

**Oakland Task Force  
Carnegie Mellon University  
April 14, 2009**

In Attendance:

Besong, Jeff	Carlow
Blenk, David	OPDC
Clark, Renny	Pitt
Clewett, Doug	CHS
Eichenbaum, Pam	OCC
Fisher, Elly	OPDC
Kambitsis, Jason	City Planning
Jackson, Sheila	Carnegie Library
Layman, Jenn	CMU
Leibow, Ron	Pitt
Mergner, Fred	PAT
Petropoulos, Georgia	OBID
Phillips, Sandy	People's Oakland
Robinson, Brooks	RIDC
Sass, Richard	OCC/Oakcliffe
Sciannameo, Louise	Carlow
Supowitz, Paul	Pitt

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Ron Leibow gave an update on Home Town Streets. Construction will be done from 7:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. Construction will run from April thru completion. Property owners along the corridor have been very supportive.

The new Boulevard Bridge dedication will be on June 2, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. Currently OTMA is working on an art display for the long wall looking over the Southside. Discussion was held regarding the different proposals floating around and where the money might come from for a permanent display of some sort.

Oakland Safety Day: March 25, 2009 from 10m-2pm

Sponsors: PennDOT and OTMA

Law Enforcement Agency Participants: University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, City of Pittsburgh, Port Authority of Allegheny County

29 Tickets were issued for traffic violations like running a red light

19 Tickets were issued for failure to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk

23 Tickets were issued for jay-walking

Renny updated everyone on the status of the projects list that he asked everyone to review. There will be further discussion on these items at the May 12, 2009 meeting. A quick tally indicates the priorities for the group are:

Neighborhood Development:

- Rental housing improvements
- Landlord incentives
- Code enforcement
- Forbes Avenue Streetscaping

Getting Into and Around in Oakland:

- Connect 09
- Improving bicycle infrastructure
- Facilitate vehicle movement and parking in Oakland

Advocate for Quality Development:

- Create an urban design plan for the gateway to Oakland
- MSP for Oakland

OPDC updates: 1. David Blenk announced his departure from OPDC the first week of May. He is leaving to become the new Executive Vice President of Gateway. Elly Fisher will be interim Executive Director. 2., Elly announced the NPP press conference will be held on April 23 at 10:00 a.m. At 5:00 there will be a reception in Schenley Plaza under the tent. The NPP is a six year program. 3., OPDC has two houses in South Oakland left and two in Uptown. 4., the Project at 141 Robinson Street is moving forward. Units will be offered at both market and subsidized. They have added classrooms on the first floor. 5., OPDC's annual furniture drive will start on April 24 and the furniture sale will take place on August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.

CHS will hold a "Pirates" fundraiser on May 15, more information to follow. Also, the CHS will hold their annual sleepover for the homeless the second week of October.

Ron Leibow gave an update on the construction project at Robinson Court. Approximately 400 trucks of dirt a day are being removed. After completion, walls will be. Ron let the group know that he will continue to monitor the condition of Robinson Street Extension.

The OTF Environment Committee will continue this year to raise awareness and advance the "Go Green Oakland" campaign. IGA has offered to pay ½ of the cost of printing bags again this year. That still leaves \$2,500.00 unfunded; Renny Clark indicated that Pitt would contribute \$1,700.00.

Jenn Layman outlined the initiatives CMU is taking to make their campus greener. All food service contracts are being filled using zero impact products. Congressman Altmire will be on campus April 16 as a guest of the student Sierra Club and the SGB will host a Mayoral Debate on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The event is open to the public.

The OCC sign committee has selected Wall 2 Wall to design the gateway signs. They will make a presentation at the May meeting. Pam indicated that April 17<sup>th</sup> would be the annual "SempleFest" party. Renny and Pam outlined what the City Police have planned this year to control the crowds.

Jason Kambitsis will bring the new Art Director, Morton Brown, to the May OTF meeting so he could present some ideas on public art and the new Boulevard wall installation.

## 2009 Schedule Oakland Task Force

**May 12 — Community Organizations — University Club - 123  
University Place**

June 9 — Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

July 14 — Pittsburgh Playhouse

**August—No Meeting**

September 8 — Carnegie Library

October 13 — Western PA School for Blind Children

November 10 — Carnegie Museum

December 8 — Carlow University

## 2010 Schedule

January — Magee Womens Hospital of UPMC

February — University of Pittsburgh

March — UPMC Health System

April — Carnegie Mellon University