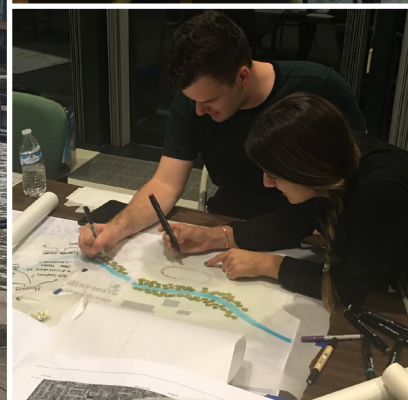


2018 TOLEDO CHARRETTE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From October 5-7th, 2018, students, staff, and faculty from Kent State University's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC), Lawrence Tech University, and the University of Buffalo worked closely with the Toledo Design Center (TDC) and community members in Toledo, Ohio to envision new design futures for the Swan Creek area of the Junction neighborhood. Splitting into four teams, charrette participants worked quickly to generate urban design & landscape proposals for the site.

The design workshop, or "charrette," aligned with the Junction Neighborhood Master Plan, spearheaded by the TDC and the Junction Coalition. The students were asked to develop specific ideas for Swan Creek to complement larger neighborhood planning around recreation, infill, connectivity, and landscape systems. The students' final work can be grouped into six major themes: **Recreation; Access to Water; Infill Housing; Streetscape Connections; Public Art Opportunities; and Healthy Places.**



RECREATION

Students examined the potential for small and large-scale recreation in the Junction neighborhood, using the Swan Creek corridor as a larger connector. In addition to proposing larger connecting pathways (*ABOVE*), students also identified specific opportunities to redesign Sterling Field and Libbey Park to accommodate a wide range of intergenerational recreational activities. *BELOW*, Libbey Park improvements incorporate ideas about four-season use, in order to maximize investments year-round.



INFILL HOUSING

As prompted by the Junction Neighborhood Master Plan, students examined possibilities for new housing in the Junction neighborhood near Swan Creek. Vacant lots could be targeted for infill housing near larger-scale redevelopment, like along Hawley Ave and near Sterling Field. Additionally, existing houses could be retrofitted to allow for accessibility and aging-in-place. If an entire block of houses requires accessibility, the alleys behind the houses could be used to create a block-level ramp network (*RIGHT*).



ACCESS TO WATER



In conjunction with ideas for recreation, students also explored possibilities for expanding access to Swan Creek at multiple points throughout Junction. Ideas included pedestrian bridges, particularly from Sterling Field north to Ewing St (*LEFT*); fishing piers accessed from City Park and Hawley Ave (*BELOW*); integrating seating into river banks; and more.



STREETSCAPE CONNECTIONS



Hawley Ave, as the major north/south connector across Swan Creek, should be redesigned to accommodate multi-modal transit (primarily cyclists & pedestrians), landscaping, lighting, and traffic calming. The railway underpass (*LEFT*) is of particular importance, as its unfriendly and narrow sidewalks currently act as a barrier from Junction to the south.

PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITIES



Existing infrastructure, like the Hawley Ave rail underpass (*LEFT*) and vacant homes in Junction (*BELOW*), could be an opportunity to engage local artists and create one-of-a-kind installations to enliven the neighborhood.



HEALTHY PLACES



In addition to the larger-scale Swan Creek recreation corridor, Junction could bring smaller-scale opportunities for engaging in healthy activities into the neighborhood, like this exercise equipment (*LEFT*). Encouraging cross-generational play would ensure that residents of all ages are able to pursue healthy lifestyles in their own backyards.

THANKS TO OUR CHARRETTE SPONSORS:

