

Theories of Change

Working Draft

Updated 03/31/2017

In late 2015, the Ruth Mott Foundation asked north Flint residents what issues mattered most to them. Four priorities stood out: Youth, Safety, Economic Opportunity, and Neighborhoods. Residents identified areas to focus on within each priority. These shaped what kinds of grants we will fund going forward. The Ruth Mott Foundation is committed to positive change in north Flint. To be accountable, we need to track what changes related to these priorities happen in north Flint.

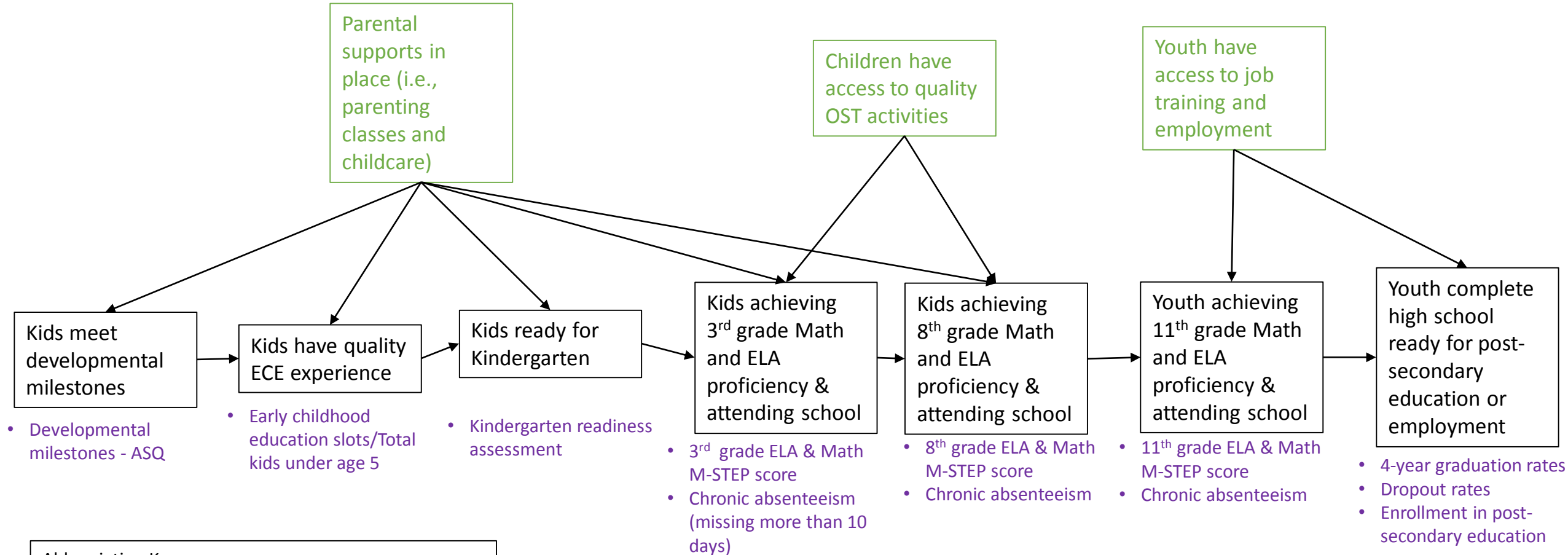
To figure out what to measure, we developed theories of change. A theory of change is a way of mapping long-term goals you expect to achieve if you carry out certain kinds of work. It includes indicators that help track whether the expected changes happen. Of course, forces beyond the Ruth Mott Foundation also shape what happens, and we will take that into account as well.

Each priority identified by residents has its own theory of change. The specific areas to focus on are shown in green boxes. Long-term outcomes we expect to achieve are in black boxes. We will track the indicators shown in purple to see if we are making progress. We chose indicators that have public data sources for north Flint. We plan to revise these theories of change as we learn more about what works and what does not, and we will revise this document accordingly.



Youth

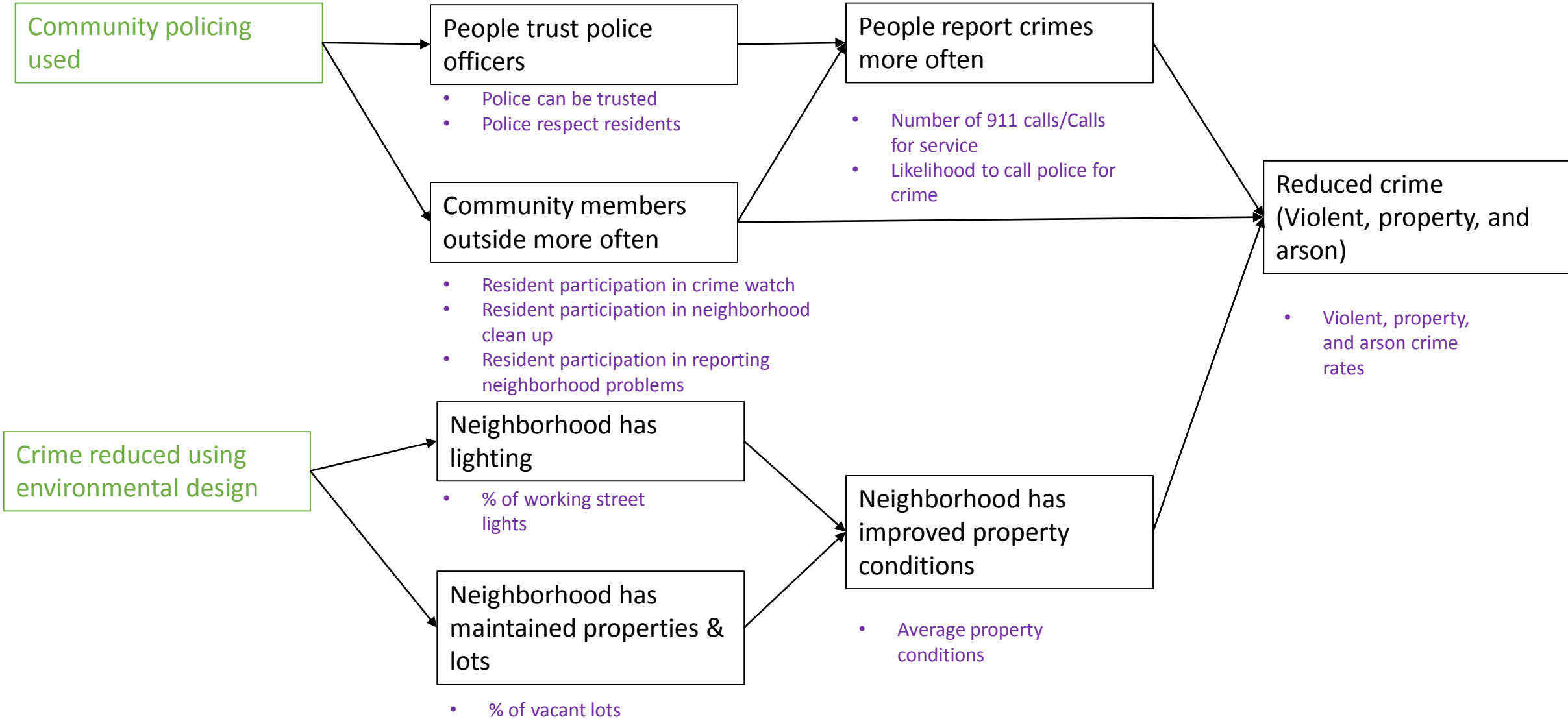
Key
 Strategy
 Outcomes
 Community-Level Indicator



Abbreviation Key
 ASQ – Ages and Stages Questionnaire
 ECE – Early Childhood Education
 ELA – English Language Arts
 OST – Out of School Time

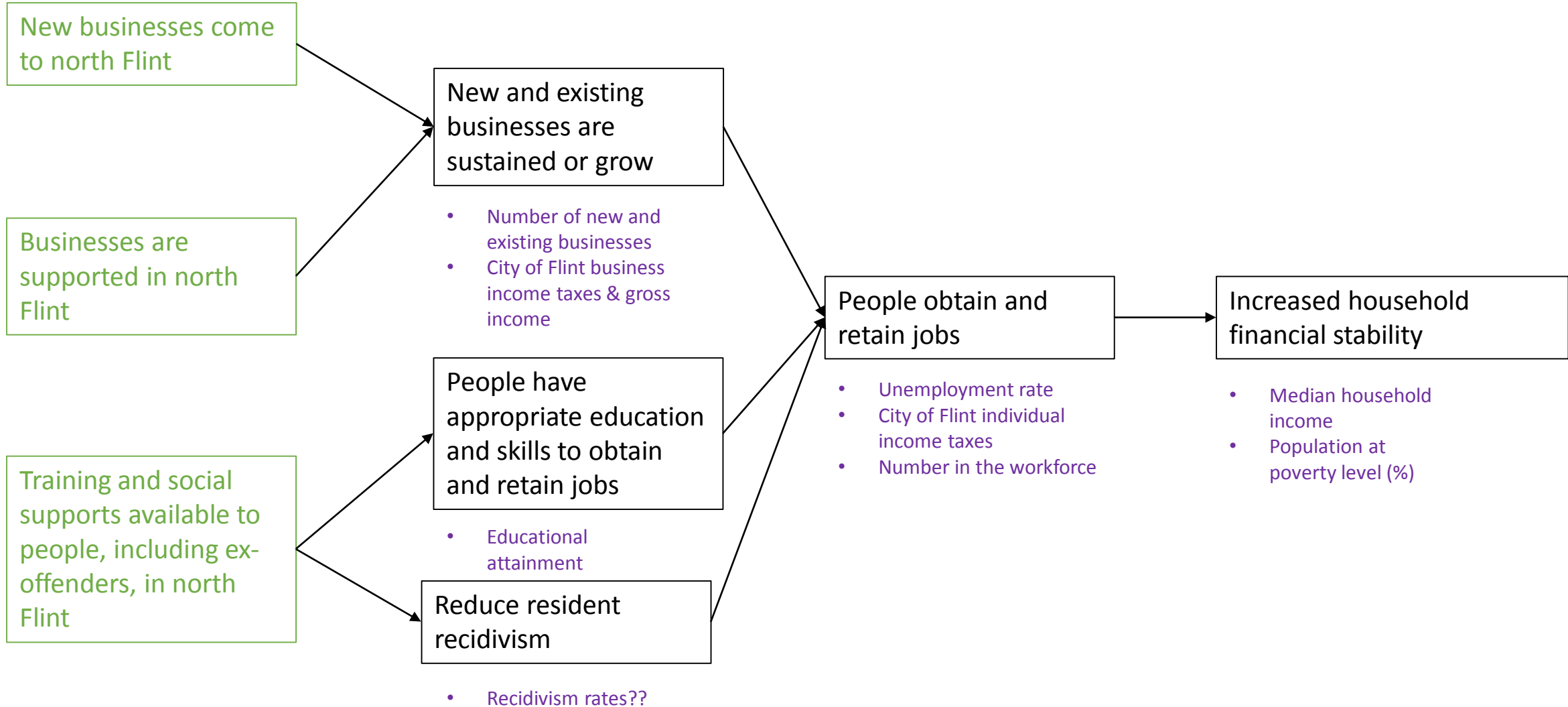
Safety

Key
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 Community-Level Indicator



Economic Opportunity

<p><u>Key</u></p> <p>Strategy</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Community-Level Indicator</p>
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Neighborhoods

Key
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