

# HUDSON

*Comprehensive Plan*

## Visioning Workshop Summary January 22, 2015

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the City of Hudson held a Visioning Workshop at Hudson High School. Attendees were assigned to one of seven “breakout” groups and provided with markers and a large map of the city. Over the course of an hour, each group worked as a team to draw their “vision” for the City of Hudson on the map. Topics were provided to guide each table’s discussion, and they included: transportation; parks, open space, & recreation; sustainability & environment; housing & neighborhoods; community facilities; commercial goods & services; employment & industry; and image & identity. In addition to marking up the map, each group also recorded their recommendations in a workbook. At the end of the hour, the groups shared their findings with the entire audience.

Generally, workshop participants felt strongly about constructing a recreation center, preserving Hudson’s unique character and charm, adding new trails and pathways, enhancing Downtown, improving traffic flow, and increasing the diversity of the housing stock (e.g. senior housing, apartments, condos, etc.), particularly in the Downtown Phase II study area. Many other ideas were also identified and are detailed on the following pages.

The following is a list of the ideas, suggestions, and concepts that were either drawn on the maps or written in the workbook, organized by topic. Photos of each of the seven maps is provided at the end of this report for reference. **It is important to note that the items identified in this summary are not recommendations of the consultant, but rather ideas generated by the community at the Visioning Workshop.**

### Transportation Ideas

- Complete the Oviatt Connector
- Connect Ogilby Drive to Hayden Parkway
- Connect Hines Hill Road to the Downtown
- Construct railroad overpasses at Stow Road and Hines Hill Road
- Introduce timed or smart traffic lights
- Construct a traffic light at Oviatt Street and Route 303
- Construct a traffic light on Streetsboro for right and left turn lanes into the Acme Fresh Market
- Enhance the intersection of Route 91 and Ravenna Road
- Widen Barlow Road and Norton Road
- Introduce sidewalks radiating out from the center of Hudson, within neighborhoods, and connecting areas to schools and the Downtown
- Add sidewalks along the east side of Main Street, on Darrow Road to Herrick Park Drive, and on Boston Mills Road to Lake Forest Park
- Address issues regarding the Own Brown Street railroad underpass

- Enhance pedestrian accessibility throughout the Downtown
- Introduce a rapid transit service to Cleveland and Akron
- Develop a plan to manage traffic during Downtown Phase II construction
- Maintain regular road maintenance
- Develop alternative transportation for senior citizens
- Increase the number of bus routes
- Create a western bypass through the city
- Provide temporary parking and shuttles to the Downtown for major events

## Parks, Open Space, & Recreation Ideas

- Develop more park spaces
- Introduce more neighborhood parks
- Extend the Bike and Hike Trail to connect with the Barlow Road Trail
- Expand facilities at Hudson Springs Park
- Capitalize on proximity to the Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Prepare for and enable event parking at parks and park facilities
- Convert unused railroads into trails
- Add tennis courts
- Increase youth programming
- Increase senior programming
- Add benches along trails for resting
- Keep parks separate from recreation
- Improve playing fields, sports facilities, and playground equipment
- Add additional parking at Barlow Park and Barlow Farm
- Move the ice skating rink/pond to Veterans Way Park

## Sustainability & Environment Ideas

- Make Hudson a “Green City” through policies such as required recycling
- Add bike lanes throughout Hudson to increase non-motorized transportation
- Improve accessibility and mobility to make Hudson a more walkable community
- Consolidate garbage services to a single company
- Develop alternative transportation to reduce auto-dependency, such as a light rail
- Remove all overhead power lines and replace with underground wiring
- Continue land conservation
- Develop flood prevention policy

## Housing & Neighborhoods Ideas

- Develop smaller, more affordable housing
- Introduce housing options for empty-nesters or those hoping to “age-in-place”
- Introduce housing options geared toward younger people and young families
- Consider the use of Downtown Phase II to provide housing options attractive to those interested in more urbanized living styles

- Develop low-maintenance life style housing
- Introduce more rental properties
- Address issues of demolition by neglect
- Focus on preserving historic structures
- Maintain upkeep on vacant lots
- Work with, not against, developers to develop creative housing options
- Introduce noise abatement along the Ohio Turnpike
- Create no-horn zones at Stow Road and other railroad crossings

## Community Facilities Ideas

- Construct a community center with an indoor pool and recreational facilities geared toward all generations of users
- Build a hockey rink
- Develop a shared school administration and city facilities center at the YDC site, using the vacated facilities for a senior center
- Introduce an arts center in the Downtown
- Add a new Fire Station in the northwestern part of the city
- Increase the number of meeting spaces available to the community
- Move all of City government into a single, central location
- Construct a new City Hall at the end of Clinton Street in the Downtown Phase II area or on the Koberna Property
- Create a municipal center in the Downtown
- Make scheduling and organization changes to the existing garbage collection system
- Move the school bus facility out of the Downtown
- Add a pool at the Hudson High School, as part of the school's long range plan
- Explore the development of eco-friendly housing or parks on the YDC site
- Utilize the YDC site for community gardens and orchards

## Commercial Goods & Services Ideas

- Introduce more shops geared toward male customers
- Develop new services to attract younger people and young families
- Market and support Downtown
- Introduce sustainable retail
- Develop a boutique hotel in the Downtown
- Introduce taxi services in Hudson
- Cooperate with neighboring communities to provide necessary services
- Provide free Wi-Fi
- Attract entertainment options for families, such as bowling alleys, drive-in theaters, or dinner movie theaters
- Introduce more accessible parking for retail shops on Main Street.

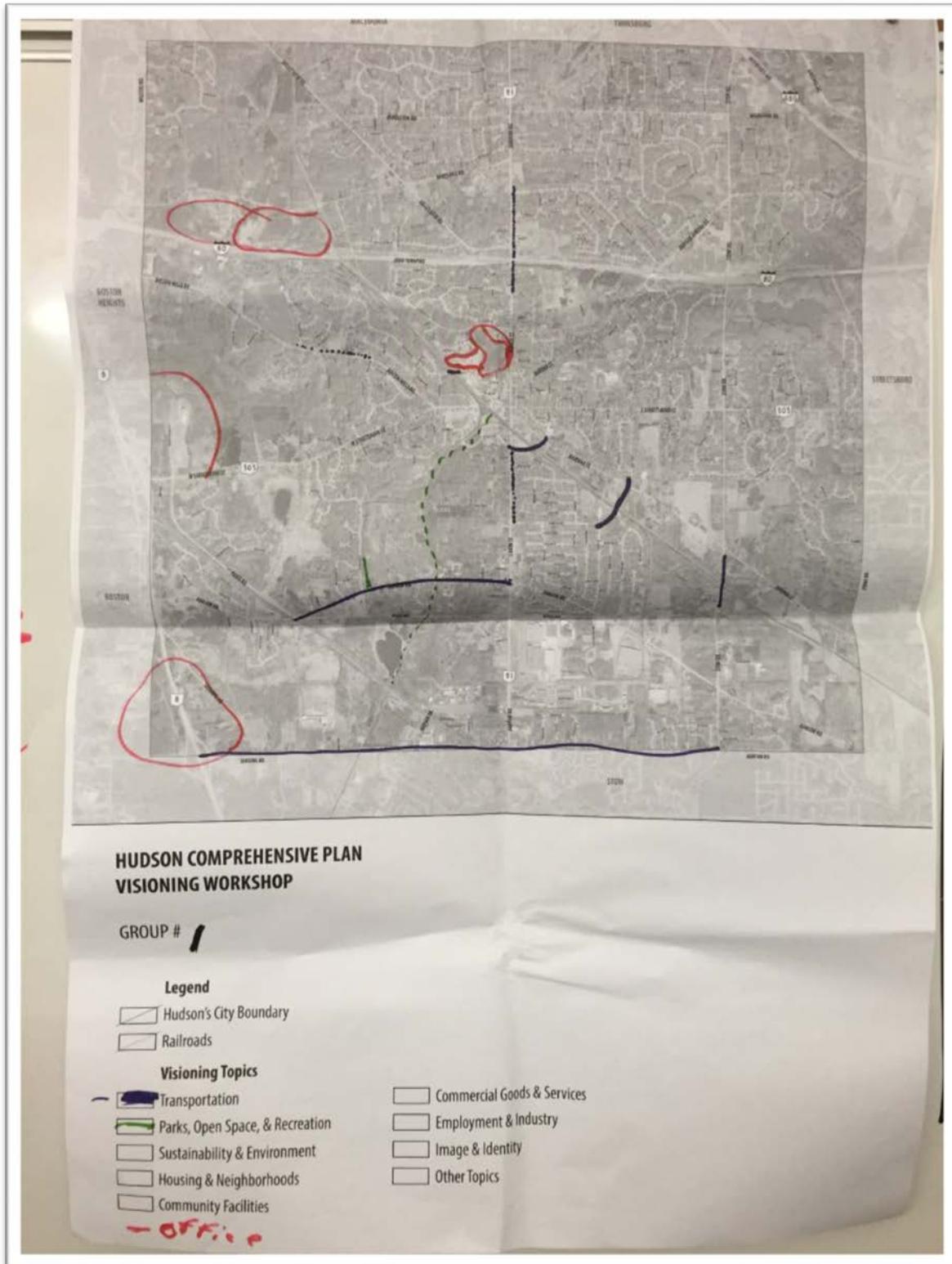
## Employment & Industry Ideas

- Develop Downtown Phase II with office and mixed uses
- Develop the YDC as a high tech park or medical center
- Utilize the YDC site for commercial development
- Continue to create mixed use development in the Downtown
- Strengthen local office centers
- Create a light rail depot with parking, bike parking, and a shuttle to the Downtown
- Annex the area to the west of the city in Boston Heights surrounding the I-80 exit
- Review existing infrastructure for electrical reliability, cellular coverage, and internet access
- Develop Seasons/Norton road as a corridor for light industry and big box commercial
- Develop the hotel on Barlow Road
- Balance industry with housing
- Attract industry to one specific area of the city
- Nurture small businesses
- Ensure that vacant or developable industrial parks and areas are not utilized for housing

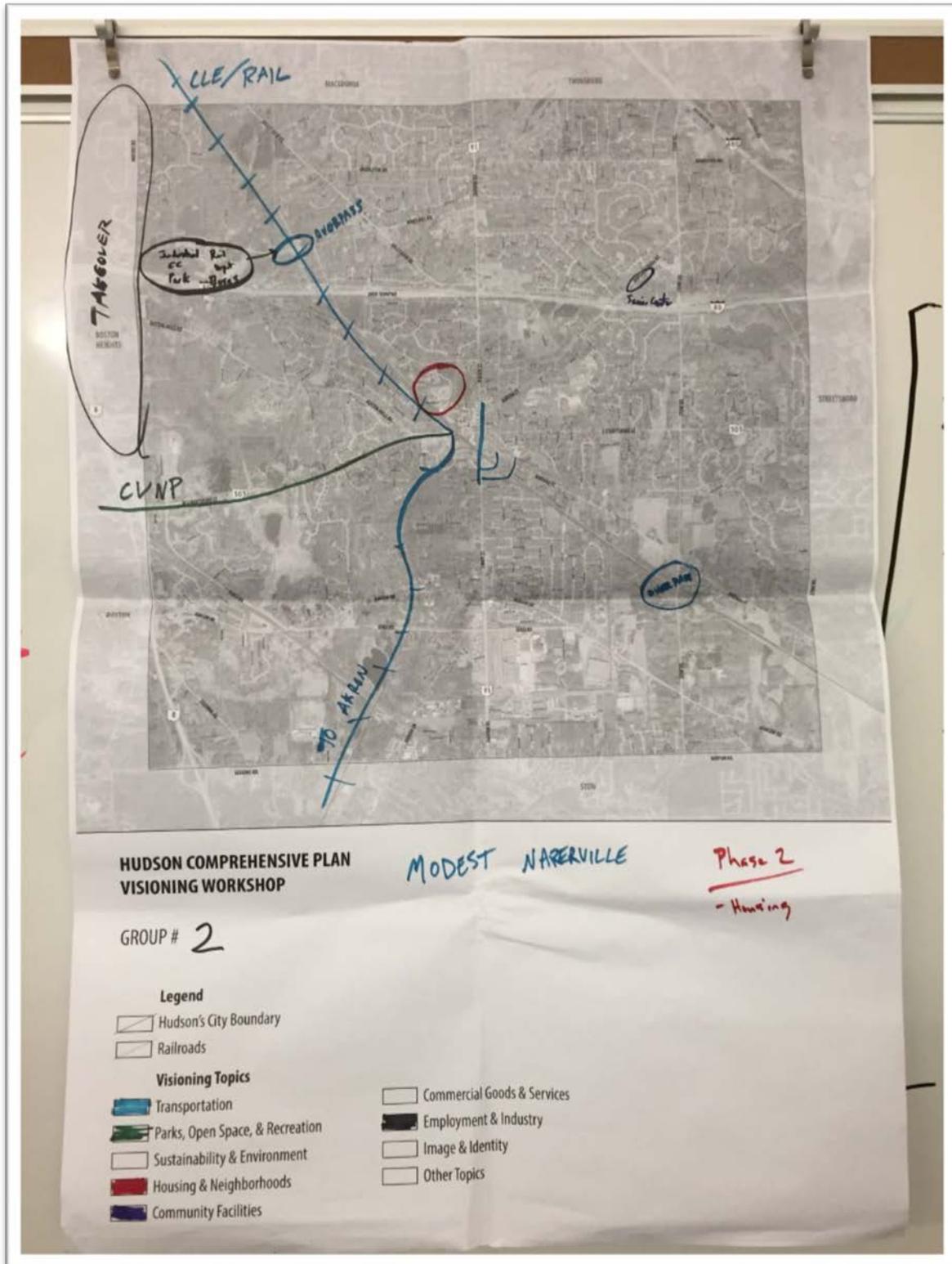
## Image & Identity Ideas

- Market Hudson as a “Green City”
- Combine the Architecture and Zoning boards to develop a standards board to enforce standards throughout the city
- Increase inspections of property maintenance
- Maintain school excellence
- Increase signage and gateway entry treatments

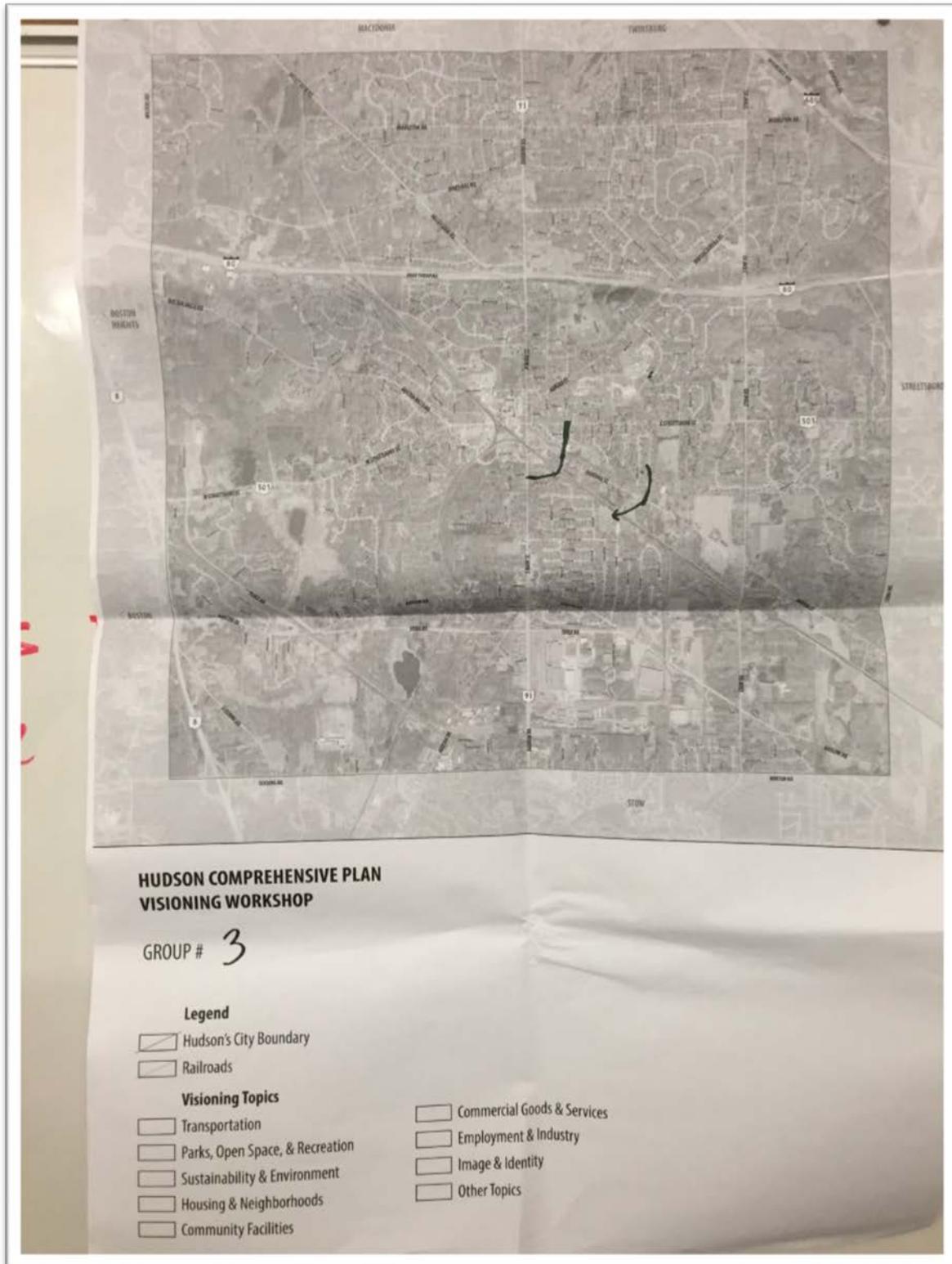
# APPENDIX – GROUP 1



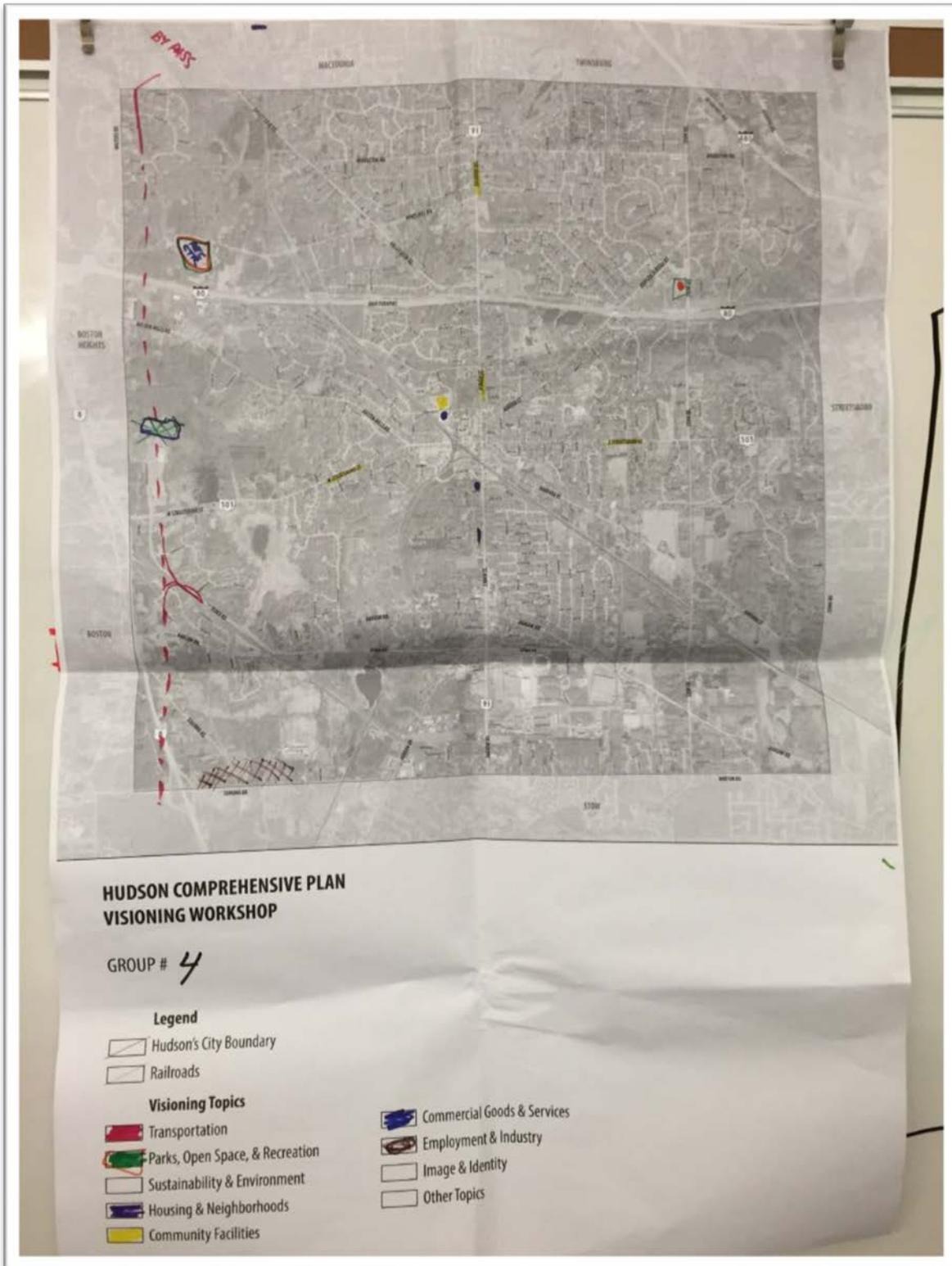
# APPENDIX – GROUP 2



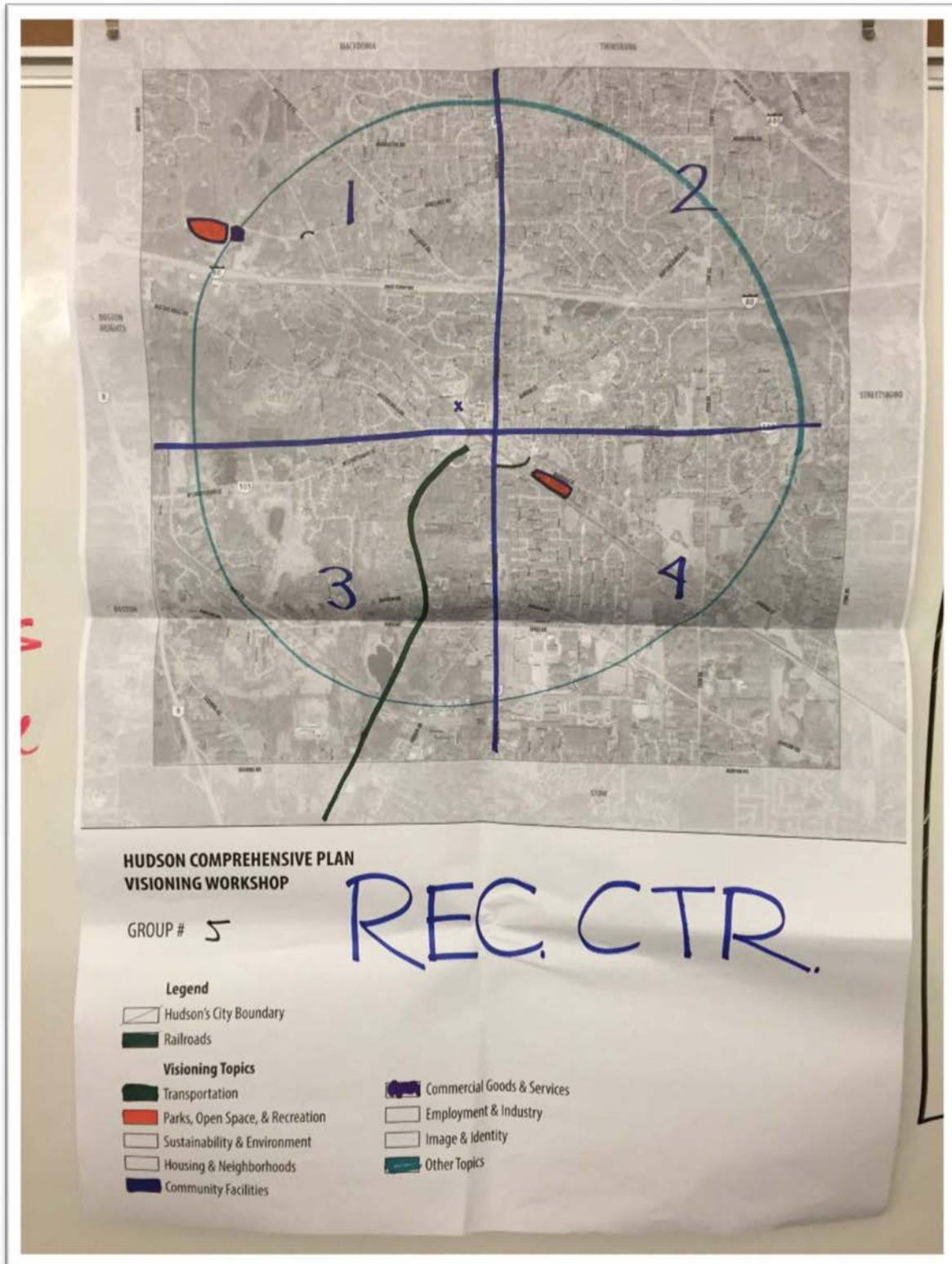
# APPENDIX – GROUP 3



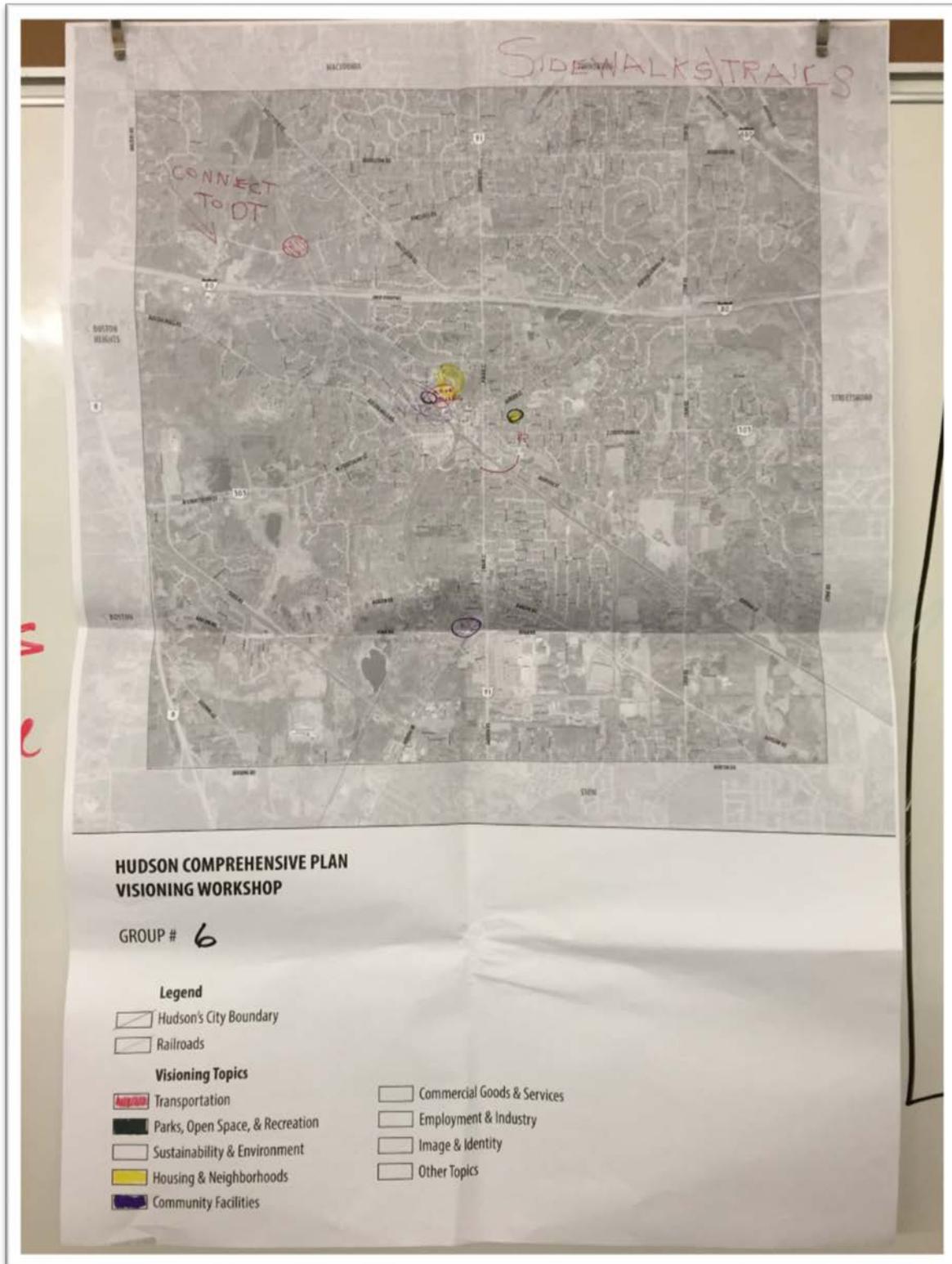
# APPENDIX – GROUP 4



# APPENDIX – GROUP 5



# APPENDIX – GROUP 6



# APPENDIX – GROUP 7

