**Community Workshops:
Input to Date, Trends, and Key Topics**

May 2015

Workshop Purpose & Outline

Purpose: To provide input to help shape alternative scenarios

1. **Background, Process, and Timeline**

2. **Sustainable, Efficient Growth**
   – Presentation: Previous input, conditions and trends, alignment
   – Small group discussion

3. **Employment, Amenities**
   – Presentation: Previous input, conditions and trends, alignment
   – Small group discussion

4. **Housing**
   – Presentation: Previous input, conditions and trends, alignment
   – Small group discussion

Background, Process, and Timeline

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan:

- Establishes a broad vision and priorities for how the community should look and function through 2040

- Develops a physical plan for development, built form, and future land use

- Recommends policy directions that are carried out through City regulations and ordinances

How does a Comprehensive Plan bring value to the City of Rochester?

- Ensures efficient public resources, facilities, and infrastructure

- Promotes a common vision for Rochester based on community values and priorities

- Establishes a framework to prioritize, coordinate, and leverage public and private investments

- Like current plans, allows flexibility and discretion

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Current Planning Initiatives

- **Other current regional planning initiatives**
  - **DMC Plan**
  - **Journey to Growth**
  - **Parks Master Plan**
  - **Public Art Plan**
  - **Energy Action Plan**
  - **Olmsted County Housing Toolkit**

Who is creating the plan?

City of Rochester & Governmental Agencies

- **City of Rochester**
  - City Council, Commissions, and Boards
  - Departments of Planning, Public Works, Parks, Police and Fire, etc.
  - Rochester-Olmsted Council of Governments (ROCOG)
- **Other public agencies**

Community Members

- **Residents**
- **Employees**
- **Businesses, employers, organizations**
- **Other individuals**

Consultant Team

- **HKGi**
- **Nelson Nygaard**
- **Carroll, Franck & Assoc.**
- **Kimley Horn**
- **Sasaki**
- **Springsted**

Other Organizations/ Partners

- **Neighborhood groups**
- **Local nonprofits**
- **Advocacy groups**
- **Faith communities**
- **Economic and community development entities**
- **DMC**

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Stakeholder Engagement-to-Date

Over **5,000** points of input from community members, through:

- P2S Toolkits (in person) and online surveys

- Review of past plans/studies

- Stakeholder interviews

- Transportation survey

- CrowdGauge online tool

- DMC Plan
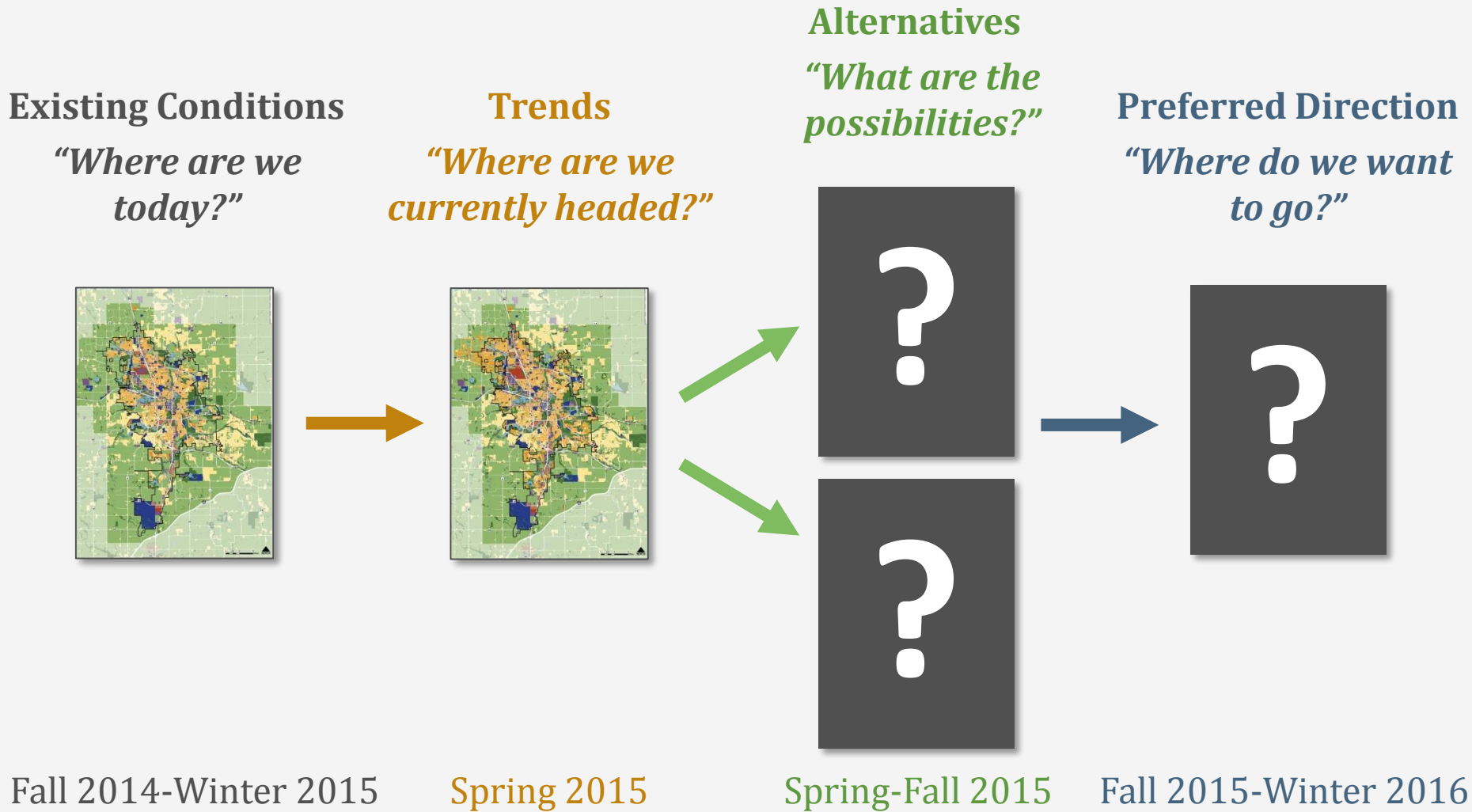
What we've heard (emerging themes):

- Fun place to live, work, and visit

- Diverse, vibrant, and welcoming

- Safe and inclusive

- Connected and accessible

- Engaged and forward-thinking community

- Healthy, active, and green

- Economic and educational opportunities

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Process and Timeline

Current Phase: Scenario Exploration

- Scenario development is a process for exploring possible futures for the City of Rochester.

- In what ways might Rochester grow to achieve the desired vision?

- **Not the plan itself, but a way of testing possibilities**

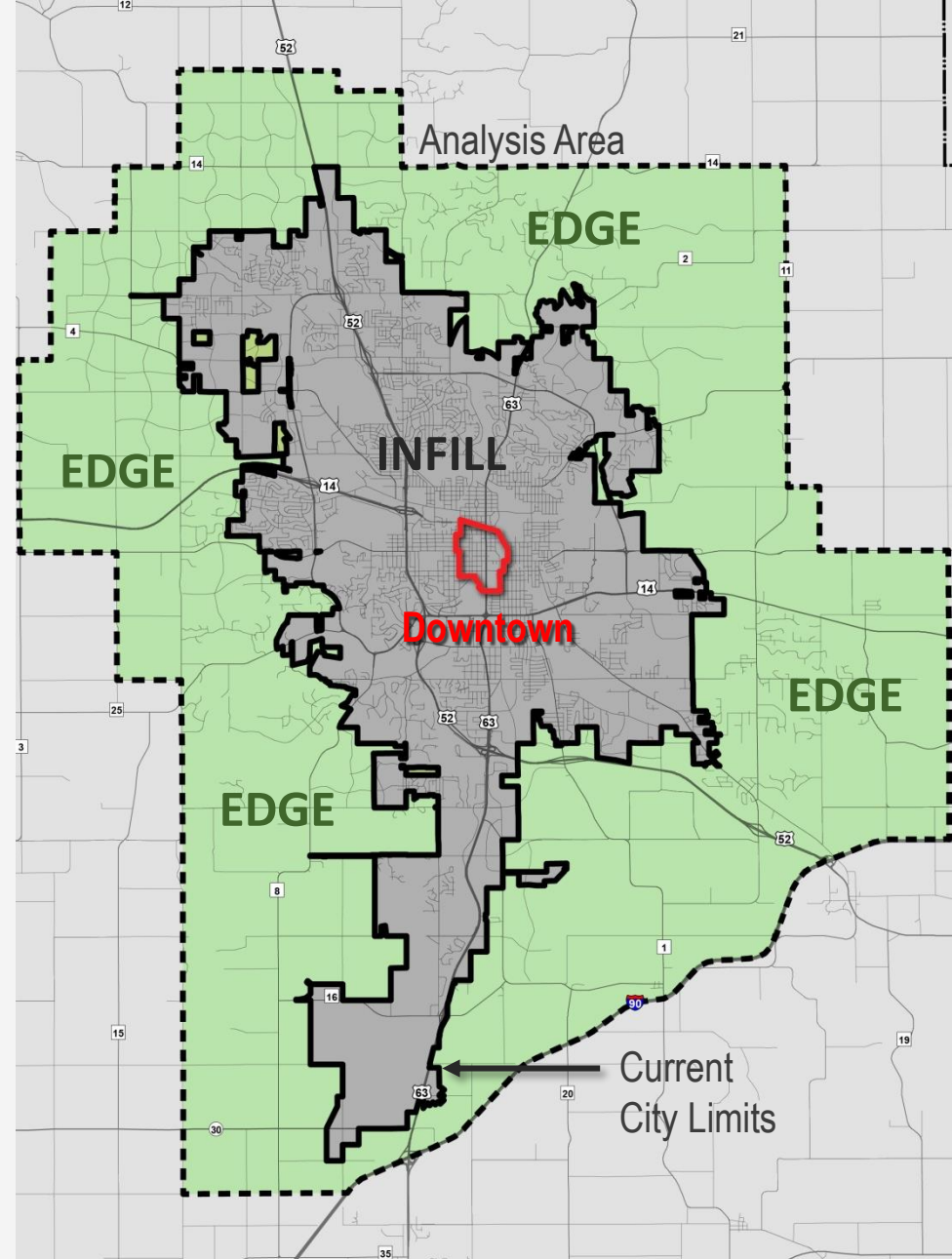| **1** **Trends Scenario**	**2** **Alternative Scenarios**	**3** **Preferred Scenario**
"Where are we headed currently?"	*"What are the possibilities?"*	*"Where do we want to go?"*

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Current Phase: Scenario Exploration

Existing Conditions

"Where are we today?"

Trends

"Where are we currently headed?"

Alternatives

"What are the possibilities?"

Preferred Direction

"Where do we want to go?"

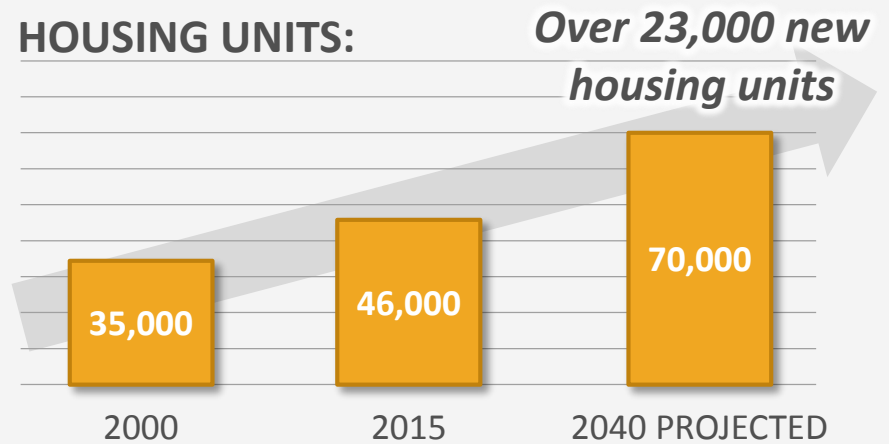Fall 2014-Winter 2015   Spring 2015   Spring-Fall 2015   Fall 2015-Winter 2016
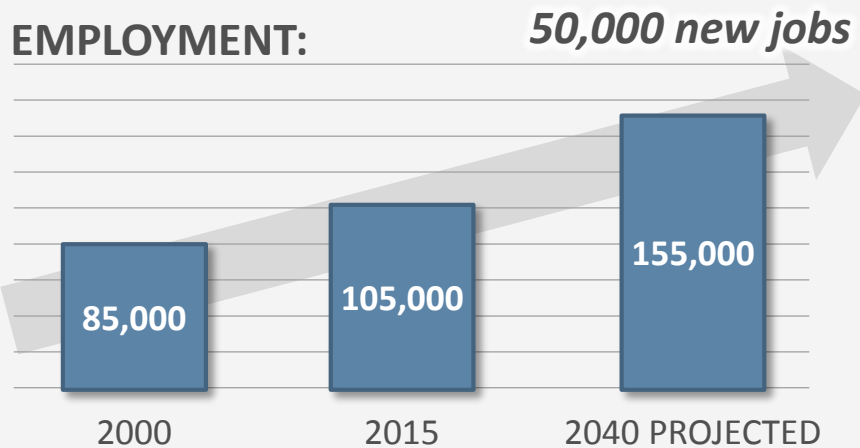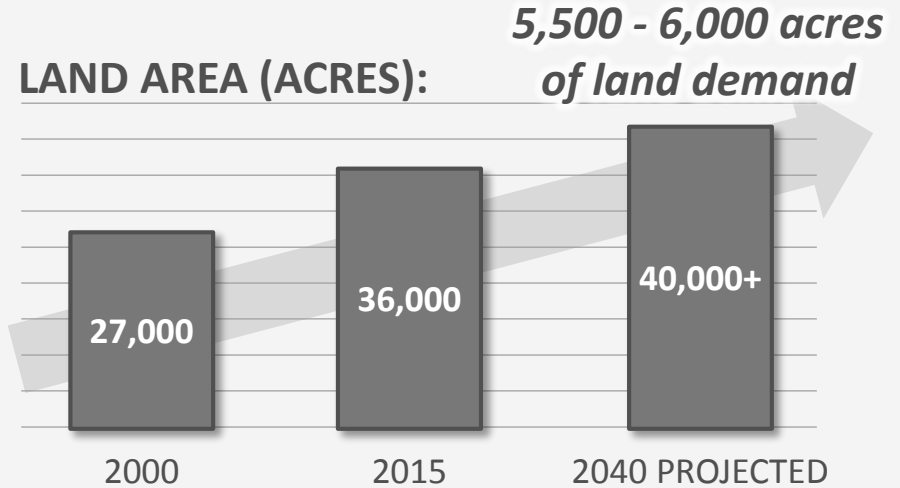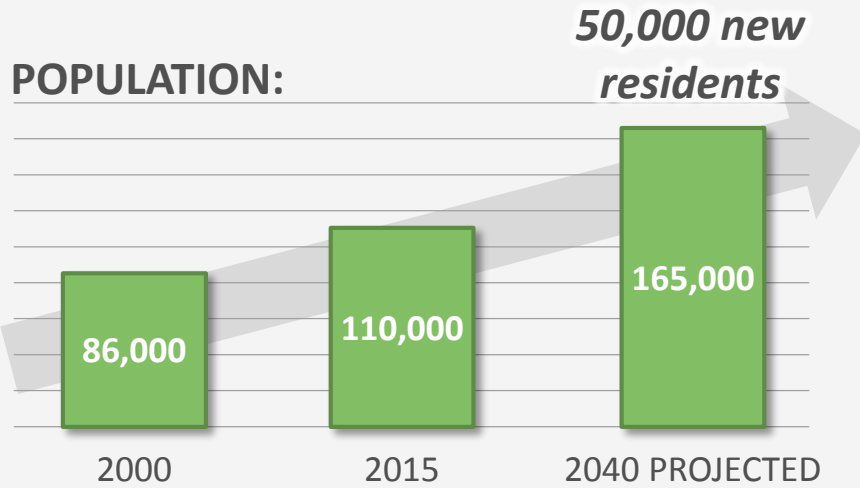
Sustainable and Efficient Growth: Input, Trends, Key Topics

Terminology

- **Analysis Area**
  - Downtown
  - Infill
  - Edge

- **Development will occur under two different circumstances**
  - On vacant, undeveloped land (greenfield)
  - Redevelopment of land with existing development

What if recent trends continue?

POPULATION:

50,000 new residents

- 2000: 86,000
- 2015: 110,000
- 2040 PROJECTED: 165,000

LAND AREA (ACRES):

5,500 - 6,000 acres of land demand

- 2000: 27,000
- 2015: 36,000
- 2040 PROJECTED: 40,000+

EMPLOYMENT:

50,000 new jobs

- 2000: 85,000
- 2015: 105,000
- 2040 PROJECTED: 155,000

HOUSING UNITS:

Over 23,000 new housing units

- 2000: 35,000
- 2015: 46,000
- 2040 PROJECTED: 70,000

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Sustainable, Efficient Growth

Generalized Land Use
- Residential
- Non-Residential (Employment)
- Parks & Protected Open Space
- Water
- Other

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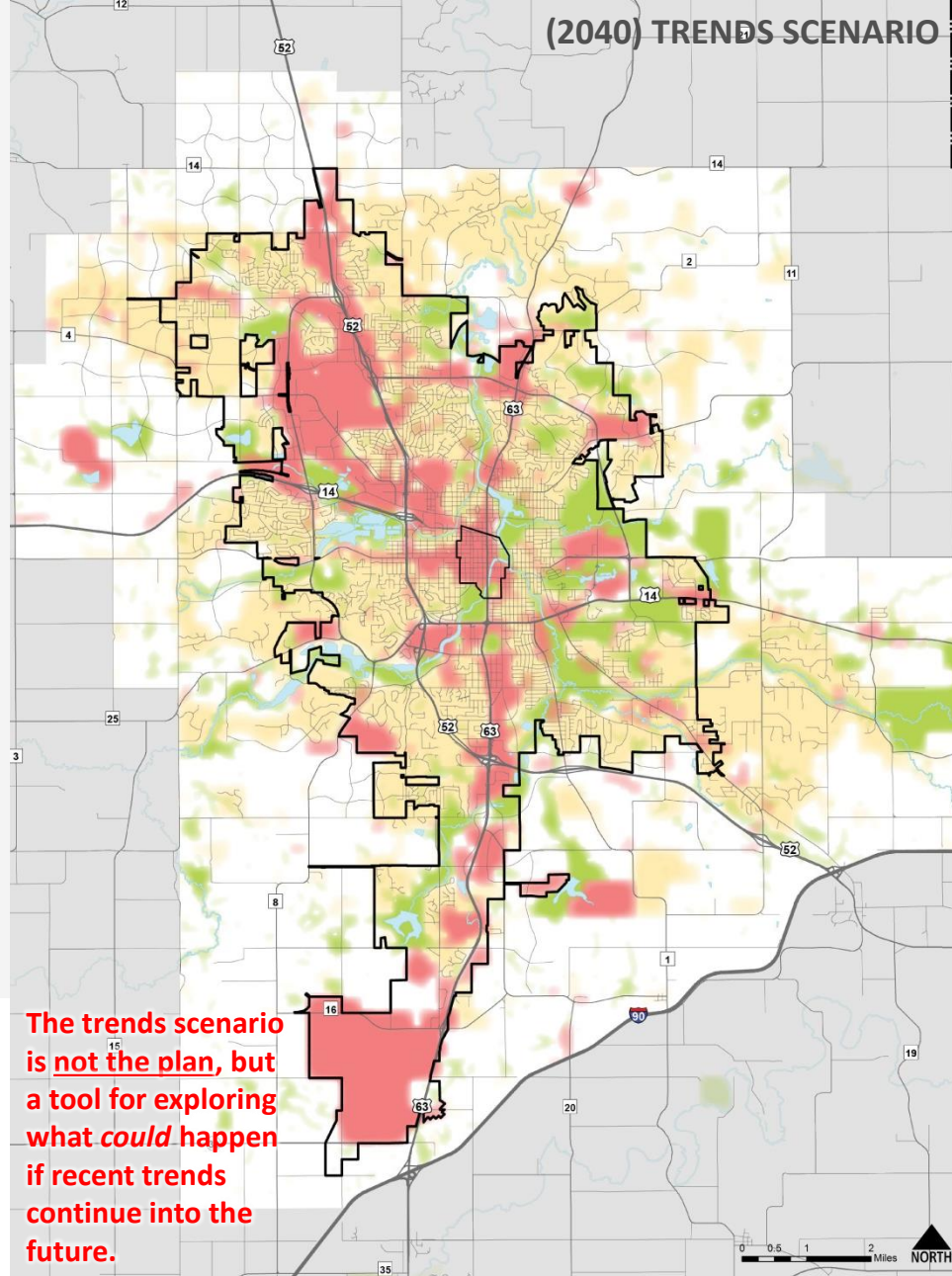2 SUCCEED
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Sustainable, Efficient Growth

- Available land within city limits **exceeds** forecasted needs

  - Of the existing undeveloped land within city limits, **just over half** would be developed by 2040 in the trends scenario

- **Roughly 25%** of new development is projected to occur **outside of city limits**

Generalized Land Use
- ☐ Residential
- ☐ Non-Residential (Employment)
- ☐ Parks & Protected Open Space
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Other

The trends scenario is not the plan, but a tool for exploring what *could* happen if recent trends continue into the future.

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Utilize **existing facilities and infrastructure** to serve future growth

Support for i**nfill and redevelopment** of vacant and underutilized properties

Plan for **efficient** and **sustainable** use of public resources

Discussion Topic #1: Sustainable & Efficient Growth Patterns

What if current conditions and trends continue?

- **Edge Development:** About 25% of growth would occur beyond current city limits, requiring expansion of corporate limits, infrastructure, and services like police and fire

- **Infill of Existing Neighborhoods:** Infill development would occur within existing neighborhoods or job centers but would compete against open growth at the edge, and likely not achieve full potential

- **Minimal Redevelopment:** Redevelopment would continue to be the least desirable form of new development due to higher costs and easier development at the edge

More frequent and faster bus service plus **expanded service hours**

Cross-town service that does not require a downtown transfer

Provide alternatives to driving downtown, such as **more park and ride lots**

Keep **roads in good repair** and traffic flowing

Discussion Topic #1: Sustainable & Efficient Growth Patterns

What if current conditions and trends continue?

- **Driving Remains Dominant:** While riding transit, walking, and biking would increase, most travel would be by car, leading to increased congestion and Downtown parking problems

- **Challenges to Expanded Transit Service:** Continued low-density development and edge growth would make it difficult to cost-effectively increase transit frequency and service hours

Want option to "**park once**" and travel to multiple Downtown destinations easily on foot, by bike, or with transit/shuttle services

Downtown parking is a problem, but **don't want all of downtown to be surface parking**

Support for continued development of **Downtown amenities** and DMC planning

Discussion Topic #1: Sustainable & Efficient Growth Patterns

What if current conditions and trends continue?

- **Increased Demand for Downtown Parking:** High and growing demand by employees would reduce parking and land availability for Downtown activities such as entertainment, arts, shopping, and dining

- **Parking Pressure on Neighborhoods:** Continued reliance on cars for Downtown access would increase parking demand, push parking into adjacent neighborhoods, and worsen existing overflow issues
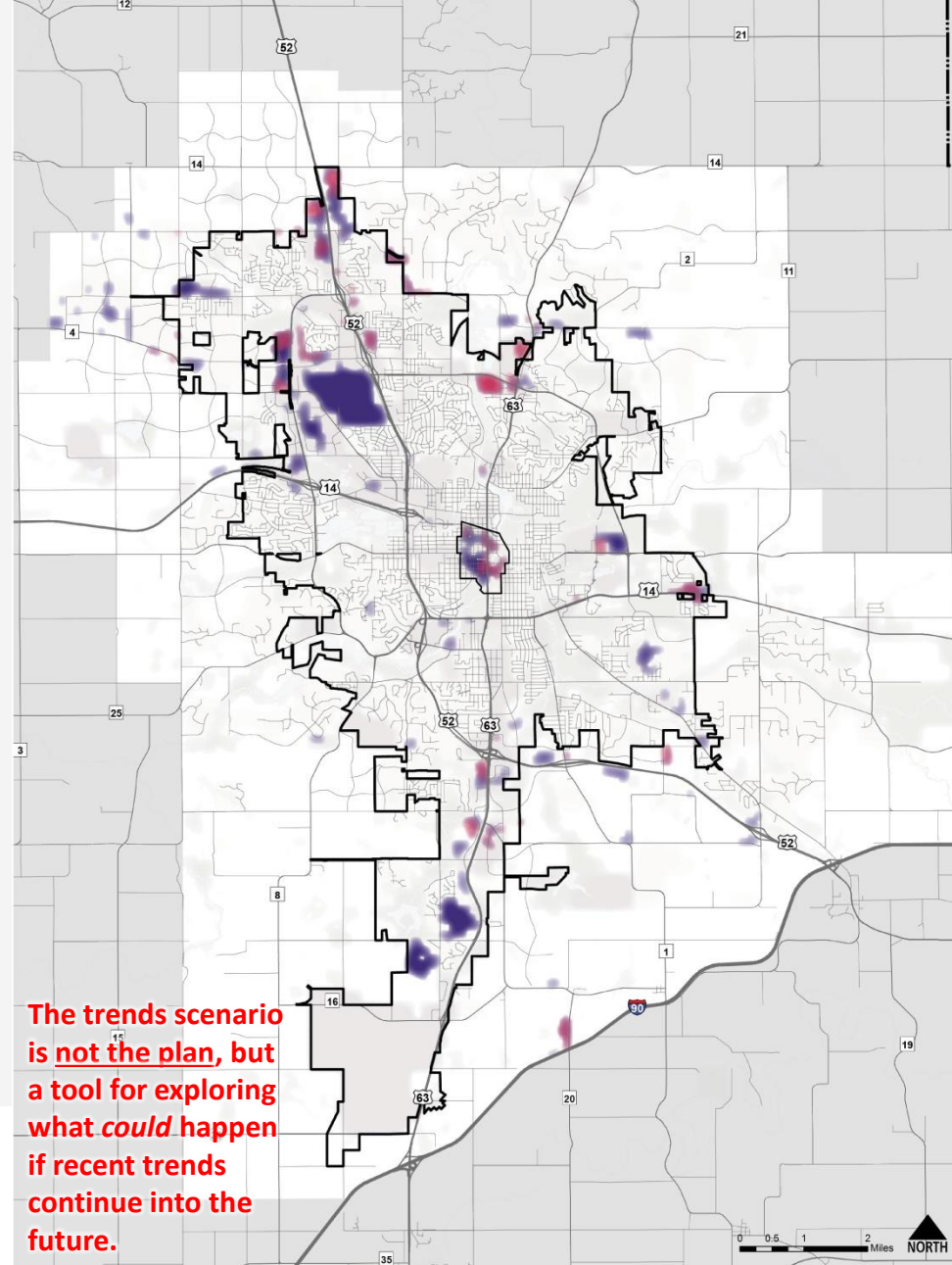
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High Value Amenities: Input, Trends, Key Topics

Employment & Amenities

- 1,500 acres of new development; 50,000+ new jobs:

  - 86% of new land uses related to employment would be in city limits

  - 22,000 new jobs in Downtown

  - Corridor-oriented development patterns outside of Downtown

  - Infill/redevelopment of existing employment or retail areas

New Development: Employment
- 🟥 Retail/Service/Hospitality
- 🟪 Office/Industrial/Institutional/Civic

The trends scenario is not the plan, but a tool for exploring what *could* happen if recent trends continue into the future.

Strong support for more **dining, shopping, arts,** and **entertainment throughout the community**

To attract new residents and workers, invest in **quality-of-life** enhancements – **big city attractions, small-town character**

Support for **Downtown** amenities, DMC plans

Comfortable **walking routes to schools** and **throughout the city**

Discussion Topic #2a/2b: Accessible, High-Value Amenities

What if current conditions and trends continue?

- **Downtown Focus:** A walkable, mixed use, urban environment would evolve in Downtown, with concentrated retail, services, dining, arts, and entertainment

- **Auto-Oriented Development:** Low-density shopping centers and business parks would continue along major roadways outside of Downtown, surrounded by low- to mid-density housing

- **Walkability and Bikeability Challenges:** Continued edge growth, low-density development, and wide, high-volume roads would discourage walking and biking

Promote image as a **healthy, active** city

Existing trail network is well-liked, but need **bicycle connections to jobs and other destinations**.

Resolve conflicts between bicycles and pedestrians **on downtown sidewalks**.

Discussion Topic #2c: Accessible, High-Value Amenities

What if current conditions and trends continue?

- **Insufficient Networks:** Existing trails and sidewalks would support recreational users, but not safe, comfortable, citywide walking and biking connections or commuter needs

- **Parks and Open Space Demands:** Neighborhood parks would be built along with low-density housing, but other forms of open space would be needed, along with community-wide spaces to accommodate sports and special uses
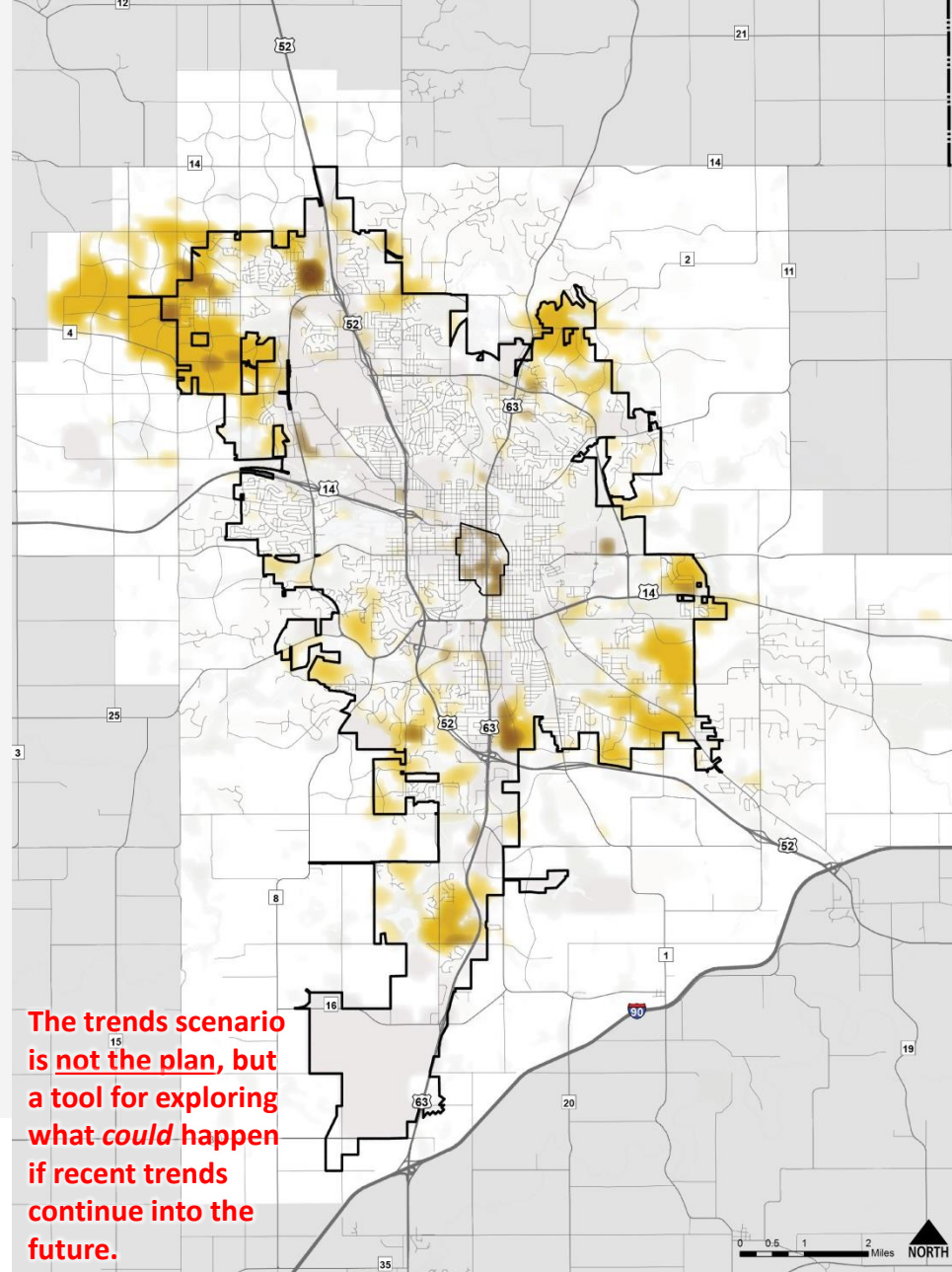
Housing: Input, Trends, Key Topics

Housing

- 23,000 new housing units (average of 800+ units per year)

  – 65% single-family

  – 2,400 Downtown, mostly high-density

  – 75% within existing city limits

  – Of the 25% edge growth, ¾ would be to the northwest

New Development: Housing
- Less than 10 units/acre
- More than 10 units/acre

The trends scenario is not the plan, but a tool for exploring what *could* happen if recent trends continue into the future.

Provide **affordable, workforce housing options**

Respond to **changing demographics** – seniors, millennials, low- and middle-income workers who want rental, multifamily, downtown, and mixed use housing

Safe, welcoming, diverse, and **inclusive**

Discussion Topic #3: Affordable, Quality Housing Options for All

What if current conditions and trends continue?

- **Low-Density Development:** 65% of the residential development would be low-density, single-family

- **Moderate- to High-Density Housing:** Highest density housing would be in Downtown or adjacent; moderate-density housing would be near existing commercial/employment centers and corridors

- **Housing Drives Transportation Costs:** Housing developed farther from Downtown jobs would mean higher transportation costs for employees

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THANK YOU!

- Your contributions will help shape the alternative scenarios

- We'll seek feedback on scenarios this fall

  – Include your contact information on the sign-in sheet to be notified about input opportunities

  – See handouts for project information, website, and contacts

- ***Online version of this workshop will be emailed to you today or visit:***

- *https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P2S-Trends*

- ***Deadline for participation is May 31***