

Community Workshop Notes



**NEWARK'S
MASTER PLAN**

Round 1 Community Workshops July 12 - July 27, 2011

This document contains notes from the Round I Newark Master Plan Community Workshops that were held between July 12 and July 27, 2011.

In order to maintain the integrity of the original content, the notes have been edited and formatted only minimally. Notes differ in style and format because they were transcribed by a number of different note takers and facilitators at each of the workshops.

Community Workshop Notes



NEWARK'S MASTER PLAN

Fairmount, Upper Clinton Hill & West Side July 20, 2011

Housing:

- Abandoned properties along Clinton Ave corridor on both sides
- Vacant houses on 11th St; vacant apartment buildings on 12th St and 13th St; and vacant houses on Central Ave – area could use more lighting
- Homeowner and landlord neglect
- Lack of affordable housing
- Renovate or demolish abandoned housing on Chadwick Ave from Madison Ave to Bigelow St
- Allow conversion of single-family homes into multifamily homes
- Home modifications are occurring without permits
- Reuse old buildings and rehab old homes

Business & Industry:

- Poor facades of stores
- Improve bodega facades
- Absentee ownership of storefronts (trash in front of buildings) from Bergen St to Fabian Pl, from 11th St to Seymour Ave, and from 10th St to 11th St – no accountability
- Develop office space along Clinton Ave
- Encourage commercial development
- More restaurants and other retail choices needed along the corridors (e.g., diversify business types along Clinton Ave)
- Central Ave and Orange St are retail corridors
- Hospitals are main employers
- Too many liquor stores
- Need more retail – people commute outside of neighborhood for shopping
- Expand business from 18th Ave business district into neighborhood

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- Need more services (e.g., tax offices) – should not have to go to East Orange for this
- More amenities needed (e.g., bowling alley)
- Old Pabst Brewery site is a major development opportunity

Circulation & Mobility:

- Central Ave and S Orange Ave are main transportation streets for transit and walking
- Speeding on 12th St and 11th Ave
- A gateway to Newark / Upper Clinton Hill (e.g., a sign or arc welcoming people) could be placed on Clinton Ave
- Extend streetscaping along Clinton Ave
- Need traffic lights
- Many dangerous intersections; cars speed and run stop signs (e.g., at 11th St and 12th Ave and other side streets between Central Ave and S Orange Ave)
- Bus service on 18th Ave and Springfield Ave and throughout neighborhoods is adequate, but shelters are needed
- Bike and better pedestrian facilities are needed (e.g., on S Orange Ave and Central Ave), but overall, transit is good
- Speeding on residential streets
- Central Ave and 9th St have potholes; resurfacing needs identified on W Runyon St from Bergen St to Clinton Pl

Public, Cultural & Educational Resources:

- Lack of community facilities
- Improve Leegers (?) Senior Center in Upper Clinton Hill
- Old Boys and Girls Club: need to reuse the club or use the site as a green space
- Old United Hospital on 9th Ave closed down but still runs a day care center; the site holds vast potential

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- Need police precinct (closest police station is three miles away)
- West Side Park and 18th Ave have bad reputations
- Abandoned church on Bergen St

Historic Resources:

- Churches along Clinton Ave and throughout the neighborhood should be preserved
- Deliverance Temple at 10th St and Clinton Ave
- Fairmount Cemetery
- Old monastery at 13th Ave and 10th St
- Historic homes could be restored in Upper Clinton Hill (areas include Shanley Ave, Baldwin Ave, Treacy Ave, and Farley Ave north of Clinton Ave, as well as Girard Pl south of Clinton Ave)

Open Space & Natural Resources:

- Plant more trees throughout neighborhoods (one area that was specifically identified was along Cypress Ave)
- These neighborhoods lack open space and have an abundance of vacant lots, which should be considered for a program that converts them into gardens / parks on a temporary or complete basis (potential sites include the Boys and Girls Club site or the vacant lots on 11th Ave and 12th Ave between 10th St and 11th St)
- Curbside grass needed
- Flower pots by Avon Ave are an asset
- Need trees on Cypress St
- Build arch at gateway to Clinton Hill
- Need more green space, especially in Fairmount and Upper Clinton Hill; do not consider cemeteries as potential sites for recreational or leisure-based activities
- Most people go to Branch Brook Park or Vailsburg Park

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- Need more parks, playgrounds, and programs
- Empty lot at 12th St and Gould Ave is a good site for a park (could be similar to park near new supermarket on 1st St)
- More lighting needed in Homestead Park
- Only public schools have playgrounds
- More recreation, programming, and activities for kids needed at West Side Park
- Community centers and sports fields underutilized in West Side Park

Utility Services & Infrastructure:

- Garbage dumping on Fabyan Pl, 4th St, 12th St, and the lot on 6th St and Littleton Ave above S Orange Ave