Appendix A
Existing Conditions Analysis
1. Base Mapping

a. Community Assets Map (Community centers, parks, public lands, and vacant parcels)

There are many different existing community assets within the Parramore Community, as shown on Exhibit A-1.

*Lake Dot (Arlington Heights)* contains the former Amway Arena site, as well as portions of the planned Creative Village project. It also contains the Orange County Vocational Technical School and the Orlando Day Nursery day care and school, and the Salvation Army headquarters complex which includes a large residential tower.

*Callahan* contains the J.B. Callahan Neighborhood Center, a portion of the planned Creative Village project, the Nap Ford Charter School, Downtown Recreation Center, Bob Carr Theater, and other educational and institutional assets, including the Florida A&M University (FAMU) College of Law, George C. Young Federal Building and Courthouse Building.

*Holden/Parramore* contains the historic Parramore Avenue Corridor, historic Wells’ Built museum, the John H. Jackson Community Center, and the Z.L. Riley Park. The Church Street corridor links together many of Orlando’s sports and entertainment venues, including the Amway Center and planned Orlando Magic Sports Entertainment District, planned Major League Soccer stadium for the Orlando City Lions, as well as the Downtown Performing Arts Center to the east of Parramore, and the Florida Citrus Bowl to the west. There is a substantial amount of public housing in this neighborhood, including the Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) Carver Park HOPE VI project (64 one-bedroom age restricted rental units, and 56 other rental units) along W. Gore Street, and the OHA Griffin Park community (198 rental units), located within the I-4 and SR 408 interchange.
Exhibit A-1: Parramore Existing Conditions – Community Assets
b. Existing Land Use

Parramore contains a variety of land uses, but is characterized by a high level (35%) of land within public ownership. This includes public housing, institutional, state and federal buildings, and other properties owned by the City of Orlando. Approximately 13% of the land is currently vacant, which represents both a barrier to overcome as well as an opportunity for redevelopment. Many other properties are underutilized and not meeting their full economic potential. Other significant existing land uses include industrial (13%), single family residential (12%), multi-family residential (12%), and commercial (10%). Exhibit A-2 below summarizes the existing land uses within Parramore.

Exhibit A-2: Existing Land Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Type</th>
<th>Approximate Acreage</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Ownership</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Family Residential</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multifamily Residential</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rights-of-Way, Lakes, Etc.</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>819</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. GMP Future Land Use Designations

The Parramore neighborhood has a mix of Future Land Use (FLU) designations throughout the community, including mixed-use, residential and industrial land uses, as shown on Exhibit A-3. Over forty-six percent (46%) of the land in Parramore is classified as a Residential FLU. Almost 60%, or 225.3 acres, of the land classified as Residential is designated as Residential Medium Intensity, with a minimum density of 12 dwelling units per acre and a maximum of 30 dwelling units per acre. Another 126 acres, or one-third, of the land classified as Residential is designated as Residential Low Intensity, with no minimum density and a maximum density of 12 dwelling units per acre. The residential neighborhoods are generally west of Parramore Avenue and east of Orange Blossom trail, bounded by Robinson Street to the south and Amelia Street to the north, as well as an area centered on Arlington Street and Concord Street between Parramore Avenue and Westmoreland Drive. Exhibit A-4 summarizes the future land use designation and their characteristics.
Almost 20% of Parramore is designated as Urban Activity Center. An Urban Activity Center is intended to offer a mix of uses, including residential, office, commercial, public, recreational, institutional and industrial uses, in high densities to serve as a sub-region of the Orlando Urban Area. In Parramore, the Urban Activity Center areas are generally located between Washington Street and Church Street, and extend from I-4 to Westmoreland Drive. Additionally, the Creative Village property in the northeast of Parramore is also designated as an Urban Activity Center.

### Exhibit A-4: Future Land Use Designation Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FLU Designations</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Min. Density (units/acre)</th>
<th>Max. Density (units/acre)</th>
<th>Min. FAR</th>
<th>Max. FAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential Low Intensity</td>
<td>RES-LOW</td>
<td>126.0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Medium Intensity</td>
<td>RES-MED</td>
<td>225.3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential High Intensity</td>
<td>RES-HIGH</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use Corridor - Medium</td>
<td>MUC-MED</td>
<td>64.2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Low Intensity</td>
<td>OFFICE-LOW</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Medium Intensity Industrial</td>
<td>OFFICE-MED INDUST</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public, Recreational, Institutional</td>
<td>PUB-REC-INST</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>osta</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Activity Center</td>
<td>COMM-AC</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Activity Center</td>
<td>UR-AC</td>
<td>155.6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Activity Center</td>
<td>DT-AC</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**d. Zoning**

There is a mix of zoning districts in the Parramore community, including residential, activity centers, mixed-use, and planned development districts, as shown on Exhibit A-5.

Zoning districts corresponding to the Residential Medium Intensity future land use designation, the R-2B and R-3B districts, together account for 21.5% of the land in Parramore. The R-2B districts are generally located along Arlington and Concord Streets in the north of Parramore, between Robinson and Washington Streets in the center of Parramore, and in the southeast section of Parramore, south of South Street. The majority of the land zoned as R-3B is located in the Griffin Park, a public housing development, in the southeast corner of Parramore. Exhibit A-6 summarizes the characteristics of the various zoning districts in Parramore.
Exhibit A-5: Zoning District Map
Land zoned as Public (P) accounts for approximately 17% of the land in Parramore. This zoning district is for any lands owned by a public body generally located along the eastern border of the Parramore community, between I-4 and Division Street, and includes government buildings, the Orange County School Board offices and the Amway Center.

Additionally, there are two overlay districts that cover the entire Parramore community, the Traditional City Overlay District (T) and the Parramore Heritage Overlay District (PH). The T overlay district is intended to establish urban design standards for residential and commercial development patterns found within the Traditional City. The PH district is intended to “promote the stability and prosperity of the Parramore neighborhood by reducing the over-concentration of social service uses within the district.” The PH district implements Future Land Use Subarea Policy S.6.9 which limits the establishment, expansion, and relocation of social service uses.

**Exhibit A-6: Zoning District Characteristics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zoning</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Min. Density (units/acre)</th>
<th>Max. Density (units/acre)</th>
<th>Min FAR</th>
<th>Max FAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential - Low</td>
<td>R-1</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R-2A</td>
<td>63.8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential - Medium</td>
<td>R-2B</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R-3B</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Intensity Mixed Residential</td>
<td>MXD-2</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Use</td>
<td>MU-1</td>
<td>47.8</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office/Res. - Low</td>
<td>O-1</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office/Res. Medium</td>
<td>O-2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>I-G</td>
<td>74.9</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned Development</td>
<td>PD</td>
<td>52.9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Land</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>98.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Center</td>
<td>AC-1</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AC-2</td>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AC-3A</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parramore Heritage Overlay</td>
<td>PH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional City Overlay</td>
<td>T</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
e. **Base Transect Map**

Prior to making recommendations for Parramore, it was important to identify the existing context within the Parramore Study Area. The “transect” concept, derived from the Smart Code, was utilized for this analysis. The Smart Code (an open source document originally developed by the Duany Plater-Zyberk and Company in 2003, and maintained and updated by the Center for Applied Transect Studies) describes six basic Transect Zones which provide the basis for neighborhood structure. The Transect Zones vary by ratio and level of intensity of their natural, built, and social components, and can be coordinated to various scales of planning from the region through the community scale down to the individual lot and building. The Transect Zones can be modified to address unique conditions found in specific neighborhoods.

The “Base Transect Map” (Exhibit A-7) provides a snapshot of the existing conditions in Parramore, by Transect, to help provide guidance on what exists today and identify, through the Vision Plan, what Transect Zone’s should be considered that will meet the community’s Vision for Parramore.

In order to reflect an accurate context for Parramore, minor modifications to the Transect Zones were needed to better reflect the current conditions within Parramore. The formal Transect predominately recognizes only mixed use zones while the current context of Parramore is more reflective of a mix of uses and some areas that are more single-use focused. Parramore’s transects are described as follows:

- **Residential Neighborhood (T-3)**

  The Residential Neighborhood Zone consists primarily of single-family residential homes, duplexes, and some smaller apartment units. Setbacks vary from close to the road to larger setbacks, depending on the neighborhood. Home occupation and some small scale multi-family exists. Typical building heights are 1-2 stories.
• **Highway Commercial (T-3.5)**
  The Highway Commercial zone is predominately a suburban style of development with a mix of non-residential uses that are directly adjacent to neighborhoods. The uses are focused on vehicular accessibility. Setbacks are larger, with a predominance of parking. Typical building heights are 1-2 stories.

• **Mixed Use District (T-4)**
  The Mixed Use Zone consists of a mix of uses, primarily residential urban fabric. It may have a wide range of building types: single family residential, duplexes, and apartments with some small-scale commercial/office uses. Setbacks and landscaping are variable. Streets with curbs and sidewalks define medium-sized blocks. Typical building heights are 1-3 stories.

• **Urban General (T-5)**
  The Urban General Zone consists of higher density mixed use buildings that accommodate retail, offices, and apartments. It has a tight network of streets, with wide sidewalks, steady street tree planting and buildings set close to the sidewalks. Typical building heights are 2-5 stories.

• **Downtown Core (T-6)**
  The Downtown Core Zone consists of the highest density and height, with the greatest variety of uses, and civic buildings of regional importance. It may have larger blocks because of the regional buildings, i.e., Amway, Bob Carr, etc. Most of the buildings are set close to wide sidewalks. This area in Parramore links directly to the Center of Downtown. Typical building heights are 2-6 stories.

• **Employment Center (SD)**
  The Employment Center Zone is predominately industrial uses that are adjacent to the residential areas, and mixed-use areas of Parramore. The blocks are larger in nature with larger setbacks. Most of these areas are not walkable nor integrate harmoniously with the adjacent neighborhoods.
Exhibit A-7: Base Transect Map for Parramore
2. Analysis of Existing Code and Regulations

Through the Growth Management Plan (GMP) and adopted Future Land Use Map, the Parramore Community currently has sufficient land use rights to support the projected growth through the year 2040. Therefore, these entitlements are not the limiting factor that may act as a barrier to growth and revitalization of Parramore. Other factors, such as market influences and competing uses, crime and perception of crime, concentration of social services, deteriorated and outdated structures, and concentrated poverty, act as barriers that may influence investment choices by residents or outside parties.

The Future Land Use Element of the GMP includes Subarea Policy S.6.9, which recognizes that the “over-concentration of social services uses in the Parramore Heritage Renovation Area has had a negative impact on the area’s stability and prosperity.” Therefore, the policy limits the establishment, expansion, and relocation of social service uses and prohibits adult entertainment facilities. The policy is further implemented in the Land Development Code - Parramore Heritage Overlay District (LDC Chapter 58, Sections 58.499.13 through 58.499.15). This policy does not however include a relocation strategy for existing social services providers outside of the area, and it was determined through the public engagement process that many Parramore residents would prefer that the homeless population be dispersed throughout the City.

3. Existing Programs and Resources for Parramore Residents

In addition to social services that are primarily intended for the homeless population, there are many existing programs and resources currently available for Parramore residents, including recreational programs at the two community centers and participation with the large faith community present in the community. Below are highlights of several existing programs and organizations that are dedicated to improving Parramore and transforming it into a healthy community.

**Parramore Kidz Zone**
Parramore Kidz Zone (PKZ) was launched in July 2006, after extensive community input via: Mayor Buddy Dyers’ Education Action Council; Mayor’s Parramore Task Force; Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Education; Mayor’s Safe Orlando Task Force; and, visits to New York City to meet with leaders of Harlem Children’s Zone (HCZ) including HCZ’s founder, Geoffrey Canada. Receipt of $500,000 in grant funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and $500,000 in match funding from Orlando-based charitable foundations allowed the program to take root. PKZ is administered by staff from the City of Orlando’s Department of
Families Parks and Recreation and a charitable arm was created to support the effort – the Orlando Community & Youth Trust, Inc.

The mission of PKZ is to level the playing field for Parramore’s children, equipping them to become successful, healthy, well-educated adults. PKZ aims to reduce juvenile crime, teen pregnancy, and high school drop-out rates in this high poverty, high crime neighborhood, and ultimately replicate this model in other Orlando neighborhoods also struggling with disproportionately high rates of juvenile crime, school failure and teen pregnancy. For more information about PKZ, please visit their website: http://www.cityoforlando.net/parramorekidzzone/

**New Image Youth Center**
New Image Youth Center, located at 212 S. Parramore Ave, is a 501c3 non-profit organization that organizes after-school programs and summer camps for at-risk youth in Parramore. Founded by Shanta Barton Stubbs in June of 2004, New Image Youth Center has become a safe haven for children who live in the Parramore community. Through tutoring, educational activities, emotional support and counseling, New Image Youth Center has made a difference in children’s lives in a community where they are not given much hope. Students from surrounding universities and colleges have been an excellent source of volunteerism. They have offered their mentoring services to help the children struggling with homework. Guest speakers and staff promote a healthy and positive lifestyle for the children, giving them the encouragement and tools for success. For more information about New Image Youth Center, please visit their website: http://www.newimageyouth.org/!

**ROCK (Reducing Obesity in Central Florida Kids)**
ROCK is a regional consortium that is joining organizations with families and kids in an effort to prevent, reduce and eliminate childhood obesity and promote healthy choices. The movement was started in 2008 after a community health assessment identified childhood obesity as a major concern in the Central Florida region: 30% of children here are considered overweight/obese. The mission of ROCK is to ensure children living in Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties have healthy lifestyles that eliminate their risk for childhood obesity through a collaborative community effort.

ROCK has worked with the Health Council of East Central Florida and the Florida Blue Foundation to provide grant funding and to create an initiative to support various strategies, activities and policies for building a healthy Parramore/Holden Heights community. This effort resulted in the creation of an important document entitled
“Building a Healthy Parramore: A Call to Action to Reduce Childhood Obesity”. For more information about ROCK, please visit this website: http://www.rockfl.org/index.html

Hebni Nutrition Consultants
Hebni Nutrition Consultants, Inc. (HNC) is a community based non-profit organization committed to improving health by providing comprehensive nutrition information. The major goals of HNC are to foster dietary compliance for existing diseases and to facilitate the prevention of nutrition related disease through appropriate nutrition intervention. HNC targets culturally diverse populations who are at risk for obesity, heart disease, diabetes, cancer, hypertension and other diet-related diseases. The mission of HNC is to provide nutrition education and strategies to prevent diet related diseases. HNC is committed to improving consumers’ health by providing comprehensive nutritional information to culturally diverse populations through seminars and community education programs. HNC is a community-based not-for-profit (501c3) agency. Most recently, with support from Orange County, the City of Orlando, and Lynx (regional transit provider), Hebni has launched a mobile fresh produce bus that visits food desert areas throughout Central Florida including Parramore. For more information about HNC, please visit their website: http://soulfoodpyramid.org/

Florida Department of Health – Orange County
Located at 832 West Central Boulevard in the heart of Parramore, the Florida Department of Health (Orange County’s Central Health Center) operates a number of programs including personal health services, general health services, and environmental health services. Personal health services include dental health, immunizations, school health, and the Healthy Start program. Healthy Start provides maternal and child health services to improve pregnancy outcomes and help children get a healthy start in live. Healthy Start offers services for pregnant women, women between pregnancies, and for babies from birth to age three. General health services include epidemiology, emergency operations, and vital statistics. Finally, the Environmental Health Services focus on a wide array of issues including drinking water, lead, food hygiene, group care, and indoor air. For more information about Department of Health’s programs, please visit their website: http://www.orchd.com/contact/centralHealth/index.asp

City Housing and Community Development Department Grants
The City of Orlando’s Housing and Community Development Department administers local, state and federal funds designated for housing and community development. The Department plans, develops and implements programs and activities that meet identified needs in the community such as home ownership, rental and owner-occupied housing
rehabilitation, public facilities and improvements and assistance to the homeless and persons with HIV/AIDS. Programs managed by the Housing and Community Development Department include:

- Community Development
- Home Buyer Assistance
- Home Repair Assistance
- Affordable Housing Assistance

For more information about financial assistance and grants available, please visit their website: http://www.cityoforlando.net/housing/

**City of Orlando Brownfield Program.**
The City of Orlando administers a two part US EPA Brownfield Program that directly addresses the Parramore community. The first part consists of a Brownfield Assessment component which targets the entire neighborhood. The purpose of the assessment activities is to analyze potential sites that have real or perceived contamination and which can be used in the future for redevelopment. As part of this process, Phase I and Phase II examinations are conducted. In compliance with US EPA grant terms, the City also developed a public school asthma educational program which started in the fall of 2014. The second component is a Brownfield Clean Up Program which specifically addresses the clean-up of a +/-8.2 acre site at the southwest corner of Bentley Street and Parramore Avenue.

**Christian Service Center**
The Christian Service Center is located at 808 W. Central Boulevard in the heart of Parramore. The mission of the Christian Service Center is to mobilize the Central Florida Community under one common mission to eradicate poverty through the provision of services and resources that foster hope, well-being and empowerment. There are currently four inter-dependent programs in place to best meet these needs including:

- Family & Emergency Service – Compassion, which provides immediate emergency assistance and relief to families and individuals faced with an unexpected financial crisis, with the primary goal to help families maintain their residence and prevent them from being forced into homelessness.
- Daily Bread – Comfort, a program originally established in 1975 with the goal that no person in Central Florida would struggle with hunger. Daily Bread has offered a free nourishing noontime meal to anyone in the community who is hungry.
- Fresh Start – Counsel, is a short-term residential program designed for rebuilding and restoration in the lives of men who are seeking a new beginning. The program includes short-term living accommodations such as a bedroom, living room, fully-
equipped kitchen and laundry facilities. During the week, program participants are required to work or pursue work during the day and partake in evening meals and activities such as counseling, Bible study, anger management and life skills.

- KidsFOCUS – Care, is a program which provides a safe and healthy learning environment for children in economically challenged families who might not have an after-school alternative. KidsFOCUS provides after-school care for children including tutoring, academic monitoring and family assistance. KidsFOCUS incorporates the entire family in its program curriculum to emphasize the importance of academic attendance and achievement and to help foster a stable home environment for at-risk children.

For more information about the programs offered by the Christian Service Center, please visit their website: http://christianservicecenter.org/

Health Care Center for the Homeless (HCCH)
The Health Care Center for the Homeless is located at 232 North Orange Blossom Trail, whose mission is to provide for the health care needs of the homeless and uninsured residents of the community in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. The HCCH addresses multiple areas of health care with programs which include primary medical care, oral health services, behavioral health and substance abuse counseling, an on-site pharmacy, vision services, a residential TB shelter, mobile health services and a street outreach program known as the HOPE Team. For more information on HCCH’s programs please visit their website: http://www hcch.org/

Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida
The Coalition for the Homeless, located at 639 W. Central Boulevard, provides programs for families, women, and men. The Coalition is one of the few emergency shelters in the area that accepts intact families. In addition to shelter and nutritious meals, homeless families, women and men at the Coalition work with a case manager to build a budget and savings account, and to develop a plan for self-sufficiency. Programs include substance abuse recovery, counseling, education and job skills training, and community housing. For more information on the Coalition’s programs, please visit their website: http://www.centralfloridahomeless.org/

Orlando Union Rescue Mission
The Orlando Union Rescue Mission, with facilities in Parramore at 410 W. Central Boulevard and 1521 W. Washington Street (just to the west of Parramore), is one of Central Florida’s oldest and largest homeless service providers (since 1948). The Mission provides for immediate physical needs – including food, clothing, and shelter – along with programs to
lead the homeless to permanent independence. During the week of November 17, 2014, it was announced that the property which currently contains the Mission’s Men’s Center at 410 W. Central Boulevard had been purchased by the Orlando Magic and that a new Men’s Center facility will be constructed on property already owned by the Mission at 3250 Old Winter Garden Road. For more information on the Orlando Union Rescue Mission’s programs, please visit their website here: http://www.ourm.org/

Salvation Army
The Salvation Army’s Orlando headquarters are located at 416 W. Colonial Drive on the northern border of Parramore. The Salvation Army operates a number of programs including a men’s shelter – transitional housing facility, a women’s and children’s shelter, housing for seniors, feeding programs, emergency assistance, an adult rehabilitation center for substance abuse, and disaster services and assistance. For more information, please visit the Salvation Army’s website here: http://salvationarmyorlando.org/

4. Assessment of Existing Infrastructure and Planned Improvements

a. Transportation
An extensive network of facilities for automobile, bus, bicycle, automobile, truck, and walking modes are in place throughout the study area. Some of these facilities have been in place for long periods of time and are in need of upgrades and maintenance, but the overall transportation system serving the area is well established and generally adequate to serve the basic multi-modal transportation needs of the community.

There is a high amount of pedestrian, bicycle and transit use in Parramore. This phenomenon was witnessed during physical assessments and walk audits of the community, that in many areas, motorists defer to pedestrians and bicyclists. Many residents use bicycles for transportation. Most of the internal Parramore neighborhood streets are low volume and bicyclists share the roadway or sidewalk. Overall, the Parramore neighborhood provides excellent opportunities for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users, but there are areas of the network that need to be expanded and improved.

For more detailed information, please see Appendix C.

i. Roadway Network
The road network is bounded by Colonial Drive to the north, Hughey Avenue to the east, Gore Street to the south, and Orange Blossom Trail to the west. This
rectangular area contains a nearly complete orthogonal grid system of roadways. The primary grid is created by collector streets spaced roughly 1,300 feet apart in the east-west direction and 650 feet apart in the north-south direction. South Street and Anderson Street operate as a one-way, east-west couplet in the southern third of the study area. All other collectors serving Parramore are operated as two-way streets. The roadways bounding the study area are classified as arterials and provide good connections into and out of the neighborhood. The East/West Expressway (SR 408), a limited access toll road, bisects the neighborhood approximately ¼ mile from its’ southern border. The study area connects to SR 408 at Orange Blossom Trail. Local streets serve as a secondary grid within Parramore and have intersections spaced every 600 feet in commercial areas and 200 to 300 ft in residential areas. (Appendix C - Exhibit U-1) provides the capacity availability for the collector roadways serving Parramore for 2013 based on peak hour projections.

Due to the proximity of Parramore to Orlando’s Downtown core area and event centers such as the Amway Center, the collector grid within the area serves an important role for accommodating commuter and special event traffic. Much of this traffic that passes through the neighborhood is contained on the east-west collectors such as Washington Street, Central Boulevard, and the South Street/Anderson Street couplet. Even with the high volume of traffic that moves through the area at peak commuting hours and before and after special events, roadway capacity is not a limiting factor to citizens’ mobility or to the movement of freight to and from commercial properties.

**Future Traffic Analysis**

As part of the creation and testing of the character districts described in Chapter II – Recommended Vision Plan, it was deemed necessary to compare the projected build-out of these districts to the Orlando Urban Area Transportation Study (OUATS) travel demand forecasting model year 2040 results for the study area. The purpose of that comparison was to determine if additional transportation facilities (such as additional roadway lanes) would be required to accommodate the development contemplated in the Plan.

At buildout, this Plan could increase residential uses by approximately 1,077 units, but is well below the 2040 OUATS projections for non-residential uses by approximately 4,681,803 square feet. This increase in residential trips is more than accounted for in the trip savings from the 4,681,803 square feet of non-residential uses identified in the OUATS model, thereby resulting in a reduction of
approximately half of the model trips. Therefore, no new capital projects are necessary in order to accommodate future traffic volumes. For the full traffic analysis, please see Appendix G.

ii. **Transit**

Central Florida Regional Transit Authority, known as LYNX, operates the traditional bus system and two circulator routes through the Parramore study area. The LYNX Central Station is located less than ¼ mile to the east of Parramore between Amelia and Livingston Streets and is the terminus and transfer point for the majority of bus routes operated by LYNX. Eleven local LYNX routes operate on the collector grid through Parramore with typical headways of 30 minutes on weekdays and 60 minutes on weekends. Two additional local routes operate on the arterial roadways that border Parramore. The neighborhood is also served by the recently opened Grapefruit Line of LYNX’s downtown circulator system known as LYMMO. This system is operated without fares and operates during the day with 15 minute headways. A third LYMMO line is currently in the final stages of design and is expected to begin operating in the northeastern portion of the neighborhood in early 2016.

The eastern boundary of Parramore is also within ¼ mile of two SunRail commuter rail stations located between Garland Avenue and Orange Avenue. This rail system provides weekday service between south Orlando and Seminole and Volusia Counties to the north. Both major area hospitals and many employment centers can be easily reached from this 31 mile long rail corridor.

iii. **Bicycle Facilities**

Over 3 miles of bike lanes and a ½ mile of signed, on-street bike routes currently exist in the Parramore Neighborhood study area. There are no off-street bike facilities in the neighborhood at this time. Per City Code, all commercial and public buildings within the area are required to provide bike parking racks when substantial improvements or redevelopment occurs. Many buildings within the area have such racks available.

iv. **Sidewalks**

Sidewalks are the only existing pedestrian facilities within the Parramore neighborhood. The majority of streets have sidewalks on both sides of the street. 46 blocks of varying lengths have sidewalk on only one side of the street. Approximately 2 miles of local roadways do not have a sidewalk on either side of the
street. Exhibit A-8 depicts the areas that are missing sidewalks. The condition of the sidewalks and location of specific sites needing maintenance or replacement is documented in Appendix C.

Walking Audits for all three neighborhoods were held February 8, 2014 to review pedestrian and bicycle mobility and access to transit. Members of the project team, as well as community members, spent several hours walking through the neighborhoods and recording their observations. The results from the Walking Audits can be found in Appendix D.

Overall, the Parramore community provides excellent opportunities for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users. Low volume traffic, shade trees and a well-connected transit system encourage walking, bicycling and transit use in most areas although there is need for improvement. Existing, planned and future venues and attractions create another layer of bicycle/pedestrian and transit needs that are separate from resident needs.

The roads that border the Parramore community, especially SR 50 and Orange Blossom Trail, are difficult to cross and create challenges for residents and visitors as they walk, bike or access transit to areas external to the Parramore neighborhood. The opening of SunRail, the expansion of LYMMO, the planned K-8 Community School, and the planned entertainment venues demand the need for ongoing coordination and planning to ensure the Parramore area continues to provide excellent walking, bicycle riding and transit conditions.

Expanding and improving the sidewalk network in Parramore will help to enhance connectivity within Parramore as well as destinations outside the community. These efforts will also address access problems for some users, especially those who depend on wheelchairs, creating a safer, more comfortable, and more user-friendly system for all persons.

The City should develop a strategy to address the sidewalk deficiencies, starting in locations where there are no sidewalks on either side of the street, or on roads highlighted as Complete Streets on the Vision Plan (including Orange Blossom Trail, Westmoreland Drive, West Central Street, and West Amelia Street).
v. **Lighting**

The Parramore neighborhood and adjacent areas experience increases of pedestrian activity during events at local venues. Many of these events occur at nighttime, increasing the importance of lighting on the sidewalks. In general, the neighborhood has sufficient lighting to provide visibility of sidewalks, but like the sidewalks, there are areas of the community that need improved street lighting. Exhibit A-9 shows the missing sections of street lighting.

For a complete listing of locations, see Appendix C. By increasing consistency and expectation of lighting in Parramore, people who use the sidewalk system will be more visible to vehicles and other users, creating a safer pedestrian environment. The City should develop a strategy to address the lighting deficiencies.
Exhibit A-8: Missing Sidewalks Links
Exhibit A-9: Lighting Gaps
b. Stormwater

Parramore contains seven (7) drainage sub-basins. The Lake Lorna Doone, Lake Beardall, and Clear Lake sub-basins are located within the Shingle Creek Regional Watershed; Lake Dot and Lake Concord are located within the Howell Branch Regional Watershed; and Rock Lake and Lake Lucerne are land-locked / closed basins.

With respect to existing problem areas, a coordination meeting was conducted with City staff on January 10, 2014 to discuss the existing stormwater related data and known deficiencies within the 819.5 acre study area. With the exception of repetitive flooding issues in the Pine Street area (located east of Orange Blossom Trail) and the eastern terminus of Long Street, there are no other known problem areas within the project limits that exhibit stormwater deficiencies.

However, it is anticipated that future redevelopment projects may need to accommodate stormwater management on-site unless the City is able to provide additional capacity in the master stormwater system. Current and projected stormwater conditions in specific areas within Parramore, particularly those in close proximity to the new MLS Soccer Stadium, are currently being evaluated by City staff. Additional master stormwater system studies in other portion of the Parramore community may be pursued in the future in order to expedite and encourage redevelopment efforts. For more detailed information, please see Appendix C.

c. Water/Wastewater

Potable Water Distribution System: A detailed exhibit (Appendix C - Exhibit U-3) of the Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) existing potable water distribution system in the study area has been prepared based on GIS data provided by OUC. Based on discussions with OUC staff, they have verified that no deficiencies currently exist in their water distribution system in the study area.

Sanitary Sewer System: A detailed exhibit (Appendix C - Exhibit U-4) of the City of Orlando’s existing sanitary sewer system in the study area has been prepared based on GIS data provided by the City’s Wastewater Division. Based on discussions with City of Orlando Wastewater Division staff, no major deficiencies currently exist other than routine scheduled replacement of certain older gravity sanitary sewers. However, the City is currently studying wastewater improvements necessary to support the MLS Soccer Stadium and surrounding redevelopment sites. For more detailed information, please see Appendix C.
5. Housing

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) has designated the City as an entitlement (or formula grant) community. As an entitlement community, the city is eligible for federal funds to provide decent housing, create suitable living environments and expand economic opportunities for principally low and moderate income persons. The City has prepared a 2011-2016 Consolidated Plan in order to apply for HUD approval for this funding.

The City’s Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development directs staff to ensure that grant funding (CDGB, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA) is available to address the needs of very low-, low-, and moderate-income residents. Although specific geographic locations have not been identified or targeted, the three neighborhoods that comprise Parramore meet the HUD criteria for low/moderate income and are therefore eligible for grant funding assistance.

As of 2013, Parramore is home to 6,175 residents, distributed among 2,235 households and 2,762 housing units\(^2\). Approximately 30% of the housing units are single family homes (mostly detached), while the remainder are in multi-unit structures, ranging from duplexes to buildings with 20 or more units.

More than half of the overall housing stock in the community was built over 50 years ago, but stock age varies by neighborhood. In Holden/Parramore and Callahan, 36% and 40% of the units are 75 years or older, respectively, whereas in Lake Dot nearly 72% of the units were built between 35 and 54 years ago. In addition, many housing units qualify as being in substandard condition and/or not meeting today’s construction or quality standards. Partly as a result of these factors, the median value of homes in the Parramore community ($81,982 in 2013) is 29% lower than the median home value for the City of Orlando ($134,106).

The majority of Parramore residents (73%) rent rather than own their homes, making the area having among one of the lowest homeownership rates in the City of Orlando. However, while many people rent, it should be understood that many residents have rented homes in the Parramore community for many years – in other words, it is not a transient community. More than 43% of the households that rent a unit in Parramore are considered cost-burdened. Cost-burdened households are those that pay more than thirty percent

\(^2\) Source: WTL +a Market Analysis/ESRI Business Analyst, March 2014
(30%) of income for rent or mortgage costs, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Development (HUD).

Socioeconomic conditions limit the ability of many households to easily qualify for financing to purchase homes. However, homeownership and median home values fluctuate across the neighborhoods in Parramore, suggesting that tailored strategies might be developed to address tenure issues at the neighborhood level as well as at the community level:

**Exhibit A-10: Housing Statistics by Neighborhood**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Percent Owner (Occupied Units)</th>
<th>Median Home Value (Owner Occupied Units)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Dot</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>$155,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callahan</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>$146,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holden/Parramore</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>$70,014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Slightly more than 19% or 528 of the total housing units in the community are vacant. There are neighborhood variations related to the status of these units:

**Exhibit A-11: Status of Vacant Units by Neighborhood**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Status (Rent/Sale/Other*)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Dot</td>
<td>0%/56%/44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callahan</td>
<td>0%/80%/20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holden/Parramore</td>
<td>45%/21%/34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*(2010) includes any units not on the market but not occupied and units that may be abandoned, dilapidated and/or not livable

Whereas most of the existing housing units are over 50 years old, many householders in Parramore did not move into their units until after 1990 (particularly renters). Older units that are in poor condition offer potential for rehabilitation, renovation or redevelopment. These older units can be remade into healthier homes through resolution of code enforcement issues, promoting adequate pest and mold control, or household safety and protection best practice upgrades. The HUD Healthy Homes Program provides additional information on how to address household environmental hazards: [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/hi](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/healthy_homes/hi)

In addition to the significant share of vacant residential units that represent potential opportunities for strengthening the fabric of the existing neighborhoods, approximately 13% (106 acres) of the land in Parramore is currently vacant and offers opportunities for revitalization. Many of the vacant parcels in the community are zoned Residential (mostly
Low and Medium Density), but they also may include land in other classifications that could be redeveloped as housing.

More than 40% of the households in Parramore do not have access to an automobile, indicating the need to carefully integrate the community’s land use, housing, and mobility strategies.

**Shimberg Center Affordable Housing Study**

As part of the HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant, the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the University of Florida (UF) conducted an evaluation of the 12 Phase-1 SunRail stations and the reconfiguration of LYNX routes, to determine the affordable housing and employment needs of each area. It is anticipated that the analysis will also help formulate strategies to lessen cost burdens to households spending more than 45% of their income on combined housing and transportation costs.

As part of this analysis, the Shimberg Center ran the Affordable Housing Suitability Model (HSM), a Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based decision tool created by Shimberg, UF’s Department of Urban and Regional Planning and GeoPlan Center. In particular, the Shimberg study used the HSM to generate Parramore-specific estimates of pre-SunRail demand for both affordable and workforce dwelling units. These forecasts, in turn, have been used as a basis for analyzing future retail market demand in the Parramore community.

Suitability analysis is typically defined as “the process of determining the fitness, or the appropriateness, of a given tract of land for a specified use” (Steiner, 1983). In the HSM model, each map layer represents factors deemed important for the location of affordable housing: residential suitability (for both single family and multifamily residential) based on physical and land use characteristics; neighborhood accessibility to services (for both single family and multifamily residential); transit accessibility; and driving costs. Transit accessibility refers to the ease or convenience of getting to destinations using the transit system (e.g., distance to nearest bus stop, accessibility to employment using transit).
Parramore does well on a number of individual model components, including suitability for residential development, neighborhood accessibility to amenities and total transit accessibility. The only component that Parramore scores noticeably lower on is access to jobs from transit. Overall, however, Parramore is highly suitable both for single family and multifamily development. In addition, the community rates better on all factors than much of the 5-county SunRail region, thanks to its compact, traditional neighborhood layout, mix of uses, and close proximity to downtown.

Additional conclusions from the study include:
• Demand for affordable housing units generated by low- to moderate-wage households is moderate within Parramore but quite significant in the surrounding area, creating opportunities to attract additional population:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance from Center of Parramore</th>
<th>Number of Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within walking distance (0.5 mi)</td>
<td>232 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within biking distance (1.7 mi)</td>
<td>4,294 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within driving distance (5 mi)</td>
<td>12,346 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Although employment opportunities within Parramore are comparatively limited at this time, significant numbers of low and moderate wage jobs exist within a 5 mile radius of the community:

**Exhibit A-14: Travel Mode for Jobs – Distance from Center of Parramore**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within walking distance (0.5 mi)</td>
<td>1,522 jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within biking distance (1.7 mi)</td>
<td>39,460 jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within driving distance (5 mi)</td>
<td>117,500 jobs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The study’s findings suggest applying a combination of strategies to meet present and future affordable housing needs:

• Preserve and rehabilitate existing owner-occupied residential units which are in fair condition;
• Identify and assemble sites for the development of new mixed tenure, sustainable affordable housing;
• Continue to develop a transportation network that emphasizes transit, to expand mobility and access to living wage jobs outside the community; and
• Expand and diversify the community’s job base and strengthen connections to the regional economy.

**Homelessness**

Homelessness is a growing concern throughout the State of Florida. According to the 2012 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (Volume I), which is issued by HUD, between 2007 and 2012 Florida experienced its largest increase in the rate of homelessness, making our state the third largest homeless population in the country.

According to Point-in-Time counts\(^3\) conducted in 2013, there were 45,364 persons who qualified as homeless in all counties throughout the state of Florida. Of these, 2,937 persons were counted in Orange County. About 900 of them in the City of Orlando itself are categorized as chronically homeless\(^4\).

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\(^3\) The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that the homeless continuums of care conduct an annual count of the homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelters, transitional housing and safe havens on a single night during the last ten days of January. HUD also requires that a count be conducted of the unsheltered homeless population every other year (odd numbered years). The goal is to produce an unduplicated count, or statistically reliable estimate of the homeless in the community.

\(^4\) The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines a chronically homeless person as “either (1) an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has been continuously homeless for a year or more, or (2) an unaccompanied individual with a disabling condition who has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.”
While neighborhood-level data is not available, it is clear that the incidence of homelessness in Parramore is one of the most pervasive challenges that the community has to deal with. Homeless people tend to converge into and around Parramore to some extent because of the depressed socioeconomic conditions prevalent in the area today, but primarily as a result of the large concentration of supportive social services available there. Not only has the over-concentration of social services had an adverse impact on the function and image of the community (a fact acknowledged in the City’s Comprehensive Plan policies that pertain to Parramore), but the needs of the homeless population can strain already scarce resources in an area facing multiple urgent demands. This is because the City and Orange County spend millions of dollars each year providing services for the chronically homeless, including but not limited to EMS/fire and police response, community health and mental health services, jail bookings, public park cleanup and municipal court expenses.

In addition to being the right thing to do, addressing the homeless issue in Parramore makes economic sense—and will be a requirement for the success of this Plan. Various research studies show that developing solutions to the problem is far more cost effective than continuing to allow the problem to exist. One recent example, a study conducted for the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness\(^5\), indicates that the average annual cost per person to provide a continuum of care to chronically homeless individuals in the tri-county region including Osceola, Seminole and Orange is in the $30,000 range, whereas providing permanent supportive housing to those individuals could cost an average of around $10,000 per person per year.

Recommendations for addressing the homelessness issue in Parramore, Orlando and the Central Florida region are included in the Plan document – Executive Summary and Chapter II.

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