# How to Make Housing Happen – A Case Study on Best Practices for Residential Development

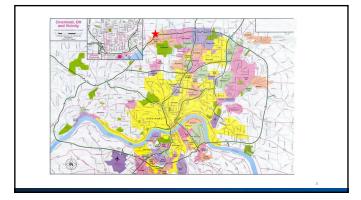
Local Government Officials Conference - March 2024

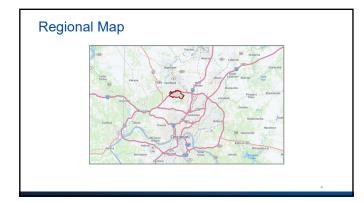
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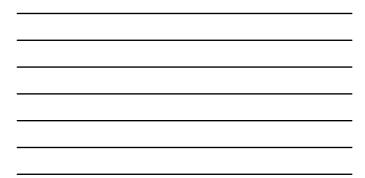
# Agenda

- Project Overview
- Incentives
- Public Improvements
- Financing
- Role of Fiscal Officer









# Demographics

| Population -                     | 19,971               |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Assessed Valuation -             | \$512,630,020        |
| Median Home Value -              | \$125,400            |
| Median Family Income-            | \$73,259             |
| Median Household Income -        | \$58,257             |
| Per Capita Income -              | \$30,048             |
| Residential Property Effective I | Rates – 65.626 mills |
|                                  |                      |

# Demographics (continued) Existing Housing Stock – 7,693 units Owner Occupied – 55.4% Rental – 44.6% Average age – 38.5 years Median age – 36.1 years Only 1 housing development in the last 20 years

### Citywide Redevelopment Plan 2007

- Need to redevelop commercial property
- Lack of development ready sites
- Need for more housing options
- Maintain stable neighborhoods
- $\succ$  Fill gap in housing supply



# Forest Park Redevelopment Plan

- > Aging and typically one dimensional housing stock
- Home purchasing power exceeds available options
- Single family for sale housing with intermediate to upper end price point were needed
- Identify locations within City



Recognize that different geographic areas need different strategies, investments, financing mechanisms and incentives

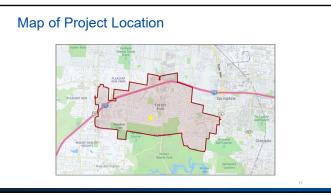


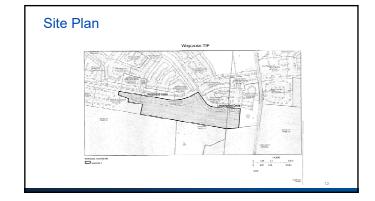
# Project

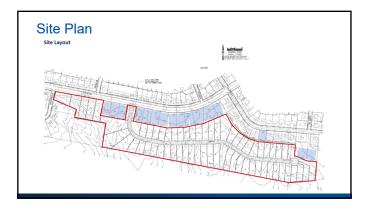
- ➢ 35 acres
- 60 detached single family for sale homes One Developer and multiple builders



- Target value \$400,000
- > Internal street, water & sewer infrastructure







| What does it take   | to make it happen?   |
|---------------------|--|
| Developer Benefits: | Assistance with infrastructure<br>Residential TIF<br>Special Assessments<br>SIB Loan Financing |
| Homebuyer Benefits: | Property tax abatements<br>Community Reinvestment Area (CRA)                                   |

# **Special Assessments**

## In General:

- > Are requested by property owner (Developer) via Petition
- Are paid by property owners who benefit from the infrastructure improvement
- Are billed and collected by the County Auditor on the property tax bills
- > Have tax lien priority status
- Provide a more secure revenue stream to repay debt obligation

## Waycross Project

- CRA 100% property tax exemption 15 years
  - Abatement of taxes on new building value
  - > Land is not abated and will continue to pay property taxes
  - Commences separately for each house
- Special Assessments 50% of CRA value 15 years
  - > Additional "taxes" requested by property owner
  - > Used to pay for infrastructure improvements
  - > Term to match up with CRA exemption
- > Net benefit to new buyer 50% tax abatement 15 years

#### Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

#### In General:

- Property Tax Exemption on the increased value of the land and building
- Property taxes are replaced with Service Payments in Lieu of Taxes
- Service Payments are the same amount as taxes which have been exempted
- > Redirection of taxes to pay for public infrastructure

## Waycross Project TIF

- > 100% of new value exempted for a term of 30 years
- Year 1-15 TIF will generate service payments on land value only - CRA will exempt building value
- Years 16-30 TIF will generate service payments on land and building value
- School approved the TIF with a compensation package make whole after debt service

## Waycross Project

- Cost of Public Infrastructure \$3,600,000
- Paid with Special Assessments and TIF Service Payments after CRA
- SIB Loan Financing
  - Lower interest cost
  - ➢ SIB rate 3% market rate 5%
  - Deferred amortization schedule



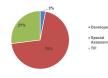
# State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Loan

- Low interest loan from State to pay construction cost of new road
- Debt Obligation of City
- > Waycross Loan:
  - Amount \$4,328,954; Term 20 years; Interest rate 3% (current market rates 5%)
  - Sources of Repayment: Special Assessments & TIF Service Payments

## **Cost Allocation**

#### Public Improvements - \$3,600,000

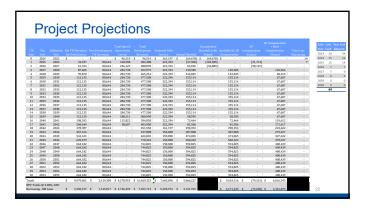
Developer – 3% Special Assessments – 70% TIF – 27%



#### Total Project - \$25M to \$30M

Developer: 17.5% Land acquisition and site development \$5M Builders Homes: 69.9% Construct homes - \$18M to \$20M Public: 12.6% Infrastructure Improvements - \$3.6M

> • Developer • Builder Homes • Public





# **Critical Documents**

- Development Agreement
- Construction Agency Agreement
- School Compensation Agreement
- Special Assessment Petition
- SIB Loan Agreement



# **Critical Document Elements**

- How to allocate development risk
- Commitments
- Responsibilities
- ➤ Duties
- ➤ Time schedule
- Quality standards

## Managing Risk

- Minimum Service Payments
- Letter of Credit
- Payment Guarantee
- Construction Guaranty



#### Project Development Key Points and Agreements

- City Economic Development Fees
- City ordinances outline the fees for economic development project in the City based upon the financial components of a specific deal.
- The purpose is to cover costs incurred by the City to determine project viability and for oversight of financing mechanisms used to pay for capital infrastructure costs that may be a part of a project.

#### Project Development Key Points and Agreements

#### Flow of Funds Priority of Payments:

Special Assessments will be used to pay SIB Loan debt service TIF Service Payments will first be used to pay SIB Loan debt service

- If certain Performance Metrics are met, TIF Service Payments can be used to reimburse Developer for previous Minimum Service Payments
- Then TIF Service Payments will be used to pay School Compensation
- > Excess TIF to the City of Forest Park TIF Fund

#### Project Development Key Points and Agreements

Requirements to meet specified minimum development standards:

- ➤ Lot sales \$80,000
- > Value of homes \$320,000
- Total value \$400,000

Will be used to determine whether the Developer qualifies to be reimbursed for certain costs from excess revenue

#### Project Development Agreement Key Points

> Developer Guaranty to make annual debt service payments for the SIB loan.

- Funded at closing to guarantee minimum service payments
- The Guarantor will continue to maintain sufficient assets equal to: > 125% of average annual SIB loan debt service
- The Guarantor will maintain unencumbered current liquid assets in excess of the aggregate amount of debt service payable within the immediate 12-month period.
- Development agreement defines financial triggers that allow for a reduction in the credit enhancements depending on the revenue generation of the funding sources intended to repay the SIB loan debt service payments.

#### **Project Development Agreement Key Points**

**Construction Manager At Risk Agreement** 

- > Developer will construct road, as agent of City
- Road must be constructed by developer in accordance with City and State rules and requirements
- Road land will be dedicated initially
- Road will not be accepted until completed and approved by City Engineer

# Fiscal Officer Roles and Responsibilities

Administer: Financing Proceeds Construction Invoices Debt Service Payments CRA Applications TIF DTE Applications Service Payments School Compensation Developer Compliance



# Impact of Administering

➤ Staff

- ➢ Resources
- ➤ Expertise

Outside Administrator

> Third Party Professionals





# **Contact Information**

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