Meeting Agenda

1. Project Team Introductions
2. What is an Action Plan?
3. Review of Public Engagement Approach
4. Why Mellon Park?
5. Breakout Room Discussions
6. Report Out/ Next Steps
Project Team

PITTSBURGH PARKS CONSERVANCY:
Brandon Riley
Project Lead
Gavin White
Project Planner

PPC PROJECT SUPPORT:
Shawn Fertitta, Director of Visitor Experience
Kathryn Hunnin, Senior Manager of Special Initiatives
Erin Tobin, Comm. Engagement Manager

CITY OF PITTSBURGH:
Andrew Dash - Department of City Planning
   Martina Battistone, Kara Smith - Environmental Planners
   Christopher Corbett, Ose Akinlotan - Neighborhood Planners
Ross Chapman - Department of Parks and Recreation
Chris Hornstein (Acting) - Department of Public Works
Karina Ricks - Department of Mobility and Infrastructure

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:
City of Pittsburgh:
Departments of City Planning, Public Works, Mobility and Infrastructure;
Citiparks, Office of Community Affairs
PWSA, ALCOSAN, Port Authority
Friends of Mellon Park
Community Organizations:
Point Breeze Organization, North Point Breeze Development Corporation,

Key Stakeholders:
Phipps, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Ellis School, Chatham University,
Kingsley, PUMP, Herb Society, Negley Run Watershed Task Force...

CONSULTANTS:
Cosmos Technologies, Inc./EvolveEA
Stormwater Engineer
(TBD)
Traffic Engineer
ForeGround Consulting, LLC.
Historic Landscape Consultant
What is an ACTION PLAN?
Previous Planning

1930s Olmsted Brothers Plan

1945 Recreation Plan

2000 Historic Landscape Preservation, Maintenance, and Management Plan

Mellon Park
City of Pittsburgh Historic Landmark Nomination
Prepared by Preservation Pittsburgh for Friends of Mellon Park
Project Goals

Create a unifying vision

Prioritize future improvements

Leverage other projects

Focus on Equity and Inclusion

Community Driven Process
Public Engagement Approach
Public Engagement Principles

**Open Communication and Transparency:**
Legitimate processes and credibility are built through transparency and open communication with all stakeholders.

**Maximize Participation:**
Well-designed engagement processes increase participation of residents and stakeholders.

**Center Equity and Fairness:**
Acknowledge systematic issues and make intentional efforts to address equity considerations in any engagement process.

**Value Relationships:**
Human relationships with the community foster respect and increase engagement from representative community groups and residents. Project leads should value those relationships in any process.

**Build a Foundation of Trust:**
Reconcile historic inequities to build a new foundation of trust.

**FUN:**
An added principle. Engagement should be enjoyable!
Engagement Strategy

Advisory Committee

Presentation Feedback

Surveys
(Print, Online, In-person)

Public Meeting
(Multiple Presentations)

Informational Videos

Focus Groups,
Workshops,
and Design Charette

Individual Stakeholder Meetings

Informational Kiosk

Project Team

Community

Topia

graphics via vecteezy.com
Pittsburgh’s PARKS

Mellon Park
Preserve and Protect the Historic Integrity of the Park

Adhere to Secretary of Interior Standards for Preservation Treatments:

- Preservation
- Restoration
- Reconstruction
- Rehabilitation

Balance Preservation with Community Need

Establish a Treatment Plan for Future Improvements
Priority Watersheds
What is a Watershed?
The drainage area of a river or stream is called a watershed. For example, the topography around Negley Run causes rainwater to flow down slopes and into the stream.
Neighborhoods

- Mellon Park
- East Liberty
- Larimer
- Homewood
- Shadyside
- Point Breeze North
- Point Breeze
- Squirrel Hill North
Phipps Garden Center:
• on-going project
• "Living Building"

Giant Eagle:
• Under redevelopment
• Impacting Penn Ave traffic
• Impacting demographics around
• Needs to be connected with MP

Liberty Green & River Roots:
• Near completion
• Serving East Liberty and Larimer
• Play equipment & SWM
• Serving affordable housing residents

Bakery Square:
• Under redevelopment
• Needs to be integrated with MP design
• Particularly important for Larimer and Homewood

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Penn Ave Frontage Redevelopment

Homewood Park:
• Undergoing redesign
• Serving the East End neighborhoods
• Football field & swimming pool

Westinghouse Park:
• Master plan in 2021
• Parallel planning with Mellon Park
• Historic estate

Mellon Park

Marshall Mansion:
• Previously Pitts Center of the Arts
• Non-profit purposes
• Currently vacant

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Transportation Connectivity

Mellon Park
With a 37% grade, Canton Ave is the steepest street in the USA.

Transportation Connectivity

BikePGH.org
PARK ACCESS
Edges

PARK EDGES

AMBIGUOUS EDGES

PERCEIVED EDGES
Entrances and Circulation
Entrances and Circulation
PASSIVE USE VS. ACTIVE USE

ACTIVITY
Lighting and Evening Use
History

- Negley Run
- Pond for Mellon Estate, designed by Olmsted Brothers 1931

Point Breeze Hotel
Karr Estate
Frew Estate
“Beechwood”

Mellon Estate
- Constructed 1908-1911
- Terraced Garden 1910
- Walled Garden 1929
- Razed 1940

Darsie Estate
Marshall Estate
Scaife Estate
Five Factors
Peter Calaboyias

Untitled (January Sprinter)
Thomas Morandi

Steelcityscape
Aaronel DeRoy Gruber

Forbes Road Monument
Edmund Amateis

Mellon Park Fountain
Edmund Amateis

7:11 AM 11.20.1979
79.55'W 40.27'N
Janet Zweig

Unknown

Unknown
Mellon Park is a Level 1 Arboretum!

Trees

+600 Trees

+100 Species

170 Good
275 Fair
99 Poor
22 Critical
Ecology

- **Lawn**: 60%
- **Curated Planting**: 2%
- **Naturalized Landscape**: <1%
- **Impervious (Pavement, Buildings, etc)**: 37%

Legend:
- Lawn
- Curated Landscape
- Naturalized Landscape

Biodiversity
Stormwater Management
Stormwater
What is your FAVORITE thing about Mellon Park?
What is your LEAST favorite thing about Mellon Park?
What would you CHANGE about Mellon Park?
NEXT STEPS

Fill out a survey!
https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov

Public Meetings
May 8, 2021 @ 1pm
May 11, 2021 @ 12pm
May 12, 2021 @ 5pm
and at other events!

Participate in a Focus Group or Workshop
Subjects, Times, and Dates TBD

Public Presentations in AUGUST

Develop Concepts!
THANK YOU!
Please don’t hesitate to reach out:
gwhite@pittsburghparks.org