

IMAGINE.DOWNTOWN AKRON 2025



Downtown Housing Workgroup

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Goal	Recommendations	Timeline / Resources
<p>1. Establish the development of quality, urban for-sale housing as a priority in downtown Akron.</p> <p>The higher density and existing infrastructure of downtown allows for numerous housing options that will put less demand on the City's systems and services while requiring far less cost and land consumption than suburban sprawl.</p>	<p>City needs to aid in the acquisition and preparation of downtown sites for development</p> <p>Provide public improvements/infrastructure in support of housing</p> <p>Downtown housing market and architectural studies as needed</p> <p>Possible public/private funding partnerships (Fannie Mae Foundation)</p>	<p>NOW</p> <p>Resources determined on a case-by-case basis</p>
<p>2. Retain and attract lifestyle amenities in downtown Akron.</p> <p>Following social and economic trends, many Gen Xers and Baby Boomers prefer a metropolitan lifestyle that emphasizes activity and convenience in urban living spaces. Retail, entertainment & recreation, arts & culture and services are all vital to the livability of downtown Akron.</p>	<p><u>Retail:</u> Specialty grocery, diners, pubs, restaurants, coffee shops</p> <p><u>Entertainment & Recreation:</u> Towpath, Canal Park Stadium, Lock 3, Downtown Arena, Cuyahoga Valley Rail, exercise facilities, movie theater, concerts, comedy clubs</p> <p><u>Arts & Culture:</u> Akron Art Museum, EJ Thomas Hall, Main Library, First Night Akron, Family-oriented entertainment, private art galleries/incubator</p> <p><u>Services:</u> Various medical services, dry-cleaning, concierge, transit to other areas of downtown, delivery services, daycare, drugstore/grocery, video rentals</p>	<p>A great base of these amenities exist - continual addition of new lifestyle amenities are needed to create a unique living experience in downtown Akron</p>