I-95 Girard Section Sustainable Action Committee Community Workshop



May 17, 2011

Agenda

- Introductions
- Planning process
- What we've heard so far

 Design recommendations

SIR Sustainable Action (

- Workshop exercise
- Next Steps





Project Overview

Six construction "sections" or design phases





Section GR0: Completed in Fall 2010

Section GR1: Fall 2011 - Spring 2013



Section GR3: Spring 2013 - Fall 2015



Section GR4: Fall 2015 - Spring 2017



Section GR5: Spring 2017 - Fall 2019



Project Area Overview



Design Coordination & Outreach



Incorporate waterfront & community plan projects



Girard Avenue Interchange GII Sustainable Action Committee

- Delaware River
 Waterfront Corporation
- Delaware River City Corporation
- Central Delaware Advocacy Group
- Girard Coalition
- Friends of Penn Treaty Park
- New Kensington CDC
- Kensington South Neighborhood Advisory Council
- Fishtown Area Business Association

- Fishtown Action
- Fishtown Neighbors Association
- Northern Liberties
 Neighbors Association
- Olde Richmond Civic Association
- Port Richmond On Patrol and Civic
- Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
- Pennsylvania
 Environmental Council
- SEPTA



What are we trying to achieve?

- Identify specific projects to incorporate
 - Can implement some
 - Lay the groundwork for others
 - Not a factor in others
- Identify potential resources/partnerships for implementation and maintenance
- High level of detail for Phase 2 projects







What have we heard?

- Enhance waterfront access
- Create

 opportunities for
 human-scaled
 places
- Keep it relevant to neighborhood culture & history
- Make it as green as possible



Translating ideas to design



Richmond Street



Translating ideas to design

GIR L-95 Girard Avenue Interchange Section GIR Sustainable Action Committee

Conrail Facilities





Workshop Process







Design Topics

- Underpasses
- Garden Path & Wall/Columbia Park
- Delaware Avenue & Pedestrian Connections
- Public Spaces
 Under the
 Viaduct





Clarification Columbia Park is NOT the existing Triangle Park!

PENN TREATY PARK





We Heard: Underpasses

- Should reflect neighborhood character
- Provide special treatments for key connections
 - Wayfinding, wall treatments, lighting, etc.
- Columbia & Marlborough should be considered key connections





Baseline Design for Underpasses

- Well-lit sidewalks, roadway & walls
- Wall & ceiling colors & designs that maximize available light
- Textured wall treatments







Underpass Community Enhancement Opportunities

- Wayfinding signage
- Graphic treatments on walls or ceilings
- Artistic lighting







We Heard: East Wall

- Maximize screening through landscaping
 - Green walls
 - Tiered beds
- Break up visible portion of walls with texture





East Wall Design Options

- Combine tiered
 landscaping
 & green
 walls
 - Screen
 - Create
 visual
 interest



We Heard: Columbia Park

- Continue landscaping from East Wall
- Parking ideas:
 - Relocate
 - Keep on site & add spaces to serve Penn Treaty Park
- Recreation uses:
 - Dog park
 - Passive areas
 - Public art installation





Baseline Design for Columbia Park

- Continue landscaping from East Wall
- Keep mature trees at southeast corner
- 32 parking spaces:
 - Along rear wall
 - Well screened
 - One way access
- Recreation uses:
 - Dog park
 - Passive areas landscaped to screen parking
 - Public art installation







Columbia Park: Alternative Parking

- 52 spaces to serve:
 - Penn Treaty Park Place
 - Replace those lost in Park Master Plan
- Reduces the size of dog park
- Maintain landscape levels to screen parking





We Heard: West Wall

- Include rain gardens as attractive landscaping
- Consider a walking path
- Opportunity for public art
- Potential for a dog area



West Wall Garden Alternative



- Landscaping that eliminates need for fencing
- Rain gardens to handle runoff
- Open landscaped areas



West Wall Trail Alternative

- Landscaping that eliminates need for fencing
- Walking path

- Dog walking area
- Seating wall
- Rain gardens to handle runoff





We Heard: Delaware Avenue



Extend Richmond St. amenities to Delaware Ave.





We Heard: Pedestrian Waterfront Connections

All connections should have:

- Street trees
- Pedestrian lighting
- Pervious pavement
- Bike lanes
- Key connections should have:
 - Crosswalks
 - Street furniture
 - Public art
 - Artistic lighting or other treatments





We Heard: Pedestrian Waterfront Connections







Baseline Design for Connections Under Viaduct

- Bright, safe lighting
- Light adjacent piers to frame street
- Existing street furniture replaced



Community Enhancement Opportunities Under Viaduct



- Artistic lighting
- Public art installations



We Heard: Under the Highway



- Want to use this space for passive and active recreation
- Important to maintain parking
- Off-street trail along Richmond is wanted and would create activity along the highway





- Palmer to Aramingo
 - Sprinkler park
 - Parking
 - Dog Park
 - Playground





- Interchange Area
 - Dirt bike park
 - Skate park
 - Playing fields
 - Walking trail with distance markers
 - Water feature with picnic grove
 - Splash fountain





- Cumberland to Lehigh
 - Sprinkler park
 - Parking lots
 - Dog park
 - Open air seating for school, church and community uses
 - Skate park
 - Playground or other facility for Douglas School





- Somerset to Ann
 - Sprinkler park for kids
 - Parking
 - Dog park
 - Skate park
 - Playground or other facility for Carroll School





Workshop

- Topics facilitated in stations around the room
- Review information, ask questions, work with facilitators & participants to prioritize solutions
- Try to make it to each group – we will remind you when we are midway through
- Regroup for summary and questions at end of evening





Next Steps



- Use tonight's feedback to shape design recommendations
 - Phase 2 construction documents (Highway from Shackamaxon to Palmer.)
 - Use to inform Phase 3 & 4 design issues (Highway structure Palmer to Ann)
- Begin building partnership agreements



Outreach

- May 25: Neighborhood Waterfront Meeting
 - 7:00pm Campbell Square Park
- June 20: East Kensington Neighbors Association
 - 6:30pm Philadelphia Brewing Co. 2429 Amber St.
- Sound Wall Meetings
 - Early June: Corridor-wide
 - Late June: GR-2
- Please let us know if you would like us to come to your organization







Project Websites

www.95sustain.com

 Information specific to the Sustainable Action Committee projects, including the I-95 Girard Avenue Interchange improvements





