting
- 2/28/17: CA Neighborhood Meeting
- 11/15/16: Maple Street Area Residents Meeting - 800 door hangers placed, 1200 postcards mailed
- 11/15/16: YMCA Children in Nature Summit
- 11/13/16: Local Sunday morning radio program
- 9/20/16: CFAC Meeting (open to public)
- 8/4/16: Residential Subcommittee Meeting (open to public)
- 7/7/16: 1st CFAC Community Meeting (open to public and covered in WDRB news and C-J article)
- 2/8/16: President D. James, door-to-door neighborhood walk

Community Survey Results

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Community Survey: Preferences, Suitability, and Concerns

- 400+ Survey responses on area concepts and their suitability
- Distribution via mail, public meeting, community events, neighborhood activities, and online
- Concept groupings (suitability score out of 5)
  - Green space and passive recreation (4.0)
  - Athletic fields (3.9)
  - Natural areas and community gardens (3.7)
- Concerns expressed included safety and need for positive programming

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Nearby Parks & Schools

With valuable feedback on suitability, Maple Street is poised for partnerships that facilitate a long-term ownership transition, community-led concept development, and phased activation to make the community vision a reality

1. Shawnee Golf Course
2. Shawnee Park
3. Chickasaw Park
4. Portland Park
5. Boone Square Park
6. Elliot Park
7. Sheppard Park
8. Victory Park
9. California Park
10. Future: The Track on Ali

1. MLK Jr. Elementary
2. Academy at Shawnee
3. Young Elementary
4. Portland Elementary
5. Atkinson Elementary
6. Western Middle
7. Byck Elementary
8. Coleridge Taylor Elementary
9. Central High School
10. Roosevelt Perry Elementary
11. Brandeis Elementay
12. West End School
13. Foster Academy
14. John F. Kennedy Montessori
15. Maupin Elementry
16. Johnson Traditional Middle School
17. Wheatley Elementary
18. J. Graham Brown School
19. Presentation Academy
20. Meyzeek Middle School
21. Englehard Elementary