University City Community Vision
Listening Session Summaries
November 8-10, 2021

Listening Session #4
Wednesday, November 10, 2021
12:00pm – 1:00pm

Trends impacting University City; challenges and concerns:

- School system is critical and needs to improve reputation
- State of the Loop and economic development – businesses moving because UCity has reputation of being difficult to work with
- There is a gap between reality and perception with regards to the schools. They are better than their reputation
- The racial divide needs to be blurred
- Housing stock – affects the divide and is an opportunity for infill development in the 3rd Ward. Thoughtful development could balance the Wards.
- Olive Boulevard Corridor is now an ugly barrier – we need to improve streetscape and pedestrian experience to draw people out and down Olive
- We need to get to know each other more – town, commercial, housing, race, age

Vision/Aspirations and Opportunities for University City:

- The school district could be improved
- Housing stock is great – should allow us to thrive
- UCity could be a model community for the entire St. Louis area
- The opportunity of Olive Boulevard to reorient visitation within the city is great; tackle the grand challenges and activate the greater sense of humanity
- Public spaces – Heman Park is an unexploited opportunity – we need to make it a destination location (activity calendar, UCity Bloom gardens trails, gardens, pedestrian friendly. Use public spaces for more gatherings.
- Read "Walkable Cities" by Jeff Speck (use of pocket parks)
- Merging with other municipalities could be helpful, esp. w/regards to sustainability (encourage solar panels on Library)Make UCity 1st recycling city in the areas
- Build Civic Square area Plaza NE of City Hall