

## End of Year All Working Groups Meeting

December 14, 2022

10:00am-12:00pm

Hybrid: In-Person & Zoom



The Hilton  
(1 Penn St, Camden, New Jersey, 08102)

## Notes

10-11 am:

### I. Welcome and Introductions

- 23 in-person attendees
- 18 online attendees via Zoom

### II. 2023 major project presentations

#### 1. Sadler's Poynt Park, Port Roads, Civic Commons- *Missy Frankil, CCP*

- Sadler's Poynt/ North Camden Waterfront Park:
  - The tentative schedule is for the city to advertise in the first quarter of 2023 and award a construction contract to the lowest bidder by June
  - Community Visioning sessions to come followed by construction in summer 2023
  - Open House tentatively Spring 2024
  - Paddling will continue at Pyne Poynt Park in 2023
- Port Roads:
  - **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**
    - a. address the infrastructure issues to foster regional economic development in the port district and improve the quality of life for all residents and roadway users.
    - b. Reconstruct, rehabilitate and repair damaged pavement and bring it to a state of good repair
    - c. Provide circulation improvements through modern signing, striping, and signalization.
    - d. Provide missing roadway network features such as sidewalks, lighting, and ADA compliant sidewalk ramps.
    - e. Provide innovative ITS features such as Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) signage to direct roadway users.
    - f. Provide separate storm sewer system, improve combined sewer system, and include green infrastructure to alleviate flooding on the roadway and in surrounding areas.
  - **2023/2024 Planned Activities:** complete preliminary engineering (permitting) and final design. Spring 2024, advertise for construction. The County has funding for construction of the project.
- [Civic Commons:](#)

- The four goals of RCC are Civic Engagement, Socioeconomic Mixing, Environmental Sustainability and Value Creation
  - Camden, NJ's learning journey is poised to create a parks maintenance system for the City of Camden. Our journey is sponsored by a 3-year investment from Subaru of America.
  - Next steps:
    - a. Calculate: How much money are we currently spending (CCP, County Parks, DPW, CSSD) on park maintenance?
    - b. Focus on getting the necessary buy-in ahead of any money.
    - c. Invest human resources in storytelling and lobbying.
    - d. Focus on "equity" scorecards and similar models being used nationally.
    - e. Work with the Trust for Public Land on conservation finance, equitable distribution of funds and evaluation metrics.
2. Open Space and Parks Steering Committee- *Justin Dennis, TPL*
- Another stakeholder meeting will occur in January/February of 2023 (in-person); saw huge success of holding December meeting in person
  - SJCS parks report card will guide Open Space and Parks Steering Committee work coming down the line
  - Let Justin know if you want to join the committee ([justin.dennis@tpl.org](mailto:justin.dennis@tpl.org))
  - Noted that Fairview's open spaces and parks could use attention moving forward
3. Block 1 Lot 1 and Dirt pile Yaffa- *Frank McLaughlin, NJDEP*
- Block 1 Lot 1
    - CRA and NJDEP have worked at this site for 20 years now
    - The site changed ownership 4 years ago and brought in new fill likely from Philadelphia
    - Owner was originally involved but that turned out to be insincere
    - NJDEP is eager to step in when permissible; owner is running out of time
    - TPL has been encouraging property owner to sell property and allow for paper street access
  - Yaffa Site:
    - City and State in litigations with owner with plans in place for moving forward
    - Characterizing soil again for proper disposal and remediation
      - a. Plan for removal is phased; will take the better part of the year to remove soil (2023)
    - Community meeting held by BRS soon
      - a. Date TBD; will communicate when we know

4. Illegal dumping cameras- *Orlando Munoz, DPW*
  - DPW has 5 mobile unit illegal dumping deterrent cameras; 3 are operated by CCPD; plans to get more
  - Hire 60 part-time workers under Camden Strong to supplement DPW's public space maintenance work
  - DPW is currently reviewing signs that will be installed at vacant lots across the city in coordination with the CRA
5. Waste Collection/illegal dumping intersection with homelessness
  - Social element to this discussion
  - For land by interstate, this is an issue with the State
    - Once the City cleans up this area once, the State will expect these efforts to continue... slippery slope
  - Consider a partnership with DOT; look into case studies in peer cities
  - Need a plan in place for what to do when demolitions happen to prevent waste accumulation on these sites
  - Working group focus on this nexus?
6. CCMUA Cramer Hill Projects- *Tim Feeney, CCMUA*
  - LTCP draft permits were released recently; these permits will result in less CSO overflow
  - To maintain compliance, CCMUA has \$250 million in project costs; where will this money come from?
    - Pennsauken disconnect is a large piece of this puzzle
  - Drexel work:
    - Making a 20 year plan to correct CSO issue for 50 years
    - (1) modelling on Harrison Ave. from State St. -> Kroc Center using 30 ground monitors
      - a. CSO reduction and surface level flooding reduction
    - (2) FEMA modelling initial conditions; Colliers is establishing project conditions to see where we can go
      - a. Will be able to model after these efforts
      - b. Project valued at \$25 million; will submit application in Feb. 2023
7. GI statistics from CSSD- *Nate Echeverria, CSSD*
  - 2020: CBID created
  - In 2022:
    - 361 instances of graffiti removed
    - 642,900 pounds of trash collected
    - 20 new self watering planters installed
    - 9 public spaces continually landscaped

- 126 new trees planted
- Community events, holiday lighting, new murals, painting curb lines, etc.
- 15 GSI sites maintained (ex. Before and after images to the right)



- Would consider approaching private property owners to share GSI maintenance burdens (ex: Lady of Lourdes)

8. [Walk and Bike Plan](#)- *Matt Ludwig, NV5*

- Camden's built environment presents many challenges for implementing bike facilities
- Bike share program is top of the list coming out of this plan
- Implementation plan remains unfunded
  - This needs to be completed in order to apply for any federal funds
- DVRPC will be leader in region-wide vision zero plan
- Other next steps:
  - Refine Concept Network Map
  - Determine specific ROWs and facility types citywide)
  - Concept Plan for first major corridor

**II. Open floor for others to present their upcoming major projects in 2023**

1. Camden County Historical Society:

- NJ Historical Society: going out to bid in January to site a museum on the southern corner of the Block 1 Lot 1 site
  - LINK trail goes through the site
- Audio tours coming
- Contact Jack O'Byrne ([execdirect@cchsnj.org](mailto:execdirect@cchsnj.org)) for informational pamphlet about this upcoming site and other Camden County Historical Society sites

2. EMR:

- Hosting community meetings every other month with Joe Balzano in the room
- Bring questions, comments, and concerns to this informal conversation space; Q&A guided

3. DRBC:

- Planning for DRBC's second quarter meeting, **Wednesday, June 7, 2023**, in Camden
  - collecting ideas and suggestions on possible community speakers and possible program following the meeting
  - reach out to Beth Brown ([Elizabeth.Brown@drbc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Brown@drbc.gov)) with ideas and suggestions

11 am-12 pm:

- I. **Where is the CCI going and where *should* it go:** [Jam board](#) guided discussion around how we could restructure the CCI to better fulfill our goals. Various ideas for consideration of the group:
- What is the purpose of these meetings?
    - covid hit hard and Brough a lot to a halt.... lent itself to updates meetings
    - moving forward, we want to move to in-person meetings and get more brainstorm oriented
    - instead of updates at meetings... make a newsletter blurb that covers in and make the body of the meeting brainstorm oriented
    - idea: each working group meeting has a pre-determined focus based on the 2023 work plan (subject to change)?
      - Ex: January we discuss and plan for educating residents, businesses and stakeholders on a stormwater utility fee in the water working group
      - counter: broadness allows for interconnected ideas. benefits to keeping them broad
  - Related, what should be the content of these meetings?
    - as 2023 work plans are established... have a strategic plan for running each monthly meeting
      - have check boxes under each of the major lofty goals
    - have short term and long term goals/ outcomes tethered to each working group meetings' activities
    - have strategic actions tethered to expertise of folks in the room
    - if goal of cci is to use collective leverage, dial in on one or two goals for the year to dial in on intensively.
    - Should we hold more meetings to get handles on things like permits?
    - top of mind: educators are in the room to handle education piece
    - idea: We could consult for neighborhood groups to forward pieces of their plans having to do with sustainability
  - In-person/ virtual meetings and cadence of meetings
    - quarterly **in person all working groups meeting**- 2 hours
    - have conference line for any in person meeting
    - majority of people present want a mix of in-person and virtual
    - no one voted for all virtual
    - 5 people present voted for all in person meetings
    - Where?
      - CCMUA in the future when done construction
      - American Water: not right away; maybe quarterly
      - RSVP to get an idea of numbers
      - CCP conference space up to 12 people
  - Balancing resident, stakeholder, and other voices
    - one of the quarterly meetings could be outside in the neighborhood that we are talking about

- once a year member engagement meeting. We all individually get as many residents as possible in the room to share CCI news
  - weekend meeting could be considered. one in morning one at night also
- Tracking and measuring success
  - Track by dollar amounts? Or accomplishments such as “cubic meters of carbon captured” “gallons of stormwater absorbed”
  - Tether the success measures to the workplan
- Improving Communications
  - Deepen communication with current projects rather than creating more work
  - newsletter format communications
    - meeting notes in that newsletter
- 2023 Environmental Summit, Earth Day 2023 (not covered in meeting, add any thoughts to the JamBoard linked above or reach out to Missy ([mfrankil@camdencpinc.com](mailto:mfrankil@camdencpinc.com)))
  - Ideas for keynote
  - How to honor Gov. Florio?
  - In person totally or hybrid?
  - Indoor v outdoor
  - Learning activities/ field trips
- All other thoughts on how we can and should re-center the CCI not covered in meeting, add any thoughts to the JamBoard linked above or reach out to Missy ([mfrankil@camdencpinc.com](mailto:mfrankil@camdencpinc.com)))

**DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper’s Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to [camdencollaborative@camdencpinc.com](mailto:camdencollaborative@camdencpinc.com)**