

Webinar

ULI Kansas City: Cost-Per-Acre Discussion

Date: May 14, 2020

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00:01:04 --> 00:01:09:

00:00:00 --> 00:00:02: Good afternoon everybody. 00:00:02 --> 00:00:05: My name is Kevin McGinnis and the CEO of the 00:00:05 --> 00:00:09: Keystone Community Corporation and I want to welcome everyone to 00:00:09 --> 00:00:12: the beginning of a new series called our Kansas City. 00:00:12 --> 00:00:15: Making a city we can all afford. 00:00:15 --> 00:00:17: And so I want to start off by telling you 00:00:17 --> 00:00:20: guys that we're extremely excited about this opportunity. 00:00:20 --> 00:00:22: I want to thank you. 00:00:22 --> 00:00:25: Well I sponsors at the Platinum letter at the diamond 00:00:25 --> 00:00:25: 00:00:25 --> 00:00:27: JE Dunn and Plex pod. 00:00:27 --> 00:00:28: And at the platinum level, 00:00:28 --> 00:00:31: BHC, Rhodes, Commerce Bank, Crossroads retail group, McCown, Gordon, Ryan, and Van Trust without the UI 00:00:31 --> 00:00:34: sponsors 00:00:35 --> 00:00:36: and without you alive, 00:00:36 --> 00:00:38: this event wouldn't be possible. 00:00:38 --> 00:00:39: So I wanted to start off. 00:00:39 --> 00:00:42: Since this is the first of the series that we're 00:00:42 --> 00:00:43: going to be doing, 00:00:43 --> 00:00:45: I wanted to start off by giving you all a 00:00:45 --> 00:00:48: little bit of background about how this came about and 00:00:48 --> 00:00:51: then providing some context about what you're going to see 00:00:51 --> 00:00:54: this week and how this fits into the overall program. 00:00:54 --> 00:00:57: So, honestly, how this came about there really 2. 00:00:57 --> 00:01:02: Things that came together. The first was.

every Friday

Urban Land Institute, Kansas City.

They have monthly networking event called Coffee Connect

00:01:09 --> 00:01:11: or it was First Fridays Friday mornings. 00:01:11 --> 00:01:14: An as you know, in Covid set in and sent 00:01:14 --> 00:01:17: many of us into kind of a new work mode. 00:01:17 --> 00:01:20: That event was forced to go virtual and based on 00:01:20 --> 00:01:23: the positive feedback from the 1st event is now moved 00:01:23 --> 00:01:24: to a weekly event. 00:01:24 --> 00:01:27: So it's 8:30 to 9:30 every Friday morning. 00:01:27 --> 00:01:30: Go to kansascity.uli.org. Right there. 00:01:30 --> 00:01:31: Don't try that at home. 00:01:31 --> 00:01:33: I had to write that backwards. 00:01:33 --> 00:01:36: Go to kansascity.uli.org to find out how you can join 00:01:36 --> 00:01:36: us. 00:01:36 --> 00:01:38: This for members and nonmembers. 00:01:38 --> 00:01:41: Really networking event to kind of talk about the hot 00:01:41 --> 00:01:43: issues in the development community. 00:01:43 --> 00:01:44: Hot issues in Kansas City. 00:01:44 --> 00:01:46: For the for the organization. 00:01:46 --> 00:01:50: During that event, we recognize that this was an opportunity 00:01:50 --> 00:01:53: for us to create kind of new and compelling format 00:01:53 --> 00:01:55: to have ongoing conversations in the district. 00:01:55 --> 00:01:58: And so instead of sharing coffee on Friday mornings, 00:01:58 --> 00:02:01: we hope that you will join us every week. 00:02:01 --> 00:02:03: While you're enjoying your lunch, 00:02:03 --> 00:02:06: the second thing, and really the catalyst for this series 00:02:06 --> 00:02:09: was an important recurring theme that kept coming up during 00:02:10 --> 00:02:10: coffee. 00:02:10 --> 00:02:13: Connected during a lot of our conversations and that was 00:02:13 --> 00:02:15: we were hearing things like. 00:02:15 --> 00:02:18: We're not going back to the way things were before. 00:02:18 --> 00:02:21: We're not. We're going to have to find a new 00:02:21 --> 00:02:21: normal. 00:02:21 --> 00:02:24: and so the question that really formed the basis for 00:02:24 --> 00:02:27: this series is instead of trying to go back to 00:02:27 --> 00:02:28: the way things were, 00:02:28 --> 00:02:31: how can we, as a development community community, 00:02:31 --> 00:02:33: come out of this stronger? 00:02:33 --> 00:02:36: So I want to quickly cover some housekeeping items. 00:02:36 --> 00:02:38: This is intended to be a conversation, 00:02:38 --> 00:02:40: so be thinking about your questions. Do not save them until the end at the bottom 00:02:40 --> 00:02:42: 00:02:42 --> 00:02:43: of the zoom screen. 00:02:43 --> 00:02:46: There's a Q&A function. Please go ahead and open that

00:02:46> 00:02:49:	up and ask your questions as you think of them
00:02:49> 00:02:52:	and within that function there is also an important crowd
00:02:52> 00:02:55:	voting element so you can vote up questions that you
00:02:55> 00:02:57:	want to see the group answer Ann will be happy
00:02:57> 00:02:58:	to get to those,
00:02:58> 00:03:01:	and that gives us a sense of the questions that
00:03:01> 00:03:03:	are most important for the community.
00:03:03> 00:03:05:	And don't bail on us at the end because I
00:03:05> 00:03:08:	have an important way for you to stay connected at
00:03:08> 00:03:09:	the end of the program.
00:03:09> 00:03:11:	So hold on till the very end when we do
00:03:11> 00:03:14:	the housekeeping items and I'll tell you about that.
00:03:14> 00:03:16:	And finally, let me tell you a little bit about
00:03:16> 00:03:19:	the format and what you expect to see this week
00:03:19> 00:03:21:	and how it fits into the larger program.
00:03:21> 00:03:24:	So on a weekly basis the program will be split
00:03:24> 00:03:25:	into three segments.
00:03:25> 00:03:28:	The first will be will introduce the conversation and are
00:03:28> 00:03:30:	featured guests are featured speaker.
00:03:30> 00:03:33:	Every week. Will set up the conversation,
00:03:33> 00:03:35:	will set up the sub theme or topic for that
00:03:35> 00:03:36:	week,
00:03:36> 00:03:39:	and then we'll expand the conversation and will invite in
00:03:39> 00:03:42:	a few community members to share their perspectives on
	that
00:03:42> 00:03:43:	week's theme.
00:03:43> 00:03:45:	And then finally will open the conversation.
00:03:45> 00:03:48:	And that's what we'll get to the community.
00:03:48> 00:03:50:	Comments in the community Q&A.
00:03:50> 00:03:54:	Now how this program fits into a larger programmatic view.
00:03:54> 00:03:57:	So there will be three weeks of topical conversations,
00:03:57> 00:04:00:	all organized around a specific category.
00:04:00> 00:04:03:	And then that 4th week will actually invite peers subject
00:04:03> 00:04:05:	matter experts from our regional peer cities.
00:04:05> 00:04:07:	So cities like Indianapolis and Saint Louis,
00:04:07> 00:04:10:	Memphis, Oklahoma City will come in and they will share
00:04:10> 00:04:13:	with us their perspectives on some of these same issues
00:04:13> 00:04:15:	and be able to share best practices and have a
00:04:15> 00:04:19:	larger conversation. So hopefully we can continue the
	dialogue and
00:04:19> 00:04:22:	learn from what others are doing and share with them
00:04:22> 00:04:23:	what we're doing as well.

00:04:23 --> 00:04:26: Now it's important to know those regional conversations will 00:04:26 --> 00:04:27: for you Li members, 00:04:27 --> 00:04:30: so again kansascity.uli.org to find out if you're not a 00:04:30 --> 00:04:32: member and you want to be a part of those 00:04:33 --> 00:04:33: conversations. 00:04:33 --> 00:04:36: What it takes to become a member at you like 00:04:36 --> 00:04:36: Kansas City? 00:04:36 --> 00:04:40: So ultimately, this conversation is really going to be on 00:04:40 --> 00:04:40: you. 00:04:40 --> 00:04:42: How you answer, what questions you ask, 00:04:42 --> 00:04:45: how you drive the conversation pour will help us frame 00:04:45 --> 00:04:48: up what future segments in those four week blocks start 00:04:48 --> 00:04:49: to look like. 00:04:49 --> 00:04:52: not just here, but across the region. 00:04:52 --> 00:04:54: So alright, let's get to it. 00:04:54 --> 00:04:58: It's my honor to introduce our first expert in our 00:04:58 --> 00:04:59: first panelist, 00:04:59 --> 00:05:02: so Dennis St is an architect and urban planner, 00:05:02 --> 00:05:08: landscape architect and the managing principle of Kansas City Studio 00:05:08 --> 00:05:09: at Gould Evans. 00:05:09 --> 00:05:11: In this week's topic, you know, 00:05:11 --> 00:05:13: Dennis, we hear all these things. 00:05:13 --> 00:05:16: We hear things like Kansas City is on the rise, 00:05:16 --> 00:05:19: or Kansas City is ascending and in many ways that's 00:05:19 --> 00:05:19: true. 00:05:19 --> 00:05:21: But as it relates to development, 00:05:21 --> 00:05:24: we're going to break this down a little bit and 00:05:24 --> 00:05:27: talk about how we measure value and its relationship to 00:05:27 --> 00:05:29: development patterns. 00:05:29 --> 00:05:31: So I guess to start things often is help us 00:05:31 --> 00:05:32: frame this up. 00:05:32 --> 00:05:34: Why this topic? How did we get here? 00:05:34 --> 00:05:38: And why is this important to everyone? 00:05:38 --> 00:05:41: Alright thanks Kevin. Is everybody seeing the screen? 00:05:41 --> 00:05:45: Is this working like it's supposed to? 00:05:45 --> 00:05:47: In terms of the presentation. 00:05:47 --> 00:05:51: I'll assume yes, the I'll start with what we've been 00:05:51 --> 00:05:55: doing at Gold Evans for the last three years. 00:05:55 --> 00:05:59: We started a a public awareness campaign and partnership with 00:05:59 --> 00:06:02: the Kansas City Public Library,

00:06:02> 00:06:05:	and it was based on helping our city understand that
00:06:05> 00:06:09:	the way we've developed for the last seven years has
00:06:09> 00:06:11:	really made us poor.
00:06:11> 00:06:15:	And it's the reason why we have struggles with our
00:06:15> 00:06:19:	budget and struggles to fix simple things like potholes.
00:06:19> 00:06:23:	Along the way, we've learned that we also need to
00:06:23> 00:06:26:	have a discussion about the racist policies that are that
00:06:26> 00:06:30:	have influenced our development patterns for the last 70 years.
00:06:30> 00:06:34:	Because for Kansas City to come out of this and
00:06:34> 00:06:36:	find a path back towards prosperity,
00:06:36> 00:06:38:	we need to address both those things.
00:06:38> 00:06:42:	The way we've developed and the policies that we've had
00:06:42> 00:06:46:	in order to create opportunities for shared prosperity across
00.00.40 > 00.00.47	for
00:06:46> 00:06:47:	every Kansas City.
00:06:47> 00:06:50:	And so to set up the discussion for today.
00:06:50> 00:06:55:	We're going to start this out by talking about development
00:06:55> 00:06:56:	patterns.
00:06:56> 00:07:00:	This picture from Kansas City in 1930 in the 30s
00:07:00> 00:07:00:	is.
00:07:02> 00:07:06:	An example about how cities were built for the last
00:07:07> 00:07:07:	5000 years.
00:07:07> 00:07:11:	Now Kansas City was only eight years old by this
00:07:11> 00:07:12:	point,
00:07:12> 00:07:16:	and within that first 80 years we had built a
00:07:16> 00:07:20:	full fledged city with a bustling downtown with an impressive
00:07:21> 00:07:21:	skyline.
00:07:21> 00:07:27:	With the renowned parks and boulevards system and with 100
00:07:27> 00:07:28:	miles of streetcar.
00:07:28> 00:07:31:	I like to let that hang for a second,
00:07:31> 00:07:35:	but then you Fast forward to today and all that
00:07:35> 00:07:39:	prosperity is disappeared in terms of the city that can
00:07:39> 00:07:41:	afford to really move itself forward.
00:07:41> 00:07:45:	For years now we have struggled to come close to
00:07:45> 00:07:51:	addressing our fundamental responsibilities or just maintaining our infrastructure and
00:07:51> 00:07:54:	even this year with the current budget,
00:07:54> 00:07:57:	we are just a fraction of.
00:07:57> 00:08:01:	The investment that we need to be making in taking
00:08:01> 00:08:04:	care of a simple thing like streets.
00:08:04> 00:08:07:	Part of this is due to that development pattern issued.

	,
00:08:10> 00:08:12:	our first 100 years of growth,
00:08:12> 00:08:14:	you see that we went from a small village to
00:08:14> 00:08:16:	an entire city of half a million people,
00:08:16> 00:08:20:	and we grew to a size of 81 square miles.
00:08:20> 00:08:24:	And then if you look what happened from 1950 to
00:08:24> 00:08:25:	today,
00:08:25> 00:08:28:	we've now become a city of 320 square miles.
00:08:28> 00:08:33:	Now the problem is, we're still half a million people.
00:08:33> 00:08:36:	And that simply means that each of us now have
00:08:36> 00:08:39:	four times as much city that we have to take
00:08:39> 00:08:41:	care of an we're not able to do that now.
00:08:41> 00:08:45:	Of course, the reason that happened is because by 1950
00:08:45> 00:08:48:	most American families had an automobile,
00:08:48> 00:08:53:	so the way that we built cities changed dramatically in
00:08:53> 00:08:53:	1950.
00:08:53> 00:08:56:	To help our city understand this,
00:08:56> 00:09:00:	we are relying on some work that's recently been completed
00:09:00> 00:09:02:	for Kansas City by group called Urban.
00:09:02> 00:09:04:	Three out of Asheville, NC,
00:09:04> 00:09:07:	Urban 3's been going around the country,
00:09:07> 00:09:11:	helping cities understand this new way of understanding this problem.
00:09:11> 00:09:14:	So we're going to get into some Maps.
00:09:14> 00:09:16:	This first map is the way that most of us
00:09:16> 00:09:20:	think about value when we think about our cities and
00:09:20> 00:09:23:	it's a it's a measurement of the value based on
00:09:23> 00:09:26:	the value of each parcel.
00:09:26> 00:09:29:	So you can see Kansas City overall and then we've
00:09:29> 00:09:32:	enlarged the central city area there.
00:09:32> 00:09:34:	When you look at value per parcel,
00:09:34> 00:09:37:	a \$250,000 home is as what you think of that
00:09:37> 00:09:38:	parcels value being.
00:09:38> 00:09:41:	It has nothing to do with the lot size,
00:09:41> 00:09:44:	so this is a different way of looking at the
00:09:44> 00:09:48:	value in your city and it's the fundamental difference that
00:09:48> 00:09:52:	urban threes advocating cities to understand this is a look
00:09:52> 00:09:54:	at the value of your city on a per acre
00:09:54> 00:09:58:	basis and the reasons that important is that it allows
00:09:58> 00:10:01:	you to understand the return on investment based on the
00:10:01> 00:10:07:	investment in infrastructure. Because our infrastructure
	carries all of our

00:08:07 --> 00:08:10: If you look at our first 80 years of growth,

00:10:07> 00:10:07:	develop.
00:10:07> 00:10:10:	It covers all of our development.
00:10:10> 00:10:13:	Developed acreage is so, for example,
00:10:13> 00:10:17:	that \$250,000 home on a quarter acre lot represents
	\$1,000,000
00:10:17> 00:10:21:	per acre value back to the city in terms of
00:10:21> 00:10:24:	what you can text if you put that \$250,000 home
00:10:24> 00:10:25:	on a 5 acre lot,
00:10:25> 00:10:30:	it represents \$50,000 per acre in terms of what you
00:10:30> 00:10:32:	can tax back to the city.
00:10:32> 00:10:36:	That's a fundamentally different way of understanding your city,
00:10:36> 00:10:38:	and it's the part that we've missed.
00:10:38> 00:10:41:	As we've been expanding in a very expensive way and
00:10:41> 00:10:44:	not really paying attention to how we're going to be
00:10:44> 00:10:46:	able to afford to maintain that large of a city
00:10:46> 00:10:48:	now.
00:10:48> 00:10:50:	So when you look at that same map,
00:10:50> 00:10:54:	what they do is they make these value per acre
00:10:54> 00:10:57:	Maps both a heat map and three dimensional map.
00:10:57> 00:11:00:	So when you look at our overall city you can
00:11:00> 00:11:04:	pretty quickly see the economic engine of our city is
00:11:04> 00:11:08:	that portion of downtown or the central city that goes
00:11:08> 00:11:11:	from the River to 75th St from Stateline to Troost
00:11:11> 00:11:11:	Ave.
00:11:11> 00:11:15:	Those 16 square miles generate far above their weight limit
00:11:16> 00:11:19:	in terms of the amount of return amount of value.
00:11:19> 00:11:22:	Per acre that generates tax returns back to the city,
00:11:22> 00:11:23:	so the city can afford to do all this.
00:11:23> 00:11:28:	Basic services, including infrastructure maintenance.
00:11:28> 00:11:31:	Let's break that down a little further and look at
00:11:31> 00:11:31:	pattern.
00:11:31> 00:11:34:	So this is a typical development pattern for an urban
00:11:35> 00:11:35:	neighborhood.
00:11:35> 00:11:38:	One of our historic neighborhoods in Kansas City,
00:11:38> 00:11:41:	Mo. So you can see that the streets are fairly
00:11:41> 00:11:41:	tight.
00:11:41> 00:11:43:	The lots are fairly tight.
00:11:43> 00:11:46:	Are there smaller and if you apply to \$250,000 average
00:11:46> 00:11:48:	home value to this neighborhood,
00:11:48> 00:11:51:	it would generate nearly two \$1,000,000 per acre as a
00:11:51> 00:11:53:	return on investment.
00:11:53> 00:11:56:	So let's look at another city and or another development

00:11:57> 00:11:57:	pattern.
00:11:57> 00:12:00:	This is our development patterns since 1950.
00:12:00> 00:12:04:	It's predominantly the way we've built our cities since 1950,
00:12:04> 00:12:06:	and it's got a different St pattern,
00:12:06> 00:12:09:	a different attitude towards lot sizes,
00:12:09> 00:12:11:	and if you use the same \$250,000 home as your
00:12:11> 00:12:12:	average,
00:12:12> 00:12:16:	this development pattern generates about just over half \$1,000,000 per
00:12:17> 00:12:17:	acre.
00:12:17> 00:12:21:	So dramatic difference in the way that we built neighborhoods
00:12:21> 00:12:23:	for the last 70 years.
00:12:23> 00:12:26:	So the nesting thing there were going to zoom into
00:12:26> 00:12:27:	the value per acre map.
00:12:27> 00:12:30:	This is looking with true staff and are running right
00:12:30> 00:12:33:	down the center and you see that dramatic drop in
00:12:33> 00:12:36:	value from the left hand side where you have those.
00:12:36> 00:12:40:	Those warm productive areas of the city that are spiking
00:12:40> 00:12:43:	up and then the cooler and less productive areas of
00:12:43> 00:12:46:	the city that are just on the other side of
00:12:46> 00:12:47:	the state line.
00:12:47> 00:12:50:	Now if we look at at the neighborhoods East of
00:12:50> 00:12:50:	Troost,
00:12:50> 00:12:53:	one thing we quickly see is that they have the
00:12:53> 00:12:57:	same development pattern as the neighborhoods West of Troost.
00:12:57> 00:12:59:	But as we all know,
00:12:59> 00:13:02:	they don't have the same average home values.
00:13:02> 00:13:05:	So if you look at that average home value Easter
00:13:05> 00:13:07:	trustin just say it's \$50,000,
00:13:07> 00:13:10:	which is a reasonable average.
00:13:10> 00:13:15:	The neighborhoods East of Troost are typically producing about \$350,000
00:13:15> 00:13:15:	per acre.
00:13:15> 00:13:18:	Which wouldn't surprise you necessarily,
00:13:18> 00:13:21:	but they're doing more than that because they have more
00:13:21> 00:13:25:	than just development pattern in terms of the street grid
00:13:25> 00:13:26:	working for them.
00:13:26> 00:13:29:	Prior to 1950, we didn't think twice about having a
00:13:29> 00:13:34:	variety of different residential opportunities in our neighborhoods,
00:13:34> 00:13:36:	so we've not only had single family homes,

00:13:36> 00:13:41:	we had duplexes, triplexes everything up to these colonnade style
00:13:41> 00:13:45:	6 Plex buildings were integrated into our neighborhoods and it
00:13:45> 00:13:48:	was just a natural way that we built and provided
00:13:48> 00:13:51:	a variety of price points for allowed a variety of
00:13:51> 00:13:54:	people to live in our neighborhoods.
00:13:54> 00:13:56:	When you add that into the equation.
00:13:56> 00:13:58:	And you get up to a 15 unit per acre
00:13:58> 00:14:02:	average than even a neighborhood with only \$50,000 residential units
00:14:02> 00:14:06:	ends up generating a three quarter \$1,000,000 per acre return
00:14:06> 00:14:09:	on investment. And all of a sudden when you start
00:14:09> 00:14:11:	understanding your city.
00:14:11> 00:14:15:	This way, you start understanding that the neighborhoods we think
00:14:15> 00:14:19:	about as being the impoverished the problem neighborhoods in our
00:14:19> 00:14:21:	city are actually returning as much,
00:14:21> 00:14:24:	if not more in many cases than what many of
00:14:24> 00:14:26:	us think of as the affluent,
00:14:26> 00:14:30:	the prosperous. The neighborhoods that we've built since 1950 that
00:14:30> 00:14:33:	are generating lots of resources back to the city.
00:14:33> 00:14:34:	It's not really that way,
00:14:34> 00:14:38:	and understanding this is fundamental to working our way forward,
00:14:38> 00:14:42:	back towards prosperity. So the urban three study which will
00:14:42> 00:14:45:	make available to everybody on the call today not only
00:14:45> 00:14:46:	looked at property taxes,
00:14:46> 00:14:48:	they looked at sales taxes.
00:14:48> 00:14:51:	They put all these things together and we we could
00:14:51> 00:14:54:	just see that what sales tax would say when you
00:14:54> 00:14:56:	add it to the property tax equation?
00:14:56> 00:14:59:	Is it just? Amplifies the impact of the development pattern
00:14:59> 00:15:01:	that the property taxes tell you.
00:15:01> 00:15:04:	Now, one of the things that we've been trying to
00:15:04> 00:15:07:	do is to get the earnings tax built into that,
00:15:07> 00:15:09:	and for a lot of reasons that has proved to
00:15:09> 00:15:12:	be a very difficult thing to map and just get
00:15:12> 00:15:13:	the right information.
00:15:13> 00:15:16:	But I will tell you through all the research we've
00:15:16> 00:15:19:	done that it essentially reflects the same impact as the

00:15:19> 00:15:20:	property value,
00:15:20> 00:15:23:	so we can have these discussions based on the mapping
00:15:23> 00:15:24:	that we have.
00:15:24> 00:15:27:	Another aspect of development pattern is looking at.
00:15:27> 00:15:32:	What you build? So these are commercial buildings and Westport
00:15:32> 00:15:35:	now part of the oldest part of Kansas City.
00:15:35> 00:15:40:	And these buildings have been generating return on investment to
00:15:40> 00:15:44:	the city for generations five or six generations in some
00:15:44> 00:15:47:	cases and is partly because they are.
00:15:47> 00:15:50:	They are easily adaptable to a variety of uses.
00:15:50> 00:15:54:	They may be a retail store for one generation,
00:15:54> 00:15:58:	an office building for next and some totally different use.
00:15:58> 00:16:02:	In that third generation, but they allow for continued use
00:16:02> 00:16:06:	and continued productivity coming back to the city.
00:16:06> 00:16:09:	When you look at our more recent development patterns,
00:16:09> 00:16:14:	that opportunity for productivity being sustainable is in question.
00:16:14> 00:16:17:	We all know that the best years for a big
00:16:17> 00:16:20:	box store are its first years and after 20 years
00:16:20> 00:16:24:	it's pretty common for that to disappear and go somewhere
00:16:24> 00:16:27:	else. And then you're left with the maybe a thrift
00:16:27> 00:16:31:	store or even worse the church because at that point
00:16:31> 00:16:34:	there's no revenue production back to the city.
00:16:34> 00:16:38:	And there's just a question about how resilient from this
00:16:38> 00:16:41:	from a return on investment back to the city in
00:16:41> 00:16:42:	terms of value.
00:16:42> 00:16:45:	We're building these days.
00:16:45> 00:16:46:	So with all that setting,
00:16:46> 00:16:51:	the stage two primary lessons to generate for the discussion
00:16:51> 00:16:51:	today.
00:16:51> 00:16:54:	Paying attention to the value per acre proposition and how
00:16:54> 00:16:58:	we can better understand our development patterns and where we
00:16:58> 00:17:01:	ought to be investing in and incentivizing ourselves.
00:17:01> 00:17:04:	And then also this fact that the development Pattern matters.
00:17:04> 00:17:06:	So Kevin, I'll take it back to you he Dennis
00:17:06> 00:17:09:	Day know that was great and I love the heat
00:17:09> 00:17:11:	Maps and I love the 3D aspect of it.
00:17:11> 00:17:13:	It's really easy to understand.
00:17:13> 00:17:15:	I really you guys have done that way urban three
00:17:15> 00:17:16:	is done that.

00.17.10> 00.17.13.	So in a pretty simple guy.
00:17:19> 00:17:21:	Let me make sure I have this right from a
00:17:21> 00:17:22:	business and entrepreneurial.
00:17:22> 00:17:24:	You know the background that I have there.
00:17:24> 00:17:27:	I think about this is the difference between 2 two
00:17:27> 00:17:27:	companies.
00:17:27> 00:17:30:	If you will, one company that's maybe focused on sales
00:17:30> 00:17:32:	that are more profitable that are going to contribute to
00:17:32> 00:17:35:	the bottom line and help grow the organization.
00:17:35> 00:17:37:	And then a company that's maybe just focus on top
00:17:37> 00:17:39:	line revenue and at the end of the day realizes
00:17:39> 00:17:42:	that every sale that they're making is actually costing them
00:17:42> 00:17:44:	and putting them deeper in a hole is.
00:17:44> 00:17:48:	That is not a fair comparison to to think about
00:17:48> 00:17:48:	this.
00:17:48> 00:17:51:	We had a principle that made joke once that we
00:17:51> 00:17:53:	we lose money on every project,
00:17:53> 00:17:55:	but we make it up in volume.
00:17:57> 00:17:59:	I have the same thinking right?
00:17:59> 00:18:00:	Yes it is the same thing.
00:18:00> 00:18:03:	We create initial prosperity, but we aren't looking at the
00:18:03> 00:18:04:	long term.
00:18:04> 00:18:07:	We aren't paying attention to how well these investments
00 40 07 > 00 40 00	perform
00:18:07> 00:18:08:	over a long term.
00:18:08> 00:18:10:	There's another seem to all this.
00:18:10> 00:18:13:	The way that we build infrastructure is much more expensive
00:18:13> 00:18:16:	today that used to be so not only have we
00:18:16> 00:18:18:	created a more expensive development pattern,
00:18:18> 00:18:21:	we've outfitted with more expensive infrastructure.
00:18:21> 00:18:24:	So all those things are working against us and causing
00:18:24> 00:18:26:	us to struggle like we are today.
00:18:26> 00:18:27:	Yeah, it only makes sense,
00:18:27> 00:18:29:	so I guess that. At the end of the day,
00:18:29> 00:18:32:	one of the things that will probably start to dig
00:18:32> 00:18:35:	into is if you're comparing those two companies and comparing
00:18:35> 00:18:38:	and contrasting who's the company in that statement.
00:18:38> 00:18:40:	So with that, I'd like to bring on a couple
00:18:40> 00:18:43:	of our additional community members and kind of broaden
	their
00:18:43> 00:18:44:	perspectives on this,
00:18:44> 00:18:47:	so I'd like to introduce Kevin Klinkenberg,

00:17:16 --> 00:17:19: So I'm a pretty simple guy.

00:18:47 --> 00:18:49: who's the Executive Director at Casey Midtown, 00:18:49 --> 00:18:52: now an Michael Collins, who is the managing partner for 00:18:52 --> 00:18:53: JE Dunn Capital Partners. 00:18:53 --> 00:18:55: Thanks for joining us guys. 00:18:55 --> 00:18:57: Welcome to the conversation. Thank you. 00:18:57 --> 00:18:59: Thanks for having us. Absolutely, 00:18:59 --> 00:19:01: Kevin Kevin. I want to start with you so you 00:19:02 --> 00:19:04: know you're responsible for a couple CDs in Midtown. 00:19:04 --> 00:19:07: You've got the Conservancy, you've got. 00:19:07 --> 00:19:08: You know the business coalition, 00:19:08 --> 00:19:11: their 39th and main, so you're really focused in on 00:19:11 --> 00:19:12: a specific area. 00:19:12 --> 00:19:15: This map as you're listening to Dennis talk about this 00:19:15 --> 00:19:17: and kind of your views. 00:19:17 --> 00:19:18: Share with us a little bit. 00:19:18 --> 00:19:21: Your perspective on bird and what this means to you 00:19:21 --> 00:19:22: in your role. 00:19:22 --> 00:19:25: Well thanks, thanks Kevin. Thanks Dennis. 00:19:25 --> 00:19:29: She ate the conversation. It's funny this this discussion reminds 00:19:29 --> 00:19:32: me a little bit of when I first started learning 00:19:32 --> 00:19:33: about urban design. 00:19:33 --> 00:19:37: Instead of architecture. You was trained as an architect and 00:19:37 --> 00:19:39: when you're trained as an architect, 00:19:39 --> 00:19:42: you look at the world's individual buildings. 00:19:42 --> 00:19:44: When you learn about urban design, 00:19:44 --> 00:19:46: you actually see the collection of everything, 00:19:46 --> 00:19:48: and once you do that, 00:19:48 --> 00:19:49: it's kind of hard to Unsee, 00:19:49 --> 00:19:51: you know cities and how you, 00:19:51 --> 00:19:54: how you view places, and this is very similar. 00:19:54 --> 00:19:56: You know, once you start to do this math and 00:19:56 --> 00:19:57: have this analysis, 00:19:57 --> 00:20:01: it's hard to. It's hard to Unsee what you've learned 00:20:01 --> 00:20:05: and and understand how cities either go broke or prosper. 00:20:05 --> 00:20:07: I do want to start off by saying a couple 00:20:07 --> 00:20:08: of couple points. 00:20:08 --> 00:20:11: I'd like to make. One is first of all, 00:20:11 --> 00:20:13: this is not unique to Kansas City, 00:20:13 --> 00:20:15: and certainly not unique to Kansas City, 00:20:15 --> 00:20:19: Mo. Certain elements of this are are more obvious here, 00:20:19 --> 00:20:22: and they're easier to study because we have a very

00:20:22> 00:20:24:	large city geographically with urban,
00:20:24> 00:20:26:	suburban and rural all within city limits.
00:20:26> 00:20:29:	So it's quite easy to compare.
00:20:29> 00:20:32:	Development patterns in my time in Savannah,
00:20:32> 00:20:34:	GA. Before I left there,
00:20:34> 00:20:38:	we did a plan for the city's greater downtown area
00:20:38> 00:20:41:	and we saw a very similar results and we did
00:20:41> 00:20:46:	some measurements on that and discovered that basically about 6%
00:20:46> 00:20:49:	of the city's land area was generating 40%
00:20:49> 00:20:53:	of the city's revenue, and so you effectively had a
00:20:53> 00:20:55:	situation where 90%
00:20:55> 00:20:59:	or more of the city's land area was losing money.
00:20:59> 00:21:02:	And people were wondering every year why the city was
00:21:02> 00:21:05:	struggling to to meet its basic services,
00:21:05> 00:21:08:	even in what was inarguably a boom time for the
00:21:08> 00:21:12:	city with lots of development and lots of great things
00:21:12> 00:21:12:	going on,
00:21:12> 00:21:15:	and so that that was a common situation.
00:21:15> 00:21:18:	And we we compared a couple of neighborhoods there that
00:21:18> 00:21:22:	were similar to what this analysis was in Kansas City,
00:21:22> 00:21:25:	where sort of a historic what we would call here
00:21:25> 00:21:29:	more like a Midtown neighborhood in Kansas City compared
	to.
00:21:29> 00:21:34:	A suburban neighborhood and the older neighborhood actually had two
00:21:34> 00:21:37:	and a half times the value per acre that it
00:21:37> 00:21:38:	was generating.
00:21:38> 00:21:41:	Even with household incomes that were 40%
00:21:41> 00:21:44:	lower, which was remarkable, and so that that,
00:21:44> 00:21:46:	really, that really taught us a lot.
00:21:46> 00:21:49:	And so I think there's that lesson is again.
00:21:49> 00:21:53:	So many cities are struggling with this and trying to
00:21:53> 00:21:54:	figure this out.
00:21:54> 00:21:56:	There's a lot of cities,
00:21:56> 00:21:59:	lot of suburban communities that are prospering today.
00:21:59> 00:22:02:	That everything looks great, but a lot of that is,
00:22:02> 00:22:06:	you know, very contingent upon high income demographics that are
00:22:06> 00:22:08:	there to you know right now,
00:22:08> 00:22:11:	and they haven't had to face the problems that older
00:22:11> 00:22:13:	cities have had to face.
00:22:13> 00:22:15:	And that's what makes this complicated.

00:22:15> 00:22:17:	So just overall big picture.
00:22:17> 00:22:20:	I'd say, you know, this is something many cities are
00:22:20> 00:22:23:	struggling with and trying to understand as it relates to
00:22:24> 00:22:24:	Kansas City.
00:22:24> 00:22:26:	Anan midtown. I do though,
00:22:26> 00:22:28:	want to be clear, you know,
00:22:28> 00:22:30:	there's a certain sense of we have to.
00:22:30> 00:22:33:	So be playing in our language about what a lot
00:22:33> 00:22:34:	of this means,
00:22:34> 00:22:38:	and in essence we have been extracting wealth for about
00:22:38> 00:22:41:	seven decades from the urban core and using that to
00:22:41> 00:22:45:	subsidize development on the edge of the city in the
00:22:45> 00:22:49:	suburban pattern, you know, not a whole lot different than
00:22:49> 00:22:50:	a mining operation,
00:22:50> 00:22:54:	because we have. We have these urban core neighborhoods that
00:22:54> 00:22:58:	produce tremendous wealth for the community and for themselves,
00:22:58> 00:23:01:	and that revenue is not coming back.
00:23:01> 00:23:05:	In the same manner to those neighborhoods as it is,
00:23:05> 00:23:08:	that's going out into a pattern of development that loses
00:23:08> 00:23:12:	money that seems really counter intuitive to most people,
00:23:12> 00:23:14:	but you you really can't argue the math,
00:23:14> 00:23:18:	and unfortunately we continue to do that with with our
00:23:18> 00:23:19:	infrastructure investments.
00:23:19> 00:23:22:	And so this, this is all really important as we
00:23:22> 00:23:23:	talk about,
00:23:23> 00:23:26:	you know how to spend limited resources,
00:23:26> 00:23:28:	and I know when when a city has a budget
00:23:28> 00:23:30:	that approaches 2 billion dollars,
00:23:30> 00:23:34:	it may not seem like there are limited resources.
00:23:34> 00:23:37:	But it's you know it's half a million people and
00:23:37> 00:23:41:	it's 300 square miles and we do have to actually
00:23:41> 00:23:43:	allocate those in some fashion.
00:23:43> 00:23:46:	And you know, I would reiterate that you know I'm
00:23:46> 00:23:49:	I'm not here to say and I know Dennis isn't
00:23:49> 00:23:49:	either.
00:23:49> 00:23:53:	That this means that we should force everybody or compel
00:23:53> 00:23:55:	everybody to live in an urban fashion,
00:23:55> 00:23:58:	and that the the pattern that exists in our historic
00:23:58> 00:24:01:	neighborhoods is the only way for people to live.
00:24:01> 00:24:04:	You know, I'm not saying that I think you know
00:24:04> 00:24:07:	different strokes for different folks.

00:24:07> 00:24:10:	Alot of people like the urban lifestyle and a lot
00:24:10> 00:24:10:	don't.
00:24:10> 00:24:13:	And that's an that's just fine.
00:24:13> 00:24:17:	But in many ways we've had kind of a conspiracy
00:24:17> 00:24:19:	of good intentions.
00:24:19> 00:24:22:	On getting to this point and that combined with the
00:24:22> 00:24:25:	a period where our society was so wealthy that we
00:24:26> 00:24:27:	really forgot to evaluate,
00:24:27> 00:24:31:	you know, return on investment and and really understand
	some
00:24:31> 00:24:35:	of the basics of urban economics and city economics.
00:24:35> 00:24:38:	So I think what we're trying to say is we
00:24:38> 00:24:38:	need to.
00:24:38> 00:24:41:	We all need to take a step back and really
00:24:41> 00:24:43:	understand what's going on.
00:24:43> 00:24:47:	Look at the numbers. Maybe challenge some of our long
00:24:47> 00:24:52:	held assumptions about cities and neighborhoods and then try to
00:24:52> 00:24:54:	figure out how do we.
00:24:54> 00:24:56:	How do we move forward?
00:24:56> 00:25:00:	You know what? What can we use to evaluate future
00:25:00> 00:25:03:	decisions on an infrastructure?
00:25:03> 00:25:05:	You know, a lot of this is an exercise in
00:25:05> 00:25:06:	humility in our parts,
00:25:06> 00:25:09:	and saying maybe there's a whole lot we really don't
00:25:09> 00:25:12:	know and we need to take some time to understand
00:25:13> 00:25:14:	it a lot better.
00:25:14> 00:25:16:	Lastly, I just I think about this when I think
00:25:16> 00:25:19:	about you know previous decisions that were made,
00:25:19> 00:25:22:	and I say conspiracy of good intentions because there were
00:25:22> 00:25:25:	there were so many things that lots and lots of
00:25:25> 00:25:28:	people over many decades were doing because they thought it
00:25:28> 00:25:30:	was the right thing to do.
00:25:30> 00:25:32:	They thought we had the money to do it.
00:25:32> 00:25:34:	They thought it would all workout in the end,
00:25:34> 00:25:37:	but there were clear decisions that were made and choices
00:25:38> 00:25:39:	that were made that had,
00:25:39> 00:25:42:	you know, impacts that we can't ignore an beyond some
00:25:42> 00:25:44:	of the racial impacts that Dennis.
00:25:44> 00:25:48:	Option there were infrastructure impacts like in Kansas City.
00:25:48> 00:25:52:	The choice, the choice made years ago to design and

00:25:52> 00:25:54:	build Southwest traffic,
00:25:54> 00:25:58:	way to essentially create a mini freeway through 7 urban
00:25:58> 00:26:03:	neighborhoods and leave a deep scar on those
00:26:03> 00:26:05:	neighborhoods that
00:26:05> 00:26:08:	last till this day.
	As a clear choice to say that the neighborhoods South
00:26:08> 00:26:11:	of Brush Creek and into Kansas were more important and
00:26:11> 00:26:13:	more valuable that that was.
00:26:13> 00:26:16:	That was a choice. We were making an I would
00:26:16> 00:26:18:	ask us to think was that,
00:26:18> 00:26:20:	you know, is that really a smart choice?
00:26:20> 00:26:24:	An when we evaluate St and infrastructure decisions?
00:26:24> 00:26:27:	Let's also talk about the value those urban neighborhoods
00:26:28> 00:26:30:	have
	and what they return to our city.
00:26:35> 00:26:37:	So on mute, I think as we progress through,
00:26:37> 00:26:40:	this conversation will be interesting for us to get into.
00:26:40> 00:26:43:	Kind of. What do we do with the existing infrastructure?
00:26:43> 00:26:45:	We're going to get into that next week a little
00:26:45> 00:26:47:	bit more and how we think about that.
00:26:47> 00:26:49:	I want to kind of switch roles so Michael,
00:26:49> 00:26:50:	like you're looking at the,
00:26:50> 00:26:53:	you know, Kevin made this kind of intro comment about
00:26:53> 00:26:55:	how you look at it as an architect.
00:26:55> 00:26:56:	How you look at it.
00:26:56> 00:26:58:	As an urban planner, you're not looking at building by
00:26:58> 00:27:00:	building project by project anymore.
00:27:00> 00:27:02:	You're kind of role is to pencil out.
00:27:02> 00:27:05:	Project right your recipe for the capital and you're answering
00:27:05> 00:27:07:	to an investor on a specific project.
00:27:07> 00:27:08:	So showing me a little bit.
00:27:08> 00:27:11:	Your perspective on what you're hearing and how you think
00:27:11> 00:27:11:	about this.
00:27:14> 00:27:17:	So yeah, you know couple things when you really think
00:27:17> 00:27:18:	through this.
00:27:18> 00:27:20:	And I really love Dennis is presentation.
00:27:20> 00:27:23:	I've heard it. I've seen these slides so many times
00:27:23> 00:27:27:	and I have a new question who strategic thought process
00:27:27> 00:27:28:	when I look at it,
00:27:28> 00:27:31:	but it really just challenges our perspective of making sure
00:27:31> 00:27:35:	you know when we're looking across the country were in
00:27:35> 00:27:38:	16 different markets right now and we're focused on,

00:27:38> 00:27:41:	you know what's the vision for the city in the
00:27:41> 00:27:43:	Community in this business?
00:27:43> 00:27:45:	What are they doing to actually,
00:27:45> 00:27:49:	you know, move forward with growth and I'll tell you.
00:27:49> 00:27:52:	Ironically, most of the cities that we invest in don't
00:27:52> 00:27:56:	have taxes in those for those economic projects that we're
00:27:57> 00:27:58:	looking at doing an.
00:27:58> 00:28:01:	But what I have come to conclusion is we have
00:28:01> 00:28:05:	to rethink who Anwer receives tax incentives in a city
00:28:05> 00:28:06:	such as this.
00:28:06> 00:28:09:	We see what we visualize in the news about,
00:28:09> 00:28:13:	you know which development entity is receiving tax
00:28:13> 00:28:16:	incentives.
00:28:16> 00:28:19:	But I think what it's doing is challenging our thoughts.
	Just like Kevin said, challenging ourselves to say,
00:28:19> 00:28:22:	you know, how do we think differently within this environment?
00:28:22> 00:28:24:	Not to say anything was done wrong.
00:28:24> 00:28:27:	There were few things done wrong in the past of
00:28:27> 00:28:30:	how infrastructure was done and what the purpose of that
00:28:30> 00:28:30:	was.
00:28:30> 00:28:32:	I'm not going to. I'm not going to turn a
00:28:32> 00:28:33:	blind eye in that,
00:28:33> 00:28:36:	but I also think from Kansas City's perspective we have
00:28:36> 00:28:39:	to continue to challenge ourselves with saying.
00:28:39> 00:28:42:	How does this correlate into whatever the group the overall
00:28:42> 00:28:43:	vision is of Kansas City?
00:28:43> 00:28:46:	What is our vision? And how does it connect to
00:28:46> 00:28:47:	our social,
00:28:47> 00:28:51:	environmental and as well as our job placement norms of
00:28:51> 00:28:53:	what we want to see in the future?
00:28:53> 00:28:56:	You know, we look at from an investment standpoint.
00:28:56> 00:28:59:	We look at our policy from economic standpoint,
00:28:59> 00:29:03:	from job growth or the antiquated.
00:29:03> 00:29:05:	Have they been tested? Have they been tried,
00:29:05> 00:29:07:	and if they have been tested,
00:29:07> 00:29:09:	are they policies that they said?
00:29:09> 00:29:12:	You know what we actually have this wrong and we're
00:29:12> 00:29:14:	actually going to relook at this.
00:29:14> 00:29:17:	Rethink this strategy. What are the focused incentives on?
00:29:17> 00:29:20:	And so we try to avoid areas that you know
00:29:20> 00:29:24:	everyone's looking at the same incentive package for every asset

00:29:24	-> 00:29:25 :	type versus saying,
00:29:25	-> 00:29:27:	you know, we're actually looking.
00:29:27	-> 00:29:28:	If you're looking at a model.
00:29:28	-> 00:29:30:	Here's the data that supports.
00:29:30	-> 00:29:33:	Why would provide you.
00:29:33	-> 00:29:36:	That type of value added from an economic incentive package.
00:29:36	-> 00:29:39:	How does that area promote innovation and prosperity?
00:29:39	-> 00:29:42:	Those are key questions that we're always asking ourselves when
00:29:43	-> 00:29:45:	we're looking at different marketplaces.
00:29:45	-> 00:29:48:	What is the municipalities the government state government?
00:29:48	-> 00:29:51:	How are they looking at their research universities?
00:29:51	-> 00:29:52:	How are they looking at?
00:29:52	-> 00:29:55:	What their son, what their clusters of economic activity?
00:29:55	-> 00:29:57:	How do they care about that and how?
00:29:57	-> 00:30:00:	And what is that going to be imposed on to
00:30:00	-> 00:30:00:	us?
00:30:00	-> 00:30:01:	And we're fine with that.
00:30:01	-> 00:30:03:	We just want we want.
00:30:03	-> 00:30:06:	To understand what their value is and understand from a
00:30:06	-> 00:30:08:	significant standpoint,
00:30:08	-> 00:30:11:	what is the next between their buildings and public spaces?
00:30:11	-> 00:30:16:	The infrastructure, the utilities, and the sustainable growth to make
00:30:16	-> 00:30:19:	sure that these are that these are all coordinated.
00:30:19	-> 00:30:23:	So in a nutshell, that's kind of what we look
00:30:23	-> 00:30:23:	at.
00:30:23	-> 00:30:26:	You know, we look at the world differently because we're
00:30:26	-> 00:30:28:	a construction company that has that,
00:30:28	-> 00:30:31:	that that actually invest in building.
00:30:31	-> 00:30:34:	So we're looking at the house it design and facilitate
00:30:34	-> 00:30:35:	it into a thoughtful,
00:30:35	-> 00:30:38:	built environment. So we do probably have a little bit
00:30:38	-> 00:30:40:	of a different take on how we look at investments,
00:30:40	-> 00:30:44:	mainly because of some of our backgrounds previously and economic
00:30:44	-> 00:30:45:	development.
00:30:45	-> 00:30:46:	But we are focused on now.
00:30:46	-> 00:30:49:	We're even more focused on what Dennis has been bringing
00:30:49	-> 00:30:50:	up,
00:30:50	-> 00:30:53:	because we do understand that we're not telling everyone that

00:30:53> 00:30:54:	it must be shifted.
00:30:54> 00:30:57:	It over to this, but we should start to think
00:30:57> 00:31:01:	about how these thoughts and how the data should challenge
00:31:01> 00:31:04:	our own thoughts and making decisions for the future,
00:31:04> 00:31:08:	not for an immediate reaction before a long term sustainable
00:31:08> 00:31:13:	growth perspective where we understand what the potential outcomes and
00:31:13> 00:31:15:	the return can be for the city.
00:31:17> 00:31:20:	So I'm going to jump into some of the questions
00:31:20> 00:31:23:	I think we've got a question here that I think
00:31:23> 00:31:23:	is,
00:31:23> 00:31:27:	you know Kevin mentioned that were using the money from
00:31:27> 00:31:30:	the urban core to subsidize with someone calls for all
00:31:30> 00:31:31:	right?
00:31:31> 00:31:34:	I mean in what someone called kind of some some
00:31:34> 00:31:37:	more suburban growth on the fringes a little bit.
00:31:37> 00:31:40:	And so we've got a question here already to guys,
00:31:40> 00:31:43:	advocates for suburban areas. Do argue the math because it
00:31:43> 00:31:47:	is because it is counter intuitive to think the lower
00:31:47> 00:31:48:	priced higher density.
00:31:48> 00:31:52:	Urban unit produces net tax dollars and the reverse is
00:31:52> 00:31:54:	often true for lower density,
00:31:54> 00:31:56:	higher value units in the suburbs.
00:31:56> 00:32:00:	How can we best continue this dissemination of facts to
00:32:00> 00:32:01:	educate more people?
00:32:01> 00:32:04:	And what are the next steps?
00:32:04> 00:32:08:	I think it's one thing it's going to require some
00:32:08> 00:32:13:	patience because Kevin mentioned us and even Michael
	referred to
00:32:13> 00:32:16:	it a lot of these policies were put into place
00:32:16> 00:32:19:	before we started building this way.
00:32:21> 00:32:28:	We we created incentives on one side an regulations against
00:32:28> 00:32:30:	on the other.
00:32:30> 00:32:33:	And it's affected different races differently,
00:32:33> 00:32:38:	frankly. But what that means is many people like everybody
00:32:38> 00:32:39:	on this.
00:32:39> 00:32:42:	On this panel grew up in an era where the
00:32:42> 00:32:45:	way the world works seemed normal to us.
00:32:45> 00:32:48:	That was our context. That was the water we slam,
00:32:48> 00:32:53:	and we're just now starting to confront the reality of
00:32:53> 00:32:55:	what created those waters.
00:32:55> 00:32:59:	What policy is created, those development incentives?

00:32:59> 00:33:03:	What policy is restricted? Whole communities from participating in that
00:33:03> 00:33:05:	prosperity growth an the good thing is,
00:33:05> 00:33:08:	is that our civic counselor chamber,
00:33:08> 00:33:10:	our business community, our community is,
00:33:10> 00:33:13:	is putting these issues front and Center for us to
00:33:13> 00:33:13:	discuss.
00:33:13> 00:33:16:	And it's going to take some time for us to
00:33:16> 00:33:17:	work through all this,
00:33:17> 00:33:20:	but it's so good that we're at this point as
00:33:20> 00:33:22:	a as a city as a civilization that we can
00:33:22> 00:33:24:	work through these things together.
00:33:24> 00:33:28:	But it's going to take some time because this challenging
00:33:28> 00:33:31:	fundamental norms the fundamental way that we see the world,
00:33:31> 00:33:33:	is being challenged by this new.
00:33:33> 00:33:37:	Awareness of all the baked in incentives that don't really
00:33:37> 00:33:39:	have a lot to do with the reality.
00:33:39> 00:33:42:	With the way the world really would work if it
00:33:42> 00:33:45:	didn't have these biases built into it.
00:33:45> 00:33:48:	So learning through all that's going to take some time
00:33:48> 00:33:51:	and we're really just getting started.
00:33:51> 00:33:54:	So it took a 70 years to go from prosperity
00:33:54> 00:33:55:	to where we are today.
00:33:55> 00:33:59:	It's reasonable to think it's going to take many years
00:33:59> 00:34:02:	to turn the tables background to where we can build
00:34:02> 00:34:03:	through shared.
00:34:03> 00:34:06:	Prosperity again, but we can see how to do that
00:34:06> 00:34:06:	now.
00:34:06> 00:34:10:	We have the right awarenesses and sensitivities that we can
00:34:10> 00:34:11:	go forward in that way.
00:34:14> 00:34:17:	Dennis, I gotta ask. We've talked about this before.
00:34:17> 00:34:18:	I think this is kind of,
00:34:18> 00:34:21:	you know. We've talked about this a little bit during
00:34:21> 00:34:22: 00:34:22> 00:34:25:	this conversation,
00:34:25> 00:34:26:	but I want to ask you about race in this conversation and how it fits.
00:34:26> 00:34:30:	I just finished reading a book called White Fragility that
00:34:30> 00:34:33: 00:34:33> 00:34:34:	really talks about why it's difficult for white people to talk about racism.
00:34:34> 00:34:37:	And I, as I think about some of the traps
00:34:37> 00:34:40:	and some of the defense mechanisms that are listed in
00.34.37/ 00.34.40.	and some of the deterise medianisms that are listed in

00:34:40 --> 00:34:43: I see where it would be really easy for someone 00:34:43 --> 00:34:44: to say, 00:34:44 --> 00:34:46: hey, I'm not racist. Why do we have to make 00:34:46 --> 00:34:47: this about race? 00:34:47 --> 00:34:50: You've given us kind of some historical context to why 00:34:50 --> 00:34:51: these things have happened, 00:34:51 --> 00:34:53: but as we go forward, 00:34:53 --> 00:34:54: why wouldn't we just say, 00:34:54 --> 00:34:57: hey, this is just about equal policies and practices going 00:34:57 --> 00:34:57: forward, 00:34:57 --> 00:34:59: why don't we just do that and call it a 00:34:59 --> 00:34:59: 00:34:59 --> 00:35:02: Why is it important to keep that in context? 00:35:02 --> 00:35:06: Well, because it won't be easy to get back to 00:35:06 --> 00:35:07: the level playing field. 00:35:07 --> 00:35:11: We're going to have to do that in an intentional 00:35:11 --> 00:35:11: way. 00:35:11 --> 00:35:15: We're going to have to recognize that many of the 00:35:15 --> 00:35:18: regulations we put into place favor some of us, 00:35:18 --> 00:35:21: and not all of us. 00:35:21 --> 00:35:25: And that's a lot of untangling that we're going to 00:35:25 --> 00:35:26: have to work through. 00:35:26 --> 00:35:29: But the way we've segmented our society, 00:35:29 --> 00:35:32: our segmented our city over the last seven years. 00:35:32 --> 00:35:35: That's not how we built cities up until we started 00:35:35 --> 00:35:38: doing it this way seven years ago. 00:35:38 --> 00:35:43: And that has a direct reflection on how integrated we 00:35:43 --> 00:35:43: are, 00:35:43 --> 00:35:48: how diverse we are as a community. 00:35:48 --> 00:35:51: So. We need to really confront that and talk about 00:35:51 --> 00:35:54: it and and start to be willing to change some 00:35:54 --> 00:35:58: of the things that we've all grown up with as 00:35:58 --> 00:36:01: being the right way to build a neighborhood to really 00:36:01 --> 00:36:05: see where you create value in neighborhood and you create 00:36:05 --> 00:36:07: value and culture and community. 00:36:07 --> 00:36:09: It's it's, uh, it's uh, 00:36:09 --> 00:36:12: it's learning how we used to do things and getting 00:36:12 --> 00:36:15: beyond how we've grown up doing things. 00:36:17 --> 00:36:20: So Kevin, did you want to add something? 00:36:20 --> 00:36:24: Yeah, if you don't mind another white guy chiming in 00:36:24 --> 00:36:25: on that question,

00:34:40 --> 00:34:40:

that book.

00:36:25> 00:36:28:	but I think the dentist gives a great answer and
00:36:28> 00:36:30:	he is totally glad he said,
00:36:30> 00:36:34:	you know the wealth gap that there is between white
00:36:34> 00:36:38:	households and African American households in our city in
	this
00:36:38> 00:36:39:	country is enormous.
00:36:39> 00:36:41:	And it's a problem, you know,
00:36:41> 00:36:45:	I know, when Monty Anderson was here in part of
00:36:45> 00:36:46:	the speaker series,
00:36:46> 00:36:50:	he highlighted that. This is a huge problem for our
00:36:50> 00:36:53:	society and I think it's it would be.
00:36:53> 00:36:58:	It would be unfortunate for for anybody not to recognize
00:36:58> 00:36:59:	that as important.
00:36:59> 00:37:03:	Most of that wealth gap is attributed to real estate.
00:37:03> 00:37:05:	You know families you know,
00:37:05> 00:37:09:	like myself and my parents and others who benefited from
00:37:10> 00:37:12:	certain practices over the years.
00:37:12> 00:37:17:	And African American families who have not benefited an
	allowed
00:37:17> 00:37:20:	the benefit or word allowed to benefit.
00:37:20> 00:37:22:	That's right, and so you know,
00:37:22> 00:37:25:	I, I don't say that to try to make anybody
00:37:25> 00:37:28:	feel bad or to try to paint a negative picture
00:37:29> 00:37:29:	of people,
00:37:29> 00:37:32:	but. I think we have to acknowledge this and understand
00:37:32> 00:37:32:	it,
00:37:32> 00:37:34:	and I think Dennis is right.
00:37:34> 00:37:37:	We have to be intentional going forward and understanding.
00:37:37> 00:37:38:	How do we close that wealth gap?
00:37:38> 00:37:41:	Because it's it's terrible for our city and our society
00:37:41> 00:37:44:	has 1000 awful consequences that we can't ignore.
00:37:46> 00:37:50:	So I'm going to have a little different approach.
00:37:50> 00:37:53:	We need to be aggressive and how we actually move
00:37:54> 00:37:58:	forward with this because we do have these conversations all
00:37:58> 00:38:01:	the time about wealth gap.
00:38:01> 00:38:04:	And not have illustrating that equality of development on
	either
00:38:04> 00:38:06:	side or jobs or connectivity.
00:38:06> 00:38:08:	The jobs I mean you can go on and on
00:38:08> 00:38:11:	of a domino effect of how we look at transit.
00:38:11> 00:38:14:	How we look at where development is occurring,
00:38:14> 00:38:17:	how laws that are no longer laws have debilitating and
00:38:17> 00:38:21:	long lasting affect on people's minds at generational mindset

of

00:38:21 --> 00:38:24: where they think they can live or where they think 00:38:24 --> 00:38:27: they can get a job where they think that they 00:38:27 --> 00:38:31: can actually enjoy themselves in Kansas City. 00:38:31 --> 00:38:33: I think we start to remove that not just by 00:38:33 --> 00:38:35: the policies that we put in place, 00:38:35 --> 00:38:39: because the policies of the past have really created a 00:38:39 --> 00:38:42: reverberation of what the what we're living in today and 00:38:42 --> 00:38:45: those policies aren't even around anymore. 00:38:45 --> 00:38:47: Some of them. 00:38:47 --> 00:38:50: Doesn't change the mindset from a generational standpoint though. 00:38:50 --> 00:38:53: So what I mean by aggressive being aggressive with these 00:38:53 --> 00:38:56: is really looking on what is the vision of all 00:38:56 --> 00:38:57: of Kansas City? 00:38:57 --> 00:38:59: How do we make sure that everyone is at the 00:38:59 --> 00:39:01: table to the right people at the table? 00:39:01 --> 00:39:04: And I'm not so sure that that's always the case, 00:39:04 --> 00:39:06: that you have the right people at the table. 00:39:06 --> 00:39:08: I think you may have the loudest person at the 00:39:08 --> 00:39:09: table, 00:39:09 --> 00:39:11: but that may not be the right group at the 00:39:11 --> 00:39:11: table. 00:39:11 --> 00:39:14: That can actually change the way thoughts or perceived change 00:39:15 --> 00:39:17: the way the development is looked upon changed the way 00:39:17 --> 00:39:20: financing of development is looked upon. 00:39:20 --> 00:39:21: Also changed the way. You know, 00:39:21 --> 00:39:24: we're one of the few cities that doesn't look at 00:39:24 --> 00:39:26: urban industrial opportunities. 00:39:26 --> 00:39:27: Why is that? You know, 00:39:27 --> 00:39:30: one of those you know when we're looking at other 00:39:30 --> 00:39:33: cities of our size or slightly larger there, 00:39:33 --> 00:39:35: embracing that, how do we bring in, 00:39:35 --> 00:39:37: you know, we want to create wealth creation, 00:39:37 --> 00:39:40: but we have to illustrate a pathway to to that 00:39:40 --> 00:39:41: type of ownership. 00:39:41 --> 00:39:44: What does that mean? That means better access to jobs, 00:39:44 --> 00:39:48: better connected transportation lines that are connecting people to jobs 00:39:48 --> 00:39:49: faster, 00:39:49 --> 00:39:51: not just connecting them to a job. 00:39:51 --> 00:39:55: Connecting them efficiently, connecting the development and

also making sure 00:39:55 --> 00:39:56: that there is an incentive, 00:39:56 --> 00:39:58: an enticement for that development to occur. 00:39:58 --> 00:40:01: But you can't do that unless you have a vision 00:40:01 --> 00:40:02: from a city standpoint. 00:40:02 --> 00:40:04: Where are we trying to go and what do you 00:40:04 --> 00:40:05: need? 00:40:05 --> 00:40:06: So if we can have a, 00:40:06 --> 00:40:08: let's say, affordable housing, for example, 00:40:08 --> 00:40:10: we talk about affordable housing, 00:40:10 --> 00:40:12: that's a loaded term, and we talked about people in 00:40:12 --> 00:40:14: the East East of Troost, 00:40:14 --> 00:40:15: and they say, you know what? 00:40:15 --> 00:40:17: We don't want low income housing. 00:40:17 --> 00:40:19: We don't. We want market rate to the market wherein 00:40:20 --> 00:40:23: stop calling it low income stop calling it affordable housing. 00:40:23 --> 00:40:26: We want market rate housing based upon the sub market 00:40:26 --> 00:40:27: we're in, 00:40:27 --> 00:40:29: and they're pretty astute with what they want. 00:40:29 --> 00:40:33: Why aren't we listening to what they want and illustrate? 00:40:33 --> 00:40:36: You have a dense population of people that are desirous 00:40:36 --> 00:40:40: of better housing scenarios 'cause they want to stay in 00:40:40 --> 00:40:41: their community. 00:40:41 --> 00:40:43: They want to rebuild that community, 00:40:43 --> 00:40:45: but what is the deciding factor? 00:40:45 --> 00:40:47: And it's not even a policy perspective. 00:40:47 --> 00:40:50: It's really a perspective of where are we going and 00:40:51 --> 00:40:52: why do we want to. 00:40:52 --> 00:40:54: Why should we must reinvest in those areas? 00:40:54 --> 00:40:58: And create that density level back again. 00:40:58 --> 00:40:59: Here in Michael you are. 00:40:59 --> 00:41:02: I want to stick with you 'cause we gotta question 00:41:02 --> 00:41:04: here that I think is kind of an offshoot of 00:41:04 --> 00:41:04: that. 00:41:04 --> 00:41:07: So the question is, I've long been an urbanist and 00:41:07 --> 00:41:10: believe in the principles that have been presented here today. 00:41:10 --> 00:41:12: The bottom line of this new is density. 00:41:12 --> 00:41:15: How does our recent experience with COVID-19, particularly in densely populated areas like New York City, 00:41:15 --> 00:41:18: 00:41:18 --> 00:41:20: perhaps mitigate these views?

00:41:20 --> 00:41:23:

ľm.

00:41:24 --> 00:41:28: Interesting question. I think it will affect those of the 00:41:28 --> 00:41:29: NYT in the Boston's, 00:41:29 --> 00:41:32: maybe in Chicago more than it would at Kansas City, 00:41:32 --> 00:41:34: because we call ourselves dense. 00:41:34 --> 00:41:37: But my goodness, we're still pretty spread apart. 00:41:37 --> 00:41:40: I think we've got a lot of acreage per person 00:41:40 --> 00:41:41: that's still absorbed. 00:41:41 --> 00:41:44: We don't use our vertical height to a degree of 00:41:44 --> 00:41:47: any of our of those of those other cities. 00:41:47 --> 00:41:50: I think we still have the ability to be dense, 00:41:50 --> 00:41:53: but also still provide a response to what Covid could. 00:41:53 --> 00:41:55: Present itself in the long run. 00:41:55 --> 00:41:58: If we look at kind of the pandemics of the 00:41:58 --> 00:41:59: past of 1918, 00:41:59 --> 00:42:02: the writings in the data behind that you know you 00:42:02 --> 00:42:03: started to see yes, 00:42:03 --> 00:42:06: certain things changed, but not everything changed. 00:42:06 --> 00:42:09: There were certain things that got back to normal by 00:42:10 --> 00:42:11: 1919 and even 1920, 00:42:11 --> 00:42:13: so when you're starting to look at that, 00:42:13 --> 00:42:16: you know we have. We can the city have an 00:42:16 --> 00:42:17: opportunity, 00:42:17 --> 00:42:20: specially when you look at where we are and what 00:42:20 --> 00:42:23: we're just talking about right now to really provide. 00:42:23 --> 00:42:27: Single family multifamily housing in areas that really are desirous 00:42:27 --> 00:42:30: of it and has the available land and illustrate why 00:42:30 --> 00:42:33: you want to live there while others and everyone would 00:42:33 --> 00:42:36: want to live there. I think there's an opportunity from 00:42:36 --> 00:42:38: a debt standpoint of Kansas City. 00:42:38 --> 00:42:40: I don't know what that data means. 00:42:40 --> 00:42:42: Were too dense in Kansas City, 00:42:42 --> 00:42:45: but I also think we're far ways away from really 00:42:45 --> 00:42:47: calling ourselves a dense population. 00:42:47 --> 00:42:50: Yeah, that in context is Kansas City. 00:42:50 --> 00:42:52: So if we got our city, 00:42:52 --> 00:42:56: our current developed city to the density of Brookside, we would be four times as dense as we are 00:42:56 --> 00:42:59: 00:42:59 --> 00:42:59: now. 00:43:02 --> 00:43:05: So yeah, it's it's we're not talking about skyscrapers. 00:43:05 --> 00:43:08: We're not talking about having to live in high rise

You know, so good question.

00:41:23 --> 00:41:24:

00:43:08> 00:43:09:	buildings,
00:43:09> 00:43:12:	were just talking about making better use of our existing
00:43:12> 00:43:16:	infrastructure in ways that are very familiar throughout our city.
00:43:16> 00:43:20:	But redoing that an mowing back our city.
00:43:20> 00:43:22:	It doesn't have to become urban in the New York
00:43:22> 00:43:25:	sense at all to be healthy and vibrant,
00:43:25> 00:43:28:	but we're we're underdeveloped now to a great degree,
00:43:28> 00:43:30:	and it's dragging us down.
00:43:30> 00:43:32:	The numbers show it very clearly so you don't need
00:43:33> 00:43:34:	to be worried about density.
00:43:34> 00:43:37:	We need to be worried about a lack of any
00:43:37> 00:43:39:	intense use of land that will pay us back for
00:43:39> 00:43:43:	all of our infrastructure and public service applications.
00:43:43> 00:43:46:	So, Kevin, I want to him one more question that's
00:43:46> 00:43:47:	right on that topic,
00:43:47> 00:43:49:	and I want to give this to you.
00:43:49> 00:43:52:	Density is apparently a scary word for a lot of
00:43:52> 00:43:53:	people.
00:43:53> 00:43:56:	But density is what makes these old neighborhood those old
00:43:56> 00:44:00:	neighborhoods good investments versus lower density sprawl.
00:44:00> 00:44:03:	How can we overcome fear of density to move forward
00:44:03> 00:44:03:	with changes?
00:44:03> 00:44:05:	Like allowing you to use,
00:44:05> 00:44:07:	allowing building on nonconforming lots,
00:44:07> 00:44:11:	allowing for higher density building type 6 plus places,
00:44:11> 00:44:13:	etc in CFR, neighborhoods, etc.
00:44:13> 00:44:15:	Yeah, well.
00:44:15> 00:44:17:	Over the course of my career,
00:44:17> 00:44:19:	what we've always tried to demonstrate,
00:44:19> 00:44:21:	what I've always tried to demonstrate,
00:44:21> 00:44:23:	as you know, point out the simple ways that density
00:44:23> 00:44:26:	makes your life better and what you know.
00:44:26> 00:44:28:	Try to take the myth out of that word,
00:44:28> 00:44:31:	because otherwise it it can sound like a fearful thing.
00:44:31> 00:44:34:	You know more people living in a neighborhood means more
00:44:34> 00:44:37:	customers for the shops that you enjoy in your neighborhood
00:44:37> 00:44:39:	and potential for even more of those to exist.
00:44:39> 00:44:42:	It means a safer neighborhood because you have more eyes
00:44:42> 00:44:43:	on the street.
00:44:43> 00:44:46:	You know, throughout the hours of the day.
00:44:46> 00:44:48:	To keep an eye on things and you know actually

00:44:49> 00:44:51:	ultimately means more customers for transit.
00:44:51> 00:44:55:	If you want to have transit service in your neighborhood
00:44:55> 00:44:57:	and have it viable and more revenue for the for
00:44:57> 00:45:00:	the city services that that we all enjoy so that
00:45:00> 00:45:04:	those are things that kind of always talked about from
00:45:04> 00:45:05:	a planning standpoint,
00:45:05> 00:45:08:	I think to the degree that we can make those
00:45:08> 00:45:11:	more relatable to people at the neighborhood level,
00:45:11> 00:45:12:	the more successful will be.
00:45:12> 00:45:15:	I think a lot about you know some of the
00:45:15> 00:45:16:	great parking.
00:45:16> 00:45:20:	Policy reform that's happened in the last couple of decades
00:45:20> 00:45:23:	really came out of the mind of Don Shoup at
00:45:23> 00:45:24:	UCLA.
00:45:24> 00:45:28:	And he started by really challenging the notion that street
00:45:28> 00:45:29:	parking,
00:45:29> 00:45:31:	for example, should be free,
00:45:31> 00:45:34:	and he said, no, we should be charging for street
00:45:34> 00:45:38:	parking and should be charged like a market rate.
00:45:38> 00:45:42:	And based because it's the best parking that there is
00:45:42> 00:45:45:	in a place and you should target at like 80%
00:45:45> 00:45:47:	full. Nature for that parking,
00:45:47> 00:45:50:	but what he did that was brilliant was he said
00:45:50> 00:45:50:	well,
00:45:50> 00:45:53:	in order to entice the business owners to go along
00:45:53> 00:45:56:	with this plan on the property owners in an area,
00:45:56> 00:46:00:	he said, let's take the revenue that's generated from those
00:46:00> 00:46:03:	meters and spend it back in that particular area like
00:46:03> 00:46:04:	a parking district.
00:46:04> 00:46:06:	And when they did that,
00:46:06> 00:46:09:	they had tremendous success in getting people to overcome their
00:46:09> 00:46:13:	fears of something that they had inherently not approved of
00:46:13> 00:46:14:	in the past.
00:46:14> 00:46:16:	And it might be that we need to get creative
00:46:16> 00:46:18:	in that way here in Kansas City.
00:46:18> 00:46:21:	And perhaps something we can do is talk to you
00:46:21> 00:46:24:	neighborhoods that are willing to allow you know more density
00:46:24> 00:46:27:	in their neighborhoods or do different things and in sort
00:46:27> 00:46:29:	of a Kansas City fashion.
00:46:29> 00:46:32:	Maybe there's a way to recapture that revenue and spend

00:46:32> 00:46:35:	it directly on infrastructure and and other things within that
00:46:35> 00:46:38:	neighborhood so that people see the direct benefit of it.
00:46:38> 00:46:41:	That's that's one idea, but I think there are probably
00:46:42> 00:46:45:	100 different ways we're going to have to think about
00:46:45> 00:46:45:	this.
00:46:45> 00:46:49:	Cool thanks Kevin. I appreciate that and that's a wrap,
00:46:49> 00:46:52:	so we're at time I appreciate everything you guys have
00:46:52> 00:46:54:	added here to the conversation.
00:46:54> 00:46:56:	I think this is a great start.
00:46:56> 00:46:58:	There's a lot of ways we can go so there
00:46:58> 00:47:02:	are couple of housekeeping items for everybody that's on online
00:47:02> 00:47:02:	one.
00:47:02> 00:47:05:	This is episode has been recorded.
00:47:05> 00:47:08:	Go to kansascity.uli.org to review the broadcast and also you
00:47:08> 00:47:12:	have the ability to share that with other people who
00:47:12> 00:47:15:	weren't here and bring them into the conversation for next
00:47:15> 00:47:18:	week. Also, I mentioned at the beginning that we were
00:47:18> 00:47:21:	there's a way to stay connected to this process outside
00:47:21> 00:47:23:	of these weekly conversations,
00:47:23> 00:47:25:	so the chat is now going to be open.
00:47:25> 00:47:28:	We would appreciate it for this first episode.
00:47:28> 00:47:30:	If you guys can enter your email into the chat
00:47:30> 00:47:33:	and will send out a follow up link with additional
00:47:33> 00:47:34:	resources on the topic,
00:47:34> 00:47:36:	ways you can stay connected.
00:47:36> 00:47:38:	Read more about this as we prepare to continue to
00:47:38> 00:47:41:	this this series and I also want to include a
00:47:41> 00:47:44:	shout out in that resources that will be listed to
00:47:44> 00:47:47:	Abbot Kinney who works with Dennis and Gold Evans and
00:47:47> 00:47:48:	is the co-host of.
00:47:48> 00:47:51:	Up Zone Podcast, which you can find on strongtowns.org.
00:47:51> 00:47:52:	Look it up, check it out.
00:47:52> 00:47:55:	It's a lot of the same kind of conversations.
00:47:55> 00:47:57:	Will definitely something check out next week.
00:47:57> 00:48:00:	We're going to have a conversation about ways we can
00:48:00> 00:48:04:	make good use of existing infrastructure to maximize the impact
00:48:04> 00:48:05:	of good development patterns.
00:48:05> 00:48:08:	So look forward to seeing everybody next week Anna huge
00:48:08> 00:48:10:	shout out to joy and the team at ULI for
00:48:10> 00:48:14:	making this possible and most importantly thank all of you
00:48:14> 00:48:16:	for showing up and being a part of this week's

00:48:16 --> 00:48:18: conversations and we'll see you all.

00:48:18 --> 00:48:19: Next time.

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