You are invited to a Community Workshop to help create the vision for a new park system that will serve the Larimer and East Liberty communities!

Wednesday, December 9th
6:00 - 8:00pm
@ Kingsley Association, 6435 Frankstown Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Bring your family, friends & neighbors

CHILDREN & YOUTH ACTIVITIES
REFRESHMENTS & CHILD CARE!

LARIMER/EAST LIBERTY PARK PLANNING + DESIGN
Public Meeting Agenda

PART I 6:00-6:40pm (Doors Open)

I. Welcome & Introduction of Project Team
   Tom Cummings, URA Director of Housing

II. Brief Overview of Park Planning & Design Process
   Garlen Capita, WRT

III. Outreach & Engagement Process
   Karen Brean, Brean Associates

IV. What we understand (Summary of key findings)
   David Ostrich, WRT

V. What we need to find out from you and goals of breakout stations
   Garlen Capita, WRT

VI. Next Steps
   Community Wide Meeting in February/March to present Conceptual Plans
PART II 6:40-8:00pm

1. Station 1: Sign-in + Map “Where do you live?”
2. Station 2: Vision + SEED
3. Station 3: Pre-School+School Age and Pre Teens + Teen
4. Station 4: Activities + Usage
5. Station 5: Gathering + Destinations
6. Station 6: Stormwater
7. Station 7: Kids activities tables

“Parking Lot” other non-park issues/ideas/questions
The Project is being led by WRT.

WRT is a national collaborative practice of city and regional planners, urban designers, landscape architects, and architects headquartered in Philadelphia.

Project Manager: Garlen Capita
Vital Urban Parks
Steel Stacks Park
Bethlehem, PA

Healthy Neighborhoods
North Central Philadelphia Choice Neighborhood
Philadelphia, PA

Green Infrastructure
Green City Clean Waters
Philadelphia, PA
The Team will utilize our collective experience to design a park system that:

• Respects the past
• Understands the present
• Aspires to the future
• Leverages neighborhood investment – including $30 million Choice Neighborhoods Grant + other committed resources
• Builds on efforts of active and engaged citizenry
• Leverages open space as a community focal point, image, placemaking, identity and catalyst for additional investment
• Designed to be attractive, implementable and well maintained for many generations
The WRT Team will be developing an overall plan for the open space network (Zones A, B, C). This conceptual plan will build off of existing and ongoing planning and development efforts in the neighborhood.
The WRT Team will then refine the design and develop construction drawings for Zone A (3 acres) - the first phase of the park system.
Park Planning & Design Process

Phase I
Project Initiation Inventory and Analysis

Phase II
Visioning, Goals, and Objectives

Phase III
Programming and Conceptual Alternatives

Phase IV
Schematic Design/Construction Drawings

September – November 2015

December – January 2016

Public Meeting 1
Programming & Visioning

January – March 2016

Public Meeting 2
Conceptual Development Options

May – October 2016

Public Meeting 3
Preferred Development Option and Material Selection
Refined Public Outreach & Stakeholder Engagement Plan

**PROJECT TEAM**

*Monthly meetings 2nd Tuesday of the Month*

(Sept. 2015 - June 2016)

Members:
- 4-H City
- Allegheny Land Trust
- Citiparks
- East End Youth Advisory Council
- East Liberty Development, Inc.
- East Liberty Gardens
- Enright Court Residents
- Fairfield Apartments
- Housing Authority of Pittsburgh
- Kingsley Association
- Larimer Consensus Group
- Living Waters of Larimer
- McCormack-Baron Salazar
- Mike's Auto
- Office of Mayor Peduto
- Penn State Extension
- Pittsburgh Department of City Planning
- Pittsburgh Department of Public Works
- Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
- Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA)
- Tree Pittsburgh
- URA

**PUBLIC WORKSHOPS**

*3 Meetings at critical points of the process.*

1: Programming & Visioning
2: Conceptual Development Options
3: Preferred Development Option and Material Selection

Optional Plan Unveiling Event

May be combined with another community activity (Playful Pittsburgh 2016 Play Day; Larimer/East Liberty Community event...)

LARIMER/EAST LIBERTY PARK PLANNING + DESIGN SERVICES | PUBLIC MEETING #1

December 9, 2015

URA

Community Solutions Group
# Refined Public Outreach & Stakeholder Engagement Plan

## Project Team

### Purpose:
- Represent a broad range of interests (residents, environmental organizations, local businesses, youth, government)
- Review and guide progress

### Responsibilities:
- Co-convene three public workshops
- Act as ambassadors of the project
- Help reach a broad audience by using existing communication channels (existing meetings, social media, newsletters)

## Public Workshops

### Who are the stakeholders?
- Residents
- Business owners
- Children and youth organizations
- Community-based advocates
- Developers
- Environmental organizations
- Faith-based communities
- Local/regional funders
- Government
- Schools

### How will we reach people?
- Door-to-door outreach by community liaisons
- Postcard mailing
- Announcements at community meetings and events
- Flyers to schools, libraries, stores
- Email invitations
- Postings on stakeholders’ media outlets

*We’d like your help with the bolded items!*
Getting the word of for tonight’s meeting

- Announced park planning process and **distributed flyers** at November Choice Neighborhoods Meeting
- **Mailed postcards to all households (approx. 3,100)** in East Liberty and Larimer
- **Emailed flyer to 99 individuals/organizations**, including schools and places of worship
- Emailed flyer to Project Team for distribution to their networks
- **Distributed flyers and postcards in-person** (Households, Businesses / places of worship)
- Postcards given to Brightside Academy; Fairfield Apartments; Made Right Here youth program coordinator at Techshop
- Attended LCG Monthly Community Open Meeting; made brief presentation; distributed postcards and flyers
- **Online / social media**
What we learned

• We visited the site
• We met with community leaders and organizations that are part of the Project Team
• We reviewed previous and ongoing planning efforts in the area to understand what are the issues, opportunities and challenges
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

Pittsburgh’s Regional Parks Master Plan

Source: LaQuatra Bonci (2000)

- Foundation for a new way of thinking about the “cornerstones of the green web”
- Build stewardship
- Focus resources and investment

Cornerstones of the Green Web
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

OpenSpacePGH

Source: Pittsburgh City Planning (2013)

- Classifies and prioritizes the transition of open spaces in Pittsburgh
- Invest vs. divest
- Redevelop vs. naturalize
- Larimer has two parks that fall into the “Redevelop” category
  - East Liberty Park
  - Larimer Playground
1. WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?
LARIMER CONSENSUS GROUP REPORT

Source: Jackson/Clark

- Builds on Larimer Community Plan
- Portrays a vision for a large active recreational park along Larimer Ave
- Proposes infill housing in core neighborhood
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

LARIMER VISION PLAN

Source: Strada Architecture (2010)

- Presents a comprehensive planning analysis of the neighborhood and its context
- Calls for a large “Larimer Park”
- Identifies neighborhood nodes and key corridors
- Includes green infrastructure plan
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?
EAST LIBERTY COMMUNITY PLAN

Source: E. Liberty Development (2010)

- Development strategy for East Liberty neighborhood
- Focused on gateways, corridor, and central core
- Includes inter-neighborhood connection strategies
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PARK SYSTEM

Source: Larimer/East Liberty Choice Neighborhood Community Meeting (2013)
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?
LARIMER VISION TO ACTION PLAN


- Clarifies 4 park typologies;
  - Neighborhood park
  - Hillside park
  - Community park
  - Urban farm
- Cohesive Larimer Park System
- Extend Highland Park across Negley Run
- Comprehensive stormwater proposal and housing strategy

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?
LIVING WATERS OF LARIMER

Source: LaQuatra Bonci (2015)

- Refines Larimer Community Plan
- Balances infill and park space
- Defines three park zones
- Identifies green infrastructure opportunities
WHAT IS THE CONTEXT?

ZONE B ACROSS NEGLEY RUN.

EXTENTS OF ZONE B

ZONE C ACROSS NEGLEY RUN.

EXTENTS OF ZONE C
WHO ARE WE SERVING?

USER GROUPS

LARIMER RESIDENTS
E. LIBERTY RESIDENTS
CHILDREN
ELDERLY
SCHOOLS
SPORTS TEAMS
HIGHLAND PARK USERS
HIGHLAND PARK RESIDENTS
SHADYSIDE RESIDENTS
GREATER PITTSBURGH
TOURISTS

WANTS / NEEDS / ABILITIES

COMMUNITY IDENTITY
GATEWAY TO HIGHLAND PARK
PLAY AREAS
PASSIVE AREAS
GROUP AREAS
STRUCTURED FIELDS

PROGRAMMING

_______________________
_______________________
_______________________
_______________________
_______________________
_______________________
WHAT IS CREATIVE/CONTEMPORARY PLAY?

Creative play brings health, learning and other benefits to a community.
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Creative play brings health, learning and other benefits to a community
WHAT IS CREATIVE/CONTEMPORARY PLAY?

Nature play: unstructured child play in ‘wild’ areas
WHAT ARE PITTSBURGH’S BEST PARKS?

Gathering spaces, gardens, playgrounds, and more

BLUE SLIDE PLAYGROUND - FRICK PARK SLIDE INTEGRATED INTO SLOPES

PANTHER HOLLOW LAKE AT SCHENLEY PARK

FLAGSTAFF HILL AT SCHENLEY PARK

DORS AND OCTAVIA OF THE OCTOPUS GARDEN - COMMUNITY FARM - GARDEN IN FRIENDSHIP

SCHENLEY PLAZA - 2 ACRE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK WITH VARIETY OF GATHERING SPACES, FOOD KIOSKS, GREAT LAWN, CAROUSEL, FREE WIFI

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“Parking Lot” other non-park issues/ideas/questions
Next Steps

• Summarize input from public meeting
• Meet with community groups and organizations on specific park and open space elements
• Present conceptual alternatives and gather input at Community-wide Meeting to present Conceptual Development Options (February/March)

For More Information or Copies of Park Planning & Design Materials please contact:
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