



GARY **EL**EVATED

Gary ELevated represents a complete reimagining of Mid-Town Gary. The core of the proposal involves the re-routing of the Marquette Greenway to take advantage of an abandoned elevated rail line running through the heart of the city. The trail will connect with several neighborhoods, all experiencing various degrees of economic challenges, with a number of vacant properties adjacent to the corridor. The population is minority-based, with few opportunities to safely access other parts of the city by walking or bicycling, including any access to areas of public gathering and nature.

The siting of the Marquette Greenway through Mid-town Gary represents a tremendous opportunity to transform this disinvested area of the city into a renewed and vibrant community offering both existing and new residents a bounty of places to shop, work and play. Key to the success of this vision involves the direct integration of those living in these neighborhoods, and having them be the champions for the proposal.

To aid with the careful integration of community input, **Gary ELevated** should follow civic engagement concepts currently underway in Milwaukee, Detroit, Baltimore and the Englewood neighborhood in Chicago. Gleaning off the successes of these endeavors will help lead the way towards the realization of the **Gary ELevated** vision.

The City of Gary and the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission aim to bring together a broad spectrum of stakeholders under three work teams. These teams will involve local officials, planning professionals, businesses, residents and neighborhood leaders. Their input will serve as the foundation towards the development of the trail, and the revitalization of the surrounding Mid-Town neighborhoods.

