



City Council Study Session Agenda
April 8, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Rock Island County Building
Count Board Room, 3rd Floor
1504 Third Avenue, Rock Island, IL

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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Presentations**
 - a. Update on the West End Revitalization
5. **Adjourn**
 - a. Motion: Motion to adjourn.
VV Voice vote is needed.

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West End Revitalization

mlkcenter.org/westend

What is vital to know?

- This plan is built on a solid foundation of data, authentic community engagement, evidence, and best practices
- Supports collaboration, trust, and transparency
- Long-term & holistic
- Addresses symptoms and root causes
- Equity and inclusion in action
- Strengthens the well-being of Rock Island

Vision

The West End is a preferred place to live and thrive

Goal

Build the West End community's wealth, power, and livability

Values

Justice, Equity, Collaboration, Empowerment, Respect, Inclusion, Communication, Trust

Impact areas

Economic Vitality

Support, grow, and attract businesses and entrepreneurs.



Infrastructure & Visual Appeal

We envision a community that is both functional and beautiful.



Housing & Land

We envision safe, stable housing, and neighborhoods that are supportive of upward mobility.



Assets & Income

It is vital to increase wealth and reduce poverty rates among West End households.



Community Engagement

Enhance relationships, networks and skills that communities use to make decisions and solve problems.



Strengthen civic capital in the West End and beyond

- Establish platforms and metrics to effectively elevate West End community voices
- Create a participatory budgeting process to reflect community priorities

Build West End residents' assets and incomes

- Support service corps model, as part of broader workforce development efforts
- Provide access to financial services and banking products as an entry point to financial stability, leading to the creation and preservation of wealth
- Fund and incentivize education saving accounts for children

Increase housing stability and quality, & community control of land and housing

- Support the expansion of proactive rental inspection program, while protecting tenant rights
- Support/create a tenants association
- Expand housing supply for potential West End homeowners
- Establish West End housing rehab support program

Increase economic vitality in the West End

- Adopt a community navigator model to support West End businesses and entrepreneurs
- Prepare businesses to earn contracting opportunities
- Explore the creation of a community grocery store in the West End

Improve the West End's infrastructure and visual design

- Explore/support partnerships to redevelop Franklin Field
- Strengthen affordable broadband access for all
- Enhance streetscape to increase mobility and beautification
- Amplify local character through placemaking initiatives

How this gets done

- Create a West End Community Development Corporation
- Explore creation of a West End special service area (SSA)
- Backbone work (MLK): community ownership; partner engagement; resource mobilization; communications; measurement & evaluation

How City Council can help

- Be ambassadors and champions!
- Continue to be open to policy change to remove/minimize barriers and streamline processes
- Identify and leverage other resources and opportunities
- Stay involved