



Neourbia

2025 FAA High School
Competition Submission
Harper R.

Mission Statement

Neourbia will differ from other urban development projects by way of implementing **mixed income housing**, ensuring **walkability** for pedestrians, and thoughtful **historic preservation**



Initiative One

Mixed Income Housing



Definition:

Case Western Reserve University*

Defines “Mixed Income Housing” as,

“...the intentionality of accommodating residents with a range of income levels in the housing.”

Meaning that within the housing complex or neighborhood, one can see a variety of economic diversity.

*“What Is Mixed Income: National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities: Case Western Reserve University.” National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities | Case Western Reserve University, case.edu/socialwork/nimc/about-us/what-is-mixed-income. Accessed 28 Sept. 2024.

Benefits of Mixed Income Housing

Perhaps one of the largest benefits of mixed Income housing is the decrease in **concentrated areas of poverty**, which have shown to lead to an increase of **crime**, **mental health struggles**, and **violence**.

Residents living in concentrated areas of poverty have an overall **lower quality of life**, as they are unable to access vital resources and services that are much more abundant in middle and higher class neighborhoods. *



Englewood-Chicago: "The Duality of Chicago." *The Corner Side Yard*

"Evidence Matters: The National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities: Article 1 Sidebar." *Evidence Matters: The National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities | Article 1 Sidebar | HUD USER*, www.huduser.gov/portal/periodicals/em/spring13/highlight1_sidebar2.html.

Accessed 28 Sept. 2024

IN SO:

Neourbia will implement neighborhoods that support diverse income levels as a preventative measure against concentrated areas of poverty, to ensure high quality of life for residents



*One can see single family homes and housing complexes of a range of incomes in the same neighborhoods



Initiative Two

Walkability



Definition:
Walkability in urban and suburban areas is development that encourages pedestrians with “Mixed-use High-Density*” areas. It’s an alternative to urban and suburban areas that encourage, or even sometimes require, the use of automobiles to travel.

**What Is Walkability?* | Planetizen Planopedia, www.planetizen.com/definition/walkability. Accessed 12 Oct. 2024.

Benefits of Walkability

- Walkability **improves health**, and has the potential to cut down mortality rates by 22%
- Walkability can improve **social interaction** between residents
- Walkability **reduces crime rates** as more people are on a street at a time
- Walkability increases foot traffic and generates **more income** for businesses, such as stores and cafés

Steuteville, Robert. "Ten Social Benefits of Walkable Places." CNU, 4 Apr. 2023, www.cnu.org/publicsquare/2021/08/12/we-shape-our-cities-and-then-they-shape-us.



Pedestrian Walkway Bridges in Beijing, China

Personal Anecdote

I personally had the opportunity to visit Japan this summer and was in awe at the state of Japanese pedestrian infrastructure. For example, in Tokyo, one could see drink vending machines lining every single street corner for the convenience of pedestrians! Wow! I think that implementing amenities for pedestrians as they walk, such as vending machines, trash cans, and benches would be a wonderful



Vending Machine in action!

Photo I took on my trip, look at those sidewalks! →



IN SO:

Neourbia will use infrastructure such as sidewalks, crosswalks, crosswalk safety lights, pedestrian walkway bridges, and other amenities such as trash cans and benches to ensure our city is pedestrian friendly.



Initiative Three

Historical Preservation



Definition:

Historic preservation can be defined by the conservation of historical buildings or landmarks within existing planning initiatives. These buildings can be a source of community pride, capture cultural heritage, and be a way to sustainably reuse existing infrastructure.

Benefits of Historic Preservation



St. Adalbert Catholic Church- Chicago IL

Historic Preservation has numerous cited benefits. First and foremost, it can serve to **educate communities** on cultural heritage of a city, or even serve as an established center of education, such as a museum. Historic preservation is also **good for the planet**, as it effectively reuses non-renewable resources. Historic preservation also can **increase tourism**, and better a place's economy.

IN SO:

Neourbia will prioritize the preservation of existing development when deemed said development is valuable for the community in some way, in order to protect cultural heritage, and to increase sustainability.



Final Words & Pictures

Neourbia's creation will prioritize citizens via a variety of means, and will stand out from other cities through its thoughtful and sustainable development.



← New pedestrian safety lights put in our downtown area across busy streets →
Mount Prospect Historical Society Museum, it was built in 1906 and was going to be turned into a parking lot in the 80s– Yikes! Thankfully the building was saved and now hosts tours and field trips for local schools



← Recent mixed use development project in our town, hosting both condos as well as a italian grocery store (I went there to grab lunch today!)

Urban Development Close to Home