Visioning UMCH Public Meeting

A public meeting was held on December 4, 2013 at Thomas Worthington High School, in which over 120 community members learned about the development capacity of the UMCH site through sample land use scenarios, asked questions, and provided feedback.

In a presentation led by Chris Hermann and Darren Meyer of MKSK, the consultant team provided attendees an overview of the visioning goals and process, focusing on the importance the development of a 42-acre site may have for a land-locked community such as Worthington. The consultants discussed demographic and market trends that spanned from societal shifts at the national level to housing options and projected growth at the regional scale. The MKSK team also introduced background information on fiscal considerations for the city, providing attendants an overview of current and projected revenue sources for Worthington and other Ohio cities.

After introducing site analysis related to transportation, nearby schools and park space, the team presented a variety of land use scenarios to highlight the potential development capacity of the site. These provided a wide spectrum of single land-use development examples to offer context for the discussion, including a potential office park, retail center, and park with recreational facilities. The consultant team then introduced four mixed use development scenarios for the UMCH site. These scenarios included a variety of housing types, such as single-family homes, townhomes, and apartments/condominiums, mixed with office and some limited retail uses fronting High Street. These scenarios also included various arrangements of new green space to serve area residents and provide a focal point for the development, while preserving the Tucker Creek Natural Area as a natural feature with pedestrian path. Attendees reviewed these land use scenarios in break-out tables and shared their thoughts and ideas on a vision that complements and contributes to the prosperity and future of the City of Worthington.

The consultant team will review all of the community feedback from this meeting and what you add to this web site in developing some preferred scenarios. Additional opportunities for public input will be provided in early 2014, to be announced shortly.