

# FREDERICK ES

## COMMUNITY SUMMARY

The Baltimore City Planning Department is currently in the INSPIRE planning process for Frederick Elementary School. This plan will ultimately determine recommendations and budgeting priorities for short and long-term improvements in the ¼ mile area surrounding Frederick.

From August 2014 to August 2015, planning staff worked with residents to better understand their neighborhood experiences, concerns, and needs. The following is a summary of what we heard from stakeholders through various means of engagement. Throughout this engagement phase, we were able to collect the feedback of over 110 residents and stakeholders.

### MEANS OF ENGAGEMENT:

#### 1st INSPIRE workshop (34 participants)

On February 11, 2015 we held the first INPSIRE workshop for Frederick at the elementary school. Participants learned about the INSPIRE process and collaboratively examined the existing conditions of the area surrounding the school, specifically identifying **strengths**, **weaknesses**, and **opportunities**. A diverse group of attendees participated including representatives from the school, community organizations, faith based organizations, Bon Secours, Family League, City Planning, and other City agencies.

#### Parent/Resident Survey (27 participants)

We administered a survey to the communities of Frederick and Samuel F.B. Morse. We surveyed parents and residents at pick-up and drop-off times, community association meetings, and Westside Shopping Center. The survey was also available online for any interested community member to take. 19 out of the 27 survey respondents lived within a half-mile of the school.

#### 2nd Workshop (36)

On June 17, 2015 we held a second INSPIRE workshop at Christian Community Church of God (2701 W. Baltimore Street) where participants were given an overview of the INSPIRE process and efforts underway that are within the planned area boundaries. Representatives from the communities of Shipley Hill, Mill Hill, Carrollton Ridge, McHenry-Frederick-Franklinton, Boyd Booth, Fayette Street Outreach, and Gwynns Falls along with nearby faith based organizations (Mason Memorial Church of God, and Power of Christ Ministries), the West Side Shopping Center, Bon Secours, Baltimore City Public Schools, City Planning, and 3 other City agencies (Mayor's Office, DOT, Housing-Code Enforcement) attended the meeting.

#### Walking Tours (15)

On July 20th, July 21st, and August 21st, we led walking tours in Shipley Hill, Mill Hill, and Carrollton Ridge in order to identify issues and opportunities in the neighborhoods.



## Here are some major themes we identified: **STRENGTHS**, **WEAKNESSES**, **OPPORTUNITIES**

### **COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING**

Financial literacy program with M&T Bank  
School Mentor Program; Shutdown Academy  
Residents - community energy/capacity  
Community organizations doing job training and childcare  
New renovation and addition to Frederick ES  
Lack of political support  
Transient residents; lack of investment in community  
Lack of education (low % of parents with GEDs)  
Lack of employment  
No library; kids lack access to technology  
Perception of area from outside  
Teaching residents to be better advocates for themselves  
Community office for financial literacy  
Educational murals focused on the kids  
Sharing history of neighborhood; Historical Murals  
Use Samuel F.B. Morse building as library, computer center,  
or PAL Center  
Educate parents regarding school expectations  
Job creation through community development  
Promote service organizations like the Cub Scouts  
Vision for Recreation Center at SE corner of Hollins and  
Catherine (Kedesh House of Prayer)  
Vision for community uses and supports at Academy of  
Success (200 Franklinton Road)  
Create police lead "Sector Community Teams" comprised of  
faith-based, residents, youth, and businesses  
Explore Willard family history

### **HOUSING/PUBLIC WORKS**

Home ownership  
Blighted housing along 300 block of Catherine and 100 block of Willard Street  
Poor and peeling vinyl siding at 2523 Ashton Street  
Substandard housing, especially rentals/Section 8  
People living in alley garages located on Emerson Street near Franklinton Road  
Trashed lots on Dulany St and Millington Ave.  
Trash and Dumping from outsiders and residents  
Dumping on Lehman Street right behind school  
Dumping in alley behind 300 block of Catherine Street  
No sanitation police to enforce improper trash disposal  
Trash left out by Citywide Community Clean Up on April 25  
Dumping at former bus loop on Baltimore Street  
Dumping on vacant lots at Catherine & Lombard Streets  
Alley trash behind 300 & 400 block of Smallwood Street  
Lack of planning between city services  
Increased code enforcement for dumping and building maintenance  
Close Lehman Street below school to prevent dumping  
Partner with Carpenter House (Keion Carpenter) for additional housing  
Leverage history of Bentalou Street as Millionaires Row  
Targeted demolition  
Give Renters 1st opportunity to purchase homes



## TRANSPORTATION

Bus Access

Proximity to downtown Baltimore

Dulany Street sidewalks

300 Block of Millington: poor sidewalks and need of traffic calming measures

Large trucks on Franklinton Road causing traffic backups, property damage and unsafe conditions for pedestrians (Manger's Meat processing facility needs better truck site ingress and egress)

Baltimore Street (700 Block) is a traffic hazard for Gwynns Falls Trail connection

Lack of walkability and needs to be safer

Dulany Street and Millington Ave: no sidewalks, no traffic light, dangerous to cross

Need future pedestrian crosswalk(s) at Catherine and Ashton for school kids

More safe pedestrian routes

## PUBLIC SAFETY/NUISANCES

Drug activity on Dulany Street

Open air drug market, especially present at bus stops

Lack of positive police involvement/relationships

Baltimore Behavioral House "BBH" (400 Block of Millington)  
- Ex Con's, Drug Rehab

Crime

Improve police relations with community

## RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

Catherine ABC Park (Soon to undergo a complete renovation)

Gwynns Falls Valley/Trail

Wall along Gwynns Falls trail is old and needs to be restored

Issues with managing open space left from demolition (Often used for dumping)

Renewed Clean and Green Program (need more resources, better collection)

Create pocket park at 700 Baltimore Street overlooking the Gwynns Falls & Trail

Better lighting at playground next to Kedesh House of Prayer Church

Enhance Gwynns Falls Trail entrance at Frederick Avenue

Explore opportunity for an Industrial Historical Park near Gwynns Falls Trail

Hollins Street Park is 1970's Era and has potential for upgrade

Fence the vacant lot on Emerson to beautify the area and prevent dumping

## LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

Hospital - Bon Secours

Churches - St. Benedicts, Kedesh House of Prayer

Tony & Mary's Corner Grocery Store (NBC make over store) at 13 S. Franklinton Road

Food Depot and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Center for a Livable Future

Horizon Herbs

Wells Fargo

Industrial businesses that once provided jobs are closed and have been vacant for years

Illegal commercial practices

Retail leakage - residents go outside of the community for goods and services

Too many carry-outs

Improvements at Westside Shopping Center

Center for Livable Futures (JHU) and Food Depot need to promote existing healthy food

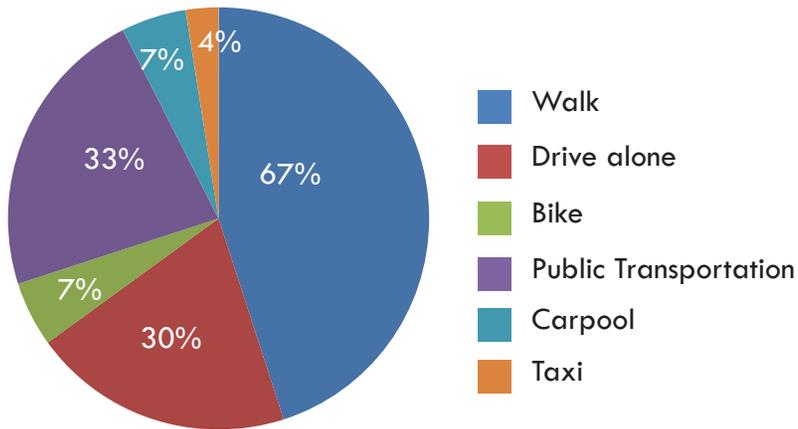
Continue developing relationships with businesses that support the community

More local businesses need to support the community and meet its needs



# TRANSPORTATION

**How do you get around? (For work, school, social activities, worship, errands, etc)**



**Is there anything that makes it difficult for you or your family to walk and/or bike throughout the neighborhood?**

- Potholes; trash; broken glass; paraphernalia
- Rats, insects, falling buildings. Community is an eyesore. It makes you want to leave and go away and not help out because no one would appreciate it
- Harassment by police
- Thieves and shooting
- Not equipped with bullet proof vest
- Afraid of getting robbed
- Sometimes; boys running up and down the street
- Scary at times, especially late at night. Some robberies
- Street lights - not enough in certain areas or not working
- Crime and trash
- Drugs

**Are there any streets that make you feel unsafe and why? Please be specific.**

- Bentlow, Smallwood. Streets all around here
- All of them
- All; harassment by police
- It's all over
- Payson & Pratt, Baltimore & Gilmore, Frederick & Hollins
- Wilkins - drag racing and strippers on the corner
- Sometimes on McHenry guys engage in drug activity
- Sometimes on Wilkins Avenue and some side streets like Baltimore
- Frederick Avenue and Hilton Street
- Lack of police officers in the area
- Hollins Street - 2100 Bldg
- Drug Dealers
- Dulaney - Do to drugs
- Streets at Night



## RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

Many people we talked to in the community felt like there were ample opportunities to transform vacant or underused land in the neighborhood into vibrant community spaces. Residents have shown a great commitment to youth outdoor programming as evidenced by the activities at ABC Park. In April, a group including coaches, youth, parents, business owners, BCRP, and City Planning met to discuss the creation of a Friends of ABC Park nonprofit that could help support the activities in the park.

Here are some comments and ideas that residents shared related to the use of open/vacant space in the neighborhood.

### Which neighborhood lots could become an asset in the community and how?

Lots on Lehman Street need to be cut. Dumping problems on vacant land especially on Lehman Street  
Pocket parks behind houses should be well-kept and renovated. More pocket parks should be created

Lots on Monroe; lot on Frederick

Frederick and Bentlow - use for garden or housing

End of Hurley Street where there used to be a loading dock. Could be a car lot

Mount & Pratt. Buildings houses there

Catherine, Pratt, Hollins homes. Give homes to the homeless

Playground was removed from park by Gwynns Falls

Alley behind house; activity court and something passive

Improve ABC Park

Lots on Frederick Avenue

ABC Park

Lehman Street

Millington and St. Benedict

Emerson St; Franklin and Pratt; Lombard and Catherine (Both); Willard and Hollins

#22, 20, 18, and 16 Maempel Lots



# QUALITY OF LIFE

**What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing your community? Please be specific.**

## **Drugs/Violence**

Drug dealing

Hear people advertising drug sales

## **Lack of positive youth engagement**

Lack of recreation. Kids having nothing to look up to or do

Not enough discipline with kids and not enough adult supervision

Rowdy youth. Youth need something to do

## **Vacant Houses**

Too many abandoned places

## **Trash/Dumping/ Rats**

Alley Trash and Dumping; Need to pull weeds in the alley

## **Unemployment**



## QUALITY OF LIFE

Can you list the biggest challenges that you face in raising a family in your neighborhood?

### Drug/Violence/Prostitution

Prostitution - Frederick, Wilkens, Shopping Center  
Police Harassment, especially Tuesday and Thursday; Beginning and End of the month  
Get ride of drug addicts

### Poverty/Unemployment

Living in poverty

### Lack of positive youth engagement

Need more kids programming

If you could add one thing to your neighborhood to help improve it what would it be?

### Recreation and support for youth

Recreation Center. After school program. Place for kids to eat and have something to do  
Playground; recreation; doesn't use the rec center at Samuel F.B. Morse  
Something for the teenagers to do  
Kids need better schooling and more parental supervision

### Cleanliness

Clean up alleys - Littering  
City trash cans at the corners; Plant flowers; Have block clean ups

### Improve Housing/Address Vacancies

Fix vacant houses  
Clean up lots

### Increased law enforcement

More monitoring of the police.  
Put cameras on the street

### More jobs

