

Riverwood Neighborhood Improvement Strategy

E. 51st St. S. to E. 71st St. S. and Riverside Dr. to S. Lewis Ave.

PURPOSE:

To **evaluate** existing unique opportunities and challenges with local leaders and community organizations to create an action-oriented plan for continued growth within the Riverwood community.

STRUCTURE:

- The **internal management team** will be made up of technical experts in the fields that the working groups will be addressing and will lead the working groups.
- The **working groups** will align with the main components of the Tulsa Comprehensive Plan to ensure the successful adoption and implementation of the strategy.
 - Working groups include: Land Use, Environment, and Parks; Public Services and Communities; Housing and Neighborhoods; Transportation; Economic Development and History, Culture, and Creativity; & Strategic Partnerships & Development.
- The community advisory team will be made up of community leaders within the Riverwood area that has been committed to furthering the advancement of the community and its residents.

PHASES:

1

The management team and working groups will be assembled and will complete an extensive study of the existing conditions.

2

The working groups will hold community engagement events for residents to provide feedback on the strategies and direction of analysis and **engagement pertinent to each specific working group**.

- Facilitate additional analysis needed for the **working groups'** focused topic and identify potential infrastructure and neighborhood investments. The working groups will use the findings from the community engagement and analysis of the neighborhood area to create credible and tangible neighborhood improvement recommendations.

3

Community implementation of the strategy's long- and short-term projects. This process will likely be overseen by a community advisory team which will be made up of community leaders within the Riverwood area that has been committed to furthering the advancement of the community and its residents.

PREVIOUS AREA STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS

- **Byrne Grant (2014-2016):**
 - A program funded by the Department of Justice to fund a community resource officer for the Tulsa Police Department to work in conjunction with members of the community to build social cohesion at the individual level and improve collaboration with the local criminal justice system.
- **2022 IQC Report:**
 - This 2022 report was created in conjunction with the University of Oklahoma to help develop a robust evaluation of the area's demographics and needs that created a foundation for the development of the Riverwood Neighborhood Improvement Strategy.
- **1997 Riverwood Small Area Plan:**
 - This was a neighborhood small area plan created in 1997 and updated in 2008 that identified specific neighborhood planning recommendations that would help revitalize the area. This resulted in the creation and building of the Riverwood neighborhood sign across from Johnson Park.
- **2019 Crime-Based Crime Reduction Mid-Year Implementation Plan:**
 - The City of Tulsa's main goal is to reduce violent and property crimes, increase community engagement, increase the availability of social services for neighborhood residents, and enhance neighborhood safety. Together, these goals reflect a broad and holistic approach toward building a greater quality of life for not only 61st and Peoria neighborhood residents, but for all Tulsans.

LEARN MORE ONLINE AT [TULSAPLANNING.ORG/RNIS](https://tulsaplanning.org/rnis)

Frequently Asked Questions

- **How were the working groups selected?**
 - The process was led by the management team consisting of Tulsa Planning Office staff, elected leadership, and community stakeholders who evaluated working group parameters. Each working group has a specific topic and focus. When considering members for working groups, the management team determined what knowledge and experience (both learned and lived) are needed to create impactful, implementable strategies and projects. Respondents were rated based on several factors including the proposed project approach and methodology, respondents' experience in similar projects, contexts, and communities, and an understanding of project objectives, project issues, and the proposed scope of work.
- **What is the goal of the working groups?**
 - The strategy will create a vision and an action-oriented redevelopment strategy to help guide the area's growth.
- **What is the role of the public in this process and how can I get involved?**
 - The team is designing a robust resident and stakeholder engagement strategy with multiple feedback loops to ensure authentic and effective engagement. This will include hands-on community engagement, stakeholder interviews, and open houses throughout the process.
- **How was the Riverwood Neighborhood Improvement Strategy started?**
 - By engaged citizens like you! The Riverwood Collaborative, a grassroots group of residents and organizations in the area, reached out to the Tulsa Planning Office with interest in participating in the state Main Street Program. Oklahoma Main Street then conducted a site visit and determined that the area was not ready for main street designation. To keep the momentum from the Riverwood Collaborative, the Tulsa Planning Office then began to develop this strategy.
- **How was this strategy initially funded?**
 - The City of Tulsa and Tulsa City Council allocated \$50,000 to be used for the initial community engagement and initial short-term implementation.
- **How will identified projects in the strategy be funded?**
 - Identified short- and long-term projects will be funded in a variety of ways. The Strategic Partnerships and Development Working Group's focus is on identifying funding, preparing for future sales tax packages, establishing key partnerships for implementation and funding, and earmarking grants for the implementation of these projects.
- **How does the Riverwood Neighborhood Improvement Strategy relate to and differentiate from previous studies?**
 - The neighborhood improvement strategy will build on previous successful strategies and programs that have been established within the area. The working groups will use these previous reports and plans as a framework for identified needs and build upon this data to create a more robust plan for growth within the Riverwood Community.
- **Where can I get more information?**
 - You can find more information about the strategy and a map of the impacted area online at: tulsaplanning.org/rnis