

Comments and Questions from Pimlico Local Impact Aid Public Input Meeting

Held on February 1, 2022

(54:31) Zaines E. Cypress: Recommendation for PHR/PCDA to provide funding for workforce development. Examples such as programs out of CC Jackson manufacturing workforce development (JARC), Baltimore Clean Streets, for job training.

(57:39) Senator Antonio Hayes: What is PHR's public input process? Outline priorities and community has input. Yolanda: Trying to figure out how to get community input, and open to suggestions for how to get input.

(1:06) Mereida Goodman: Could PCDA get a copy of Yolanda's presentation when we sit down from the work session? PCDA Board doesn't have input or oversight over PHR, so point is to get an idea of what else is going on in the area.

(1:12) Nechama Cox: How much from PHR is from PCDA? A: None. PHR has separate appropriation of 2.4 million. Split the pot 3 ways between the bonds for racetrack, PHR, and PCDA.

(1:15) R.A. Mills: Liquor stores near Belvedere (5100 block) issues related to activity in the area. How to address this activity? Suggestion to connect Morgan State students to Yolanda for asset mapping. Interest from Dr. Mark Barns at Morgan State Geography Department.

(1:22) Councilman Schleifer: His comments are only reflective of portions covering his district. Pimlico racetrack in 5th district, and neighborhoods closest to it isn't getting funding that it needs out of this funding. By far the worst plan proposals so far in terms of communities getting the funding that they seek. Housing and positive initiatives in his district were scrapped from this plan. Will need to get a legal opinion on the scope of the plan since the formula keeps changing within the 1-mile radius funding. A positive item over the past few years was Community Organizers funded through CHAI and CASA. Liaison who works in conjunction with CHAI to do COVID outreach, food drives, etc for those communities. Positions for CASA and CHAI no longer in spending plan, concerned about this for the Latino population. Also, the community grants stripped from the plan. Planning dept suggested a broader grant on rolling basis is more helpful to the communities. But removing these excludes the communities closest to the racetrack from this grant. Need to focus on what's been working. These grants and community liaisons aren't negotiable. One question about a line item – the grant administration for \$55k, but no grants funded this year. The plan gets it right on the Park Heights area (things that the neighborhood was promised), but not 1-mile radius area. Question about the percent that HNI is getting of the grant funding.

(1:35) Senator Hayes: Spreadsheets on website document work that has been done, but significant number of grants are still out there. Every year the recommendations are at first mainly proposed by the Planning Department, often it's City-focused at first. These Public Forums are the opportunity for members of the community, PCDA, representatives to be heard about how to spend the money. We have a short time to make the decisions on the proposed budget. Encourage you as a leader to take the time to submit in writing comments and recommendations for how to proceed with recommendations. Deadline for comments Feb. 28th. Need it in writing.

(1:40) Delegate Attar: Concern about lack of community grants as well. Will put in writing as well.

(1:41) Desmond Stinnie: Community grants concern as well and lives in the 1-mile radius. One item of concern – the public participation at PHR's is still in development. Their budget is \$2.4 million so would hope that plan for public participation is in place prior to receiving funding. Want to see transparency in PHR's budget to see progress and tracking outcomes of their grant-making. Want to make sure that the funding is well-spent. Will follow-up in writing.

(1:43) Tasha Lee: Some line items not important for growth of the community. Artistic features not a priority at this time. Question: who came up with the recommendations? What were the drivers behind the recommendations? A: Build off from year to year, formed by Planning Chief and staff, use experience from previous years to build a draft. Tasha: Priorities change from year to year – not pathways and artistic structures.

(1:48) Sister Israel: Pimlico Merchants Association. Comment about liquor stores. Look at problem and careers of those standing outside – jobs, other issues, people are there to survive – how to help them survive. Need to make the area better, brighter and safer. The people there need jobs. Some merchants may be intimidated. These establishments have been there for a long time, but the culture has changed. As area improves (got a grant from PHR to paint the greats and kids apprenticed with artist Whitney Fraizer) to bring more interest and feeling in the area. People don't have cars so live and stay in the community. Improve the area and make safer.

(1:51) Senator Hayes: When submitting written comments, please also submit things that you like in the plan. At this point, anything is fair game. Anything that's been recommended could go away, so if you like things need to hear that as well as things that you don't like. Requests that the chair of the PCDA pen a letter to speaker of the house to make an appointment to 40th district.

(1:53) Lisa Budlow: CHAI has been a partner in Park Heights for many years. Concerned that Fallstaff organizer not included in the spending plan. This work been critical and effective. Also, the NW community planning forum funding has decreased over time. This year only funding for Clean Streets, none for community building. Result ends up leveraging funding into the area. I.e. food distribution and volunteer time. The Labyrinth Road gas explosion funding raised and given to residents; resources to school...staff on the ground leverage and bring in additional funding. Bringing the Latinx community into One Park Heights is more important now than ever.

(1:58) Shymaine Davis: Representing Langston Hughes. Had a small fire, but had renovations scheduled so anticipating a closing. Had some bond bills but fell short of funding. Forced to shut down food pantry, medical training, IT testing and training site, child care and mental health service. Appreciate any support expedite them getting back open.

(1:59) Nathan Wilner: Lives in Cheswolde neighborhood. Radius is a circle, but only half the circle is being funded. Those in the area not getting a share of the funding, although recognize that some areas have additional challenges. Want at least the community grants and CHAI Spanish-speaking facilitator. Diversity, equity and inclusion and CHAI was at the forefront of that, but losing that because of shifting of funds is terrible for the Spanish-speaking community.

(2:02) Steven Johnson: Sees Pimlico Terrace Community Association members on the call. Some things that we like are the fact that the Pimlico Terrace Community Association is included on the proposed

spending plan for FY23. Super amazing. Park Heights has been divested in/underserved in the past, glad to be included and connect with the City. Is great to have Pimlico Terrace being seen now. Here is something to give the community hope. Helps retain homeownership, protects the senior population – keep safe for them. The community is excited and ready to take off. Looking forward to working together.