UM-Flint Impact Circle: 
Imagine Flint Master Plan Implementation

Purpose of the Impact Circle

The Impact Circle approach to university-community partnership, serves several interlocking purposes:

- To support the campus in shifting from piecemeal community engagement activities to transformative community impacts
- To galvanize research, academic service-learning and other university connections related to the City of Flint's new comprehensive Master Plan
- To foster interdisciplinary collaboration and address complex community issues requiring interdisciplinary solutions
- To position UM-Flint as the academic partner of choice in the region

Background on the Imagine Flint Master Plan

The Imagine Flint Master Plan for a Sustainable Flint is a visionary blueprint for 20+ years of future city planning and development, comprehensively addressing all aspects of city life. It is a nearly 300-page document with chapters focusing on the broad topics of land use, housing and neighborhoods; transportation and mobility; environmental feature, open space and parks; infrastructure and community facilities; economic development and education; public safety, health and welfare; and arts and culture. Each chapter has objectives and specific strategies tied to each objective. The City of Flint is currently working to develop action plans for each objective. Many of the 100+ strategies require further research and development to move them from concept to reality.

Now in its implementation phase, the Plan offers opportunities for faculty and students of all disciplines to research and apply learning to bring the plan to fruition, as well as a wealth of data to inform teaching, research and learning.

To view the Imagine Flint Master Plan, please visit: http://www.imagineflint.com/.
Strategic Alignments

The UM-Flint 2011-2016 Strategic Plan and the Master Plan have priorities that align:

- The UM-Flint’s Strategic Priority #4, Expand Participation in Civic Engagement, Experiential Learning, and Service Learning, calls for the University to “establish priority areas for community engagement: public health, land use, economic development, and education.”

- While the City of Flint is fully committed to making each area of the plan come to fruition, current priority areas for implementation are neighborhood stabilization including housing; education and economic development including literacy; and environmental features.

Impact Circle Structure

- Core members of the Impact Circle will be University faculty, administrators and staff who serve on topic-based Master Plan Implementation Task Groups. The Impact Circle also welcomes other University employees and students who are committed to learning about the Master Plan and contributing to its implementation. In essence, University Outreach strives to bring all interested parties to the table to foster knowledge-sharing and collaboration.

- The Impact Circle will meet 1-2 times per month.

- The City of Flint will serve as the primary community partner for the Impact Circle. Specifically, Kevin Schronce, the City of Flint Associate Planner in charge of coordinating Master Plan implementation efforts, will be our contact.

- University Outreach will facilitate the Impact Circle meetings and work with departments across the university to bring additional resources to the table in a coordinated way, ensuring the success of the city-university partnership.

For more information, please contact Mona Munroe-Younis in University Outreach at (810) 424-5481 or myounis@umflint.edu.