



Imagine Vine

Neighborhood Plan



VINE NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION



THE CITY OF KALAMAZOO

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Vine Neighborhood Association (VNA) Board

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Introduction

During the Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 (IK2025) planning process, neighborhood plans were identified as a need. Neighborhood plans allow the neighborhood to focus on their neighborhood vision and realize the community's Strategic Vision with small-scale or focused planning work. This resident driven process allows neighborhoods to take control of their future. The neighborhood planning process as laid out in the 2025 Master Plan does not have a required focus beyond aligning with the Strategic Vision and 2025 Master Plan goals. Through this process residents are encouraged to think about everything that impacts their daily wellbeing and futures. The resulting plans are comprehensive and leverage collaboration to achieve results.

The Vine Neighborhood is the oldest and most central of the neighborhoods. It is south of downtown, east of Western Michigan University and west of Bronson Methodist Hospital. In total, Vine is approximately 1 square mile in size. Vine Neighborhood has a population of approximately 5,572 (Esri Business Analyst, 2017), and is one of the most dense neighborhoods in the City.



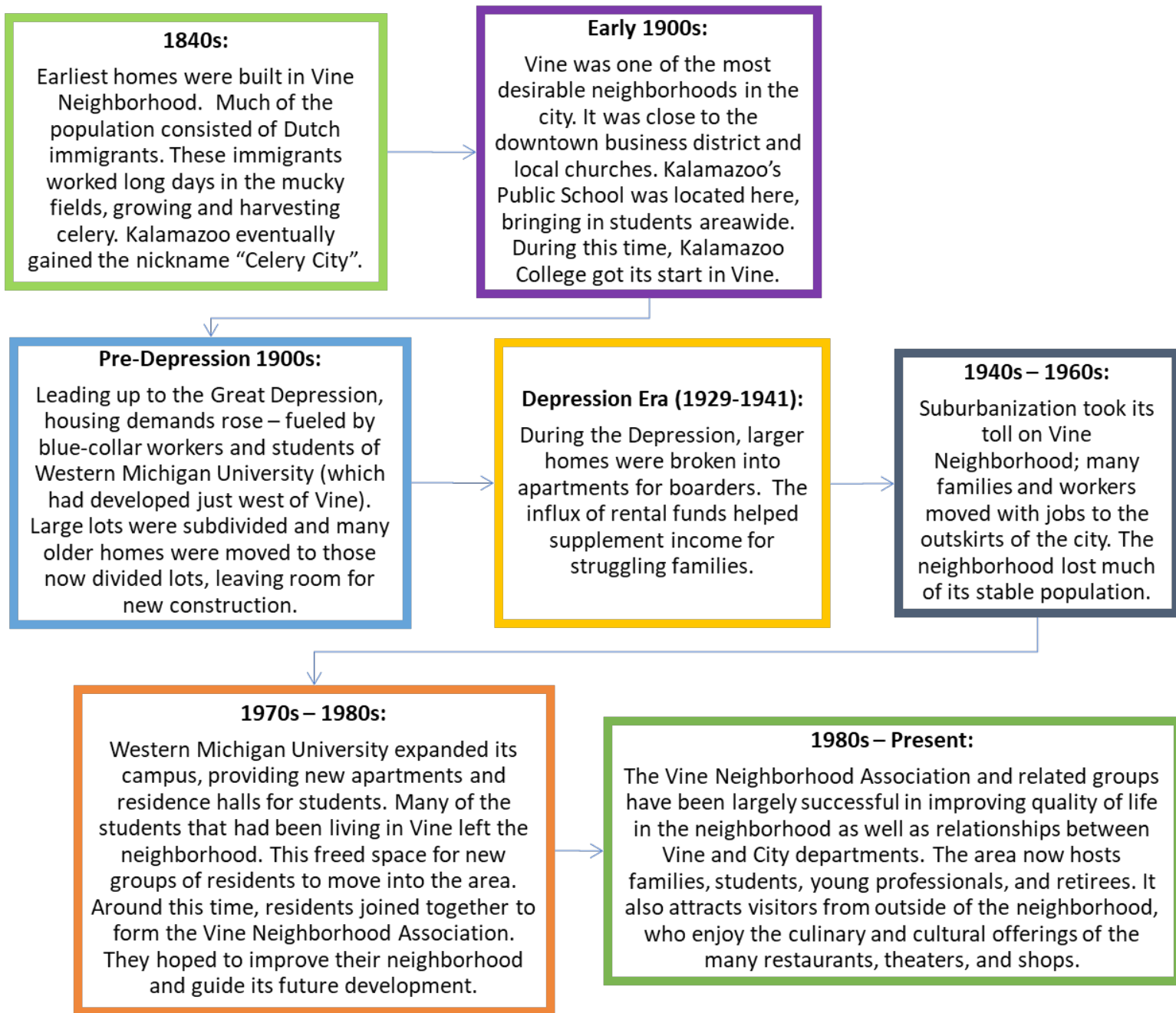


Table 1.4 Neighborhood Historical Timeline: Generated with help from Sharon Ferraro, Historic Preservation Coordinator, and Steve Walsh, Executive Director of VNA (2018)

Neighborhood Planning Process



1 Review previous plans & engagement

In January 2018, Vine launched a survey to learn more about what people like best about Vine and where they saw room for improvement. This survey feedback, combined with the Vine Village Plan as well as Vine Neighborhood IK2025 input, established a clear starting point for discussions.



2 Engage community to create neighborhood vision

Vine brought together a group of businesses, organizations, and residents to serve as their coalition. The coalition had their first meeting in February to help clarify common themes that had been pulled from previous engagement as well as inform what work was already being done in those areas. In February 2018, Vine Neighborhood Association held a community meeting, with nearly 60 residents in attendance, to confirm priorities with residents, share information on the efforts happening in the area, and provide an opportunity for residents to give input on new ideas. Topics discussed at this meeting included zoning,



parks & gardens, walkability, on-street parking, defining Vine, and 2018 construction projects. Vine also held focus group meetings to dive deeper into topics that weren't discussed at the community meeting, but were identified as topics that needed to be discussed at that meeting. Focus groups provided help on the topics of housing and youth.

3 Draft goals & neighborhood plan

Combining all past information and plans, as well as new input heard from residents at the February community meeting, goals and actions were drafted. The goals were drafted to be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Timely (S.M.A.R.T.) and align with the Strategic Vision. The goals and actions were then structured into a draft of the neighborhood plan.

4 Confirm goals & neighborhood plan

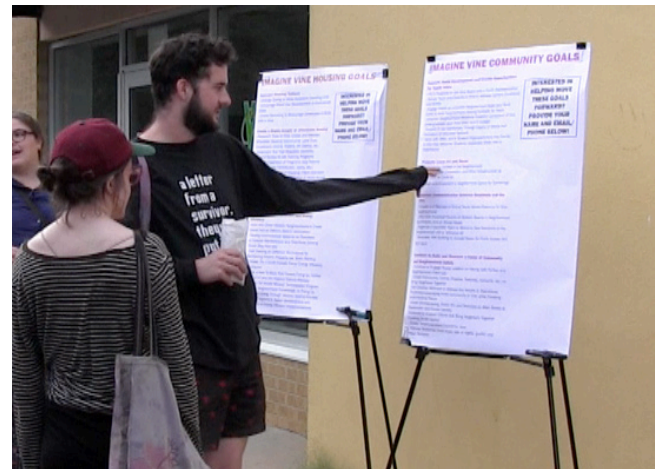
Through pop up engagement at neighborhood events and an online survey, Vine residents were able to give feedback on the plan goals to confirm that the goals are what the community wants and to identify anything that might be missing. During the September Art Hop in the Vine, residents had the opportunity to review and celebrate the draft plan.

5 Neighborhood plan goes to Planning Commission

Once the goals and Imagine Vine Neighborhood Plan are finalized by Vine, the plan will go to the Planning Commission to seek approval as an amendment to the Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 Master Plan.

6 Complete action steps to turn the vision into reality!

After the plan is approved, Vine neighborhood, the City, and other partners will get to work on carrying out the actions in the plan starting with a Quick Win Project.



Strategic Vision Alignment



Strategic Vision Goal	Shared Prosperity	Connected City	Inviting Public Places	Environmental Responsibility	Safe Community	Youth Development	Complete Neighborhoods	Strength Through Diversity	Economic Vitality	Good Governance
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Imagine Vine Neighborhood Plan Goals

Housing

Increase Housing Options							•			
Create a Stable Supply of Affordable Housing							•	•		
Develop Tools to Assist Property Owners in Understanding, Navigating, and Funding Maintenance or Improvements to Their Homes; Including Historic Structures and Energy Efficiency				•			•			

Community

Support Youth Development and Create Opportunities for Youth Voice	•					•				
Promote Local Arts and Music			•					•		
Improve Communications Between Residents and Vine Neighborhood Association										•
Continue to Build and Maintain a Sense of Community in the Neighborhood		•	•				•	•	•	

Connectivity

Improve Sidewalk Conditions to Help Promote Greater Walkability		•	•							
Improve Neighborhood Safety Through Street Lighting		•	•	•	•		•			
Slow Traffic Along Major Corridors		•	•		•					
Create Uniform and Easy to Understand Parking Regulations		•	•						•	
Improve the Neighborhood Connectivity to the Rest of Kalamazoo		•							•	



Strategic Vision Goal	Shared Prosperity	Connected City	Inviting Public Places	Environmental Responsibility	Safe Community	Youth Development	Complete Neighborhoods	Strength Through Diversity	Economic Vitality	Good Governance
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Environment, Parks, & Food Access

Increase Access to Healthy Food Options							•			
Improve Network of Edible Landscaping			•				•			
Improve Biodiversity and Sustainability in Parks and Open Spaces				•						
Increase Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in Vine							•			

Commercial

Stimulate Local Business Growth and Economic Vitality in Vine									•	
Initiate a Branding Campaign for the Vine Neighborhood							•		•	

Goal & Action Tables Legend

★ Priority Goal

Goals with a star next to them were identified as a top priority by the community during the goal confirmation phase of engagement.

Costs

Costs follows the same breakdown as the master plan. Where possible, funding sources are listed.

\$ - Low Cost

\$\$ - Moderate Cost

\$\$\$ - Significant Project Cost

\$\$\$\$ - Significant Planning & Construction Cost

Timeline

Timeline is based on whether a project is in motion or planned, or not started. If it is in motion or planned a year for completion is listed (2019, 2020, etc.). If an action is new from this plan it may have Short, Mid, of Long instead of a date. If something is a project that doesn't necessarily have an end date it is listed as ongoing

Short - approximately between 0-2 years

Mid - approximately between 3-5 years

Long - approximately 5+

Housing

VISION: Develop housing opportunities that meet the needs of Vine's diverse population.

1

Increase Housing Options

By increasing housing types Vine hopes to make more opportunities for homeownership, affordability, and keep some of the younger residents in the neighborhood.

2

Create a Stable Supply of Affordable Housing

Vine seeks to implement tools and programs that will create a stable and affordable housing supply for residents.

3

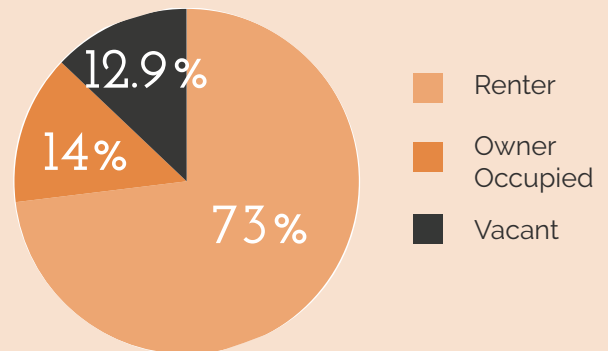
Develop Tools to Assist Property Owners in Understanding, Navigating, and Funding Maintenance or Improvements to Their Homes; Including Historic Structures and Energy Efficiency

Vine is mostly covered by historic districts. While this is an asset to the neighborhood, it is also challenging for residents to navigate the process to make improvements as well as afford improvements. Vine seeks to increase awareness of existing tools and programs, and create new programs and tools that will support residents in making improvements and performing maintenance in their homes.

HAPPENING NOW

Neighborhood Enterprise Zone expanded to cover more of the Vine neighborhood. NEZ has help property owners fund home improvements and repairs.

Vine Housing by the Numbers



Affordability in Vine

Median household income in Vine is \$22,359. A general rule of thumb is that housing should cost no more than 30% of its annual income. Therefore, a person with an income of \$22,359 could afford to pay approximately \$559 on rent each month. There are some rental units available at this price, but the majority exceeds \$1,000 (based on Zillow February 2018).

Using the median home value in Vine, \$89,483, and assuming a 10% down payment and 30-year fixed mortgage, it was calculated that a monthly mortgage payment would be \$623. This too exceeds the 30% affordability threshold. (MSU student calculations)

Housing Goals & Actions



ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Increase Housing Options					
Change Zoning to Allow for Accessory Dwelling Units	Attend zoning meetings to provide input and show support	Attend zoning meetings to provide input and show support, help in outreach and education to residents - VNA	Change zoning to allow for accessory dwelling units	2019	Time
Encourage Mixed Use Developments in Commercial Areas	Attend zoning meetings to provide input and show support	Attend zoning meetings to provide input and show support, help in outreach and education to residents - VNA	Change zoning to allow for mixed uses in nodes and commercial corridors	2019	Time
Create Marketing to Encourage Developers to Come and Build Infill in Vine		Develop marketing materials - VNA	Share any relevant data that would help create materials	Mid	\$
Create a Stable Supply of Affordable Housing					PRIORITY GOAL ★
Research Tools to Help Create and Maintain Affordable Housing (CLT, inclusionary zoning, Historic TIF District etc.)		Complete research on different tools that may be used in the Vine - VNA	Complete legal and economic analysis to understand feasibility of tools	Mid	Time
Implement Tools That Research Uncovers	Attend any relevant community meetings and show support	Collaborate with City to implement the chosen tool - VNA	Implement the tool that is decided on	Mid	\$
Expand Access to Job Training Programs	Take advantage of job training programs, provide input on barriers to participation	Develop partnerships to help increase awareness and access to existing job training programs - VNA, Metro	Explore partnerships to increase job training access for residents	Long	\$\$
Support Expansion of Programs That Promote Homeownership (rent-to-own, loans, etc.)	Help inform neighbors of programs that are available	Increase awareness of existing programs through outreach to residents- KNHS, VNA	Provide information on programs once a year by including in mailing such as from the curb	Mid	\$

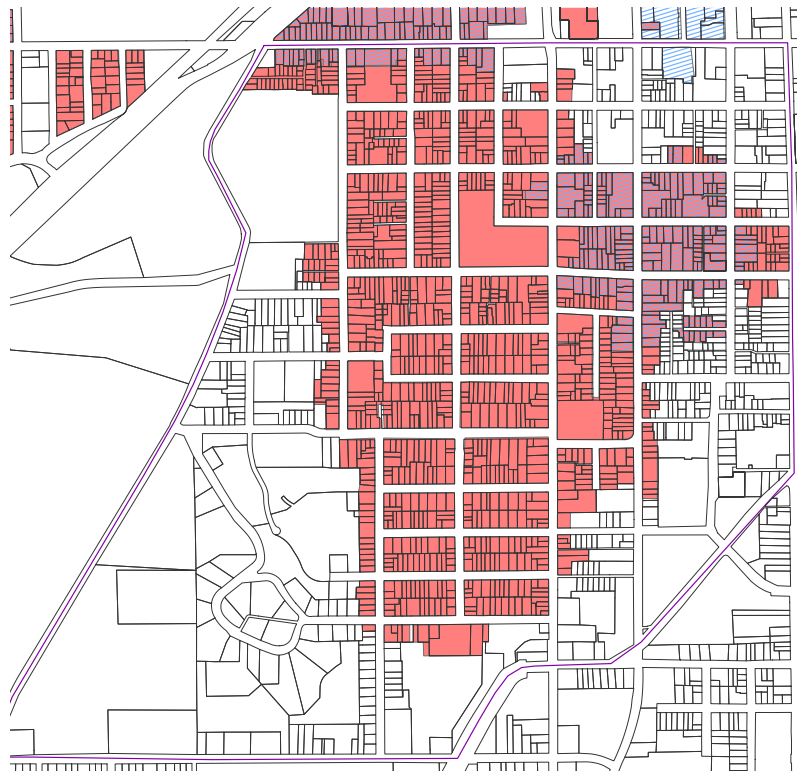
ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Enact a Truth-in- Sale of Housing (TISH) Ordinance	Provide input and support ordinance enactment	Provide input and support ordinance enactment	Draft and enact ordinance	2020	Time
Promote and Expand Participation in Home Buying Programs That Encourage Employees of Large Kalamazoo Companies to Buy in Vine		Develop partnership to help promote program and attract new residents - VNA, Bronson, WMU, K College	Ensure staff are aware of programs supporting purchasing a home in the City	Mid	\$

Develop Tools to Assist Property Owners in Understanding, Navigating, and Funding Maintenance or Improvements to Their Homes; Including Historic Structures and Energy Efficiency PRIORITY GOAL ★





Work With Other Historic Neighborhoods to Create Central Hub of Historic District Information	Utilize the hub to get needed information, tell neighbors about the resource, provide feedback on additional information that would be helpful	Partner with other historic districts to create informational materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create list of contractors • Explanation of approval process with steps • Tips and tricks for maintaining property -VNA	Provide information and other resources available to historic district home owners	2019	Time
Develop Informational Material on Processes for External Maintenance and Distribute (existing simple steps how-tos)	Provide feedback on processes involved in housing that are confusing or unknown	Gather resident feedback on current process and experience, share information with City	Take information collected and create one-page descriptions and or how-tos	Mid	Time
Host Trainings on Different Techniques for Maintaining Historic Property (ex. brick pointing, windows, energy efficiency, etc.)	Participate in trainings	Partner to host trainings on how to maintain historic property - VNA	Develop trainings with partners	Mid	\$\$
Create a How to Book That Covers Fixing Up Homes (out and in) and the Historic District Process	Provide feedback on book	Provide feedback on book - VNA	Develop book	Long	\$\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Develop Old House Wizard/ Ambassador Program to Create Neighborhood Knowledge on Fixing Up Homes and Going Through Historic District Process	Volunteer to be a "Wizard"	Organize volunteers to be "Wizards" - VNA	Develop program to train "Wizards" and supply them with the information needed to be an effective ambassador	Mid	\$\$
Expand Programs to Assist Homeowners With Installation of Energy Efficient Implementations	Participate in programs and inform neighbors of the opportunities	Expand marketing and outreach to ensure residents know about existing opportunities - CHW, VNA	Support expanded outreach, include information in Welcome packets	Short	\$

2018 Vine Historic Districts



Legend

-  National Historic District
-  Local Historic District
-  Vine Neighborhood Boundary
-  Parcel

Community

VISION: Vine offers unique opportunities for all ages to feel a part of the Vine community. Residents are aware of all community news and events.

1

Support Youth Development and Create Opportunities for Youth Voice

Vine has slowly been gaining more and more families with kids or young couples. To ensure that all residents needs and interest are met, Vine is looking to better understand what youth want and to create opportunities for meaningful engagement.

2

Promote Local Arts and Music

Vine has a vibrant community full of artists talented in many medias, including infamous house music shows in basements. Vine sees this as a true asset and wants to help it thrive, and leverage it to encourage continued investment in the community.

3

Improve Communications Between Residents and Vine Neighborhood Association

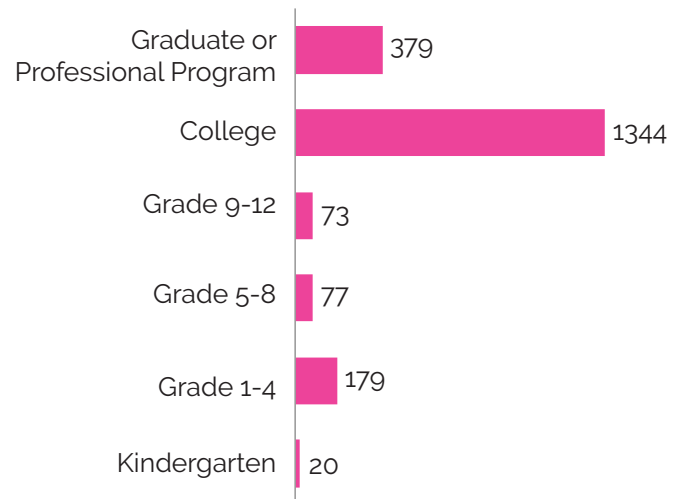
Vine wants to ensure that Vine Neighborhood Association is resident's go-to for community news and updates. Residents that know about the Neighborhood Association, see it as an asset. The community wants to build on that and make sure VNA is an asset to all residents.

4

Continue to Build and Maintain a Sense of Community in the Neighborhood and Neighborhood Safety

When asked about Vine, residents often say that the community is one of the biggest attractions to living there. Vine wants to continue to build that social capital and support efforts that create an even stronger sense of community and promote neighborhood safety.

Enrollment in Vine



SOURCE: ESRI 2011-2015 ACS

HAPPENING NOW

Vine Neighborhood Association has partnered with the Kalamazoo Youth Development Network to better understand how to serve Vine youth.

Community Goals & Actions



ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Support Youth Development and Create Opportunities for Youth Voice					
Fill 2 Positions on the Vine Board With a Youth Representative	Help identify and encourage Vine youth to serve on the Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change bylaws to allow for youth representation – VNA Identify Vine youth to sit on board - KYD Network, VNA 		2019	Time
Survey Youth and Parents in Vine to Address Current Conditions and Needs	Take the KYD Net Survey and encourage neighbors to participate	Distribute KYD Network survey to Vine families – KYD Network, VNA		Summer 2018	Time
Engage RAWK as a Current Neighborhood Asset and Work Jointly to Hold Neighborhood Writing Contest for Youth	Encourage youth to participate, volunteer to support event	Organize writing contest to show-off Vine Youth talent in the Newsletter - RAWK, VNA		Short	Time
Establish Neighborhood Relations Coalition Composed of Two Undergraduate Students, one from both WMU and K College	Volunteer to sit on the board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to establish board, identify students and residents to participate - K College, WMU, VNA The Coalition should identify projects that will build student and resident relations 		Short	\$
Support El Sol Elementary School Through Inquiry of Needs and Formation of Volunteer Network		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop relationship with El Sol - KYD Network, VNA Work with VNA and KYD Network to identify ways that El Sol could be supported - El Sol 		Mid	Time
Work with WMU and K Student Organizations to Host Events in Vine That Welcome Students (especially those new to Kalamazoo)	Volunteer to help organize and run events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop relationship with student groups and plan event(s) - VNA Work with VNA to host student event(s) – RSOs 	Assist with identifying the appropriate permits and help shepard through process	Long	\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Promote Local Arts and Music					PRIORITY GOAL ★
Hold an Art Contest in the Neighborhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit art Volunteer to help with event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize and host an art contest for local artists - VNA, neighborhood partners Install winning artwork in Neighborhood (either at VNA/ partner locations or in public space) - VNA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist with permitting to display art in the public right-of-way and other event related permits Assist with permitting for permanent art installation as needed 	Short	\$
Use Sidewalks, Crosswalks and Other Infrastructure as Canvases for Local Art		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize local artists to install art on city approved surfaces -VNA 	Create program/ policy that allows for sidewalk, intersection, crosswalk, and other infrastructure to have artistic elements installed within certain parameters	Mid	\$
Design and Implement a Neighborhood Space for Gatherings	Provide input on space design and community needs for the space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify sites, create design proposal, and implement - VNA 	Assist with site plan review process and help shepard through	Long	\$\$\$
Improve communications between residents and the Vine Neighborhood Association					PRIORITY GOAL ★
Create and Maintain a Strong Social Media Presence for Vine Neighborhood	Follow VNA on social media platforms	Create a committee or board role in charge of social media and communications - VNA Board	Use City and Imagine Kalamazoo social media to support growth in VNA presence	Mid	Time
Advertise Important Events on Bulletin Boards in Neighborhood Businesses and on Social Media		Distribute flyers to local businesses and develop system to share neighborhood events on social media - VNA	Provide VNA with any event information	Short	Time
Organize a Volunteer Team to Welcome New Residents to the Neighborhood With a 'Welcome Kit'	Volunteer to be a part of the welcome team	Organize welcome team - VNA Develop welcome kit and distribute to Vine residents - Welcome Team		Short	Time
Renovate the VNA Building to Include a Space Open for Public Access M-F, 8am-5pm		Organize fundraising campaign, develop site plan, and complete renovations	Assist with navigating site plan review and help shepard through process	Long	\$\$\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Continue to Build and Maintain a Sense of Community and Neighborhood Safety					
Continue to Engage House Leaders on Having Safe Parties and Neighborhood Clean-Ups	Volunteer to help with clean-ups	Continue to engage house leaders and organize neighborhood clean-ups - VNA	Coordinate refuge pick-up for clean-ups	Short	Time
Create Community Events (parades, festivals, concerts, etc.) to Bring Neighbors Together	Volunteer to help organize or staff events	Organize and host events with community partners - VNA, community partners	Assist with any permits or processes needed for events	Mid	\$\$
Use Creative Methods to Address Any Vacant or Abandoned Properties Leveraging Artist Community in Vine While Creating More Inviting Places	Use creative methods (plants, lights, art) to mitigate blight	Use creative methods (plants, lights, art) to mitigate blight - VNA, Building Blocks	Assist with any permissions needed	Short	\$
Install Streetscaping, Public Art, and Benches on Main Roads in Neighborhood to Placemake and Create Identity	Volunteer to help build benches, plant trees, or complete other place making activities Organize an effort to do some place making	Identify neighborhood artists to create public art, work with city to site and install art Build benches, and acquire trees to place along main corridors - VNA	Assist with right of way or other permissions needed to install public art, plant trees or place benches. Install streetscaping in prioritized areas	Mid	\$\$
Continue to Support Efforts That Bring Neighbors Together Creating Social Capital	Contact VNA about an event or project you would like to lead in the neighborhood	Support organization and resident lead efforts that build the sense of community		Short	Time
Create a Tenant- Landlord Council for Vine	Participate in Council	Organize council and host meetings - Building Blocks, VNA		Mid	Time
Address Nuisances (loud music late at night, graffiti) and Illegal Behavior	Join the Neighborhood Watch, encourage neighbors to join	Raise awareness of existing Neighborhood Watch and encourage participation	Attend board meetings for safety check-ins	Short	Time

Connectivity

VISION: Vine has clear and safe infrastructure for all users to navigate Vine with ease.

1

Improve Sidewalk Conditions to Help Promote Greater Walkability

Though Vine is almost completely covered with sidewalks, several of those sidewalks are in great disrepair and are difficult to pass over in a wheelchair or with a stroller. Making repairs to the sidewalk system and the installation of safe crossings in key locations is one of the top priorities for Vine residents.

2

Improve Neighborhood Safety Through Street Lighting

To increase the walkability and safety in Vine, residents would like to see more lighting. It is important to residents that the lighting does not produce excess light pollution in the neighborhood.

3

Slow Traffic Along Major Corridors

Vine has a number of very busy, fast moving streets that cut through the neighborhood. Residents would like to see traffic slowed and the pedestrian prioritized, particularly at key locations such as the neighborhood commercial node, schools, and parks.

4

Create Uniform and Easy to Understand Parking Regulations

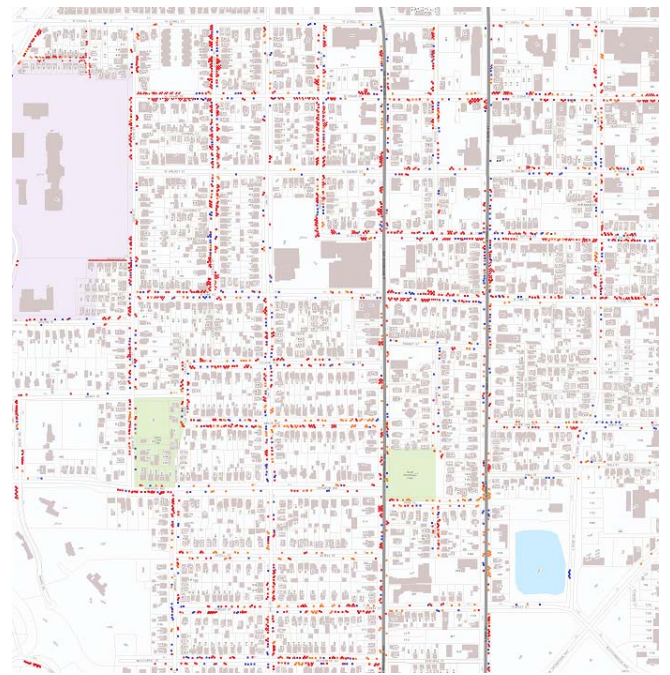
Vine neighborhood has 22 different parking regulations. This can be confusing and difficult to navigate for residents and visitors. Residents would like to see a uniform and comprehensive approach to parking in the neighborhood.

5

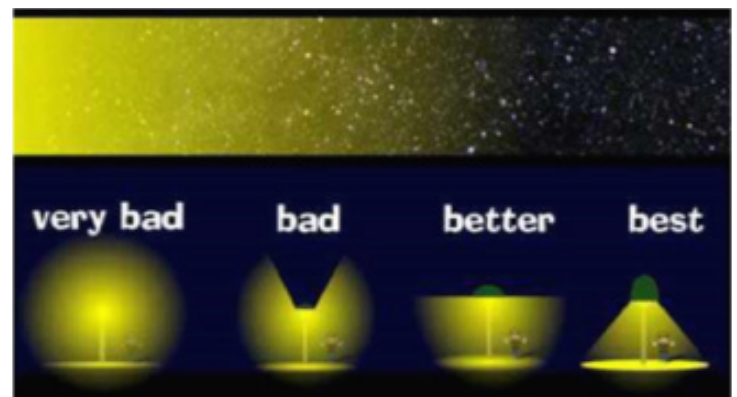
Improve the Neighborhood Connectivity to the Rest of Kalamazoo

Residents would like to see more infrastructure for bikes, particularly north south connections, and improved bus stops. This will help residents access other parts of the City and for Kalamazoo residents to more easily access Vine.

Vine 2017 Sidewalk Audit



Total 3,480 Sidewalk squares need repair



BEST PRACTICES LIGHTING: FUTURISM (2013).

Connectivity Goals & Actions



ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Improve sidewalk condition and connections to help promote greater walkability					PRIORITY GOAL ★
Prioritize and Make Improvements to Sidewalks Leading to the New Grocery Store, Around Schools, and Leading to Downtown Using Resident and Walkability Assessment to Identify Target Areas	Continue to inform VNA of sidewalk issues as they arise	Update sidewalk assessment with major changes or every few years - VNA	Repair and improve sidewalks in target areas	Mid	\$\$
Install a Rapid Response Flashing Beacon or Other Crossing Signal on Howard to Make a Safer Connection to Maple Middle			Install enhanced crosswalk across Howard near Maple Middle	Mid	\$\$
Design a Safer Crossing for Pedestrians and Cyclists at Michigan, Oakland, Stadium and Lovell Intersection			Study, design, and install a safer crossing for the intersection	Long	\$\$\$\$
Install Pedestrian Crossing Refugee at Crosstown and Park			Study, design, and install refugee	Mid	\$\$\$
Research Heated Sidewalks and Conduct Feasibility Study Including: Cost Analysis and Identifying Priority Areas for Implementation and Funding Options		Partner with WMU to have preliminary research and study done by students	Provide information as needed	Short	Time
Apply for Safe Routes to School for El Sol and Maple Middle	Participate in surveys and other feedback opportunities	Support outreach efforts and City application	Apply for those schools, work with public schools to complete the process	Mid	\$
Paint Crosswalks and Install Pedestrian Crossing Signs Where Added Visibility is Needed Connecting to Schools, Commercial Areas, and Parks			Paint crosswalks and install signs	Mid	\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Improve Neighborhood Safety Through Improved Lighting					
Prioritize Lighting Leading to and in the Neighborhood Commercial Node, Schools, and Parks		Assist in researching and submitting grants for sustainable lighting - VNA	Install street lights designed to shine specifically on sidewalk and street, in priority locations	Long	\$\$
Install Crosswalk Reflectors to Major Intersections.			Install crosswalk reflectors	Short	\$
Encourage Home Owners to Leave Porch Lights On Throughout the Night	Leave porch light on, encourage neighbors to do the same	Create porch light campaign to encourage neighbors to leave their lights on, research funding opportunities to provide porch or yard lights to residents - VNA, Building Blocks		Short	\$
Limit Light Pollution by Installing Fixtures That are Fully Shielded		Research potential sustainability or dark sky grants to support shielded light installation	Install shielded lights throughout the neighborhood	Mid	\$\$
Slow Traffic Along Major Corridors					
Install Planted Medians at Westnedge and Park		Complete process to install medians - MDOT Assist in maintaining medians/plants - VNA	Work with MDOT to install medians, particularly in commercial areas of the corridors	Long	\$\$\$
Plant Trees and Paint Decorative Crosswalks Along Lovell Into Downtown		Organize artists and volunteers to paint crosswalks and acquire and plant trees - VNA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist in getting needed permissions and technical assistance Assist in acquiring trees 	Short	\$
Install Curb Bump Outs on Westnedge in Commercial Node		Complete process to install bump-outs - MDOT	Work with MDOT to install bump outs	Mid	\$\$
Add Speed Tables or Elevated Crosswalks at Intersections That are Major Pedestrian Crossings	Volunteer to help with pedestrian study/ counts	Work with WMU to conduct a preliminary pedestrian study	Use preliminary study to guide site decisions, install the best option for pedestrian safety	Long	\$\$\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Create Uniform and Easy to Understand Parking Regulations in Vine					
Determine Resident Preferences for Day and Night Parking	Participate in parking meeting	Engage residents on preferences - VNA	Assist in engagement efforts	Short	Time
Work with City and Traffic Board to Develop New Parking Plan for Vine Based on Feedback Gathered	Attend traffic board to talk about parking in Vine	Attend traffic board to talk about parking in Vine - VNA	Use resident feedback to inform new parking regulations	Short	Time
Install New Signage in Accordance With Newly Created Parking Plan		Inform residents of parking changes	Install new signs, inform residents of new parking regulations	Short	\$
Improve the Neighborhood Connectivity to the Rest of Kalamazoo					
Implement Buffered Bike Lanes Along Westnedge and Park		Help inform residents of improvements - VNA	Install buffered bike lanes	Mid	\$\$
Install Bike Lanes on Vine and Lovell		Help inform residents of improvements - VNA	Paint bike lanes	Short	\$
Install a Protected Bike Lane or Shared Use Path on Howard		Help inform residents of improvements - VNA	Install the best option for safe cycling on Howard	Long	\$\$
Install Branded Wayfinding Dignage Directing to Downtown, the Farmer's Market, Vine Corners, and Campus. Install Bike route signs on Forest, Merrill, Davis, and Wheaton		Work with City to design, purchase, and install signs	Provide technical assistance and right of acquisition	Mid	\$
Improve Bus Stops to Include Seating, Lighting, Shelters Where Possible, and Signage With Route Information	Attend communtiy meetings to provide feedback on bus system and stops	Improve bus stops with informational signs, shelters and lighting- Metro	Support ADA bus stop improvement	Mid	\$\$
Research Route, Transfer, and Frequency Improvements to the Bus System		Complete study - Metro		Long	\$\$
Install Bike Racks in Commercial Areas	Provide feedback on locations for bike racks	Purchase and install bike racks - VNA	Assist in siting and right of way acquisition	Short	\$
Incorporate Bicycle Education into Projects, Do More Bicycle Education for Cyclists and Motorists	Attend event, help spread work about event to neighbors	Partner with bike advocates to create an event and educational material to increase awareness of bicycle safety - VNA	Support event	Short	\$

Environment, Parks, & Food Access

VISION: Vine is a sustainable, biodiverse area with spaces and programming that meet the needs and interests of residents, while ensuring residents have access to fresh food.

1 Increase access to healthy food options

A new grocery store will be opening at the southern end of Vine. Though this development will greatly increase resident's access to fresh and healthy foods, Vine residents want to do more to increase access to affordable and healthy foods.

2 Improve network of edible landscaping

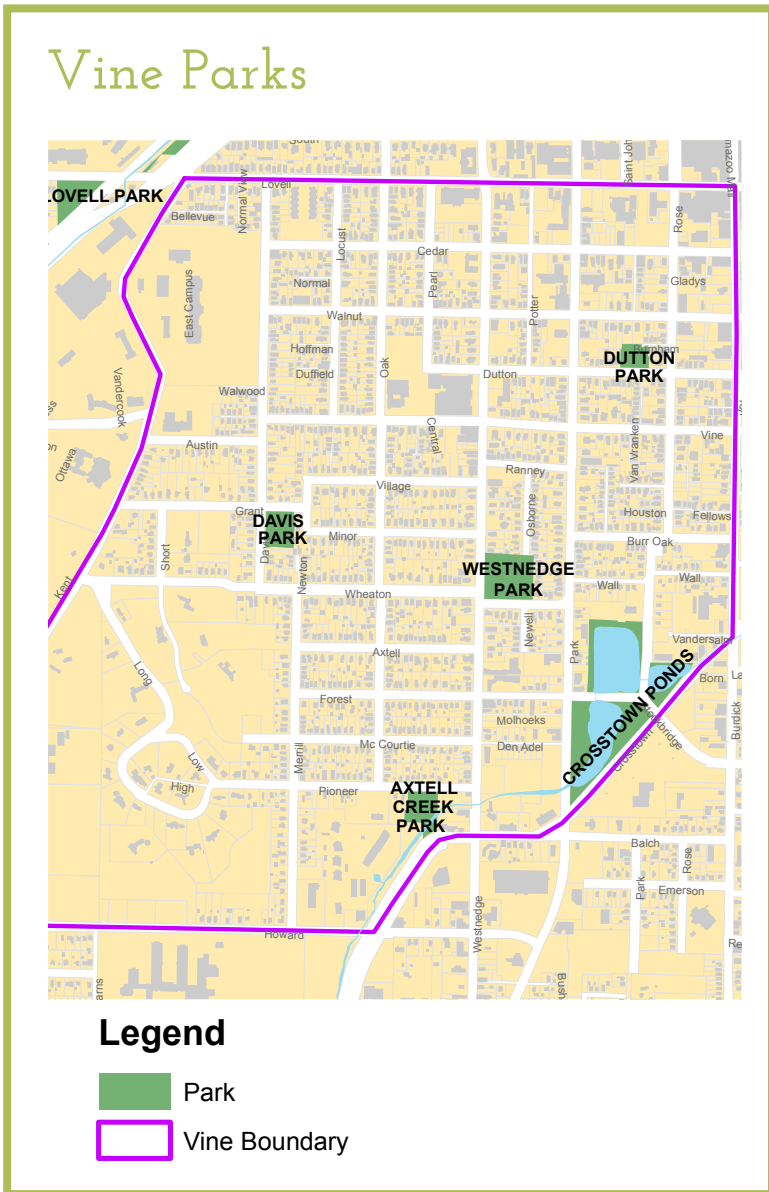
Vine would like to take advantage of unused spaces to increase access to food. Whether it is in the tree lawn, in parks, or even on roofs, residents want to ensure any possible space is used for growing healthy, fresh foods.

3 Improve biodiversity and sustainability in parks and open spaces

Vine is environmentally conscious and would like to encourage native plantings to support the environment and native wildlife.

4 Increase Outdoor recreation opportunities in Vine

Vine residents would like to be able to take better advantage of the parks to its south; Axtell and Crosstown Ponds. Vine would also like to see more programming that encourages a healthy lifestyle and general community gathering.



HAPPENING NOW

Davis Park will reopen in the summer of 2018 with a new skate park. The skate park was something Vine residents expressed strong desire for during Imagine Kalamazoo.

Environment, Parks, & Food Access Goals & Actions



ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Increase Access to Healthy Food Options					
Build Hoop House on Vacant Lot Where Community Garden is at 615 S. Westnedge	Volunteer to help build and maintain hoop house(s)	Work collaboratively to fund and build the hoop house – Common Ground, VNA	Help with any site plan needs	Short	\$\$
Collaborate With Westnedge Market to Incorporate Fresh Food Options	Advocate for fresh foods in the Market	Develop partnerships to advocate with Westnedge Market for fresh food options – Farmer's Market, KVCC, Common Ground, VNA		Short	Time
Provide Indoor Vegetable Growing Kits	Use kit to grow food indoors	Develop kits and distribute to residents – Common Ground, Building Blocks, VNA		Short	\$
Set Up a Carpool System for Grocery Shopping	Volunteer to drive or help manage carpool	Organize volunteers to carpool to grocery stores – Building Bocks, VNA		Short	Time
Attract Food Truck(s) for Events or on a Fixed Schedule		Create schedule of events in Vine – VNA, partners	Help connect VNA to food trucks to create a schedule	Short	Time
Improve Network of Edible Landscaping					
Modify Zoning Ordinance to Allow Rooftop Gardens by Right on Qualified Buildings	Volunteer to help plant and maintain garden	If a qualified building, install rooftop garden on VNA – VNA	Change zoning to allow roof top gardens on specific building types	2019	Time
Encourage Neighborhood Schools with Gardens to Hold Gardening and Cooking Classes for Neighborhood Families	Attend classes	Develop partnership with schools and those who would provide classes – El Sol, Phoenix High, KVCC		Long	\$\$
Use Social Media to Market Vine as a Progressive Neighborhood Dedicated to Public Health and Sustainability		Develop marketing and promote on social media		Short	Time

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Plant Edible Landscaping in Underutilized Pocket Parks, Vacant Lots, and Intersections (including the linear park at the intersection of Lovell and Oakland)	Volunteer to help plant and maintain gardens	Develop partnership and volunteer base to plant and maintain edible landscaping – Common Ground, Building Blocks, VNA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help with any right-of way permissions that may be needed • Assist with any site plan processes that may be needed 	Short	\$
Support Existing Tool-Sharing Shed to Expand so That Residents Collectively Own Equipment Needed for Maintenance of Edible Landscaping	Use the tool share, volunteer to help manage it	Work with existing gardens and partners to increase amount of tools and, if needed, additional storage locations - Common Grounds, VNA	Help with any site plan processes or permits that may be needed	Mid	\$\$
Improve Biodiversity and Sustainability in Parks and Open Spaces					
Plant Native and/or Naintain Trees That Provide Shading	Volunteer to help plant	Work with City and residents to identify trees and locations for additional plantings – VNA	Assist with tree acquisition and planting	Long	\$\$
Implement 'No-Mow' Zones in Passive Parks like Westnedge and Future Pocket Parks		Help spread information about no-mow zones and their purpose – Common Grounds	Create and implement policy	Short	Time
Create Recommended Landscape Standards that Promote Native Species	Follow standards once created	Work with WMU and K to develop standards , distribute to neighbors, develop program that helps those interested change the landscaping at their home - WMU, K College, VNA	Encourage developers use the standards when thinking about landscaping	Mid	Time
Install Educational Pieces in Parks to Inform Residents About the Importance of Sustainability and Biodiversity	Volunteer to help install signs	Work with partners to develop educational signs and install them – WMU, K College, Common Grounds, VNA	Assist with identifying sites that could use educational signs, help site the signs	Mid	\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Increase Outdoor Recreation Opportunities in Vine Neighborhood					
Initiate a Neighborhood/City-Wide Effort to Clean-Up Crosstown Parkway Ponds to Allow for Such Uses as Fishing, Kayaking, or Stand Up Paddle- Boarding	Volunteer to help clean-up	Assist in organizing any clean-up efforts and finding volunteers – Building Blocks, VNA	Organize a clean-up effort and create installations that will help keep the ponds clean like preventing stormwater run-off	Long	\$\$\$
Install Outdoor Exercise Equipment or Establish a Fitness Trail in Davis Street Park or Other Suitable Location	Use the equipment, provide feedback on how it works	Develop partnership with gardens to place equipment – VNA, Common Grounds	Install some exercise equipment in parks	Mid	\$\$
Increase Park Programming, Incorporating Such Activities as: Yoga, Movie Nights, Environmental Education Camps, and Outdoor Boot Camps	Participate in events	Organize exercise classes from local nonprofits or businesses to be hosted at parks in Vine, Partner with local groups to create other outdoor opportunities - VNA	Assist with any permits or permissions needed to use parks for events	Mid	\$

Commercial

VISION: Vine has thriving businesses and a strong sense of place.

1

Stimulate Local Business Growth and Economic Vitality in Vine

Vine already has some great businesses and continues to gain more. There are some actions that can be taken to support businesses and attract new businesses into some of the remaining vacant store fronts. One issue businesses in Vine face in particular on the southern edge is storm water management.

2

Initiate a Branding Campaign for the Vine Neighborhood

Vine neighborhood is known for many things; the student ghetto, the restaurants, the historic houses, the community. Vine would like to highlight the many great things there are about living in the neighborhood and to better define its boundaries.

Current Vine Neighborhood Branding



HAPPENING NOW

Midtown Market, a new grocery store, and Ace Hardware are moving into 412 Howard – just south of Vine.

New businesses continue to choose Vine. SWAY hair salon recently opened in Vine Corners.

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)

PACE helps commercial, industrial, and nonprofit property owners make energy and water efficiency upgrades as well as renewable energy improvements to their building. PACE financing works through special assessments on the property.

It is a County wide program run through Lean & Green Michigan.

Find out more at :
<https://leanandgreenmi.com/index>

Commercial Goals & Actions



ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Stimulate Local Business Growth and Economic Vitality in Vine					
Change Zoning Code to Allow for the Use of Projecting Signs Outside of the CBD		Create a partnership with local artist and makers to partner with businesses to create projecting signs once allowed - VNA	Change the zoning ordinance to allow for projecting signs in commercial nodes	2018	Time-\$
Create Refurbishment Program for Businesses That Need Assistance With Building Repairs, Maintenance, and Façade Improvements		Explore different funding options to create a program (maybe a historic TIF district) - VNA	Explore different funding options to create a program (maybe a historic TIF district) and set it up	Long	\$\$\$
Change Zoning Code to Allow Both Commercial and Residential First Floor Uses Outside of Commercial Node	Attend Commission meetings and voice support for zoning changes	Support zoning changes - VNA	Change zoning	2019	Time
Assist Commercial Property Owners with Property Assessed Clean Energy Applications		Create workshop for commercial property owners to understand process for PACE - VNA	Create workshop for commercial property owners to understand process for PACE	Mid	Time
Review Height of Neighborhood Commercial Developments to Allow Up to Four Stories - Consider Taller Heights Near Downtown	Provide feedback and support zoning changes at commission	Provide feedback and support zoning changes at commission - VNA	Change zoning	2019	Time
Promote Walkable Mixed Use Developments on Key Corridors, Such as Burdick and Westnedge	Provide feedback and support zoning changes at commission	Provide feedback and support zoning changes at commission - VNA	Change zoning	2019	Time
Prepare Commercial Spaces to Be Move In Ready for Small Businesses	Participate in development trainings	Help identify neighborhood entrepreneurs Help property owners connect to funding opportunities - VNA	Provide development trainings Explore grants to rehab storefronts	Long	\$\$\$

ACTION	RESIDENT	VNA & COMMUNITY PARTNERS	CITY	TIMELINE	COSTS
Initiate a Branding Campaign for the Vine Neighborhood					
Design a New Logo for Vine, Representing the New Vision	Provide feedback on logo	Engage community to determine if new logo is needed, develop new logo if needed - VNA		Short	Time
Install Banners Along Crosstown, Oakland, Howard, and Burdick		Create banners and install along main corridors - VNA	Assist with Banner installation	Mid	\$
Host a City-Wide Event Showcasing Vine	Volunteer to help with the event	Organize event, partners, and volunteers- VNA, Building Blocks	Assist with permit process and any permissions needed	Mid	\$
Establish a Program to Reinforce History and Stories of Vine	Attend events, vounteer to help organize events	Partner with local historians to do walking tours, home tours, and develop story-telling signs to install around the neighborhood to highlight Vine's history - VNA		Short	Time
Add "Welcome to Vine" and Wayfinding Signs at Major Commercial Areas on Westnedge and Along the Neighborhood Periphery		Work with residents to design sign, work with city to site sign - Building Blocks, VNA	Assist with site selection and needed permissions	Short	\$