

# Neighborhood Node Crooks & Wattles

# WALK & TALK AGENDA

#### 1. Southeast Corner

What are your thoughts on the existing and approved development for this corner? Are the uses and scale/size of buildings appropriate?

#### 2. Southwest Corner

Is how the southeast corner has developed appropriate for the southwest corner? Continue the full menu of uses or limit the range of uses (such as no retail or no multiple-family)?

#### 3. Northwest Corner

This corner has more constraints on the building area due to the drain, floodplain, wetlands and existing trees, limiting the buildable area. What are ideas for the future?

#### 4. Wrap up

What thoughts or impressions from the walk? Was it different in different places?

What should be preserved?

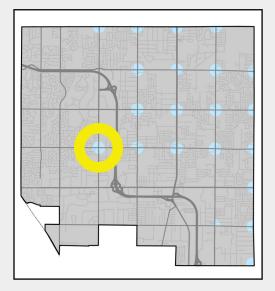
What should be improved?

What should be changed?

What should be changed on the land use plan?

What can be applied to other areas of the City?

## Neighborhood Nodes: The Economic Neighborhood



- Located at intersections of the City's main roads.
- Work together with Social Neighborhoods to create a more livable community.
- Mixed use.
- Provide neighborhood gathering places.
- Accommodate the daily needs of residents.

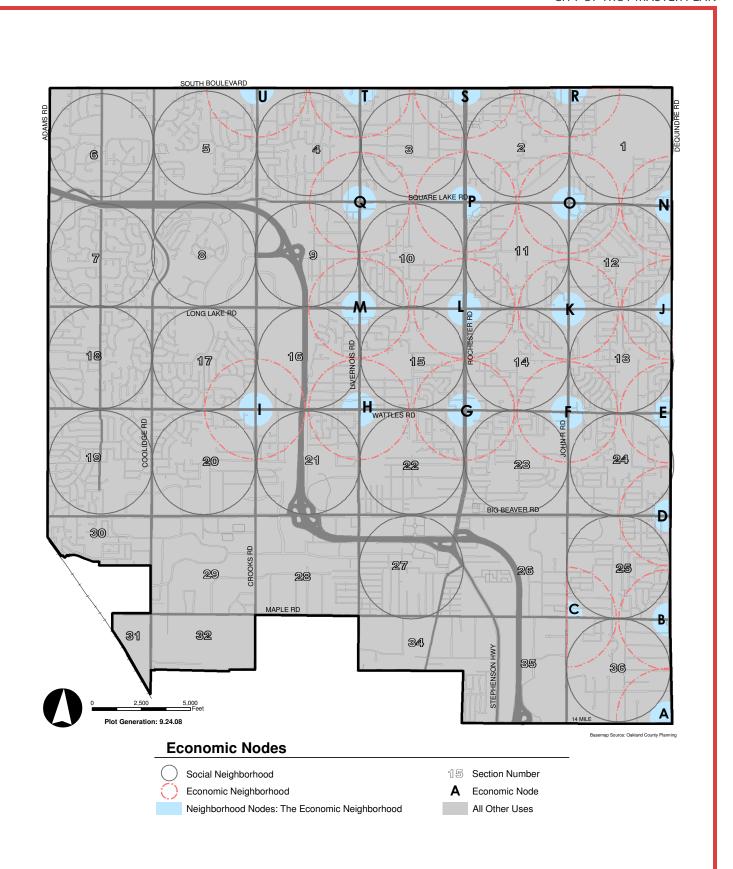
#### **CROOKS AND WATTLES**

Development at this location should be low-impact and provide a high benefit to the neighborhood using the least amount of land. Compact, walkable mixed use development with a combination of uses serving the immediate surroundings would be an ideal fit. Integrated compact development which would allow a user to park once and meet several daily needs would be a positive contribution to the node. The City also recognizes that expansion of the White Chapel Cemetery into the northeast corner of this node would be appropriate.

Neighborhood Nodes are the concentrated, commercial and mixed-use centers situated at major intersections of Troy thoroughfares that serve as the center of the City's Economic Neighborhoods. Economic Neighborhoods are destinations created as "go to" places that take on a social role, serving both as a place to meet basic needs of the community and as 21st century village centers. The attributes of Economic Neighborhoods are described in more detail in the final section of this Chapter, and the urban design characteristics of Neighborhood Nodes will be described in depth in Chapter 10. The nodes will typically permit a mix of commercial, office, and high-density residential, although the predominant uses in any Neighborhood Node development must be in keeping with the node characteristics. Industrial uses will not be permitted in the Neighborhood Nodes.

The Economic Neighborhoods of Troy also center on the square mile grid system. Unlike the social neighborhood, the Economic Neighborhoods are centered on major road intersections where commercial and office development occurs. When destinations are created, these nodes become a "go to" place and take on a social role. Each of these nodes serves four quadrants of the overlapping social neighborhoods and has the ability to bring residents of four neighborhoods together.

These Economic Neighborhood nodes are destinations that draw people, visually distinguished from the balance of corridor strips through greater density and scale. Variation in building height will often be used to separate the node from the surrounding area, but will not be so extreme as to visually overpower abutting neighborhoods. The separation of building heights at intersections with the "between" segments of corridors stimulates the visual concept of "pulsing" development and sets up a system of visual anchors.



Moderately dense residential environments may be encouraged within some nodes to provide steady activity for longer periods of the day. In these cases, residences may be mixed with offices on upper floors or be developed immediately adjacent to the commercial areas. Connections between the commercial activity and residences must be directly and seamlessly integrated.

During the course of the planning process, the Planning Commission closely analyzed the need for additional neighborhood nodes throughout the City. The City will continue to consider the demand for additional nodes as part of subsequent plan revisions.

#### **DESIGN CONCEPT**

- These nodes are within a fifteen minute walking distance of residential neighborhoods to permit alternative modes of transportation.
- Development will be denser and taller than the surrounding area, encouraging visual prominence to signal a gathering space.
- Nodes should be generally confined to a 1,000 foot radius from a major intersection.
- The nodes provide uses and spaces that attract and welcome neighborhood residents.

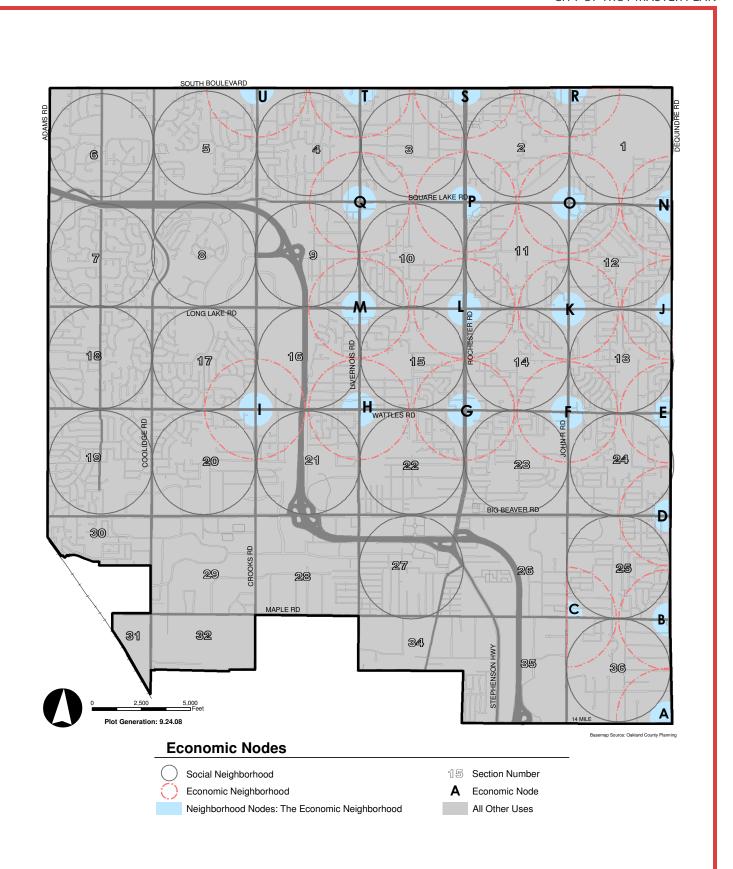
#### SITE DESIGN ATTRIBUTES

- Buildings should be separated from the right-of-way line by a landscaped greenbelt, one lane of off-street parking or a pedestrian walk, or a combination of these.
- Primary parking areas will be located within rear or interior side yards.
- Off-street parking should be screened from the public right-of-way by a knee wall or low decorative fence with a hedge of plantings.

- Walks will connect adjacent developments and the public sidewalks.
- Well-defined crosswalks with timed signalization will permit safe crossings.
- Flexible use of space allowing modest outdoor gathering spaces, such as plazas, will be encouraged.

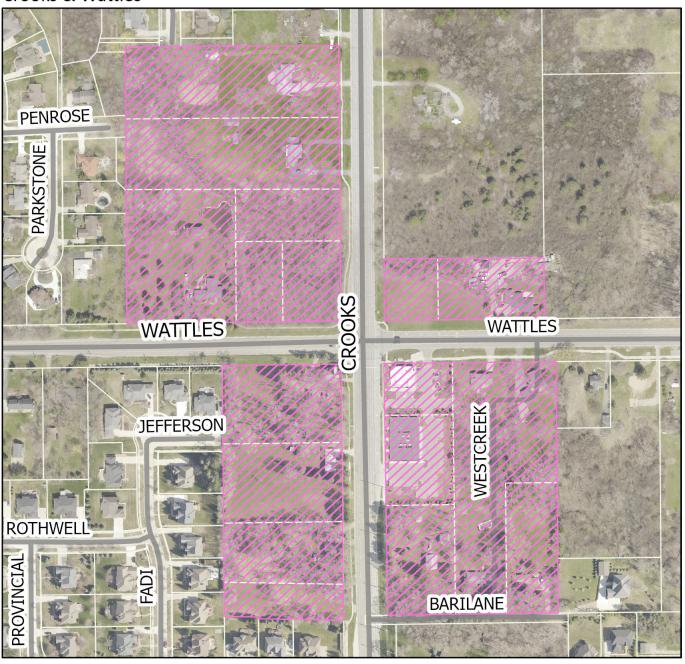
#### **BUILDING DESIGN ATTRIBUTES**

- Buildings should be between two and three stories, although one–story structures accommodating gas stations or other special situations may be permitted.
- One-story buildings should have a minimum exterior height of sixteen feet.
- A ground level story should have a minimum height of twelve feet from finished floor to finished ceiling.
- Facades facing major thoroughfares will be treated as fronts and should have a minimum of half transparent glass and special architectural design treatments.
- Fenestration (the arrangement of windows and doors) should be highlighted through the use of awnings, overhangs or trim detailing.
- Lighting will be carefully managed so as not to encroach on adjacent residential areas.



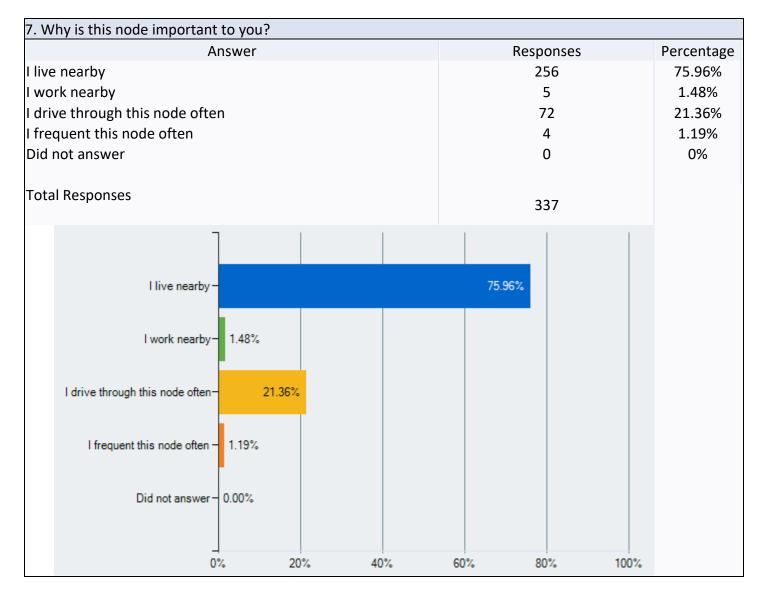
# Crooks & Wattles Neighborhood Node Zoning Boundaries

### Crooks & Wattles



## **Survey Results:**

### **Crooks and Wattles**



8. How do you think this node has been developed?		
Answer	Responses	Percentage
Too dense/intense	143	42.43%
Not intense enough	50	14.84%
Just right	121	35.91%
Not sure	19	5.64%
Did not answer	4	1.19%
Total Responses	337	

