

The City's Neighborhood Initiatives



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Neighborhood Initiatives

- Community-driven
- Encourage public process
- Formalizing greater community input in Board and Commission decisions
- Formalizing greater community input in Capital Budget decisions

Agenda for Session

- Registered Community Organizations (RCO's)
- Vision for the City / Comprehensive Plan
- Neighborhood Planning Manual
- Technical Resources and Education

RCO's: Overview

- Definition
- Best Practices
- Requirements
- Benefits
- Registration Process + Approval
- Overall Process

RCO's: Definition + Purpose

Registered Community Organization: a designation that gives formal status to community organizations that register with the City of Pittsburgh and provides benefits to those community organizations.

The Purpose

- Formalize the role of community organizations in the planning and development processes
- Establish standing over Boards/Commissions decisions
- Create a standard for notice and meetings
- Create a clear, defined community process for developers
- Formalize the role of community organizations in capital investments and other initiatives

RCO's: Best Practices

WHO

Philadelphia, PA

Denver, CO

Salt Lake City, UT

Madison, WI

Portland, OR

Santa Fe, NM

WHAT

Requirements

Benefits

Registration + Renewals

RCO's: CBO Focus Groups

- Invited **26 CBO's** and **1 Planning Commissioner**
- 23 CBO's agreed to participate
- **21 CBO's participated** in **at least 1 meeting**
- **18 CBO's participated** in **1+ meetings**
- Planning Commissioner attended 4 meetings

| Neighborhood Allies | Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Baum-Centre Initiative | Northside Coalition for Fair Housing | GTECH |
| Hilltop Alliance | Oakland Planning & Development | Southwest Pittsburgh CDC |
| Northside Leadership Conference | CASGED | Hazelwood Initiative |
| Hill CDC | Lawrenceville Corp | Lawrenceville United |
| Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition | East Liberty Development Inc | Bloomfield Garfield Corp |
| Design Center | Bloomfield Development Corp | Operation Better Block |
| Homewood Collaborative | South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association* | Larimer Consensus Group* |
| Beltzhoover Neighborhood Council* | Bloomfield Citizens Council* | *- did not attend |

RCO's: CBO Focus Group Meetings

- August 9: Benefits
- August 23: Transparency
- September 14: Geographic Overlap
- September 27: Membership
- October 11: Registration Process & Enforcement

RCO's: Requirements

- ❑ **501(c)3 nonprofit corporation** in good standing with the state of Pennsylvania, or affiliation with a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation in good standing with the state of Pennsylvania via a Memorandum of Understanding
- ❑ Adopted **bylaws**
- ❑ Adopted a **Conflict of Interest Policy**
- ❑ Adopted a **statement of purpose or mission**
- ❑ An **identified geographic boundary**, identified either by approved bylaws or passed by another action of the organization
- ❑ **Open elections** and term limits

RCO's: Requirements

- ❑ A written **communication strategy** which includes the following provisions:
 - The methods the community organizations uses to reach out to community
 - The reasons they use those methods, including data to support these reasons
 - Strategy to inform residents and businesses about the community organization's communication strategy and where the community can access this information
 - Strategy to provide outreach to the community of upcoming meetings
- ❑ **Regular meetings**, not less than twice per calendar year, which are **open to all members of the public**
- ❑ Adopted a **Policy Against Discrimination**
- ❑ A **website** which provides the following information:
 - Advance **notification** of meetings
 - Meeting **Agendas, Decisions, and Minutes**

RCO's: Benefits

- ❑ Placement on Official Maps, Brochures, Directories
- ❑ **Adoption of Plans** Possible
- ❑ **Required Meeting with Developer**
 - **Public Hearing** (meeting is a requirement to apply)

AND

- **Project Threshold**
 - 2,400 sf of new or expanded structure
 - 4 + new residential units
 - New or enlarged parking with 10 + stalls
 - Zoning Map Amendments
 - Project Development Plans
 - Planned Developments - PDP
 - Planned Developments - FLDP
 - Master Development Plans
 - Institutional Master Plans
 - Historic Review Commission
 - Art Commission

RCO's: Legislation

TITLE ONE: ADMINISTRATIVE

- ❑ Establish RCO's
 - Requirements
 - Benefits
 - Registration Process

TITLE NINE: ZONING CODE

- ❑ Notification
 - Projects before Boards & Commissions

TITLE ELEVEN: HISTORIC PRESERVATION

- ❑ Notification
 - Nominations
 - Projects before Boards & Commissions

Vision for the City: Overview

- ❑ Mayor's Transition Teams
- ❑ P4: People, Place, Planet, Performance
- ❑ Pittsburgh Principles
- ❑ Comprehensive Plan
 - Completed: Open Space, Cultural Heritage
 - In Process: Public Art, Urban Design
 - Coming Soon (2017): Mobility, Housing, Adoption of Neighborhood Plans

Mayor's Transition Teams

- ❑ Recommendation **#1** under “Planning & Development Subcommittee”: **complete the Comprehensive Plan by incorporating vision and creation of Neighborhood Plans.**
- ❑ Other recommendations:
 - **Education of public on planning**
 - **Predictability of public process with neighborhoods**
 - Complete Streets / Transportation policy

P4 & Pittsburgh Principles

People

- Places for People
- Improve Equity
- Develop inclusive opportunities for education and jobs



Planet

- Work for a clean and healthy environment
- Build complete streets to connect the city
- Increase sustainable performance and green infrastructure



P4 & Pittsburgh Principles

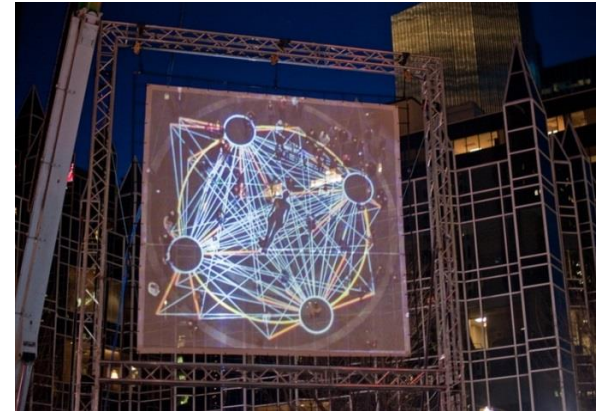
Place

- Promote thriving, diverse mixed-use communities
- Embrace history as heritage for the future
- Inspire design excellence



Performance

- Stimulate innovation
- Engage Neighborhoods
- Advance strategic partnerships



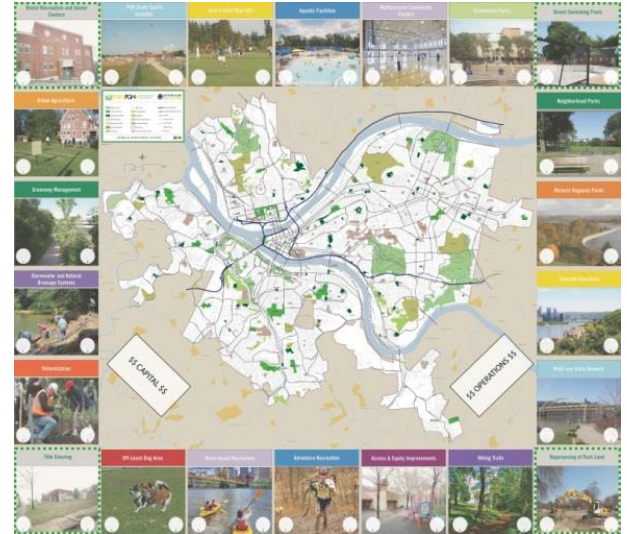
Comprehensive Plan - Adopted

Cultural Heritage Plan

- Adopted July 2012, Implementation underway

Open Space, Parks, & Recreation Plan

- Adopted July 2013, Implementation underway



Comprehensive Plan - Underway

Public Art Plan

- Public Art & Civic Design Manager
- Anticipated adoption in early 2017

Pittsburgh Principles for Design & Planning

- Vision for Comprehensive Plan & Actions
- P.C. Introduction – 10/4/16
- P.C. Discussion – January 2017
- Draft under review, anticipated adoption 2017

Design Action Plan

- Action Plan for DCP / City
- Same timeline as Principles



Comprehensive Plan – Coming Soon

Mobility Plan

- Revamp of former MovePGH work
- Programs, not specific projects
- Anticipated reboot in 2017

Housing Plan

- Expand on Affordable Housing Task Force recommendations
- Anticipated start in 2017

Neighborhood Plans

- **Adoption** of Neighborhood Plans moving forward
- Local interpretation of other components + Land Use Plan for the City & its neighborhoods



Neighborhood Planning: Overview

- Current Practice in Pittsburgh
- Acceptance of Existing Neighborhood Plans
- Adoption of Future Neighborhood Plans
- Neighborhood Planning Manual
- Current Neighborhood Plans as Proof of Concept

Current Practice in Pittsburgh

- ❑ No process for reviewing and adopting neighborhood plans
 - Only Comprehensive Plan components adopted
- ❑ Format and content up to each neighborhood
- ❑ City Planning Commission has no formal role
- ❑ One accepted plan – Allegheny River Vision Plan
- ❑ Role of accepted plans in budget process and development review nonexistent

Acceptance of Existing Neighborhood Plans

Groups submit plan to City Planning, starting 2018

- Plan created in past 7 years

Steps in Process:

- Organization contacts DCP to accept existing plan
- DCP reviews the plan for Planning Commission
- Consistency with Pittsburgh Principles, Comp Plan
- Hearing & Approval of Plan Acceptance at Planning Commission

Outcomes:

- Accepted by Planning Commission
- Taken into consideration by DCP staff and Boards & Commissions in decision-making process (e.g. writing recs into PC Reports), but compliance is not required.

Acceptance of Existing Neighborhood Plans

| | | People | | | Planet | | | Place | | | Performance | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|--|---|--|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | Makes places for people | Improve equity | Develop inclusive opportunities for education and jobs | Work for a clean and healthy environment | Build complete streets to connect the city | Advance green buildings and infrastructure | Promote thriving, diverse mixed-use communities | Embrace history as heritage for the future | Inspire design excellence | Stimulate innovation | Engage neighborhoods | Advance Strategic Partnership |
| <p>Land Use and Zoning</p> <p>Mobility and Transportation</p> <p>Housing (Yellow)</p> <p>Open Space</p> <p>Urban Design</p> <p>Art and Cultural Heritage</p> <p>Public Art</p> <p>Community and Economic Development</p> <p>Public Health and Safety</p> <p>x = included in existing plan</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Neighborhoods | Hill District (2011) | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | |
| | Troy Hill (2010) | X | | | X | X | | X | X | X | | X | X |
| | Garfield (2010) | X | | | X | X | X | X | | X | | | |
| | Oakland (2011) | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X |
| | Allentown (2014) | X | X | X | | | | X | | X | | X | X |
| | Southside (2012) | | | | X | | | X | X | X | | | X |
| | Larimer (2013) | X | | | X | | X | | | | | | X |
| | East Liberty (2010) | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| | Central Northside (2014) | X | | | X | X | X | | X | X | | X | |
| | Bloomfield (2011) | X | X | | X | X | | X | | X | X | | X |

Adoption of Future Neighborhood Plans

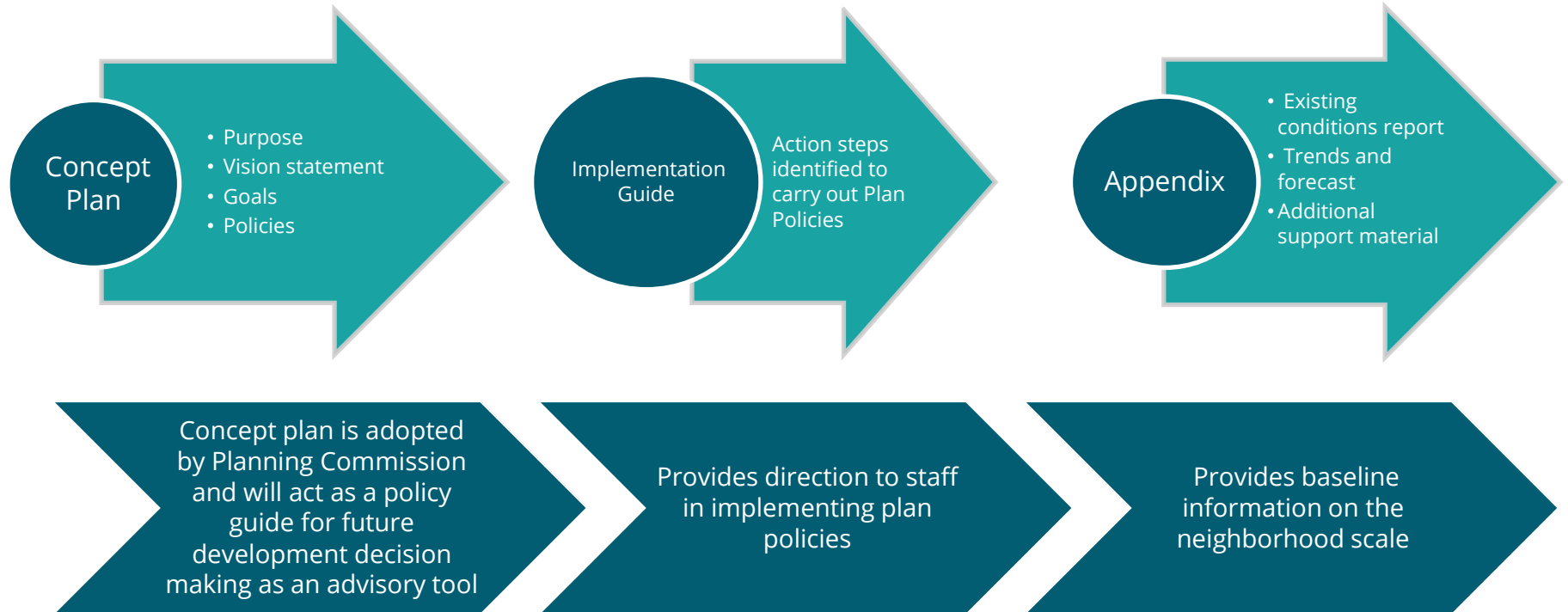
Legal Authority: 2nd Class City Code

- Allows the Planning Commission to adopt a “master plan” either “in whole or in part”

“Master Plan” in 2nd Class City Code

- Development review by Planning Commission must conform to Plan to be approved.
- If development does not conform to Plan, Planning Commission may amend the Plan.
- If Plan is not conformed to and P.C. refuses to amend Plan to accommodate development that doesn't comply, item is forwarded to Council for review & decision.

Adoption of Future Neighborhood Plans



Adoption of Future Neighborhood Plans

Either RCO's create plan OR there is a DCP/RCO collaboration

Steps in Process:

- Follow Neighborhood Planning Manual (next slide)
- Review process by City & Agencies
- Public Hearing with Planning Commission

Outcomes

- Adoption by Planning Commission
- Informs public investment via the Capital Budget
- Applied by Boards & Commissions in decision-making process – development MUST conform to Plan

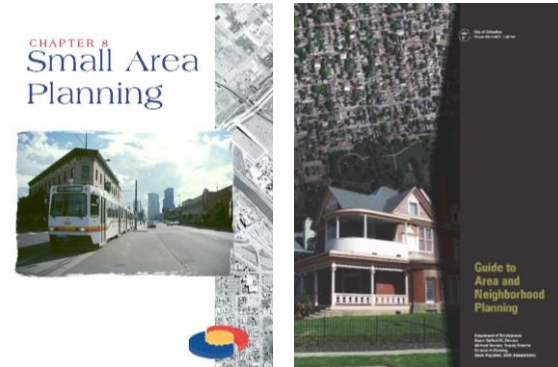
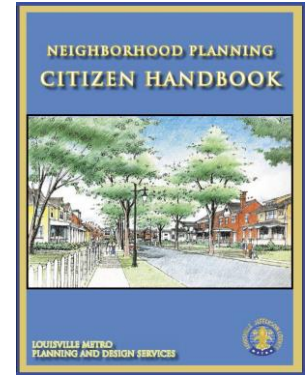
Neighborhood Plan Manual

Best Practices

- Columbus, Denver, Louisville, New York

DCP to create for Neighborhood Plan guidance to RCO's & DCP

- Sets expectation for all neighborhood plans
- Guidance for effective public engagement in process
- Outlines Core Elements and options for Plans
- Allows for similar format for action/implementation



Current Neighborhood Plans

EcoInnovation District (Uptown-West Oakland),
Hazelwood, Homewood, Manchester-Chateau

- ❑ Proof of Concept, led by DCP staff
- ❑ Incorporating required Core Elements from Manual
- ❑ Incorporating Review Process by City & Agencies
- ❑ Timeline (all except Uptown, which is in process)
 - RFP & Scope of Services being developed with CBO partner
 - RFP's to be released for consultants in Dec-Jan

Technical Resources & Education

DCP Role:

- ❑ Neighborhood Planning Manual
 - Coming soon
- ❑ Planning & Resilience Academy – education to residents
 - Need Neighborhood Plan process to be completed
- ❑ State of the Neighborhoods – planning data & metrics
 - Coming in 2017 – awaiting completion of more of the Comp Plan



Thank You!