



# Palestine Corridor Improvement Plan Meeting

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August 25, 2022





# Meeting Agenda

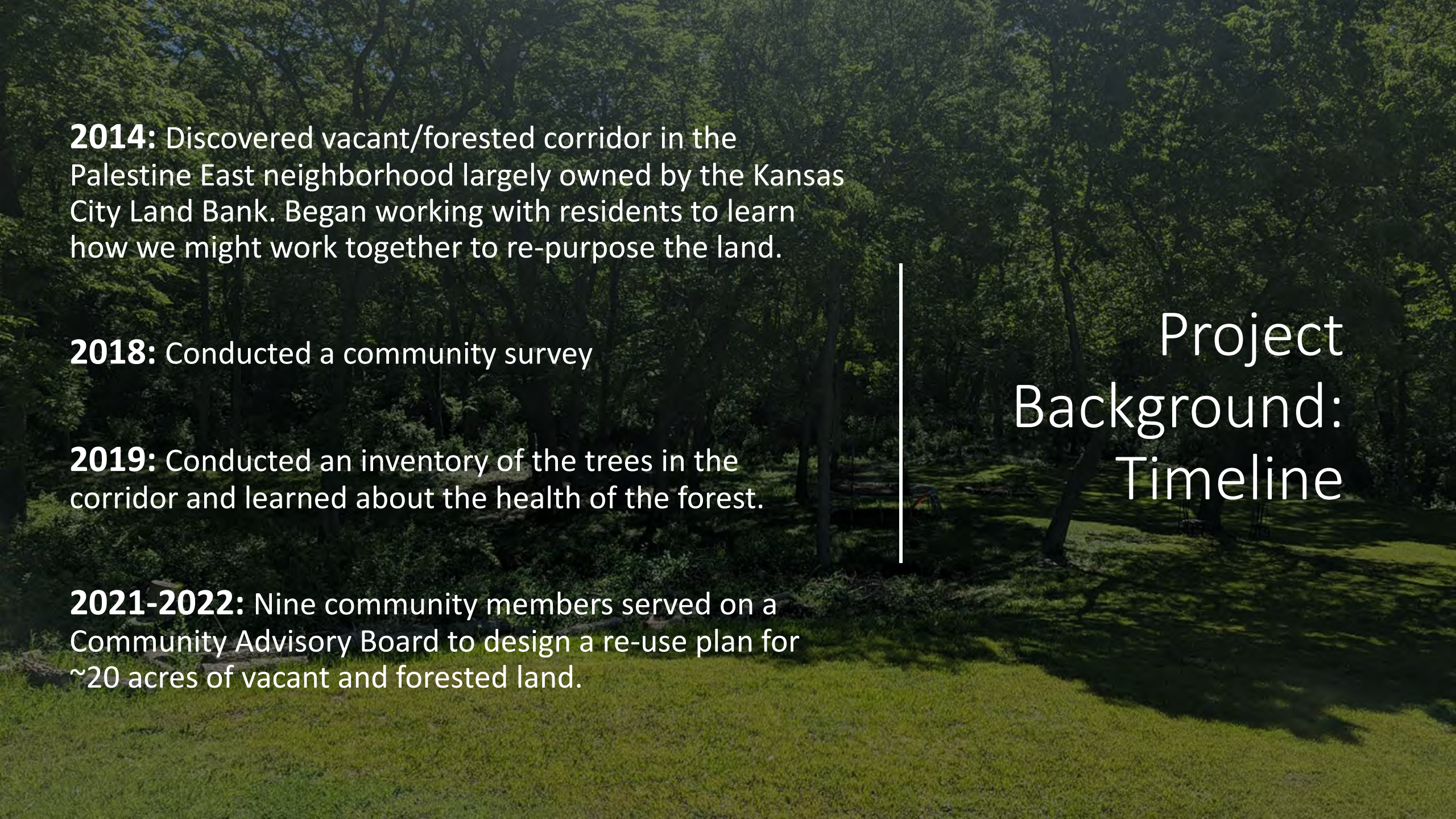
- **Project Background**
- **Draft Concept Development**
- **Next Steps**
- **Q&A**
- **Community Feedback**



# Welcome & Introductions

- Heartland Conservation Alliance
- Community Advisory Board Members
- Technical Advisory Group/Partners





**2014:** Discovered vacant/forested corridor in the Palestine East neighborhood largely owned by the Kansas City Land Bank. Began working with residents to learn how we might work together to re-purpose the land.

**2018:** Conducted a community survey

**2019:** Conducted an inventory of the trees in the corridor and learned about the health of the forest.

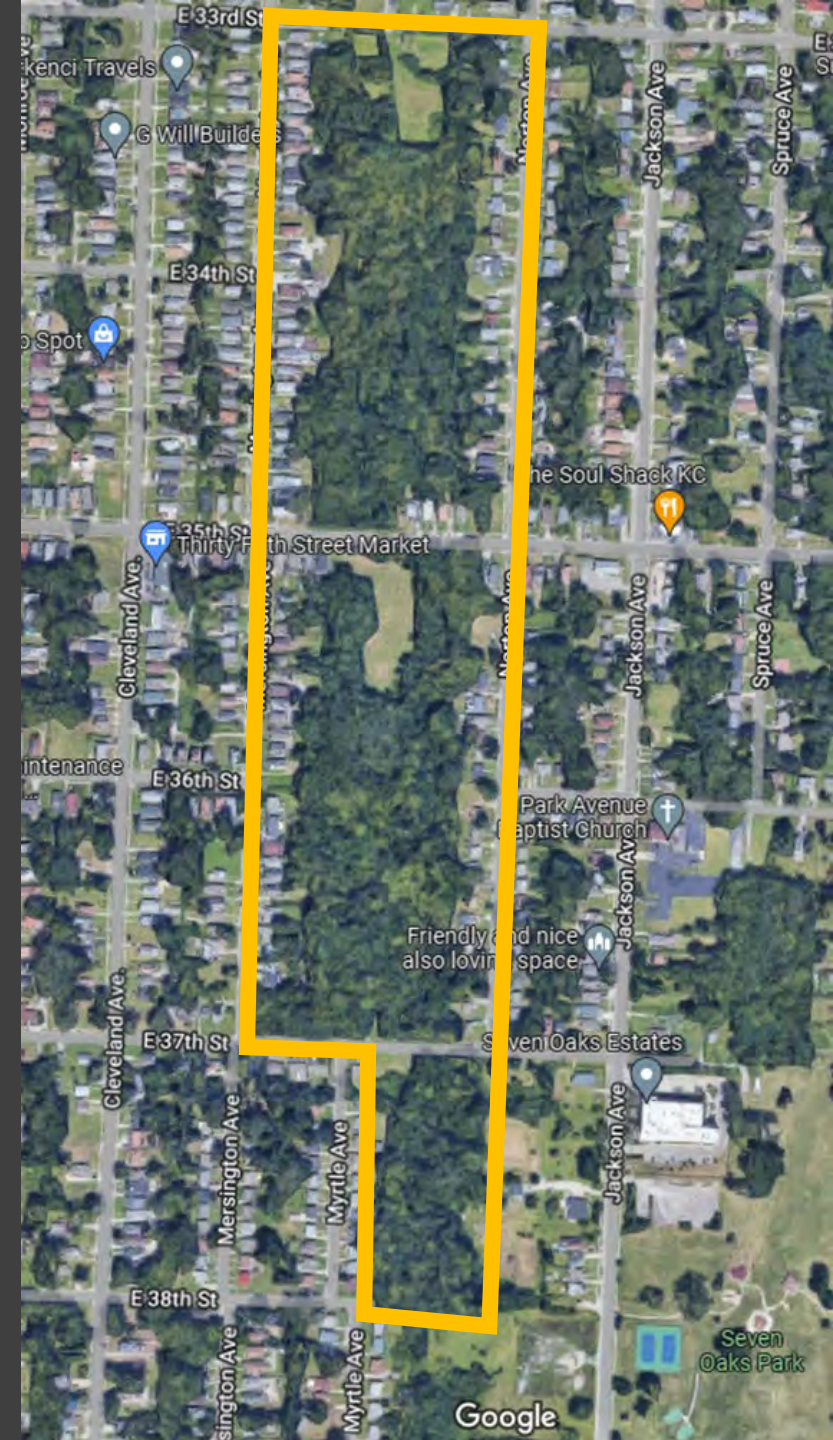
**2021-2022:** Nine community members served on a Community Advisory Board to design a re-use plan for ~20 acres of vacant and forested land.

## Project Background: Timeline



# Project Location

- North: East 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue
- East: Norton Avenue
- South: East 38<sup>th</sup> Street
- West: Mersington Avenue





# Draft Concept Development

- Increased accessibility
- Trash cleanup
- Community investment
- Park space
- Urban forest protection
- Connected sidewalks/walking paths
- Community spaces
- Gardening areas
- Property Boundaries & Privacy







# Draft Concept Development

## Economic Opportunities

- Focuses on community investment and entrepreneurship. Specifically, it provides areas where community members can grow and sell fresh produce.

## Ecological Services

- The focus is pollution removal, carbon storage, oxygen production, and avoided runoff—all the "services" that the urban forest provides your neighborhood.



# Draft Concept – Economic Opportunities

- Farmers Market
- Urban Farming
- Urban Forest
- Neighborhood Orchard
- Playgrounds
- Trails
- Shelter
- Art
- Family Games
- Rain gardens and Wetlands





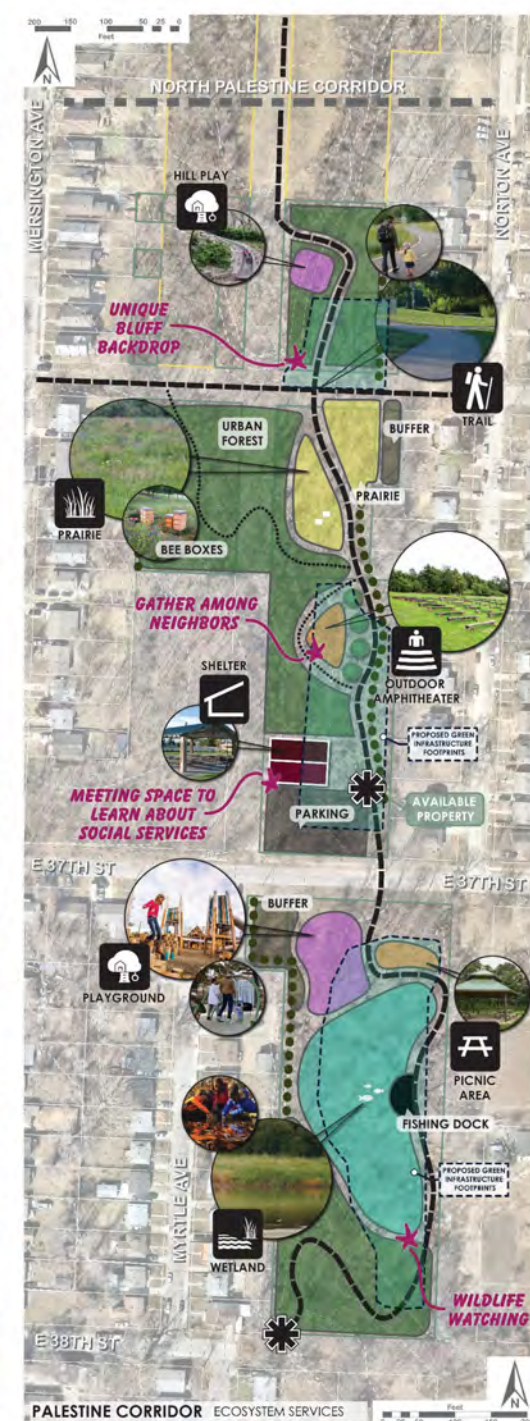


Draft Concept –  
Economic Opportunities



# Draft Concept – Ecosystem Services

- Community Garden
- Bee Boxes
- Gathering Spaces
- Giving Grove
- Native Edibles
- Urban Forest
- Trails
- Recycling & Compost
- Outdoor Amphitheater
- Wetlands
- Pond & Fishing Dock







Draft Concept – Ecosystem Services





# Kansas City Water Services Project (37<sup>th</sup> & Norton Project)

- Kansas City Water Services is looking at the area for a potential stormwater project
- Kansas City Water Services Smart Sewer Program
  - Address combined sewer overflows through green infrastructure solutions
  - Example at 85<sup>th</sup> and Troost
- Public Meeting – June 7<sup>th</sup> and Site Tour on July 12<sup>th</sup>



The background image shows a scenic view of a park. In the foreground, there is a metal railing, likely part of a walkway or bridge. Beyond the railing, a river flows through a lush green landscape. The river is bordered by tall grasses and reeds. In the background, there is a large, open grassy field with a few scattered trees. The sky is clear and blue.

# Kansas City Water Services Project (37<sup>th</sup> & Norton Project)

- Potential Opportunity to partner
- Coordination for vacant land and other neighborhood needs
- The City submitted an initial plan to EPA for review and approval. The City's anticipates that the EPA will provide a response by 10/31/22.





# Next Steps

- Gather feedback from community members and residents (September 9, 2022) Your feedback is important! How would you like to see this space re-purposed?
  - Create a preferred draft concept
  - Coordinate with City
    - HCA will share the plan with the City and try to work together on its implementation
  - Continue community engagement





Questions?

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Thank you for joining!

Please provide future questions/feedback  
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