

Uptown Planning Initiative  
Community Meeting  
July 6, 2005

Agenda

Welcome

Review of Goals and Strategies

Status of Focus Groups

Next Steps

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**Clean, Safe and Green**

**Goal: Improve neighborhood safety and perception of crime**

**Strategies:**

- Participate on Zone 2 Public Safety Committee
- Meet with Commander of Zone 2 concerning safety concerns (See enforcement issues below)
- Utilize fire code to shut down drug houses

**Goal: Improve the physical appearance of the neighborhood**

**Strategies:**

- Sponsor community clean up days
- Work on enforcement issues
  - Sponsor education/citation/court process meeting with Ron Graziano, Chief Inspector
  - Ask Building Inspector to attend regular Uptown Community Action Group (UCAG) meetings
  - Work with BBI on demolition wish list and properties to be cited and remediated
  - Create code enforcement task force modeled on Oakland
  - Pursue targeted enforcement efforts with BBI, Police, Health Department and DPW through special meetings convened by city council member
  - Work with City on clean up of vacant lots

**Goal: Green the neighborhood**

**Strategies:**

- Work with City Shade Tree Commission on tree plantings and stewardship program
- Work on/facilitate community garden installations

**Housing**

**Goal: Maintain and improve existing structures**

**Strategies:**

- Work with URA on a house fair to market consumer products

**Goal: Advocate for new housing development**

**Strategies:**

- Maintain and expand database of available property, including ownership. Access the information (VP2 and URA certification database) through the Hill CDC
- Identify priority development areas and advocate with City and developers
- Work with PHDC (and/or other CDC's) on new housing development

**Goal: Identify and support appropriate residential zoning**

**Strategies:**

- Work with City Planning on Map Pittsburgh process and implementation of new zoning
- Pursue parking overlay district that prohibits the demolition of existing housing for the development of parking lots (patterned after North Side legislation)

**Uptown Action Plan**  
**Draft Goals and Strategies**

- Testify at public hearings that affect the neighborhood, including City Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and City Council

**Neighbors and Economy**

**Goal: Create a healthy environment in which businesses can succeed and grow**  
**Strategies:**

- Market Main Street opportunities to existing and prospective business owners
- Participate in Duquesne University's planning effort for the Keystone Innovation Zone (KIZ)
- Build on assets by encouraging retail development near Duquesne University's new Forbes Avenue development
- Market financing opportunities of KIZ, LERTA and Redevelopment Area Certification.
- Work closely with merchants in supporting "buying in Uptown"
- Meet frequently with business arm of UCAG

**Organizational Development**

**Goal: Strengthen UCAG as a sustainable neighborhood organization**  
**Strategies:**

- Participate in Community Technical Assistance Center (CTAC) core series
- Draft annual strategic plan and accompanying work program for the organization
- Explore advocacy partnerships with the Hill CDC
- Participate in Citywide community economic development/neighborhood efforts and organizations

**Marketing and Image**

**Goal: Attract new businesses and residents to Uptown**  
**Strategies:**

- Continue work of marketing committee in selling the neighborhood
- Establish a media plan
- Utilize Uptown newsletter and website as communication and marketing tools