

A SUMMARY OF THE JANUARY, 2018 WHITE PAPER ON UMCH PRESENTED BY THE
WORTHINGTON ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT (**WARD**)

- Very large majorities of people like living in Worthington
- They want to preserve the distinctive history, character and identity of our city
- The development of UMCH provides a singular opportunity to do just that
- UMCH can become a vibrant, centrally located asset to be enjoyed by the entire community for generations to come
- WARD envisions the largest portion of a 24.5 acre parcel in the center and rear of the property as an open contiguous public space for the common good
- Imagine walking paths, bikeways, a three season building for recreational and educational use, attractive landscaping, public restrooms and a splash pad/ice rink
- Imagine enjoying nature on a peaceful stroll, playing under an open sky, attending unique arts and entertainment programs, having a memorable place for parties, meetings, gatherings and special events. Livability and enjoyment for all ages
- The Tucker Creek ravine comprises another 7 acres. Every development scenario and virtually every discussion to date envisions it remaining in an improved but natural state. It's perfect for a mid-sized amphitheater for plays, lectures, weddings and small group performances
- Worthington needs more housing options. A smaller portion of the 24.5 acres can be developed for residents who want to age in place and younger buyers who are entering home ownership, all adjoining a beautiful park
- Our city needs to generate income tax revenue from development of the UMCH site in order to develop and maintain it. WARD supports the establishment of businesses with high salaried positions in the ten acres of land along High Street already zoned for commercial use
- How will the development of UMCH be paid for? WARD encourages serious examination of public/private financing for purchasing and maintaining all or some of UMCH. This is long overdue
- Going forward, what is to be done? A business as usual approach will not get the job done. WARD urges the following:
- Rescind the UMCH portion of the city's Comprehensive Plan. Verify that UMCH will be developed as a complete and coherent whole; not in a piecemeal fashion
- Review the data collected from two WARD community surveys, paying particular note to those findings where high percentages of residents agree. Incorporate and defend both survey findings in discussions with developers
- Support the proposals made by WARD as visions of what UMCH can become
- Insure that WARD and other resident voices are stakeholders as plans move ahead
- Recognize that UMCH is a true legacy property. It must remain a beacon for our future