***70 Words***

***Share your voice! Create a More Vibrant, Resilient and Sustainable Northeast Ohio***

Vibrant NEO 2040 Workshops: ***April 30-May 2***

*All events begin with an open house and registration from 5:30 – 6:30 PM.  Workshops take place from 6:30 – 8:30 PM.*

**Visit  <http://vibrantneo.org/workshops/> and pick a date and location that’s most convenient for you!**

*Vibrant NEO is an initiative of the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium. For more information, visit* [*VibrantNEO.org*](http://www.vibrantneo.org)*.*

***170 Words***

***Share your voice! Create a More Vibrant, Resilient and Sustainable Northeast Ohio***

Vibrant NEO 2040 Workshops: ***April 30-May 2***

Over the course of the next nine months, Northeast Ohio will have the opportunity to think together about how we use land, create a shared picture of our region’s future and agree on a shared approach to building that future.

This first round of VibrantNEO public workshops revolves around a scenario called “**Business‐As‐Usual**.”  It outlines what Northeast Ohio’s future will look like if we keep doing what we are currently doing.  We need your help to define what we value and what’s most important to this region as we start to create a vision for Northeast Ohio’s future.  **We Can Only Answer These Questions Together!**

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**272** Words

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Vibrant NEO 2040 Workshops: ***April 30-May 2***

Over the course of the next nine months, Northeast Ohio will have the opportunity to think together about how we use land, create a shared picture of our region’s future and agree on a shared approach to building that future.

Leading the Vibrant NEO effort is the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC), a group of 33 organizations that represent geographically, economically, socially, racially and politically diverse communities across Northeast Ohio. (Ashtabula • Cuyahoga • Geauga • Lake • Lorain • Mahoning • Medina • Portage • Stark • Summit • Trumbull • Wayne)

To help us decide where we want our region to go and to build agreement about what we can and will do to take us there, VibrantNEO 2040 will use a tool called SCENARIO PLANNING.  SCENARIOS are stories about the future.

The VibrantNEO process uses public workshops to look at the future of our Northeast Ohio. The first round focuses on a scenario called “**Business‐As‐Usual**.”  It outlines what Northeast Ohio’s future will look like if we keep doing what we are currently doing.  We need your help to define what we value and what’s most important to this region as we start to create a vision for Northeast Ohio’s future.  **We Can Only Answer These Questions Together!**

*All events begin with an open house and registration from 5:30 – 6:30 PM.  Workshops take place from 6:30 – 8:30 PM.*

**Visit  <http://vibrantneo.org/workshops/> and pick a date and location that’s most convenient for you and Join Us!**

*Vibrant NEO is an initiative of the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium. For more information, visit* [*VibrantNEO.org*](http://www.vibrantneo.org)*.*

***530 Words***

***Share your voice! Create a More Vibrant, Resilient and Sustainable Northeast Ohio***

Vibrant NEO 2040 Workshops: ***April 30-May 2***

The Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC) is a three-year, federally funded planning process focused on developing a coordinated and integrated approach to planning efforts for land use, transportation, economic and workforce development, and infrastructure investments for Northeast Ohio. In preparation for this regional study, NEOSCC members and over 150 subject-matter experts distilled information from public policy plans, planning initiatives, and other resources from across the region into a comprehensive report called the Conditions and Trends Platform (cat.neoscc.org). The next phase of the NEOSCC planning process, “VibrantNEO 2040,” will utilize scenario planning to engage the public and explore possible futures to work toward a shared vision for a more vibrant, resilient, and sustainable northeast Ohio.

Since the beginning of January, NEOSCC and its consultant team have been working on developing a “business as usual” scenario for the region. This will expand upon the Conditions and Trends Platform to look beyond where Northeast Ohio stands today to see where the region will be in 2040. The “business as usual” scenario development culminates in a series of public workshops from April 30 – May 2 at six locations throughout the region. Officials, stakeholders and residents will learn about what Northeast Ohio would look like in year 2040 if current trends continue and how will that affect future generations. Accompanying the scenario will be a corresponding fiscal impact analysis that highlights revenue and costs based on the “business as usual”. In the second part of the session the participants will explore alternatives together through map drawing and gaming. This will help identify what are the most important issues and priorities and will be captured to propel the development of alternative scenarios that will be shared in late July. The April/May meetings begin at 6:30 pm (registration opens at 5:30) and will be located at the following locations

**April 30**

The Oberlin Inn

7 North Main Street

Oberlin, OH 44074

John F. Kennedy High School

2550 Central Pkwy Ave SE

Warren, OH 44484

**May 1**

Third Federal Savings & Loan (Auditorium)

7007 Broadway Avenue

Cleveland, OH 44105

The Metropolitan Centre

601 Cleveland Avenue NW

Canton, OH  44702

**May 2**

Akron Urban League

440 Vernon Odom Boulevard

Akron, OH 44307

Corporate College - East

4400 Richmond Road

Warrensville Heights, OH 44128

In order to broaden its engagement efforts and collect additional information across the region, NEOSCC will be utilizing an on-line tool to gather additional information. The interactive tool will be launched in May. Residents will be asked to rank a set of priorities and learn about how a series of actions and policies might impact those priorities. The third part of the sequence gives users a limited number of coins, asking them to put that money towards the actions they support most.

There are numerous opportunities for you to be involved in the process. We would encourage workshop participation, additional information can be found at [www.vibrantneo.org/workshops](http://www.vibrantneo.org/workshops). Additionally, NEOSCC is seeking volunteers to participate in facilitating conversations at the workshops or serving in other capacities throughout the project. Visit <http://vibrantneo.org/get-involved/opportunities/> to learn about these opportunities..