

**URA RELEASES RFP FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF FORMER SCHOOL IN HILL DISTRICT**  
***Proposals sought for the redevelopment of the former Miller School***

(PITTSBURGH)       **June 12** – The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), along with the Pittsburgh Public Schools released a request for proposals today for the re-development of the former Miller School facility at 61 Reed Street in the Hill District neighborhood of the City of Pittsburgh. *(Please note this is not the building currently housing Pittsburgh Miller PreK-8 located at 2055 Bedford Avenue.)*

“The great views of downtown, quick commuting options, and easy accessibility to cultural amenities has made the Hill District a neighborhood of regional choice,” Mayor Luke Ravenstahl said.

Developers with experience, capacity, and creativity are sought to transform the former school building into a sustainable project that is best suited for the community. The developer will be expected to coordinate design and construction according to the Pittsburgh Public Schools and URA review process and to work closely with the Hill District Community Development Corporation to ensure that the proposed project matches the community’s revitalization goals.

The location of the former Miller School facility provides the opportunity to build a development strategy off of existing market strength in the Hill District. Between 1994 and 2004, 40% of all new housing units constructed in Pittsburgh were built in the Hill District. About one-third of those units were apartments in buildings with 5 or more units.

There has been recent public and private investment and construction, including senior housing, a new YMCA, two major mixed-income residential developments, and a new library. A new hockey arena is under construction on the neighborhood’s southern border. A long-awaited grocery store is currently planned for a central commercial site.

“Pittsburgh was ranked as the top commercial real estate market in the country earlier this year,” Rob Stephany, Executive Director, URA said, “and despite the national rise in vacancy rates, we have remained a stable economy for investment.”

Built in 1905, the former Miller School facility offers great proximity to Downtown, Oakland, and easy highway access. Currently there is no official historic status for building, but its’ appealing brick exterior and gorgeous hardwood floors, often lead visitors to ask if it is a historic landmark. The building is in good condition and does not require extensive environmental remediation efforts.

The Hill District is one of the city’s oldest neighborhoods and possesses a rich history and culture. Over time, the neighborhood has undergone countless transformations, yet has remained a center of Pittsburgh’s African American culture. With its excellent location and rich history, the Hill District is positioned to capitalize on a resurgence of interest in the advantages an urban lifestyle offers.

To obtain a copy of this Request for Proposal, visit [www.ura.org](http://www.ura.org) or [www.pps.k12.pa.us](http://www.pps.k12.pa.us).

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*The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (URA) is the City of Pittsburgh's economic development agency, committed to creating jobs, expanding the City's tax base and improving the vitality of businesses and neighborhoods. The URA achieves this mission by assembling, preparing and conveying sites for major mixed-use developments; and by providing a portfolio of programs that include financing for business location, relocation and expansion, housing construction and rehabilitation, and home purchases and improvements.*