



## **AGENDA**

**EPA GRANT OVERVIEW** 

**SCOPE + STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP RVW.** 

**MARKET DATA** 

**CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLANS** 

**NEXT STEPS** 



## **EPA BROWNFIELD GRANT OVERVIEW**

### \$300,000 Assessment Grant Award from EPA

- -Opportunity Zone with focus on "Old Town Alexandria"
- -October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2023

### **Grant Tasks:**

- -Brownfield Revitalization Master Plan
- -Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs)
- -Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
- -Remediation & Reuse Planning (Cleanup Planning)
- -Regulatory Reporting



## **SCOPE**

**INFORMATION GATHERING AND BACKGROUND** 

DATA COLLECTION AND BASE MAPPING

SITE RECONNAISSANCE

**COMMUNITY MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP** 

LEAKAGE ANALYSIS AND PLAN DEVELOPMENT

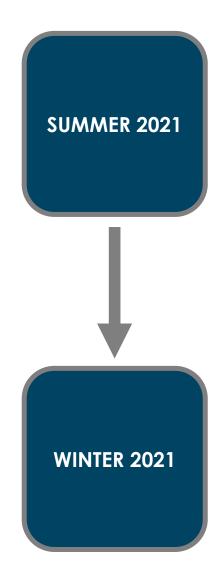
**ILLUSTRATIVES AND BRANDING** 

**IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE** 

STRATEGY BOARD

**SUMMARY POSTER AND PRESENTATION** 

**IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX** 





## PROJECT GOALS AND VISIONING

DEVELOP A STRATEGIC VISION FOR THE BROWNFIELDS IDENTIFIED

**IDENTIFY PRIORITY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENTS** 

STRENGTHEN THE DOWNTOWN CONNECTIONS

**EXPLORE ALL OPPORTUNITIES** 

PRIORITIZE CONNECTIVITY AND COMMUNITY

**ENSURE RESULTS** 



## STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS

**INCREASE PUBLIC SAFETY** 

PRIORITIZE INVESTMENTS AT BROWNFIELD SITES TO COMPLIMENT DOWNTOWN

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF DOWNTOWN

**OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE THE RED RIVER** 

**RESTAURANT – RETAIL – RESIDENTIAL** 

TRAILS CAN TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

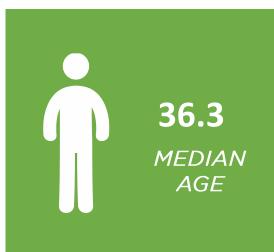


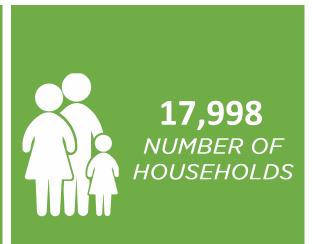


### **DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW**

#### **ALEXANDRIA**



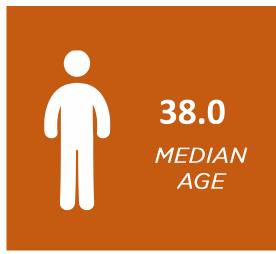






#### **RAPIDES PARISH**









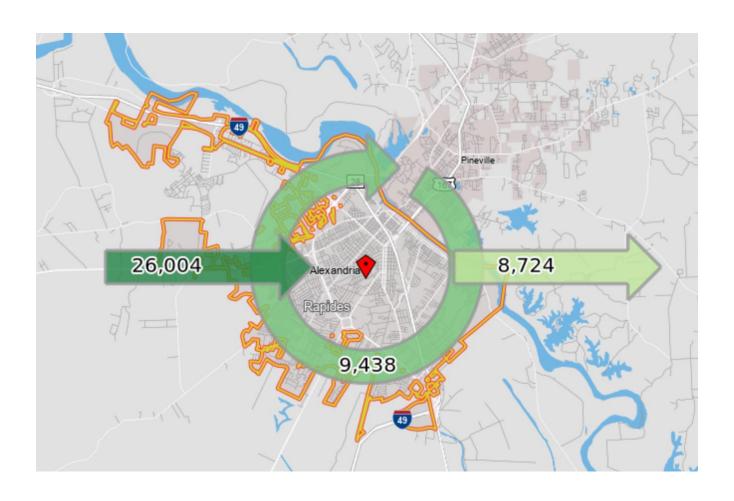
Source: Claritas 2021 Estimates

## **DEMOGRAPHIC OBSERVATIONS**

- Population is stable projected to begin a decline.
- Med HH income levels at the City lag the Parish, State, and US.
- Med age is slightly younger than nation, Parish, and State.
- 39% White/Caucasian 56% Black/African American
- Med HH income disparity:
  - White/Caucasian \$65K
  - Black/African American \$28K

Source: Claritas 2021 Estimates

## **EMPLOYMENT**

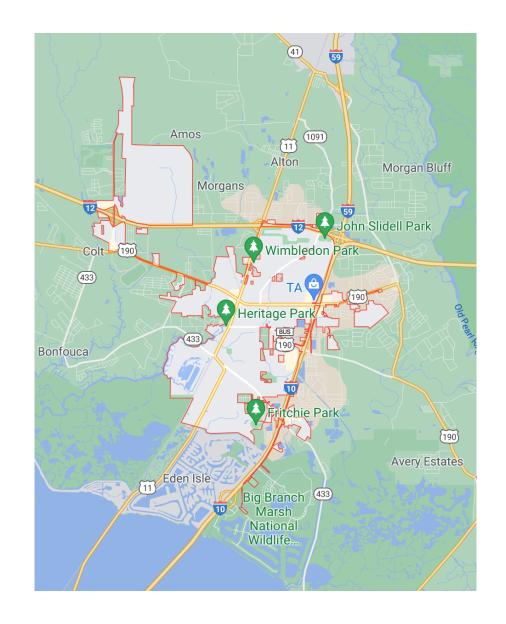


Alexandria's daytime population grows from 46,221 to 63,501 every day.

Source: US Census

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Essentially, 95% of population of Slidell commutes into Alexandria every day.



## **RETAIL**

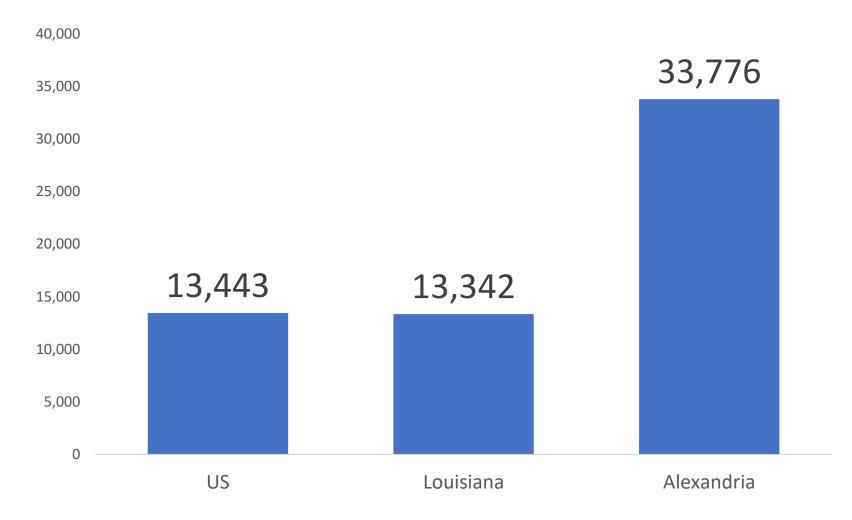


Alexandria's retail market is \$1.2 Billion.

Alexandria's retail market imports \$519 Million each year from outside the City.

Source: Claritas 2021 Estimates

## RETAIL SALES PER CAPITA



Source: US Census

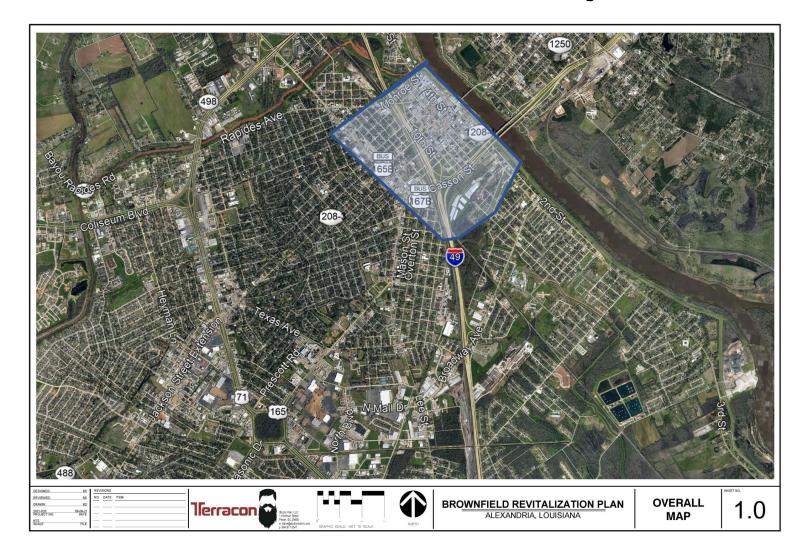
## RETAIL LEAKAGE RAPIDES PARISH



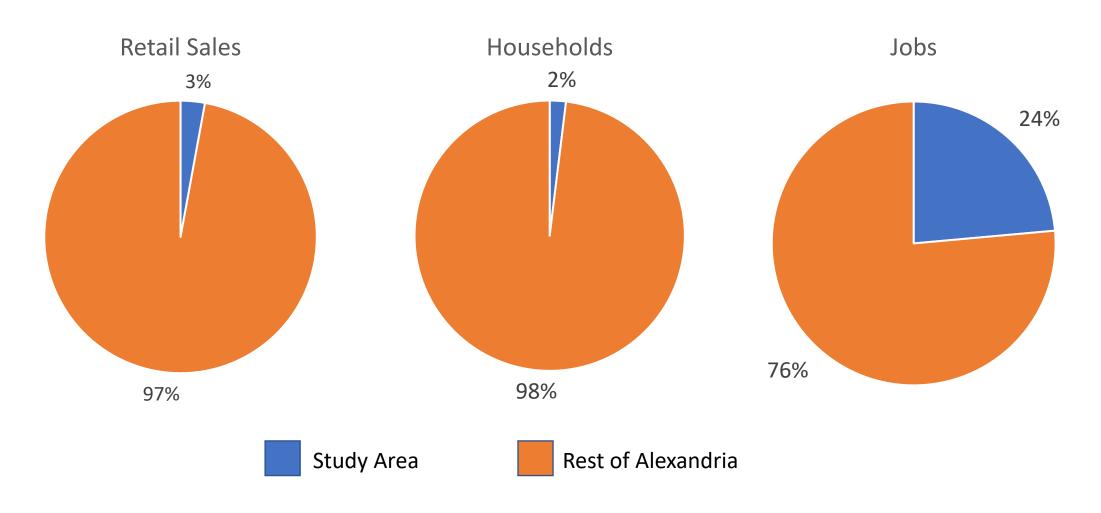
- Food and Beverage Stores \$42M
- Clothing Stores \$28M
- Full Service Restaurant \$28M
- Sporting Goods \$17M
- Specialty (Gifts, Antiques, Art) \$11M

Source: Claritas 2021 Estimates

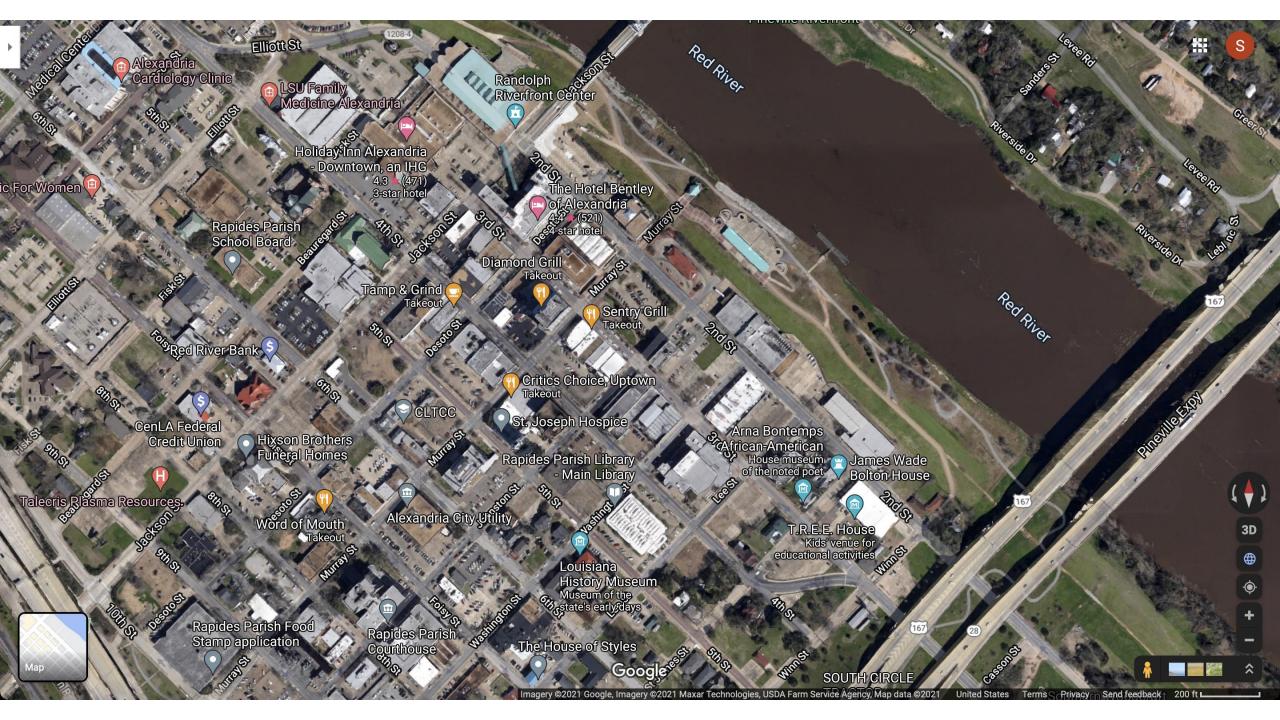
## WHY INVEST IN DOWNTOWN/STUDY AREA?



# WHY INVEST IN DOWNTOWN/STUDY AREA?

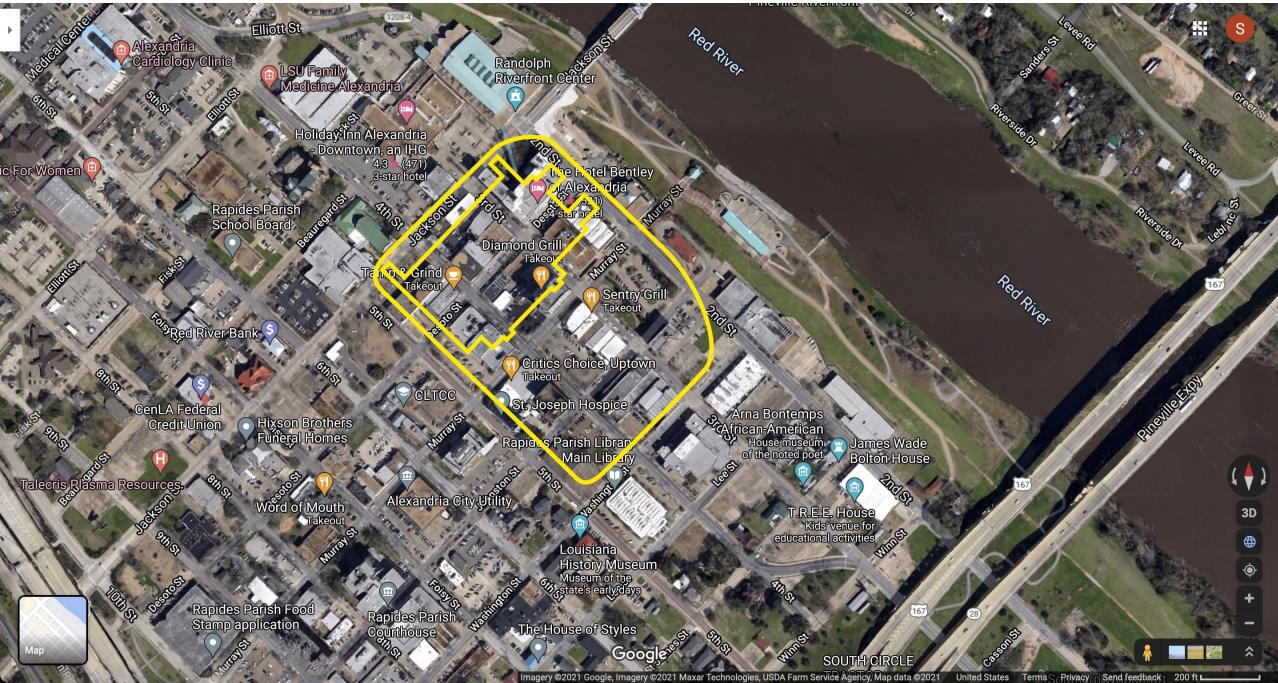


Source: Claritas 2021 Estimates and US Census









## **CONNECTIVITY**

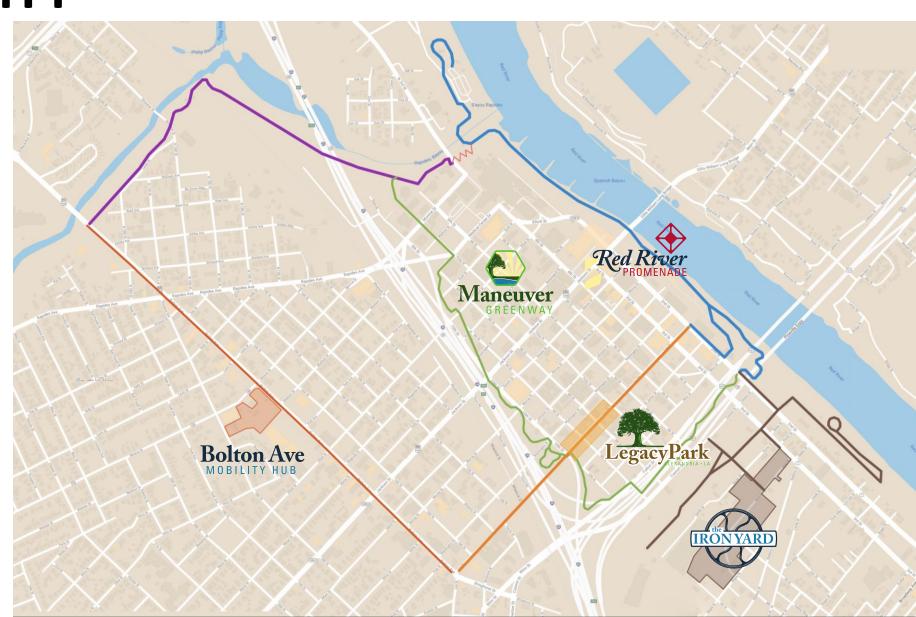
Current loop around downtown is nearly 4 miles

Existing paths and sidewalks connect most of the study area

Incredible river views and recreational parks along trails

Numerous issues with continuity of existing paths

Little to no trail signage

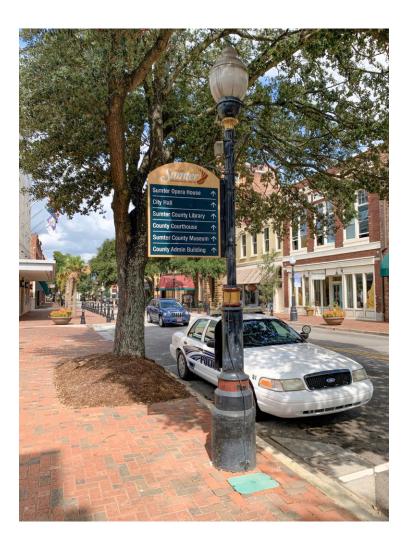


## **TRAIL IDENTITY & SIGNAGE**

Create an identity to build equity in connectivity

Orient users to other spurs, businesses and amenities









## **COMMUNITY BRANDING**











## **COMMUNITY BRANDING**







SEASONED.

WELCOME TO

**ALEXANDRIA, LA REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN** 

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**











#### **ALEXANDRIA, LA REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN**

### MAIN STREET

- Alexandria is already a member of the Louisiana Main Street Program through its Lagniappe Program
- National Main Street brings 40
  years of experience with
  Downtown Revitalization based on
  4 main points Promotion,
  Design, Economic Development,
  Organization
- Louisiana Main Street Staff is highly experienced and considered one of the best in the US



(c) The Main Street Approach: A Guide to Comprehensive Commercial District Transformation, National Main Street Center



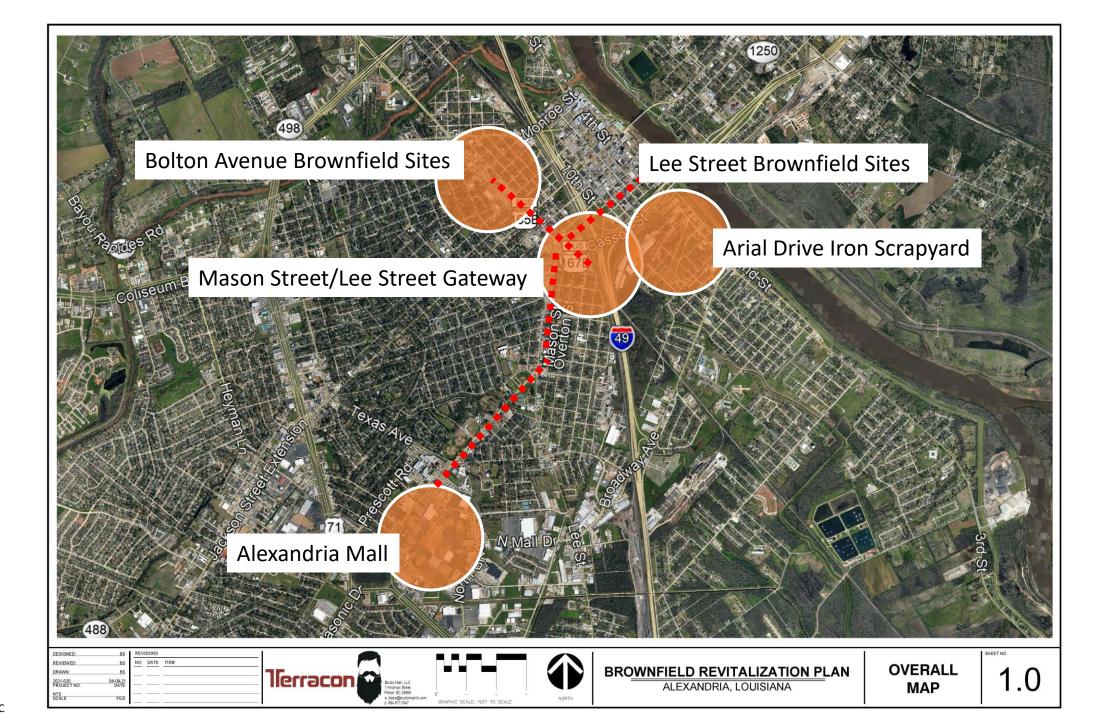
#### **LOUISIANA MAIN STREET**

## **OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS**

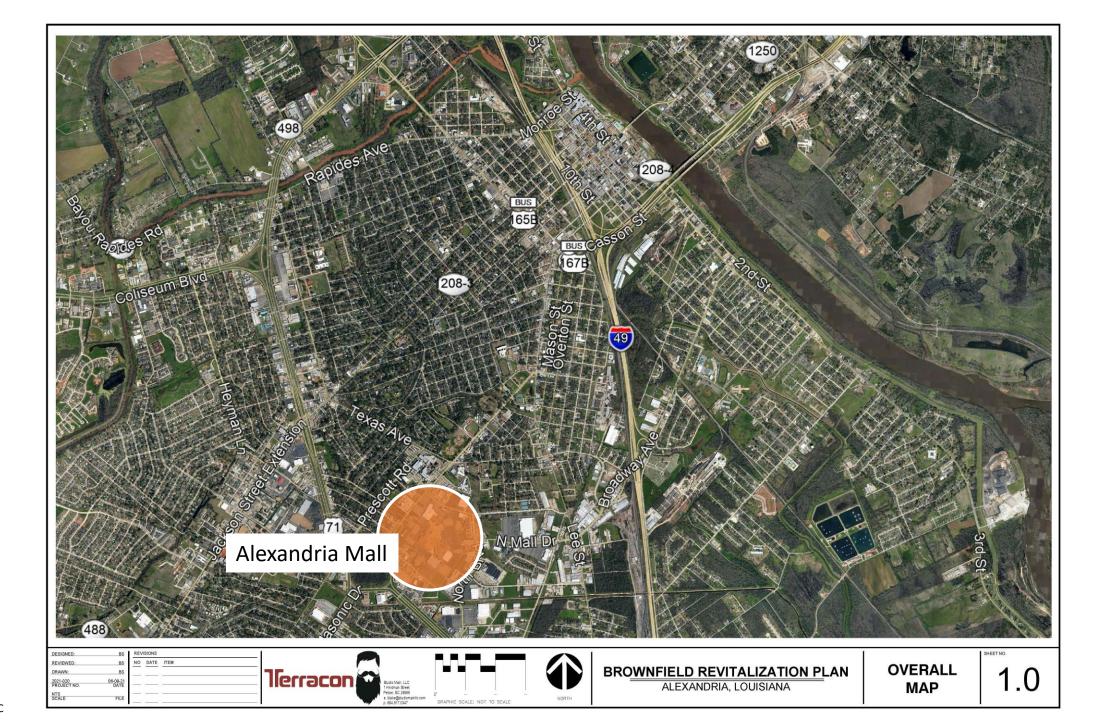
- Alexandria should inventory and categorize all city owned property with a focus on downtown.
  - Active use
  - Holding use
  - Vacant/parking
- Alexandria should be out of the property ownership business in downtown except for active uses and needed parking.
- City owned property = \$0 revenue except for needed parking.
- No-one goes to any downtown for the purpose of parking.
- Alexandria should explore an Ad Valorem and or Sales tax increment financing district for downtown for public improvements to enhance private investment.

## **OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Explore traffic flow opportunities to encourage better circulation (one way vs. two way)
- Complete pedestrian linkages and create a greenway identity
- Reuse and develop underutilized properties
- Introduce and connect community gathering places
- Connect complimentary amenities
- Leverage events and festivals as an economic development tool
- Create identity system to build community pride









## **ALEXANDRIA MALL**

- The mall has a strategic position in the City that cannot be replaced.
- Dark anchors will continue in malls across the United
   States and correlating loss of tenants inside.
- Sears site is independently owned.
- Private development already happening on and near mall.
- Retailers and restaurants not present in the market are likely to infill.
- Medical uses are also likely.

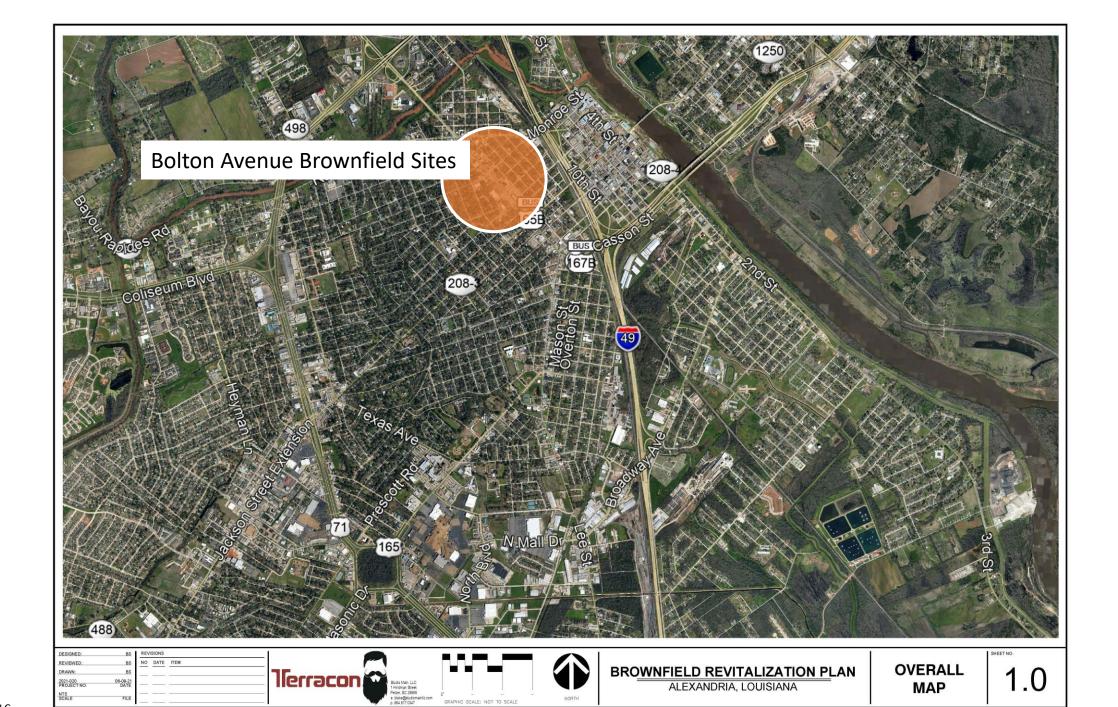
### **ALEXANDRIA, LA REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN**

## **ALEXANDRIA MALL**





Ten Principles for Rethinking the Mall Urban Land Institute (ULI)





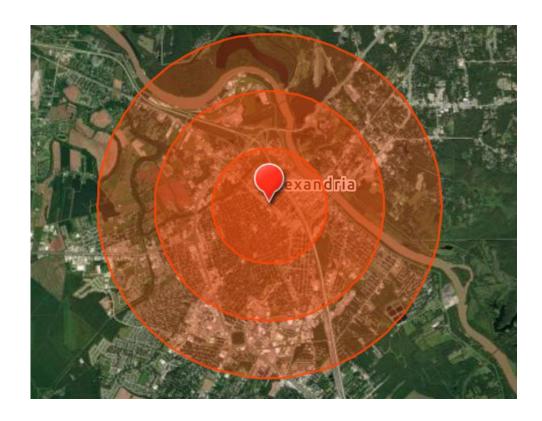
## **BOLTON AVENUE MOBILITY HUB**

- More central location in the City with easier access to major corridors.
- Walking distance for more residents.
- Opens up key "missed opportunity" development site downtown.
- Increases traffic counts for future retail on Bolton Avenue.
- 26% of residents within a 20-minute walk of location have no vehicle at home.

## **BOLTON AVENUE MOBILITY HUB**

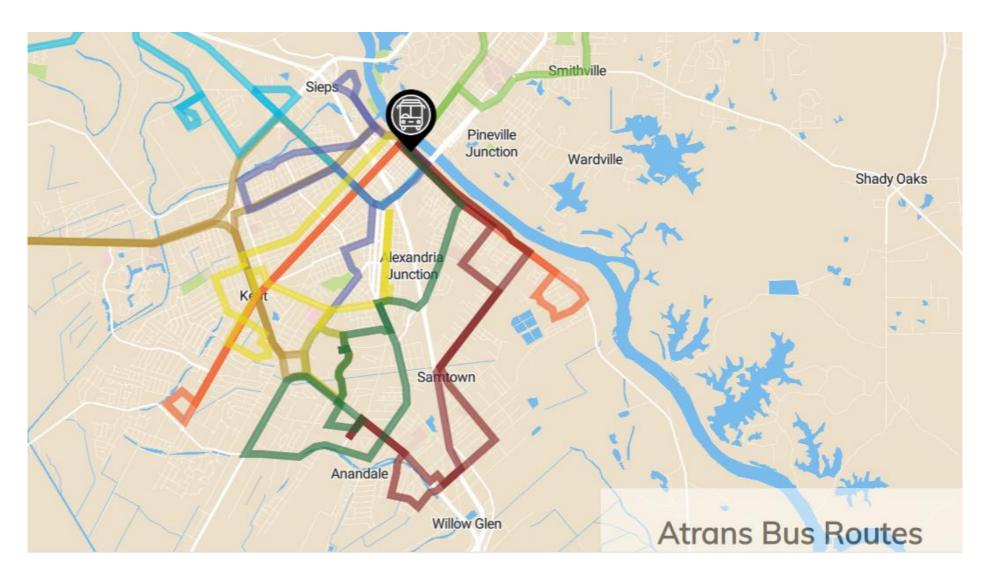


5, 10, 20-minute walk time



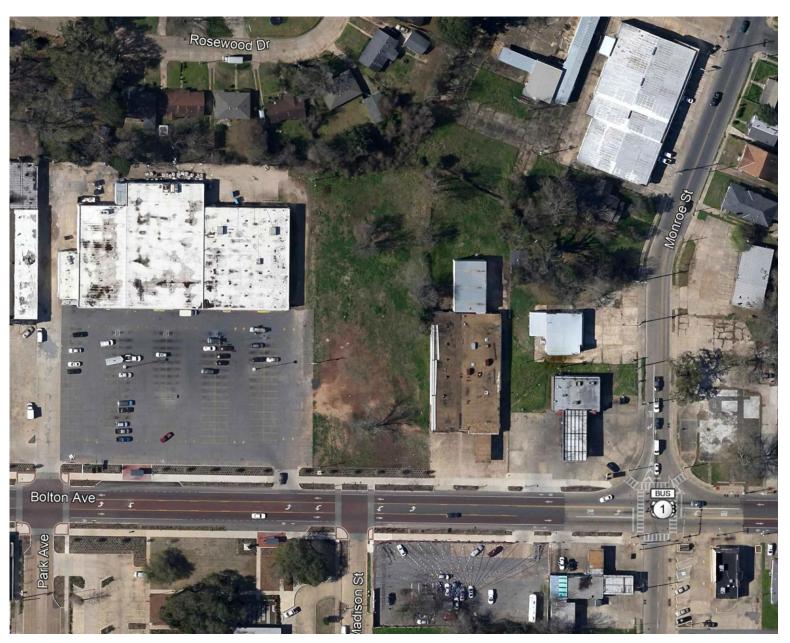
1, 2, 3-mile drive time

## **MOBILITY HUB**



## **MOBILITY HUB**









### **MOBILITY HUB**

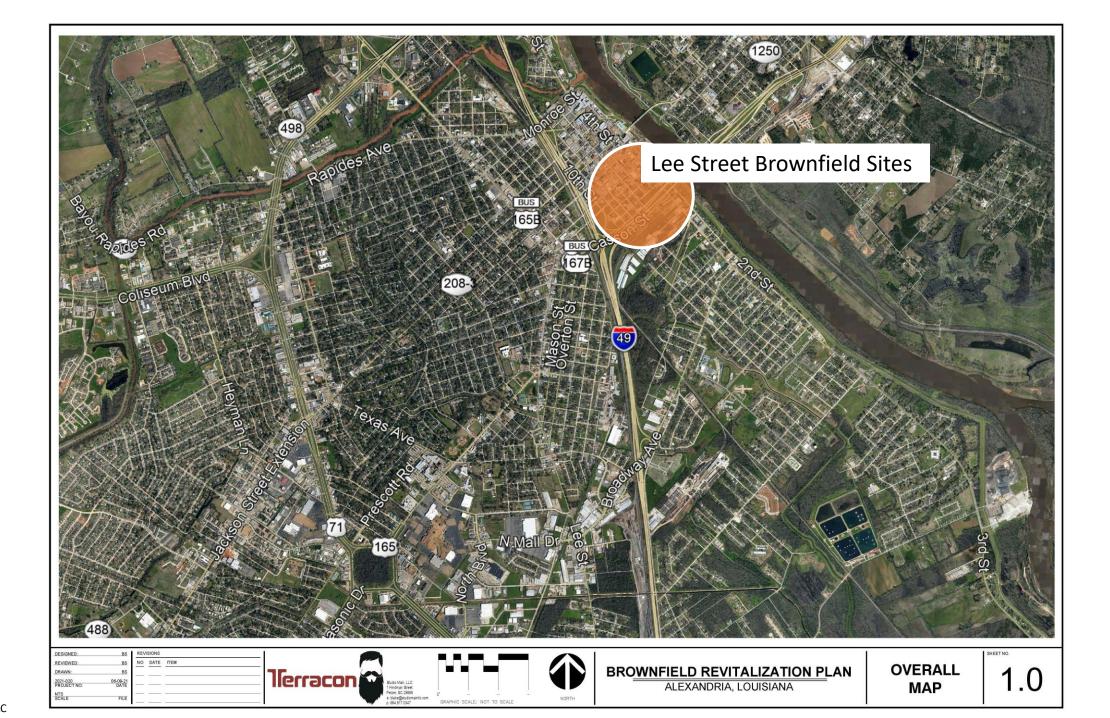
- RELOCATED ATRANS STATION
- 18,500 SF RETAIL
- MADISON STREET EXTENSION
- PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION
   TO MONROE STREET
- BICYCLE SHARE
- ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION
- UBER HUB













#### RESIDENTIAL

- HOME funding for home ownership opportunities at 80% AMI.
- Could be first new detached housing in downtown Alexandria in fifty years.
- 22 units illustrated with potential for +/- 50 units.

#### **COMMERCIAL**

- Need for entrepreneurial opportunities.
- Create retail and dining space at lower barrier to entry.
- Provide activities and services for events held on the Red River.
- Temporarily disrupt unrealistic commercial rent expectations.
- Jump start retail for move to more permanent brick and mortar spaces downtown.





- ATTAINABLE HOUSING
- MANUEVER GREENWAY EXTENSION
- LEGACY PARK WITH REFLECTION POND
- MICRO-RETAIL
- MARKET/PAVILION
- URBAN PLAYGROUND
- STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS
  - LIGHTING
  - SIGNAGE







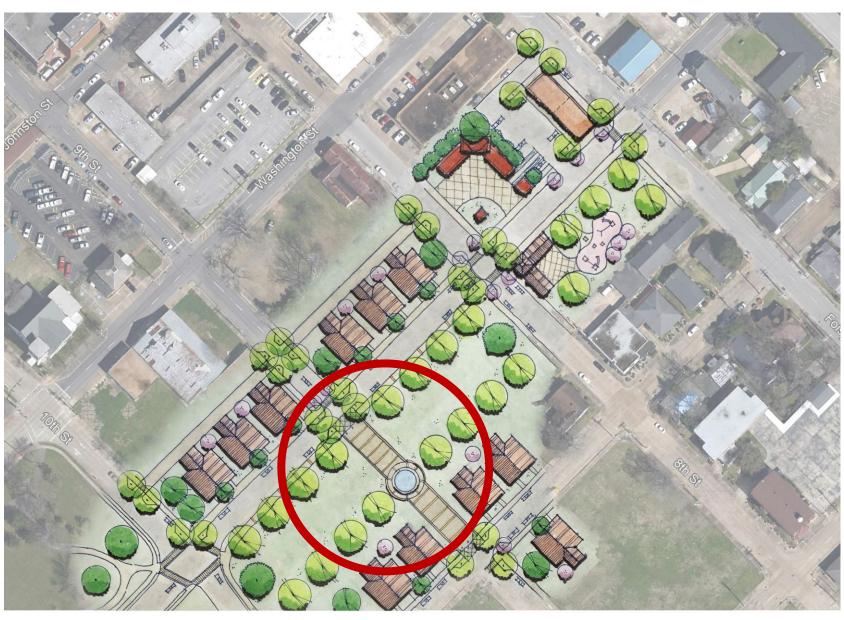




#### ALEXANDRIA, LA REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN



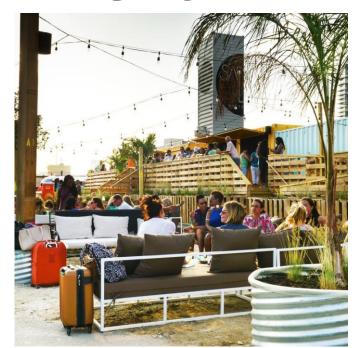








#### ALEXANDRIA, LA REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN







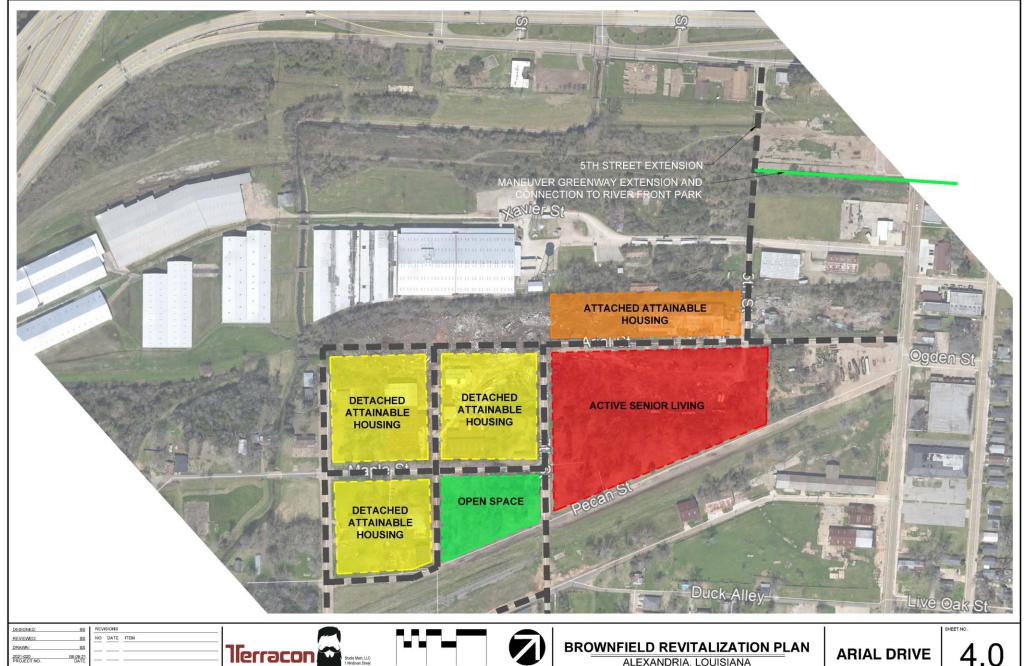




### **IRON YARD**

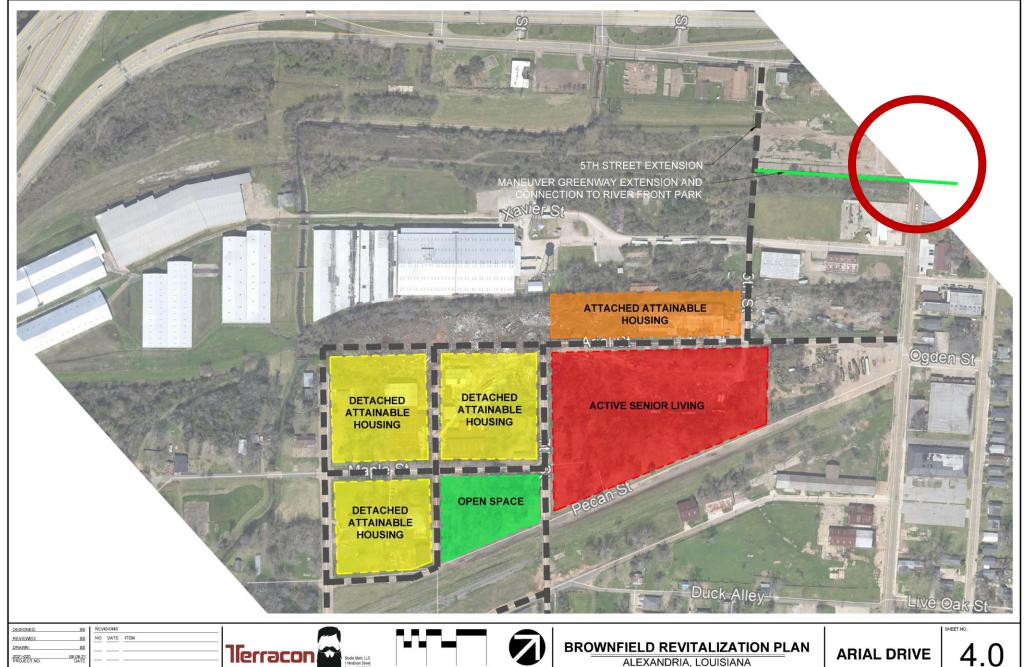
- 24% of population is 55 and older.
- This site provides easy access to medical services, community events, and social services.
- Multiple funding sources for attainable housing for seniors through federal and state agencies





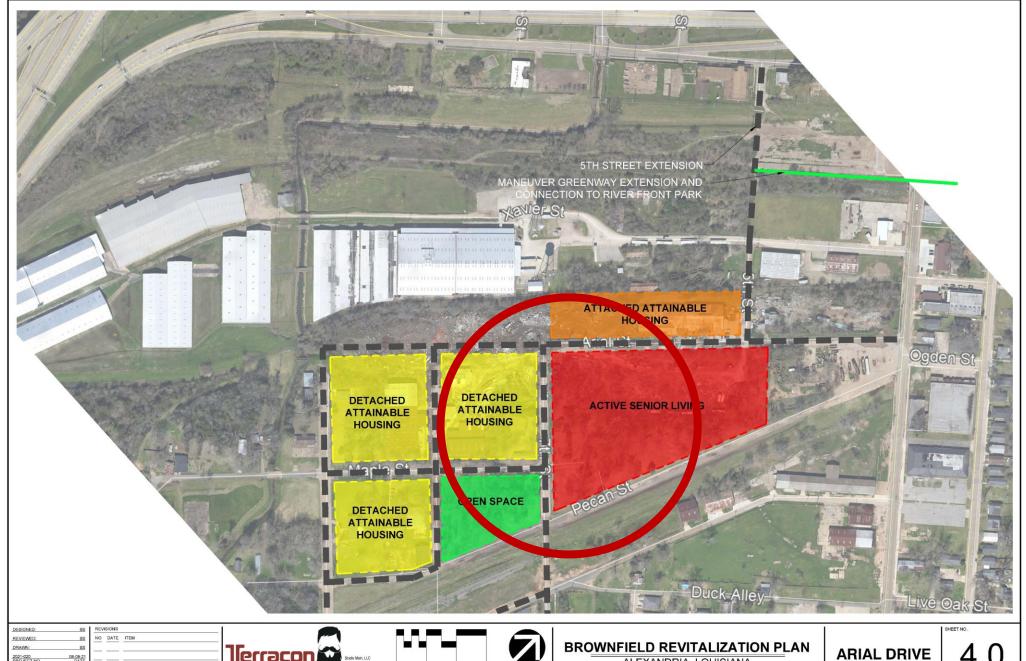
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

**ARIAL DRIVE** 









2021-020 PROJECT NO





**BROWNFIELD REVITALIZATION PLAN** ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

#### ALEXANDRIA, LA REVITALIZATION MASTER PLAN

## **IRON YARD**











## **OPPORTUNIES**

Bolton Ave MOBILITY HUB







# QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

**REFLECT AND REVISE JUNE/JULY 2021** 

**IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY JULY/AUGUST 2021** 

**QUESTIONS/COMMENTS** 

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