



# PRATT ENSLEY

## FRAMEWORK PLAN

PLAN OVERVIEW

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CHAPTER GUIDES

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PRIORITY  
RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR IMPLEMENTATION

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

City of Birmingham |  
Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham

# DECEMBER 2018



This project was supported by funding from the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (RPCGB), the Birmingham Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Building Communities Program, and the City of Birmingham. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the Birmingham MPO or the RPCGB.

This plan was prepared as a cooperative effort of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT), MPO and RPCGB as a requirement of Title 23 USC 134 and subsequent modification under Public Law 114-94 (FAST Act) December 2015. The contents of the plan do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the USDOT.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION ON  
DECEMBER 10, 2018

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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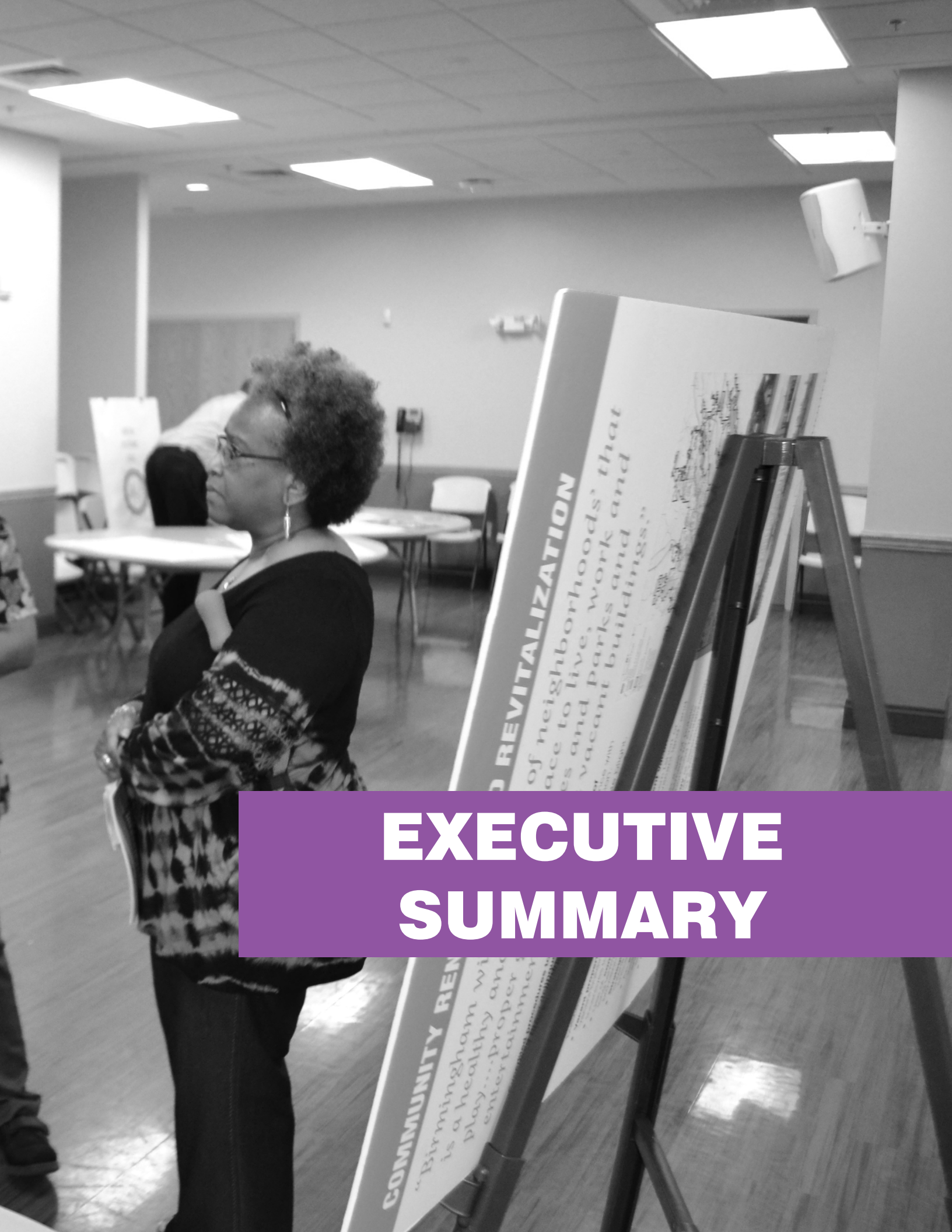
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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION**  
of neighborhoods that  
are to live, work and  
play... proper  
entertainment  
vacant buildings."

**COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION**  
"Birmingham will  
is a healthy and  
play... proper  
entertainment  
vacant buildings."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

# PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Pratt Ensley Framework Plan is a subset of the **2013 City of Birmingham Comprehensive Plan**. The purpose of this plan is to develop specific recommendations that support the ideas and needs of the community and achieve the visions set forth by the **Birmingham Comprehensive Plan**. The plan is scheduled for adoption Spring 2018 and will be implemented in partnership by area residents, businesses, institutions, the City, and other stakeholders.

ABOUT PRATT ENSLEY

# STUDY AREA

This plan's study area includes three communities – Pratt, Ensley Central, and Ensley West (the Ensley community is broken into two communities) spread over twelve different neighborhoods (See **Figure 1.1**). The area covered by this Framework Plan spans over 24.3 square miles and includes over 12,200 parcels.

## PRATT

The Pratt Community is located north of Village Creek, which serves as a natural boundary with the Ensley community. The neighborhoods of North Pratt, Central Pratt and South Pratt comprise the former Pratt City, one of several locations annexed into Birmingham in 1910. Sandusky (1968) and Smithfield Estates (1975) are more recent annexations into Birmingham.

This community includes six neighborhoods:

- Central Pratt
- North Pratt
- Sandusky
- Smithfield Estates
- South Pratt
- Thomas

# PROJECT TEAM

The City of Birmingham contracted with the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham to develop the plan using the Building Communities Program, which uses a combination of funding from the United States Department of Transportation and a local match from the City.



WHAT IS A FRAMEWORK PLAN, ANYWAY?

## ENSLEY CENTRAL

The Ensley Central Community lies along the Norfolk Southern rail corridor on the north and east sides of I-20/59. Most the parcels in this portion of Ensley were annexed into the City by 1910. The development patterns and street grid of the Ensley neighborhood reflect its history as an independent city.

This community includes three neighborhoods:

- Ensley
- Tuxedo
- Wylam

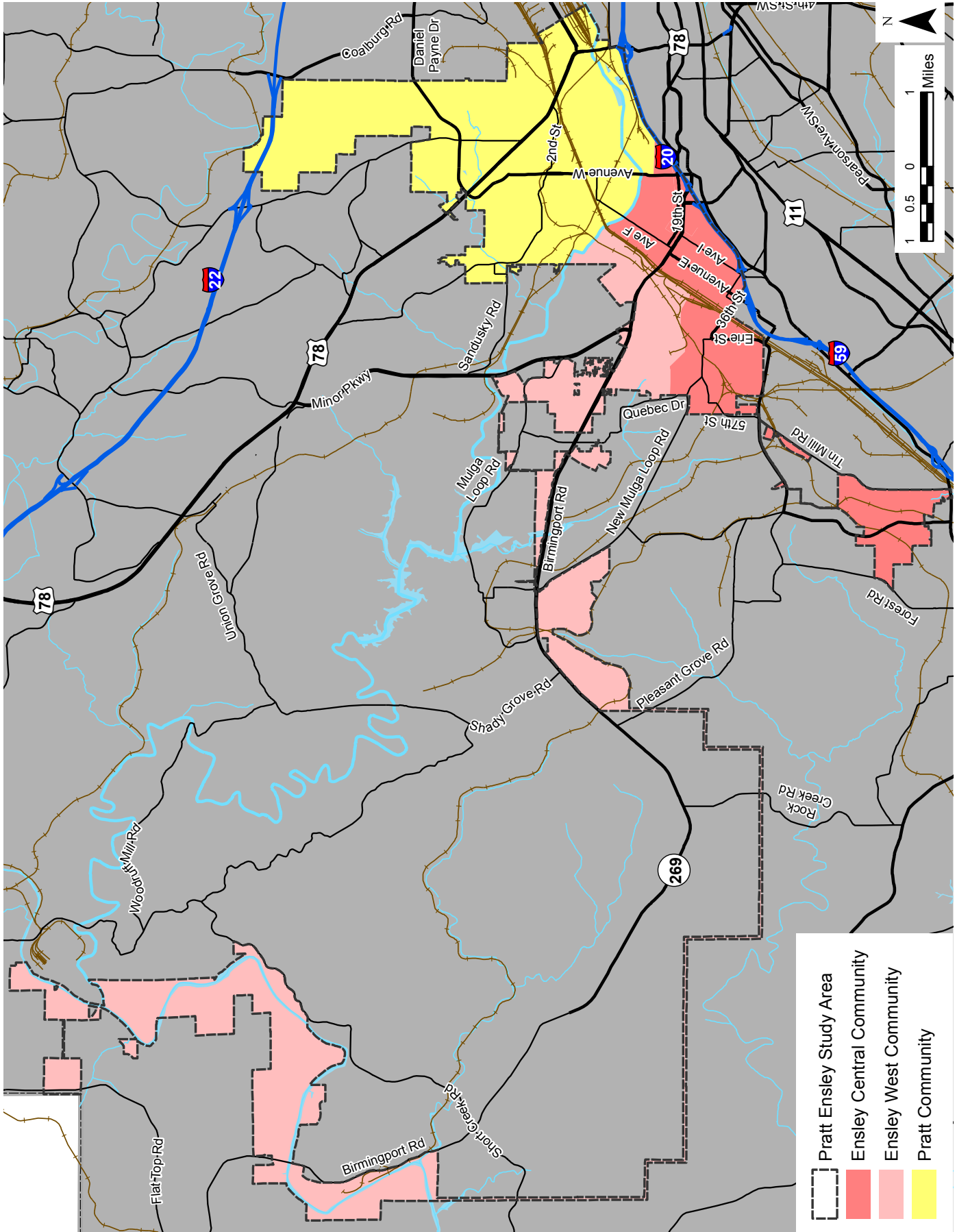
## ENSLEY WEST

The Ensley West Community lies directly to the west of the Norfolk Southern rail corridor, and extends westward along Birmingham Road. Many of the neighborhoods in this portion of the community, such as Dolomite (1987), Oak Ridge (1969) and Sherman Heights (1949), were annexed into the City after the peak of steel and coal production that provided most of the economic activity for the Pratt and Ensley communities.

This community includes three neighborhoods:

- Dolomite
- Sherman Heights
- Oak Ridge

ES.1: Pratt Ensley Area Communities Map



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**FRAMEWORK PLANNING PROCESS**

The development of this plan took about a year to complete. The project team split the plan into five phases, explained in detail below.

**PHASE #1-  
EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The Existing Conditions document included analyses and survey results that helped identify qualitative and quantitative needs and opportunities in the Pratt Ensley Area, which were used to craft the final plan's recommendations. Analyses included information on housing, demographics, retail, workforce, and other topics. A parcel-by-parcel analysis was completed by the project team that identified the existing use and building condition of all properties in the Pratt Ensley Area. The Existing Conditions Document is included as [Appendix A](#) to this plan.

**PHASE #2-  
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

As part of the planning process, the project team held 4 public meetings and several interviews with stakeholders to facilitate community input. A stakeholder committee of neighborhood officers, community nonprofit organizations, local institutions, and business owners was formed to provide a working relationship with the public. A combination of stakeholder committee meetings and public meetings provided the project team with feedback and direction for the plan's development.

**Interviews**

The project team began by meeting with City staff, elected officials, nonprofit directors, and others to gain an understanding of the area and to learn about any past or ongoing projects in the communities.

**Public Meeting #1: January 31, 2017 @  
McAlpine Recreation Center**

Over 50 residents showed up to the plan's kickoff meeting. At the meeting, the project team presented relevant information from the Existing Conditions Document, such as demographics, housing, retail, jobs, and land uses to inform attendees and to provide information about their neighborhoods. Afterwards, attendees were broken up by communities to discuss specific needs and opportunities using maps and vision boards. For more information about the kickoff

meeting, please look at the [Pratt Ensley Community Framework Kickoff Meeting Summary](#).

**Stakeholder Interview #1: December 08,  
2016 @ McAlpine Recreation Center**

The first stakeholder interview was a joint effort between the planning team and the Mayor's office, to inform local businesses, community leaders, faith-based leaders, and local nonprofits of current conditions in the Pratt and Ensley communities pertaining to Community Renewal, Green Systems, Economic Vitality, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Brownfield Redevelopment Opportunity Sites. Residents were asked to identify what they liked in the Framework Area, what they didn't like, and what they wanted to see. In addition, residents were also asked to prioritize brownfield sites within their communities that they would like to see included in the EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant.

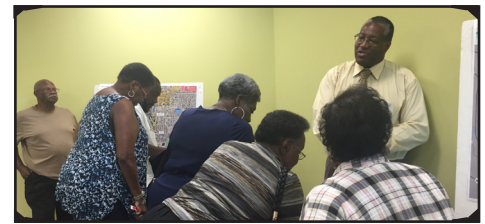
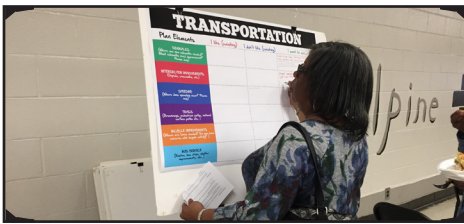
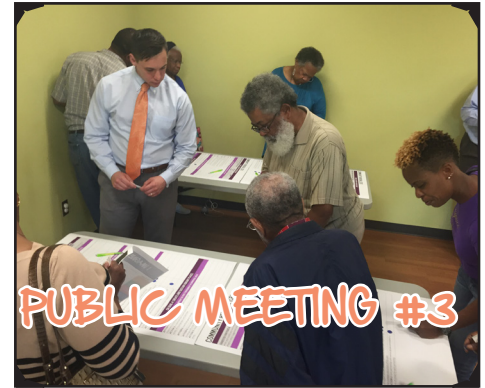
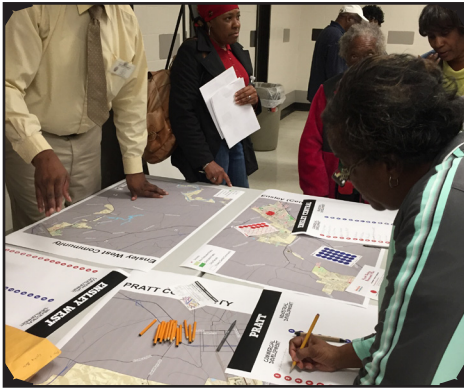
**Stakeholder Interview #2: January 11,  
2017 @ the Bethesda Life Center**

The second stakeholder interview was organized by the planning team and the grassroots group Ensley Alive. Over the years, Ensley Alive has worked with business owners and residents, REV Birmingham, and nonprofits to host community events, pop-up shops, and to educate others about Ensley's rich history and cultural amenities. The primary reason for this interview was to inform the group about the Framework process, and to receive feedback about the community's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

**Stakeholder Interview #3: February 16,  
2017 @ Birmingham City Hall**

The third stakeholder interview was held between the planning team, and the Housing Authority Birmingham District (HABD). The primary reason for this meeting was to discuss any ongoing or future projects in the Pratt Ensley Area. Currently, Tuxedo Terrace is the only public housing development in the Pratt Ensley Area.





Above: Residents identify what they like, what they don't like, and what they would like to see at the Open House meeting on January 31, 2017.

Above: Ensley residents prioritize draft goals, strategies, and actions for the Framework Plan on March 21, 2017.

Above: Pratt residents prioritize draft goals, strategies, and actions for the Framework Plan on May 02, 2017.

### Stakeholder Interview #4: March 9, 2017 @ Jackson Olin High School

This stakeholder interview was held at Jackson Olin High School in order to gain student input about the Pratt Ensley Framework Plan. This interview helped the planning team understand the major issues in the community, according to students, and how they affect quality of life. Moreover, students expressed their vision for the Pratt and Ensley communities and noted the need for better homes, new sidewalks, more jobs, less violence, and additional stores and restaurants.

### Public Meeting #2: March 21, 2017 @ McAlpine Recreation Center

At the second public meeting, the project team presented the proposed goals, strategies, and actions by Framework chapter (Community Renewal, Green Systems, Economic Vitality, and Transportation and Infrastructure) and asked attendees to make changes, additions, and general notes. Citizens from all communities within the Framework Plan were

represented. In total, 42 residents and stakeholders signed in. In addition to reviewing the draft goals, strategies, and actions, participants were asked to provide suggestions for what they wanted to see in the two Strategic Opportunity Areas (to see the results of this meeting, please review the [March 21 Meeting Summary](#)).

### Stakeholder Interview #5: April 12, 2017 @ East Ensley Library

The fifth stakeholder interview was arranged by the planning staff to have a general discussion about the drafted Green Systems recommendations and the Village Creek Master Plan. Residents along Village Creek and members of the Village Creek Society (VCS) were present. The planning team asked VCS members to provide feedback on draft recommendations that impact Village Creek and to identify key segments of the proposed Village Creek Linear Trail. Feedback received from this meeting has been incorporated into the Green Systems chapter.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Stakeholder Interview #6: April 18, 2017 @ the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham**

This stakeholder interview was conducted between the planning team and the City of Birmingham’s Stormwater Management Department. This interview focused solely on the Green Systems chapter of the Pratt Ensley Framework Plan, and enabled the Stormwater Management Department to provide technical assistance and to identify capital improvement projects that would reduce flooding throughout the Framework Area.

**Public Meeting #3: May 02, 2017 @ the Pratt Library**

This meeting was a follow-up from the second public meeting on March 21, 2017 that introduced the Goals, Strategies, and Actions for the Pratt Ensley Framework Plan. A total of 31 residents signed in, including Birmingham City Councilor Marcus Lundy. The purpose of this meeting was to continue to gather feedback regarding the draft goals, strategies, and recommended actions that are included in the chapters of this Framework Plan: Community Renewal, Green Systems, Economic Vitality, Transportation and Infrastructure, as well as **Appendix D: Strategic Opportunity Areas**. To view the results of this meeting, please see the [May 2 Meeting Summary](#).

**Stakeholder Interview #7: June 08, 2017 @ Bethel Baptist Church**

This stakeholder interview was scheduled to review the results of the second and third public meetings. At the meeting, the planning team presented the high priority actions identified by the public, and reviewed the recommendations made for the Strategic Opportunity Areas. Stakeholders were asked to perform three tasks. First, residents were asked to identify ways in which they could help support some of the Framework Plan’s actions. Second, stakeholders were asked to identify actions they considered a top priority (actions that should be executed immediately). Lastly, stakeholders were asked to establish measures for success for each goal in the Framework Plan.

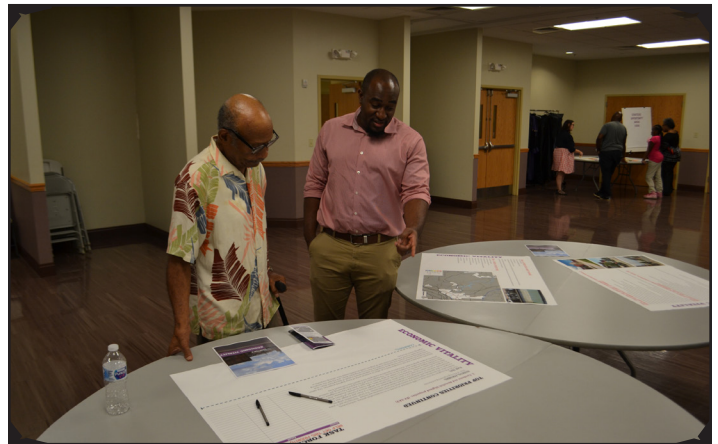
**Stakeholder Interview #8: June 16, 2017 @ Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham**

The eighth stakeholder interview was conducted by the planning team and Bethel Ensley Action Taskforce (BEAT) to understand their role in the redevelopment of

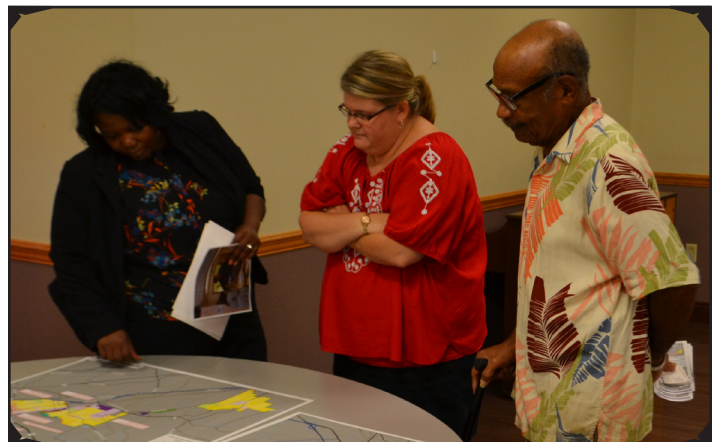
the Ensley Community. In total, BEAT has redeveloped 51 units of new affordable housing, a park, and community center within the Ensley community. Currently, BEAT is working with the City of Birmingham to transform and revitalize downtown Ensley to include a dynamic active park, surrounded by commercial space, affordable housing, educational and health facilities for residents, and an entrepreneurial and small business center. This current effort, as well as other recommendations, are outlined in **Appendix D: Strategic Opportunity Areas**.

**Public Meeting #4: October 10, 2017 @ Bethel Baptist Church in Pratt**

At the fourth public meeting, the project team presented the final draft of the plan including changes to the area’s future land use map. Following the presentation, attendees were given an opportunity to review draft pages of the plan, the proposed future land use map, and a draft of **Appendix D: Strategic Opportunity Areas**.



Above: Residents review the draft Framework Plan on October 10, 2017.



Above: Residents review the changes to the Future Land Use Map at the final meeting on October 10, 2017.

## STRENGTHS

- PROXIMITY TO DOWNTOWN BIRMINGHAM
- PARKS, GREENSPACES, AND TRAILS
- HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE
- INVOLVED RESIDENTS

## WEAKNESSES

- ABANDONED HOMES
- CRIME
- VACANT AND UNDERUTILIZED RETAIL
- FOOD DESERT
- LACK OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

## OPPORTUNITIES

- ENSLEY JUNCTION DEVELOPMENT
- REDEVELOPMENT OF VACANT LOTS AND BUILDINGS
- VILLAGE CREEK LINEAR TRAIL
- RECRUIT A GROCERY STORE
- DESTINATION PARK SPACES

## THREATS

- DECREASING POPULATION
- ABANDONED HOUSING
- FLOODING AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
- DECREASING HOME-OWNERSHIP AND DECLINING PROPERTY VALUES
- POOR TRANSIT







# PLAN ORGANIZATION

The Pratt Ensley Framework Plan provides structure and a methodology for converting the community’s vision into a sustainable reality. The plan contains seven chapters and 4 appendices. Chapters 2 to 6 cover the following planning elements: Community Renewal, Green Systems, Economic Vitality, Transportation + Infrastructure, and Future Land Use. Each chapter has goals, supporting strategies and implementation actions that relate to the chapter’s theme. A description of each chapter is outlined in **Table 1.1**.

**TABLE 1.1: Plan Organization**

	CHAPTER	DESCRIPTION	COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONNECTION
PLANNING THEMES	<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	Purpose, planning team, study area, planning process	--
	<b>2 COMMUNITY RENEWAL</b>	Housing, affordability, blight, built environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 7:</b> Neighborhoods, Historic Preservation, and Housing</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 8:</b> Community Renewal</li> </ul>
	<b>3 GREEN SYSTEMS</b>	Parks, water, natural resources, open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 4:</b> Natural Resources and Environmental Constraints</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 5:</b> Open Space, Parks and Recreation</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 6:</b> Sustainability and Green Practices</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 13:</b> Supporting Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure</li> </ul>
	<b>4 ECONOMIC VITALITY</b>	Jobs, retail, catalyst sites, business development, workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 10:</b> Reinforcing the Building Blocks of the Economy</li> </ul>
	<b>5 TRANSPORTATION+ INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	Transit, roads, sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 12:</b> Getting from Here to There: Transportation and Mobility</li> </ul>
	<b>6 FUTURE LAND USE</b>	Land use, zoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 14:</b> Future Land Use, Regulations and Urban Design</li> </ul>
	<b>7 IMPLEMENTATION</b>	Priority, time-frame, partners, funding	--
	<b>APPENDIX A: EXISTING CONDITIONS</b>	This document is an in-depth assessment of where the Pratt Ensley Area is today and covers a range of topics: a demographic summary, existing land use, zoning, development trends, natural resources, the transportation system, and community facilities and services.	--
	<b>APPENDIX B: HOUSING ANALYSIS</b>	This document explores housing trends in the Pratt Ensley Area.	--
	<b>APPENDIX C: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY</b>	This document summarizes public involvement for the Framework Plan to date.	--
<b>APPENDIX D: STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITY AREAS</b>	This document focuses on targeted recommendations for each Strategic Opportunity Area and includes capital improvement projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 7:</b> Neighborhoods, Historic Preservation and Housing</li> </ul>	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# COMMUNITY RENEWAL



## NEEDS

Code enforcement, property maintenance and blight monitoring

Access to healthy food and healthcare facilities

Improved safety and security

Improved communication between the city and residents

## OPPORTUNITIES

Beautification of blighted properties into productive uses

Affordable housing options

Community watch groups and improved police coordination

New partnerships with the city and other nonprofits

The Community Renewal chapter for this plan involves a multitude of various issues that affect the Pratt Ensley Area such as housing, blight, and neighborhood population.

Although these issues may seem disparate, they share the desired outcome of improved quality of life for all and have overlapping partners, strategies, and actions. For instance, improving the housing stock can reduce blight while attracting new residents that then bring additional investment to the area. Implementing an action of one of the goals of this chapter inevitably eases the implementation of another goal's actions. This chapter attempts to reflect its interrelated goals by ordering them from the area's needs to wants and ending with inclusivity.

## CHAPTER GOALS:

**GOAL #1:** Identify and reduce blight.

**GOAL #2:** Ensure safety of communities.

**GOAL #3:** Ensure the the physical well-being of residents is improved.

**GOAL #4:** Provide high quality housing options for a variety of income and household sizes.

**GOAL #5:** improve citizen involvement in their communities and establish new partnerships.



# GREEN SYSTEMS



## NEEDS

Additional parks and trails

Maintenance of recreational facilities

Systems to manage stormwater and flood-prone properties

Continued focus on disaster resilience

## OPPORTUNITIES

Greenspace expansion and trail connections

Village Creeks and educational spaces

Best Management practices for stormwater

Disaster resilience

The need to improve the quality of life for citizens of the Pratt Ensley Area through access to adequate recreational facilities is paramount. However, this need must be satiated without compromising the area's natural resources. Natural resources, like Village Creek, do not adhere to political boundaries. The City must work with for-profit and nonprofit organizations to protect the natural resources that it shares with other jurisdictions. Taking such an approach would not only enable the City to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the needs of future generations – environmental sustainability – but also would allow the City to better plan for natural disasters - resiliency. Furthermore, if leveraged correctly, Pratt Ensley's natural resources could be used to attract more residents and businesses to the area.

## CHAPTER GOALS:

**GOAL #1:** Recreational opportunities are within a 10-minute walk of every resident.

**GOAL #2:** Village Creek is restored to enhance natural habitat, watershed health and water quality, and to improve flooding.

**GOAL #3:** A plan for food recovery and long-term resilience is established.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



## NEEDS

Shopping and restaurant options

Centrally located grocery stores

Workforce and educational development programs

Employment opportunities for residents

Small business resources

## OPPORTUNITIES

Historic districts, commercial revitalization districts, availability of vacant retail

Revitalization of Port Birmingham

Large entrepreneur labor pool

Partnerships with local business organizations

The purpose of this chapter is to highlight specific goals and actions in terms of economic vitality for the Pratt Ensley Area. Within the context of this chapter, an economic market analysis has been prepared and provides important information that describes the financial health and economic diversity of the Ensley and Pratt Communities. The aforementioned analysis has been provided in **Appendix A: Existing Conditions**, which can aid existing and perspective business owners as well as investors in identifying potential opportunities within the communities. In addition, this chapter identifies Catalyst Sites and Strategic Opportunity Areas (SOAs). Catalyst Sites are potential public or private projects that if developed my cause complementary development to surrounding areas. SOAs are areas that have “market potential, presence of employment centers, location in relation to current and future plans for transit improvements, momentum from existing activities, and good urban form.” This plan recommends several ways to make SOAs a priority, both in this chapter and in **Appendix D: Strategic Opportunity Areas**. The two SOAs for the Pratt Ensley Area are the Pratt City SOA and Downtown Ensley. In conjunction with the findings from the economic market analysis, catalysts sites, and SOAs this chapter outlines some of the major themes in reference to economic vitality that resulted from the public meetings held during the formation of this plan.

## CHAPTER GOALS:

**GOAL #1:** Education and workforce development resources are readily available to improve educational attainment.

**GOAL #2:** Support an economy with viable commercial, mixed-use, research, and retail development.

**GOAL #3:** Satisfy retail demand.

**GOAL #4:** Utilize catalyst sites.

**GOAL #5:** Promote freight improvements in the Ensley Community.

# TRANSPORTATION



## NEEDS

More sidewalks,  
greenway trails, + bike  
facilities

Safer streets +  
intersections

New + enhanced bus  
shelters

Streets that need  
resurfacing, pothole  
repair + sidewalk repair

## OPPORTUNITIES

Safe Routes to Schools  
Complete streets policy  
endorsement by City  
Council

Port Birmingham freight  
improvements

Transportation in its various forms plays a critical role in the livability in Birmingham, affecting access to education and opportunity, goods and services, worship and recreation. Circulation patterns affect the quality of residential streets and their safety and walkability. Quality transportation connections have always been a precursor to growth and economic success. This chapter provides strategies and actions for addressing transportation system deficiencies, and improving the overall travel conditions for the Pratt Ensley Area.

## CHAPTER GOALS:

**GOAL #1:** Build a multi-modal transportation network to provide a wide range of transportation choices.

**GOAL #2:** Physically and fiscally invest in the transportation system.

**GOAL #3:** Improve transit services.

**GOAL #4:** Enhance the usage of Port Birmingham through freight related improvements

## RECOMMENDED PROJECTS:

- Implement short-term priority projects identified in the Birmingham Sidewalk Master Plan.
- Build out segments of off-road trails and bicycle facilities as identified in the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System (RRRVTS).
- Develop context sensitive traffic calming programs.
- Streamline local bus service by implementing the 2017 Transit Development Plan.
- Improve local transit stops and amenities.
- Utilize the SMART Resurfacing Pavement Management System to guide road resurfacing projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

# FUTURE LAND USE



## NEEDS

A mix of retail options

Expanded housing options

High quality design

## OPPORTUNITIES

More mixed-use areas in Strategic Opportunity Areas

New multi and single family houses that attract people of all ages and incomes

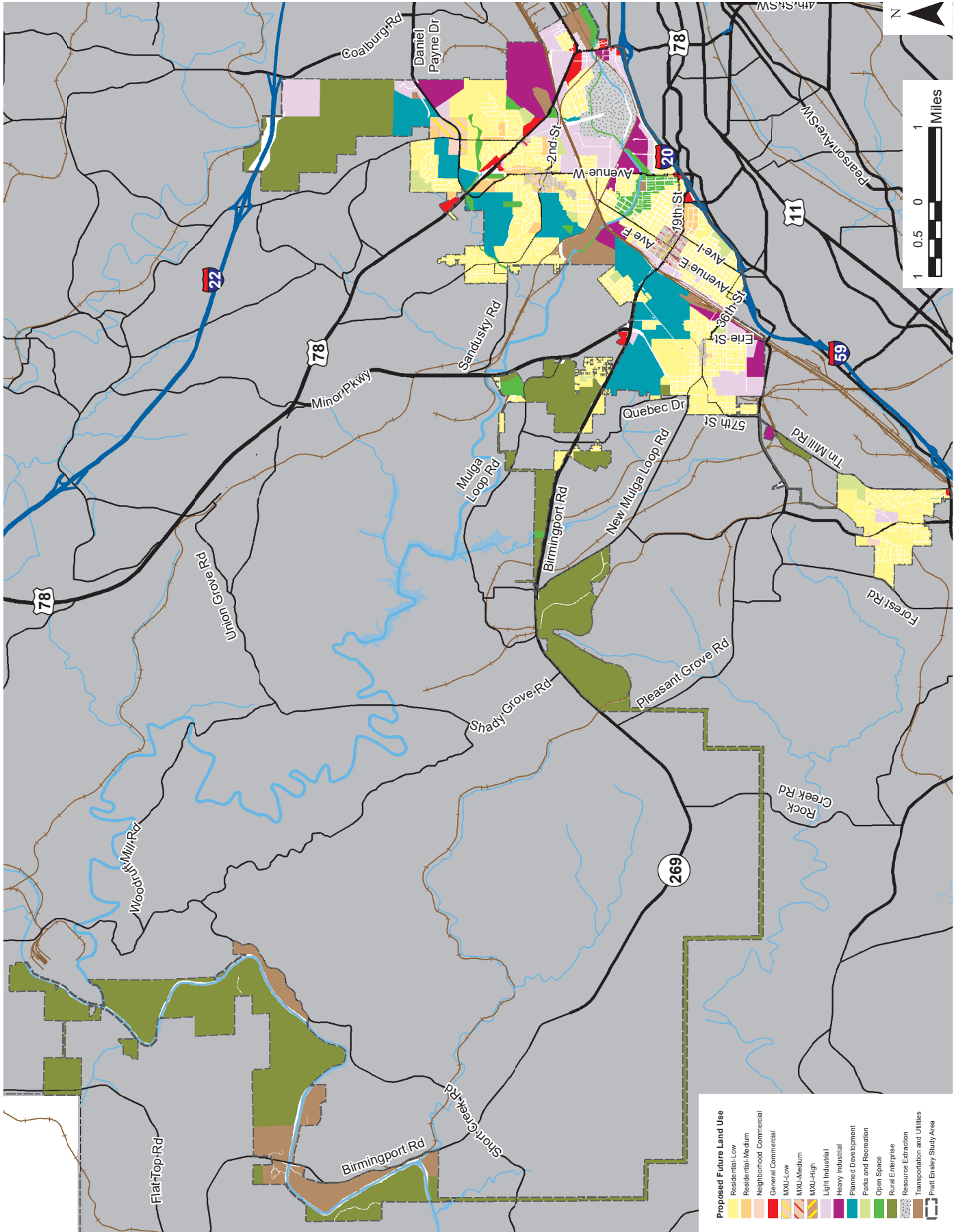
Expanded greenspace

The Birmingham Comprehensive Plan established a Future Land Use Plan (Map) for the City which generally outlines expected land use patterns and development citywide. Adopted in 2014, this map is more prescriptive in nature, and may not reflect the existing land uses, or the most appropriate land uses within the Pratt Ensley Area. The Future Land use Plan (Map) is subject to periodic review to see if conditions have changed to justify an amendment, or change. Through this Framework process, the project team identified recommended changes to the Future Land Use Plan (Map) based off a detailed windshield survey which identified existing land uses and building conditions within the four Northeast communities stake holder meetings, and plan development. The recommended changes to the Land Use Map are shown in **Figure ES.2**. Once adopted, the Future Land Use Map will be the legal basis for zoning. Any rezonings for property in the Pratt Ensley Area requested by the City or private individuals will be required to follow the Future Land Use map.

## CHAPTER GOALS:

**GOAL #1:** New growth is supported by insisting on quality developments and by promoting desired land use patterns that allow for a variety of compatible uses.

ES.2: Pratt Ensley Area Communities Map



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**USER'S GUIDE****HOW DO I USE THIS MATRIX?**

This matrix is separated into #, ACTIONS, PAGE #, PRIORITY, TIMEFRAME, + POTENTIAL PARTNERS.

**DEFINITIONS**

**#** - The action's number in the plan.

**ACTION** - The title of a recommendation

**PAGE #** - The page number(s) for the recommendation

**PRIORITY** - The importance of a recommendation set by stakeholders

**Top:** Needs to be done now... taskforce in place

**High:** Needs to be done as soon as possible... taskforce is organizing

**Medium:** Can wait for higher priority items... taskforce members are only identified

**Low:** Long-range recommendation... no taskforce yet

**TIMELINE** - The potential completion date based on feasibility and priority

**In progress:** Implementation is ongoing

**Short-term:** 0-5 years

**Medium-term:** 5-10 years

**Long-term:** 10+ years

**POTENTIAL PARTNERS** - Public agencies, organizations, and stakeholders that have expressed interest in the action item or have relevant authority.

TABLE 1.2: Implementation Matrix

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
<b>COMMUNITY RENEWAL CHAPTER</b>					
<b>GOAL 1: IDENTIFY AND REDUCE BLIGHT</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: IMPROVE PROPERTY CONDITION COLLECTION AND CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS</b>					
#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
2	Create a citizen's guide for code enforcement that enables citizens to report blighted properties	18	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Dept. of Community Development, Neighborhood Associations
5	Support the use of Public Improvements and Beautification Committee and Neighborhood Association funds for improvements	21	High	Short	Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Legal Dept., Neighborhood Associations
<b>STRATEGY E: PREVENT ILLEGAL DUMPING ON ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE SITES</b>					
2	Develop an illegal dumping and litter abatement task force to include public agencies, private businesses, and community groups involved in cleanup	34	High	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Dept. of Public Works, Keep Birmingham Beautiful
3	Focus on developing activities and programs designed to minimize illegal dumping	34	Top	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Dept., of Public Works, Birmingham Law Dept.
4	Create promotional materials to educate citizens on the harmful impacts of illegal dumping, i.e. human health, safety, cleanup costs, and water quality	36	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Stormwater Division, Dept. of Public Works
<b>STRATEGY F: IDENTIFY AND REMEDIATE ILLEGAL DUMPING SITES</b>					
2	Create a map highlighting illegal dumping hotspots	36	High	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Dept. of Public Works
<b>GOAL 2: ENSURE SAFETY OF COMMUNITIES</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS AND PROGRAMS</b>					
2	Create and promote neighborhood watch and block captain programs	37	High	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Neighborhood Associations
<b>STRATEGY B: CREATE A SAFER BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>					
1	Develop neighborhood lighting programs	38	High	In Progress	Neighborhood Associations, Alabama Power

**IMPLEMENTATION**

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
4	Re-establish the Birmingham police substation in Downtown Ensley.	39	High	Medium	Birmingham Police Dept
6	Establish a neighborhood watch group to provide police with additional “eyes and ears” and to promote cooperation among residents and police	41	High	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Neighborhood Associations
9	Enforce the City’s Leash Law	42	High	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Dept. of Public Works, 311
10	Increase and improve the quality of Animal Control	42	High	Short	Birmingham Police Dept., Dept. of Public Works, 311
<b>GOAL 3: ENSURE THE PHYSICAL WELL-BEING OF RESIDENTS IS IMPROVED</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: SUPPORT COMMUNITY WELLNESS THROUGH POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES</b>					
1	Increase awareness of City’s existing support services and programs	43	High	Short	Jefferson County Dept. of Health (JCDH), Dept. of Community Development, Mayor’s Office, University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)
4	Establish school-based health clinics to improve access to healthcare	45	High	Long	Birmingham Board of Education, Lawson State Community College, JCDH, Quality of Life Health Services INC.
5	Develop a tool to measure quality of life at the neighborhood level to better guide and prioritize public and private investments	47	High	Short	City of Birmingham, Health Action Partnership, Dept. of Planning, Engineering, and Permits, JCDH
<b>STRATEGY B: ENCOURAGE AN ACTIVE LIFESTYLE FOR RESIDENTS THROUGH POLICIES AND AMENITIES</b>					
1	Implement the Future Land Use Map/Plan to allow mixed-use development and encourage more services and retail within walking distance to residents	47	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering, and Permits
3	Integrate Complete Streets to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists	48	High	In Progress	Health Action Partnership, Dept. of Planning Engineering, and Permits, Dept. of Traffic Engineering, Complete Streets Advisory Board
4	Build sidewalks in areas of need and build out the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System to improve pedestrian access to nearby recreational amenities	48	High	In Progress	Freshwater Land Trust, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Health Action Partnership, Dept. of Public Works



IMPLEMENTATION

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
5	Support Village Creek Greenway	48	High	In Progress	Village Creek Socceity
7	Provide additional adult and senior recreational programming at local recreation centers	48	High	Short	Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board
<b>STRATEGY C: MAKE FRESH PRODUCE MORE ACCESSIBLE TO RESIDENTS</b>					
1	Promote existing community gardens in Ensley	48	High	Short	Neighborhood Associations, Ensley Alive
<b>GOAL 4: PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY HOUSING OPTIONS FOR A VARIETY OF INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD SIZES</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EXISTING HOUSING IN THE PRATT ENSLEY AREA</b>					
1	Enforce the City’s current building codes to reduce blight	55	High	Short	Dept. of Community Development, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits
<b>STRATEGY B: SUPPORT NEW AND QUALITY HOUSING OPTIONS AND HOMEOWNERSHIP THROUGH POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS</b>					
2	Implement the Future Land Use Map/Plan to allow a variety of housing types and densities.	58	High	Short	Dept. of Planning, Engineering and Permits
3	Adopt Character-Based Codes in Strategic Opportunity Areas.	58	High	Short	Dept. of Planning, Engineering and Permits
9	Collaborate with Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) to increase access to capital for homebuyers and developers	64	High	Medium	Dept. of Community Development, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Housing Authority of the Birmingham District
12	Work with HABD, private developers, nonprofits and other organizations to infill single and mulitfamily housing on underutilized properties	65	Top	In Progress	Dept. of Community Development, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Housing Authority of the Birmingham District

**IMPLEMENTATION**

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
<b>GREEN SYSTEMS CHAPTER</b>					
<b>GOAL 1: RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE WITHIN A TEN MINUTE WALK OF EVERY RESIDENT</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: EXPAND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS</b>					
3	Offer group education, social, or physical activities that promote social interactions, regular attendance, and community involvement among seniors at local recreation centers and in the community.	74	High	Short	JCDH, Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board
5	Outline the parks and recreation reservation process for residents	76	High	Short	Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board
7	Support the ongoing construction of One Pratt Park	77	High	In Progress	Dept. of Community Development, Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board
<b>STRATEGY B: ENSURE PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ARE SAFE AND WELL-MAINTAINED</b>					
3	Dedicate adequate funding for park maintenance and for capital improvements	78	High	Short	Birmingham City Council, Mayor's Office
5	Update and maintain Ensley Park	79	High	Medium	Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board, Neighborhood Associations
<b>STRATEGY C: PROVIDE SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE ROUTES TO NEIGHBORHOODS, COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS, AND CIVIC AMENITIES</b>					
1	Implement priority portions of the Red Rock Ridge and Valley Trail System	84	High	In Progress	Freshwater Land Trust, Dept. Planning Engineering and Permits
3	Continue working with the Village Creek Human and Environmental Justice Society, Inc. to increase access to recreational facilities for residents.	84	High	Short	Village Creek Society, Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits

IMPLEMENTATION

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
<b>GOAL 2: INCORPORATE GREEN SYSTEMS INTO CITY POLICY TO SUPPORT STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATE FLOODING</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: INCORPORATE GREEN SYSTEMS INTO CITY POLICY TO SUPPORT STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATE FLOODING</b>					
4	Support the City as they draft the new Stormwater Ordinance that will require the use of low impact development (LID) or green infrastructure techniques in new developments to mitigate the impact of stormwater runoff citywide	88	High	In Progress	Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Birmingham Water Works Board, Village Creek Society, Freshwater Land Trust
5	Encourage the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) on all new developments during post-construction to control soil erosion and minimize sediment runoff	88	Medium	In Progress	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Stormwater Division
6	Modify the subdivision ordinance to reduce excessive cut and fill grading and the destruction of significant trees, vegetation, and wildlife habitats during the construction of new development	90	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Stormwater Division
<b>STRATEGY B: CONTINUE TO PROTECT AND MITIGATE VILLAGE CREEK BY SUPPORTING POLICIES AND PROGRAMS THAT ENSURE ITS PRESERVATION AND IMPORTANCE IN THE COMMUNITY</b>					
1	Implement priority projects from the Village Creek Watershed Management Master Plan.	101	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Stormwater Division
<b>GOAL 3: A PLAN FOR FLOOD RECOVERY AND LONG-TERM RESILIENCE IS ESTABLISHED</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: ACQUIRE AND/OR PROTECT LAND IN FLOOD-PRONE AREAS</b>					
3	Adopt a riparian buffer ordinance	107	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Stormwater Division, and Floodplain Division
4	Continue to remove structures out of the floodway	107	High	In Progress	Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, USGBC of Alabama, Jefferson County Environmental Services, Alabama Dept. of Transportation

**IMPLEMENTATION**

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
<b>STRATEGY B: ENSURE THE SAFETY OF RESIDENTS IN THE EVENT OF HAZARDOUS WEATHER</b>					
2	Construct storm shelters as dictated by the City of Birmingham	108	High	Long	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Stormwater Division, and Floodplain Division
<b>ECONOMIC VITALITY CHAPTER</b>					
<b>GOAL 1: EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES ARE READILY AVAILABLE TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: EXPAND RESOURCES TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>					
1	Develop pre-college education programs for students	115	High	Short	Lawson State Community College, Miles College, Birmingham Board of Education, Alabama Industrial Development Training Alabama Workforce Training Center
3	Support local nonprofit efforts to increase education in the Pratt Ensley Area	116	High	Short	City of Birmingham, Local Nonprofits
4	Leverage Jackson Olin’s distinction as a career academy to promote workforce development in the Pratt Ensley Area	117	Top	Short	City of Birmingham, Birmingham Board of Education
<b>GOAL 2: SUPPORT AN ECONOMY WITH VIABLE COMMERCIAL, MIXED USE, RESEARCH AND RETAIL DEVELOPMENT</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: UTILIZE A VARIETY OF INCENTIVE PROGRAMS AND DEVELOPMENT TOOLS TO ENCOURAGE REINVESTMENT IN THE PRATT ENSLEY AREA</b>					
1	Assist local businesses, developers and other entrepreneurs with gap financing	121	High	Short	Mayor’s Office of Economic Development
2	Provide start-up help, training, technical and financial assistance to encourage entrepreneurship and business development	121	Top	Short	REV, Birmingham Business Alliance, Central Women’s Business Center, Birmingham Business Resource Center, Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham, Birmingham Land Bank Authority, Mayor’s Office of Economic Development

IMPLEMENTATION

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
4	Educate business, developers, and other entrepreneurs regarding potential funding programs	123	High	Short	Innovation Depot, Alabama Dept. of Economic and Community Affairs, Birmingham Business Resource Center, Foundation Capital, LiftFund, Mayor’s Office of Economic Development, Greater Birmingham Small Business Development Center, REV Birmingham, SpaceFinder Birmingham Funding

**STRATEGY B: ENCOURAGE MARKET AND RETAIN BUSINESSES THAT COMPLEMENT EXISTING BUSINESSES**

1	Encourage new investment within Opportunity Zones.	125	High	Short	Mayor’s Office of Economic Development
2	Make market data readily available to existing and potential businesses	125	High	Short	Mayor’s Office of Economic Development
3	Map the business creation, permitting, and support process	125	High	In Progress	Mayor’s Office of Economic Development
6	Update the City’s Future Land Use Map and Zoning Ordinance to allow for mixed-use development in compatible locations	127	High	Short	Dept of Planning, Engineering and Permits

**GOAL 3: SATISFY RENTAL MARKET DEMAND**

**STRATEGY A: MAKE THE PRATT ENSLEY ARE MORE ATTRACTIVE AREA FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT BY REDUCING BLIGHT AND CRIME**

1	Increase code enforcement	128	High	Short	Community Development
2	Condemn and demolish blighted properties	128	Top	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits
3	Encourage facade improvements for commercial buildings with a tax abatement program	129	High	Short	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Dept. of Community Development
4	Continue working with REV Birmingham to create pop-up events and make temporary streetscape improvements in commercial areas	129	High	In Progress	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Dept. of Community Development, REV Birmingham
5	Reduce negative perceptions by working with the local and national media to promote positive aspects and changes taking place in the Pratt and Ensley communities	131	High	Short	Dept. of Public Information, Birmingham City Council, Mayor’s Office

**IMPLEMENTATION**

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
<b>STRATEGY B: EXPAND THE OFFERING OF FRESH FOOD OPTIONS</b>					
1	Facilitate the retention and development of grocery stores, neighborhood based markets, and farmer’s markets offering fresh produce in neighborhood centers	131	High	In Progress	Healthy Food Financing Initiative, REV Birmingham, P.E.E.R, East Lake Market, Village Market
<b>GOAL 4: UTILIZE CATALYST SITES</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: DISPOSE OF REUSE PUBLICLY OWNED SITES</b>					
1	GW Scott School	132	High	Short	Birmingham Board of Education, Mayor’s Office of Economic Development
<b>GOALS5: PROMOTE FEIGHT IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ENSLEY COMMUNITY</b>					
<b>STRATEGY B: MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO AND MARKET PORT BIRMINGHAM</b>					
1	Conduct a market feasibility study to support Port Birmingham development.	143	High	Short	Port Birmingham, Birmingham- Jefferson County Port Authority (BJPA)
2	Support the construction of a climate-controlled warehouse space to attract new markets.	143	High	Short	BJPA, Port Birmingham, Watco Companies
3	Designate Port Birmingham as a Foreign Trade Zone	144	High	Short	BJPA, Port Birmingham, Watco Companies, Mayor’s Office of Economic Development
<b>TRANSPORTATION CHAPTER</b>					
<b>GOAL 1: BUILD A MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION NETWORK THAT PROVIDES A WIDE RANGE OF TRANSPORTATION CHOICES</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: BUILD AN INTERCONNECTED PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE AND TRAIL SYSTEM</b>					
1	Implement the short-term priority projects identified in the Birmingham Sidewalk Master Plan	153	High	Medium	Dept. of Birmingham Planning Engineering and Permits, Health Action Partnership
4	Support the development of parks and greenways along Village Creek	166	High	In Progress	Freshwater Land Trust, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Village Creek Society
7	Advocate for the City Council endorsement of a City of Birmingham Complete Streets Ordinance	170	High	Short	Birmingham City Council, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits
8	Consider appropriate Complete Streets elements in the Strategic Opportunity Areas	171	High	Medium	Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits, Dept. of Traffic Engineering

IMPLEMENTATION

#	ACTION	PAGE #	PRIORITY	TIME FRAME	POTENTIAL PARTNERS
<b>GOAL 2: PHYSICALLY AND FISCALLY INVEST IN THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM</b>					
<b>STRATEGY A: IMPROVE SAFETY</b>					
2	Develop context sensitive traffic calming programs	172	High	Short	Dept. of Traffic Engineering, Dept. of Planning Engineering and Permits

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMMMARY**