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Project Name: University of Pittsburgh Master Plan

ASG Project #: 21735

Subject: Community Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Strengths

- Concentrated in one place, compact, helps people to know each other. Community based, the community and the university are one
- Very good landscaping and recognition/appreciation of historic buildings
- People want to live near Oakland because of the beautiful campus
- Frequency of bus transportation along Fifth and Forbes
- Sense of community, integration of campus buildings and non-campus buildings
- Effort to accommodate people with disabilities
- Co-location with civic and institutions, good collaboration with institutional partners, creates its own urbanity
- Access to buildings to public, non-students can use the library for example
- Sense of openness and welcome to the general public
- Good access to Schenley Park
- Some lighting can be improved, parts that need better lighting
- "Pitt Serves" program

Weaknesses

- Student housing, areas of Oakland where students should not live "student ghetto" "slum lords"
- Oakland is becoming an area that is almost exclusively for students, should students be prohibited from living in certain areas?
- Still some buildings are not meeting ADA requirements
- Students want more focus on healthy eating, but there is a fear that the community garden may be removed
- No public schools and no grocery store, no decent grocery store
- Many people do not have vehicles, reliant on transit
- Pitt should have a continuing education program, for the community, possibly for alumni and senior citizens
- Lack of public use of recreation facilities

Opportunities

- Better connections up the hill, some residents on the lower half rarely venture to the northern half, vice versa
- Bus/vehicle drop-off zones
- Large elderly population in northern Oakland, could Pitt help with senior mobility?
- What happened to the entertainment district, lack of entertainment opportunities, live music, etc.
- Utilization of roofs, these are underutilized
- Affordable housing, Pitt should be cooperating with 2025 Oakland Plan
- Could there be an opportunity to rethink street grid?

Threats

- Freedom in which people can use the buildings, such as the Cathedral, could this also be a threat
- More the university buys up the lessening of the tax base
- Lack of a marching band facility, where is the marching band going, some donors
- Pitt's endowment investment supports big oil
- Lack of knowledge on what is being emitted in science buildings, chemicals, etc.
- Parking, transportation demand management, how to manage parking for different users