

GREATER HILL DISTRICT

MASTER PLAN

Community Gap Identification

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Objectives for Tonight

- Review the Greater Hill District Master Plan and how it relates to the Neighborhood Plan Guide (NPG).
- Discuss what needs to be updated, expanded, and added
- Determine any "optional topics" we want to address through the planning process



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

Topics for the Community Action Team

- This chapter focuses on the existing residents, employees, students, and visitors of the planning area with proposals for how they can be better served by the district.



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

Topics for the Community Action Team

Specific topics:

- Community programs and livability
- Cultural heritage and preservation
- Public art
- Public safety
- Public facilities and services
- Public health

Optional topics:

- Community uses in the right-of-way
- Nuisance and enforcement issues
- Schools and related programs



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Goals and policies

(pg. 4)

BUILD UPON THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL LEGACY

The Hill District has been a setting for Black history-making from the 18th century to the present. Thus, the Hill will position itself as Pittsburgh's oldest African American neighborhood and retain its cultural and historical personality, which should not be lost due to market pressures and gentrification.

**Community
Goal**

- Honor the historic and cultural legacy of African Americans in the Hill District with emphasis on the Lower Hill
- Include 'right of return' preferences for displaced individuals, families, organizations and businesses
- Use existing neighborhood resources first in revitalization
- Advance existing and create new relationships to move the Hill District forward
- Ensure that Hill District residents are empowered in planning for the community revitalization

**Mixture of
Policies**



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Organization and contents

- 7% • Community goals and policies (Executive Summary, pg. 1-10)
- 21% • Background materials (Context & Process, pg. 11-38)
- 22% • **Projects and programs organized under 20 topics** (Master Plan Program Initiatives, pg. 39-68)
- 35% • Concept master plans for 8 subareas (Master Plan Urban Design Proposals, pg. 69-116)
- 10% • Additional studies needed and other implementation guidance (Next Steps, pg. 117-130)
- 5% • Development Principles, Non-Displacement Strategies, and Strategies for Reclaiming the Lower Hill (Appendix, pg. 131-138)



High Level Crosswalk

GHDMP Projects and Programs

Neighborhood Plan Guide Topic(s)

39 Master Plan Program Initiatives

42	District Identity	Community
43	The Hill History Center	Community
45	Historic Preservation	Community
46	Quality Education Initiative	Community and Development
48	Hill District Arts Plan	Community
49	Neighborhood Safety	Community
51	Hill District Homeowner/Tenant Support	Development
53	Housing Innovation Zone	Development
53	Comprehensive Vacant Property Strategy	Development
55	Hill District Workforce Development	Development



High Level Crosswalk

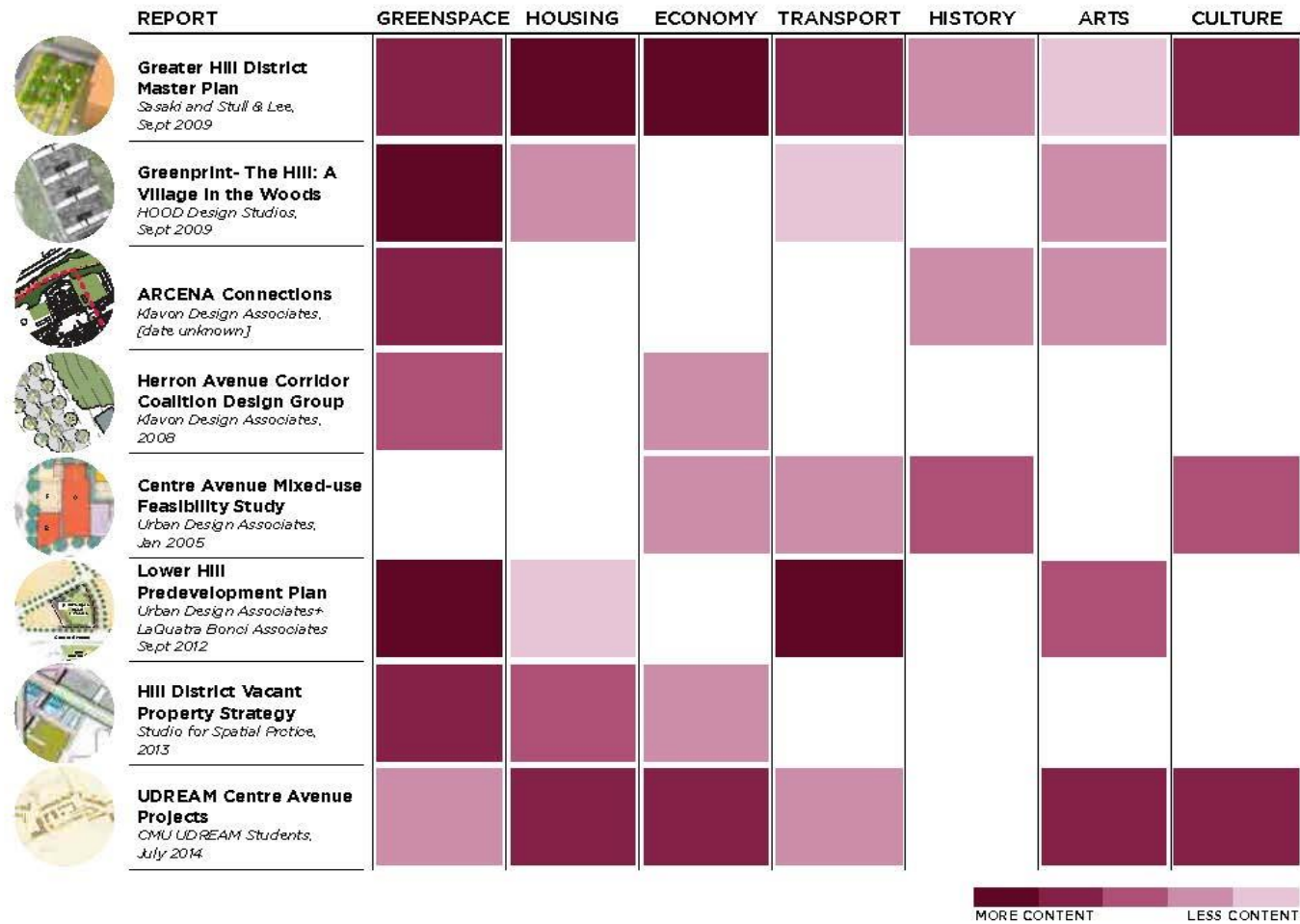
GHDMP Projects and Programs

Neighborhood Plan Guide Topic(s)

57	Hill District Business Incubator	Development
59	Centre Avenue Business District	Development
60	Greenprint Implementation	Infrastructure and Development
62	Urban Agriculture	Infrastructure
63	Play Spaces	Infrastructure and Development
64	Neighborhood Transportation	Mobility
64	Ride-to-Work	Mobility
66	Streetscape Improvements	Mobility and Development
66	"Complete Streets" Pilot	Mobility and Development
66	Comprehensive Parking Strategy	Mobility



The following illustration highlights the content included in each of the previous plans.



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Program Initiatives

BUILD UPON THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL LEGACY

- District Identity
 - Signage and Wayfinding*
 - Weekly Publication*
- The Hill History Center
 - "Past, Present & Future" Trail*
- Historic Preservation
 - Hill District Preservation Plan*
- Quality Education Initiative
 - Lifelong Education*
 - Urban Fellows*
 - Youth Safe Haven*
 - Youth Arts Education*
- Hill District Arts Plan
- Neighborhood Safety
 - Neighborhood Watch*

FAMILY FRIENDLY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT DISPLACEMENT

- Hill District Homeowner/Tenant Support
 - Homeowner Cooperative*
 - Homeowner Education Articles*
 - Tenant Resource Center*
- Housing Innovation Zone
- Comprehensive Vacant Property Strategy
 - Hill District Land Bank*
 - Demolition Moratorium*
 - Vacant Property Maintenance Standards*
 - Temporary Uses*
 - Adopt-a-Lot*
 - Side-lot Transfer*
 - Neighborhood Clean-ups*

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Hill District Workforce Development
 - Green Building, Clean Manufacturing and "Green-Collar" Jobs*
 - Construction/Renovation/Historic Preservation*
 - Nursing/Health Related Professions*
 - Restaurant/Food Service*
 - Youth Opportunities*
 - Job Placement Resources*
- Hill District Business Incubator
 - Non-Profit Incubator Space*
 - Arts Incubator Space*
 - Small Business Incubator Space*
 - Cooperative Marketplace*
 - Small Business Support*
 - Innovation Competition*
- Centre Avenue Business District

MAKE THE HILL DISTRICT A GREEN AND WELL-DESIGNED COMMUNITY

- Greenprint Implementation
- Urban Agriculture
- Play Spaces
 - Play Streets*

MOBILITY, TRANSPORTATION, AND PARKING

- Neighborhood Transportation
 - Transportation Advocacy Group*
 - Intra-Hill Neighborhood Transit*
 - Hill District Transportation Plan*
- Ride-to-Work
 - Shuttle to Major Employers*
 - Ride-Sharing System*
 - Jitney Stand*
- Streetscape Improvements
- "Complete Streets" Pilot
- Comprehensive Parking Strategy



Centre Ave. Redevelopment and Design Implementation Plan

Discussion: What to Update, Expand, Add?

What Needs to be Updated or expanded?

Historic Preservation

Public Safety

Public Health

Public Facilities and Services

Public Art

What needs to be added?

Schools and Related Programs

Community Resilience



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

Optional Uses:

Optional: Community Uses in the Right-of-Way				
Streets and other rights-of-way are repurposed temporarily or permanently to meet community needs if supported by transportation analyses.	- Pilot events and installations in the right-of-way. - Permitting programs initiated and in use by community organizations.			
Optional: Nuisance and Enforcement Issues				
Common nuisance issues are identified and actions recommended to remedy the situation permanently.	- Reduction in 311 reports related to the issue in question. - Reduction in police activity or community organization intervention to resolve issues.			
Optional: Schools and Related Programs (Required if within the plan area)				
Schools provide quality education.	- Graduation rates. - Absenteeism rates. - Percentage of students advancing from one grade level to the next.			

Community Programs and Livability

- A livable community is one that is safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and offers supportive community features and services.
- Foster residents' engagement in the community's civic, economic, and social life.



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

Community Programs and Livability

<u>Example Goals</u>	<u>Example Indicators</u>
Community Programs and Livability	
Civic engagement is strong and processes are inclusive and representative.	• Percentage of population engaged in public consultation processes (e.g., attendance rates, social media subscribers). • Demographic makeup of engagement participants. • Number of hours per capita volunteered annually by residents and business employees. • Percentage of eligible residents voting in most recent local election.
Housing is close to facilities that offer a complete set of daily needs.	• Percentage of daily essentials (e.g., shopping, civic, education, recreation) for residents from age 8 to age 80 that are within a 0.5 mile/10 minute walk of 50 percent of dwellings.

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HOUSING

The Commercial Potential Analysis study identifies a relatively sharp decline (11 percent) in the total number of housing units between 2000 (8,194) and 2010 (7,293). As much of the housing within the CMA dates back to the early 20th century, a number of housing units were taken down due to physical obsolescence and/or deterioration (due to vacancy, owner absenteeism, etc.). However, the Commercial Potential Analysis study identifies increases in housing values throughout a majority of CMA neighborhoods, since 2010, with the average housing value growth rate in the CMA being comparable to that of the city of Pittsburgh.

This improving CMA housing market climate, as identified in the study, is **favorable to the mixed-use development opportunities recommended within this report**. Further, and as identified within the **Commercial Potential Analysis** study, an increasing trend in population, particularly in light of many physically obsolescent housing units within the CMA, **will increase local housing demand for a variety of housing types (e.g., renter- and owner-occupied; townhouses and garden apartments; live-work lofts, etc.).**

Indeed, the housing recommendations found within the Hill District Centre Avenue Corridor Redevelopment study are reflective of the recommendations within the residential development section of the Commercial Potential Analysis study:

"Attract new residential consumers by offering urban oriented, amenities, and largely owner-occupied housing..."

An in-depth understanding of these trends will come from the recently commissioned Housing Market Study, expected to be completed in late 2015.

COMMERCIAL

An increase in population and new housing development will drive an increase in demand for local goods and services. The **Commercial and Potential Analysis** study identifies the need for a variety of retail and personal service businesses currently lacking within the Hill District (only recently did the Hill District get its first supermarket in more than fifty years). Many of the building types and scale of structures recommended within the Hill District Centre Avenue Corridor Redevelopment study are appropriate to accommodate the varied types of businesses identified by residents of the Hill District in an earlier performed survey. For example, the desire by Hill District residents to have more cafés, fitness studios, a bakery, and boutique clothing shops are well suited to the small retail spaces contemplated within a number of the recommended mixed-use building types identified within the Hill District Centre Avenue Corridor Redevelopment study.

Further, and as identified within the Commercial Potential Analysis study, "A sustaining force supporting both retail and commercial development in the Hill District will be the growth in and changing characteristics of residents over the short term. Reversing years of decline, recent data indicate positive growth in housing units and, therefore, population. This important change has been accompanied by additional spending power from the recently added residents."



Centre Ave. Redevelopment and Design Plan

What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

PROGRAM INITIATIVES | 42

Program Initiatives

AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL LEGACY

African American Cultural Legacy

DISTRICT IDENTITY

It is important to have a clear message to express the core values of the Greater Hill District—a message that is consistent, unique and memorable, and that resonates with its diverse constituents.

Goals

Establish a recognizable graphic identity for the Hill. Mark the entrances to the Hill to welcome and encourage visitors and new investment. Keep residents and visitors informed about local initiatives, special events and other neighborhood news.

Potential Programs

SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING

- Developing a comprehensive signage and wayfinding system can unify the Greater Hill District while still highlighting its many unique neighborhoods. This system could include a mix of welcome signs, street banners, historic markers, directional signage, visitor kiosks and interpretive graphic displays.
- Welcome signs at key entry points would make visitors more aware that they are entering the district and could help to build a common identity among residents. The entries should include:
 - Herron Avenue at Centre Avenue
 - Herron Avenue at Bigelow Boulevard
 - Centre Avenue at Washington Place
 - Fifth Avenue at Kirkpatrick Street



Signage and Wayfinding: This Heritage Trail sign in Washington DC tells the history of the area



Weekly Publication: A neighborhood bulletin or newsletter such as these examples from Chicago and from the Uptown neighborhood within the Greater Hill District can help to keep residents and visitors informed of events in the Hill



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

- Life'sWork (www.lifesworkwpa.org)
Life'sWork provides resume building, job assessment, and skills coaching services to assist persons with disabilities or other barriers to employment in securing jobs.

Potential Programs

GREEN BUILDING, CLEAN MANUFACTURING AND "GREEN-COLLAR" JOBS

- Use projects in the Hill, such as transforming Bedford Avenue into a Complete Street, as learning opportunities for trainees.
- Further develop relationship with the Penn State program and the Pittsburgh Green Innovators at the Connelly School (Lower Hill), which is to be redeveloped "as an incubator of green industry, a job training center for green-industry jobs and a technical support center for work force development."
- Example: Evergreen Cooperatives
Cleveland, OH (www.evergreencoop.com)
An innovative model of job creation, wealth building and sustainability. The green-focused, for-profit companies within the Cooperative are employee-owned and locally based. Workers earn a living wage and build equity in their companies.

CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION/HISTORIC PRESERVATION

- Projects in the Hill could be used as training sites for construction-related professions and urban regeneration practices.

NURSING/HEALTH RELATED PROFESSIONS

- Potential to tie into program at Duquesne Nursing School
- With an aging population, health care and support for the elderly will be in strong demand.

RESTAURANT/FOOD SERVICE

- Team with nearby restaurants to train people in cooking and food service so they can work in nearby institutions and downtown restaurants.

- Example: Haley House in the South End—food service job training for formerly incarcerated individuals.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

- Prioritize hiring neighborhood youth for basic maintenance jobs such as raking leaves, shoveling snow, or mowing lawns.
- Organize a Youth Ambassador program in which youth are paid to welcome people to the neighborhood and help out as needed (assist people in finding their way, directing cars to parking, watching over parking lots).

JOB PLACEMENT RESOURCES

- As residents develop additional skills, it will be crucial to link them to employment opportunities where they can best be applied. A job-searching service could exist as a single central entity (new or as part of the Hill House or other social services provider) or could be built into each job-training opportunity.
- It would also be advantageous to have existing partnerships with potential employers in order to ease placement, and to have staff who serve as advocates for the job-seeker.

Target Area

Throughout the Hill

HILL DISTRICT BUSINESS INCUBATOR

Establishing new, innovative businesses will go far towards rebuilding the Hill District's economy. To this end, the Hill District Incubator Program Initiative is a series of related ideas for encouraging and supporting local businesses with the goal of establishing a sustainable, lively economy in the Hill. Businesses related to the leading Pittsburgh industries—financial services, higher education, health care, technology and professional services as well as local

Program Initiatives

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT &
COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Update

Centre Avenue Redevelopment and Design Implementation Plan



Cultural Heritage and Preservation

- Cultural heritage is the legacy of cultural resources and intangible attributes of a group or society that is inherited from past generations.
- Cultural heritage includes tangible culture (such as buildings, monuments, landscapes, books, works of art, and artifacts), intangible culture (such as folklore, traditions, language, and knowledge), and natural heritage (including culturally significant landscapes, and etc.).

Cultural Heritage and Preservation				
Distinct character and culture will be preserved in ways that contribute to a high quality of life.	• Number of buildings of historic character preserved. • Number of historic/cultural preservation projects completed and programs operated annually. • Number of public art and cultural interpretive installations.			
Participation in cultural events is high.	• Percentage of population participating annually in cultural events within the neighborhood. • Number of public spaces available for cultural events.			



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Hill is home to a number of historic landmarks—the August Wilson House, the Centre Avenue YMCA, Fifth Avenue High School, John Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church, Madison Elementary School (Minersville Public School) and the New Granada Theater are all city-designated historic properties, and the New Granada Theater was added to the National Historic Register in December 2010. Uptown's Fifth Avenue High School and Paramount Film Exchange are also structures of note. Beyond buildings, the Hill's rich history as a center of African-American culture needs to be remembered and continued.

Historic preservation in the Hill is already well underway with the efforts of numerous organizations including the Historic Hill Institute, the Hill Community Development Corporation, and others who are committed to historic preservation of existing assets. Their work needs to be supported and additional opportunities for preservation identified as the Hill continues to develop and change.

Goals

Preserve the Hill District's history as a center of African-American culture. Preserve and commemorate notable historic buildings in the Hill. Engage community members of all ages in learning about their neighborhood. Bring visitors to the Hill.

Local Programs & Resources

- Historic Hill Institute (includes a Youth Leadership Intern Program) (<http://historichill.org>)
- Hill Community Development Corporation (www.hilldistrict.org)
- Pittsburgh History and Landmark Foundation (www.phlf.org)

- The Young Preservationist Association (www.youngpreservationists.org)
- Preservation Pittsburgh (www.preservationpittsburgh.org)

Potential Programs

HILL DISTRICT PRESERVATION PLAN

- Preparing a preservation plan for the neighborhood is an important step towards protecting historic assets. The plan would identify neighborhood buildings to be preserved and identify appropriate strategies for undertaking their preservation. Having this information in place is likely to help in future attempts to secure preservation funding.

Target Area

Throughout the Hill.



Quality Education Initiative: As one of three public elementary schools in the Hill District, the Miller African-Centered Academy can serve as a center for multiple education initiatives

WEEKLY PUBLICATION

- Produce a free, weekly publication focused on the Greater Hill District. This may build upon existing newsletters such as the one produced by the Hill District Consensus Group. A weekly publication might include stories about neighborhood initiatives and successes, job postings, advertisements, and public announcements.

Local Programs & Resources

- Existing banners along Fifth and Forbes in Uptown are an example of creating district identity

Target Area

Major gateways to the Hill and throughout the district.

HILL HISTORY CENTER

The Greater Hill District has a rich history as a center of African-American culture and community. While change is inevitable, it is still critical to recognize the Hill's impressive past and carry elements of it forward as the neighborhood is revitalized. These potential programs are just two of any possible ways to remember the Hill District's past while moving into the future.

Goals

Restore/preserve existing buildings. Preserve the Hill's legacy. Encourage multi-generational engagement. Identify and mark historic sites in the Hill. Bring visitors to the Hill.

Local Programs & Resources

- Historic Hill Institute (<http://historichill.org>)
"The Historic Hill Institute is the Preservation

Organization of the Hill District neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. We were formed in 2007 after needing an organization that would:

- Focus upon historic preservation for the neighborhood
- Help to prevent unnecessary demolition
- Provide preservation guidance to the many developers seeking to develop in the neighborhood
- Educate the public on issues of historic preservation, especially in distressed communities
- Engage in cultural heritage tourism and to:
 - Advocate on behalf of the physical, social, and cultural history of Historic Hill District residents
 - Share our story with the world"

- The Martin Luther King, Jr. Reading and Cultural Center (www.mlkccultural.org)
The Martin Luther King, Jr. Reading and Cultural Center is a non-profit, community-directed facility



Hill History Center: The Martin Luther King Jr. Reading Center on Herron Avenue could serve as an initial home for the History Center

Public Safety

- Protection of the wellbeing of citizens, communities, and organizations.
- Includes Emergency Management, Fire Protection, First Responders, and Law Enforcement

<u>Example Goals</u>	<u>Example Indicators</u>	<u>SDGs</u>	<u>EcoDistrict Priorities</u>	<u>P4 Goals</u>
Public Safety				
Public safety is enhanced.	• Annual composite index score of Part 1 (violent) and Part 2 (property) offenses.			
The built environment is designed for public safety.	• Percentage of public space frontages visible from a street. • Number of pedestrian and bicyclist collisions annually.			



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What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

PROGRAM INITIATIVES | 50

Program Initiatives

AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL LEGACY

regular monthly “community beat meetings” for officers and residents to brainstorm community crime problems, set priorities among issues, and pool information and resources. The beat meetings provided settings for residents to learn more about legal options to discourage crime-inducing elements, and coordinate efforts to change their neighborhoods such as pursuing negligent landlords. They also build connections with schools and parks, helping to address youth violence and taking on the redesign of locations with poor lighting.

In response to neighborhood concerns about crime prevention the City of Vancouver, BC, established Neighborhood Integrated Service Teams (NISTs). NISTs put individuals from multiple city services into one communication hub, with team members from police, fire, engineering, permit and licensing, schools, and public health encouraged to be the single entry and follow up point for solving individual citizen concerns. NIST members retain workload from their originating departments, but are extended time for their NIST work. The NIST members meet with neighborhood representatives monthly to address neighborhood public safety issues and to work collaboratively with the community to develop workable solutions.

Goals

Improve neighborhood safety and reduce crime throughout the Greater Hill District through greater community involvement in policing.

Local Programs & Resources

- Pittsburgh Community Services Neighborhood Safety Program (www.pghcsi.org)
Provides and installs security hardware; free for eligible city residents.
- Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (www.pcrgr.org)
- National Crime Prevention Council (www.ncpcp.org)
- “Safe Neighborhoods”—City of Seattle Police Department (www.seattle.gov/police)

Potential Programs

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

- Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and most effective crime prevention programs in the United States, bringing citizens together with police to deter crimes and make communities safer. Neighborhood Watch grew out of a movement in the US that promoted greater citizen involvement in crime prevention. Variations include block watch, apartment watch, home watch, citizen alert, and community watch. The main method by which Neighborhood Watch works is when residents look for and report suspicious incidents to the police and thereby deter potential offenders from committing a crime. The report of The National Crime Prevention Survey (National Crime Prevention Council, 2001) estimated that 41 percent of the US population lives in communities covered by Neighborhood Watch, making it the largest single organized crime prevention program in the country.

Target Area

Throughout the Hill.

Public Health

- Promotes and protects the health of people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play.
- Good health results not only from proper medical care but also from efforts to craft and implement public policies and programs to protect and improve the health of all people. Examples of public health efforts include educating the public about healthier choices, promoting physical activity and fitness, preventing disease outbreaks and the spread of infectious diseases, ensuring safe food and water in communities, preparing for emergency, preventing injury, treating water with fluoride for oral and dental health, and creating smoke-free environments and discouraging tobacco use.



Public Health

Public Health				
Health outcomes and life expectancy are more equitable.	• Average life expectancy. • Percentage of population with cardiovascular disease. • Asthma rates. • Obesity rates.			
Toxic environments are remediated and regenerated.	• Number of days annually that air quality emission standards are exceeded in and near the neighborhood. • Percentage of population living near a non-remediated brownfield or contaminated site. • Number of Combined Sewer Overflow advisory days for rivers near the neighborhood.	 		
Affordable, high-quality health care is accessible.	• Percentage of population with health insurance coverage. • Walk and Transit Scores of health facility locations.			
Access to recreation facilities and services is improved.	• Percentage of population within a 0.25 mile/10 minute (low density areas) or 0.125 mil/5 minute (high density areas) walk of a public indoor or outdoor recreation space.			
Healthy and affordable fresh food is accessible.	• Percentage of dwelling units within a 0.5 mile / 20 minute walk of a fresh food outlet.			



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Public Art

- Public art adds value to the cultural, aesthetic and economic vitality of a community. It is now a well-accepted principle of urban design that public art contributes to a community's identity, fosters community pride and a sense of belonging, and enhances the quality of life for its residents and visitors.
- Often site-specific, meaning it is created in response to the place and community in which it resides.

Public Art				
Art on public property and in the public realm expresses cultural heritage, history, and/or current activities and aspirations of the community including residents, businesses, and institutions.	• Number of publicly accessible art installations created. • Grant programs and other funding opportunities to support the creation of art with the community.			



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

ADOPT-A-LOT

- An adopt-a-lot program would allow property owners in the Hill to use nearby lots for gardens or yards in exchange for maintaining them. In some situations, nearby institutions (churches, schools) might also be willing to maintain certain lots as a service to the community.

SIDE-LOT TRANSFER

- Going a step beyond "Adopt-a-Lot," a sidelot transfer program allows neighbors to purchase an adjacent vacant lot at a reduced price. The neighbor benefits from inexpensively increasing their property holdings, while the neighborhood and city benefit by having the lot privately maintained.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UPS

- As already demonstrated by Find the Rivers! and other groups, neighborhood organizations could facilitate a seasonal day-long cleanup of vacant lots and publicly owned spaces in the Hill. These cleanups could involve neighborhood youth and perhaps conclude with a celebratory meal or event. Regular clean-ups would improve the physical appearance of the Hill, would increase residents' sense of ownership/stewardship and would provide safe, productive options during school vacation for neighborhood kids.

Target Area

Vacant properties throughout the Hill, with focus on the Middle Hill (especially Cliff Street) and the Upper Hill.

Economic Empowerment & Commercial Development

HILL DISTRICT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Residents of the Hill live in a prime location to work in a variety of growing industries. There are several opportunities within the Hill to tie workforce development to other programs and nearby institutions, training residents for higher-paying work to improve individuals' quality-of-life and to bring more income to the Hill. For instance, the Hill could become a living laboratory for urban neighborhood regeneration, with residents engaged in all the stages of redefining life in post-industrial cities—from developing ideas to prototyping them and constructing them. The ideas below are just some of the workforce development programs that could be instituted in tandem with other opportunities in the Hill.

Workforce development can begin at an early age, with the added benefits of keeping youth busy during non-school hours and giving them a source of pocket cash. Teenagers could be targeted for jobs around the neighborhood such as maintaining vacant lots, light construction, running summer camps for younger children, or undertaking history projects. In addition, programs should be supportive to formerly incarcerated individuals to aid in the transition back into the workforce.

Goals

Help residents learn the skills needed to be employed in growing, well-paid occupations in Pittsburgh such as

Program Initiatives

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT & COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Public Facilities and Services

- Institutional responses to basic human needs, such as health, education, safety, recreation, and worship. Examples of typical public facilities include churches, hospitals, and police stations.

Public Facilities and Services				
Public agencies have the facilities and infrastructure needed to provide satisfactory services to the neighborhood and City.	• Investments in public works, public safety, and recreational facilities, as well as known polling locations. • Public facilities location mapping and access strategy. • Response times to 311 and 911 calls. • Community usage of recreation facilities. • Number of City-owned community assets (e.g., police stations, recreation centers, parks) that are within walking distance of a transit stop.	 		



Optional: Community Uses in Right-of-Way

Streets and other rights-of-way are repurposed temporarily or permanently to meet community needs if supported by transportation analyses.

Examples:

- Pilot events and installations in the right-of-way.
- Permitting programs initiated and in use by community organizations.

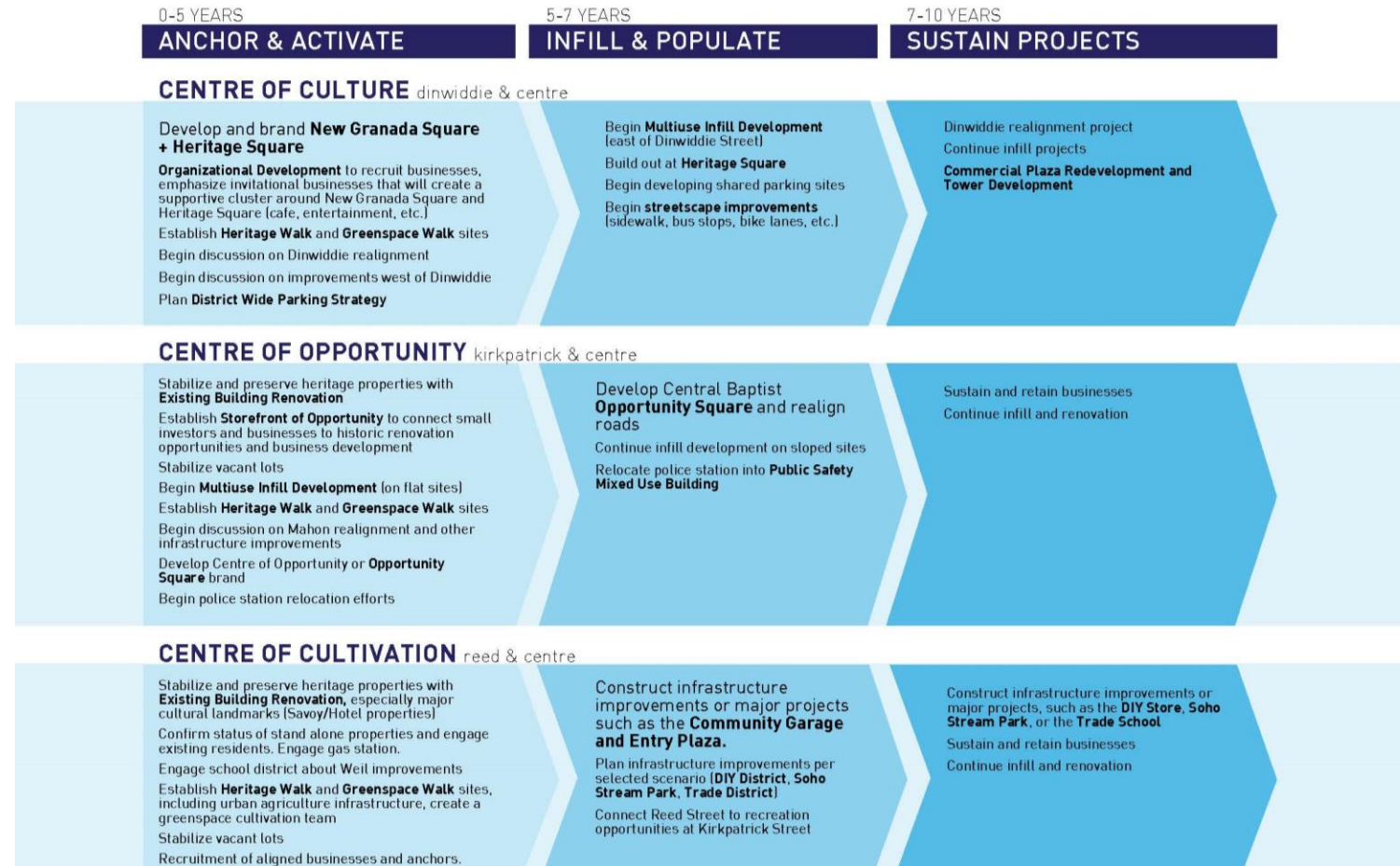
Close Centre Avenue between Dinwiddie and Kirkpatrick or Kirkpatrick and Reed to celebrate the community and culture.

- Gospel Festival
- Fitness Festival/5k Race/Color Run
- Run the Hills Event
- Night Market
- Designate Heritage walk locations and install temporary installations and programming.
- Musician Flash Mobs
- Ghost Tours
- Hill District History Tour
- AfroPunk Festival
- Video Game Tournament



Centre Avenue Redevelopment and Design Plan





Centre Avenue Redevelopment Implementation Plan

Optional: Nuisance and Enforcement Issues

Common nuisance issues are identified, and actions recommended to remedy the situation permanently.

- Reduction in 311 reports related to the issue in question.
- Reduction in police activity or community organization intervention to resolve issues.



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

PROGRAM INITIATIVES | 54

Program Initiatives

FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOUSING

Goals

Enable the community to capitalize on the opportunity and potential in abandoned and vacant properties and protect against speculators by holding vacant properties in order to facilitate their desired neighborhood redevelopment. Increase property values and improve neighborhood appearance. Increase sense of ownership/stewardship. Create better communication with City regarding demolition.

Local Programs & Resources

- City of Pittsburgh Land Recycling Task Force
- PGH SNAP inventory (www.pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/snap)
- SPARC
- Existing URA and City of Pittsburgh Adopt-a-Lot and Side Lot Transfer programs
- Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG) Vacant Property Working Group (www.pcr.org)
- National Vacant Properties Campaign (www.vacantproperties.org)
- Detroit Vacant Properties Campaign
- Project 5000 (Baltimore)
- Neighborhoods in Bloom (Richmond)
- Southwest Corridor Conservancy (Boston)

Potential Programs

HILL DISTRICT LAND BANK

- Create a neighborhood-specific, community owned land bank and revolving fund to acquire, hold, manage, sell and selectively develop vacant lots and buildings. Land banks

are an innovative tool to address widespread abandoned and foreclosed properties. A revolving fund is needed to acquire properties for rehabilitation that are then sold and the funds used to purchase other properties for redevelopment. (Foundations could be a source of capital for a revolving fund.) A neighborhood Land Bank would enable the community to capitalize on the opportunity and potential in abandoned and vacant properties and protect against speculators by holding vacant properties in order to facilitate their future redevelopment. Involve local CDCs or socially conscious organizations such as churches, Habitat for Humanity, etc. Bring these organizations together to form an informal land bank—working collectively to acquire and redevelop properties in the Hill. However, establishing a land bank is likely to be a slow process as it may require changes to Pennsylvania's foreclosure and vacant property laws.

- Examples: Genesee County Land Bank (Flint, MI), Detroit Land Bank, Historic Savannah Foundation (Savannah, GA), City of Pittsburgh Land Recycling Task Force

DEMOLITION MORATORIUM

- Prohibit demolition prior to a complete assessment of building quality and historic character and establishing a plan for maintenance and disposition of the property.

VACANT PROPERTY MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

- Establish minimum maintenance standards for vacant lots and buildings and obtain the right to enforce those standards. Develop lot maintenance programs, perhaps involving local youth, to help with property upkeep.

TEMPORARY USES

- Consider using vacant lots or underutilized parking areas for community events in the evening or on the weekend. Short-term uses will bring activity outdoors, will give reason to maintain the lots, and can benefit the community. Temporary use ideas might include a flea market, an arts fair, or a local music performance.

Optional: Schools and Related Programs

Schools provide quality education

All levels of education***

- Graduation rates.
- Absenteeism rates.
- Percentage of students advancing from one grade level to the next.



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

Discussion: What to Update, Expand, Add?

What Needs to be Updated or expanded?

Historic Preservation

Public Safety

Public Health

Public Facilities and Services

Public Art

What needs to be added?

Schools and Related Programs

Community Resilience



Neighborhood Plan Guide: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/neighborhood-planning-guide>

Discussion

Program initiatives (projects and programs) – For Discussion

- Which projects and programs have been completed or are ongoing?
- Which of the optional topics should we cover? (Community Uses In the Right-of-Way,* Nuisance & Enforcement Issues,* Schools and Related Programs)
- Community Resilience was discussed as a potential topic we should cover, thoughts?
- Is there anything else we should be aware of in terms of covering the "gaps" between GHDMF and the new neighborhood planning process?

*Topics covered in the GHDMF



Community Resilience

- Resilience is the ability of a system (like a community) to absorb disturbance and still retain basic function and structure. Building resilience means intentionally guiding the system's process of adaptation in an attempt to preserve some qualities and allow others to fade away, all while retaining the essence—or “identity”—of the system. In a human community, identity is essentially determined by what people *value* about where they live.

six foundations:

- **People.** The power to envision the future of the community and build its resilience resides with community members.
- **Systems thinking.** Systems thinking is essential for understanding the complex, interrelated crises now unfolding and what they mean for our similarly complex communities.
- **Adaptability.** A community that adapts to change is resilient. But because communities and the challenges we face are dynamic, adaptation is an ongoing process.
- **Transformability.** Some challenges are so big that it's not possible for the community to simply adapt; fundamental, transformative changes may be necessary.
- **Sustainability.** Community resilience is not sustainable if it serves only us, and only now; it needs to work for other communities, future generations, and the ecosystems on which we all depend.
- **Courage.** As individuals and as a community, we need courage to confront challenging issues and take responsibility for our collective future.

Discussion

Program initiatives (projects and programs) – For Discussion

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Public Art

- Art on public property and in the public realm expresses cultural heritage, history, and/or current activities and aspirations of the community including residents, businesses, and institutions
- Identify and invite artists already working in the Hill.
- Current public art is preserved.
- Create a public arts plan, a performance arts plan, a Hill artist roster, and promote youth arts education.
- Develop urban-scale arts intervention to help increase excitement around the arts within the Hill.
- Grant programs/other funding opportunities to support art creation in community
- Number of Publicly accessible art installations



Project Team

Name	Organization	Role on Project
President & CEO Marimba Milliones	Hill District Community Development Corporation	Co-Chair
Councilman Daniel Lavelle	Council District 6, City of Pittsburgh	Co-Chair
Ose Akinlotan	Department of City Planning, Strategic Planning	Project Manager, Community Action Team
Derek Dauphin	Department of City Planning, Strategic Planning	Supervising Planner, Development Action Team
Josiah Gilliam	Mayor's Office of Equity & CitiParks	Community Action Team
Dara Braitman	Department of Mobility and Infrastructure	Mobility Action Team

Project Team

Name	Organization	Role on Project
Breen Masciotra	Port Authority of Allegheny County	Mobility Action Team
Nick Fedorek	Urban Redevelopment Authority	Development Action Team
Martina Battistone	Department of City Planning, Environmental Planning	Infrastructure Action Team
Megan Zeigler	Green Building Alliance	Infrastructure Action Team
Flore Marion	Department of City Planning, Sustainability & Resilience	Infrastructure Action Team
Sarah Yeager	Department of City Planning, Sustainability & Resilience	Infrastructure Action Team

Where can you find us?



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