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**Project Name:** University of Pittsburgh Master Plan

**ASG Project #:** 21735

**Subject:** Institutional Partners

**Date:** Thursday, September 28, 2017

***Overview of Partners Present at Meeting:***

**Carlow University**

- Founded in 1929 by Catholic Sisters of Mercy
- Currently doing a master plan
- 2200 students (undergrad and graduate)

**Soldiers + Sailors Hall**

- Built in 1910 by Allegheny County to honor Civil War vets but now a memorial and museum to honor all veterans
- Leased land from Allegheny County but it is now privately owned
- Parking structure built in 1990/1991
- Great relationship with Pitt
- 110,000 visitors/year with many weddings/events
- Parking garage leased by Pitt
- Parking structure has set hours + may not coordinate w/events in neighboring institutions
- Requires street access and parking

**UMPC**

- Presby Hospital, Western Psych - Master plans
- Magee - Master plan
- Demolition of Children's Hospital replace w/green space

**Library/Museum**

- Built in 1895
- Employ students in part-time positions
- Language classes increased focus
- 60,000 visitors/month
- Parking issue, struggle to accommodate visitors
- Museum may also feel similar pressure
- Requests for classroom space for student organizations
- Museum beginning master plan process
- Possibility of shared parking structure w/Pitt and CMU
- Looking for office space off-site to increase exhibit space

**Pittsburgh Park Conservancy**

- Non-profit
- Schenley Plaza is the front lawn for Pitt
- Maintain continuity of Pitt campus thru plaza into Park
- Students rent park spaces for events, orientation events

- Great partnership with Pitt

Note: **Bold text** denotes a reoccurring comment

### **Strengths**

- Very strong landscaping, walkability, inviting place
- Proximity to neighboring institutions, agencies
- Strong community partners, willingness to work with others
- Amount of activity throughout the day and night
- Safety (people feel safe when walking streets)
- Building a diverse community

### **Weaknesses/Disadvantages**

- Poor identification of buildings
- Lack of diversity of housing stock and retail stock, retail too geared for students
- Range of retail does not suit everyone
- Poor boundaries of campus, non-Pitt building are difficult to identify (e.g. Soldiers and Sailors)
- Lack of football stadium on campus
- People may avoid Oakland because of traffic, lack of parking
- Most owners may choose to rent to students due to extremely high demand

### **Opportunities**

- More balance to residential and retail stock
- Shared parking between institutions
- More opportunities to share infrastructure, such as UPMC, Pitt, CMU, Steam Plant
- Reinforce North/South connections
- Greater co-ordination w/neighboring institutions in the planning process
- Coordinate signage strategy for all institutions
- Garages on perimeter of site
- Build flexibility into vehicle/oriented buildings
- Transitional zoning & massing that maintains affordability

### **Threats/Challenges**

- Individual master plans may not be complimentary to each other
- Maintain balance between all users
- Should be holistic, it will affect everyone
- The street/layout of the city is not tailored to Pitt's needs
- The evolving technologies for transportation (how to rely less on the automobile)
- How to keep people living in Oakland and how to make community attractive to non-students