Oakley Pedestrian Tunnel Statement of Support
May 2023

Where We've Been

- Pedestrian access to/from residences and Oakley Station was a top priority in the approved Oakley Master Plan.
    - Addresses several key goals – Improve Walkability, Reduce Vehicle Use, and Increase Pedestrian/Bike Safety.
- Three Oaks (then Oakley Yards) Development plans approved by OCC in 2019
- OCC, Neyer Properties, City of Cincinnati form Tunnel Team
- OCC approves $265K from Oakley TIF to fund design stage of tunnel in order to make project eligible for local, county, state, and federal funding opportunities
    - City issues RFP process, hires Woolpert
- Woolpert completes report Summer/Fall of 2022
- OCC continues to engage elected leadership, including a tour of the site & discussion with Mayor Aftab
- Challenges identified:
    - Official sign-off from CSX needed before City will continue to apply for funding opportunities for/alongside of the OCC

What's Next

- In order to re-engage CSX, the City of Cincinnati's Department of Community and Economic Development is asking for an updated letter of support from the OCC:
    - Confirming the OCC still wants the project to move forward and the it remains a top priority
    - Our commitment to engage with the City every step of the way

MOTION: *The OCC remains supportive of the pedestrian tunnel project connecting 34th to Oakley Station as called for in the Oakley Master Plan, originally proposed by Neyer Properties, designed by Woolpert, and thus far funded through the Oakley TIF. We also remain committed to engage with the City and all project partners every step of the way.*

Other

- The City is still optimistic this project is feasible
- Neyer has also continued to identify other federal funding opportunities through OKI
- Given recent political conversations and funding allocations around infrastructure and connected communities (both local and federal), the time is now to push this project forward
- This is simply a restatement of our support