



Land Use Plan

INVENTORY, ANALYSIS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS



Village of Batavia, Ohio, Land Use Plan

Adopted by the Batavia Village Council on March 2, 2015

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CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO

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PART 1 Goals and Process

Land Use Plan Scope

Spatial Pattern of Land Use

This plan is limited to an analysis of the spatial pattern of land use in the Village of Batavia. The plan includes two components—a Land Use Plan map and the corresponding Land Use Plan text. The plan identifies specific areas or sites where the character of land use should be either protected or improved. Recommendations resulting from this analysis identify specific land use categories for maintaining or achieving desirable land use characteristics. The overall strategies for implementation are described in the plan text while specific site recommendations are shown graphically on the plan map.

Guide for Land Development

The focus of this plan is primarily on guiding the development of land. The plan is not intended to provide guidance for provision of public services. This approach concentrates on land use goals that can be achieved through improvements in the control of development through the Village of Batavia zoning ordinance and zoning map. The relationship of this plan to other traditional plan elements is illustrated in the following diagram (Relationship of Land Use Element to Comprehensive Plan).

Comprehensive Plan Scope

RELATIONSHIP OF LAND USE PLAN TO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Ва	sic Plan Elements	Purpose	
•	Land Use Plan	Policy guidance for development of land	
•	Transportation Plan Utilities Plan Community Facilities Plan Recreation and Open Space Plan Housing Plan Natural Systems Plan Economic Development Plan Intergovernmental Coordination Plan	Policy guidance for provision of public services	
•	Capital Improvements Plan		

Rationale and Purpose

Coordination and Integration

In general, community plans are intended to be a means of coordinating long-term and short term actions and integrating independent decisions. The rationale for this plan and all land use planning includes some variation of the following:

- 1. To accommodate future needs.
- 2. To provide for orderly growth.
- 3. To provide a sound basis for short-range decisions.
- 4. To provide an official position that property owners can count on.
- 5. To enable consideration of cumulative and secondary offsite effects of individual proposals.

Guide for Zoning

Additionally, based on current needs and goals in the Village of Batavia, this plan has three specific purposes:

- 1. To identify spatial land use recommendations necessary to achieve community goals and objectives.
- 2. To guide and identify necessary zoning map amendments.
- 3. To provide a guide for incremental review of privately initiated requests for zoning map amendments. The plan has already been utilized in this regard by county commissions and courts.

Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the Land Use Plan is to provide for a superior environment in the Village of Batavia while assuring reasonable use of individual property. The goals and objectives of this plan are intended to be implemented primarily through the effects of zoning amendments on the development of future land use. The evaluation and approval of zoning map and text amendments should be based on the overall goal and the following objectives:

- 1. Assure land use and intensity compatible with lot size and other site constraints.
- 2. Assure land use and intensity compatible with adjacent and nearby uses.
- 3. Assure a desirable sequence for implementation of plan recommendations that achieve orderly development.
- 4. Assure appropriate redevelopment.
- 5. Enable appropriate development alternatives where existing zoning is overly restrictive or inappropriate.
- 6. Decrease potential for inappropriate off-site zone amendments.
- 7. Achieve development coordination with adjacent interrelated sites.
- 8. Terminate the expansion of undesirable land use patterns.

The finding of conflict with any of the eight objectives may create sufficient cause for denial of proposed zone amendments. The land use categories proposed in this report are recommended with the intent of being consistent with these objectives.

Project Goals / Community Interests

PER GOAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE ON APRIL 17, 2012

Q. 1: What are we trying to preserve?

[Strengths: What do we want that we already have?]

- + Historic character and old town-small town charm (and continue west of RR bridge to Route 32)
- + Desirable residential neighborhoods; historic neighborhoods; charming quiet atmosphere
- + Business retention and growth
- + Optimum use of the river and adjacent property
- + Trees

Q. 2: What are we trying to <u>achieve</u>?

[Opportunities: What do we want that we don't have?]

- + Community goals (the plan)
- + Decisions based on standards and criteria
- + Alignment between land uses and regulations
- + Community collaboration in property upkeep
- + Healthy business mix (e.g. retail, grocery, restaurants, theater, clothing, food, drugstore)
- + Attractive businesses and properties
- + Businesses that increase our revenue base
- + Revitalize Main Street with new sidewalks, lights and redo store and building fronts
- + Comprehensive and unified signage
- + New highway interchange
- + New village parks and places for the children
- + User friendliness

PROJECT GOALS / COMMUNITY INTERESTS (CONTINUED)

PER GOAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE ON APRIL 17, 2012

Q. 3: What are we trying to eliminate?

[Weaknesses: What do we have now that we don't want?]

- Poor planning and apathy
- Ineffective policies and codes
- Holes and Inconsistencies in zoning code
- Loopholes
- Litigation
- Proliferation of illegal nonconforming uses
- Incompatible businesses
- Vacant stores
- Blight in the business district
- Dilapidated properties
- Homeless people
- Downtown tenements
- Heavy industrial uses within village boundaries – noisy or obnoxious uses that detract from the ambiance of the village Continued neglect from county and limited access to county resources
- More county owned buildings

Q. 4: What are we trying to avoid?

[Threats: (What don't we have that we don't want?]

- Residential building in the business areas
- First floor residential in business district
- Heavy industrial uses
- Junk yards
- X-rated stores; adult entertainment
- Neon
- Staying on current track
- Low income housing
- Litigation; long legal battles (due to zoning code)
- High costs

Planning Approach

Balance of Public and Private Interests

Continued use of the plan for these purposes enables land use and zoning proposals to be evaluated in a more balanced and equitable forum that recognizes the public interest as well as historically dominant private interests. The generally accepted procedure for review of zoning map amendments consisting of site analysis and considerations of conflicting (and often narrow) private interests can then be balanced with consideration of appropriateness in relation to the public interests of a larger planning area (neighborhood, corridor, village) beyond the site. Important cumulative and secondary effects of incremental land use change can also be identified in the context of the overall plan.

Continuous Process

Successful implementation of the goals and objectives of this plan requires regular reevaluation of recommendations. This ongoing planning approach is essential to assure appropriate flexibility since it is impossible to determine the exact location of all land uses in advance of need and development. Accordingly, planning in this report has not been treated as an exact science, but rather as a process to enable continuity, improve predictability, and guarantee consideration of cumulative and secondary effects in the review of incremental zoning amendments and development proposals. In this way, planning is recognized as a system that enters into day-to-day development decisions not as a rigid blueprint but instead as a process of interaction that will shape as well as be shaped by actual zoning decisions. The process is intended to add rationality, not rigidity to requirements for use of land.

Land Use Plan and Zoning Update Process SCHEDULE

Year	Phase	
2012	Goal Development WorkshopVillage of Batavia Planning Commission	
2013	 Strategic Community Plan ("Third Century Initiative") UC School of Planning Graduate Studio Workshop 	
2014	Research and analysis (Work Program Phase 1) • Village of Batavia Planning Commission	
	Land Use Plan (Work Program Phase 2)Village of Batavia Planning Commission	
	Zoning Update (Work Program Phase 3)Village of Batavia Planning Commission	
2015	 Public Hearings Land Use Plan Village of Batavia Planning Commission Village of Batavia Council Zoning Ordinance and Map Village of Batavia Planning Commission Village of Batavia Council 	
	Adoption	

Work Program

The program for creating and implementing the Land Use Plan includes the tasks listed below. The planning tasks include work elements that are often interrelated and therefore not entirely sequential. The process is intended to be continuous to assure that the adopted land use plan and zoning map appropriately reflect changing circumstances, events, developments, and decisions.

1. Goal Formation

- a. Identify land use issues (problems and opportunities)
- b. Formulate goals and objectives

2. Inventory

- a. Define study area
- b. Identify community characteristics population, development, and environment
- c. Identify existing structures
- d. Identify existing land use
- e. Identify existing zoning

WORK PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

3. Analysis and Plan Development

- a. Identify development potential
- b. Identify critical boundaries and transition areas
- c. Develop concepts for land use plan
- d. Evaluate existing zoning map and text to determine adequacy for achieving consistency with proposed plan

4. Recommendations

- a. Identify land use recommendations (concepts) that achieve community goals and objectives
- b. Identify zoning map amendments required for plan implementation

5. Review

The recommendations of the proposed plan are reviewed by:

- a. the Village Planning Commission (at public meetings)
- b. the Village Planning Commission (at a public hearing)
- c. the Village Council (at a public hearing)

6. Implementation

- a. The Village Council certifies the adopted plan to the Batavia Village Planning Commission, Batavia Township Planning Commission, and Clermont County Planning Commission.
- b. The Village Planning Commission initiates zoning map amendments required for plan implementation.
- c. The Village Council adopts zoning map amendments.
- d. The Village Planning Commission and Council considers the adopted land use plan when making recommendations on zoning map amendments.

7. Evaluation

- a. The Village Planning Commission makes an annual report to Council on the implementation progress of adopted plans.
- b. The Village Planning Commission reviews the adequacy of adopted plans in five year intervals or less.

8. Implementation

After adopting the plan, the Village Planning Commission has the following responsibilities:

- a. Evaluate consistency with the plan when making any recommendation on zone amendments or other issues requiring action;
- b. Investigate and make recommendations to Village Council upon reasonable and practical means for putting into effect the land use plan, or part thereof, in order that it will serve as a pattern and guide for physical growth and development;
- c. Render an annual report to the Village Council on the status of the plan and progress of its application;
- d. Endeavor to promote public interest in, and understanding of, the adopted plan and regulations relating to it;
- e. Consult and advise with public officials and agencies (within surrounding Batavia Village), public utility companies, civic, educational, professional, and other organizations, and citizens generally with relation to carrying out the adopted plan.

Plan Implementation

THROUGH ZONING AMENDMENTS

Comparison of Land Use Categories and Zoning Districts

Implementation of the adopted Land Use Plan will call for amendments to the zoning text and map. The relationship between categories of recommended land use and existing zoning districts is shown in the following table.

Authority to Initiate Zoning Amendments

The recommended zoning amendments (text and map) may be initiated in three ways according to Ohio law:

- 1. By adoption of a motion by the Planning Commission;
- 2. By adoption of a motion by Council of a Planning Commission recommendation;
- 3. By filing of an application by one or more of the owners or lessees of property within the area proposed to be changed or affected.

Public Hearings and Notice

Notice of public hearings regarding the plan to redistrict must be published. Written notice of the hearing to individual property owners within and contiguous to the area proposed to be rezoned is also required by Ohio law for amendments that include ten or fewer parcels of land.

Plan Implementation

THROUGH TIMING

Timing

Not all the proposals in the Land Use Plan are intended to be put into effect immediately, since the plan contains many recommendations intended for adoption only when the situation becomes appropriate. It will be necessary to exercise judgment and discretion in determining which of the proposals should be given legal application at various times. The rationale for land use recommendations in this plan are described below.

Plan Implementation

THROUGH PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public Engagement

The land use plan cannot be successful without wide public support. The effectiveness of the plan is probably more dependent on public understanding and interest than on any other factor. To individuals and groups, whose interests are directly affected, a proposed change may seem arbitrary and harmful. It is essential, therefore, that the majority of people in the community should understand what is being proposed so that they may decide whether or not the proposed action is in fact in the public interest.

Land Use Plan Amendments

Need for Flexibility

An ongoing planning approach is essential to assure appropriate flexibility in administering the Land Use Plan since it is impossible to determine the exact location of all land uses in advance of need and development.

Authority to Initiate Land Use Plan Amendments

Requests for plan amendments may be initiated in three ways:

- 1. By adoption of a motion by the Planning Commission;
- 2. By adoption of a motion by Council of a Planning Commission recommendation;
- 3. By filing of an application by one or more of the owners or lessees of property within the area proposed to be changed or affected.

Rationale For Land Use Plan Amendments

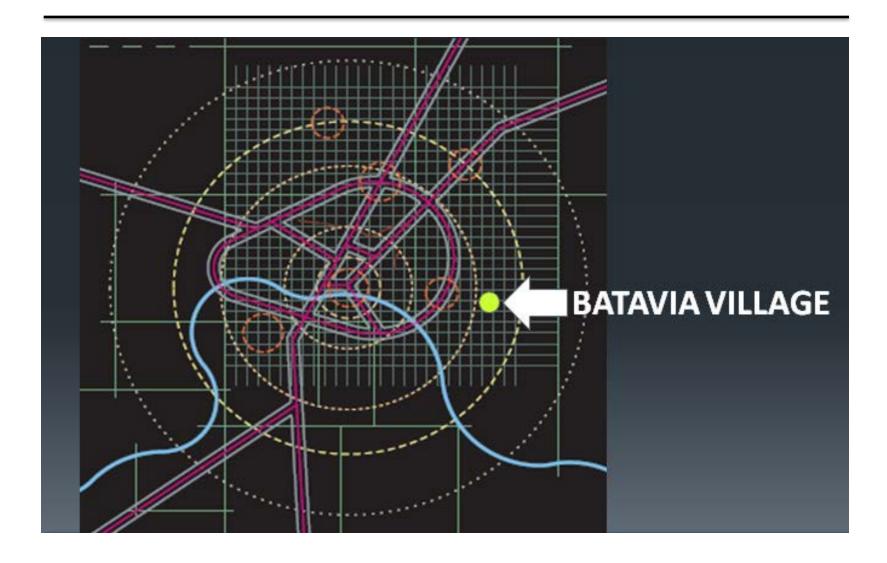
In considering approval of amendments to the land use plan, the Village Planning Commission should identify one or more of the following findings (rationale) for the amendment:

- 1. Existing land use category (or related zone district) allows uses and intensity that would be incompatible with limited lot size or other site constraints
- 2. Existing land use category (or related zone district) allows uses and intensity that would be incompatible with and detrimental to adjacent and nearby uses.
- 3. Existing land use category (or related zone district) allows uses and intensity that, by itself or through cumulative effects, would be inconsistent with or undermine critical elements of the Land Use Plan.
- 4. Existing land use category (or related zone district) creates undesirable potential for inappropriate redevelopment (on site) to more intensive uses since the district is more permissive than required for existing other appropriate and reasonable uses.
- 5. Existing land use category (or related zone district) creates undesirable land use patterns since the district, being excessively restrictive, would not enable appropriate development alternatives.
- 6. Existing land use category (or related zone district) creates undesirable potential for inappropriate zone amendments (off-site) for higher intensity development since the district is excessively permissive compared to adjacent zoning.
- 7. Existing land use category (or related zone district) lacks standards or incentive for achieving adequate development coordination with adjacent interrelated sites.
- 8. Existing land use category (or related zone district) lacks standards for allowing reasonable alternative land uses and achieving transitional uses that will effectively terminate the spread of higher intensity uses and conserve adjacent desirable land uses.

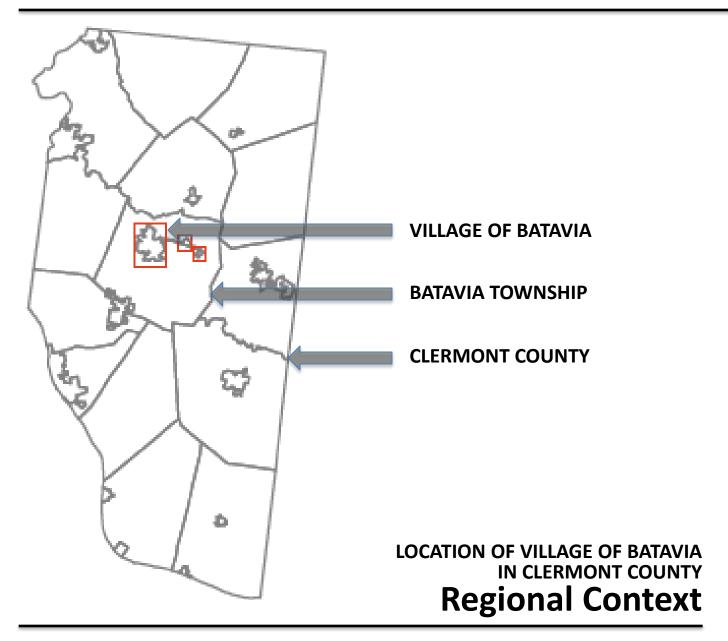


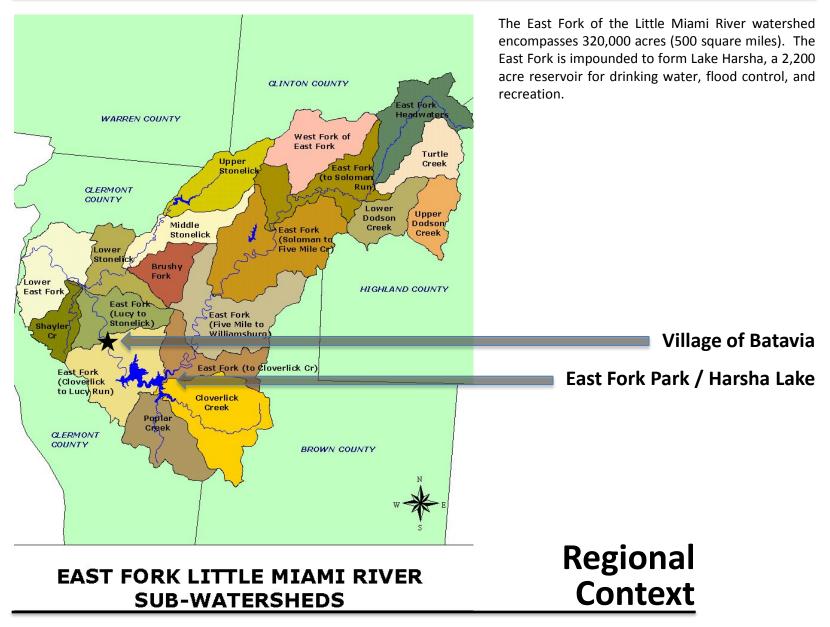


2 Regional Context



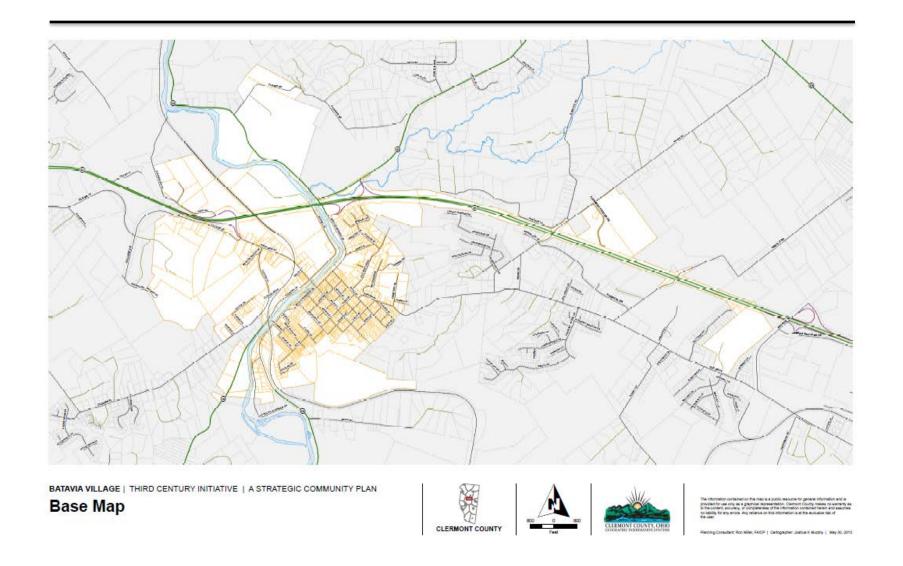
METROPOLITAN AREA INTERSTATE HIGHWAY DIAGRAM Regional Context







VILLAGE OF BATAVIA AND VICINITY Regional Context



Village of Batavia and Vicinity

Regional Planning Considerations

LAND USE PLAN INFLUENCES

Clermont County Comprehensive Plan (2014)

Future Land Use Goals

Middle East Fork Balanced Growth Plan (2011)

- Goals and Objectives
- Ten Guiding Principles

Batavia Township Growth Management Plan (1997, updated 2004)

- Future Land Use Map
- Land Use and Growth Management Plan Priorities

Future Land Use Goals

CLERMONT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- 1. Ensure public facilities are in place or will be available to adequately serve and support new development. Only approve new development upon demonstration that adequate public facilities, as established in this Plan, are or will be available at the time of completion to maintain the desired levels of service.
- 2. Encourage the design of new development to be compatible with and complementary to existing land uses. Incompatible uses should not be closely located. Site design and buffering should be used to the maximum extent feasible to reduce the impacts on adjacent properties, especially between residential and nonresidential areas.
- 3. Encourage the design of new development, whether public or private, to be respectful of identified historic or natural resources. Incorporate the preservation and restoration of existing features to the maximum extent feasible.
- 4. Encourage new development to be designed to provide interconnectivity with existing and future developments through the use of stub streets.
- 5. Ensure subdivision and site layouts of new developments are planned in consideration of the future use (as recommended by this Plan) of currently undeveloped land in the general vicinity to create interconnected neighborhoods.
- 6. Encourage compatible infill, redevelopment and development in proximity to existing development and services when appropriate to avoid "leap frog" growth patterns which may result in higher service costs.

CLERMONT COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE GOALS (CONTINUED)

- 7. Discourage strip development along existing or new thoroughfares. This practice creates an undesirable development pattern and causes traffic and access issues, as well as preventing access from major corridors to large tracts of land that may be developed at a later time.
- 8. Continue to incorporate environmental quality protection measures into the development review process, particularly related to runoff, stream protection, air quality and noise.
- 9. Encourage developments to be designed to minimize adverse environmental and fiscal impacts.
- 10. Encourage developments to be designed to minimize disruption to life and property resulting from erosion and flooding.
- 11. Encourage the preservation of private open space by supporting the use of conservation and open space easements to preserve land use in each Land Use Group/Classification, provided such easements do not adversely impact planned infrastructure or the pattern of development in the area.
- 12. Encourage the use of conservation development principles or other strategies that minimize the total amount of impervious area in new development to reduce the volume of stormwater runoff and prevent downstream drainage and flooding problems.
- 13. Encourage new developments to provide vegetated stream buffers to preserve the flood way, which will provide storage during high flows and help prevent flooding and streambank erosion problems downstream.

Goals and Objectives

MIDDLE EAST FORK BALANCED GROWTH PLAN

Mission Statement:

Balanced growth is a voluntary and incentive-based strategy to protect and restore the Middle East Fork Watershed to ensure long-term economic competitiveness, ecological health, and quality of life.

Goals:

- protect public health, safety and welfare.
- promote economic development.
- protect water quality and watershed health.
- preserve the natural character of the landscape and agricultural land uses.
- encourage sustainable growth and development. a

Objectives:

- implement best land use practices and policies.
- maintain growth/development near population centers and existing infrastructure.
- develop local incentives to encourage balanced growth.
- protect areas with prime farmland/locally important soils

Source:

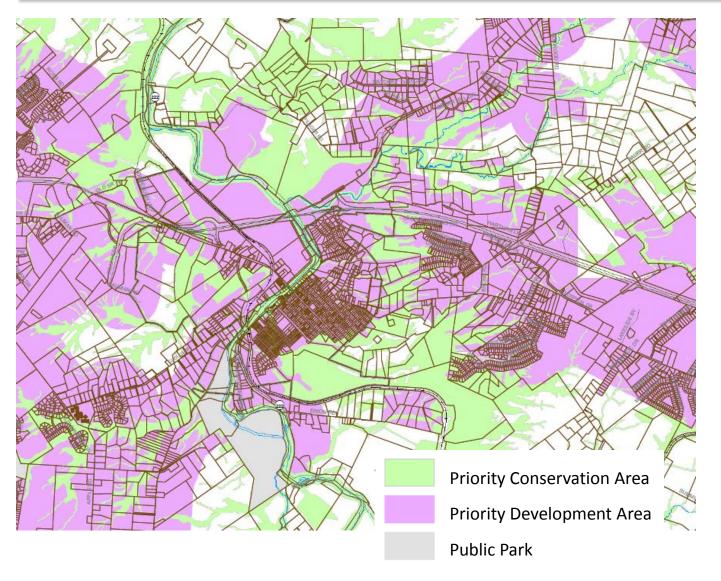
Middle East Fork Balanced Growth Plan, 2011, http://ftp.clermontcountyohio.gov/SoilAndWater/BG MEF Draft.pdf

Ten Guiding Principles

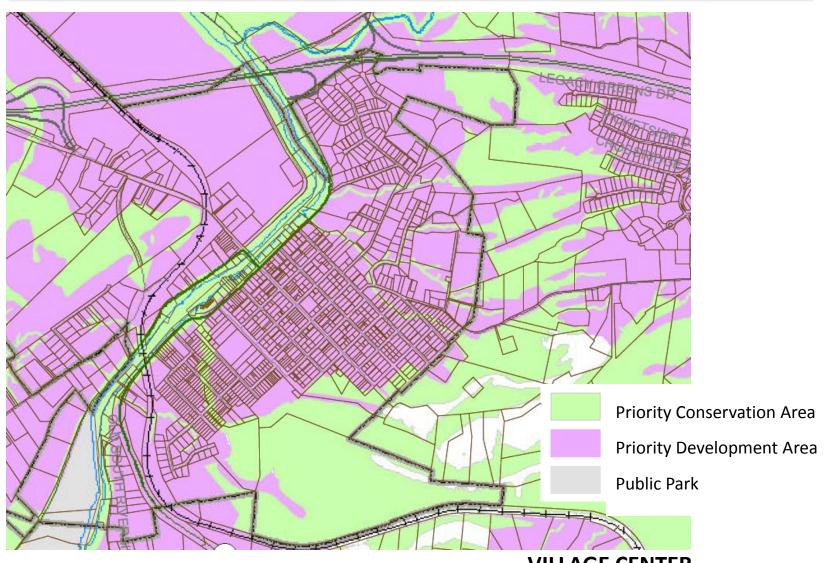
MIDDLE EAST FORK BALANCED GROWTH PLAN

The aim of Balanced Growth Is to emphasize the link between land use planning and watershed health. To attain a living equilibrium between a strong, diversified economy and a healthy watershed, activities in Ohio's Watersheds should:

- 1. Maximize investment in existing core urban areas, transportation, and infrastructure net works to enhance the economic vitality of existing communities.
- 2. Minimize the conversion of green space and the loss of critical habitat areas, farmland, forest and open spaces.
- 3. Limit any net increase in the loading of pollutants or transfer of pollution leading from one medium to another.
- 4. To the extent feasible, protect and restore the natural hydrology of the watershed and flow characteristics of its streams, tributaries, and wetlands.
- 5. Restore the physical Habitat chemical water quality of the watershed to protect and restore diverse and thriving plant communities and preserve rare and endangered species.
- 6. Encourage the inclusion of all economic and environmental factors into cost/benefit accounting in land use and development decisions.
- 7. Avoid development decisions that shift economic benefits or environmental burdens from one location to the other.
- 8. Establish and maintain a safe, efficient and accessible transportation system that integrates highway, rail, air, transit, water and pedestrian networks to foster economic growth and personal travel.
- 9. Encourage that all new development and redevelopment initiatives address the need to protect and preserve access to historic, cultural, and scenic resources.
- 10. Promote public access to and enjoyment of our natural resources for all Ohioans



Middle East Fork Balanced Growth Initiative

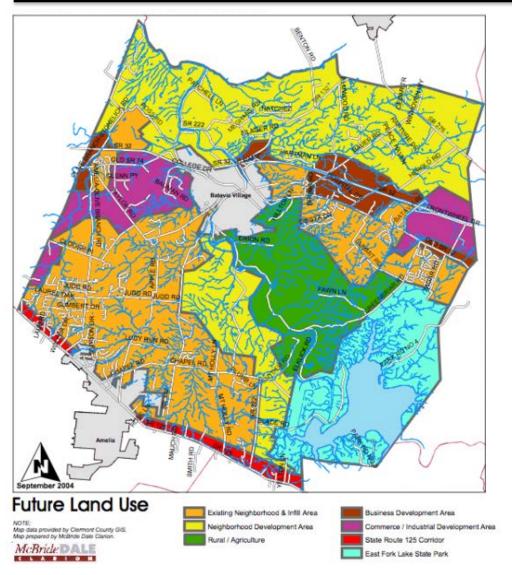


VILLAGE CENTER Middle East Fork Balanced Growth Initiative

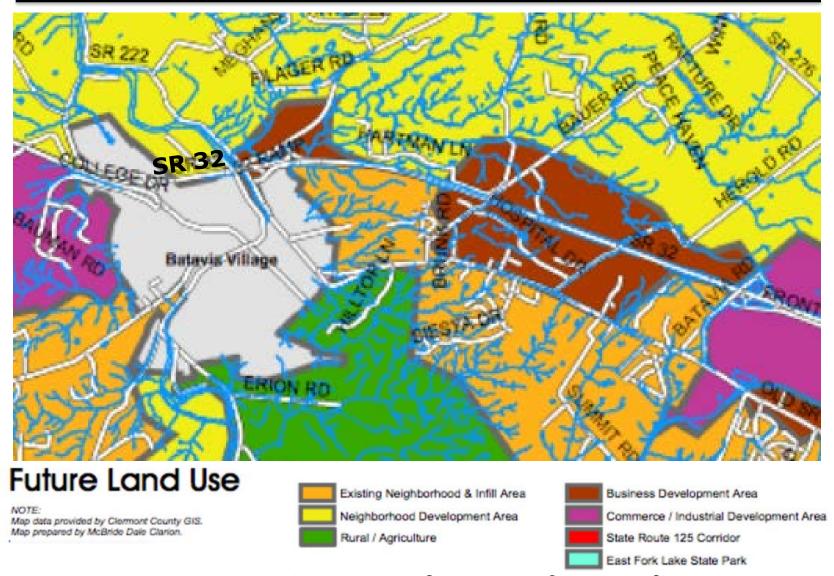
Land Use/Growth Management Plan Priorities

BATAVIA TOWNSHIP GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 1. Protect environmentally sensitive areas.
- 2. Preserve the character of Batavia Township.
- 3. Establish high standards for future development.
- 4. Plan and coordinate with other public and governmental agencies regarding provision of services and infrastructure related to development in Batavia Township.
- 5. Improve and increase park, active recreation and open space facilities for Batavia Township residents.



Batavia Township Land Use Plan



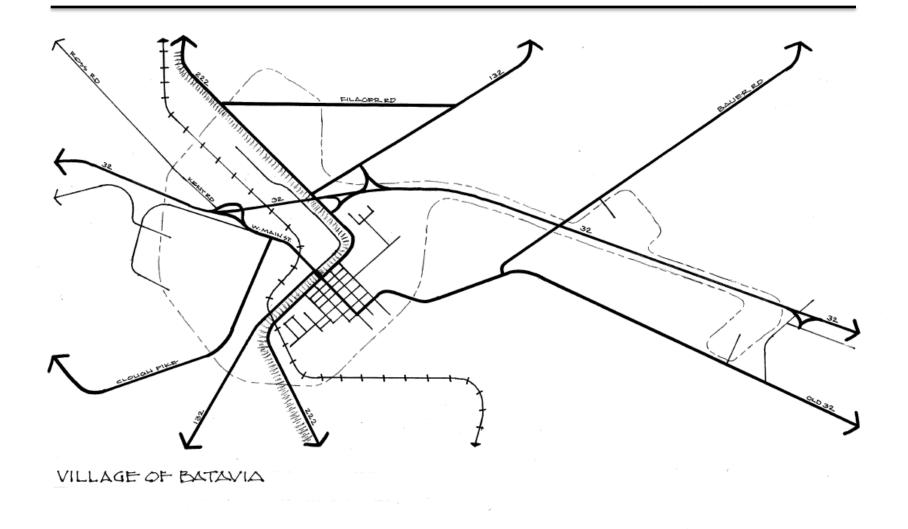
Batavia Township Land Use Plan



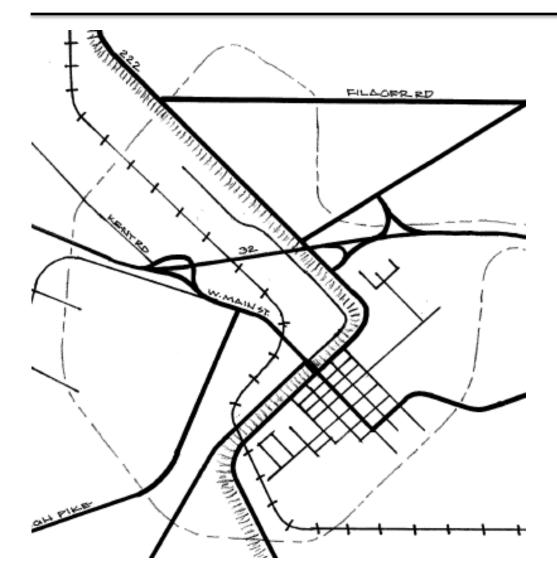
THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE



Beart 3
Mobility

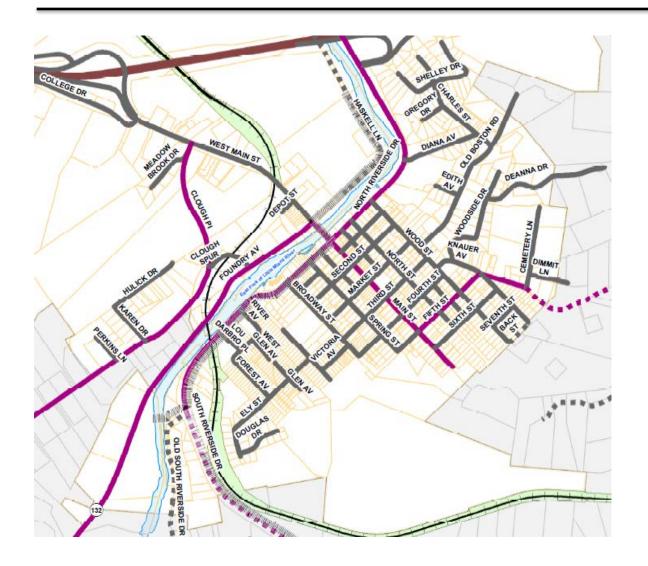


Mobility Framework Diagram

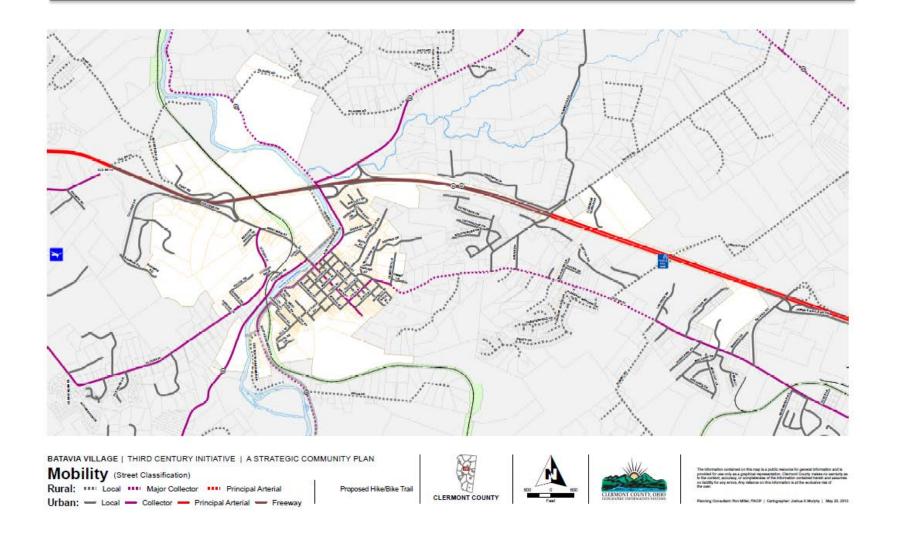


VILLAGE CENTER

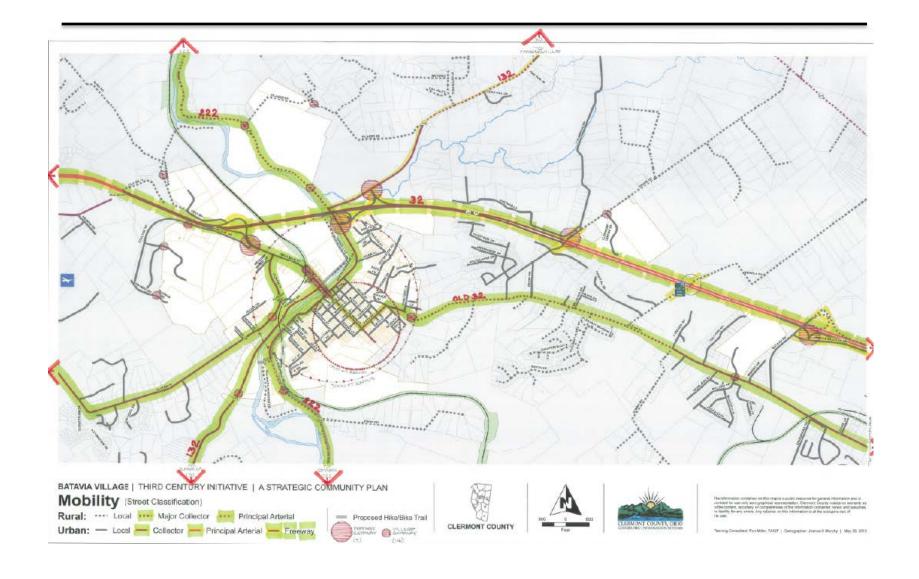
Mobility Framework Diagram



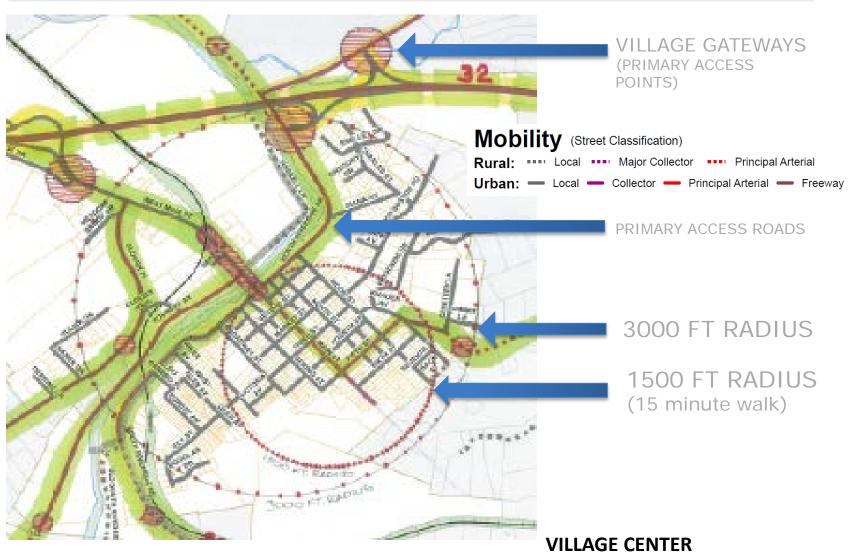
Village Center



Urban and Rural Streets



Major Roads, Gateways, and Walkability



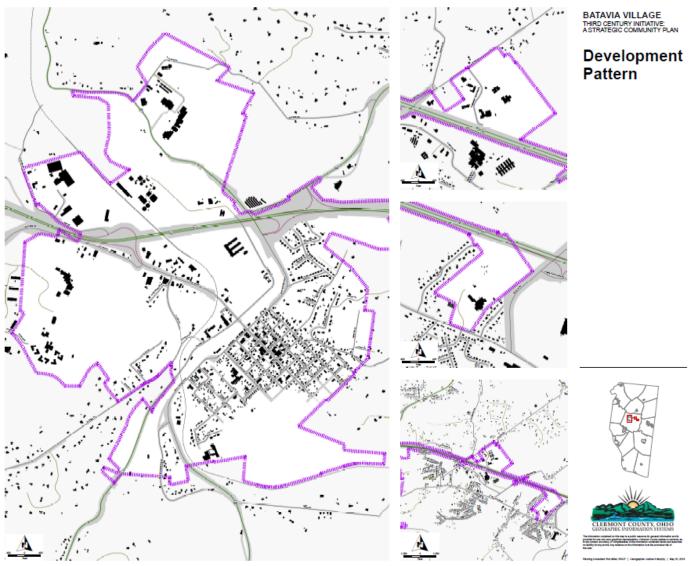
Major Roads, Gateways, and Walkability



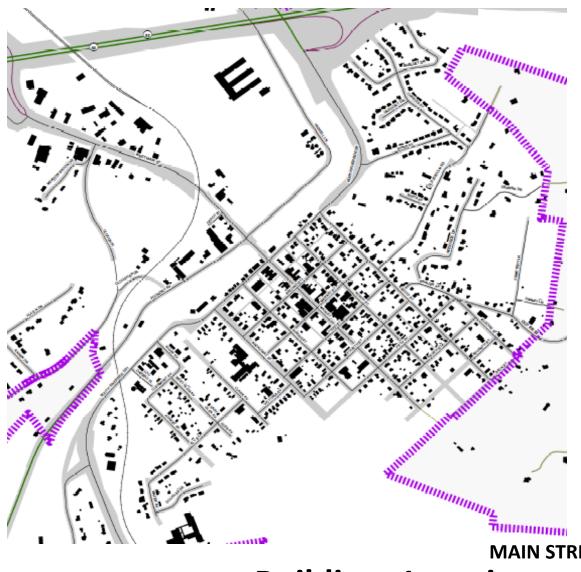


PART 4

Development Pattern



Buildings Location and Scale



BATAVIA VILLAGE

THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE: A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

Development Pattern

MAIN STREET VICINITY

Buildings Location and Scale



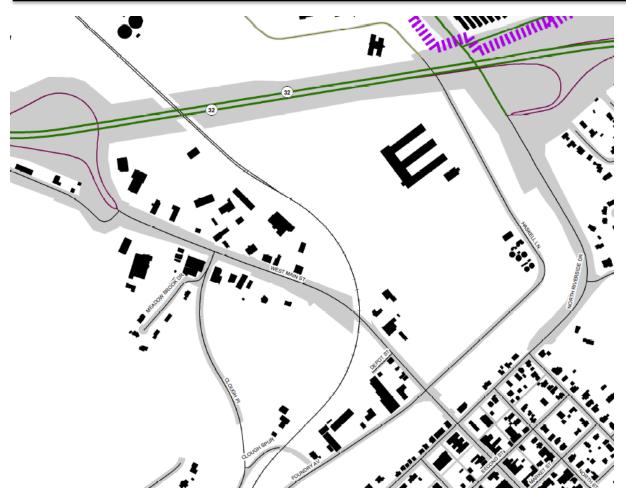
BATAVIA VILLAGE

THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE: A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

Development Pattern

VILLAGE CENTER

Buildings Location and Scale



BATAVIA VILLAGE THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE:

THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE: A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

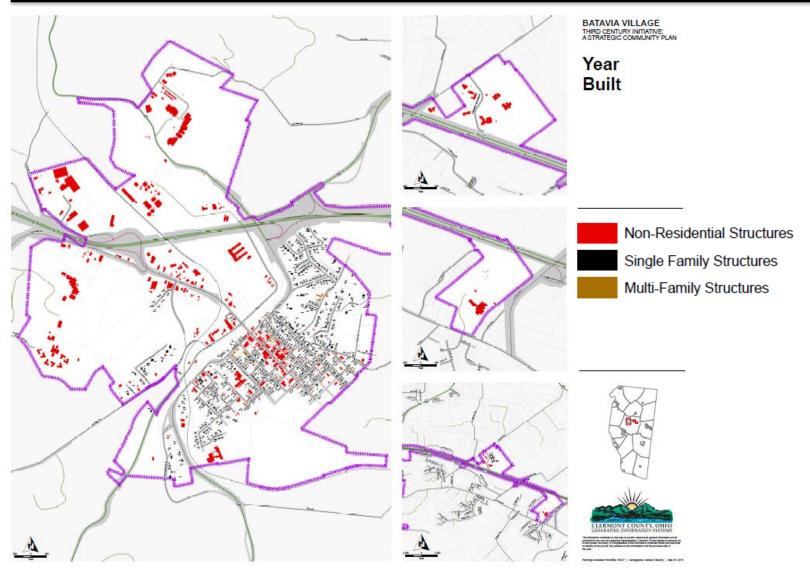
Development Pattern

WEST MAIN STREET COMMERCIAL AREA Buildings Location and Scale

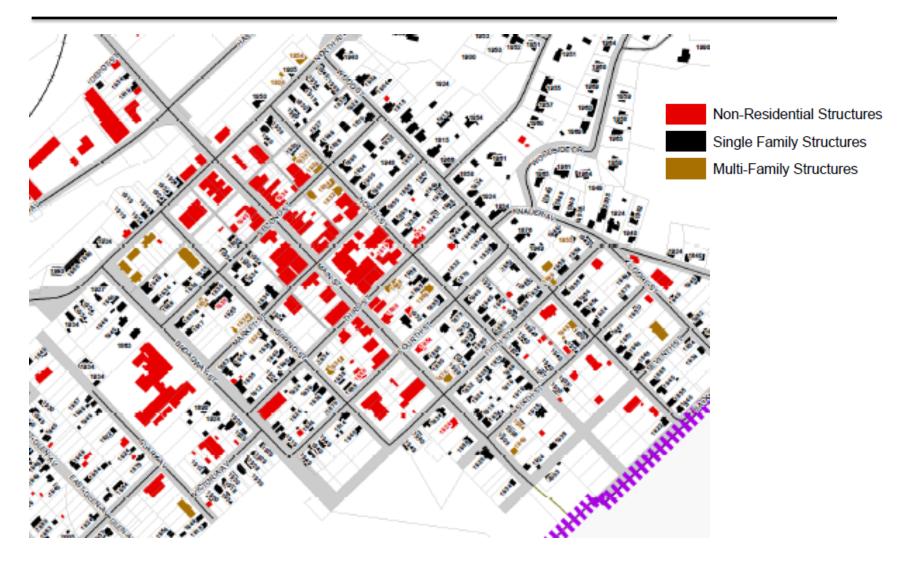


DEVELOPMENT PATTERN (BUILDINGS LOCATION AND SCALE)

Village Center Major Land Use

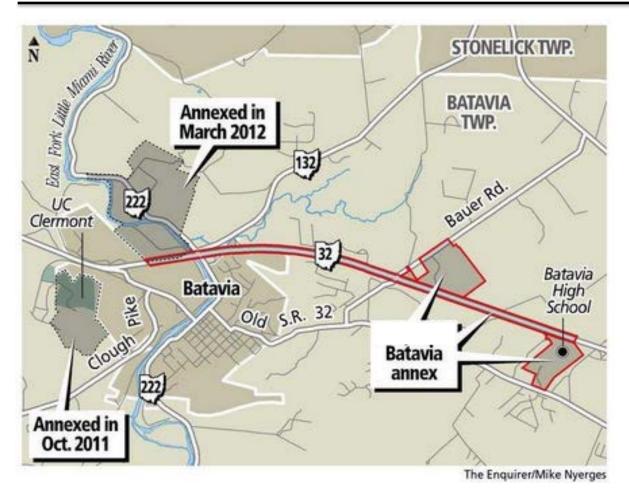


Use and Age of Structures



VILLAGE CENTER

Use and Age of Structures



The three annexations increased the size of the village by about 66 percent, from 1.5 square miles to 2.5 square miles, without adding any new residents.

October 2011: 108 acres that included UC Clermont and the Southwest Ohio Developmental Center.

March 2012: 286 acres that included the county jail, sheriff's office, municipal court, Middle East Fork wastewater treatment plant and Clermont County Animal Shelter.

December 2012: 277 acres that included Batavia High School, juvenile and probate courts and the county engineer's office.

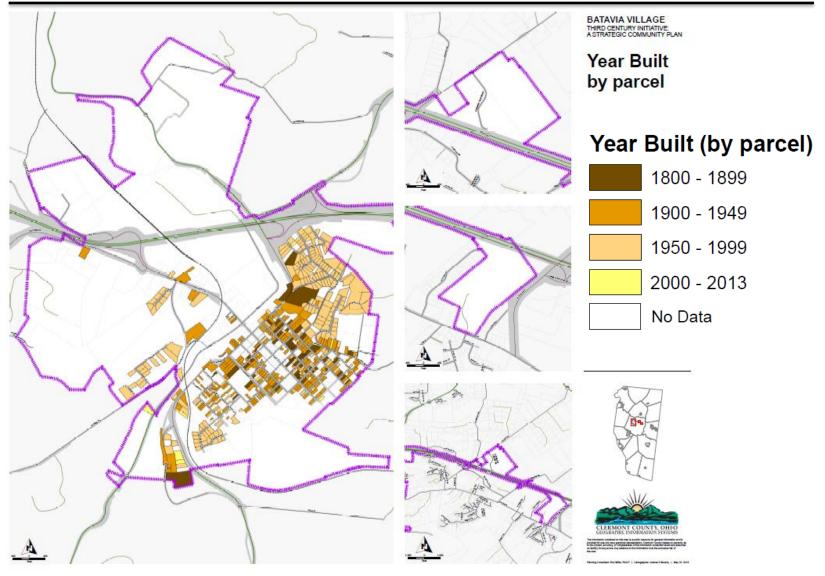
Recent Annexations



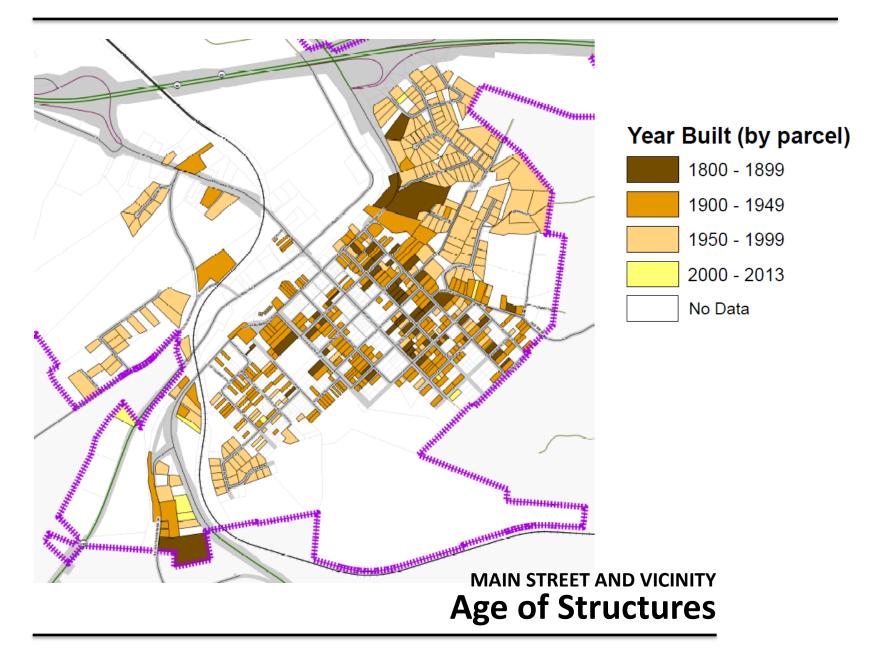


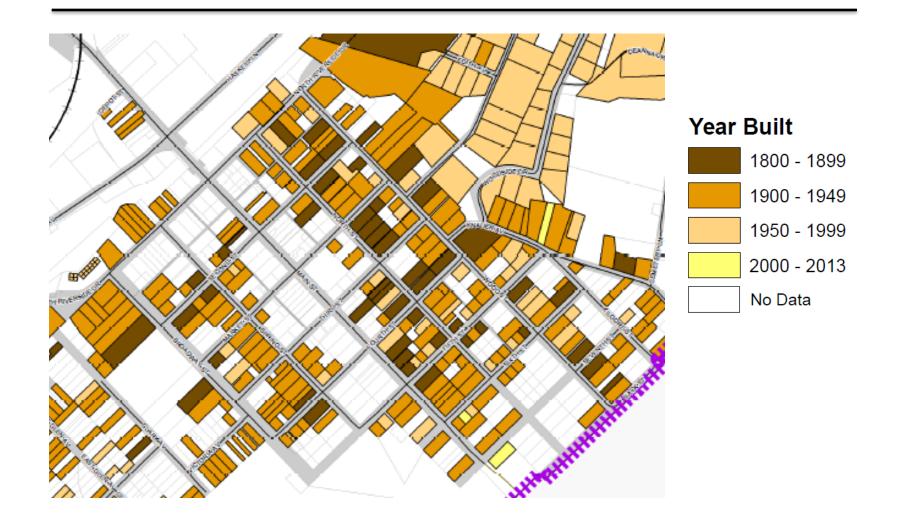
PART 5

Age and Value of Structures



Age of Structures

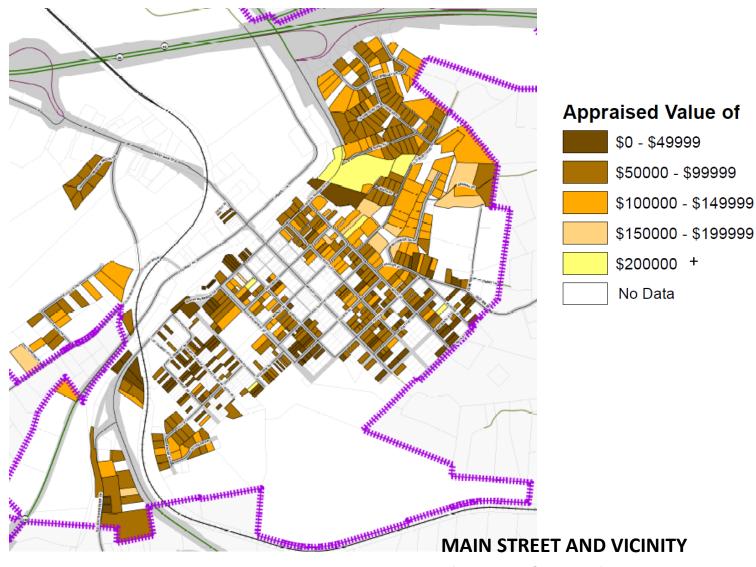




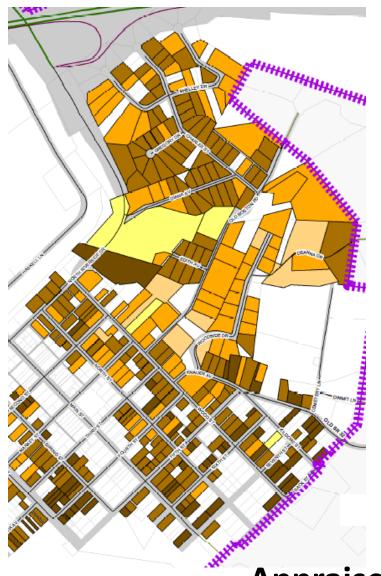
Age of Structures



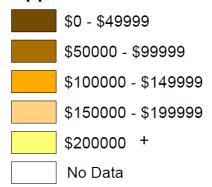
Appraised Value of Buildings



Appraised Value of Buildings



Appraised Value



VILLAGE CENTER

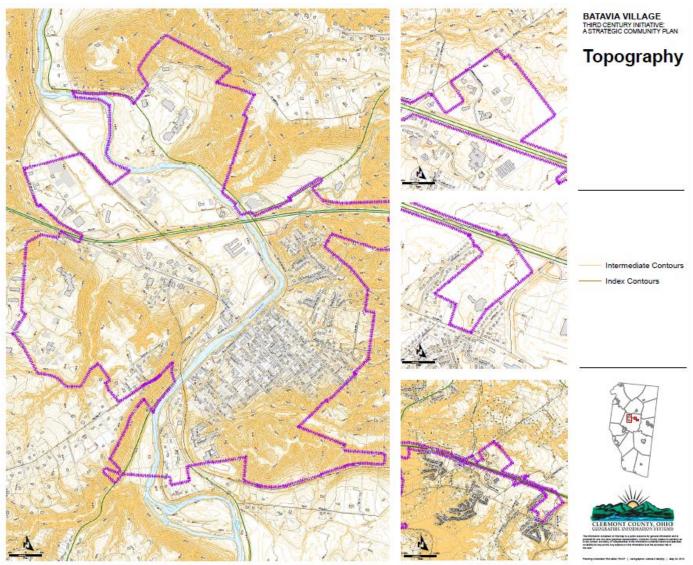
Appraised Value of Buildings



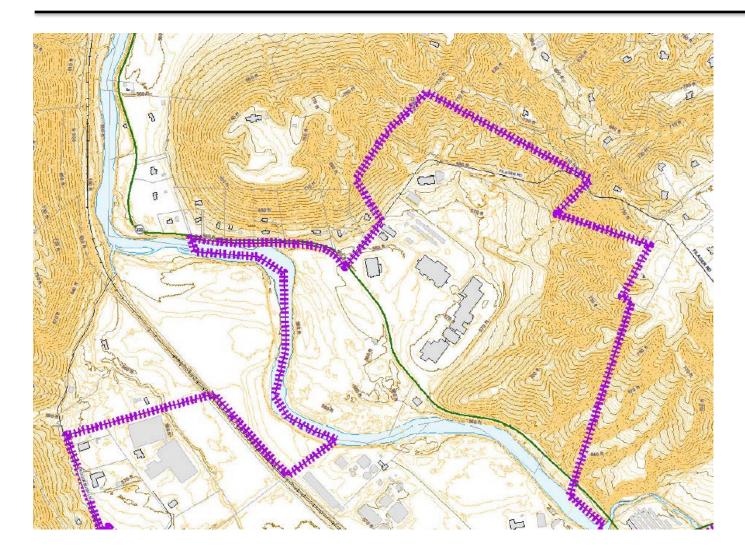


PART 6

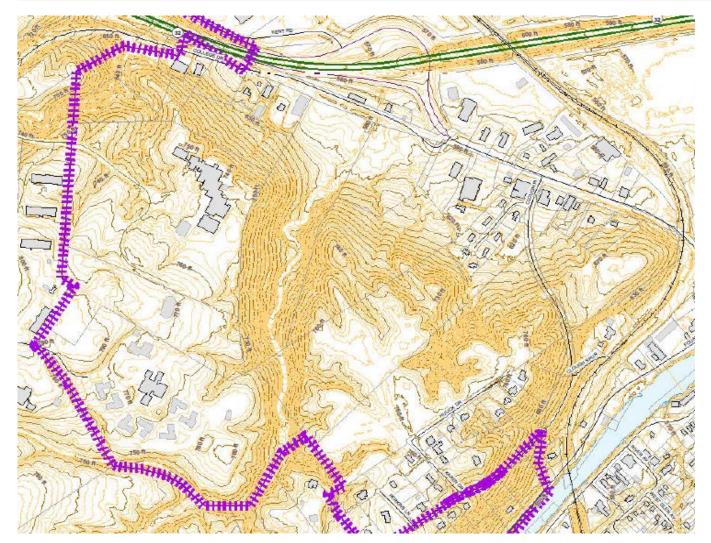
Topography and Environment



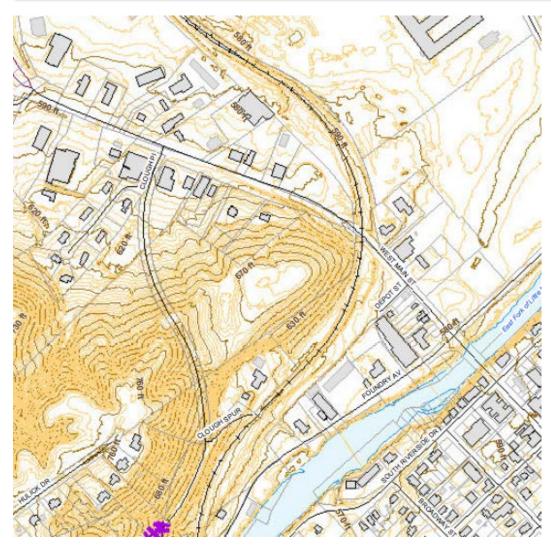
Topography



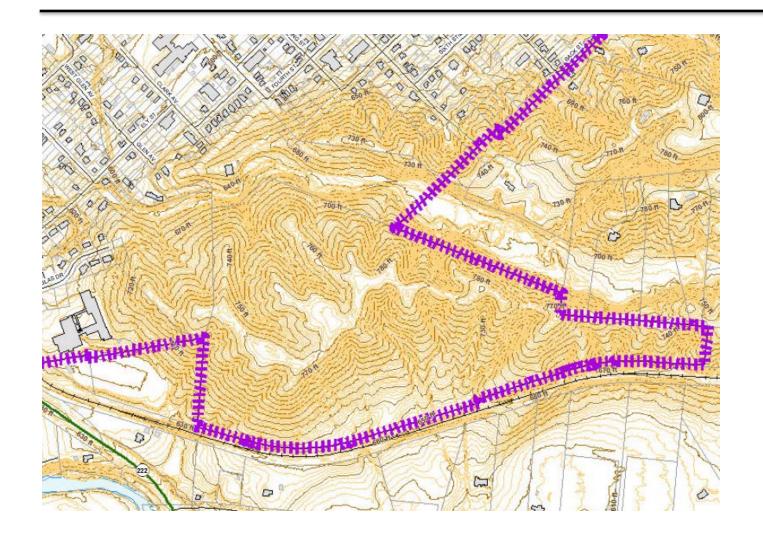
Topography



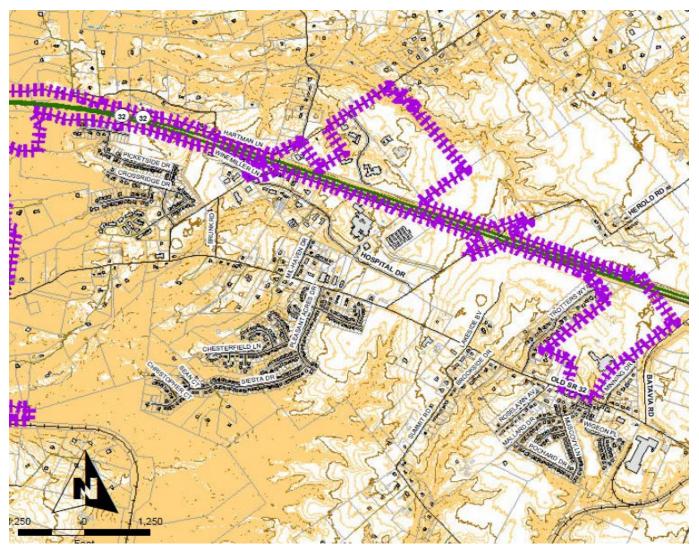
Topography



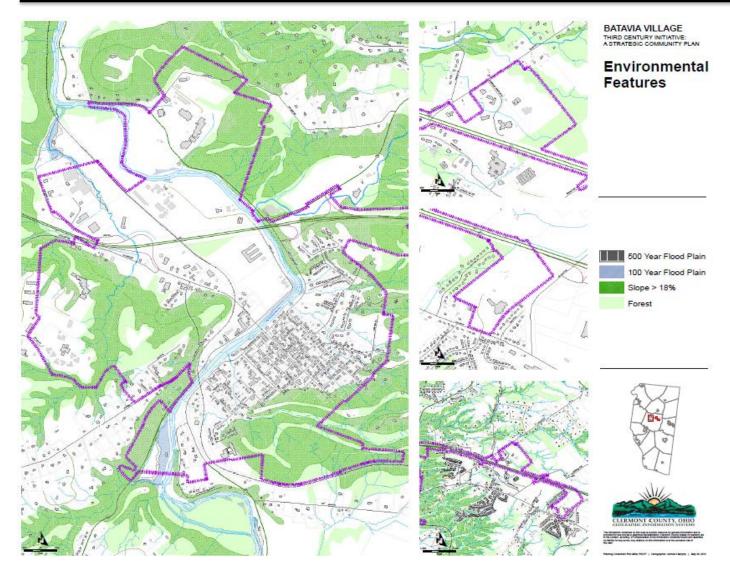
BATAVIA VILLAGE – WEST MAIN STREET **Topography**



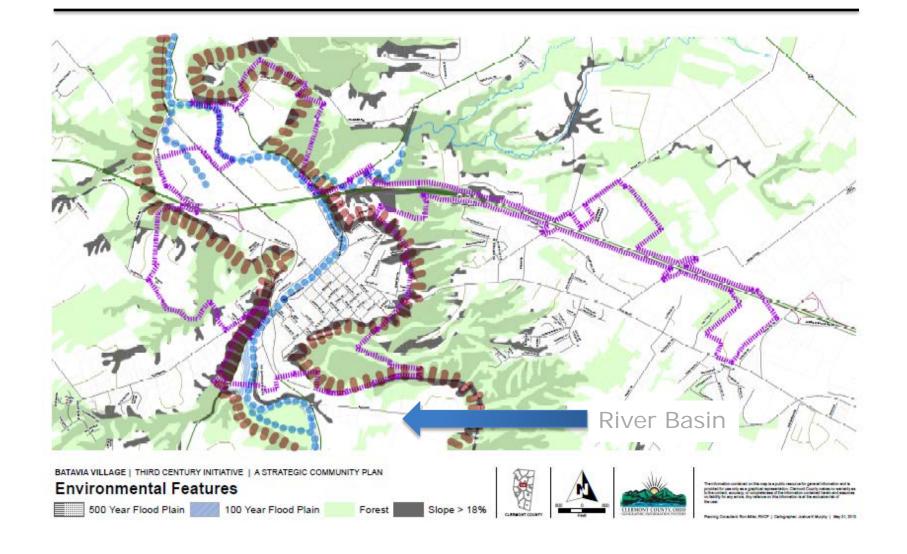
Topography



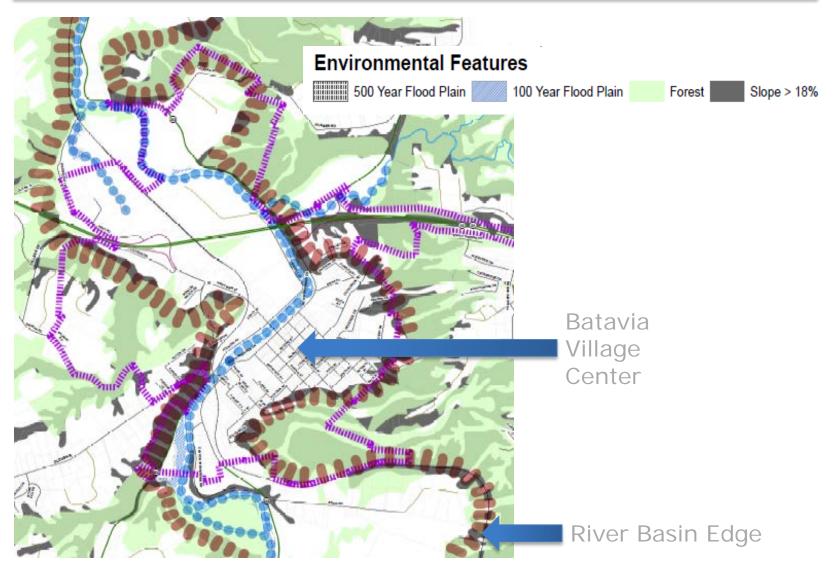
Topography



Flood Plain, Steep Slopes, and Forest

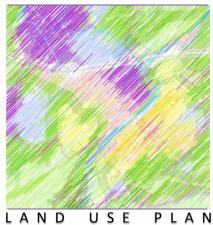


River Basin and Surrounding Steep Slopes



River Basin and Surrounding Steep Slopes





PART Constraints and Opportunities

Assets and Liabilities

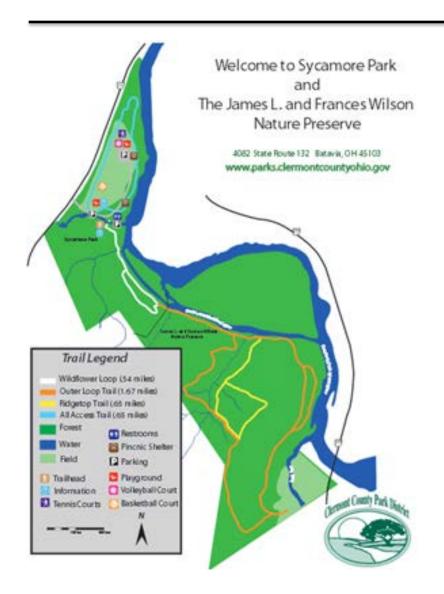
SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS RELATED TO LAND USE AND ZONING

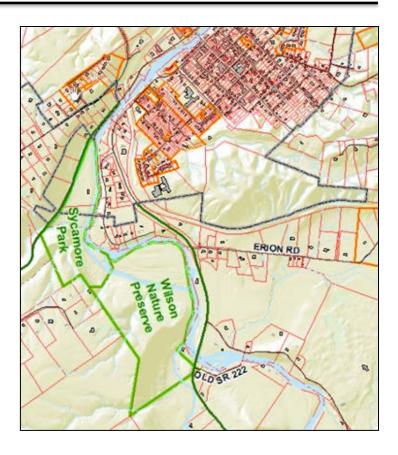
Assets

- Compact development pattern of historic core—grid street pattern and density to support pedestrian environment and related services
- Historic character of the Village core and housing
- Proximity to rural environment, natural amenities, open space, and scenic views
- Newly annexed areas and tax base growth
- Vacant and developable land in residential areas
- Good coverage of water and sewer system
- Rail transportation connection

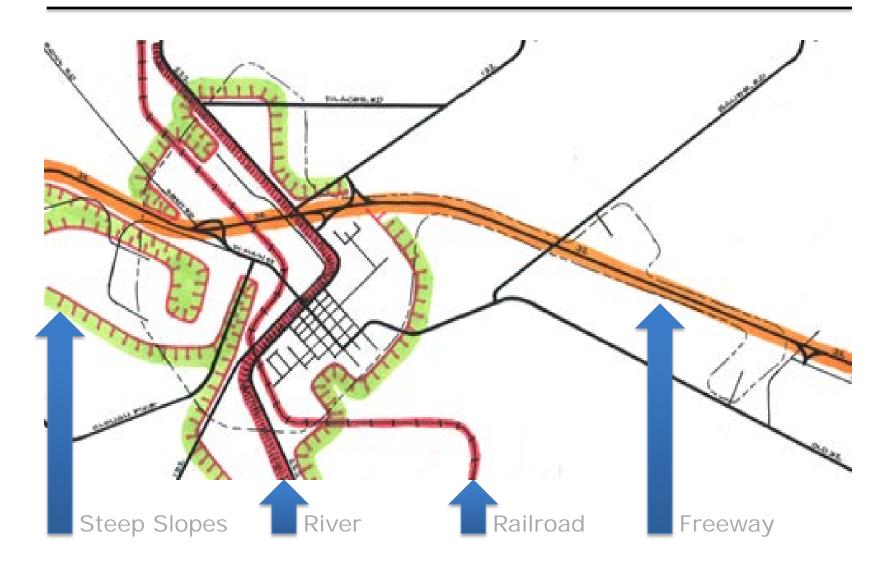
Liabilities

- Main Street is not continuous in appearance and façade quality
- Lack of centralized commercial area
- over-supply of parking has negative effect on Village aesthetics
- Vacant properties and deteriorating housing
- Lack of land use controls to build upon assets in built environment
- Slope, soil composition, and other natural features limit development potential
- Inadequate zoning code
- Sprawl development and traffic congestion on 32 corridor
- The river serves as a divider rather than a connector—west side of the Village appears disconnected, separate and struggling while the east side has a historic, rural village image.

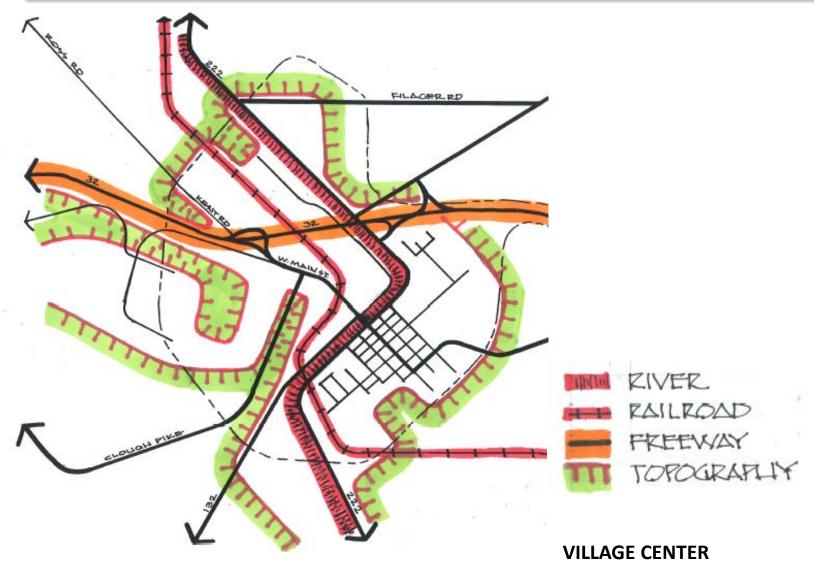




Sycamore Park and Wilson Nature Preserve



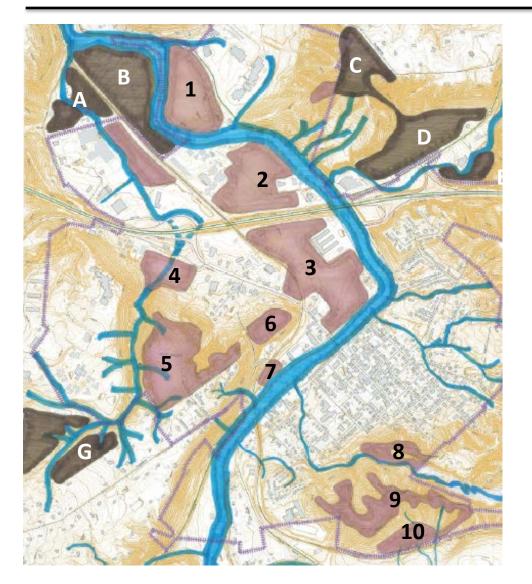
Spatial Constraints Diagram (Barriers)



Spatial Constraints Diagram (Barriers)



Development Potential



Vacant or Underutilized Property with Development Potential



Inside Batavia Village



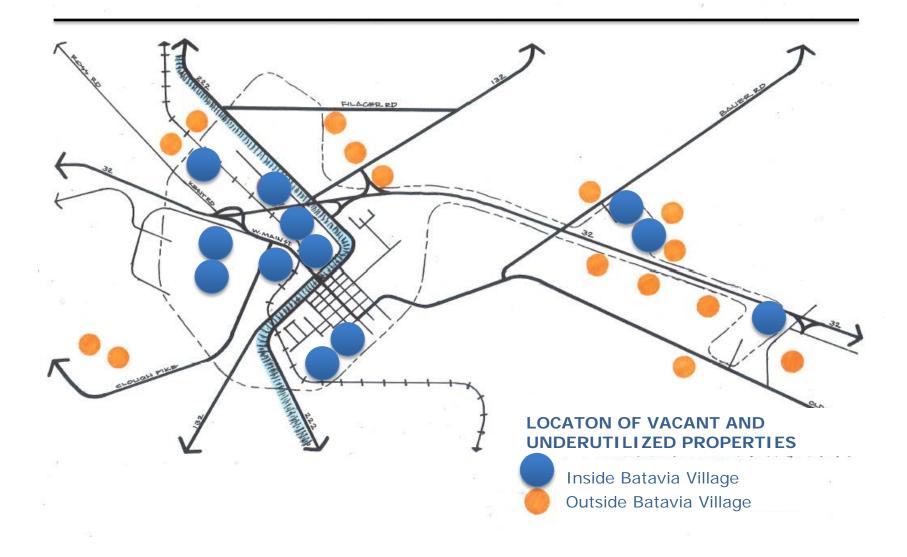
Near Batavia Village



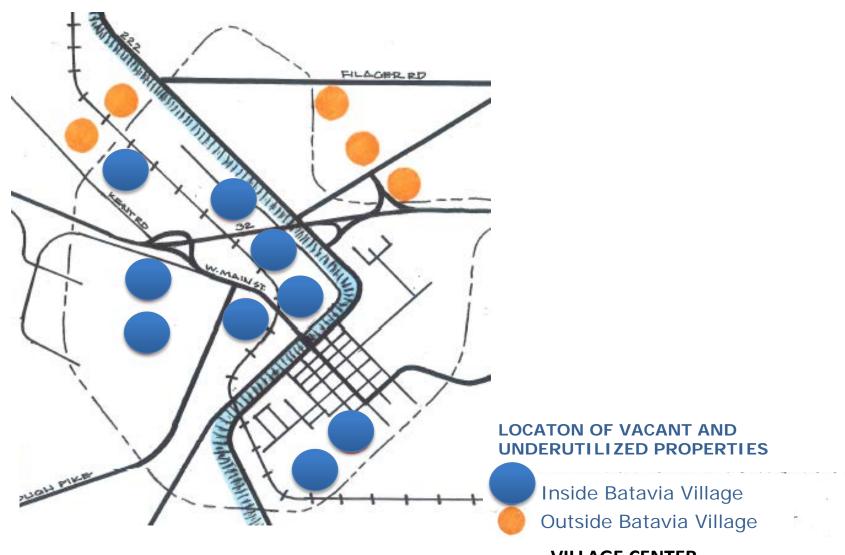
Riparian Corridor

VILLAGE CENTER

Development Potential



Opportunities (Development Potential)



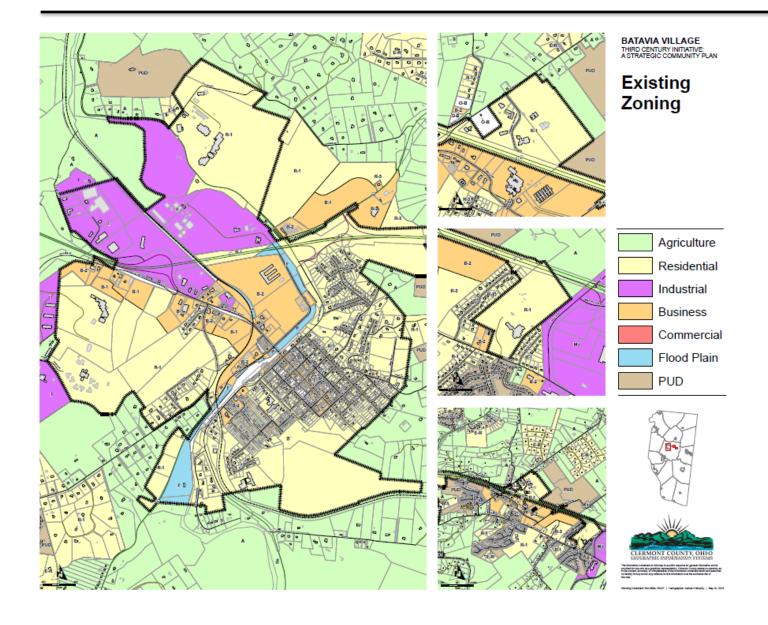
Opportunities (Development Potential)

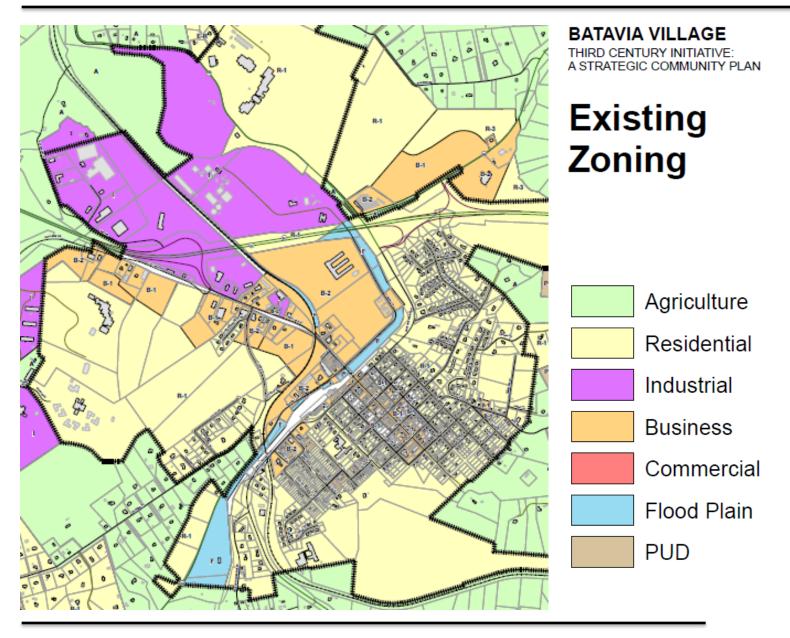


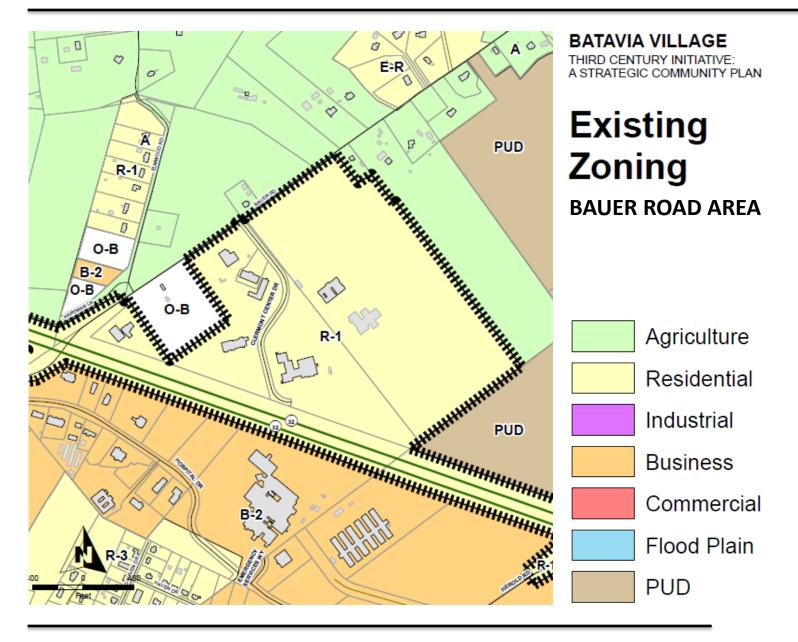


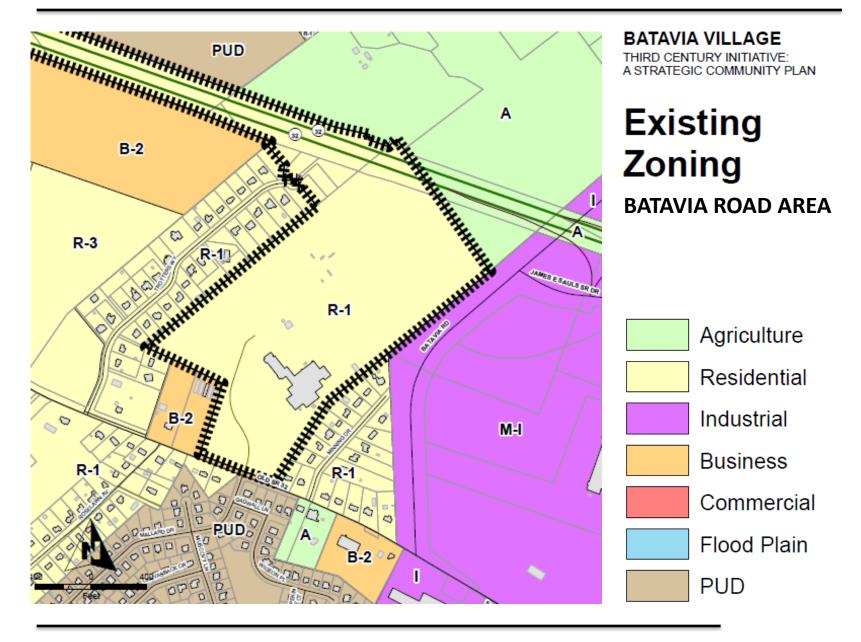


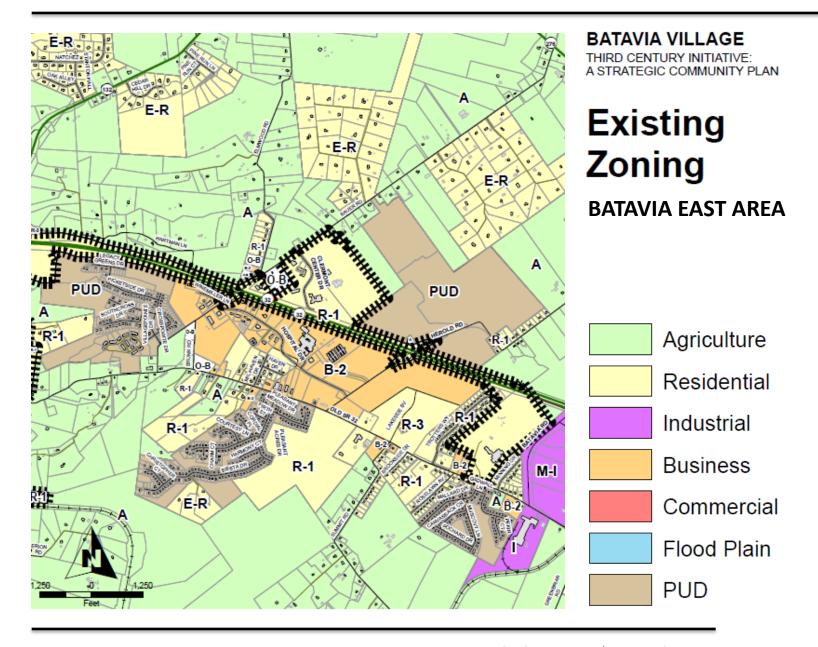
Existing Land Use and Zoning

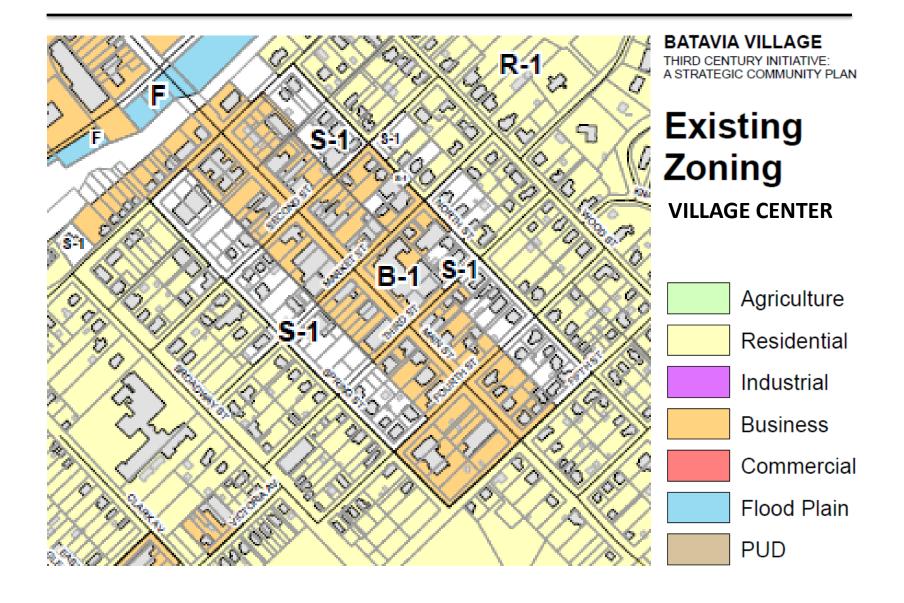


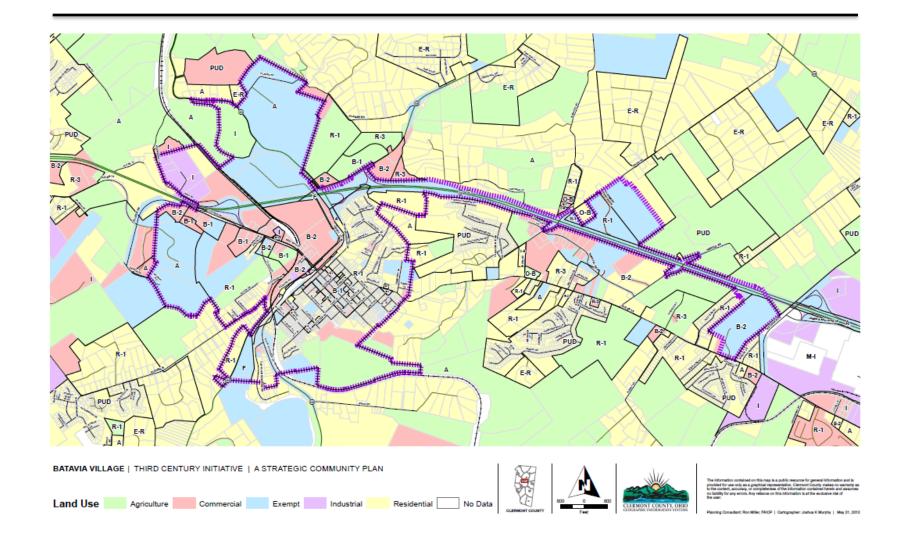




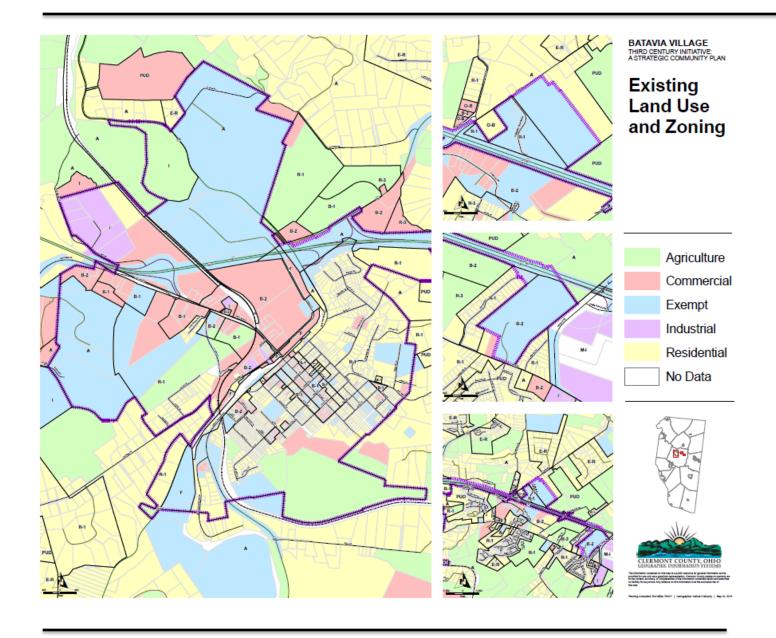


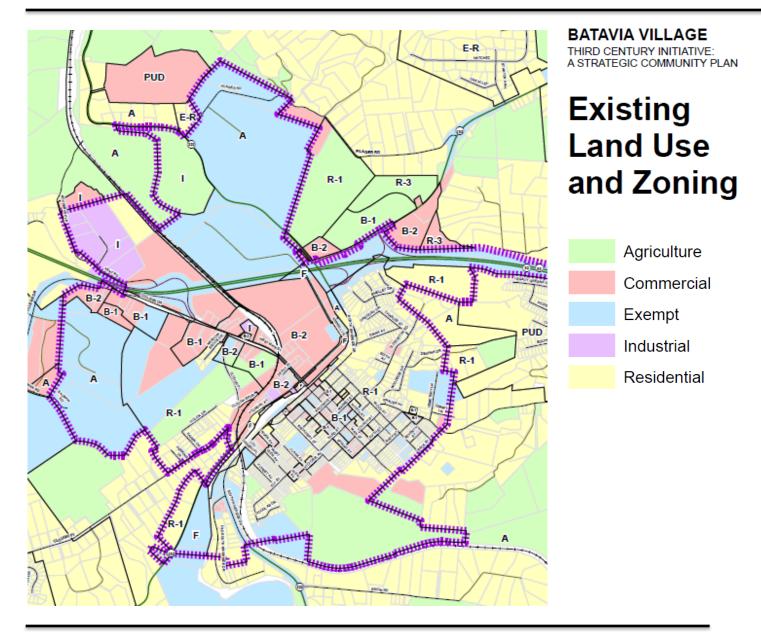


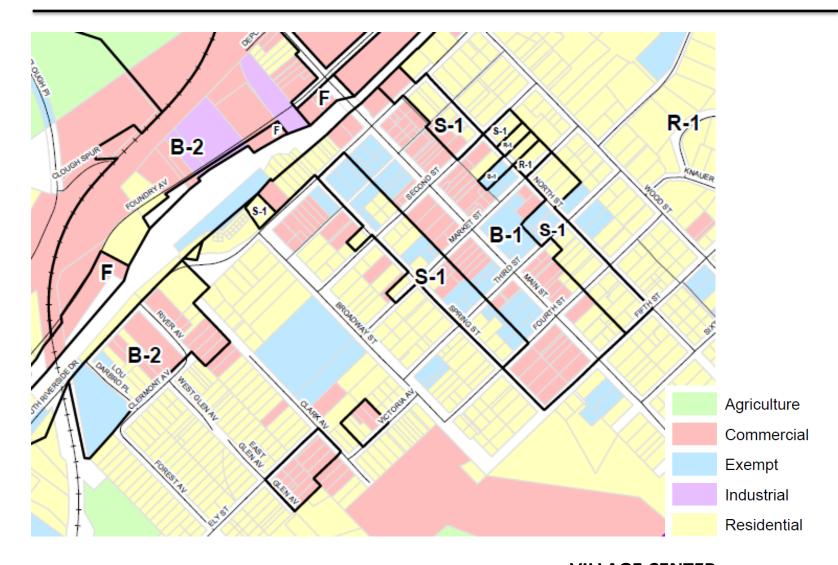




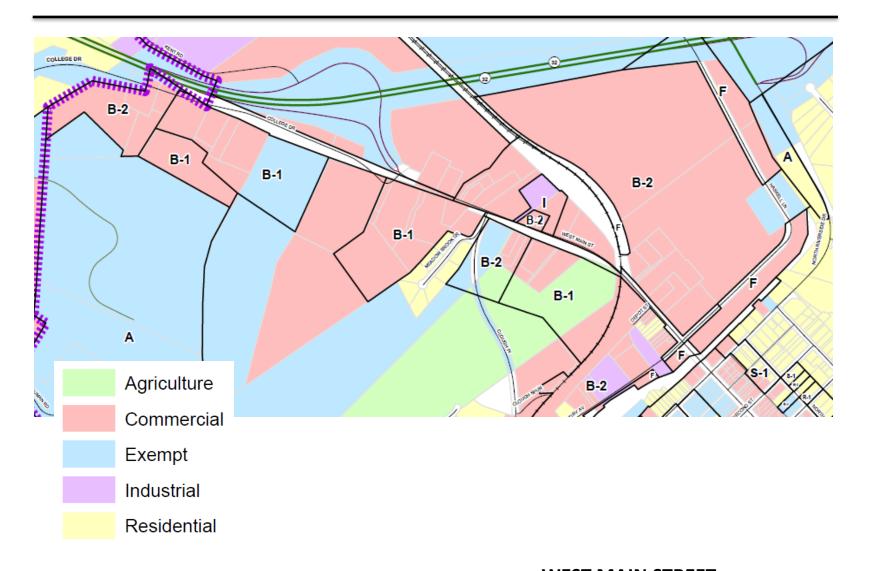
Existing Land Use and Zoning



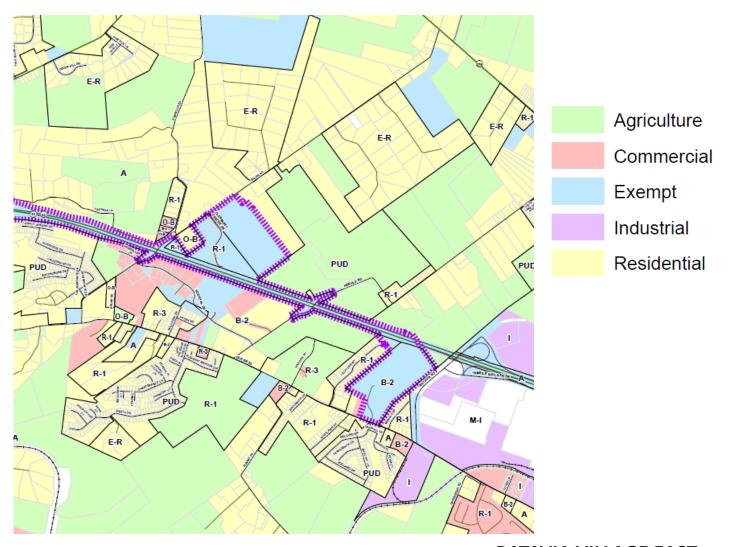




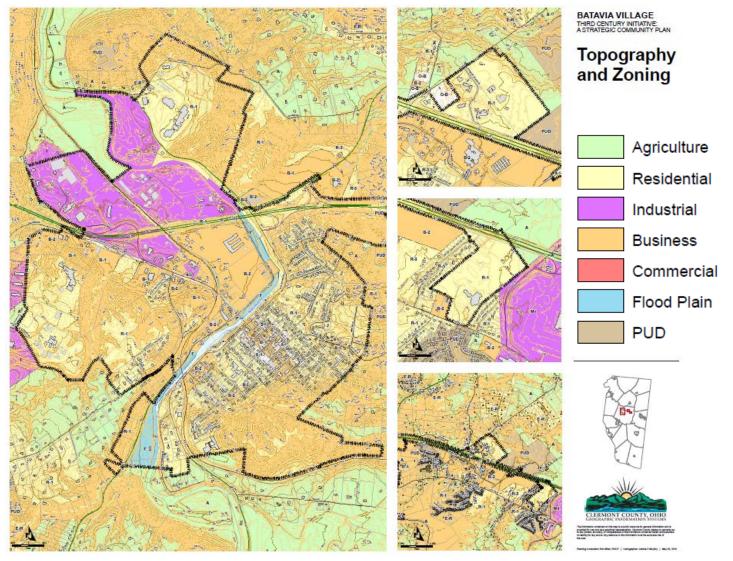
Existing Land Use and Zoning



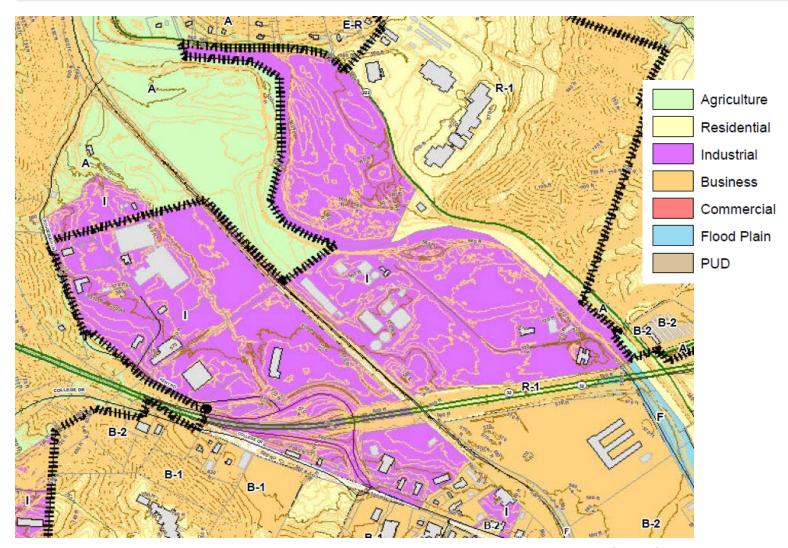
Existing Land Use and Zoning



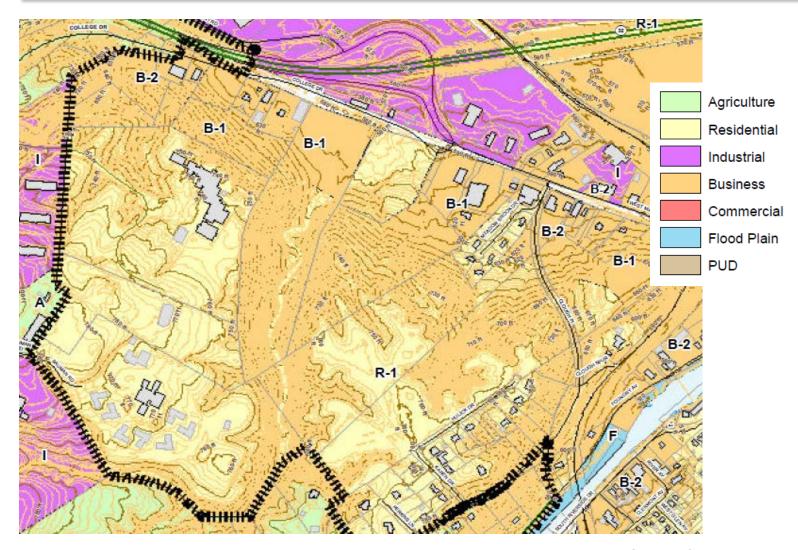
Existing Land Use and Zoning



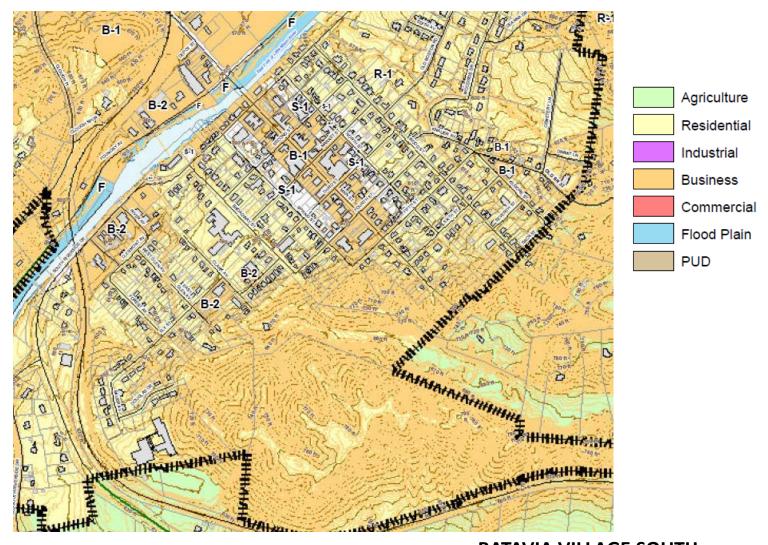
Topography and Zoning



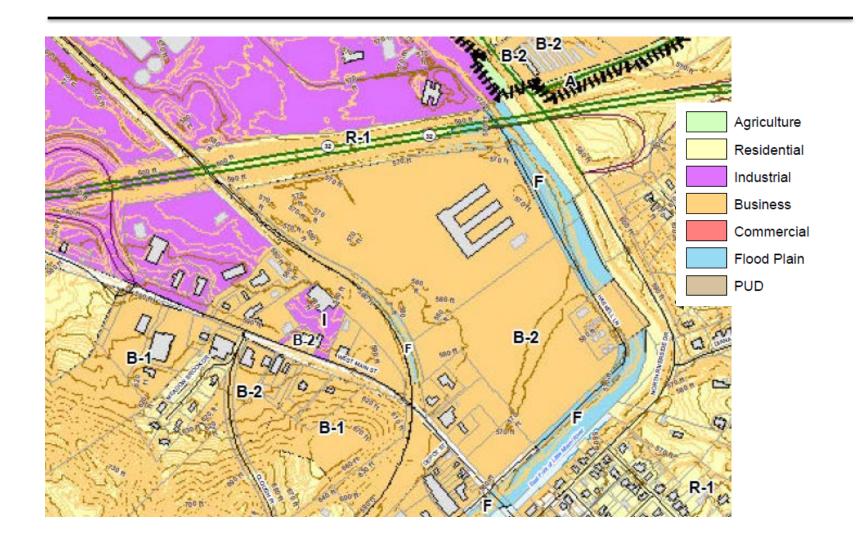
Topography and Zoning



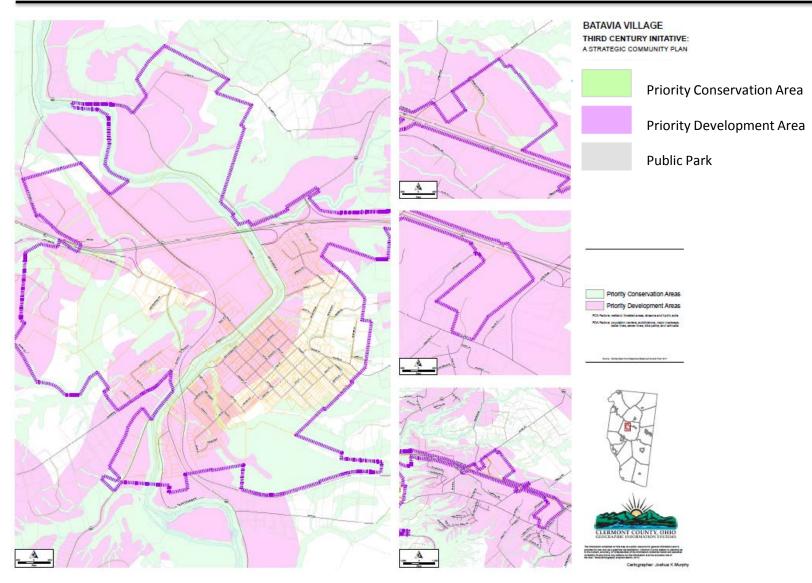
Topography and Zoning



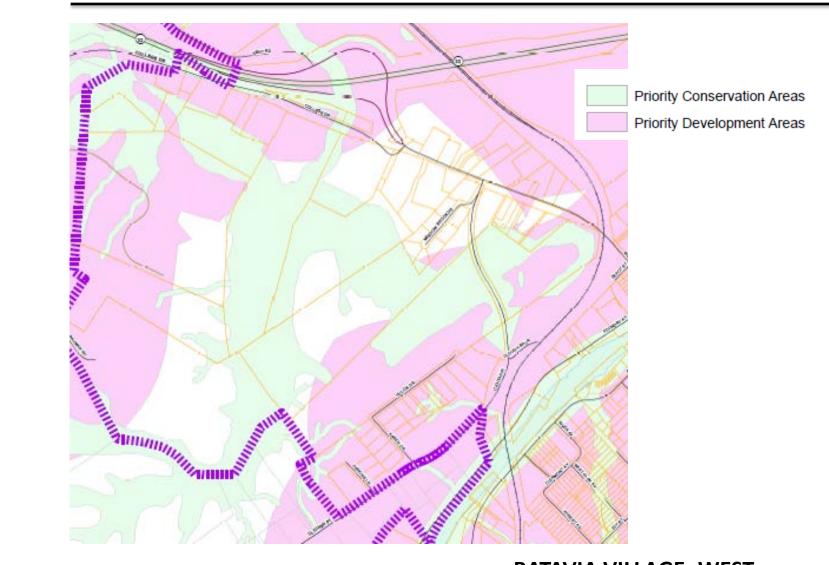
Topography and Zoning



Topography and Zoning



Priority Areas for Conservation and Development

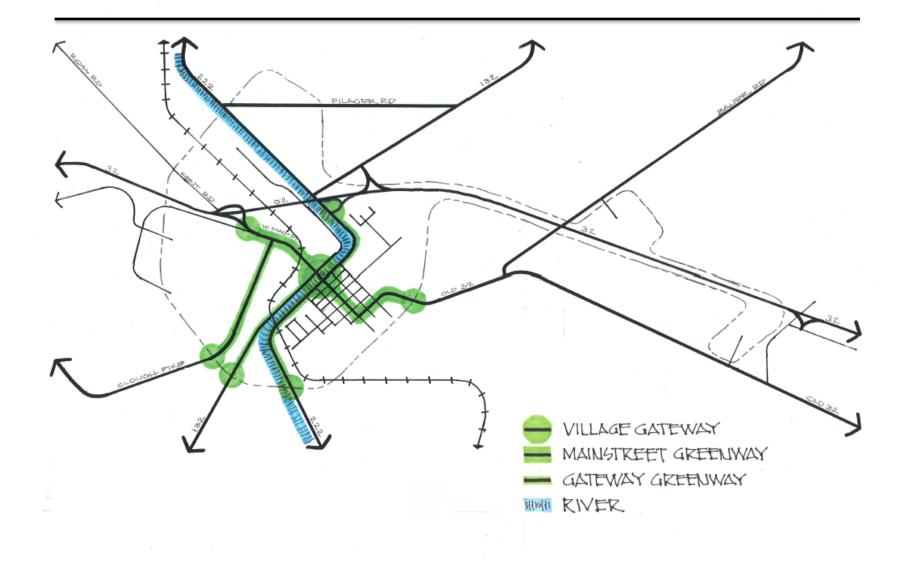


BATAVIA VILLAGE- WEST Priority Areas for Conservation and Development





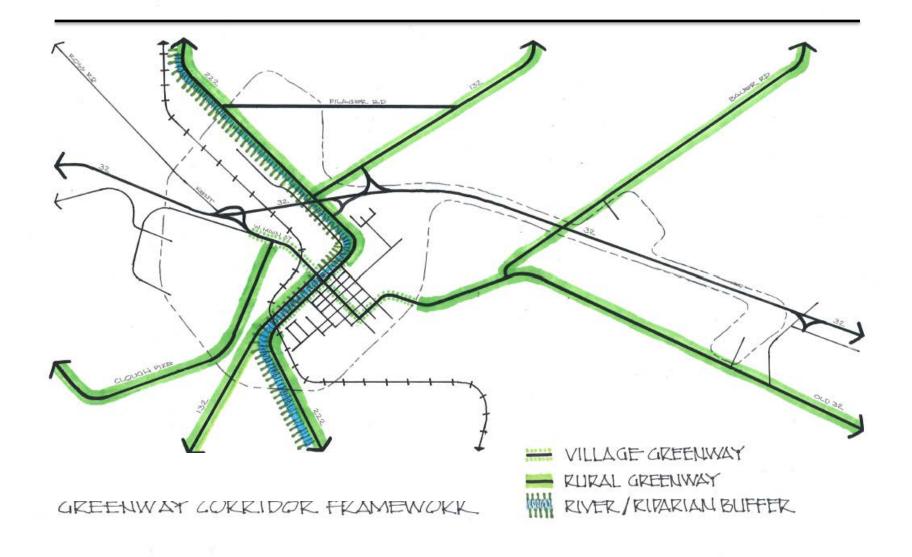
PART (RECOMMENDATIONS) Greenways and Bikeways



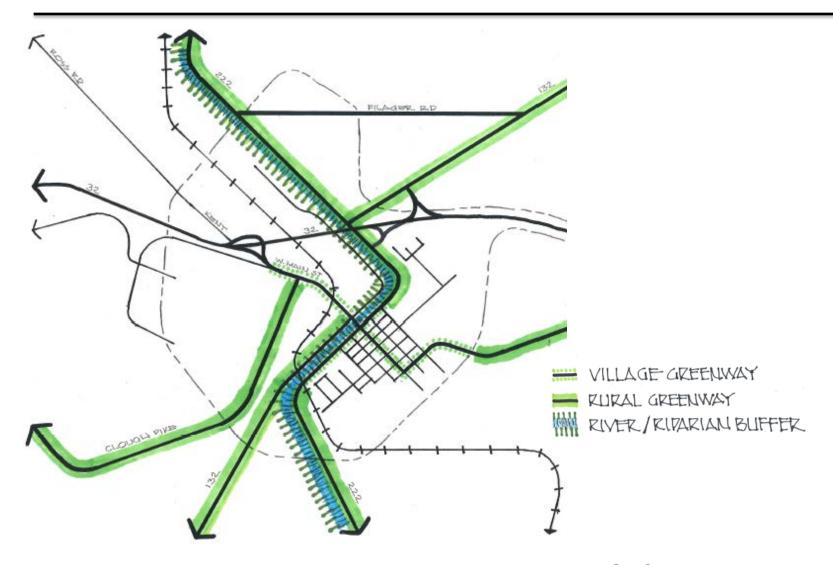
Recommended Greenway/Gateway Framework



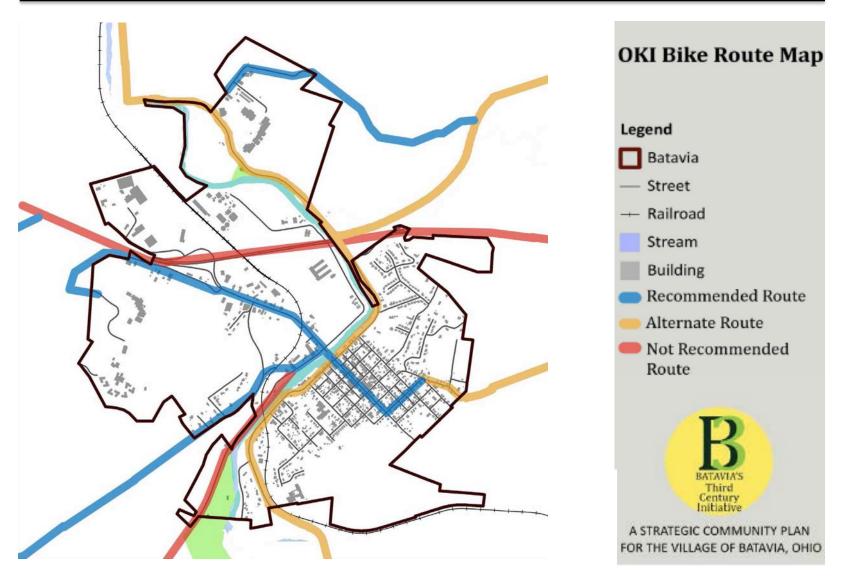
VILLAGE CENTER
Recommended **Greenway/Gateway Framework**



Recommended **Greenway Corridors**



VILLAGE CENTER Recommended **Greenway Corridors**



Recommended Bike Routes

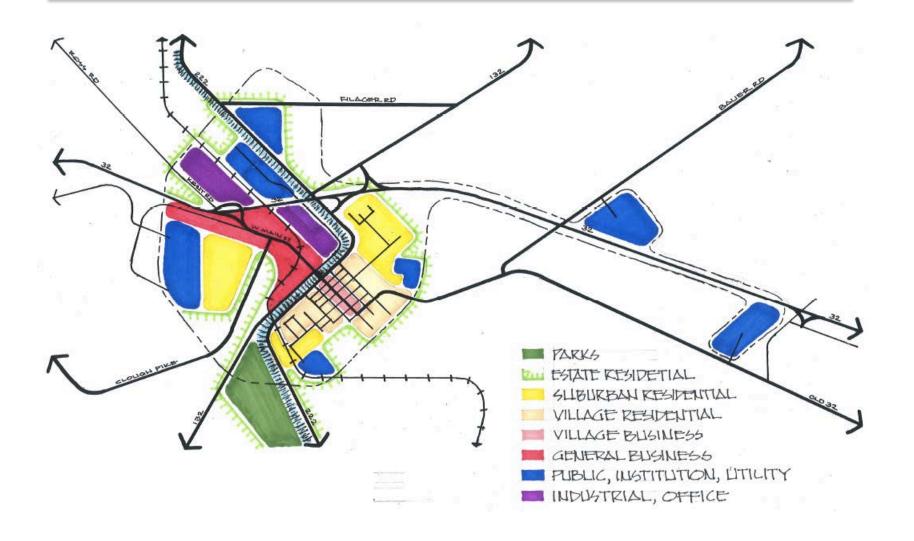


THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE

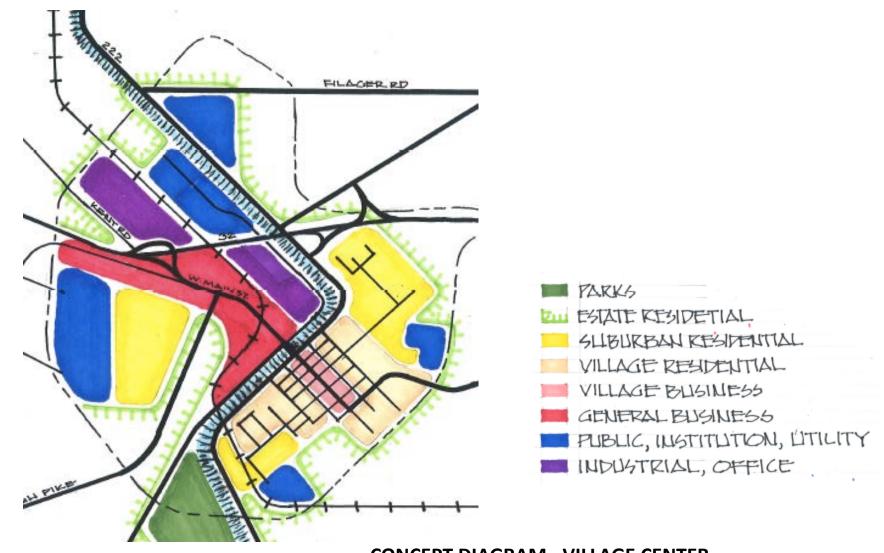


10
Land Use Plan

(RECOMMENDATIONS)



Proposed Land Use Plan Framework



CONCEPT DIAGRAM -VILLAGE CENTER Proposed Land Use Plan Framework

Categories of Recommended Land Use

Estate Residence

(low density rural and estate character)

The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed ER Estate Residence District) is:

- 1. To protect and support the development of low density single-family housing in conjunction with appropriate accessory uses and public and institutional uses;
- 2. To protect residential neighborhoods from the intrusion of incompatible non-residential uses;
- 3. To allow, with conditions, other public and institutional uses that do not adversely affect the residential quality of their neighborhood; and
- 4. enable and promote conservation development or clustering of single-family dwelling units so as to allow for single-family detached residential development without increasing the permitted appropriate conventional lot-by-lot subdivision density while enhancing useful open space and preserving significant trees and other natural features through proper utilization of density transfer techniques.

Suburban Residence

(medium density, suburban subdivision character)

The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed R-1 Residence District) is:

- 1. To protect and support the development of medium density single-family housing in conjunction with appropriate accessory uses and public and institutional uses;
- 2. To protect residential neighborhoods from the intrusion of incompatible non-residential uses; and
- 3. To allow, with appropriate conditions, other public and institutional uses that do not adversely affect the residential quality of their neighborhood.

Village Residence

(high density, traditional neighborhood village character)

- 1. The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed R-2 Village Residence District) is:
- 2. To accommodate higher density single family detached and multi-family dwellings of such limited size and bulk that they will not alter the traditional neighborhood village character of the Village Residence District.
- 3. To protect the traditional neighborhood village character from the intrusion of incompatible non-residential uses.

Village Business

(pedestrian oriented ground floor commercial, "Main Street" character)

- 1. The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed B-1 Village Business District) is:
- 2. To provide places for businesses that are enclosed in buildings and that are small in size and not detrimental to the residential neighborhood;
- 3. To provide convenience goods and services to local residents; and
- 4. To protect and enhance the traditional "Main Street" character of the Village Business District.

General Business

(vehicular oriented commercial, arterial road corridor character)

- 1. The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed B-2 General Business District) is:
- 2. To provide places for vehicular oriented businesses that benefit from passing traffic and provide goods and services to local and regional markets as well as automobiles;
- 3. To promote safe accessibility to larger-scale commercial and professional, institutional, and governmental office uses along arterial road corridors and at major intersection;
- 4. To enhance employment opportunities;
- 5. To enhance property values and accommodate development contributing to the economic base of the Village;
- 6. To encourage efficient use of land and high quality of design in office and business developments;
- 7. To preserve land for commercial use and prevent potential conflicts by limiting encroachment of unplanned residential and other non-commercial development within active commercial areas; and
- 8. To help implement land use plans, thoroughfare plans and corridor studies adopted by the Village.

Public Facilities

(public, quasi-public, civic, education and other institutional uses; generally with coordinated campus character)

- 1. The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed PF Public Facilities District) is:
- 2. To provide places for government facilities and services that support Batavia's designation as the County Seat;
- 3. To provide for public and quasi-public facilities and institutions including but not limited to governmental, civic, educational, religious, welfare, recreational, and transportation facilities in proper locations and extent so as to promote the general safety, convenience, comfort and welfare;
- 4. To preserve land for public and quasi-public facilities and institutions and protect such uses from the encroachment of other uses;
- 5. To protect adjoining residential areas from adverse land use impacts associated with public facilities and institutions; and
- 6. To help implement land use plans, thoroughfare plans and corridor studies adopted by the Village.

Industry/Office

(Offices, businesses or industries engaged in operations; generally low intensity and enclosed_with coordinated campus character)

The purpose of this land use category (and the proposed IO Industry/Office District) is:

- 1. To provide places for business and industries engaged in low intensity operations that manufacture, process or store products for distribution or sale, whose operations are within buildings and clean, quiet and free from objectionable or dangerous nuisance or hazard off site, but often involve materials, processes, machines or equipment which would interfere with pedestrian accessibility to stores if located in a business district; and would be detrimental if located in a less intensive district;
- 2. To provide, through conditional use review, places for business and industries engaged in more intensive operations which manufacture, process or store products for distribution or sale; whose operations often require outdoor storage or business operations, and would be detrimental if located in a less intensive district due to generation of noise, odor, vibration, after hours activities, or traffic impacts well beyond the subject property lines.
- 3. To provide places for businesses which frequently use large trucks or heavy equipment, need space for outdoor storage or business operations; serve a large market area; and often create noise which would be objectionable to less intensive uses;

Industry/Office (continued)

- 4. To enhance employment opportunities;
- 5. To enhance property values and accommodate development contributing to the economic base of the Village;
- 6. To encourage efficient use of land and high quality of design in office, business and industrial developments;
- 7. To provide for the separation of such industrial operations from residential districts and compatibility with other districts by means of natural or man-made buffers or structural boundaries such as drainage channels, dramatic breaks in topography, vegetation, traffic arteries and similar types of buffers and boundaries;
- 8. To preserve land for industry and prevent potential conflicts by limiting encroachment of unplanned residential and other non-industrial development within active industrial areas; and
- 9. To help implement land use plans, thoroughfare plans and corridor studies adopted by the Village.

CATEGORIES OF RECOMMENDED LAND USE

(CONTINUED)

Planned Unit Development (overlay district)

(coordinated landscaping and access with creative site planning for unique constraints and character)

- 1. The Planned Unit Development (PUD) District is recommended to be established in the zoning code as an optional development tool. The purpose of the proposed PUD overlay district is:
- 2. to permit property to be developed under flexible standards based on public review and legislative approval of a comprehensive site plan without the need to conform to uniform zoning requirements of the underlying district regulations.;
- 3. to encourage innovation in land use, form of ownership and variety of design, layout and type of structures constructed;
- 4. to achieve economy and efficiency in the use of land;
- 5. to preserve significant natural, historical and architectural features and open space;
- 6. to promote efficient provision of public services and utilities;
- 7. to minimize adverse traffic impacts; to provide better housing, employment and business opportunities particularly suited to residents;
- 8. to encourage development of convenient recreational facilities; and to encourage the use and improvement of existing sites when the uniform regulations contained in other zoning districts alone do not provide adequate protection and safeguards for the property and surrounding areas; and
- 9. to promote a higher quality of development than can be achieved from conventional zoning requirements in furtherance of the vision, goals and plans duly adopted by the Village of Batavia Planning Commission.

CATEGORIES OF RECOMMENDED LAND USE

(CONTINUED: OTHER LAND USES)

Open Space

(Steep slopes, undevelopable hillsides)

The purpose of this land use category is to identify land with environmental constraints to development.

Parks

(Parks, playgrounds and nature preserves)

The purpose of this land use category is to identify existing and proposed areas to be held permanently in public ownership for active and passive recreation.

Freeway Corridor

The purpose of this land use category is to identify the location and extent of right-of-way dedicated for State Route 32.

Railroad Corridor

The purpose of this land use category is to identify the location and extent of right-of-way and easements dedicated for rail lines.

Rural / Greenway Corridor

The purpose of this land use category is to identify major roads and property frontage where rural character of development should be retained.

Gateway / Greenway Corridor

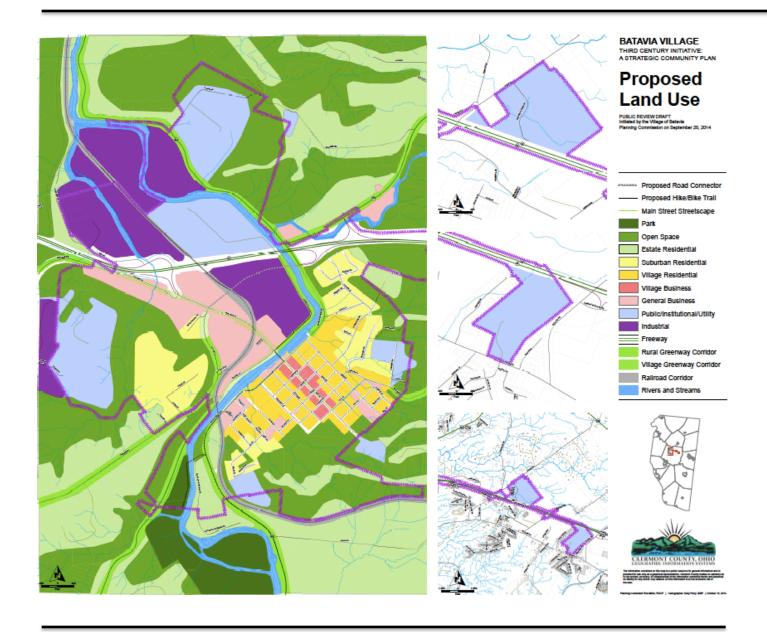
The purpose of this land use category is to identify sections of major roads and property frontage that serve as public entrances to the historic core of the Village of Batavia.

Riparian / Greenway Corridor

The purpose of this land use category is to identify unique plant habitats along river and stream banks that should be conserved to reduce erosion and protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

Hike / Bike Corridor

The purpose of this land use category is to identify the proposed generalized alignment of the Williamsburg Batavia Hike/Bike Trail.





River Basin Area

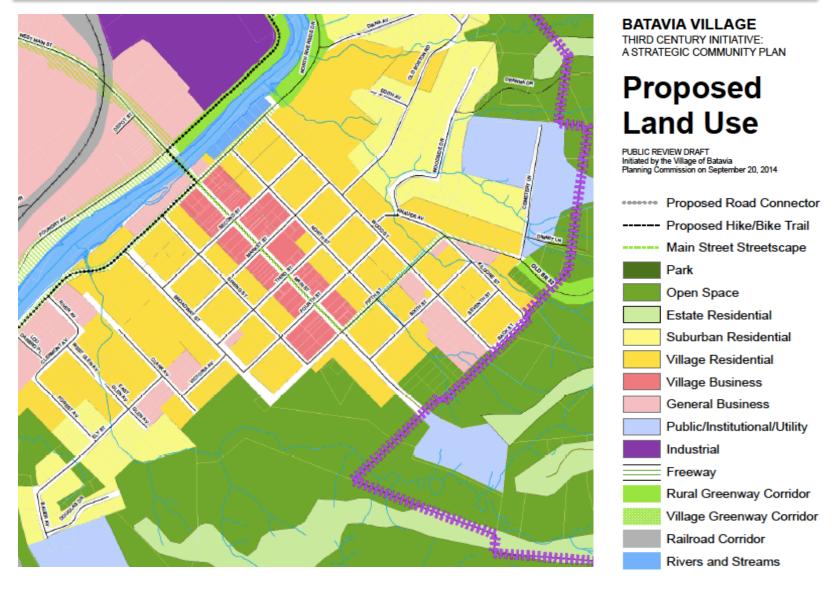
BATAVIA VILLAGE

THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE: A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

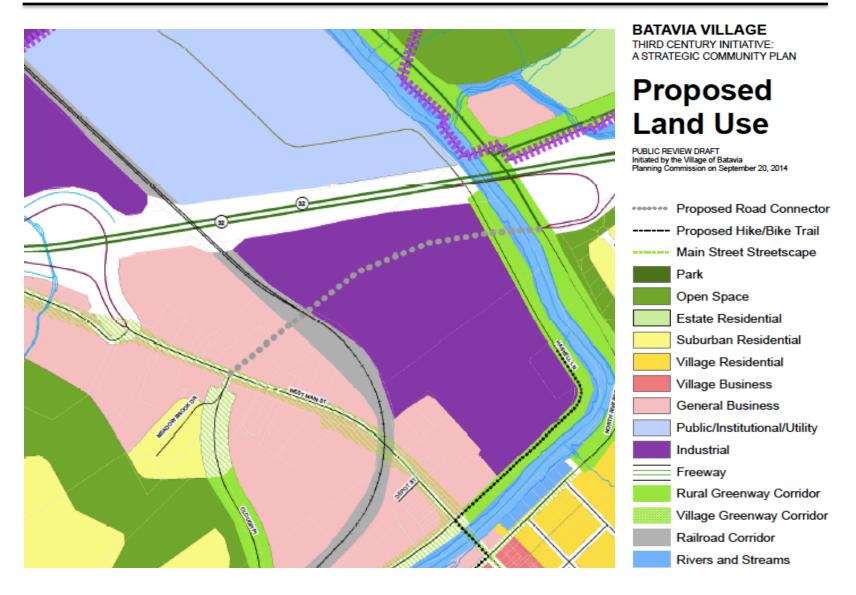
Proposed Land Use

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT Initiated by the Village of Batavia Planning Commission on September 20, 2014

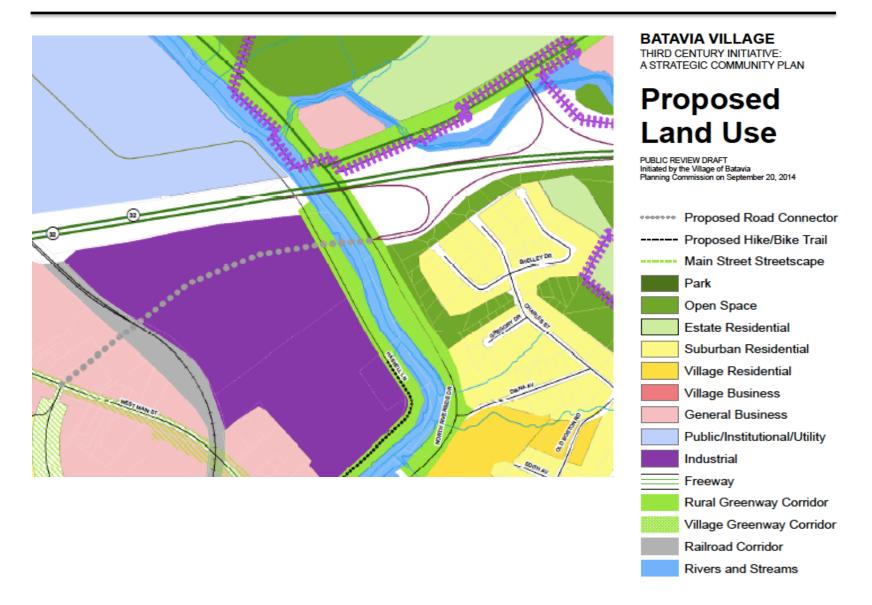




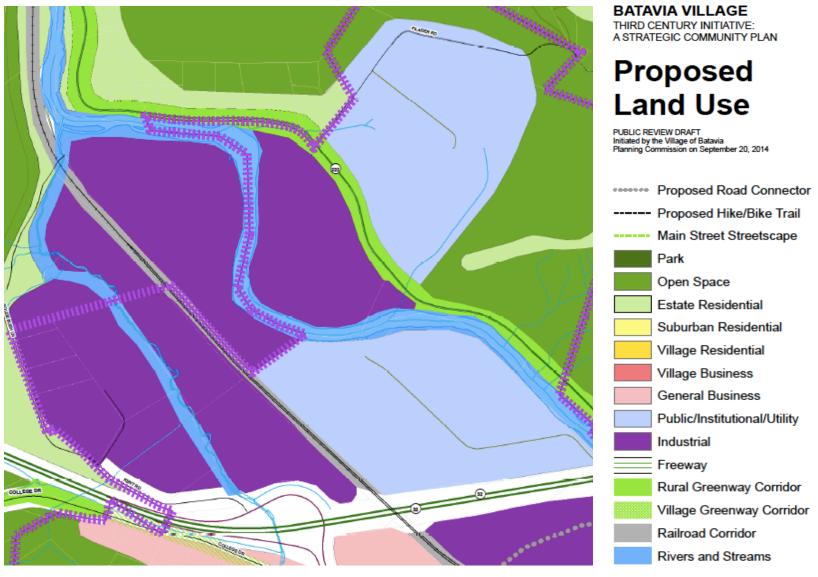
VILLAGE CENTER / MAIN STREET AND NEIGHBORHOOD AREA



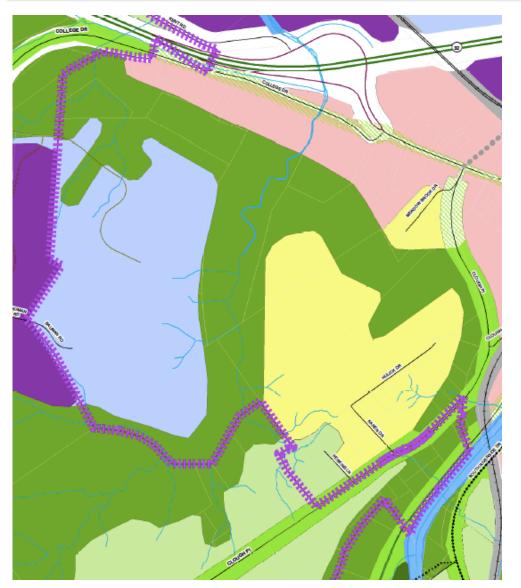
GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT / WEST MAIN STREET AREA



PROPOSED ROAD CONNECTOR / WEST MAIN STREET AREA



NORTH SIDE / KENT ROAD INDUSTRIAL AREA



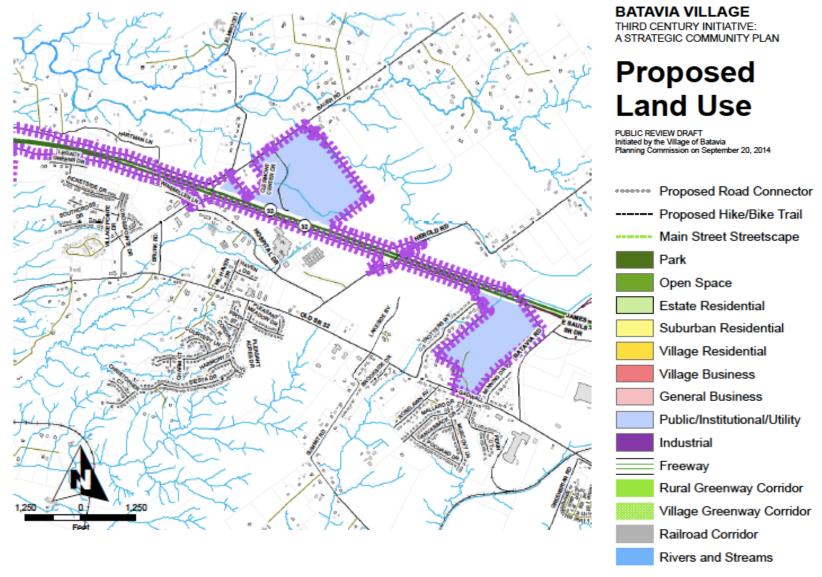
BATAVIA VILLAGE
THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE:
A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

Proposed Land Use

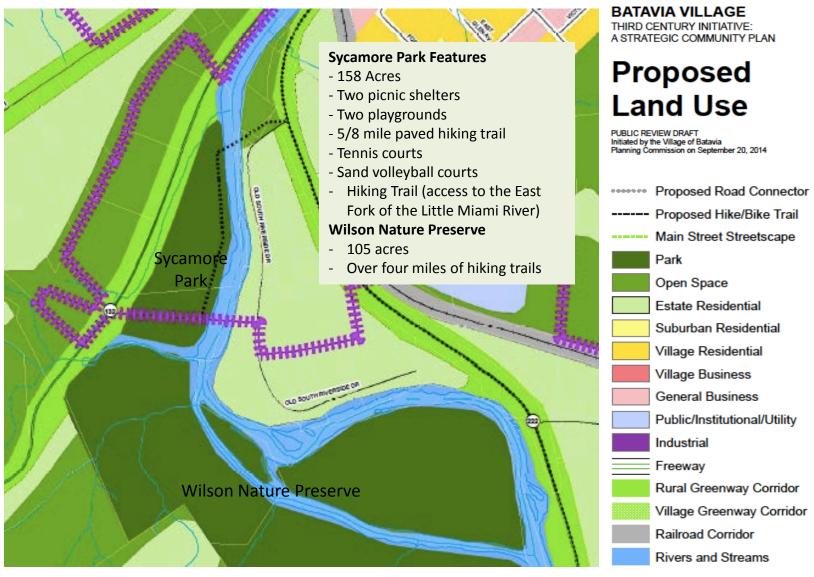
PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT Initiated by the Village of Batavia Planning Commission on September 20, 2014



WEST SIDE / UC CLERMONT COLLEGE AREA

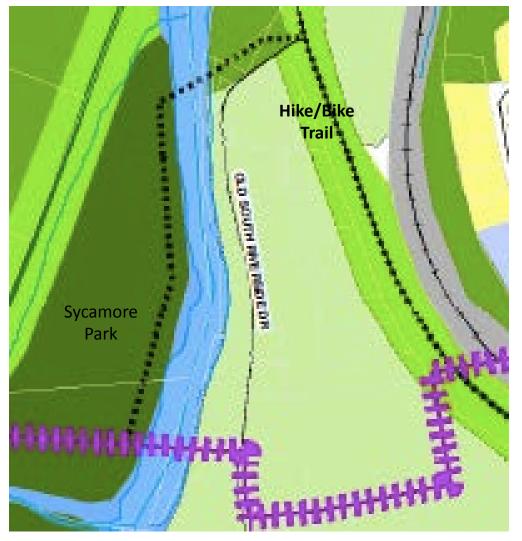


EAST SIDE / PUBLIC USE AND INSTITUTIONAL USE AREA



SOUTH SIDE / SYCAMORE PARK AND WILSON NATURE PRESERVE AREA

The Williamsburg to Batavia Hike/Bike Trail will connect Batavia to East Fork State Park and Harsha Lake, When completed, the trail length will be 15 miles.



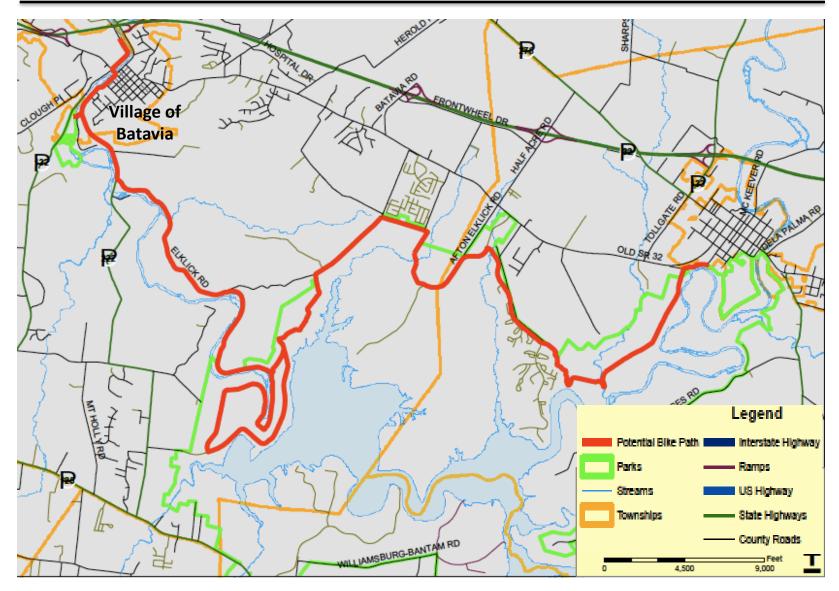
BATAVIA VILLAGE
THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE:
A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

Proposed Land Use

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT Initiated by the Village of Batavia Planning Commission on September 20, 2014



SOUTH SIDE / PROPOSED HIKE/BIKE TRAIL TO SYCAMORE PARK



PROPOSED HIKE/BIKE TRAIL (WILLIAMSBURG TO BATAVIA)





PART 11

(RECOMMENDATIONS)

Proposed Zoning Map

Land Use Categories and Zone Districts

RELATIONSHIP OF PROPOSED LAND USE PLAN AND PROPOSED ZONING MAP

Proposed Land Use Plan

Proposed Zone District Map

Estate Residential	ER Estate Residence
Suburban Residential	R-1 Suburban Residence
Village Residential	R-2 Village Residential
Multi Family Residential	(conditional use)
Village Business	B-1 Village Business
General Business	B-2 General Business
Industrial	IO Industry / Office

Freeway Corridor
Railroad Corridor
Greenway Road Corridor—Rural
Greenway Road Corridor—Village Gateway
Greenway Riparian Corridor
Proposed Road Connector
Proposed Hike/Bike Trail
Rivers and Streams
Parks
Open Space

Proposed Zone Districts

AND MAP AMENDMENTS

(Adopted district symbols to be amended are shown in italics*)

ER (R-1)	Estate Residence Low density; rural and estate character
R-1 (R-1, S-1)	Suburban Residence Medium density; suburban subdivision character
R-2	Village Residence High density; traditional neighborhood village character
B-1 (B-1, F)	Village Business Pedestrian oriented; ground floor commercial; "Main Street" character
B-2 (B-1, B-2, F)	General Business Vehicular oriented commercial; arterial road corridor character
PF (R-1,F, I)	Public Facilities Public, quasi-public, civic, education and other institutional uses; coordinated campus character
IO (I, B-2, R-1)	Industry/Office Offices, businesses or industries; generally low intensity and enclosed; coordinated campus character
PUD	Planned Unit Development (overlay district) Coordinated landscaping and access; creative site planning; unique constraints and character

^{*} Previous Districts:

R-1 Residence, B-1 Neighborhood Business, B-2 General Business,

S-1 Neighborhood Service, I Industrial, F Flood Plain

PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICT CONCEPTS AND RATIONALE E-R Estate Residence District

- The district symbol and name will be consistent with the district symbol and name used by the surrounding township and already designated on land surrounding Batavia Village.
- Will enable easier transition of land upon annexation.
- The E-R District regulations in the township are appropriately designed for land with steep topography and development potential on ridge tops (i.e. provides for 150 foot minimum lot width and 1 acre minimum lot size for single family and agricultural use as well as other uses having **low density rural character** or located in areas with steep slopes and development constraints).
- Greater consistency between Village and Township zoning will promote ridge top development where coordinated access between the Village and the Township is needed.
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.
- The new district name describes its purpose.

PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICT CONCEPTS AND RATIONALE R-1 Suburban Residence District

- The district symbol (R-1) and the proposed R-1 regulations will be similar to the existing (Batavia Village) R-1 purpose and regulations (i.e. provides for **medium density, suburban single family subdivision character**).
- Keeping the designation (R-1) on existing "post-1950" subdivisions will minimize zoning map amendments in the zoning update process and minimize property owner concerns since the zoning designation will remain the same with minor refinements in the R-1 regulations.
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.
- The new name of the district more accurately describes its purpose.

R-2 Village Residence District

- Replaces the S-1 Neighborhood Service district since currently this district is primarily single family and multi-family use (i.e. higher density residential character).
- Expands the existing S-1 district area to include all of the village residential neighborhood having predominantly "pre-1950" structures and urban village residential character.
- The R-1, R-2 numbering sequence enables future adoption of an R-3 multi-family district if desired instead of allowing multi-family as a conditional use.
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.
- The new name of the district more accurately describes its purpose.

B-1 Village Business District

- Keeping the designation (B-1) on existing **pedestrian oriented business and office uses** will minimize zoning map amendments in the zoning update process and minimize property owner concerns since the zoning designation will remain the same with minor refinements in the B-1 regulations to preserve and achieve **urban "Main Street" character**.
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.
- The new name of the district more accurately describes its purpose.

PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICT CONCEPTS AND RATIONALE **B-2 General Business District**

- Keeping the designation (B-2) on existing **vehicular oriented business and office uses** will minimize zoning map amendments in the zoning update process and minimize property owner concerns since the zoning designation will remain the same with minor refinements in the B-2 regulations to preserve and achieve **commercial**, **suburban**, **arterial road corridor character**.
- The district name describes its purpose.
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.

PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICT CONCEPTS AND RATIONALE PF Public Facilities District

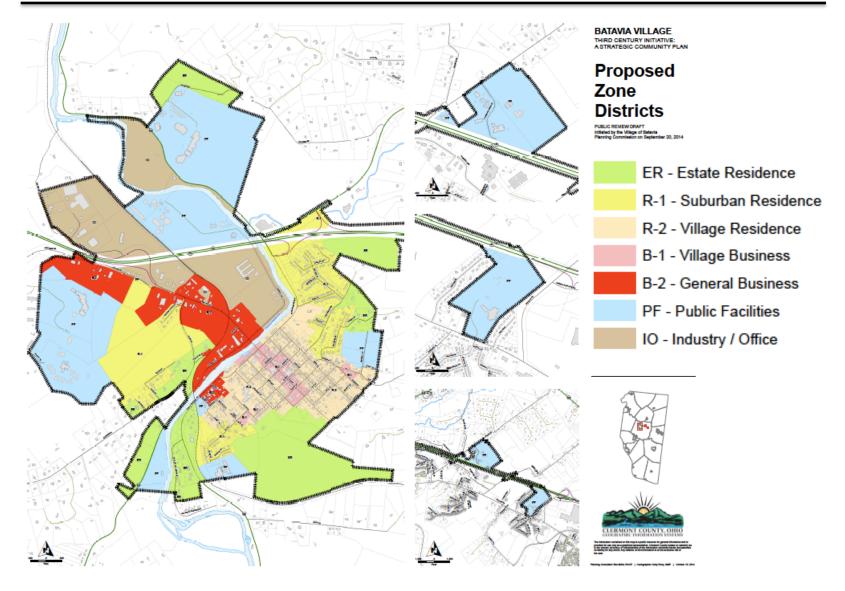
- This proposed district provides places for government facilities and services that support Batavia's
 designation as the County Seat and accommodates large public, quasi-public, civic, education and
 other institutional uses while protecting nearby residential areas from adverse land use impacts
 associated with such uses;
- The district name accurately describes its purpose.
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.

IO Industry/Office District

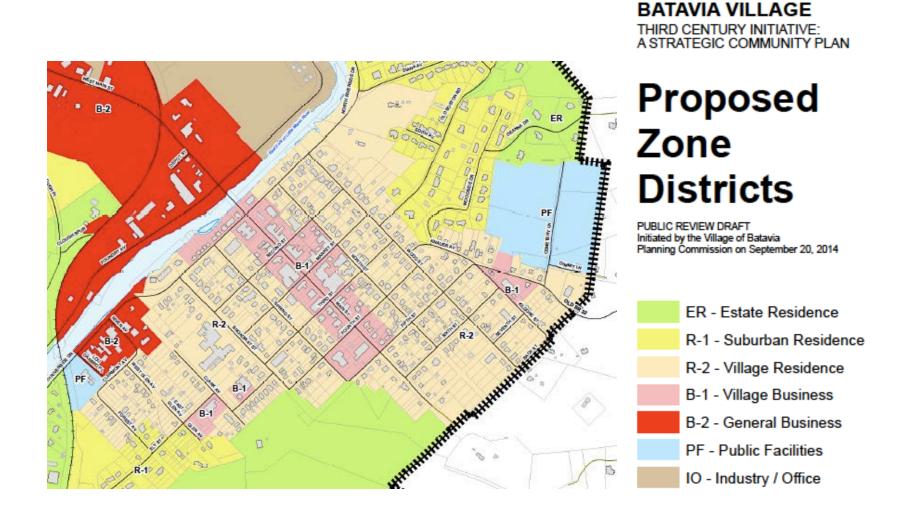
- Changing the existing industrial district to a combined "Industry/Office" district reflects the fact that contemporary industrial uses are generally not obnoxious uses and often resemble office campuses.
- The combined "Industry/Office" district enables permitting office and low intensity enclosed industrial uses as-of-right and allowing more intensive industrial uses through conditional permits to enable greater review and evaluation of potential adverse impacts. Refinement of standards should achieve suburban campus character or a scale and form compatible with village character where employment uses are integrated in older traditional neighborhoods
- Conditional use provisions will enable development flexibility (beyond "permitted" uses) and minimize need for cumbersome zoning map amendments.
- The new name of the district more accurately describes its purpose.

PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICT CONCEPTS AND RATIONALE PUD Planned Unit Development

•	This proposed overlay district provides flexibility in the regulation of development; encourages a
	variety of housing and building types; and enables creative site design with useful open space, and
	preservation of natural resources.



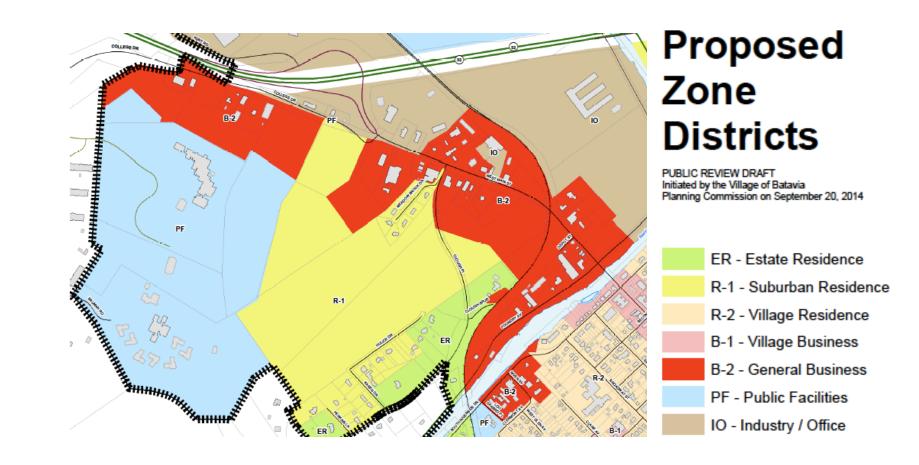
OFFICIAL ZONING MAP (Public Review Draft)



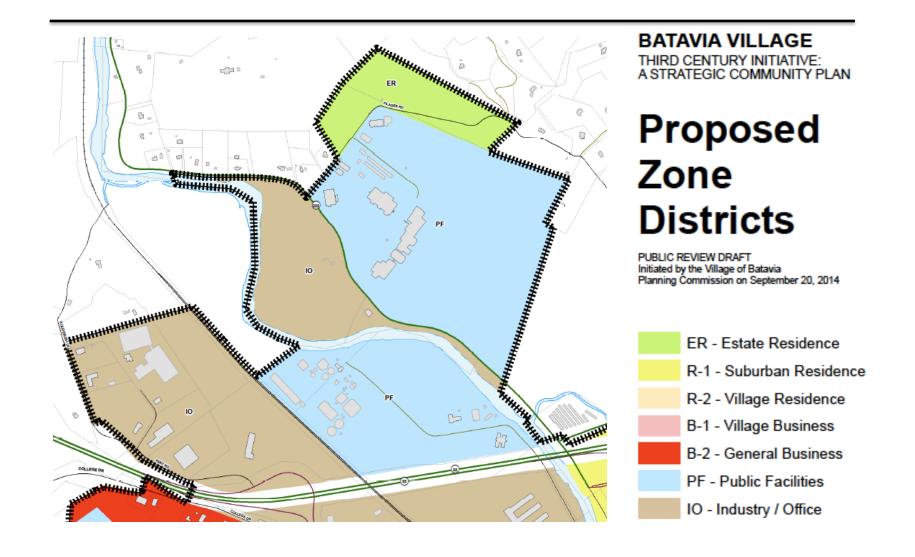
VILLAGE CENTER / MAIN STREET AND NEIGHBORHOOD AREA

BATAVIA VILLAGE

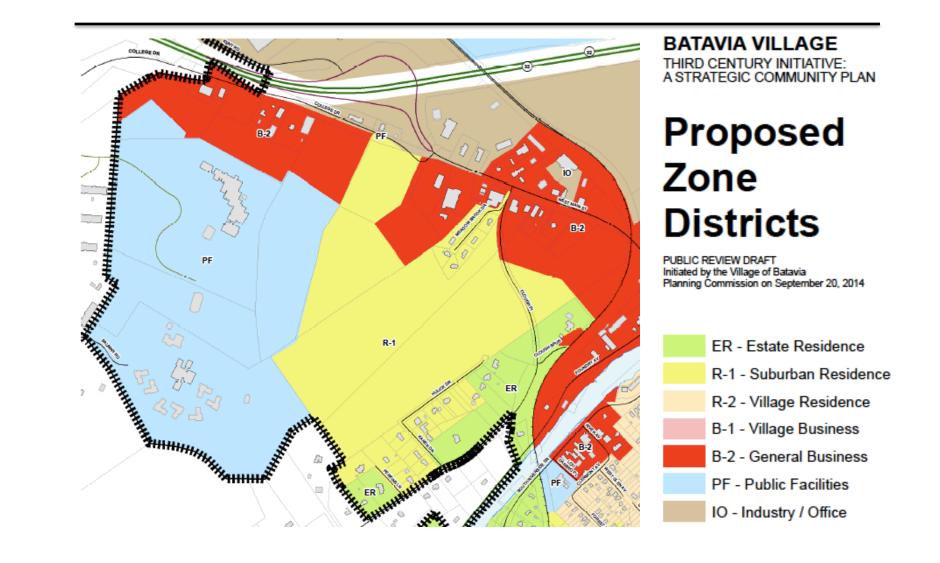
THIRD CENTURY INITIATIVE: A STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN



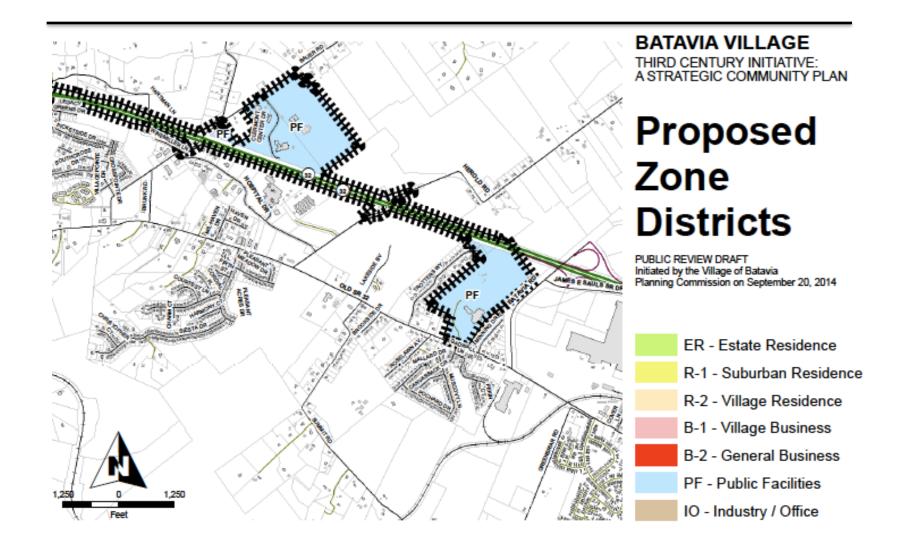
GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT / WEST MAIN STREET AREA



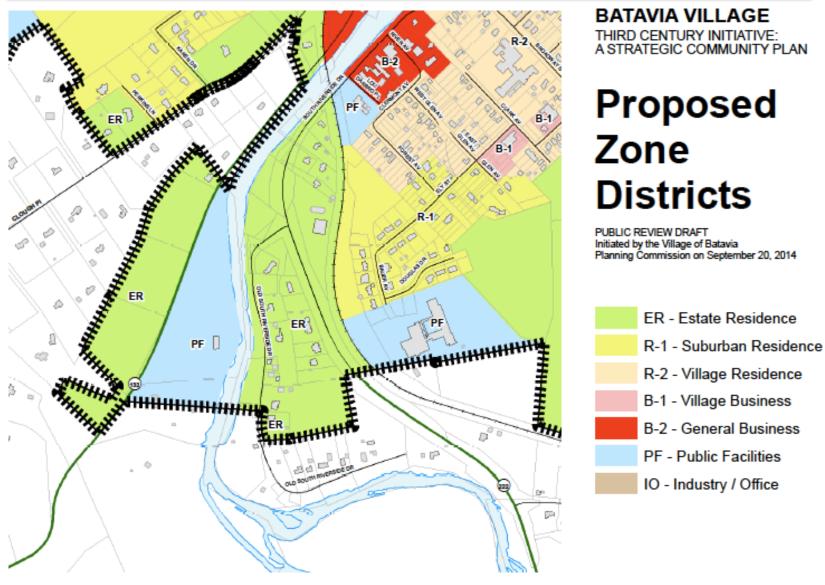
NORTH SIDE / KENT ROAD INDUSTRIAL AREA



WEST SIDE / UC CLERMONT COLLEGE AREA



EAST SIDE / PUBLIC USE AND INSTITUTIONAL USE AREA



SOUTH SIDE / SYCAMORE PARK AND WILSON NATURE PRESERVE AREA





PART 12

(RECOMMENDATIONS)

Plan Administration / Implementation

GUIDANCE FOR ZONING AMENDMENTS

Administration of the Land Use Plan

Consistency with Plan

- Recommendations on zone amendments should consider consistency with the adopted land use plan.
- Any zone amendment that receives majority vote of the full Planning Commission while being considered for consistency with adopted land use plans should be reported to the Village Council as being consistent with adopted land use plans and therefore recommended for approval.
- Any zone amendment that fails to receive an affirmative vote of at least a majority of the full commission while being considered for consistency with adopted land use plans should be reported to the Village Council as being inconsistent with adopted land use plans and therefore recommended for denial except where the following criteria are not satisfied.



Criteria for Consistency of Zoning Recommendations with the Land Use Plan

- Recommendations of the Village Planning Commission regarding zone amendments and other land use issues should be consistent with the land use plan, provided that each of the following criteria are satisfied:
 - 1. that the Village Planning Commission has officially **adopted** the plan and the plan is current (generally updated during the past five years);
 - 2. that **zoning regulations** have been adopted that make plan implementation possible;
 - 3. that the **timing** of regulatory actions to implement land use plan map recommendations for individual sites will not undermine the development policies and strategies of the adopted plan. (Note: Since a plan is long term, while zoning responds to shorter term needs and conditions, the zoning map will only gradually fulfill the prescriptions of the land use plan. The appropriate time for implementation of each land use plan map recommendation through zone map amendments can only be determined by evaluation of the potential effect of such actions at a particular time on achieving or undermining the overall goals, objectives, policies and strategies of the adopted plan. Therefore, the zoning map cannot always be consistent with the longer term land use plan.)
- Recommendations of the Village Planning Commission regarding zone amendments that are inconsistent with the Land Use Plan should be accompanied by a specific finding that one or more of the criteria for consistency with plans have not been satisfied. Such finding should be recorded in the minutes and records of the Village Planning Commission.

Adoption of Plans

- Before adopting any plan relating to development of the Village or part thereof, the Village Planning Commission should hold at least one public hearing.
- After adoption by the Village Planning Commission, the Commission should certify its plan to the Village Council.

Amendment of Plans

Any person or group of persons whose interests are substantially affected may petition to the Village Planning Commission to amend any plans adopted by the Commission by submitting an application approved by the Commission.

Before any plan amendment is adopted by the Village Planning Commission, the Commission should make a specific finding that one or more of the following apply, and such finding shall be recorded in the minutes and records of the Village Planning Commission:

- 1. that **major changes** of an economic, physical, or social nature have occurred **within the planning area** which were not anticipated in the adopted plan and which have substantially altered the basic character of the area; or
- 2. that **new information** not available when the plan was adopted substantially alters the basis or rationale for a portion of the plan; or
- 3. that **major changes** have occurred **outside the planning area** which have rendered parts of the plan unrealistic or unattainable; or
- 4. that **detailed subarea plans** have revealed the need for a plan amendment; or
- 5. that the plan or part thereof was inappropriate or improper when adopted and that a sufficient basis exists for admission of a **mistake** or need for change in adopted plans or policies.

Each proposed revision and modification of an adopted plan should require the affirmative votes of at least a majority of the full commission.

Implementation of Plans

After adopting any plan relating to development of the Village, the Village Planning Commission within the limitations of resources and established policies should:

- **1. maintain consistency** with the objectives and policies of the plan when making any recommendation on zone amendments or other issues requiring action from the Commission;
- 2. investigate and **make recommendations** to the Village Council upon reasonable and practical means for putting into effect the land use plan or part thereof, in order that it will serve as a pattern and guide for physical growth and development;
- 3. render an **annual report** to the Village Council on the status of the plan and progress of its application;
- 4. endeavor to **promote public interest in and understanding of adopted plans** and regulations relating to it;
- **5. consult and advise** with public officials and agencies, public utility companies, civic, educational, professional, and other organizations, and citizens (within and surrounding the Village) generally with relation to carrying out the adopted plans.

Interpretation of Plans

The Village Planning Commission interprets the graphic and non-graphic recommendations of the Land Use Plan. The need for interpretation recognizes that the plan being general, advisory, nonregulatory and long term cannot as a practical matter address every specific situation to which they may have to be applied. The following standards should guide the Village Planning Commission in interpreting recommendations of the adopted plan:

- 1. In the event of a **conflict** between the text and the map of an adopted land use plan the text of the plan should control.
- 2. In the event of **uncertainty** as to the consistency between a development proposal and an adopted plan the action of the Village Planning Commission should assure that the public interest as defined by the adopted goals, objectives, policies and strategies of the plan is not abrogated.
- 3. The **spatial boundaries** or graphic limits of land use recommendations on land use plan maps should be considered as generalized area designations rather than precise boundaries. The actual spatial limit of specific site recommendations should be determined by evaluation of the potential effect of each action or proposal on the achievement of overall goals, objectives, policies and strategies of the adopted plan.
- 4. The land use category recommendations on graphic maps of adopted plans should be considered as recommendations for future land use to guide incremental development decisions. The **timing** or appropriateness for implementation of specific site recommendations should be determined by evaluation of the potential effect of each action or proposal on the achievement of overall goals, objectives, policies and strategies of the adopted plan.





Appendices

VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Location 20 miles east of Cincinnati

Settled Fall 1797

Platted October 24, 1814 Incorporated February 10, 1842

Population (2010) 1,509

Population (2012) 1,630 (Census estimate)

Area (2014) 2.5 square miles

Density 652 persons / sq mi

DATA PORTRAIT SOURCES:

Crawford, Richard. "History of Batavia Township"

www.city-data.com

Census.org

Bataviavillage.org

VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

For population 25 years and over in Batavia:

High school or higher: 88.4%

Bachelor's degree or higher: 21.8%

Graduate or professional degree: 10.1%

Unemployed: 7.5%

Mean travel time to work (commute): 20.6 minutes

For population 15 years and over in Batavia village:

Never married: 24.4%

Now married: 53.6%

Separated: 1.2%

Widowed: 8.2%

Divorced: 12.6%

VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Males: 768 (47.1%) Females: 862 (52.9%)

Median resident age: 37.7 years
Ohio median age: 39.3 years

Estimated median household income in 2011: \$36,883 (it was \$40,804 in 2000)

Batavia: \$36,883

Ohio: \$45,749

Estimated per capita income in 2011: \$22,443

Estimated median house or condo value in 2011: \$122,369 (it was \$100,000 in 2000)

Batavia: \$122,369 Ohio: \$129,600

Mean prices in 2011: All housing units: \$148,099; Detached houses: \$149,860; In 3-to-4-unit structures: \$67,285; Mobile

homes: \$124,723

Median gross rent in 2011: \$649.

VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Percentage of residents living in poverty in 2011: 10.4% (10.6% for White Non-Hispanic residents, 0.0% for Black residents, 0.0% for two or more races residents).

Average household size:

This village: 2.4 people Ohio: 2.4 people

Percentage of family households:

This village: 65.3% Whole state: 65.0%

Percentage of households with unmarried partners:

This village: 6.5% Whole state: 6.8%

Residents with income below the poverty level in 2009:

Batavia: 11.6%

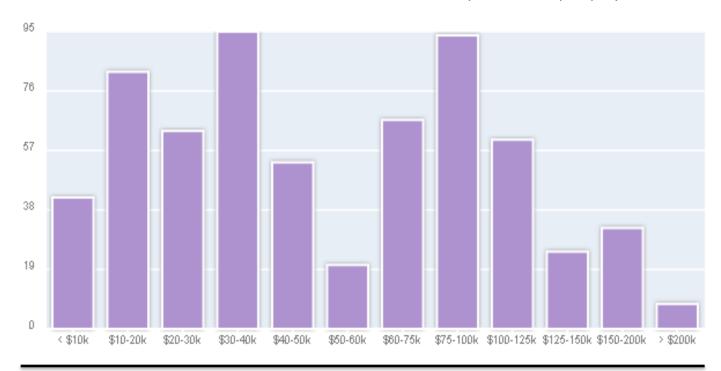
Whole state: 19.6%

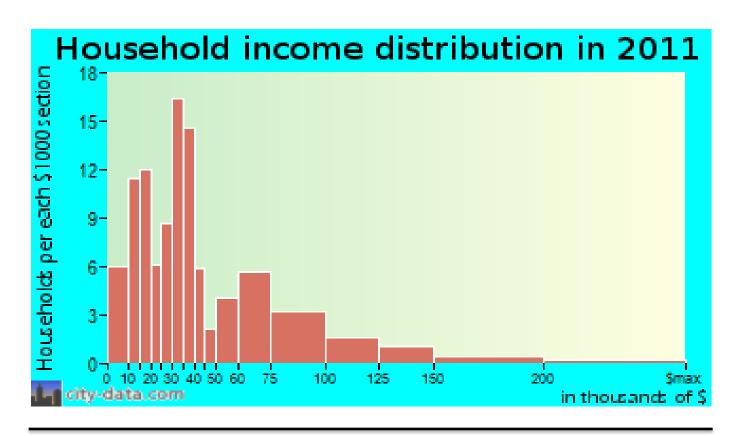
Residents with income below 50% of the poverty level in 2009:

Batavia: 8.1% Whole state: 7.0%

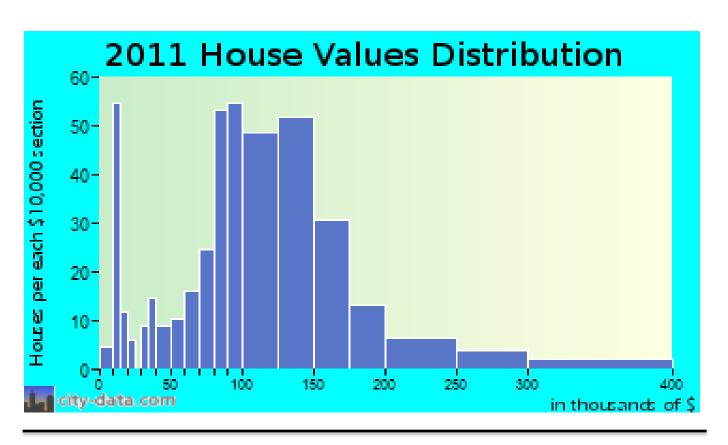
VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Distribution of median household income in 2009 (number of people)

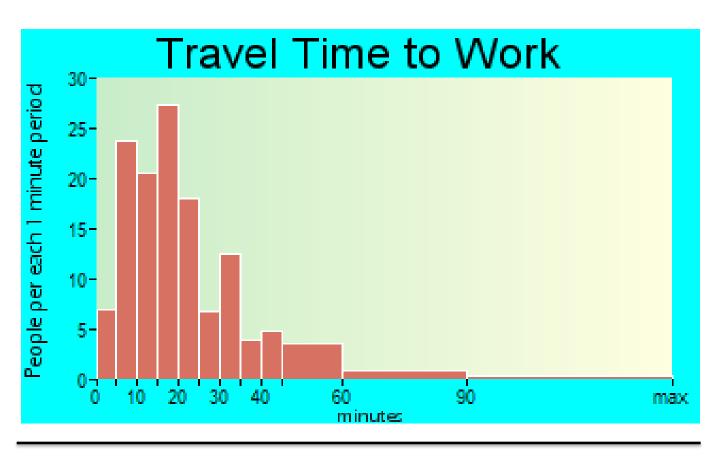






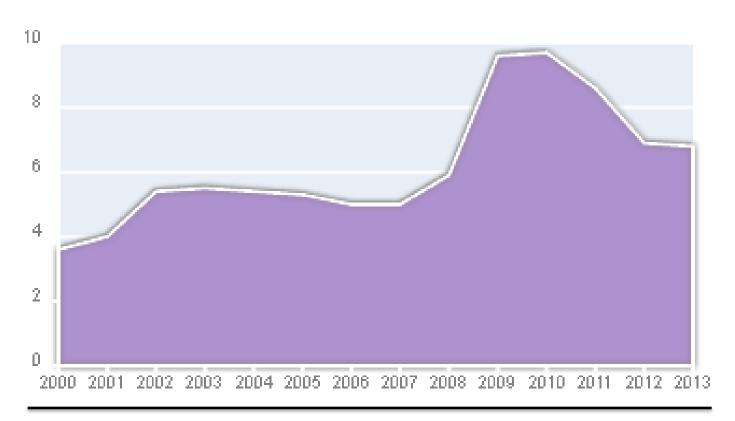


Crime rates in Batavia by Year								
Туре	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012		
Murders	0	0	0	0	0	0		
per 100,000	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Rapes	0	5	2	0	0	2		
per 100,000	0.0	294.5	113.8	0.0	0.0	131.2		
Robberies	0	0	1	0	2	0		
per 100,000	0.0	0.0	56.9	0.0	132.5	0.0		
Assaults	1	0	0	0	0	0		
per 100,000	59.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Burglaries	22	23	15	18	10	11		
per 100,000	1301.0	1354.5	853.7	1022.1	662.3	721.8		
Thefts	83	90	78	64	70	69		
per 100,000	4908.3	5300.4	4439.4	3634.3	4635.8	4527.6		
Auto thefts	4	2	1	2	3	1		
per 100,000	236.5	117.8	56.9	113.6	198.7	65.6		
Arson	0	0	1	0	0	0		
per 100,000	0.0	0.0	56.9	0.0	0.0	0.0		
City-data.com crime rate (higher means more crime, U.S. average = 277.6)	329.8	572.1	362.9	234.3	298.0	354.4		



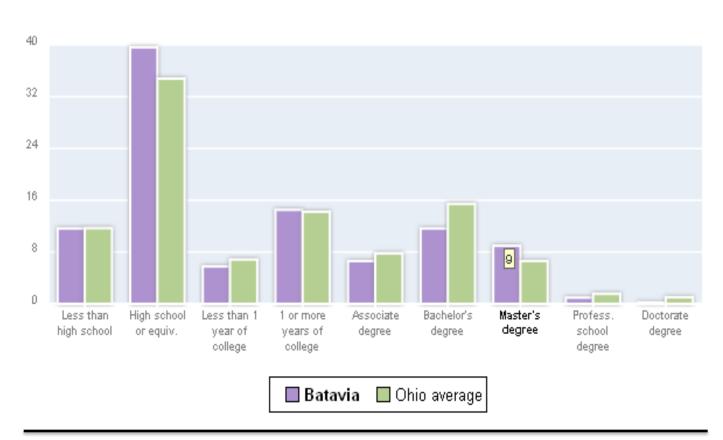
VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Unemployment by year (%)



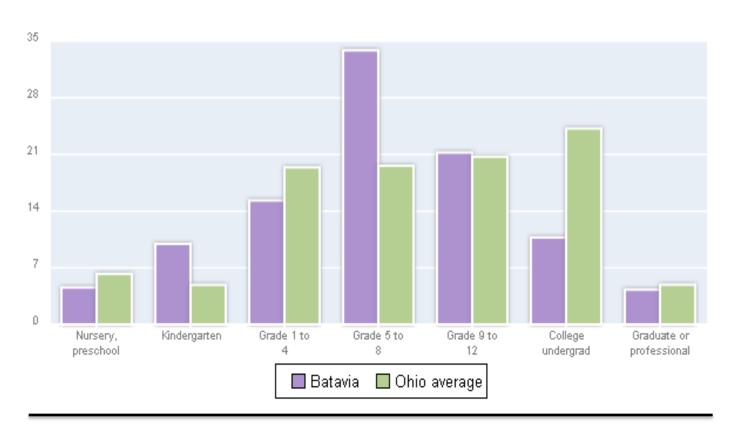
VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Educational Attainment (%) in 2011



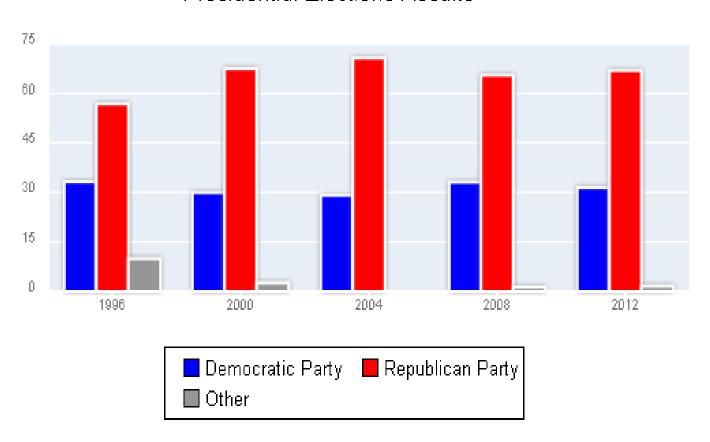
VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

School Enrollment by Level of School (%)



VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

Presidential Elections Results

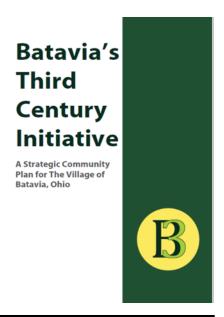


UC GRADUATE PLANNING WORKSHOP / STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN



Project Goals

- ☐ Clarify, illustrate and promote the vision of the public interest that will serve as a guide for future development
- ☐ Improve defensibility of the zoning ordinance and zoning decisions.
- ☐ Strengthen the Village's image and sense of community identity



Plan Process

- ✓ Concepts for community conversations
- ✓ Catalyst for community change

Identifying community goals

Social and environmental context review

Priorities and process specification

Key research

Identifying assets, liabilities and opportunities

Key findings and recommendations

Final document and executive summary

Key Research

Plan elements:
☐ Social context
☐ Character and form
☐ Market profile
□Transportation
□Housing
☐ Land use, zoning, and environment

Executive Summary



Table of Contents Introduction 1 Character and Form 4 Demographic and Market Profile 6 Utilities and Transportation 10 Housing 12



Introduction

Batavia's past is apparent as one walks through town. First settled in 1797, the Village of Batavia was officially established in 1814 and designated the Clermont County Seat in 1824. Local cemeteries' moss covered headstones dating to the 19th century provide testament to the Village's age, their longevity speaking to a history characterized as much by consistency as by change.

More telling than the headstones, though, are the historic homes such as those along Wood Street, displaying the ongoing interplay between past and present. These structures exist in conversation with the shared history surrounding them. Understanding the breadth of Batavia's history provides context for the present. Likewise, understanding Batavia's history provides us with insight into development decisions moving forward.

Batavia's Third Century Initiative Workshop is composed of a diverse group of graduate students from the Master of Community Planning program at the University of Cincinnati. Through a variety of skill-sets and backgrounds, the workshop considered the historical context of the village as well as analyzed the existing conditions through research and observation

Recommendations were formulated with the generous input of current elected officials and practicing professionals.

The following work is the compilation of the group effort as addressed through a selection of priorities. Each section seeks to build upon the given asset of the Village of Batavia in a way best suited to the needs of the residents and businesses within. These recommendations are to be considered as suggestions for directing the future development of the community, but decisions on the subject should be governed by the will and values of the community.

These findings, further resources, and strategies are explained in greater detail in the full report of Batavia's Third Century Initiative: A Strategic Plan for the Village of Batavia, Ohio.









Public Engagement

Character and Form

Demographics and Market

Assets:

- · Greenery and abundance of plant life
- · Large open space with beautiful views
- · Appearance of privacy
- · Safety and small community
- Historical resources
- Grid street network pattern in downtown area
- · Diverse natural resources

Liabilities:

- Properties in disrepair
- · Aging population
- Strong sense of independence (low collaboration)
- Main Street is not continuous in appearance
- Narrow sidewalk along Main Street
- · Lack of centralized commercial area
- · Lack of sight corridor to the riverfront
- · Lack of consistent street presence

Opportunities:

- Vacant properties available for development
- Creation of markings (signage) for local attractions and amenities

Assets:

- The Village of Batavia is the County Seat for Clermont County
- · The historic charm and rural environment
- A high population density makes Batavia a very walk-able place
- UC Clermont and UC East Campus are adjacent to the adjacent to the Village

Liabilities:

- A shrinking population age 20-34
- · Lack of racial/ethnic diversity
- High poverty rate compared to other geographic areas

Opportunities:

- Batavia's high school graduation rate is much higher than the Cincinnati MSA.
- · Growing senior population
- Continued growth of UC Clermont campuses

Land Use, Zoning, Environment

Utilities and Transportation

Assets:

- A greenway may maximize the benefits from existing natural assets such as Little Miami River and East Fork State Park.
- Natural amenities for conservation or sustainable development
- · Newly annexed acreage
- Densely built, urban fabric that retains Batavia's historic character and form

Liabilities:

- Lack of land use controls that build upon current assets in built environment
- Slope, soil composition, and other natural features limit development potential
- · Inadequate zoning code
- Sprawl development on 32 corridor (increased traffic and impervious surface)

Opportunities:

- · Proximity to East Fork State Park
- · Proximity to Sycamore Park
- Positive developments on State Route 32 corridor
- · New/in-fill development downtown
- · Increased demand for natural amenities
- Continued growth of UC Clermont campuses

Assets:

- · Good coverage of water and sewer system
- · Affordable combined water and sewer rates
- · Competitive gas and electric rates
- A variety of telephone, cable and internet service providers
- Well maintained solid-waste collection and recycling system
- Small community and low transportation demand
- Accessibility to Greater Cincinnati International Airport, Air Cargo and Courier Services
- · Rail transportation connection
- · Recreational bike trail

Liabilities:

- · Aging water and sewer system
- Reliance on Clermont County Water System
- · Lack of village utilities data
- Separation of Batavia township and village utilities system
- Reliance of external transport constrained by SR32
- Congestion on State Road 32 traffic in peak period
- · Lack of public transportation service

Opportunities:

- Development through Clermont County Water Resources Department
- Future bus/shuttle service through UC Clermont
- Improvements of SR32 through Regional Transportation Improvement Program
- Downtown Batavia improvements in walkability through public-private partnerships

Housing

Assets:

- · Historic housing stock
- Village Association of Batavia property improvement awards
- · Property values rebounding
- · Low rental rates
- 59.1% of houses in the area are occupied by owners
- 32.4% houses in the Village are rental
- Vacant and developable land in residential areas

Liabilities:

- · Vacant and deteriorating housing
- Need for more specific housing characteristics data to improve methods for preserving historic housing

Opportunities:

- Clermont County's Community Housing Improvement Program.
- Clermont County Foreclosure prevention programming.
- State level development and home ownership credits, bonds and grants, and programs.
- · HUD Resources for affordable housing

Revitalization of Batavia's historic business district. Hinges on preservation and enhancement of the Village 's uniqueness. Residents take pride in the picturesque natural setting of their Village. Retention of employers and tourism as well as sense of security is linked to the Village's unique sense of place and feeling of community. Main Street is the core of history and center of government. The buildings along the Main Street embody the past and provide the community's visual identity. Provide greater access to fresh produce through investment in the Farmer's Market. Create incentives for renovating commercial building facades. Action Ideas Importance Action Ideas Implement streetscape improvements to encourage pedestrian and bicycle traffic. Expand community events such as the Taste of Clemont, to stimulate the local economy and bring attention to the beauty of this historic setting. Develop partnerships for green and sustainable student transportation. Provide greater access to fresh produce through investment in the Farmer's Market. Create incentives for renovating commercial building facades. Add outside sitting space for restaurants to increase presence of people and sense of vibrant place. Develop vacant parcels along Main Street with mixed uses. High light important intersections of Main Street through street scape improvements to strengthen sense of place.			
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	Lack of sidewalk connectivity causes residents to drive to Main Street to shops, such as UDF, for daily needs.	Creating a walkable neighborhood provides health benefits and economic benefits and for residents as well as Village.	Construct sidewalks within a '4 mile radius of Main street
	The river serves as a divider rather than a connector. The west side of the Village appears disconnected, separate and struggling while the east side has a historic, rural village image.	The river is a beautiful natural resource with potential to help revitalize the Village.	 Implement the bike trail along the river south of Main Street. Create an "Adopt-A-Sidewalk" or "Adopt-A-Trail" program to improve access and visibility of the river.
Market Profile	Batavia's position as Clermont County Seat can be leveraged for business development.	This position places all county government offices inside of Batavia creating a convenient and central place for other businesses to locate.	Launch a marketing campaign and incentive programs to showcase Batavia as the perfect place for businesses to thrive.
	Batavia's rural and historic charm provides opportunity for attracting new residents and tourists.	Batavia is home to a historic walk-able town with great access to the natural environment, making a great place for families to grow and tourists to visit.	 Develop the banks along the river with recreation options including a bike path connecting Batavia to East Fork Park. Market Batavia as an easy place to visit to get away from it all.

Findings	Importance	Action Ideas
Current demographic and economic trends indicate an urgent need for a plan to guide community revitalization.	Revitalization will lead to high quality of life, reduced out-migration patterns, and will attract businesses and residents.	 Initiate a plan to revitalize the Main Street corridor focusing on economic growth through streetscape improvement, renovation of aging infrastructures, façade repair, and business attraction/retention.
Senior population growth trends provide opportunity for a niche market for community building in Batavia.	Capitalizing on this asset within the community is essential to retaining and attracting more residents, which will lead to increased investment in the Village.	 Invest in senior housing options close to Main Street, promote mixed-use development, improve the pedestrian experience along Main Street, and engage seniors in the planning process. Develop an "eldermart" business incubator for pensioners.
Expanded educational opportunities for individuals with a high school diploma are needed to maximize and harness the available talent.	Reevaluating and improving education opportunities will help enhance the community's skill sets to match the current job market, and help people find and maintain employment.	 Develop a relationship with UC Clermont campuses and Clermont County businesses to identify and implement vocational training that will prepare this population for steady employment.

	Findings	Importance	Action Ideas
Land Use, Zoning, and Environment	Growth opportunities from recent annexations require amendments to Batavia's land use controls that build upon the strengths of its built and natural environments.	Land use regulations are essential to preserving and enhancing Batavia's two greatest assets: the historic, urban fabric and the surrounding natural features and amenities.	Create a new zoning district for the "Main Street Corridor." Amend other existing districts to better leverage the various features of the Village. Amend existing subdivision regulations to encourage resource-efficient development.
	Batavia's natural features should provide the foundation for guiding development as well as investing in protection and enhancement of its environmental assets.	Ignoring environmental and ecological factors in regards to development could greatly damage the Villages aesthetic character while increasing costs related to pollution and environmental rehabilitation.	 Create a buffer to limit development in the riparian corridor. Create conservation areas to guide development away from the most ecologically vulnerable areas. Encourage the use of permeable pavements, rain barrels and retention ponds to limit urban runoff into the stream system.
	A multi-purpose greenway can be created along the Little Miami River linking the Village of Batavia and East Fork State Park harnessing	The greenway could link Batavia and the State Park, advance conservation of fragile ecosystems, create economic benefits from	 Initiate local fundraising campaigns. Seek grants from private and community foundations. Implement innovative

	Summary of Recommendations		
	Findings	Importance	Action Ideas
	benefits from these natural resources.	services catering to the users of the trail, and improve the image of the community	funding techniques such as "adopt a section" and bike-a-thons. • Seek volunteers for trail maintenance.
	Batavia has developed an over-supply of parking which has negatively impacted the aesthetics of the village.	Parking areas for banks and other retail uses exceed the required amount of parking, and the minimum amount required exceeds demand. There is no designated place to park and secure a bicycle on Main Street.	 Reduce parking minimums and create parking maximums. Conduct a parking analysis to analyze supply and demand of parking. Create bicycle parking on Main Street.
Utilities and Transportation	Expansion of public transportation will enable improvement in Batavia's quality of life.	Public transportation that reduces the number of vehicles on roads and reduces congestion on major roadways will enhance Batavia's growth. Walking and cycling are often the fastest and most efficient way to perform short trips if the appropriate infrastructure is in place.	Establish a countywide minibus system with fixed bus lines (or other transportation mode) connecting destinations around Batavia and Clermon County. Expand connectivity and facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists; Plan for and design "complete" streets. Organize non-automotive travel promotional activities.

	Findings	Importance	Action Ideas
Housing	Batavia's historic housing can leverage new development.	The historic character of the Village adds authenticity and potential for attraction of residents and investors.	 Research strategies for preserving the housing stock. Develop a historic district. Work with residents to establish preservation goals.
	Existing housing support programs can help strengthen the quality and affordability of Batavia's housing stock.	These programs can help protect homeowners and preserve the historic housing in the Village.	 Connect residents with the resources for preservation. Apply for historic preservation funding.
	Batavia can build upon its assets to create a thriving community for aging residents.	With shifting demographics and a growing elderly population, Batavia can attract and retain residents by developing a welcoming community for this niche market.	 Develop policies to increase accessibility to current and future housing. Identify specific community needs of the elderly population. Seek funding. Increase connectivity to surrounding amenities.
	Streamlining data collection can help maintain housing stock and guide future development.	Data can help to identify zones and properties which should be protected and stabilized, and to locate potential development sites.	 Identify necessary information for development of an ordinance or historic district. Create an inventory of existing data. Commission a curb-side property inventory.

Findings	Importance	Action Ideas
Vacant land in Batavia provides an opportunity for future development.	Vacant land provides potential for greater variety in the local housing stock.	 Define a development strategy. Establish design guidelines. Coordinate development goals with strategies for attracting and retaining residents.

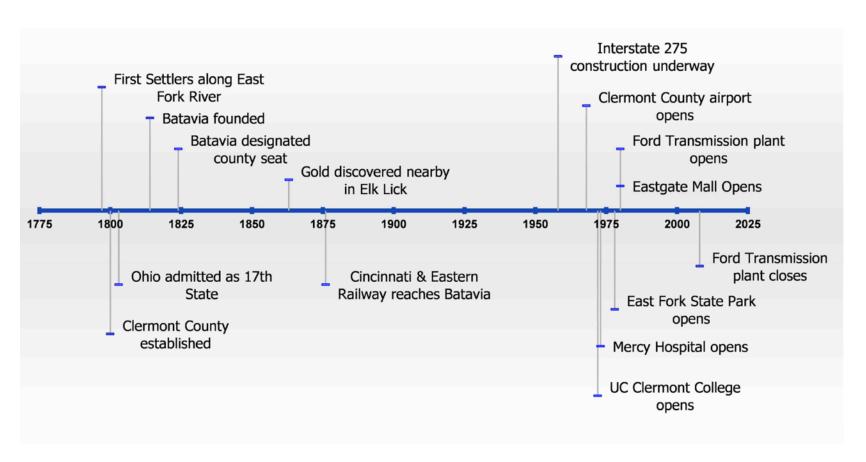
Next Steps

The strategic community plan provides a foundation for growing and implementing Batavia's Third Century Initiative (B3). Key elements of B3 will likely include: a bicentennial celebration, a plan for future land use, a zoning code update, as well as other initiatives emerging from findings and recommendations in the strategic community plan.

The scope of opportunities and recommendations presented in this strategic community plan requires substantial organization, commitment, and an enduring structure. A B3 Commitment Committee (B3/2C), a multi-sector leadership group (including public, private, civic, and education sectors) can be established to implement and sustain B3 initiatives. As the core of Batavia's Third Century Initiative, B3/2C can design, launch and guide the process for creating a B3 Partnership (B3P).

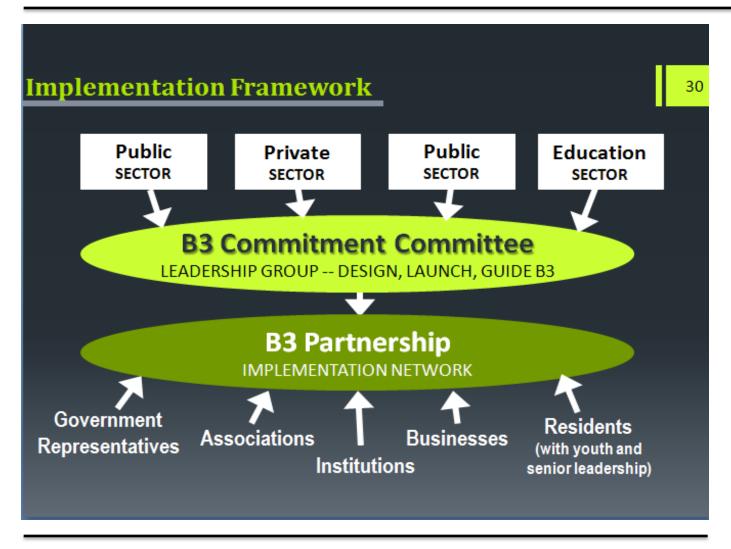
The B3 Partnership, a local and regional network of implementation partners, should include associations, institutions, businesses, elected and appointed representatives, residents (with youth and senior leadership), and other individuals with commitment to to Batavia. The B3 Partnership, actually a network of

partnerships, can best clarify Batavia's vision and goals, refine the B3 strategic community plan, and prepare for implementing Batavia's Third Century Initiative.



Village of Batavia History Time Line

Implementation Framework



VILLAGE OF BATAVIA

East Main Street Improvements, 2014



Burgess & Niple artist's rendering based on a site photograph by John Dingo Photography.

The \$5 million makeover of East Main Street is being paid for with \$3 million in bonds issued by the village; a \$1.33 million, 20-year, zero-interest loan; and \$985,000 grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission.



