

On November 16, 2015, the New Communities Initiative hosted a community dialogue about Park Morton at the Bruce Monroe Elementary at Park View. In moderated discussion groups, participants were asked three questions:

- 1) What do you like about your neighborhood?
- 2) What would you like to see in the future? AND
- 3) Based on the presentation you heard tonight, what's your biggest question, concern, or area you'd like to focus on?

The following are the notes captured from the moderated breakout groups.

LIKE	FUTURE	CONCERNS
Diverse backgrounds Bruce Monroe Park (open) Dog park Adult activities/children (diverse community amenities) Public library/garden History of the neighborhood Convenience Mix of tranquility and urban Mix of family/households Diversity of cultural opportunity—concerts, cultural programs for all within walking distance People come together across different backgrounds Institutional mix Georgia Ave—feels like a village It is my home Peaceful and familiar Residential scale Walkable	GA Ave better used (vacant lots) Better maintained amenities (parks/landscaping) Improve traffic patterns & parking New buildings that fit increase density and surroundings Community uses for ground floor retail Green building (roof tops?) ADA accessibility Timely one for one and mixed income Neighborhood should be safe and comfortable, especially for kids Aftercare/places to play School modernization New recreation center Increase in park space Increase in small businesses along Georgia Avenue Fewer closed/vacant shops More trees More engagement from DDOT	The density of each site (defensible space) Increased crime—designed for safety Maintain scale Property will be well maintained Timeline for the project Transparency of the process Plan for retail (no vacancies) No separation by income mix Outsiders coming to the property. Crime prevention, cameras/safety Schools are a concern Back to square zero? (2008 plan) Park Morton resident—living there 43 years. All for the development. Some sort of middle ground that makes everybody happier—PM redevelopment and BM site Community garden Optimize BM site for multiple uses including park School closing BM is a big issue

<p>Architecture</p> <p>Access to transportation</p> <p>History</p> <p>Community—people who care and know each other</p> <p>Diversity/ethnicity</p> <p>Park</p> <p>Dynamics—housing, green space, busy (not too much)</p> <p>Scale</p> <p>Small/medium scale</p> <p>Diversity—range of ages and groups</p> <p>Community garden, place to get away</p> <p>Parking</p> <p>Park—un-programmed space</p> <p>Park-place to do lots of different things</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>-less gun violence—park is locked</p> <p>Swings</p> <p>Park—place to meet neighbors</p> <p>Convenience/access to amenities</p> <p>Medical services</p> <p>Open space</p> <p>14th street retail nearby</p> <p>Public transportation/bus lines</p> <p>Diversity</p> <p>Design/amenities on Georgia Ave</p> <p>Community activism</p> <p>Close knit community, park as gathering space</p> <p>Diversity</p> <p>History</p> <p>Seniors</p> <p>Walkable</p> <p>Bus transit</p>	<p>(sidewalks/roads)</p> <p>Clean streets during winter</p> <p>Green spaces</p> <p>Character of the buildings to represent quality, history—no wood frame construction</p> <p>Soldier Home—open up park space</p> <p>New parks for kids (2-4 years old)</p> <p>Harriet Tubman school improvement</p> <p>Reduce crime</p> <p>More retail</p> <p>More opportunities for Park Morton residents</p> <p>Better safety</p> <p>Better traffic and parking</p> <p>Too much trash—need more receptacles</p> <p>Less vacancy in existing commercial and residential buildings</p> <p>Outdoor open space</p> <p>Higher quality construction of new buildings</p> <p>Identify opportunities for enhancing open space throughout the neighborhood</p> <p>More density and more housing, especially affordable</p> <p>Another additional CVS/pharmacy</p> <p>Mixed income and balanced housing opportunities</p> <p>More opportunities for lower income housing options throughout the neighborhood</p> <p>Variety of places to go and gather</p> <p>Crime reduction</p> <p>More retail (gym, kid friendly)</p> <p>Improved schools and after care programs</p> <p>Continue to preserve green space</p> <p>Maintain density as it is now</p> <p>Maintenance of roads and government</p>	<p>Realistic timeline</p> <p>Relocation/right to return concern: moving somewhere and coming back</p> <p>Other Build First sites—where?</p> <p>Bruce Monroe has the advantage of site control</p> <p>Losing the park</p> <p>Mixed income—how much of a mix?</p> <p>Inclusive process/transparency</p> <p>Want to see the proposal</p> <p>Concern about sufficient units won't be built</p> <p>This is not New York—how many units can you fit?</p> <p>Use and placement of uses</p> <p>Neighbor compromise</p> <p>Income affordability</p> <p>Desire to see proposal</p> <p>Number of units/type of building</p> <p>What are the other site options?</p> <p>Park being developed—why?</p> <p>First time Bruce Monroe site was discussed</p> <p>What does the city/developer want to know from the community?</p> <p>How will Park Morton residents move?</p> <p>Can another site get selected?</p> <p>Housing types that are smaller (towns)</p> <p>Don't want to see high rise development</p> <p>Don't want to see too many units</p> <p>Using the land smartly—parking lot? Using appropriate buildings (size)</p> <p>Other sites to use on Georgia Ave?</p> <p>Why take away quality sites?</p> <p>Hebrew Homes—in the neighborhood still</p> <p>Public space is not a blank canvass</p>
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<p>Neighbors connected</p> <p>Fairly quiet</p> <p>Safe</p> <p>Potential for growth</p> <p>Residential community</p> <p>Community feel/park as a space to walk the dog and kids</p> <p>Walkability, transportation access, park space</p> <p>Diversity/retail</p> <p>Knowing my neighbors</p> <p>Convenience</p> <p>Unity of Park Morton residents</p> <p>Park, ambiance, friendliness</p> <p>Buses</p> <p>Park is used daily for day care</p> <p>Park as outside space to meet people</p> <p>Able to have community input</p> <p>Places to come together/block parties</p> <p>Diversity</p> <p>People feel comfortable to interact and have conversations</p> <p>Strong sense of community</p> <p>Not only neighborhoods, friends/caring</p> <p>Community that stands up for themselves</p> <p>Strong community organizations</p> <p>Open space, not big buildings</p> <p>Stop what we don't want as a community</p> <p>People talk/look out for each other</p> <p>Stuff is open late, people are out late</p> <p>Not many chains (businesses)</p> <p>Stores, restaurants, and stuff to do all within walking distance</p> <p>Good access to transportation</p> <p>Like and know neighbors</p>	<p>facilities</p> <p>Cleaner/less litter</p> <p>Push development of vacant buildings</p> <p>Connect/interaction</p> <p>Maintain diversity</p> <p>No vacant property</p> <p>Preserve history</p> <p>More parking</p> <p>Maintain public space</p> <p>Workforce space family oriented</p> <p>School and community space</p> <p>Low income housing opportunities</p> <p>Employment/business development</p> <p>Howard as a development partner</p> <p>Redeveloped Park Morton/secure building</p> <p>Keep the park. Maybe make it smaller, but we need playground spaces.</p> <p>Open units to low-income residents</p> <p>Redevelopment of Park Morton community—community workshop on legal changes to require development promises to actually happen</p> <p>Bike lane down Columbia</p> <p>Engaging and well lit park space</p> <p>A street where everything is developed and thriving (store, retail, residential). There are some stagnant spots along Georgia Ave</p> <p>More pedestrian safe environment (Lighting, sidewalks, traffic calming)</p> <p>More interspersed green space so there's more than one park option</p> <p>More small business options</p> <p>Improving park space and Georgia Ave retail</p> <p>Reduce crime (Lamont and Georgia)</p>	<p>Eminent domain options?</p> <p>Whole community evaluation</p> <p>Park Morton quality of life</p> <p>Why choose between green space and housing</p> <p>How will ideas be incorporated into the design?</p> <p>City has not shown work</p> <p>What are the tradeoffs</p> <p>No chance for community input</p> <p>Hard to trust process when no information is shared so far</p> <p>Will community input actually matter?</p> <p>How to obtain information?—actual means of communication</p> <p>What is appropriate for this site? This question should come first</p> <p>Not fair to Park Morton residents or BM area residents if inappropriate scale</p> <p>Former building (school) not safe because visibility was compromised</p> <p>Use site appropriately first</p> <p>Options for use underground? What to do with the hill? Concrete wall</p> <p>Park serves community place, a place to meet neighbors</p> <p>Rare place for kids to play—un-programmed space</p> <p>Who gets the deal? Both sites going to one developer? Just to use the park?</p> <p>How many units planned at both BM and Park Morton sites?</p> <p>Concern of density of proposed development at Bruce Monroe</p>
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<p>Porches, “stooping it”</p> <p>Folks who understand and are in similar situations</p> <p>Short commute/good transportation</p> <p>Good community</p> <p>Great neighbors</p> <p>Parks space/garden</p> <p>Great businesses</p> <p>Convenience</p> <p>Great support for raising a family</p> <p>Great Park Morton residents</p> <p>Community space to go to relax</p> <p>American dream</p> <p>Walking distance to everything</p> <p>Diversity in all forms</p> <p>Bruce Monroe park</p> <p>Lots of children, and old people</p> <p>Eccentric people, various lifestyles and ways of doing things</p> <p>Small businesses that are neighborhood owned</p> <p>Diversity is personified in BM park</p> <p>Homegrown, grassroots</p> <p>Good transportation (reliable)</p> <p>Different places of worship, church-based support</p> <p>Knowing your neighbors</p>	<p>Pedestrian median on Georgia Ave</p> <p>Parking</p> <p>Education for kids and adults</p> <p>Rebuild some things</p> <p>Jobs</p> <p>High quality affordable housing without sacrificing park</p> <p>Maintain current amount of park space</p> <p>Better maintenance at Bruce Monroe</p> <p>Stay the way it is</p> <p>Parking</p> <p>Rebuilding Park Morton</p> <p>Less violence</p> <p>Job training</p> <p>Better playgrounds and BM infrastructure</p> <p>Less vacancy (city should buy up property)</p> <p>Park, garden, outdoor recreation stress relieving</p> <p>Park remain intact, but build new buildings along Georgia Ave</p> <p>Expand hours and activities in park</p> <p>Police that walk around</p> <p>Have a transparent, humane process to create permanent housing options for the neighborhood</p> <p>Housing on Georgia Ave</p> <p>Smaller scale development</p> <p>Park adjacent to Georgia</p> <p>Community space</p> <p>New and improved park</p> <p>Bigger community center with activities for kids</p> <p>Literacy programs and job training</p>	<p>When redevelopment occurs is there assistance available for Park Morton residents to move?</p> <p>Concern about existing upkeep/maintenance at Park Morton</p> <p>Qualification requirements for relocation of Park Morton residents</p> <p>Concern—OurRFP: why not used at Park Morton?</p> <p>Community hasn’t seen developer proposal</p> <p>Disposition agreement timeline—more info needed</p> <p>Layout for Bruce Monroe—can that be part of LDA? Process</p> <p>Steering Committees—who serves on this?</p> <p>Parking at new development</p> <p>Cautiously optimistic but wants to see master plan</p> <p>What is the project timeline?</p> <p>Questions: process for relocation?</p> <p>Ability to stay in the neighborhood?</p> <p>Relocation and selection process of Park Morton residents</p> <p>How will low-income housing be maintained?</p> <p>How are we able to house everyone on-site?</p> <p>Process for selection of BM site does not make sense</p> <p>Can we be creative to maintain all elements of New Communities</p> <p>Fulfill promise to Park Morton residents</p> <p>Underfunded/under-resourced</p> <p>Divided community</p> <p>School/past history</p> <p>Lack of trust</p>
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		<p>Government—what is feasible</p> <p>Affordability</p> <p>Conversation came to the community late?</p> <p>Plan is made?</p> <p>Process has gone through legal? Legality of city moving forward with the site</p> <p>Too much for one developer?</p> <p>Process should be reversed</p> <p>Want to know other options</p> <p>Property value</p> <p>Green space is limited</p> <p>Lack of consideration to old Hebrew Home as a possible development site</p> <p>Worried about getting pushed from the neighborhood</p> <p>Dishonesty/miscommunication from the city</p> <p>Crime, changes without public safety</p> <p>Timeline (clarifications)</p> <p>Lack of transparency</p> <p>Will the park be accessible to the public or just for residents</p> <p>What were the other sites considered</p> <p>Is Bruce Monroe a done deal?</p> <p>Community survey, and will it influence results?</p> <p>What is the source of funding?</p> <p>What is the development timeline?</p> <p>Park phasing, uses come back first</p> <p>Transparent housing policy</p> <p>How much influence does the public process have?</p> <p>Placement of park on site</p> <p>Traffic, environmental, and transportation</p> <p>Parking</p>
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