

SUMMARY REPORT: Process and Outcomes including All Resulting Data

1st Inter-neighborhood Community Conversation on *PLAN CINCINNATI* - March 21, 2013

Held at *Greet & Gather*, within Beans and Grapes, 6200 Montgomery Road
Hosted by *District A* in partnership with the
Community Councils and Development Corporations of Kennedy Heights & Pleasant Ridge

PARTICIPATING were 85 - 90 residents, business owners, community service providers and community leaders.

ON DISPLAY were current KH & PR planning documents on file with the City, historical publications, plans for the KH Cultural Center, UC-DAAP students' visions for PR Business District and key excerpts from *PLAN CINCINNATI*.

OVERVIEW of *PLAN CINCINNATI*

Presented by Katherine Keough-Jurs, Senior City Planner

OUR GOALS

- 1) Explore what the City's New Strategic Plan, *PLAN CINCINNATI*, could mean for both Kennedy Heights and Pleasant Ridge neighborhoods if we *work to grow better together*.
- 2) Begin to **develop a few key ideas** that everyone can get excited about, and **begin to agree on a path forward** that each Community Council and each Development Corporation will have a stake in accomplishing.

OUR CURRENT STATUS

KH & PR have designated Business Districts and "Urban Design Overlay Districts." With these designations in place, both KH & PR are poised to work with the City to achieve vibrant "neighborhood centers" along Montgomery Road. *PLAN CINCINNATI* defines vibrant neighborhood centers as "building blocks of our neighborhoods ... the traditional, walkable cores of our communities that feature not only commercial uses but also contain much of our civic infrastructure and the amenities that we need to go about our daily lives" (p.88). Read more at www.district-a.org

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION and ACTION on 3/21/13

Given the City's new plan, *Plan Cincinnati*, and the current plans of each neighborhood, how should KH & PR proceed?

PLANNING QUESTIONS discussed at each Table of 7 - 10 Kennedy Heights & Pleasant Ridge Participants

- Do we support the creation of two "vibrant neighborhood centers" here? **AGREEMENT by consensus.**
- Based upon our own **perceptions of current assets & needs**, how might we design these two "vibrant neighborhood centers" to best support the larger KH/PR community? What specific elements would we like to see in each other's "vibrant neighborhood centers"? How might they complement each other and multiply each neighborhood center's future development? **Written responses recorded on pages 2 - 9.**

AGREED UPON ACTIONS & SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS

- All of us present on 3/21/13 should *keep this planning conversation going*. **AGREEMENT by consensus.**
- KH & PR community leaders & *District A* should *continue to plan together*. **AGREEMENT by consensus.**
- KH & PR Community Councils and Development Corporations should discuss 3/21/13 outcomes with their own constituencies and share feedback within and across neighborhoods. **AGREEMENT by consensus.**
- *District A* should provide a full report on the 3/21/13 process & outcomes. **AGREEMENT by consensus.**
- How could each of us foster inter-neighborhood planning? **Written responses recorded on pages 10 - 11.**

ASSETS & NEEDS DATA Identified for Each Neighborhood

KH ASSETS Recorded by KH neighborhood residents & businesses

Small, special needs-oriented businesses (eg, racial, ethnic, cultural specialties)

Diversity among neighbors III

Neighborhood pride/involvement II

Housing stock/home ownership III

Safety and quiet streets

Walkability I

Room for business development

Arts vision

KH Arts Center IIII

Cultural Center III

Kalomeres building I

Green Corner & Giving Garden I

Two good parks III

Schools (elementary & pre-school) I

Caring Place

Kennedy Connector

KH ASSETS **Recorded by PR & other participants**

Small community feel

Variety of family activities/strong family neighborhood I

Dedicated leadership IIII

Housing stock IIII III I

Attractive buildings off Montgomery

Parks IIII - IIII

Diversity IIII

Location (access to Kenwood, I-71, downtown) IIII IIII

Transportation corridor (incl. public) II

Room for business growth

Arts vision/focus IIII III

Kennedy Heights Arts Center IIII IIII IIII I

New Cultural Center IIII

Traditions/Progressive Dinner II

Woodford School

Caring Place

KH Presbyterian Church

Green Corner/Garden

Kalomeres Building

Businesses at the corner of Woodford/Robinson

Near Silverton's drug store, post office, coffee shop IIII

Strong partnerships with PR + surrounding areas II

KH NEEDS **Recorded by KH neighborhood residents & businesses**

Assure residents are fully considered

More resident participation I

More & diverse arts-related orgs; eg, performing arts theatre

Strengthen local resources and walkability I

More gathering places (esp. for teens) II

Enforce housing code I

Senior housing II

Senior center

Revitalize Kennedy/Mtgmy intersection II

Clean up business district to enhance walking II

Repair/renovate business district buildings II

Address business district safety/lighting II

Fill empty storefronts I

More food stores; a green grocer III

Locally owned /run family restaurants II

Citizens on Patrol to reduce violence

Park safety & enhancements I

More street landscaping

Upgrade Northdale I

Upgrade the Kennedy/Woodford bridge

Make Schroder property attractive & viable

Transportation to/from PR business district

Better public transportation

Bike lanes, trails & bike racks

KH NEEDS **Recorded by PR & other participants**

Engage everyone to strengthen community involvement	III
Address run-down appearance along Mtgmy	### I
Eliminate/reuse vacant properties, esp. along Mtgmy	### II
Refurbish old attractive buildings	II
Create consistent design/look along Mtgmy	
Visually designate KH center & boundaries	IIII
Increase vibrancy & citywide perception	I
Improve parks	II
Increase safety/perception of safety	III
Attend to drug problem/decrease crime	II
Increase cooperation with Cincinnati Police	
Increase Citizens on Patrol	I
Safer walkability/bike-ability/sidewalks	### III
More parking	II
More stable population	I
Fewer apartments	
Develop vision for business district	I
Develop destination venues/things to do after work	IIII
More local commerce/businesses/jobs	### II
Grocery store	### I
Restaurants/deli/ice cream shop/internet cafe	### III
Teen & senior citizen-friendly activities/classes	

PR ASSETS Recorded by PR neighborhood residents & businesses

Involved citizens/citizens groups	IIII	
Diversity of residents/deep roots in neighborhood & city		###
Housing stock/variety	### III	
Walkable, beautiful family neighborhood	###	
Location (access to I-71, downtown)	### II	
Park	### II	
Schools	### IIII	
Churches	### II	
Rec Center/pool	### ### I	
Library	### I	
Facebook exchange		
Child care options		
Thriving urban business district/unique well-known shops	### ### IIII	
Restaurants/coffee shops/bars/UDF/street food vendors	### III	
Business services (drugstores/banks)	###	

PR ASSETS Recorded by KH & other participants

Diverse & involved residents	II
Housing Stock	II
Location	II
Rec Center/pool	III I
Park	I
Library	III
Schools	III
Churches	II
Gathering places	
Growing vibrant business district	III
Wide range of established businesses	III
Restaurants/coffee shops	III
Services (drugstores/banks/dry cleaner/yoga)	III
Farmers market at Nativity	

PR NEEDS Recorded by PR neighborhood residents & businesses

- Larger overall community involvement/ownership
- Inclusion of Hispanic residents
- Enhance business district as a destination (appearance, etc) III
- Fill vacant businesses/add to variety & strength IIII IIII IIII III
- Add a grocery/general store/deli/food trucks II
- Develop 'South' PR, Lester to Norwood (Mills Fence property, etc) IIII
- Strengthen role of businesses in the community
- Things to do after work (other than bars)
- More community festivals
- More family activities
- More community gardens & events
- Connections to the public school
- Continued arts development
- Improve traffic flow (esp. on Ridge & on Mtgmy)
- Safety overall/safe routes to schools I
- Better bike-safe roads/biking areas II
- Updated apartments
- Sidewalk repair II
- Sidewalk benches
- Call boxes
- More off-street parking IIII
- Hilton Davis property's future
- Remove overhead electric in business district & immediate residential area

PR NEEDS Recorded by KH & other participants

Focused business district development	II
Develop business focus to include KH	
Retain quaint mix (boutiques, crafts, natural foods, bike shop)	III
More (locally owned) entertainment opportunities	III
Teen-friendly activities/internet cafe	
Fill vacant buildings & shops	III
Clean up appearance of business district streets/curb appeal	III
Revitalize 'South' PR near Norwood	
Traffic control	II
Streamline intersections (Ridge/Mtgmy & Mtgmy/Losantiville)	I
Better public transportation	II
Bike lanes & trails	I
Sidewalk repair	
More off-street parking	II
Upgrade some housing	
Senior housing	I
Hilton Davis property's future	
Save the Firehouse	
Mark Columbia Twnshp/PR border (signage & landscape)	II

WRITTEN RESPONSES to the Question, "What are You Willing to Contribute as We Move Forward"?

I would attend more meetings. # # # # #

I'm willing to contribute time & energy. # # #

I will be an active patron of local businesses and events. #

I will contribute time & \$\$ to keep our neighborhoods vibrant, support businesses and schools, etc. # # # #

I'm already a member and will continue to work with Community Council / Development Corporation / Citizens on Patrol, or other community service board. # # # # #

I can offer publicity and help build community support.

I work 12/6 to make ends meet. Not likely time. But listening/sharing at meetings like this.

I am interested in publicizing what each neighborhood has now, learning what small businesses offer.

I am willing to keep my business here and would like the support of the combined community.

I'm willing to contribute time, energy and ideas about engaging our teens in KH & PR community conversations, initiatives and activities.

I will do whatever it takes to encourage people under 35 to see our community as an option for families.

I will work to keep the conversation going, engage the community; getting people involved takes asking & making people a part of the conversation.

I am willing to contribute energy, creativity & memory.

I'm interested in helping to increase the arts in PR & KH.

I'll be willing to contribute to beautification & landscaping.

I'll work on a solar initiative – organize a 'Solar Town Hall'.

I'll work to revive KH C.O.P.S. & will connect with PR C.O.P.S. to patrol.

I'll join C.O.P.S. & I'm willing to be part of a 'trained' sidewalk repair team to make repairs affordable.

I hope to connect PR Montessori to the Corridor as an anchor for more community activities. PRM will contribute time, place to meet, community learning center support & partnership.

KH Arts Center will collaborate with businesses to host events and meetings public art in neighborhoods.