Report from Our Conversations on Neighborhood Visioning

December 11, 2006
Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School

Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation
New Vision Community Development Corporation/
Quincy-Geneva Housing Development Corporation
Project R.I.G.H.T.

MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning
Tonight’s Agenda:

- **Objective**
  - Summarize community ideas
  - Inform architect’s physical design proposals
  - Present findings to easily share with others

- **Who we’ve talked with**

- **What we’ve heard**
  - Opportunities within neighborhood
  - Redevelopment proposals

- **Invite feedback from you**
  - How would you like to see redevelopment occur in your neighborhood?
  - Do you have other recommendations?
Who we’ve talked with:

Elected Officials
• Senator Jack Hart
• Councilor Chuck Turner

Neighborhood/Tenant Associations
• Pasadena, Supple & Columbia Road Neighborhood Association
• Wilder Gardens Tenants Association

School Administrators
• Jessica Bolt, Principal, Quincy Dickerman Elementary School
• Ayesha Rodriguez, Family Center, Jeremiah E. Burke High School
• Debra Socia, Principal, Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School

Service & Trade Organizations
• Bowdoin Street Health Center
• Grove Hall Board of Trade
• Roxbury Multi-Services Center
Neighborhood Assets

• Longtime residency
• Cultural diversity
• Entrepreneurship
• Rich neighborhood history
• Good schools that anchor neighborhood
Topics That Came Up…

• Parking

• Transit

• Job Creation and Workforce Development

• Youth Programming and Safety

• Housing
Opportunities to Improve Parking

• Increase off-street parking
  • Create adequate parking as part of new development
  • Will facilitate more trips into neighborhood
  • Will alleviate congestion and improve pedestrian access

• Site Idea
  • Build parking garage
    • Maximizes parking per area
    • Generates revenue
    • Creates job opportunity
Opportunities to Improve Transit

- Improve access out of neighborhood
  - Increase employment opportunities
  - Increase residents’ ability to benefit from amenities throughout Boston
- Ease movement of people into neighborhood
  - Teachers
  - Local business patrons
  - Visitors
- Alleviate rate of asthma caused by diesel exhaust
- Reduce dependence on cars and informal transportation networks
- Site Idea
  - Fifth Fairmount Line stop near Columbia Road and Quincy Street

Figure by MIT OCW.
Opportunities for Job Creation

- Employment within neighborhood
  - Redevelop commercial and light industrial sites so no net job loss
  - Increase diversity of business size and type
  - Promote industries that capitalize on existing skills, cultural diversity, and infrastructure

- Site Idea
  - Training kitchen to incubate restaurants and food production
Opportunities to Increase Workforce Development

• Access to jobs in other neighborhoods
  • Improve transit reliability

• Training, counseling and placement
  • Provide small business training
  • Create feeder programs to growth industries
  • Assist prisoner reentry

• Site Idea
  • Community centers that offer workforce development training
Opportunities to Improve Youth Programming & Safety

• Increase number of recreational facilities
• Alleviate risk to youth on street
  • Decrease time on street
• Site Idea
  • Incorporate youth programming into more facilities featuring
    • Shorter walking distances
    • Age-appropriate programming
    • Amenities to engage youth and explore their talents
    • Opportunities to develop practical tools
Expanding Opportunities with Housing

- **Housing can help current residents**
  - Provide retail and community space
  - Employ local residents in construction
  - Increase housing options for seniors

- **Site Idea**
  - Develop housing that
    - Incorporates amenities which are accessible to current residents
    - Has adequate parking
Recap of Site Ideas

• **Opportunities to Improve Parking**
  – Build parking garage

• **Opportunities to Improve Transit**
  – Fifth stop on Fairmount Line

• **Opportunities for Job Creation and Workforce Development**
  – Training kitchen/small business incubator
  – Offer workforce development training at community centers

• **Opportunities to Improve Youth Programming and Safety**
  – Incorporate youth programming into more facilities

• **Expanding Opportunities with Housing**
  – Develop housing with amenities for current residents
Summary

• Spoke with 21 people at 10 organizations

• Main themes
  • Diverse neighborhood with untapped opportunities
  • Chance to create more civic, cultural, economic amenities
  • Opportunities and challenges in neighborhood are interconnected
  • Residents have specific ideas for site redevelopment that could address these issues
How Do These Ideas Sound to You?

• What suggestions do you like?

• Where would you like to see these types of opportunities?

• What suggestions would you change or add?