



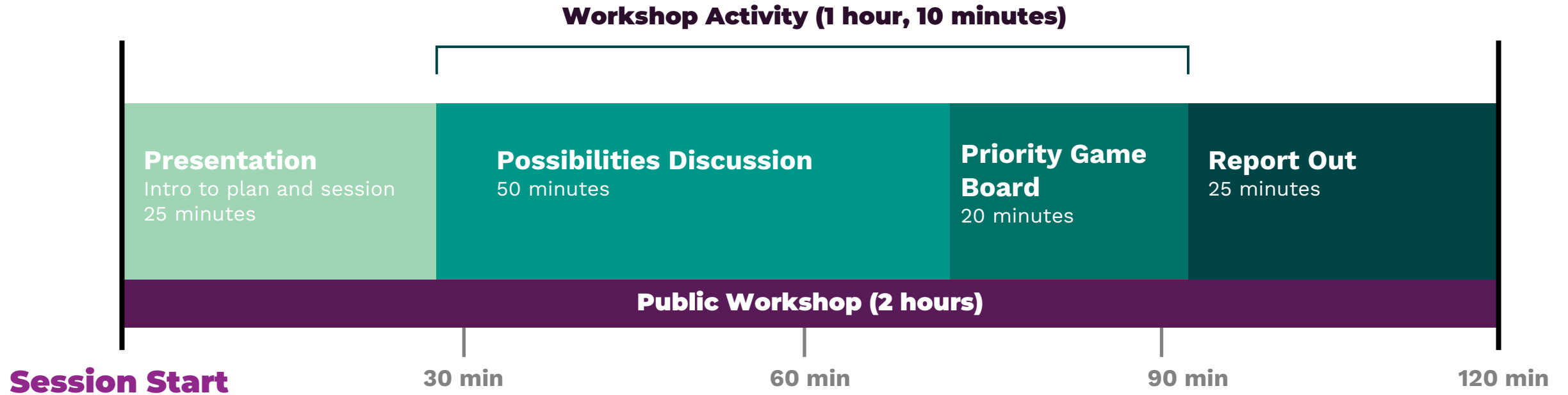
Arts & Culture

Plan Detroit Futures: Possibilities & Realities

April 2025



Our Session Today



Goals for Today

Review

where we are in
the Plan Detroit
process and
what we have
learned so far

Discuss

different policy
approaches for
arts and culture

Prioritize

which
approaches
would work best
for Detroit

Share

learn what other
tables were
discussing

What is Plan Detroit?

Plan Detroit is a roadmap for future development and change in Detroit.

It looks at where **we are now**, what we **hope to be** in the future, and what land use policies and actions are **needed to achieve** that future vision.



What is Plan Detroit?

Detroit's last Master Plan was completed in 2009, and the City has changed a lot since then.

The Michigan Planning Enabling Act recommends that cities update their master plans every 10 years.



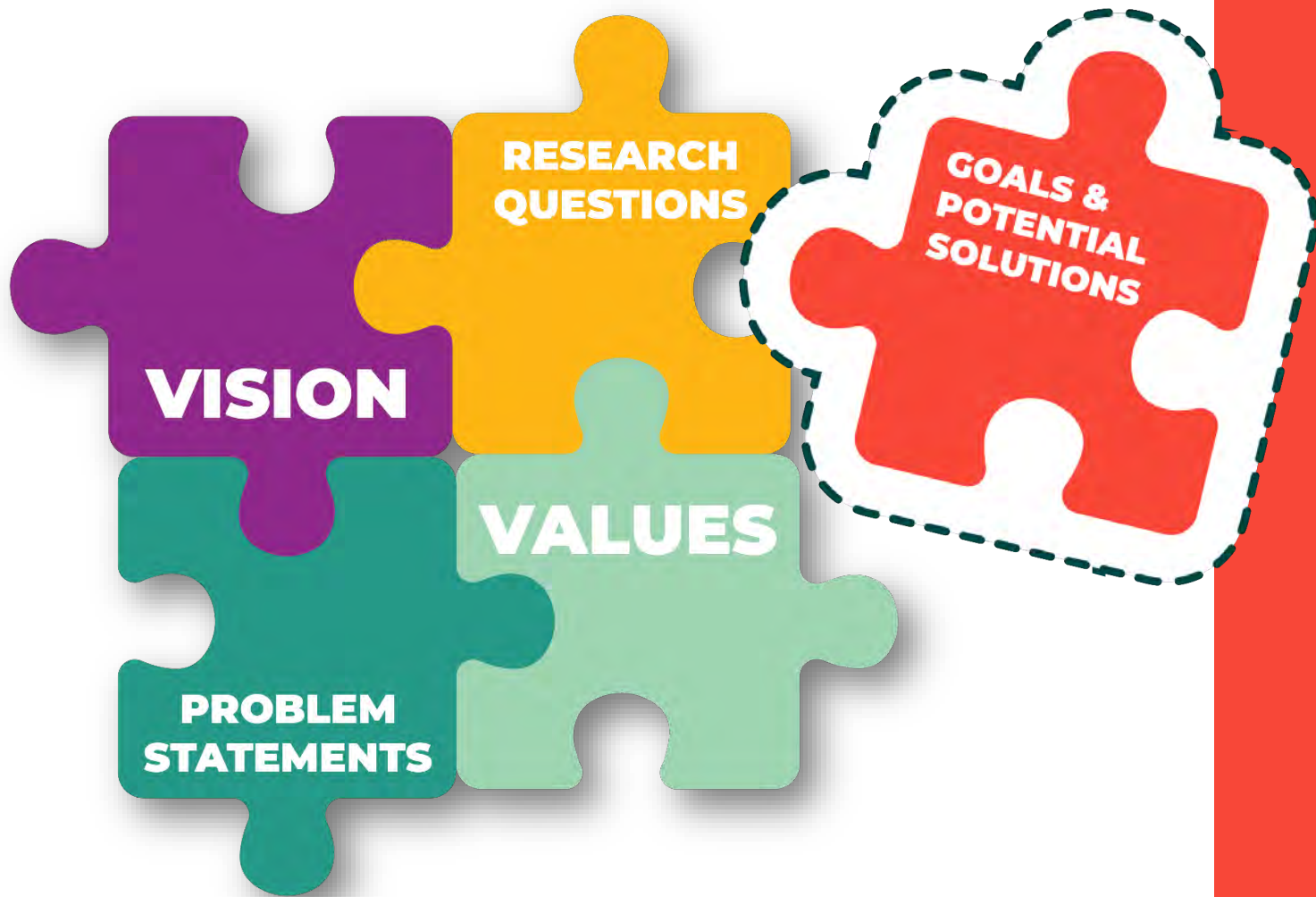
How will Plan Detroit guide future decision-making

- Doing **detailed analysis** of opportunities and challenges related to Detroit's people, infrastructure and economy
- **Learning from you** about priorities and experiences to shape policy decisions that reflect community needs
- **Coordinating with existing businesses**, government offices and community leaders



Our Journey





We're building
Plan Detroit
piece-by-piece
with **YOUR**
input!

Help us complete the picture.

Today's discussion is **one of 5 workshops** that are taking place this week.

**April
12th**

**Housing &
Neighborhoods**

Start time: 10 AM

**April
12th**

**Open Space &
Environment**

Start Time: 1:30 PM

**April
14th**

Arts & Culture

Start Time: 5:30 PM

**April
15th**

Mobility

Start Time: 5:30 PM

**April
16th**

**Jobs &
Economy**

Start Time: 5:30 PM



Go to **plandetroit.com** if you are interested in registering for upcoming sessions



WHAT WE LEARNED FROM YOU!



In 20 years, Detroit will be_____.



The top topics we heard the most were

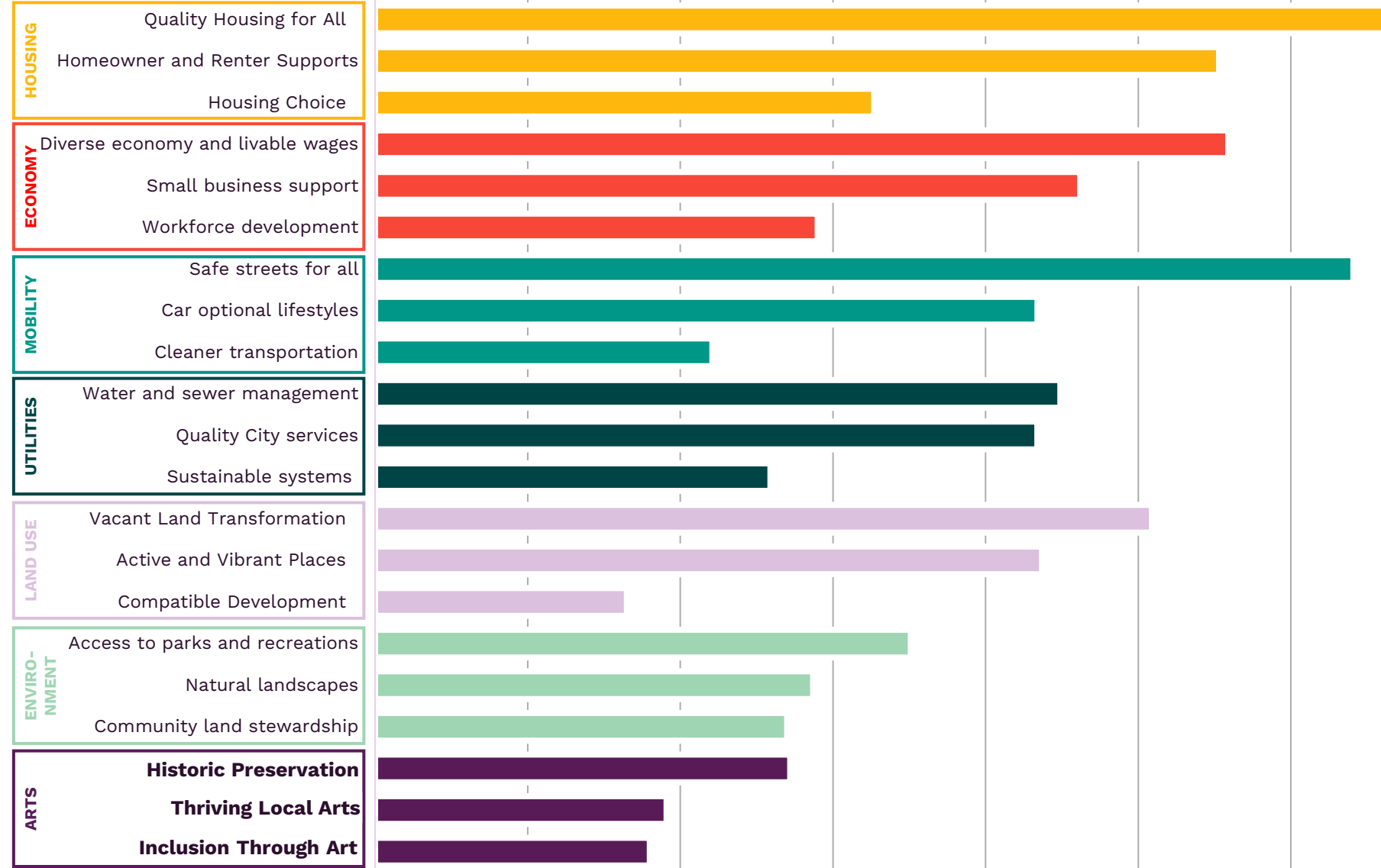
1. Prosperous
2. Community-driven
3. Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive
4. Vibrant
5. Safe



We asked Detroit what their top priorities were.

The three Arts & Culture cards were selected 643 times.

City-Wide Priorities



Detroit will be a city of choice and opportunity.

While Detroit may not be a city of choice and opportunity for all yet, we know there is incredible potential in our vibrant neighborhoods, rich culture, and innovative spirit.

Over the next 20 years, we will build on these strengths to continue to create a city that offers a higher quality of life that attracts people to live, work, and play here, and delivers greater prosperity for those who stayed and those who will choose to call Detroit home.

Vision & Values

Resilience

Equity

Innovation

Solidarity

Legacy



WHAT WE KNOW IS HAPPENING





Detroit's cultural assets offer economic potential

Cultural institutions like the DIA draw hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.

UNESCO City of Design designation creates international visibility.

High-impact events create significant economic ripple effects throughout Detroit.

Historic resources need flexible approaches

Detroit has 149 local historic districts and 283 nationally designated sites.

Vacant buildings offer adaptive reuse opportunities.

Regulations like zoning and buildings codes, while important, also sometimes limit creative redevelopment.





I can't wait for the
new industrial maker
space to open up so
my business can
expand!

Creative spaces need supportive regulations

Detroit's arts and culture scene is flourishing, but **artist studios, maker spaces, and live-work can face regulatory barriers.**



Entertainment and cultural districts drive visitor activity

Cultural districts can be strengthened through formal recognition and supporting frameworks.

Community events can have a positive impact on neighborhood businesses and quality of life.

Entertainment venues create destination appeal.

Nightlife and performance spaces generate economic activity .



LET'S CHAT ABOUT **DETROIT'S POSSIBILITIES**

How can Plan Detroit create the change we need to see?



Opportunities & Challenges

Challenge

The city has limited public resources to encourage all of the types of things we'd love to see - historic preservation, public art, more opportunities for local artists - and we can't always rely on the private sector to bring all the funding we need to make these projects happen

Regulations like permitting can sometimes make it harder to do these creative things

Opportunity

Preserving historic structures lowers environmental impacts of new construction and saves built pieces of our history

Promoting arts and culture can positively impact our businesses and economy

Streamlining the permitting process could make implementing arts initiatives easier

Our Mission

Ensuring our public art, community spaces, and programs are authentic to Detroit's people and history.

Support local creatives and designers by prioritizing the arts as a part of our economy.

**You are
experts on
your
neighborhood
and daily
experiences!**

Help shape Detroit's future policies and goals!

- Discuss different Possibilities – the tools we can use to make Plan Detroit a reality
- Consider how they might work in different neighborhoods
- Prioritize which Possibilities should be included in Plan Detroit
- Identify what needs happen for that possibility to work well

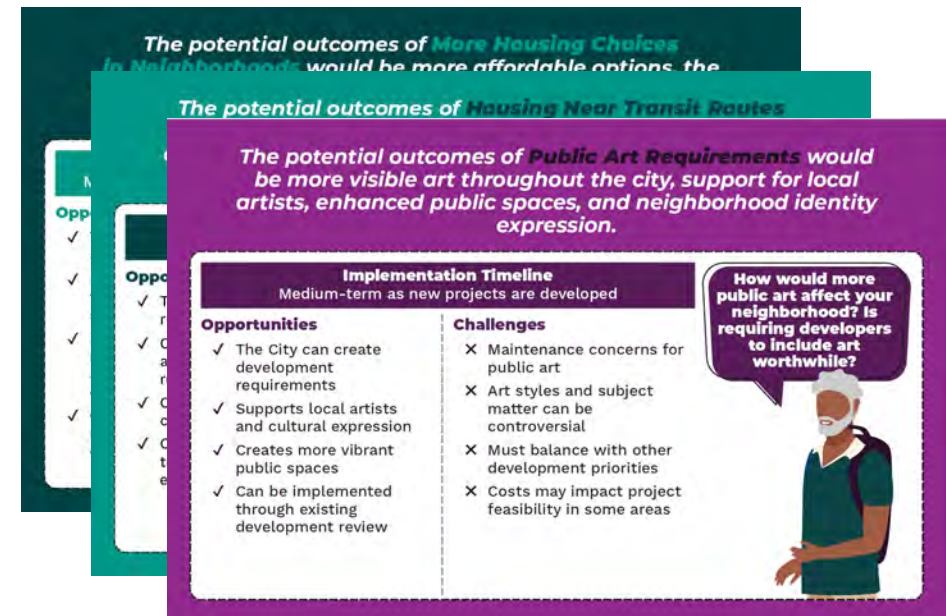
Now We Want to Hear From You



Possibility Cards Activity

You'll explore cards with ideas like:

- Flexible Historic Preservation Approaches
- Creative Workspace Areas
- Public Art Requirements
- Neighborhood Cultural Heritage Areas
- Making it Easier to Do, Build, and Make Things
- Arts & Entertainment Districts
- **Plus:** Create your own policy ideas!



These possibility cards are conversation starters, not final policies.

They present **different approaches** to challenges in Detroit and help us understand what **types of solutions** Plan Detroit can address.

They're designed to spark discussion about **what might work best** in your neighborhood and across the city.



**There are
two activities
for today's
discussion!**

Discuss the Possibility Cards

- What would make these ideas work?
- What concerns do you have?
- Share your own ideas!

Vote on Which Ideas You Prefer

- "We like this idea!"
- "This works for some neighborhoods, not all"
- "This won't work in Detroit"
- "We'd like to add this new idea!"

Let's play!





LET'S START WITH **THE POSSIBILITY CARDS**




Begin Your Conversation with Card #1

What would need to be in place for this to work well?

What questions or concerns do you have about this approach or the potential solutions?

Flexible Historic Preservation Approaches



Approach

Create more flexible alternatives to complement the existing historic district regulations

Potential Solutions


- ☐ Expand existing adaptive reuse provisions to more building types
- ☐ Develop modified and consistent treatments for city-owned vacant historic structures (e.g. relaxed parking requirements)
- ☐ Establish Conservation Overlay Districts with tiered levels of protection or fewer restrictions than designated local historic districts

Time for Card #2

What would need to be in place for this to work well?

What questions or concerns do you have about this approach or the potential solutions?

Creative Workspace Areas



This old auto body assembly plant is home to my favorite place to hear poetry and see work from local artists

Approach
Make it easier to create spaces for artists and makers

Potential Solutions

- ☐ Allow artist studios as permitted uses in more zoning districts
- ☐ Create maker space districts in former industrial zones
- ☐ Establish live-work zoning provisions in specific areas
- ☐ Designate creative production zones with flexible use regulations

Let's Move On to Card #3

What would need to be in place for this to work well?

What questions or concerns do you have about this approach or the potential solutions?

Public Art Requirements

Approach
Require public art in new development and infrastructure projects

Potential Solutions

- ☐ Create percent-for-art requirements for larger development
- ☐ Establish public space design standards that incorporate art
- ☐ Require artistic elements in major infrastructure projects
- ☐ Designate public art zones with emphasis on local artists
- ☐ Create maintenance agreements for public art

Time to Talk About Card #4

What would need to be in place for this to work well?

What questions or concerns do you have about this approach or the potential solutions?

Neighborhood Cultural Heritage Areas



Approach

Create areas that recognize and celebrate neighborhood cultural identity

Potential Solutions

- ☐ Designate cultural heritage sites in neighborhood plans
- ☐ Establish heritage corridor designations along historic routes
- ☐ Zone for cultural landmarks and interpretive spaces
- ☐ Integrate cultural heritage into commercial district strategies

Now It's Time for Card #5

What would need to be in place for this to work well?

What questions or concerns do you have about this approach or the potential solutions?

Making It Easier to Do, Build, and Make Things

Our neighborhood art festival has attracted new residents, I love that it's easier to plan these now!

Approach

Simplify regulations and permitting for creative activities and community initiatives

Potential Solutions


- ☐ Create streamlined permitting for temporary uses and community events
- ☐ Establish maker-friendly zoning with simplified approvals
- ☐ Designate flexible-use public spaces designed for pop-up activities
- ☐ Develop special event district designations
- ☐ Provide resources, “how-to guides,” and staff help for creative projects

Getting Close – Let's Chat About Card #6

What would need to be in place for this to work well?

What questions or concerns do you have about this approach or the potential solutions?

Arts and Entertainment Districts



Approach

Position Detroit as a national destination for arts, culture, and entertainment

Potential Solutions

- ☐ Create arts and entertainment zoning districts with flexible uses
- ☐ Establish sound ordinance exceptions for music venues
- ☐ Designate cultural corridors with special design standards
- ☐ Create regulatory framework for large-scale entertainment venues

Do You Have Other Ideas?

What possibilities are missing that should be considered?

Additional Possibilities to Consider

What is your idea?

How might this idea take shape in your neighborhood?

What would the outcome of this be?




NOW LET'S THINK ABOUT THE PRIORITIES



Help Us Understand What's Important!

Place your cards on your priority board!

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Making It Easier to Do, Build, and Make Things



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We like this idea!




We like this idea for some neighborhoods, but not others.



We don't think this idea will work in Detroit.



We'd like to add this idea!



A photograph of a group of people at an event, overlaid with a teal-to-purple gradient. In the background, a sign reads "ACC YOUTH CENTER". A woman in the center is speaking into a microphone. Other people are seated around her, some looking at papers. A man in a suit stands in the background on the right.

Share out!

Upcoming Sessions

Please join us here at the Joseph Walker Williams Community Center for upcoming sessions:

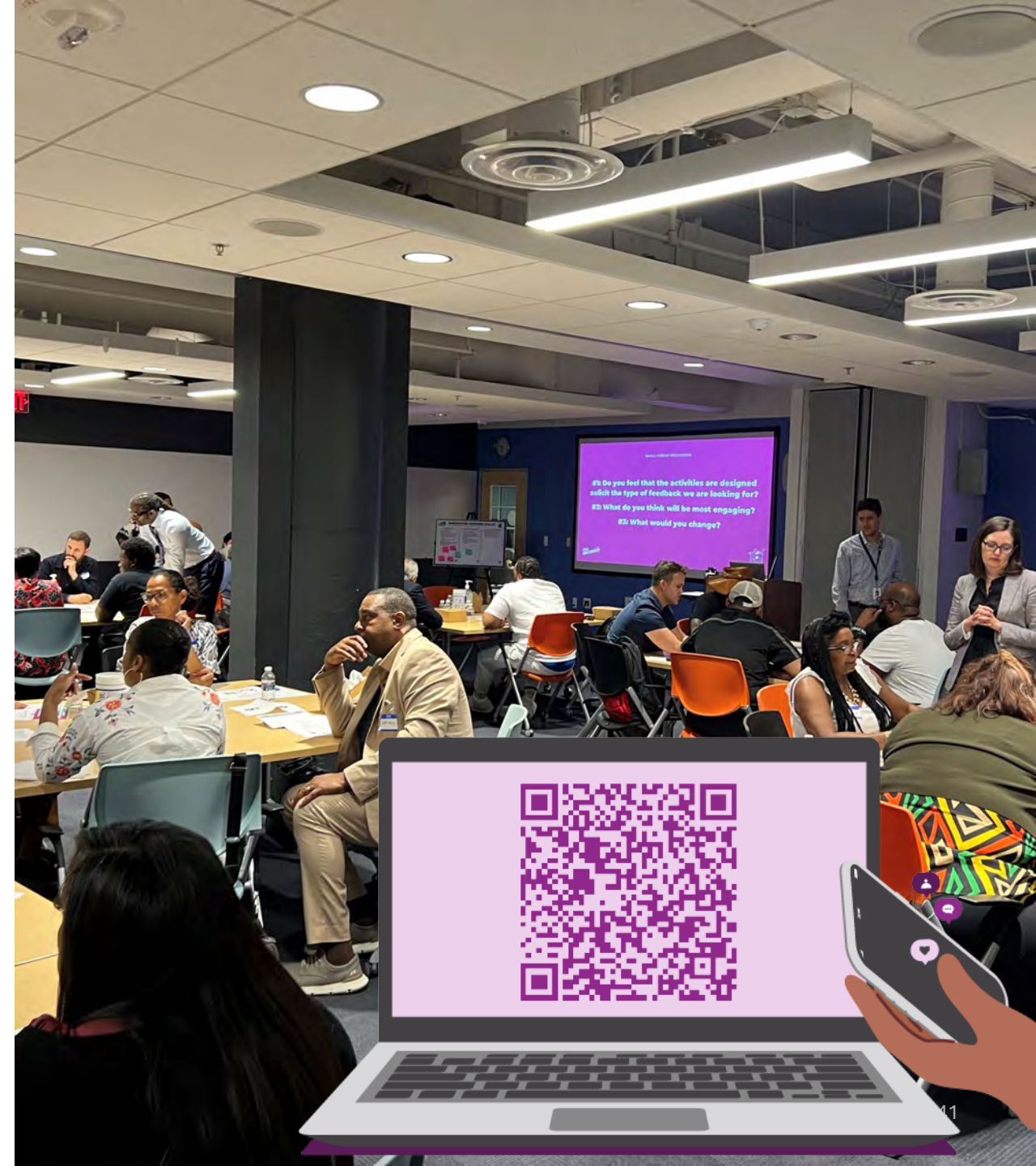
Mobility

Tuesday, April 15th | 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Jobs & Economy

Wednesday, April 16th | 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Go to **plandetroit.com** or scan the QR code to learn more and get involved!



plan
DETROIT

