



Lyndhurst Elementary

Workshop, October 11, 2014 Meeting Notes

The first INSPIRE workshop for Lyndhurst Elementary was held on October 11, 2014 at the New Covenant Worship Center (700 Wildwood Parkway). A total of nineteen people participated in the workshop, including representatives from the school, community organizations, faith based organizations, City Council, Family League, City Planning, and other City agencies. Participants learned about the INSPIRE process and collaboratively examined the existing conditions of the area surrounding Lyndhurst Elementary, specifically identifying strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.

The following themes and topics were discussed in the workshop:

COMMUNITY:

Strengths:

- Strong Community Leaders
- Church Campuses: Mt. Olive, St. Bernadine, New Covenant Worship Center
- Youth – Approach that positively channels energy
- Edmondson Village Library
- 40 West Clergy Association

Weaknesses:

- Lack of Art & Cultural Programs
- Trash – Garbage Pick Up
 - Alleys
 - Spot Enforcement
- Need more afterschool activities
- Need more afterschool study places
- Loss of Head Start
- Territorial Neighborhood Boundary Issues
- Ex – Offender Employment

Opportunities:

- Study Hall at Churches for Students
- Change Neighborhood Dynamics (Negative Experiences to Positive Experiences)
- Survey Youth and Students for Activities
- Neighborhood Leadership Academy
- 501 C-4 (Federal and Charitable Resources)
- Civic Works
- New Young Families Choose Edmondson Village as Choice Neighborhood

TRANSPORTATION

Strengths:

- Red Line – Light Rail Transit Line

Weaknesses:

- Walkability for Seniors and Children
- 3400 Gelston Sidewalks
- Edmondson Avenue and Lyndhurst Intersection (Walkability)
- Alley Behind 700 Block of Dennison (Poor Access/Configuration, Weeds, Trash)
- Need for resurfacing shopping center lot

Opportunities:

- Additional Parking at Edgewood Lyndhurst Recreation Center
- Have Lyndhurst Elementary School 5th Graders conduct Walkability tours

HOUSING

Strengths:

- Home Ownership (well-kept houses)

Weaknesses:

- Absentee Landlords
- Loss of Owner Occupants
- 714 Lyndhurst (Failed Code Enforcement)
- 4000 Edmondson Avenue (Extremely Blighted Vacant House)
- Need more Code Enforcement
- Burned-Out property with overgrown weeds (800 Wicklow Road)
- Blighted Garages & Weeds (Interior Alley Allendale – Edmondson – Harlem – Mt. Holley)
- 700 Grantley Street – Overgrown weeds, vines on power lines, rats
- Overgrown weeds at the rear of the school near top of the hill on Lyndhurst Avenue

Opportunities:

- Need to engage Healthy Neighborhoods (Attend the 2nd Workshop)
- Help Renters Transition to Homeownership
- Establish more 501 C-3's & 501 C-4's to purchase vacant housing
- Explore possible land trusts
- Promote as 1st Home Community – Starter Homes
- Provide Resources for Home Owners
- Senior Home Repairs
- Façade Improvements & Grants
- Energy Challenge Assistance

RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

Strengths:

- Athletic fields in parks

Weaknesses:

- Edgewood Lyndhurst Rec Center is not well linked to the community (Programs do not attract users)

- No safe place to ride dirt bikes

Opportunities:

- 700 Block of Denison Street (Vacant Lot)
- Dirt Bike Enforcement
- Amateur Boxing Gym
- Survey Residents for the new uses of Rec Center
- Engage Youth ages 11-18 (Uniformed Organized and Supervised Sports)
- Need Additional Programs at Rec Center
- Athletic Programs for Existing Fields and Courts
- Create Motorbike Course to deter use of Edmondson Avenue
- Community Pool at Recreation Center of Edmondson High School

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Strengths:

- Giant Grocery Store

Weaknesses:

- Poor appearance of Edmondson Village Shopping Center
- Edmondson Village Corner Stores
- 742 Edgewood Corner Store Edgewood Groceries – Side of House Entrance
- Edmondson Village Shopping Center – Mix of Stores

Opportunities:

- Farmers Market in the Area or at/near Rec Center or Skills Center Lot
- Resurface Shopping Center Lot
- Red Line Business Sustainment
- Target improvements at Corner Stores
- Corner Store Code Enforcement
- Revitalization of the Edmondson Village Shopping Center

PUBLIC SAFETY/NUISANCES

Weaknesses:

- Litter – Junk Food Packaging
- Perception of Crime

Opportunities:

- Engage Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods to target sanitation enforcement
- More trash cans