

GREATER HILL DISTRICT

MASTER PLAN

Infrastructure Gap Identification

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Objectives for Tonight

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



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

What's in the Neighborhood Plan Guide?

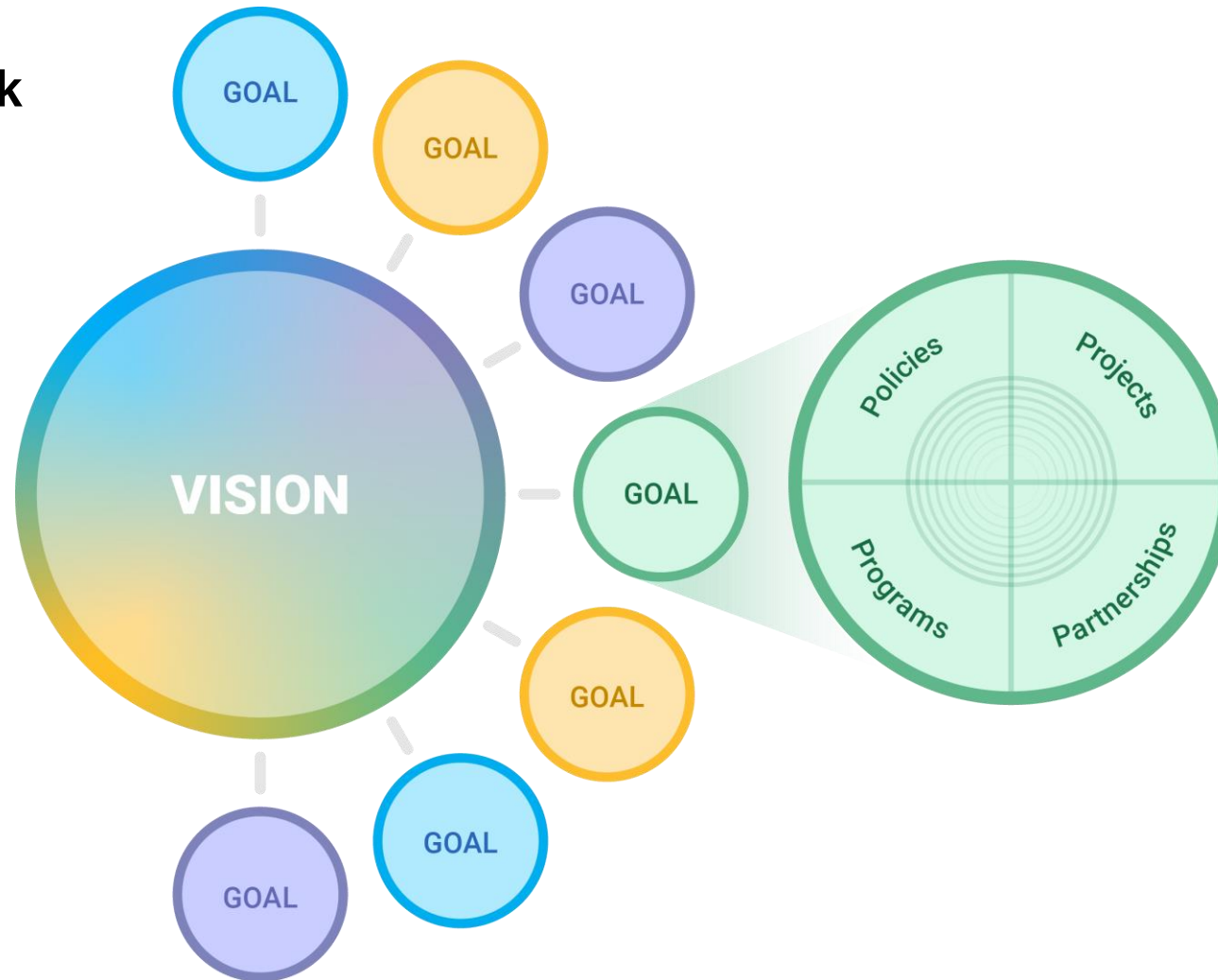
Adopted by the Planning Commission in March 2020

- Overview of the neighborhood planning program and how it fits into citywide efforts
- Required and optional topics for all neighborhood plans
- Planning process in five stages including implementation along with outcomes for each
- Framework for how plan content is organized
- Resources (many and growing): Example goals, indicators, and how they align to P4, EcoDistricts Protocol, and UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Related guidance: Public Engagement Guide which mandates the creation of Public Engagement Plans for neighborhood plans.



What's in the Neighborhood Plan Guide?

Planning framework



What's in the Neighborhood Plan Guide?

Required and optional topics

1. Community 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.	
<u>Required:</u> Community Programs and Livability Cultural Heritage and Preservation Public Art Public Safety Public Facilities and Services Public Health	<u>Optional:</u> Community Uses in the Right-of-Way Nuisance and Enforcement Issues Schools and related programs (Required if within the plan area)
Key Agencies: Dept. of City Planning, Mayor's Office, Office of Equity, Dept. of Public Safety, Community Affairs, and Public Schools.	
2. Development This chapter establishes the agenda for physical change to a district whether that be through new buildings, commercial corridors, residential areas, etc. Creating new affordable housing and commercial opportunities can be addressed in this chapter.	
<u>Required:</u> Land Use Policy and Regulations Urban Sustainable Design Equitable Economic Development Housing	<u>Optional:</u> Commercial Corridors or Nodes Transit Oriented Development Brownfield Reuse and Remediation Schools Academic, Medical and Religious Institutions
3. Mobility This chapter focuses on how people get around and will typically include strategies for improving safety, reducing the negative impacts associated with traffic, and shifting trips to and from the planning area to more efficient and healthful modes of travel.	
<u>Required:</u> Transit Service and Stations Pedestrian Access, Safety, Circulation Accessibility Bicycle Infrastructure Traffic Safety Parking	<u>Optional:</u> Mobility as a Service (MaaS) Freight Operations
Key Agencies: Dept. of Mobility and Infrastructure, Port Authority of Allegheny County, and Pittsburgh Parking Authority.	
4. Infrastructure This chapter includes all the non-transportation systems that nourish and maintain a district including how stormwater is handled, needs for open spaces, the energy systems that serve all buildings, and how waste is reduced and reused. There are many opportunities for these projects to meet multiple objectives (e.g., open spaces that also manage stormwater).	
<u>Required:</u> Stormwater Management Floodplain (<i>if applicable</i>) Open Space Energy System Planning Waste Management and Recycling Tree Canopy Habitat Restoration Digital Network	<u>Optional:</u> Urban Agriculture Air Water Use Systems Integration



What's in the Neighborhood Plan Guide?

Example implementation matrix

ID	Strategy	PPP	Detail	Timeline (Years)				Funding Source(s)	Implementers (bold = lead)
				0-2	3-5	5-10	Ongoing		
A.3.a	Zone Change	Project	Rezone Elm Street from Urban Industrial to Local Neighborhood Commercial to provide a mixed-use corridor within the neighborhood.	X				None needed	Department of City Planning , Community-Based Organization
A.2.a	Mentorship Program for District Youth	Program	Establish afterschool program within District Elementary School that allows seniors from the community to voluntarily mentor students in grades 6-12.	X				School District, Children's Foundation	District Afterschool Program , District Senior Center
A.1.a	Park Exercise Equipment	Project	Release Request for Solutions for vendors to provide exercise equipment for all ages and abilities. Select most popular options and install in the community park.	X				City Budget	City Dept. of Public Works , CommunityBased Organization
A.2.b	Neighborhood Walks for a Purpose	Program	Create program with residents, businesses and the university that organizes weekly walking tours of the neighborhood with each week focusing on a different issue to address, activity, or topic of interest of faculty.		X			CommunityBased Organization Operating Funds	Community-Based Organization , Business Association, University.
A.1.b	Accessibility Partnerships	Partnership	Create partnerships to ensure that the public right of way is designed and maintained for all users.		X			None needed	District Accessibility Task Force , Transportation Department, and Community-Based Organization



Topics for the Infrastructure Action Team

This chapter includes all the non-transportation systems that nourish and maintain a district including how stormwater is handled, needs for open spaces, the energy systems that serve all buildings, and how waste is reduced and reused. There are many opportunities for these projects to meet multiple objectives (e.g., open spaces that also manage stormwater).



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

Topics for the Infrastructure Action Team

Required Topics



Stormwater



Parks and Open Space



Energy and Utilities



Waste and Recycling



Tree Canopy and Habitat Restoration



Climate Adaption

Optional Topics



Urban Agriculture



Digital Network



Air Quality



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

Required Topics

Stormwater Management – What is it?

- Stormwater management is how we deal with rain – surface water and ground water, how it goes into the sewer system, infiltrates into the ground, or gets soaked up by plants
- Green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) is a method of managing stormwater using plants, infiltration, water storage and slow release, etc. Versus traditional "grey infrastructure" alone

Why is it important?

- Stormwater management impacts things like flooding (surface / street flooding, basement back-ups), sedimentation and erosion, water quality, combined sewer overflows, landslides, abandoned mine drainage, etc.
- The Hill District is within watersheds M-19 and M-05 primarily with A-12 and A-14

Notes

- New stormwater management code will hopefully be in place soon, and stormwater fee for impervious (hard) surfaces which negatively impact stormwater management
- The Hill District Parks Master Plan will also seek to improve stormwater management / GSI



M19 SOHO RUN

SHED CAPTURE ANALYSIS

High capture areas were identified.

Most sheds share a similar kit of parts:

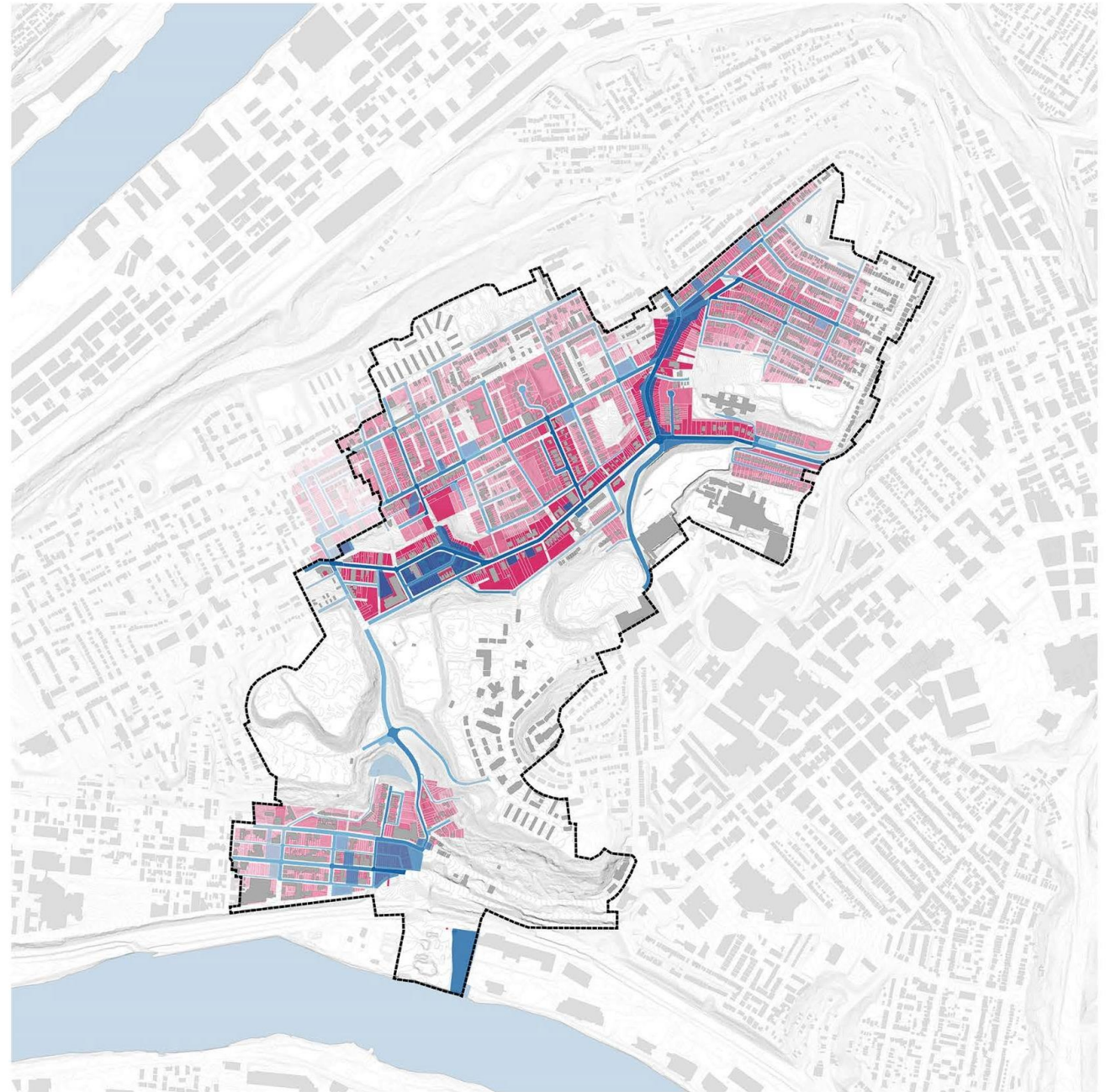
STORAGE

CONVEY

CAPTURE

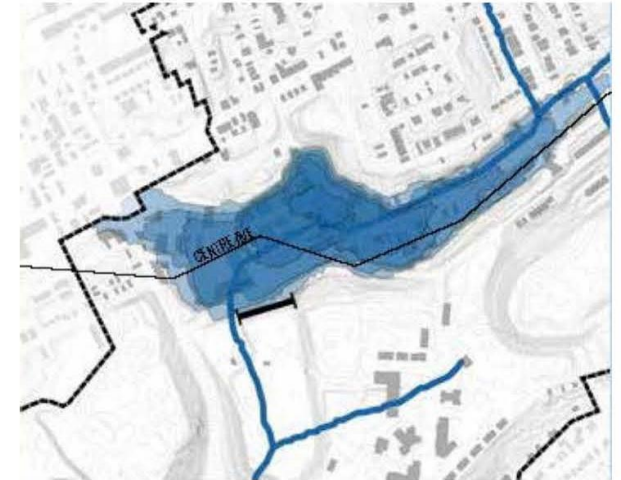
working as a system.

These solutions can provide economic opportunity, increase safety and lower risk, and can dramatically **improve the places in our communities.**





PRIORITY PROJECT
CENTRE AVENUE BASIN





PRIORITY PROJECT: URBAN AGRICULTURE **MLK PARK**

MLK Park, a former ball-field and now urban agriculture site, could detain stormwater from the slopes immediately surrounding it while providing the potential for natural irrigation. Urban agriculture promotes health and wellness. Diverted rainwater could be used for irrigation.





SEPARATED SITES

Newly reconstructed developments on the Terrace Village hilltops between the Middle Hill District and Uptown, a partnership between developers and the housing authority, feature a separated sewer system. Stormwater is captured and conveyed from the developments in pipes that run parallel to the sanitary sewer pipes. The developments also likely include stormwater detention infrastructure designed to meet the requirements of Pittsburgh's municipal code.

A separated sewer system is a step in the right direction in a city that is almost entirely combined. However, once the separated sewer system leaves the development, it combines back into a combined sewer pipe. To truly reap the benefits from existing separated sewer investments upslope, investments could be made to find a green conveyance strategy that uses rain gardens, bioswales, and detention infrastructure.



Required Topics

<https://gis.pittsburghpa.gov/pghenvironmental/>

Map:
Watersheds,
Sewersheds,
Undermined,
Landscape
Prone, Steep
Slopes



Required Topics

Stormwater Management – Examples from the NPG

<u>Example Goals</u>	<u>Example Indicators</u>	<u>SDGs</u>	<u>EcoDistrict Priorities</u>	<u>P4 Goals</u>
Stormwater Management				
Rainwater is managed in the neighborhood.	• Percent above and beyond first 1.5 inches of runoff in a 24-hour period managed using green infrastructure within the neighborhood. • Ratio of pervious to impervious surfaces. • Water quality testing at output of management systems. • Number of private sewage/basement backups reported.	 		



Required Topics

Open Space – What is it and why is it important?

- Open Space refers to areas without buildings. In neighborhood planning, we are generally talking about open space as "green" (vegetated) space or other public space (plazas, playgrounds) .
- Open space is a loose term and may consist of a wide range of "official" or "unofficial" outdoor places:
 - City parks, privately-owned public space, a school sports field, apartment complex green space, vacant lots, greenways, community gardens, forested areas on a hillside, cemetery, etc.
 - Trails, access, and connections between open spaces are important to consider, too

Why is it important?

- Open space provides places for people to play, relax, exercise, or gather outdoors
- Open space and vegetation provides relief from the built environment – aesthetic, psychological, cools urban heat
- Open space provides room for nature (see next topics – tree canopy and habitat restoration)

Notes

- Past plans such as the Greater Hill District Master Plan, OpenSpacePGH, and the Greenprint provide guidance for the development of the Hill District's Open Space
- The upcoming Hill District Parks Master Plan will be coordinated with this neighborhood planning process, draw upon past plans as a starting point, and create a clear and cohesive plan for future park implementation projects, with phasing & cost estimates



Map from
Greenprint
Appendix:
Composite of
Different
Types of Open
/ Green Space



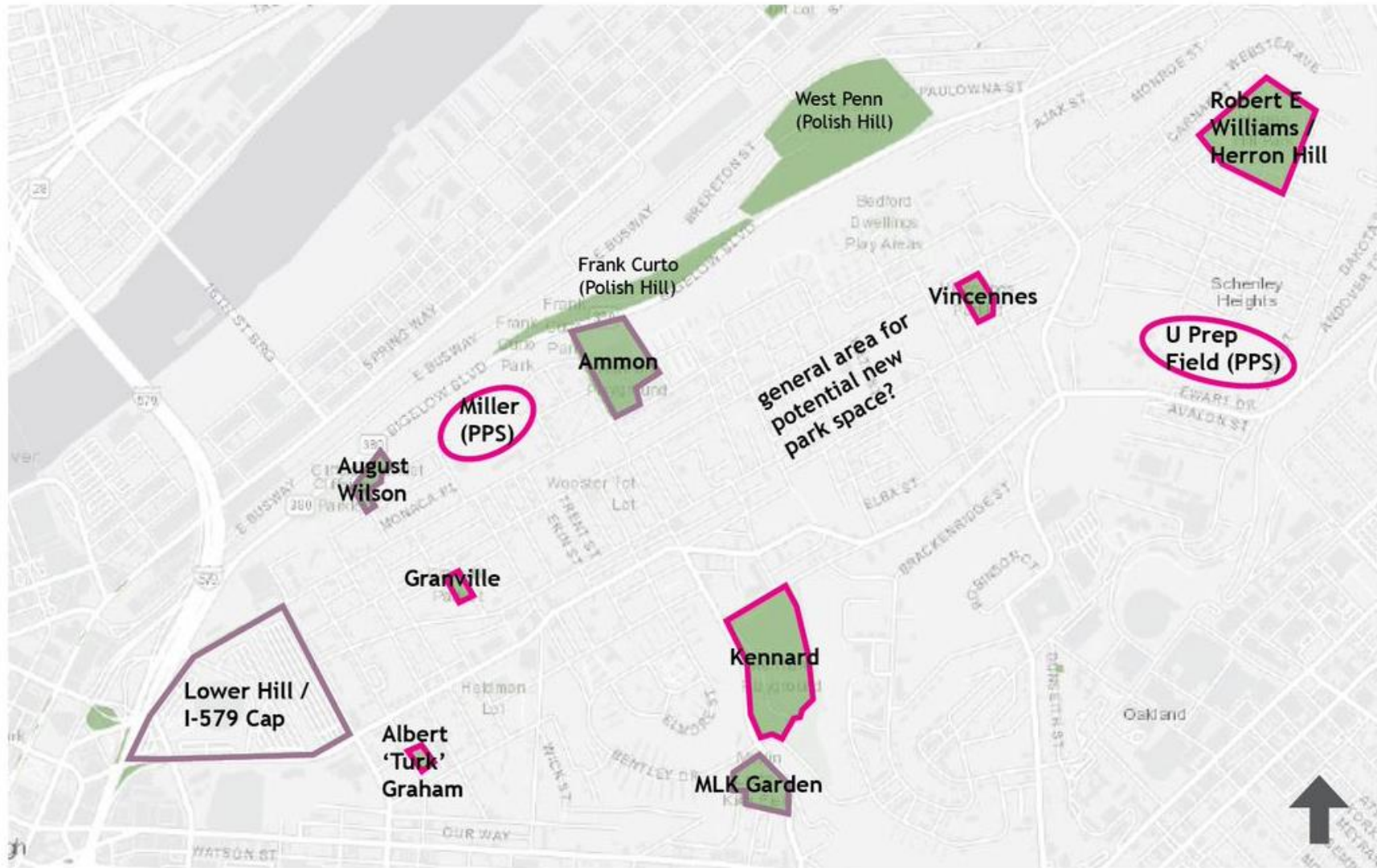
HILL DISTRICT - GREEN SPACE: PARKS + OPEN LAND + TREE CANOPY

Map data source: City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County GIS data



Hill District Parks Master Plan:

focus areas
for analysis &
planning



HILL DISTRICT PARKS MASTER PLAN SCOPE PROPOSAL

not to scale, draft for discussion only
February 13, 2020

LEGEND

- existing city parks
- proposed assessment & recommendations
- proposed for inventory & analysis only



Required Topics

Open Space – Examples from the NPG

<u>Example Goals</u>	<u>Example Indicators</u>	<u>SDGs</u>	<u>EcoDistrict Priorities</u>	<u>P4 Goals</u>
Open Space				
Access to nature is improved.	Percentage of residents within a 1 mile/20 minute walk to natural open space.			
Public spaces are accessible to all.	Percentage of dwelling units and businesses within a 0.5 mile/10 minute (moderate density areas) or 0.25 mile/5 minute (high density areas) walk of a public space other than a street.			
Public spaces are high quality, engaging, and active.	- Number of activities programmed annually for public spaces, including streets. - Number of people using public spaces daily, at peak and average levels of occupancy.			



Required Topics

Tree Canopy – What is it?

- Tree Canopy refers to the area covered by trees and their foliage.

Why is it important?

- Trees are important for a wide range of environmental and human benefits, including but not limited: to human health (physical & psychological), shade and cooling / urban heat reduction, air quality, stormwater uptake, soil health / erosion control, food and shelter for birds, insects, and other animals, beautifying our environment and making it more walkable and appealing.

Notes

- Tree canopy coverage varies widely by neighborhood. Pittsburgh's Urban Forest Master Plan (2012) lists approximate existing tree cover and goals. It is an equity concern.
- Tree preservation is the best way to maintain tree canopy, as mature trees take years to regrow
- Tree planting and preservation will be necessary to meet goals in the Urban Forest Master Plan, Greenprint, and other plans, and varies by land type: street trees, private property, public parks, vacant land, hillsides, etc.



Required Topics

<https://gis.pittsburghpa.gov/pghenvironmental/>

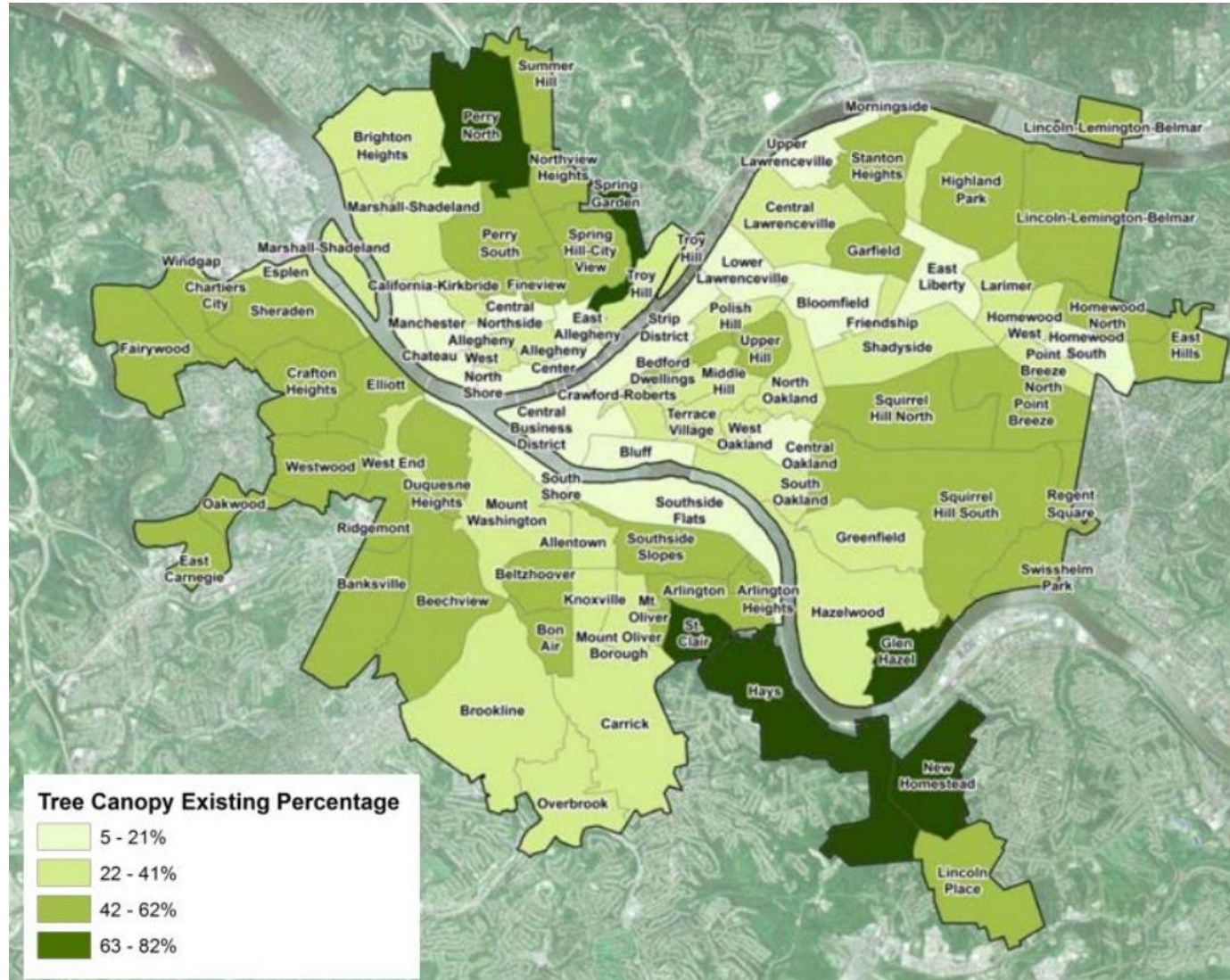
Map:
Tree Canopy



Required Topics

Map:

Tree Canopy cover from Urban Forest Master Plan



Required Topics

Tree Canopy – Example Goals from the NPG

Tree Canopy				
Canopy is increased to meet allocation from the Urban Forestry Master Plan.	• Canopy coverage as determined by LiDAR. • Street tree and private tree survey including species and trunk diameter at chest height (DBH).			
Tree Canopy (continued)				
The urban heat island effect is mitigated.	• Average solar reflective index score.	 		



Required Topics

Habitat Restoration – What is it?

- Habitat restoration has a lot of "crossover" goals with open space, stormwater management, and tree canopy. It focuses on improving the natural environment.
- Air, water, soil, light, and noise pollution are also important factors.

Why is it important?

- Healthy "habitats" are important for people as well as animals
- Certain topics are of local importance in Pittsburgh and the Hill specifically, including landslide and erosion control, abandoned mine land and drainage (AML/AMD) issues, undermined land and subsidence risk, lead and other soil and water contaminants, and invasive species
- The Hill District used to have multiple streams (see 'Conveyance' areas in Greenprint), much of which are now piped underground or turned into roadways
- Biodiversity is a good indicator of habitat quality. How many different plant and animal species can coexist among humans here?



Required Topics

Habitat Restoration – Example Goals from the NPG

Habitat Restoration				
Natural features are protected.	- Percentage of steep slope areas designated as nonbuildable. - Average buffer distance protecting wetlands and water bodies.	 		
The quality, functions, and connectivity of habitat are enhanced.	- Improvement in functional habitat performance. - Percentage of nonfunctional habitat restored annually. - Number of development and infrastructure projects that utilize biophilic design principles.			
Habitat Restoration (continued)				
Soil fertility is protected.	Annual compaction, erosion, and chemical treatment rates.	 		



Required Topics

Energy systems – what is it?

energy system means all components related to the production, conversion, delivery, and use of energy.

Sustainable energy systems should deliver on three dimensions:

- (1) providing safe, secure, and reliable energy while delivering access to energy consumers,
- (2) supplying energy at affordable prices, and
- (3) assuring sustainable development.

Why it is important in a neighborhood plan?

The Hill District is located near 2 District plants and should evaluate how these resources and other systems can benefit its residents rather than investing in individual system in every buildings.

Additionally, Pittsburgh climate action plan set a goal to reduce emissions by 50% from 2003 amounts. Through efforts to reduce line loss and modernizing energy systems, this goal can become a reality.

Setting higher energy goals will directly impact residents by potentially reducing their energy use and therefore lower their utility payment.

Required Topics

Energy systems – Examples from the NPG

Example Goals	Example Indicators	SDGs	EcoDistricts	p4
Energy System Planning				
Building energy use intensity is reduced through green building best practices.	- Percentage of buildings meeting 2030 District energy efficiency goals. - Percentage of residents spending greater than 3.5% of their gross income on energy costs. - Number of buildings that have met the standards of 2030 District, LEED, WELL, Energy Star, Living Building, Net Zero, or other green building certifications.	 		
Renewable power and thermal energy are produced on-site.	- Percentage of annual electric supply generated from neighborhood-based renewable sources. - Percentage of buildings connected to a district thermal energy or co-generation system. - Number of renewable energy generating systems.	 		

Required Topics

Utilities – What are they?

How to create a coordinated utility plan for planned development, utility upgrades, lead line replacements and streamlining disruption in the right-of-way.

Why it is important in the neighborhood plan?

This will create roadmap for activities, identify any policies that may need to change at the state level or advocated for with the PUC for water and energy.

Identifying projects early allow for cross department coordination to occur such as adding new tree pits where gas line replacements are happening.

Ability to leverage investments for capital projects.



Required Topics

Utilities:

Example Goals	Example Indicators	SDGs	EcoDistricts	p4
<i>Utility improvement needs are identified, prioritized, and included in a shared timeline.</i>	• <i>Completed utility strategy/plan.</i> • <i>Number of times streets have been opened within the plan period.</i> • <i>Number of infrastructure projects where multiple stakeholders were able to integrate improvements into a single operation.</i>			
<i>Utility providers have contacts at all relevant departments and are part of ongoing and project-based coordination initiatives.</i>	• <i>Presence of utilities at regular and project-based coordination meetings.</i> • <i>Confirmation that both public agencies and utilities have updated contacts.</i>			



Required Topics

Waste & Recycling – What is it?

How to effectively manage waste by reducing waste sent to landfill, improving recycling, and providing alternatives for management of organic waste.

Why it is important in the neighborhood plan?

- Waste management is an important component of creating a healthy, vibrant neighborhood
- Reducing waste sent to landfill and improving recycling practices can help to reduce litter and waste piled up at the curbside
- Alternative management of organic waste can add value through composting or utilization of waste for energy creation



Required Topics

Waste & Recycling – Example Goals from the NPG

Waste Management and Recycling				
Waste is diverted from landfills through reduction, reuse, and recycling.	Percentage of nonhazardous waste diverted from landfills annually.	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 		
The residual value of organic waste is captured.	Percentage of organic waste diverted for energy recovery or composting annually.	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 		



Optional Topics

Digital Network – what is it?

- wide access to internet and communication network for all

Why is it important?

- Internet is becoming a utility similarly to water and power and this plan is an opportunity to ensure everyone has access

Optional Topics

Digital Network – Example Goals from the NPG

Example Goals

Example Indicators

SDGs

EcoDistricts p4

Digital Network				
Quality wired and wireless connectivity is available throughout the neighborhood.	- Percentage of residential and nonresidential users with Internet download speeds of at least 1 gigabyte. - Number of free Wi-Fi hotspots per square mile or kilometer. - Percentage of public spaces with free Wi-Fi.			
Local government data is open and accessible for public consumption.	Number of technology hubs for low-income residents to access the Internet.			

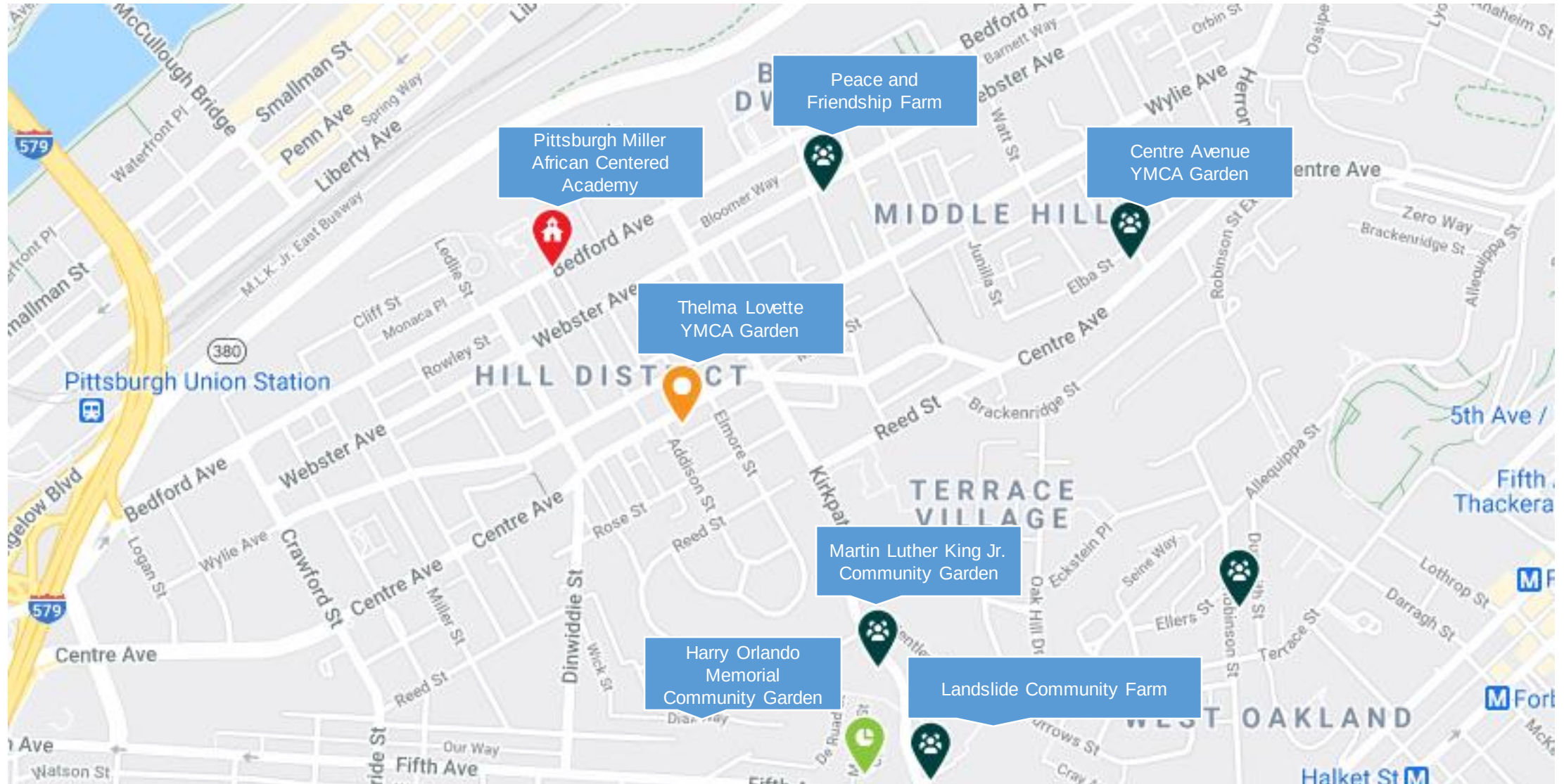
Optional Topics

Urban Agriculture

- Increase food access for residents
- Viable vacant land strategy
- Builds sense of community
- Can be paired with habitat restoration

Example Goals	Example Indicators	SDGs	EcoDistricts	p4
Optional: Community/Urban Agriculture				
Food production in the neighborhood is encouraged.	• Area per capita used for food production. • Percentage of households with a home garden or using a community garden. • Quantity of local fresh food procured annually by establishments in the neighborhood.	2 ZERO HUNGER  12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 		

Existing Urban Agriculture Locations



Optional Topics

Air Quality

Example Goals	Example Indicators	SDGs	EcoDistricts	p4
<i>Optional: Air</i>				
<i>Air quality is protected from pollutant emissions.</i>	• Annual air quality index score and/or Smell Pittsburgh score. • Number of air quality monitors located throughout the neighborhood.			

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?

Goals and policies (pg. 5)

MAKE THE HILL DISTRICT A GREEN AND WELL-DESIGNED COMMUNITY

The Hill District will have a comprehensive strategy for sustainability and quality design.

Infrastructure
Goal

- Create a comprehensive strategy for vacant land including urban gardening
- Leverage the Hill District's natural features as an economic asset for neighborhood development
- Use Hill District trails as green connections with a larger city network
- Establish high-quality recreation and open spaces

Infrastructure
Project, Policies



GHDMP vs. Neighborhood Plan Guide

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



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Urban Design Proposals

(pg. 71)



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Concept master plans

(pg. 86)

Bedford Avenue Corridor

The proposal for Bedford Avenue Corridor is to transform it into a fully developed residential avenue that takes advantage of the spectacular views to the north and recreational amenities such as the Coal Seam Trail, parks, ball fields, scenic overlooks, and gardens. New residential units along Bedford Avenue could aid in the reduction of future displacement.

GUIDING CONCEPTS

1. Create a continuous street edge to distinguish Bedford Avenue as a walkable neighborhood street
2. Reinforce new development and rehabilitation projects with improvements to the surrounding context (streetscape and nearby buildings)
3. Maximize access to views to the north
4. Establish the Coal Seam Trail as a public amenity and continuous link between existing recreation spaces



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

**Concept
master plans**
(pg. 90)



Birdseye view of plan with underlying topography

Bedford Avenue Streetscape

Improve the Bedford Avenue streetscape from downtown to Herron Avenue with new street trees, lighting, signage, sidewalks, and small scale pedestrian spaces such as seating and play spaces.

Network of Green

Similar to the Greenprint recommendations, use the Coal Seam Trail to create a connected network of green spaces, recreational amenities, and community gardens along the northern ridge. Provide public access between Bedford Avenue and the trail at strategic locations. Reinforce pedestrian connections from the trail to the Centre Avenue commercial node along Devilliers and Kirkpatrick Streets.



Residential units creating a continuous street edge and public realm



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

**Concept
master plans**
(pg. 92)

Centre View

This proposal, referred to as “Centre View” is intended to reinforce Centre Avenue as the Hill’s primary retail/commercial/cultural node as well as a strong residential neighborhood. An important element of this proposal is strengthening north-south pedestrian connections and providing public access to the spectacular city views north from the Bedford Reservoir Park and Cliffside Park, and to the south from Addison Terrace.

GUIDING CONCEPTS

1. Create a continuous and connected street network—complete the grid
2. Maximize public access to views and open space
3. Build higher density and a greater mix of uses near Centre Avenue
4. Establish a variety of housing options for a diverse residential market



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

**Concept
master plans**
(pg. 100)

Kirkpatrick Street Recreational Corridor

The Kirkpatrick Street Recreation Corridor is a proposal to use existing green spaces and streets to establish recreation opportunities and improve pedestrian connections along a north-south corridor. The Corridor starts at the gateway intersection of Kirkpatrick Street and Fifth Avenue and extends north to existing and proposed public spaces such as Bedford Reservoir Park, Ammon Playground, Cliffside Park, and the Coal Seam Trail. Together, these spaces form a larger green network, as suggested in Greenprint.

GUIDING CONCEPTS

1. Establish an identifiable network of new and existing recreational opportunities (active, passive, and cultural)
2. Improve pedestrian connections among new and existing parks
3. Improve the quality and safety of existing park facilities by increasing access and focusing new development nearby
4. Ensure universal accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Concept master plans (pg. 102)

Network of Diverse Parks

Create a linked network of parks and civic spaces connected by pedestrian trails throughout the corridor. The trails should connect Oakland (Robinson Street) and Uptown (Wyandotte Street) to the Kennard Playground, and then continue further north along Kirkpatrick Street and Junilla Street to Bedford Avenue and the Coal Seam Trail. As suggested in Greenprint, the pedestrian trails will incorporate old stairways and include new ADA ramps for pedestrians and cyclists.

Neighborhood-Scale Parks and Plazas

Provide small scale parks and plazas throughout the corridor such as at the intersection of Kirkpatrick at Reed and on Centre Avenue at the public stairs connecting to Chauncey Street.

Kirkpatrick Street Gateway

Create a formal automobile and pedestrian gateway to the Hill District at the Kirkpatrick Street and Fifth Avenue intersection. Strengthen the identity of the Hill District by reconfiguring the intersection to improve traffic flow and pedestrian access into the Hill.



Birdseye view of plan with underlying topography



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Concept
master plans
(pg. 104)



Kennard Regional Recreation Center

Reprogram the Kennard Playground to include a new Recreation Center—potentially a roller rink, small water park, bowling alley, arcade, creative arts center, movie screening facility, etc.—alongside refurbished recreational fields/courts for neighborhood and citywide use (basketball, soccer, football, track, and leisure uses). The Regional Recreation Center will draw people from around Pittsburgh to the Hill District and should stimulate demand for retail and commercial services on nearby Centre Avenue.



Active recreational facilities are gathering spots and promote neighborhood health and safety



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Concept master plans

(pg. 105)

Warren Branch Amphitheater

Convert the underutilized MLK Baseball Field at the Warren Branch Park into an accessible public space with an amphitheater for neighborhood and citywide events. Connect Kirkpatrick Street to DeRuad Street to improve accessibility and safety.



Amphitheaters support cultural events and passive recreation



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Concept
master plans
(pg. 106)



Birdseye view of plan with underlying topography looking northeast

Chauncey Street Steps

Create a pedestrian connection from Centre Avenue to Chauncey Street by rebuilding the public stairs. Rehabilitate the adjacent historic baseball field meadows as suggested by The Greenprint proposal. Connect to the overall Kirkpatrick Street Corridor by introducing mid-block crossings through vacant parcels.



Rendering from Greenprint II



What's in the Hill District Master Plan?

Concept master plans

(pg. 112 & 114)

Upper Hill

The Upper Hill has a strong identity that grows from its hill top location and outstanding views of the city. The Upper Hill is a cohesive neighborhood that has several opportunities for residential stabilization and infill development to reinforce its cohesive residential character. In the Upper Hill there are three recommended urban design proposals that collectively will work together to jthen its residential quality.

Robert Williams Memorial Park

Robert Williams Memorial Park, which includes the reservoir, is an under-utilized asset that can better serve the Upper Hill by transforming it into a high quality neighborhood park with passive and active recreational uses. The park should be better physically integrated into the neighborhood and can be connected to the Coal Seam Trail. The Greenprint proposal for the park identifies a number of specific improvements that will improve the character and quality of the park for the Upper Hill.



Parks enhance surrounding property values and provide recreational benefits

GUIDING CONCEPTS

1. Maintain and strengthen residential character
2. Locate new residential infill development to take advantage of views and natural features
3. Activate Robert Williams Memorial Park



Infrastructure-related strategies from the GHDMP Implementation Matrix

- Establish the Coal Seam Trail as a public amenity and continuous link between existing recreation spaces.
- Make the Hill District a green and well-designed community.
- Leverage the Hill District's natural features as an economic asset for neighborhood development.
- Create a comprehensive strategy for vacant land including urban gardening.
- Improve maintenance of vacant lots.
- Provide residents with garden space.
- Create economic opportunity and workforce development through urban gardens, tree nurseries, and farms.



Infrastructure-related strategies from the GHDMP Implementation Matrix

- Use Hill District trails as green connections within a larger city network.
- Establish high-quality recreation and open spaces.
- Create safe, fun outdoor spaces for children.
- Establish a Play Streets program that temporarily converts streets to play and social spaces on a regular basis to encourage physical activity, help to build a sense of community, improve perception of neighborhood safety, and inform future decisions about park creation/location.
- Increase youth activity.
- Implement many of the ideas from the Greenprint...



Infrastructure-related strategies from the GHDMMP Implementation Matrix / Greenprint

- Establish three zones within the Hill District - Woods, Village, Conveyance - with appropriate parks, housing, and circulation for each zone.
- Implement the Village Street Conveyance and Public Space.
- Implement the Coal Seam Park and Stairs.
- Implement the Cliffside Park. (August Wilson Park)
- Implement the Memory Lane Overlook. (Is this complete?)
- Implement the Sugartop Watergarden and Overlook.
- Implement the Martin Luther King Field and Wetlands. (in progress – PWSA)
- Implement the Addison Terrace Gardens and Trails.
- Implement the Coal Seam Trail.
- Implement the Herron Avenue Run.
- Support small interventions that, when combined, contribute to a stronger overall green network.
- Maintain some vacant lots as green space rather than rebuilding.



More on the Greenprint

The Greenprint has three core goals:

- Establish a healthy place with urban development that works in concert with the natural ecology;
- Identify projects and opportunities for leadership and innovation in the local economy; and
- Reframe the identity of the Hill District as "A Village in the Woods" - an example of urban beauty.

The Greenprint defines three distinct regions:

- The Woods, the Hill's outer edge, wraps the community with dense vegetation.
- The Village is a collection of diverse neighborhoods at the geographic center of the Hill.
- Conveyance is the system that moves people, water, and wildlife through the Hill, highlighting historic stream paths.



Woods Zone



Village Zone



Conveyance Zone



Greenprint: Coal Seam Trail

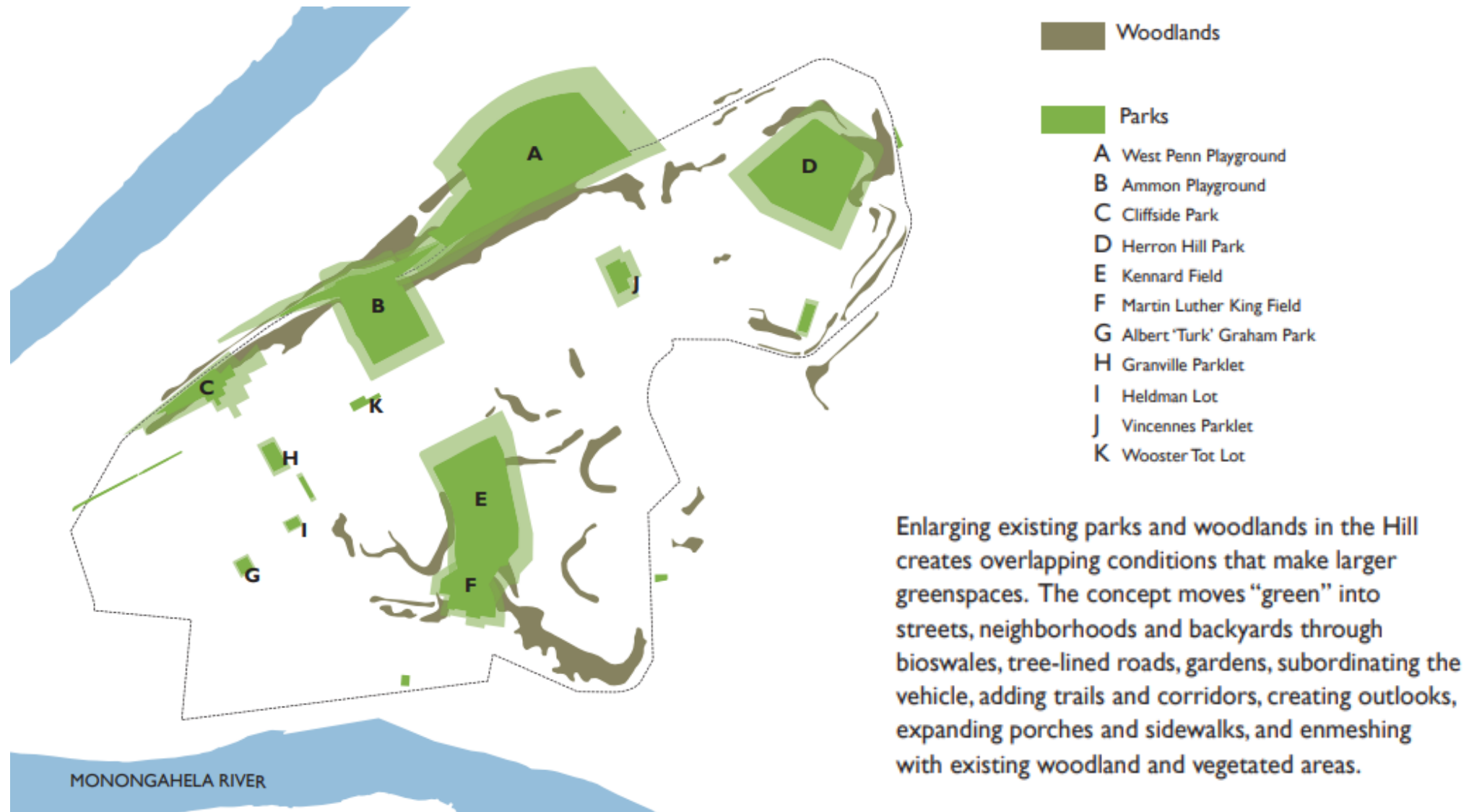


Trail Enmeshed

- An interpretative trail is added along the edge of the Coal Seam. At clearing points in the vegetation, this could provide space for terraces and lookout points.
- Additional vegetation is added to reinforce the coal seam edge and provides a natural trail



Greenprint: Green Enlarged



Greenprint II Projects Map

Project A

Village Street Conveyance and Public Space

Project B

Coal Seam Park and Stairs

Project C

Cliffside Park

Project D

Memory Lane Overlook

Project E

Sugartop Watergarden and Overlook

Project F

Martin Luther King Field and Wetlands

Project G

Addison Terrace Gardens and Trails

Project H

Coal Seam Trail

Project I

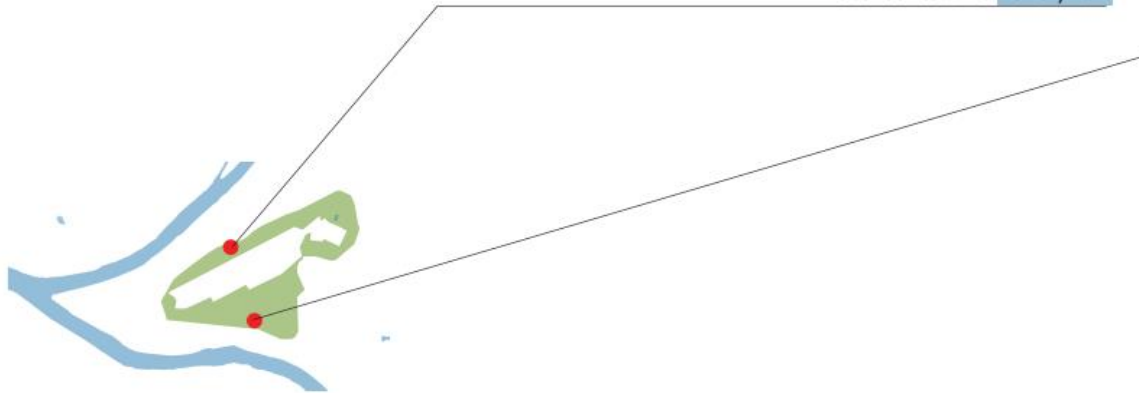
Herron Avenue Run



Greenprint Example: Memory Lane Overlook



Overlook towards Memory Lane



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? (Urban agriculture, digital network, air quality)
- Is there anything else we should be aware of in terms of covering the "gaps" between GHDMF and the new neighborhood planning process?



Where can you find us?



Pittsburgh City Planning



@PLANPGH
@resilientPGH



@planpgh

Online at engage.pittsburghpa.gov/oakland



END

- The slides below are for our reference

Topics for the Infrastructure Action Team

Specific topics:

- Stormwater management -MZ
- Open space -KS
- Energy systems -FM
- Utilities -MZ
- Waste and recycling –SY?
- Tree canopy -KS
- Habitat restoration -KS

Optional topics:

- Urban agriculture -KS
- Digital network -FM
- Air quality –SY?



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

What should be included?

- Here is what is in the Neighborhood Plan Guide
- Here is what is already included in the GHDMMP
- Here is what is scoped in the Hill District Transportation Study, Parks Master Plan, etc.
- These are the identified gaps based on this
- What's missing?
- Do we want to show the optional topics within the Neighborhood Plan Guide?

Topics for the Infrastructure Action Team

Required Topics

- Stormwater management
- Open space
- Energy systems
- Utilities
- Waste and recycling
- Tree canopy
- Habitat restoration

Optional Topics

- Urban agriculture
- Digital network
- Air quality



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