

## OAKLAND TASK FORCE MEETING

January 8, 2008

University of Pittsburgh

Minutes

Present:

Anderson, Laurie	PPC
Andrews, Lena	Planning
Antonelli, Linda	Magee-Womens Hospital
Bettinger, Joe	Heiber's Pharmacy & OBID
Blenk, David	OPDC
Bricker, Scott	Bike Pittsburgh
Clark, Renny	Pitt
Ellenberg, Curt	WPSBC
Fisher, Elly	OPDC
Gnage, Casey	First Baptist Church
Leiberman, Pam	International Children's Festival
Leibow, Ron	Pitt
Louis Feinberg	Bike Pittsburgh
Olszewski, Anna	UPMC
Petropoulos, Georgia	OBID
Rideout, Lori	Magee-Womens Hospital
Robinson, Brooks	RIDC
Sass, Richard	Oakcliffe
Stiles, Kevin	Property Management
Supowitz, Paul	Pitt
Vinski, David	Playhouse
Wilds, John	Pitt

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### Presentations

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Scott Bricker and Louis Feinberg of Bike Pittsburgh presented their new study "Universities Connect! Recommendations to improve bicycle infrastructure and safety to, from and through Oakland" to the Task Force. The report was generated by this group using both City of Pittsburgh studies: The Oakland Bicycle Mobility Study and the Atwood Project as well as ideas gathered at public meetings. Bike Pittsburgh states that Oakland is a necessary part of biking to and from work. It is ideally located between Downtown and Squirrel Hill, Shadyside and Bloomfield. The current bike trails are sparse and range from multi-use trails to poorly marked on-street bike routes. Lack of bike racks are another problem. Currently, Bike Pittsburgh is recommending several bike routes. Bike Pittsburgh has stated they will send the final report to Tami Hirth to be posted on the OTF website. Once received, please feel free to contact them with any questions.

Pam Lieberman gave a status report on the International Children's Festival to be held in Oakland May 14-18, 2008. The 2008 Website is up and working as well as being posted on the OTF and University's Community Relations website. Pam handed out the new flyer outlining performances and ticket pricing. Tickets may be ordered now. Also, they are expecting to need over 500 volunteers; anyone with time contact her to sign up. Pam also indicated that they are \$50K behind in fundraising please call her if you have any suggestions.

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## **Create a Sense of Place**

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### **Stimulate Neighborhood Revitalization**

Georgia Petropoulos update the group on the status of the OTF Environment Committee. The first meeting was just to outline the goals and ideas of committee members. The next meeting is on February 20, 2008 in 140 Alumni Hall. Based on ideas presented at the first meeting, the group invited various people to join the discussion this month. The group sought to gather a meeting of the minds, individuals and organizations who have experience in developing a comprehensive recycling initiative. The committee has also expanded the Oakland partner base to make sure we are inclusive of our institutional partners.

### **Make it Easier to Get Into and Around in Oakland**

In Mavis Rainey's absence, Liz Nahm updated the committee on:

#### Boulevard of the Allies Project

An electronic message board was installed at 5<sup>th</sup> and Chesterfield to assist with directional information in response to a letter issued by John Invocenti of UPMC regarding traffic impacts on Darragh Street. PennDOT will position police officers at two intersections (5<sup>th</sup>/Darragh and 5<sup>th</sup>/Halket) to ensure motorists do not block the intersection and prevent cross traffic movement. Do not block intersection signs will be installed at 5<sup>th</sup>/Atwood and 5<sup>th</sup>/DeSoto. This signage is already in place at 5<sup>th</sup>/McKee and 5<sup>th</sup>/Halket. The Project is still on schedule.

#### Fifth Avenue Bus Railing

Color renderings were distributed. Brenda Gregg was to present latest updates, but was unable to attend.

#### Home Town Streets

Everything has been approved by PennDOT and is on the Mayor's desk awaiting signature. Work to begin this Spring and hope to finish by first week of November. Most work will be done at night.

## **Advocate for Quality Development**

Lena Andrews reported that there has been nothing new submitted to City Planning for the Cadillac site.

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### **Announcements**

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Laurie Anderson reported that there are 4 kiosks now open and operating in Schenley Plaza.

John Wilds reported that Darragh Street will be closed for the next 4 weeks. The wall and steps at Cross Roads Park have been demolished, but will be rebuilt with other materials. The University will host two “Off Campus Living” forums on February 12 and 19.

# **2008 OTF Meeting Schedule**

January – University of Pittsburgh

February – Magee Womens Hospital of UPMC

March – Pittsburgh Playhouse of Point Park University

April – Carnegie Mellon University

May – OPDC/OBID/OTMA/OCC

June – Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh/Carnegie Museum of Pittsburgh

July – Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

August – No Meeting

September – University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

October – Western Pennsylvania School for Blind Children

November – Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh

December – Carlow University