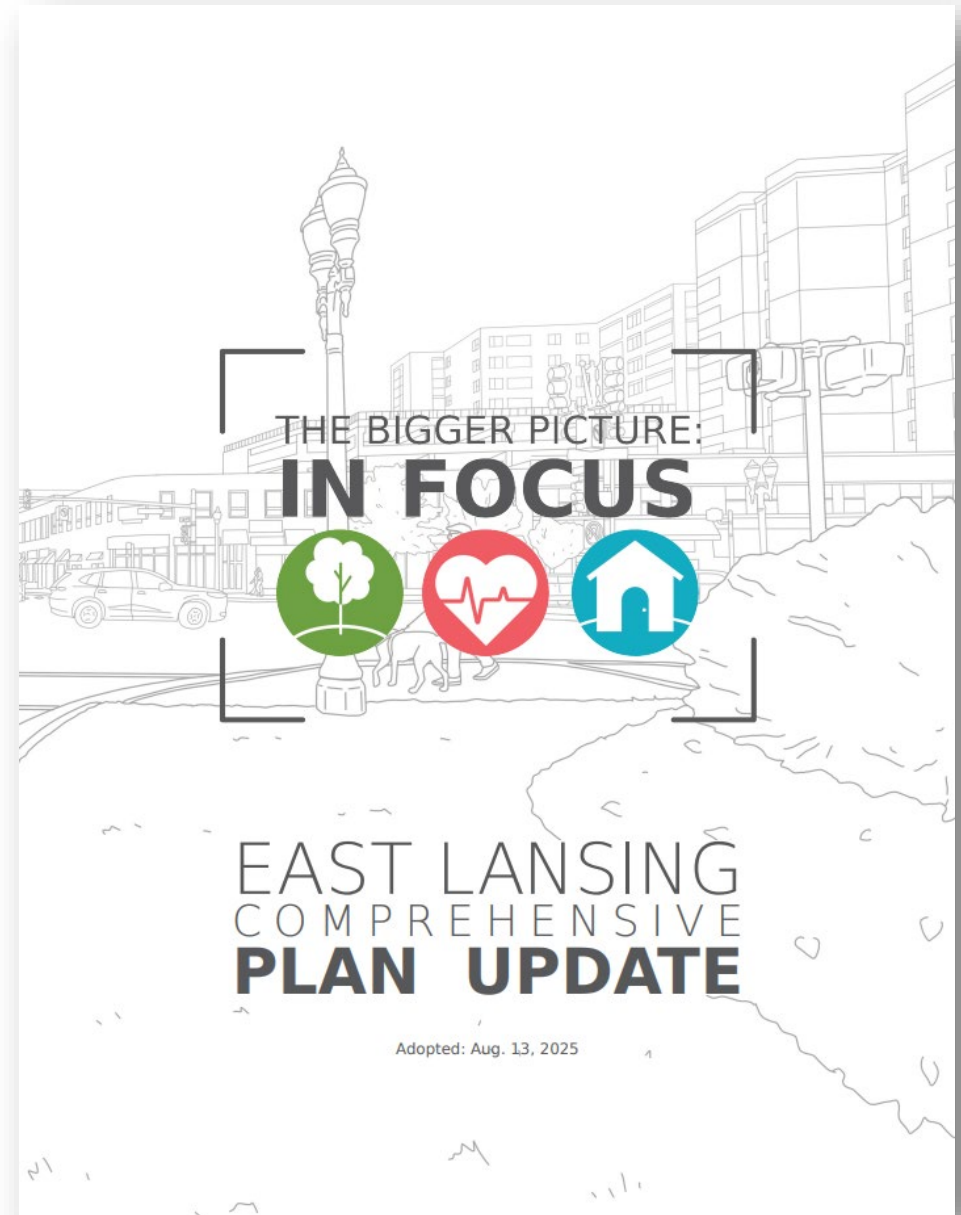




East Lansing's recent comprehensive plan update, The Bigger Picture: In Focus, responds to post-pandemic challenges and evolving community needs.

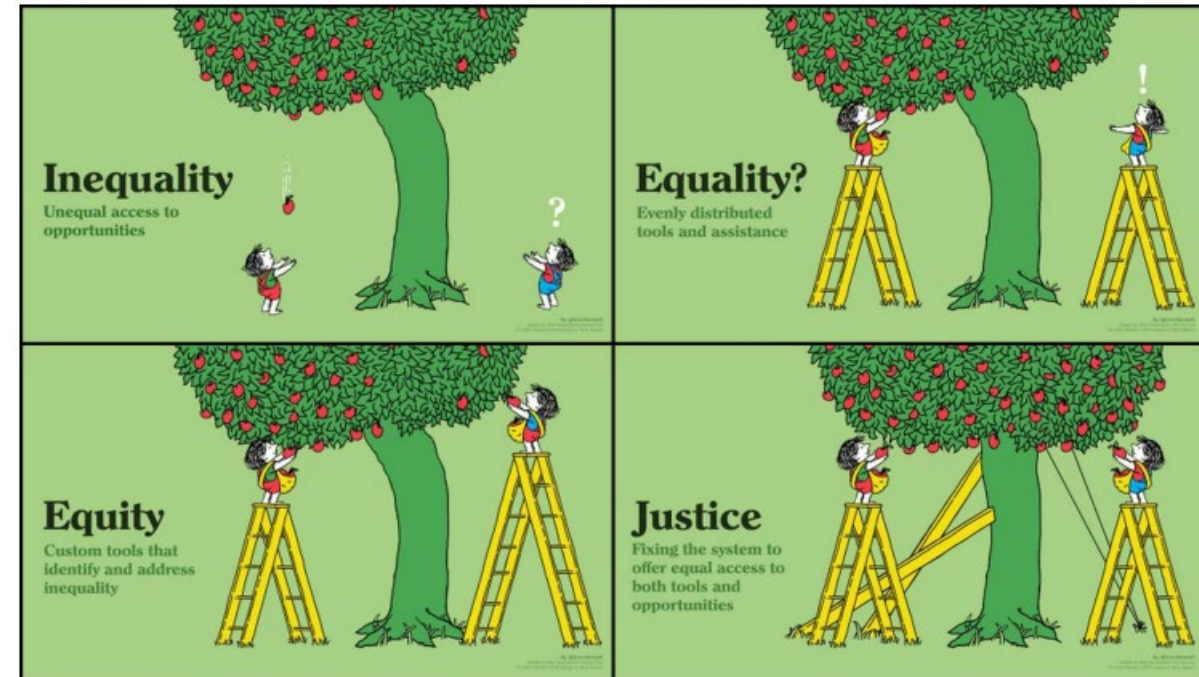


The plan focuses on four major themes: public health, sustainability and resilience, housing, and social equity.



Social Equity

SOCIAL EQUITY VS. EQUALITY, INEQUALITY OR JUSTICE



Attribution: Tony Ruth, Equity Series, 2019.



SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE:

Integrating green infrastructure, promoting energy efficiency, and creating adaptive strategies for climate change mitigation and adaptation.



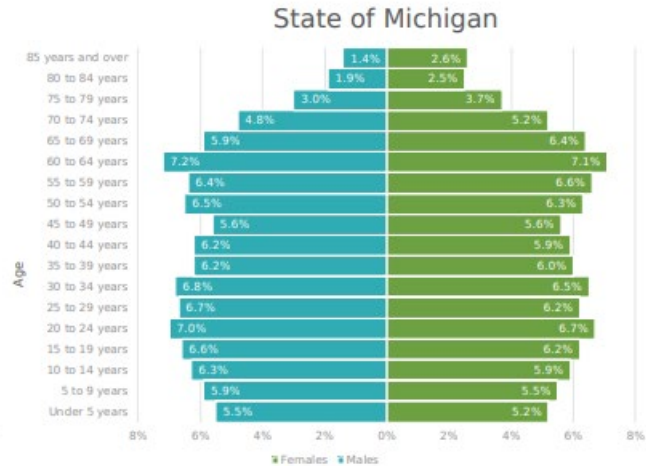
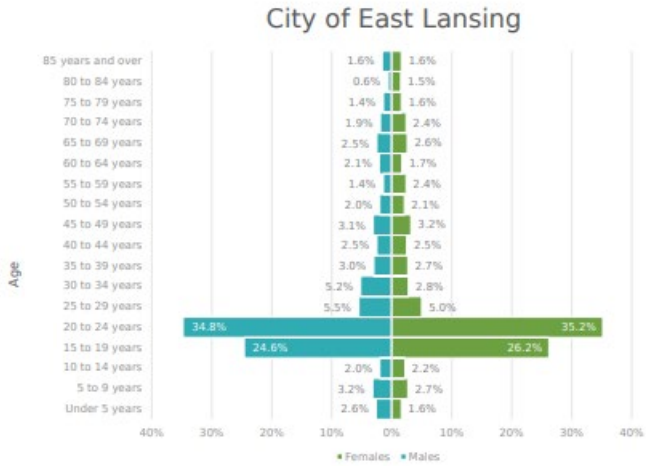
PUBLIC HEALTH:

Designing spaces that support community health, promote physical activity, and create environments that can withstand and adapt to emerging health challenges.



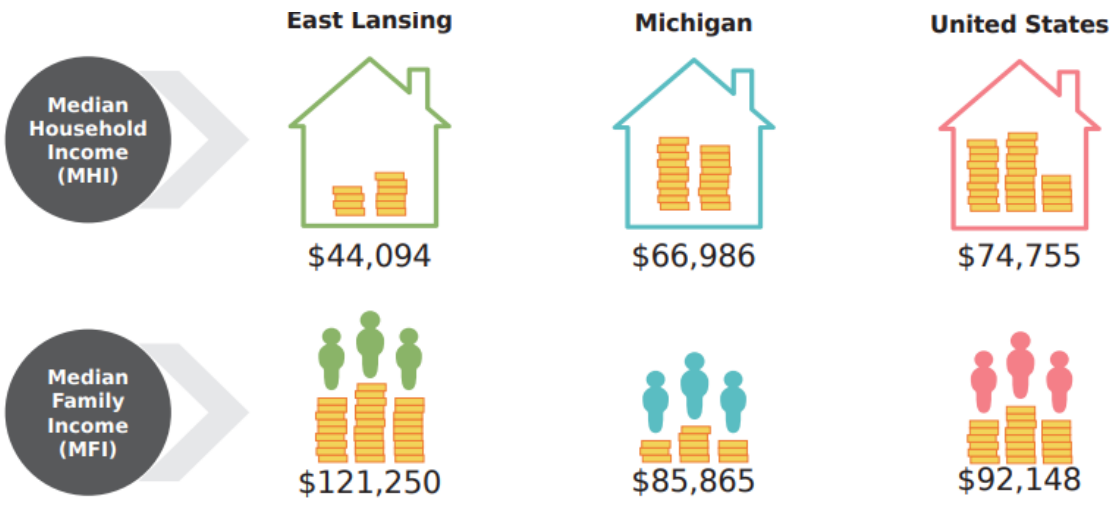
INCLUSIVE AND ATTAINABLE HOUSING:

Addressing housing diversity, accessibility, and affordability to ensure equitable community development, aging in place, and welcoming neighborhoods for all ages, abilities, and life phase.



Source: American Community Survey, 2022

East Lansing’s planning context is shaped by its large college-aged population, lower-than-average household incomes, and significant racial income disparities.



Source: American Community Survey, 2022

<42%

The MHI for Black, Indigenous, and other households of color (BIPOC) in East Lansing was 42% lower than white households in 2022.

\$121,250

The Median Family Income in East Lansing was \$121,250 in 2022. This was higher than the State median (\$85,865). However, BIPOC families earned on average \$30,000 less than White families.

\$↑

Median Household Income (MHI) increased the greatest for people identifying as Asian alone (95.3%) between 2010 and 2020 in East Lansing.

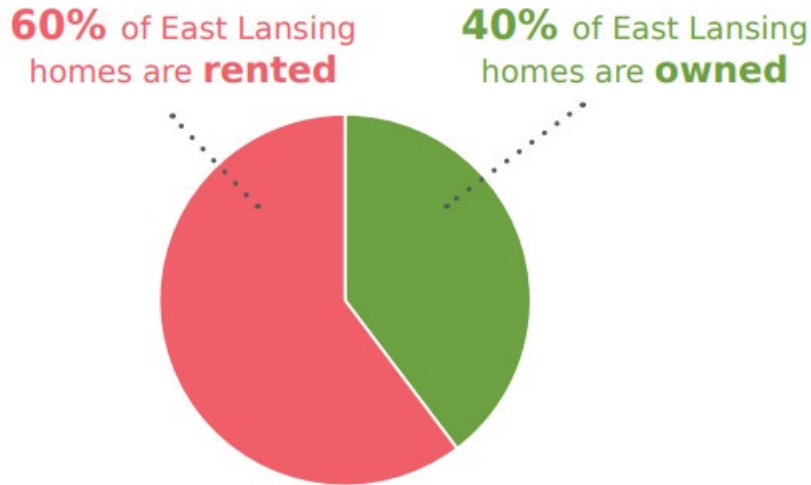
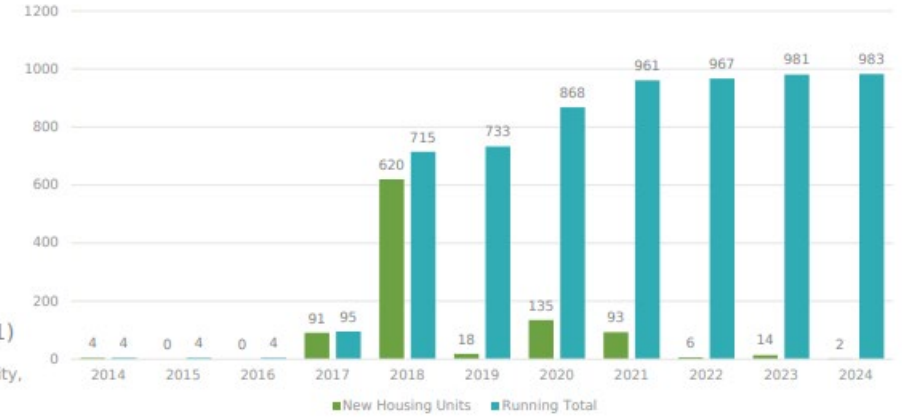
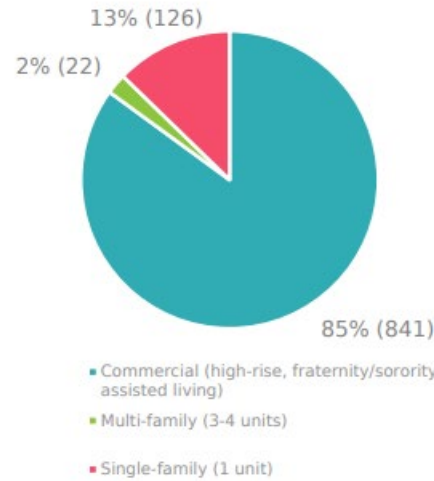
\$↓

MHI decreased the greatest for people identifying as American Indian and Alaska Native (88.7%) between 2010 and 2020 in East Lansing.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020, 2022



Limited land availability and growing infrastructure demands intensify housing competition among students, permanent residents, seniors, and low-income families.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022

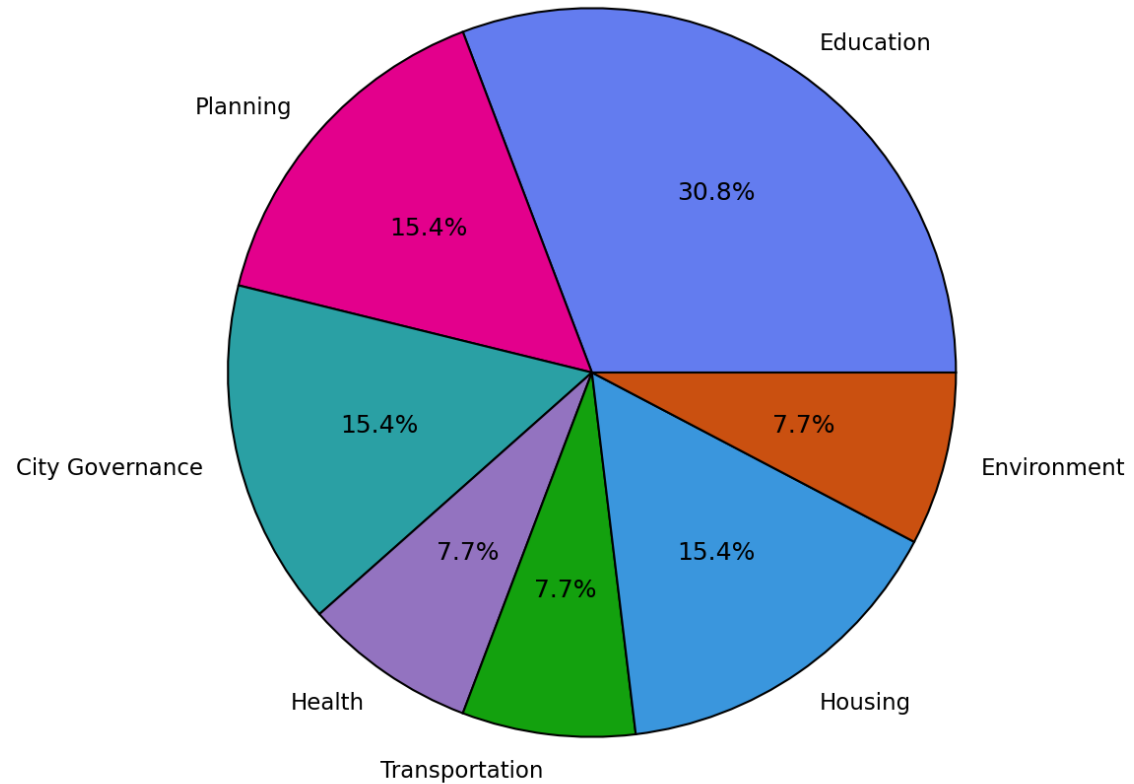


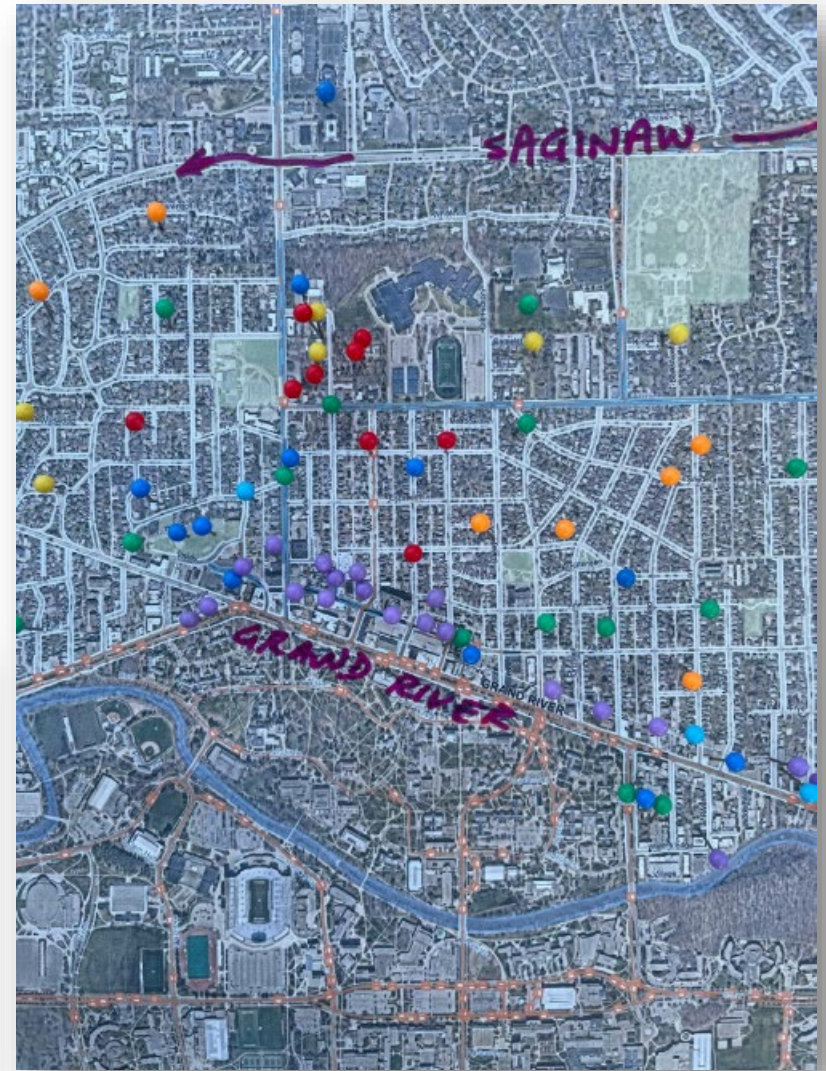
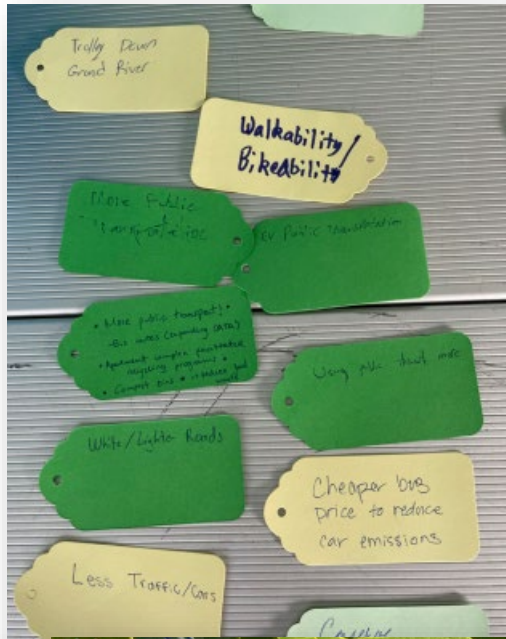
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990 - 2022



A diverse Coordinating Committee guided the plan using an equity-centered approach from start to finish.

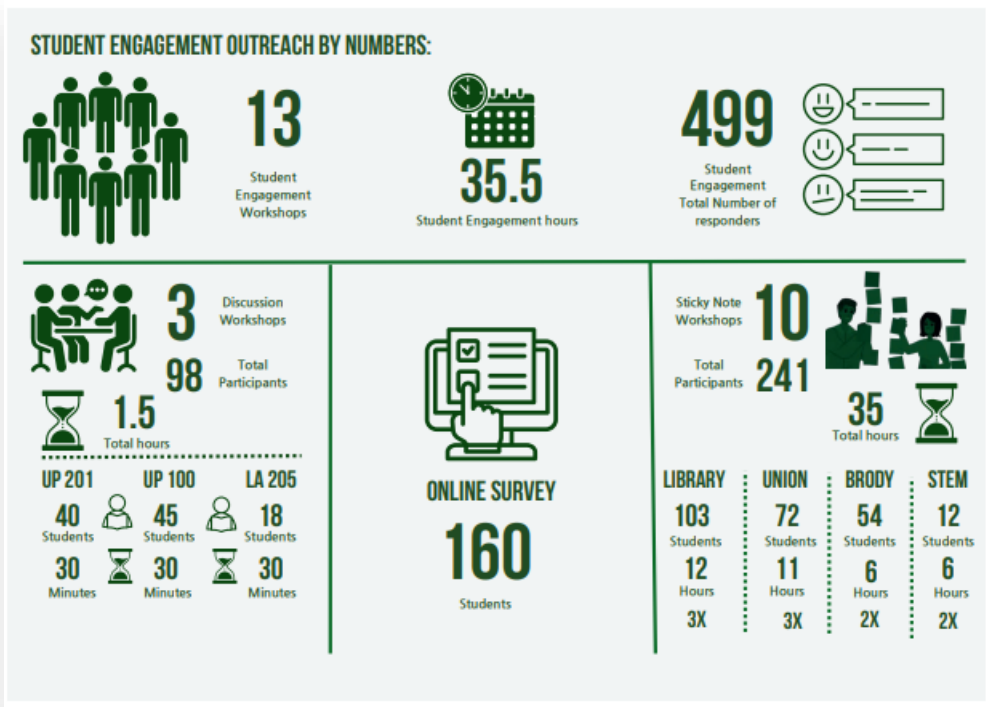
Committee Representation by Sector







Community engagement included citywide events, interactive activities, and workshops hosted in multiple neighborhood and cultural locations.

MSU planning students expanded outreach through 13 campus workshops and a digital survey reaching over 500 students.




- 


Housing

Recommendation #1:
Incorporate inclusive zoning language into the ordinance to support diverse and innovative affordable housing options.
- 

Business

Recommendation #2:
Diversify Activities to include more under 21 recreational activities & retail Stores.
- 

Community Wellness

Recommendation #3:
Support Local Food Systems
- 

Transportation

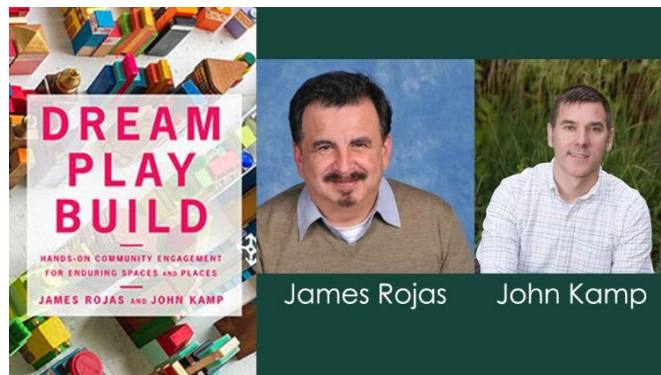
Recommendation #4:
Address gaps in off-campus transportation options.

Recommendation #5:
Increase pedestrian crosswalk & bike lane visibility to increase safety and reduce motor vehicle accidents.

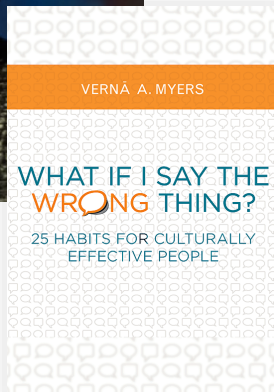
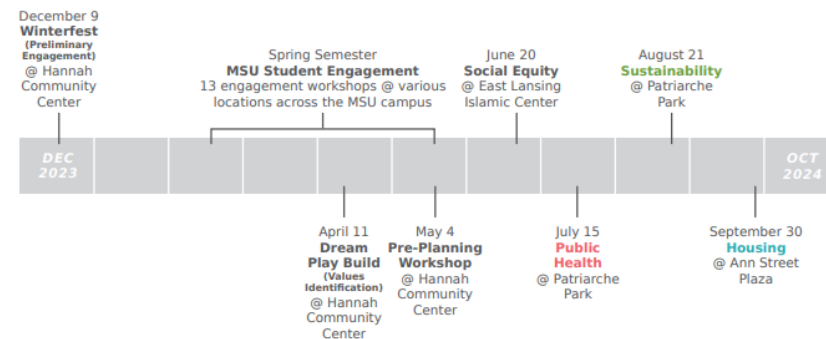
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE 2024 EAST LANSING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

PREPARED IN SPRING 2024 BY ANDREW ARBAUGH, HANNAH PRINS, JORDAN SWILER, HERLIN RUMAR, & ROLINOF WANMA





A monthly speaker series brought national and regional experts to discuss issues such as bias, climate resilience, and housing economics.



Moderator



Angela Precht
Associate Director, Center for Healthy Communities
Michigan Public Health Institute

Panelists



Liz Braddock, MS, RS
Health Officer
Mid Michigan District Health Department



Jessie Jones
Manager, Office of Public Health Improvement
Michigan Public Health Institute



Dr. Nike Shoyinka, MD
MPH FIDSA
Chief Medical Health Officer
Ingham County Health Department





GOALS:

To have **strong neighborhoods** with safe and attainable housing

To have **enhanced public assets** with reliable transportation and infrastructure

To have a **vibrant economy** with access to goods and services

To have a **quality environment** with sustainable and resilient systems

To have a **high-performing government** with a decision-making lens of social equity



The final plan combines vision with action by outlining disparities, defining housing strategies, and integrating health and sustainability into land-use guidance.



Equity

- Street light gap analysis
- Begin discussions surrounding Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding
- Using tactical urbanism to increase parks and play spaces
- Bring CATA and other stakeholders to the table



Resilience and Sustainability

- Encouraging permeable surfaces for parking areas
- Reduce mowing and begin planting native plants
- Plan community clean up days
- Identifying new potential green spaces



Public Health

- Outlining an agenda
- Data collection and community feedback
- Greater communication with the University, hospitals, medicine suppliers, etc.
- Coordinating with community partners



Housing

- Conducting regional housing assessment
- Creating a housing staff position within the City
- Hosting a housing fair catered to providers, developers, lenders, etc.
- Identify potential zoning changes to increase supply/density.



GOAL:

East Lansing will create an environmentally sustainable and resilient community by promoting equitable access to housing and green spaces, implementing climate-adaptive infrastructure, supporting public health through sustainable land use practices, and ensuring that historically underserved populations benefit from these improvements while preparing for future environmental and social challenges.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES: The following implementation activities correspond to the results of the public engagement sessions and have been prepared and reviewed by the Coordinating Committee.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY 1 Create resilience plan

Short Term Action	Mid Term Action
Gather partners and create outline for plan, including public emergency shelter locations; incentives for household resiliency; etc.	Adopt plan, have based organization co-sign the document; professional climate review.

Potential Partners

Commission on the Environment, City Council, Green Study Committee, PC, EGLE, DPW, Economic Development Organizations, Housing Organizations, DDA, Neighborhood Associations, City Communications Department, MSU Commission, MSUE, faith-based organizations

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY 2 City policy updates focus on greenhouse gas emissions

Short Term Action	Mid Term Action
Review existing policies related to sustainability and resiliency; identify revisions or updates, as needed, propose new policies	Propose policies; attorney review

Potential Partners

Commission on the Environment, City Council, Green Study Committee, PC, EGLE, DPW, MSU



GOAL:

Create a built environment that promotes physical and mental well-being for all residents by prioritizing walkable neighborhoods, accessible green spaces, and mixed-use developments that reduce car dependency, while ensuring equitable access to health-promoting amenities such as fresh food markets, healthcare facilities, and recreation opportunities across all neighborhoods regardless of socioeconomic status or abilities.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES: The following implementation activities correspond to the results of the public engagement activities and have been prepared and reviewed by the Coordinating Committee.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY 1 Improve access to community barriers to participation

Short Term Action	Mid Term Action
Study existing events and services to identify barriers to participation	Work with community groups to brainstorm solutions to barriers. Incentivize universal design.

Potential Partners

Parks and Recreation, Seniors Commission, Student Affairs, Downtown Management Board, Library, Arts Commission, MSU

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY 2 Improve walkability

Short Term Action	Mid Term Action
Identify areas/neighborhoods needing improvement - primarily newer areas more removed from the city center.	Study the non-motorized transportation plan and make adjustments to zoning provisions to help improve walkability with new project development.

Potential Partners

DPW, Neighborhood Associations, East Lansing Public Schools, Parks and Recreation, MSU



GOAL:

East Lansing envisions a housing system that expands housing choices through appropriate and thoughtful density and design. Diverse housing types that meet the needs of all residents while encouraging gentle density through well-designed "missing middle" housing will complement existing neighborhood character. Higher-density housing will be strategically concentrated near Michigan State University, downtown East Lansing, and major transit corridors to support local businesses and create walkable neighborhoods while maintaining appropriate transitions between different intensities of use and incorporating high-quality design standards that enhance the public realm.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES: The following implementation activities correspond to the results of the public engagement activities and have been prepared and reviewed by the Coordinating Committee.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY 1 Update future land use map

Short Term Action	Mid Term Action	Long Term Action
Review each neighborhood to identify infill and potential redevelopment areas	Suggest future land use categories to include identifying opportunities to increase and diversify available housing types	Review and update future land use map
Potential Partners		Example Progress Metrics
Planning Commission, Neighborhood Associations, Development Community, DDA, Housing Commission		Future land use map updated, neighborhood assessment

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITY 2 Review and update housing needs assessment

Short Term Action	Mid Term Action	Long Term Action
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Implementation is supported by timelines, partnerships, metrics, and an accountability structure involving biannual reports and annual joint meetings.

Thank you!



East Lansing Comprehensive Plan Update