

A JUST PUBLIC REALM FOR PITTSBURGH



APRIL
2019

The Heinz Endowments' Vision for Investing in Pittsburgh's
Public Realm

THE HEINZ ENDOWMENTS
HOWARD HEINZ ENDOWMENT • VIRA I. HEINZ ENDOWMENT

urbanAC
Toni L. Griffin

A Just Public Realm for Pittsburgh

If a region's people are its heart and soul, then its public realm is the lifeblood that keeps it vibrant and alive. It is the spaces where its citizens share and cross paths, play, celebrate, and contemplate. It is the safe, beautiful places where all can be themselves, exercise, heal, learn and soak in all that nature has to offer.

The Heinz Endowments' decades of grantmaking in the public realm arena represents our reverence for free cultural expression, design excellence and the preservation of natural resources and amenities throughout the Pittsburgh region. Much of our grantees' public realm work simultaneously touches all three of our strategic emphasis areas - creativity, learning and sustainability - with every member of our grant-making team involved in this work in some way.

Our grantee applications further highlight the importance of the public realm to Pittsburgh and its surrounding communities. In 2017 alone, the Endowments awarded \$2.5 million for different park, plaza and play spaces that are among the 17 projects underway across the region, requiring nearly \$71 million in total funding from a variety of sources.

It is with this in mind that we conceived of a system by which we determine how to ensure that our investments in the public realm accurately reflect both our values and the needs of the greater Pittsburgh community.

The process for determining this system was inspired by The Heinz Endowments' vision of a [Just Pittsburgh](#), brought to life by our president, Grant Oliphant, with the help of our diverse group of grantees and partners. It is through this lens of a Just Pittsburgh that we embarked on a journey to determine how we best invest in our public realm, and the residents and natural resources that shape it.

The resulting "A Just Public Realm for Pittsburgh" is a living document that will evolve with the input of our grantees, the residents of the region, and the needs necessitated by a changing climate.

What does "A Just Public Realm for Pittsburgh" represent? It is a reflection of our commitment to the values we share as an organization, values that will guide support of projects that incorporate not only design excellence, but also clear plans for positive impact on public life and urban justice.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 | Overview

2 | A Legacy of Investing in Pittsburgh's Public Realm

3 | Today's Public Realm Needs

4 | Our Vision for a Just Public Realm

5 | A Just Public Realm Redefined

6 | A Just Public Realm Framework

7 | Measuring the Impact of Investing in a Just Public Realm

8 | Acknowledgments

Appendix

Resources

THE Grantee Checklist

THE Grant Review Process

1 | Overview

Early in 2016, The Heinz Endowments introduced the concept of a “Just Pittsburgh” to the public as a term to describe some of the major challenges and aspirations for the Pittsburgh region. An unexpectedly widespread conversation was sparked about what the concept represents and our community’s hopes and ambitions for the future.

From the Endowments’ perspective, a Just Pittsburgh would be a place that is unafraid of difference and embraces all with an open heart and mind. It would be intolerant of hiding behind one Pittsburgh that is celebrated in “best of” lists while letting a second Pittsburgh languish in poverty and discrimination. It would value creativity, care about public health, and be attentive to how its residents are faring regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual identity. And it would accept the pain and discomfort of difficult conversations with people whose emotions are raw and deep and real.

Advancing a Just Pittsburgh also has been explicitly integrated into the Endowments’ grantmaking as a guiding principle for all our work, although a core ethical commitment to equity has always been at the heart of the foundation’s mission. We are working to create a just community, and we do that through our focus on the critical pathways of sustainability, creativity and learning.

“If we are willing to dream of a Just Pittsburgh, we can create it — we simply have to want to try.”

*Grant Oliphant, President
The Heinz Endowments*

A Just Public Realm for Pittsburgh has been a six-month planning process to develop a clear and transparent framework for investing in the public realm of Pittsburgh in a just and equitable manner. For the purposes of this study, the geography of Pittsburgh’s public realm is defined as public spaces within the metropolitan region, city of Pittsburgh and its neighborhoods. The Heinz Endowments (“THE”) receives funding requests from government and non-profit entities throughout the Pittsburgh region to support the development, rehabilitation and restoration of public parks, plazas and playing fields and recognizes the importance of public space to neighborhoods and their benefit to residents and visitors. The multitude of public realm projects has made THE consider the need for a comprehensible vision and set of value-based indicators to drive success, and assess the impacts of these projects on Pittsburgh’s global identity, as well as neighborhood and community life.

THE retained the services of Toni, L. Griffin, principal of urbanAC and director of The Just City Lab at Harvard Graduate School of Design to help development this framework. THE’s internal public realm team, in tandem with urbanAC, has worked to define what public realm means to THE, identify values, challenges, and metrics criteria related to the foundation’s public realm investing, and articulate a vision statement that can serve a guide for the projects THE supports. The work is rooted in precedents that include the Just City Index, developed by the Just City Lab, the p4 Performance Measures, THE Just Pittsburgh narratives, and other public space frameworks.

The scope of the six-month planning efforts include:

Convening a Public Realm Cohort: THE convened a public realm committee among its program staff, including representatives from each of the foundation’s core program areas including Sustainability, Creativity, and Learning. In addition to this internal team, four focus group sessions were held with over 40 people representing nonprofits, residents and public officials to promote candid dialogue, insight, and advice on how to structure a vision and related indicator measurements.

Defining Today’s Public Realm: As defined by the cohort, Pittsburgh’s public realm consists of the region’s natural features (including waterways), neighborhood parks, plazas, recreation fields, vacant lands with potential to become useful open spaces, streets, sidewalks, and alleyways, the spaces between buildings, and civic infrastructures. Furthermore, the public realm consists of everyday spaces throughout the region where people of difference find themselves in proximity to one another – either anonymously or by intention.

In addition to the different types of spaces that represent the public realm, important non-spatial elements of a healthy public realm include the intentional consideration of programming, wellbeing, quality of aesthetics, and diverse participation in planning and use.

Prioritizing Today's Public Realm Challenges: There are a number of challenges to consider when assessing the degree to which the public realm impacts the lives of those who interact with it including one's ability to feel safe and well-protected, equitable placement and ease of getting to the space, diversity of decision-makers who control open space, diversity of users, and minimizing the negative impacts of neighborhood changes in population and real estate values as a result of public realm improvements.

Establishing Public Realm Values for Pittsburgh: In 2015, THE's senior leadership with Griffin and the Luma Institute workshopped and defined a set of Just Pittsburgh values that would guide and focus their program areas and investing. Culled from THE's Just Pittsburgh "Sweet 16" values list, THE program staff identified the top eight values they deemed essential to addressing public realm challenges. These values are authenticity, voice, ownership, health, access, diversity, participation, and equity. Five additional values the cohort identified as essential to consider when engaging in public realm work are stewardship (shared humanity, reverence), community (welcoming, togetherness, fellowship), design excellence (innovation), restorative (safety, justice), and democracy (opportunity for free expression).

Future resources of The Heinz Endowments directed to public realm projects should be intrinsically connected to fulfillment of a shared vision for the public realm, embody THE's values, and offer positive strategies to address the stated challenges.

2 | A Legacy of Investing in Pittsburgh's Public Realm

The Heinz Endowments has a long history and connection to the formation of Pittsburgh's public realm. Beginning in 1909, through H. J. Heinz's involvement on the Pittsburgh Civic Commission, the organization responsible for hiring Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. to design some of the city's most signature park spaces; the founding of longstanding civic organizations including the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and the Pittsburgh Planning Association in the 1930s; and more recently through the participation in the acquisition of land to be used for public realm and cultural purposes, including the creation of the Cultural District and the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

THE remains firmly committed to the conservation and restoration of the public realm assets created through their longstanding participation and partnerships. This "Just Public Realm for Pittsburgh" vision document also defines THE's commitment to building upon these legacy investments to create a high quality, accessible, and inclusive public realm system, both in the city and throughout the region.

A LEGACY OF PUBLIC REALM INVESTING AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP

1909

H. J. Heinz was vice chairman of the Pittsburgh Civic Commission, which hired Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. to design parks, public roads, and other improvements for Pittsburgh.

1919

H. J. Heinz willed his mansion and surrounding property to the City as a public park on his death; the City declined to accept to it.

1920s

Howard Heinz chairs the parks subcommittee of the Committee on City Plan, which designs the city's first zoning ordinance and first citywide plan.

1930s

Howard Heinz and Richard B. Mellon found the Pittsburgh Parks and Playground Fund – today it is known as the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy

Howard Heinz founds the Pittsburgh Planning Association, which today is known as the Southwest Pennsylvania Commission – the region's MPO. Howard Heinz chaired it until his death in 1941

1960s

Henry J. Heinz II and his "band of dreamers" begin to plan for a Cultural District in an underinvested part of downtown Pittsburgh.

1971

Heinz Hall opens.

1970s-1980s

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is created and a Cultural District is born. The Heinz Endowments create Penn Liberty Holding Company – a front to buy up land – especially nuisance properties -- in the Cultural District, terminate the leases and flip the property to the Cultural Trust.

3 | Today's Public Realm Needs

The demographics of the city and region continue to shift by race, income and educational attainment. These trends are creating patterns of neighborhood change with both positive and negative impacts. Recent economic growth and reinvestment in the city has brought a wave of new businesses and residents that are in some cases bringing much needed resources and amenities to formerly disinvested communities. However, in other cases, this new investment is contributing to voluntary and involuntary dislocation of residents and businesses and causing friction between populations of different tenure and economic and racial status.

These tensions can often play out in the public realm. However, the public realm provides an opportunity to strengthen community cohesion, civic and environmental sustainability, and improve quality of life, especially for youth and families. As such, investing in Pittsburgh's public realm can and should become an integral part of the region's growth and revitalization strategy. To create a shared vision for Pittsburgh's public realm, we must first direct attention to identifying and prioritizing the most pressing public realm challenges of our time.

During the summer of 2018, four focus groups were convened, each representing a different constituency – THE program staff; residents; nonprofit organizations; and government officials. The groups identified and discussed the following set of challenges related to Operations and Funding; Environmental and Economic Stability and Wellbeing; and Preventing Exclusion:

1. Challenges Related to Operations and Funding

- *Capital & Maintenance Resources*; the lack of sufficient and sustainable sources of operating funding and funding for ongoing maintenance, programming, and outreach
- *Distribution & Access*; the inequitable allocation of and/or ability to get to public open spaces resources
- *Quality of Space*; the lack of well designed, well maintained and well-programmed public open spaces amenities

2. Challenges Related to Environmental and Economic Sustainability and Wellbeing

- *Healthy Bodies*; the need to improve health outcomes, especially for children, low income, and other residents that experience severe health vulnerabilities
- *Safety & Protection*; the need to elevate the real and perceived feelings of property safe keeping; personal safety and belonging; and the ability the feel safeguarded against harm
- *Public vs. Private Ownership*; the equitable levels of funding support and stewardship distributed across both public and privately owned public spaces

3. Challenges Related to Preventing Inclusion

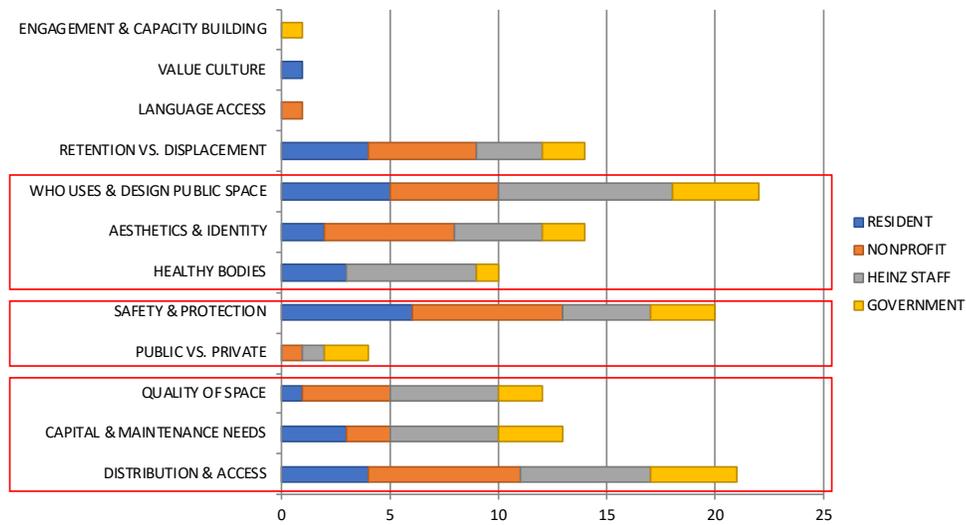
- *Aesthetics & Identity*; the under-representation of multicultural identities expressed through design features, aesthetics and programming
- *Who Uses & Designs Public Space*; the need to understand who does and does not use public open spaces and why; coupled with a review of the diversity of voices involved in the decision-making about public realm design, implementation, and operations
- *Retention vs. Displacement*; as investments in the public realm have the potential to elevate property values and attract new residents, existing communities fear the potential for involuntary dislocation

Each focus group then ranked the challenges by level of importance and urgency. THE's program staff and government groups ranks **Who Uses & Designs Public Space** as one of their top two challenges; while **Safety and Protection** ranked highest among the resident and nonprofit focus groups. The nonprofit and government groups also ranked **Distribution & Access** among their top two challenges.

Other challenges rounding out the highest ranked include **Aesthetics & Identity**; **Retention vs. Displacement**; and **Capital & Maintenance Needs**. Some focus groups identified additional challenges to consider including:

- **Community Engagement and Capacity Building**; the lack of sufficient expertise and capacity to conduct meaningful involvement of local communities in the design and stewardship of the public realm
- **"Value" Culture**; the lack of respect for and value of the public realm as an important regional, citywide, and neighborhood asset
- **Language Access**; the lack of appropriate signage and other apparatus that caters to multilingual communities

Figure 1: Summary Table of Focus Group Ranking of Public Realm Challenges



4 | Our Vision for a Just Public Realm

The Heinz Endowments pursues the creation of welcoming, well-designed public spaces, and the conservation of natural resources that serve as our collective community commons, by breaking down social, economic and environmental barriers so that all can enjoy thriving habitats, personal health and community well-being.

*The Heinz Endowments' Vision Statement for a Just Public Realm
Fall, 2018*

The vision statement above has been drafted and redrafted as a result of focus group input from members of The Heinz Endowments' program staff, as well as government, non-profit, and resident stakeholders. Each of the Endowments' three program areas (Sustainability, Creativity and Learning) touch upon aspects of the public realm, whether through sustainable design and contraction practices, innovative design solutions, or inclusive activity and educational programming.

As such, THE leadership recognizes the need to create a clear vision about the future of Pittsburgh's public realm and the foundation's ongoing role in supporting these spaces. During one of three focus groups with program staff, 13 different vision statements were created. Each staff member had the opportunity to draft a vision statement that embodied his/her aspiration for Pittsburgh's public realm and its users. From those statements, shared themes emerged including beauty, place, wellbeing, restorative and engagement, community-building, and safety. These themes, plus recommendations to also highlight people and the need to overcome conditions of injustice, ultimately influenced the vision statement above.

Figure 2: The Heinz Endowments Program Staff Vision Statement Themes



5 | A Just Public Realm Redefined

Planning for the public realm is not new to Pittsburgh. Both at the regional and citywide scale, there are current planning frameworks and regulatory plans that describe the public realm and outline policies and strategies for creating a healthy and safe environment and places to play and convene. Studying these existing frameworks reveals that the public realm of Pittsburgh is made up of many types of public spaces. As such, they demand different types of “just interventions” based on their scale, geography, programming, landscape, users, and ownership. The existing frameworks identified over 20 different types of public spaces. This report proposes that these spaces be organized into three broad categories three categories, - Legacy Parks & Natural Assets; Community Commons and Civic Infrastructures. The types of spaces that align with each of these categories is outlined in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3: The Heinz Endowments Proposed Public Realm Project Types



The focus groups discuss their long-term aspirations for each type of public realm spaces as a part of creating the Just Public Realm vision. From a longer list of possible indicators (see Appendix B), the participants selected the following desired outcomes:

Desired Outcomes for Legacy Parks and Natural Assets

- Increase diversity of park users
- Increase opportunities to expand diverse cultural and historic narratives and programming
- Increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in park design and construction contracting
- Increase opportunities to integrate creative perspectives and design excellence early in the design process

Desired Outcomes for Community Commons

- Increase number of shared spaces and programming that promote inclusion and welcome for all
- Increase opportunities to expand diverse cultural and historic narratives
- Reduce number of blighted vacant properties
- Increase the number and capacity of community stewards
- Increase implementation of multifunctional green infrastructure applications
- Reduce number of reported crimes in public spaces
- Increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in design and construction contracting

- Increase opportunities to integrate creative perspectives and design excellence early in the design process

Desired Outcomes for Civic Infrastructures

- Increase pedestrian safety measures
- Reduce number of reported crimes in public spaces
- Increase activation of infrastructure
- Increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in infrastructure design and construction contracting
- Increase opportunities to integrate creative perspectives and design excellence early in the design process

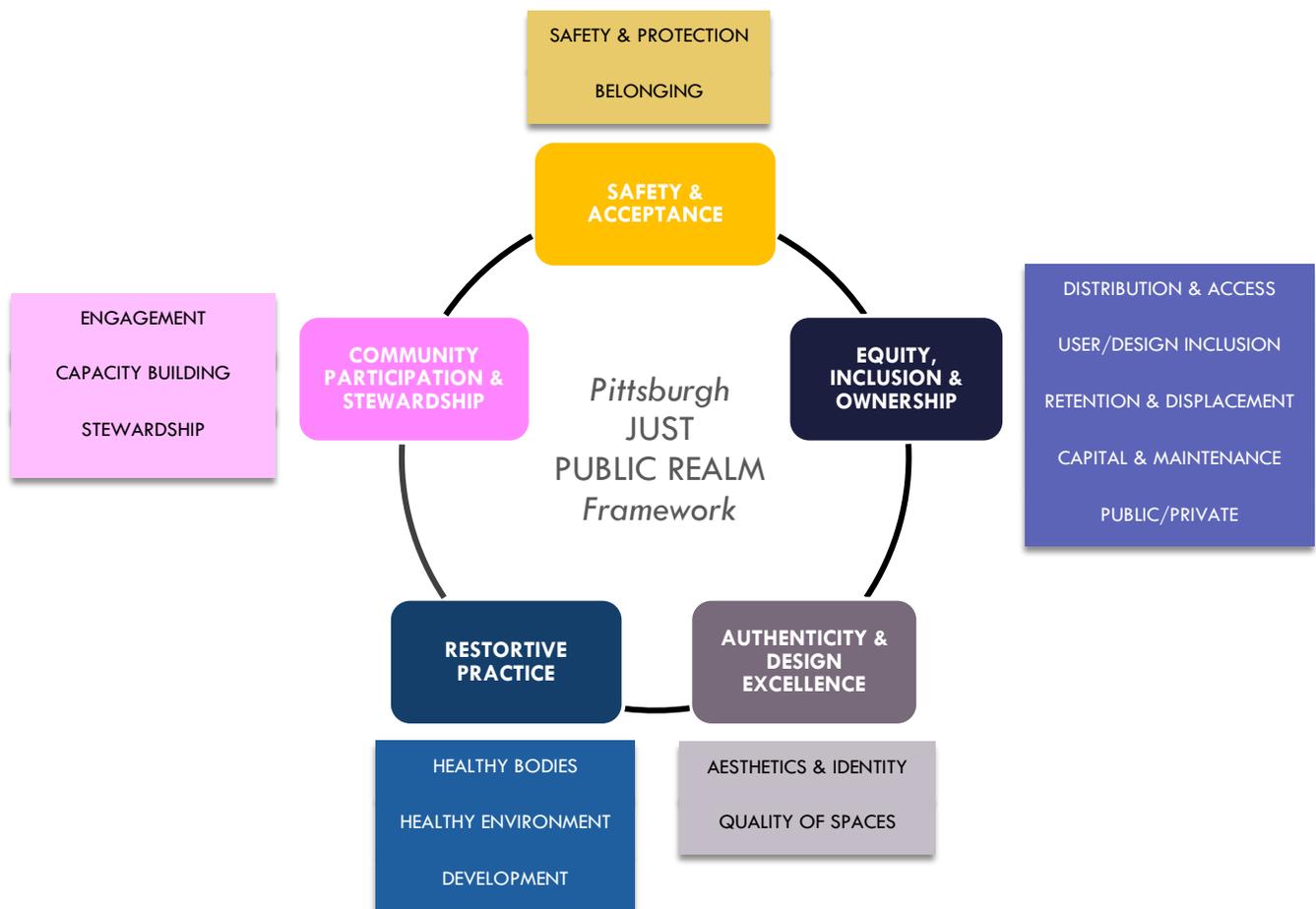
6 | A Just Public Realm Framework

The Heinz Endowments believes that a Just Pittsburgh is rooted in the values of fairness, acceptance, engagement, choice, welfare, rights, and identity, and therefore believes that strategic investments in the city and region’s public realm assets can help to realize these values and positively impact communities. In response to today’s opportunities and challenges facing the portfolio of legacy parks, community commons, and civic infrastructures, a clear and intentional framework is needed that addresses not only physical improvements, but issues of environmental and human wellbeing, inclusive participation, equitable development, and design excellence.

As such, THE has created the Public Realm Indicator Framework (PRIF), a tool to help articulate the foundation’s priority values in alignment with each of the three public realm types – Legacy Parks, Community Commons, and Civic Infrastructures. The PRIF operationalizes the Just Public Realm vision statement and is intended as an internal tool to help staff better prioritize and coordinate public realm investments across program areas. The PRIF is also intended to be used with external audiences as a way to clearly articulate THE’s intended outcomes for investing in the public realm. In this way, the PRIF should also be helpful to potential grantees by providing additional clarity about how a project might best addressed THE’s stated desired outcomes, values, indicators.

The PRIF is based on the focus group discussions that considered a range of values, indicators, the prioritization of public realm challenges, and desired outcomes for a Just Public Realm. The PRIF prioritizes 5 core Just Public Realm Values, each with a specific set of indicators as described in Figure 4 below. At a later date, THE may consider developing metrics for each indicator as a tool to help track both the progress and success of its public realm investments.

Figure 4: Proposed Pittsburgh Public Realm Indicator Framework (PRIF)



SAFETY & ACCEPTANCE

Safety and Protection

An environment that minimizes threats to physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing where beings are kept from harm or loss

Belonging

The provision to feel accepted, comfortable, and free from exclusion in the public realm despite age, gender, race, sexuality, income, or citizenship

EQUITY, INCLUSION & OWNERSHIP

Distribution and Access

The geographic allocation of public open spaces in a manner that brings the greatest benefits to a community with convenient proximity to, quality of, and connectivity to public realm amenities, accessible via multiple modes of pedestrian, vehicular and public transportation

(Community = all civic sectors including but not limited to residents, private, public, nonprofit, faith based, and institutions)

User and Design/Construction Inclusion

The acceptance and valuing of difference and the intention to involve diverse populations, opinions, attitudes, cultures, and behaviors in the use, design, construction, and management of the public realm

Retention versus Displacement

The ability to have a stake in neighborhood property and processes that promote the ability to thrive physically, economically, socially, culturally, and civically in place without involuntary dislocation

Capital and Maintenance Resources

The access to capital and sustainable long-term maintenance and operational funding distributed equitably across all geographies

Public | Private Ownership

The sharing of property and process control between the public, private, nonprofit, and community sectors in a manner that retains the right to publicly accessible open spaces.

AUTHENTICITY & DESIGN EXCELLENCE

Aesthetics and Identity

The recognition, preservation, and elevation of characteristics that are genuine to the culture of the region, city, and its neighborhoods, enhanced through design ingenuity, design thinking, and creative collaboration to produce exceptional public spaces

Quality of Space

Everyone's right to well-designed and well-maintained public spaces and environments that enhance distinct features or attributes of the region, city, and neighborhoods

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Healthy Bodies

A state of physical, mental, and social wellbeing that supports the presence of happiness, enjoyment, activity, and peace of mind.

Healthy Environment

A state of environmental wellbeing that supports the reduction of contamination and deterioration, or depletion of resources while not being harmful to social wellbeing

Development

The removal or replacement of harmful and exclusionary development practices and interventions that deepen social or spatial injustice in the public realm.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND STEWARDSHIP

Engagement

An environment that promotes collective groups from all civic sectors to build shared pride and goals around common interests, reconciling different points of view, and accepting different cultural norms into decision-making, design, and programming processes

Civic Capacity & Partnerships

The ability, rights, and capability of an individual or group to make decisions and take actions on behalf of their own interests – alone or in collaboration with others

7 | Measuring the Impact of Investing in a Just Public Realm

The PRIF is a tool intended to help The Heinz Endowments make more focused and strategic grantmaking decisions aligned with their values and vision for a Just Pittsburgh and a Just Public Realm. The PRIF is also intended to help make THE's interest in the public realm more transparent to potential grantees for better alignment of shared interests and ultimately better public realm outcomes.

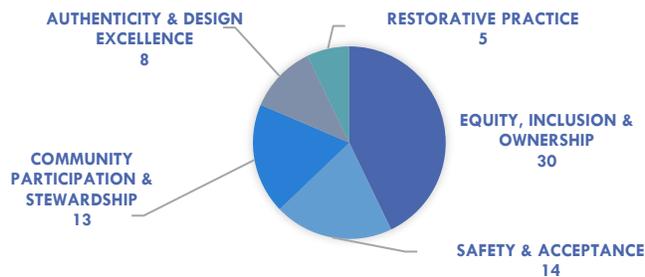
The focus groups spent time discussing the relationship between the PRIF values and indicators and the different public realm types – Legacy parks & Natural Assets, Community Commons, and Civic Infrastructures. Depending on the project type, focus group participants ranked PRIF values and indicators in order of importance. Participants ranked **1) Equity, Inclusion & Ownership; 2) Authenticity & Design Excellence; and 3) Restorative Practice** as the three most important values for Legacy Parks. However, **1) Equity, Inclusion & Ownership; 2) Safety & Protection; and 3) Community Participation & Stewardship** were the top three values for Community Commons and Civic Infrastructure.

All participants prioritized indicators that described an increase in programming and design features that promote diverse cultural narratives, programming, and aesthetics within all public realm project types. Participants also support metrics that track MBE/WBE participation in contracting and procurement for design, pre-development, and construction phases of all public realm projects. Public Safety and Community Stewardship were discussed and ranked high as important metrics for Community Commons and Civic Infrastructures. It is important to note that participants did not prioritize Restorative Practice for Community Commons and Civic Infrastructures. This might suggest additional public awareness is needed to elevate THE's p4 sustainability agenda as a part of its public real investing. The ranking of values and indicators for each project type is summarized below.

For **Community Commons** spaces, focus group participants ranked the indicators in the following priority:

RANKED VALUES	PRIORITY INDICATORS
1. Equity, Inclusion and Ownership	Distribution & Access Retention vs. Displacement Capital & Maintenance Resources
2. Safety and Acceptance	Safety & Protection Belonging
3. Community Participation and Stewardship	Engagement Capacity Building & Partnerships
4. Authenticity and Design Excellence	
5. Restorative Practice	

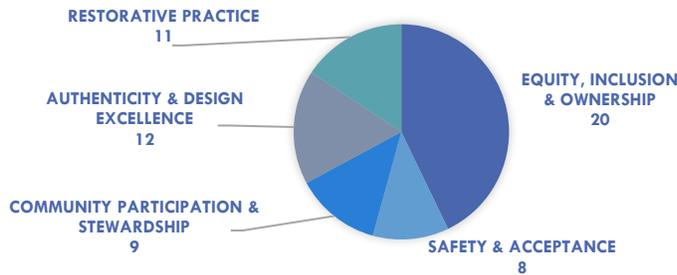
Figure 5: Ranking of Indicators for Community Commons



For **Legacy Park & Natural Asset** spaces, focus group participants ranked the indicators in the following priority:

RANKED VALUES	PRIORITY INDICATORS
1. Safety and Acceptance	
2. Equity, Inclusion and Ownership	Distribution & Access
3. Authenticity and Design Excellence	Quality of Space
4. Restorative Practice	Healthy Bodies
5. Community Participation and Stewardship	

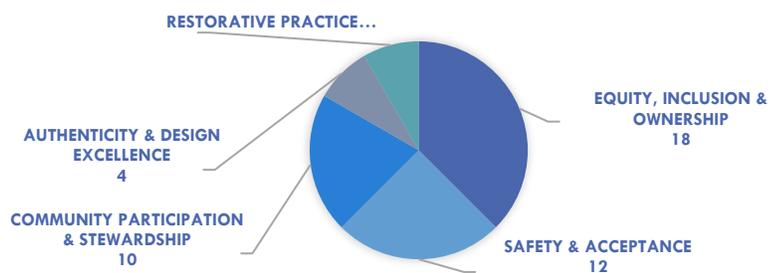
Figure 6: Ranking of Indicators for Legacy Parks & Natural Assets



For **Civic Infrastructure** spaces, focus group participants ranked the indicators in the following priority:

RANKED VALUES	PRIORITY INDICATORS
1. Equity, Inclusion and Ownership	Distribution & Access User and Design/Construction Inclusion Capital & Maintenance Resources
2. Safety and Acceptance	Safety & Protection Belonging
3. Community Participation and Stewardship	
4. Restorative Practice	
5. Authenticity and Design Excellence	

Figure 7: Ranking of Indicators for Civic Infrastructure



8 | Acknowledgments

The Heinz Endowments

Karen V. Abrams
Carmen A. Anderson
Megan N. Andros
Matthew Barron
Michelle M. Figlar
Mac Howison
Phillip R. S. Johnson
Kathleen Keating
Shaunda McDill
Andrew McElwaine
Scott Roller
Janet I. Sarbaugh
Rob Stephany
Stanley W. Thompson

Resident Focus Group Participants

Chuck Alcorn
Jmar Bey
Jose Diaz
Alyssa Lyon
Andrew McCray
Zinna Scott
Sueno Viveros
Tiffany Wilhelm

Nonprofit Focus Group Participants

Scott Bofinger, Community Design Center of Pittsburgh
Scott Bricker, BikePGH
Brian Brown, Green Building Alliance
Ariam Ford, Grounded Strategies
Jeimy Ibarra, Casa San Jose
Divya Heffley, Office of Public Art
Shad Henderson, Neighborhood Allies
Sally Anne Kluz, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council
Jennifer Rafanan Kennedy, Pittsburgh United
Heather Sage, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Ciora Thomas, SisTersPGH

Government Focus Group Participants

Marti Battistone, City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning
Andrew Dash, City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning

Ross Chapman, CitiParks, City of Pittsburgh Parks & Recreation
Andrea Elcock, Port Authority of Allegheny County
Andrea Ketzel, City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning
Shatara Murphy, Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety
Susheela Nemani Stanger, Urban Redevelopment Authority Pittsburgh
Mary Taylor, Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh

CONSULTANT

Toni L. Griffin, urbanAC

PHOTO CREDIT

Pittsburgh Park Conservancy

Appendix

Appendix A

Public Space Impacts

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b5dfb72697a9837b1f6751b/t/5b7d8b0cf950b77b3b54bc6c/1534954270096/PublicLifeUrbanJustice.pdf>

<https://centerforactivedesign.org/dl/?assembly-guidelines>

<https://www.designcouncil.org.uk/sites/default/files/asset/document/the-value-of-public-space1.pdf>

<https://davidsuzuki.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/impact-green-space-heat-air-pollution-urban-communities.pdf>

Healthy Cities

https://gehl institute.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Inclusive-Healthy-Places_Gehl-Institute.pdf

https://res.mdpi.com/ijerph/ijerph-15-00445/article_deploy/ijerph-15-00445-v4.pdf?filename=&attachment=1

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/68c9/16cab0601949c94159b4b9b4f8a3b9d265cb.pdf>

Access

https://res.mdpi.com/ijerph/ijerph-14-01546/article_deploy/ijerph-14-01546.pdf?filename=&attachment=1

Women's and Girls Safety

<https://www.researchtrend.net/ijet/pdf/59-%20109.pdf>

Air quality

https://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Publications_and_Research/Research/Papers/Nowak-Heisler-Summary.pdf

<https://davidsuzuki.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/impact-green-space-heat-air-pollution-urban-communities.pdf>

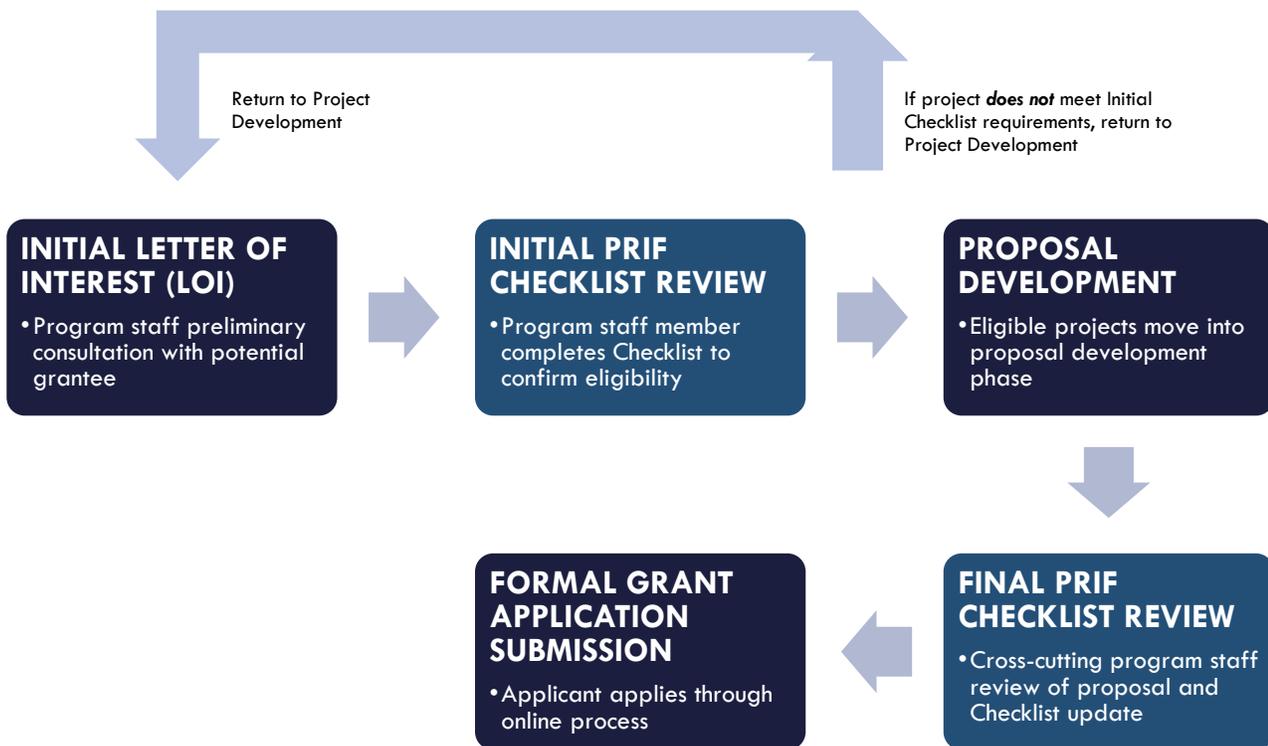
Appendix B

Integrating the Framework into Grantmaking Process

Program staff discussions also included the need to develop protocols for using the indicator framework as an active part of their process to review and approve grant proposals for the public realm. The staff was interested in tools to assist with the following grantmaking steps:

1. informal engagements with potential grantees during the proposal development phase;
2. internal staff discussions both within and cutting across the Creativity, Learning and Sustainability program areas; and
3. formal review of grants applications.

Figure 9: Proposal Development and Program Staff PRIF Review Process



Appendix C

Pittsburgh Public Realm Grantee Checklist

A Guide to Aligning Public Realm Grantmaking to Just Pittsburgh Values, Outcomes and Impacts

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION
Revised, NOVEMBER 2018

The Heinz Endowments pursues the creation of welcoming, well-designed public spaces, and the conservation of natural resources that serve as our collective community commons, by breaking down social, economic and environmental barriers so that all can enjoy thriving habitats, personal health and community well-being.

*The Heinz Endowments Vision Statement for a Just Public Realm
Fall, 2018*

PROJECT TYPE

1. Which project type category does your project fit into?

PUBLIC REALM PROGRAM	
LEGACY PARKS <i>Includes regional parks, natural resources, campuses and riverfront parks</i>	
COMMUNITY COMMONS <i>Includes neighborhood and community parks, public school spaces, public plazas, privately-owned public spaces, beautification sites, distressed lands, green-up sites, gardens and urban agriculture sites</i>	
CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURES <i>Includes greenways, bikeways, nature trails, public stairways</i>	

PROJECT OUTCOMES

2. How might your project help to advance sustainable short or long term outcomes that advance the vision for the Pittsburgh’s Public Realm? Work with the potential grantee to identify the desired outcomes that best align with their project.

(Yellow highlighted indicators are the highest ranking from focus group participants)

LEGACY PARKS	
• Restoration of all regional parks	
• Restorative and protection measures for distressed natural areas	
• Increase diversity of park users	
• Increase diversity of public park programming	
• Increase diversity of design and construction contracting	
• Increase opportunities to expand cultural and historic narratives	
• Addition of instruments to measure air quality	
• Unified park management	
• Consistent and dedicated funding resources	

COMMUNITY COMMONS	
• Improved neighborhood and community park	
• Improved quality of public right-of-ways	
• Increased number of shared spaces and programming that promote inclusion and welcome for all	
• Increased diversity of public realm programming	
• Increase opportunities to expand cultural and historic narratives	
• Reduced number of blighted vacant properties	
• Increased number of community stewards	
• Increased installations of multifunctional green infrastructure	
• Increase diversity of design and construction contracting	
• Increased civic capacity to support public realm stewardship	
• Consistent and dedicated funding resources	

CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURES	
• Increased number and continuity of bike and greenways	
• Increased public safety	
• Increased pedestrian safety measures	
• Increase activation of infrastructure “underways”	
• Restoration of public stairways	
• Increase diversity of design and construction contracting	

PROJECT VALUES

3. Which Just Pittsburgh Public Realm Value(s) does your project address?

Work with the potential grantee to identify the values that best align with their project. Modify or add to the value definition if it furthers the intent of the value.

1. SAFETY & ACCEPTANCE	
<p>1A. Safety and Protection <i>An environment that minimizes threats to physical, mental and emotional wellbeing where beings are kept from harm</i></p>	
<p>1B. Belonging <i>The provision to feel accepted, comfortable and free from exclusion in the public realm despite age, gender, race, sexuality, income or citizenship.</i></p>	
2. EQUITY, INCLUSION & OWNERSHIP	
<p>2A. Distribution and Access <i>The geographic allocation of public open spaces in a manner that brings the greatest benefits to a community with convenient proximity to, quality of and connectivity to public realm amenities, accessible via multiple modes of pedestrian and vehicular transport</i></p> <p><i>(Community members = all civic sectors including but not limited to residents, private, public, nonprofit, faith based and institutions)</i></p>	
<p>2B. User and Design/Construction Inclusion <i>The acceptance and valuing of difference and the intention to involve diverse populations, opinions, attitudes, cultures and behaviors in the use, design, construction and management of the public realm</i></p>	
<p>2C. Retention versus Displacement <i>The ability to have a stake in neighborhood property and processes that promote the ability to thrive physically, economically, socially, culturally and civically in place without involuntary dislocation</i></p>	
<p>2D. Capital and Maintenance Resources <i>The access to capital and sustainable long-term maintenance and operational funding distributed equitably across all geographies</i></p>	
<p>2E. Public Private Ownership <i>The sharing of property and process control between the public, private, nonprofit and community sectors in a manner that retains the right to publicly accessible open spaces.</i></p>	

3. AUTHENTICITY & DESIGN EXCELLENCE	
<p>3A. Aesthetics and Identity <i>The recognition, preservation and elevation of characteristics that are genuine to the culture of the region, city and its neighborhoods, enhanced through design ingenuity, design thinking and creative collaboration to produce exceptional public spaces</i></p>	
<p>3B. Quality of Space <i>Everyone’s right to well-designed and well-maintained public spaces and environments that enhance distinct features or attributes of the region, city and neighborhoods</i></p>	
4. RESTORATIVE PRACTICE	
<p>4A. Healthy Bodies <i>A state of physical, mental, and social wellbeing that supports the presence of happiness and enjoyment.</i></p>	
<p>4B. Healthy Environment <i>A state of environmental wellbeing that supports the reduction of contamination and deterioration, or depletion of resources while not being harmful to social wellbeing</i></p>	
<p>4C. Restorative Development <i>The removal or replacement of harmful and exclusionary development practices and interventions that deepen social or spatial injustice in the public realm.</i></p>	
5. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND STEWARDSHIP	
<p>5A. Engagement <i>An environment that promotes collective groups from all civic sectors to build shared pride and goals around common interests, reconciling different points of view, and accepting different cultural norms into decision-making, design and programming processes</i></p>	
<p>5B. Civic Capacity & Partnerships <i>The ability, rights a capability of an individual or group to make decisions and take actions on behalf of their own interests – along or in collaboration with others</i></p>	

PROJECT VALUES & WEIGHTING BY PROJECT TYPE

Depending on the project type, values and indicators have been prioritized in order of importance, informed by focus group discussions. THE program staff may provide a score of (1) to each value and associated indicators that applies to the project and then multiply that indicator by the recommended weigh assigned below.

COMMUNITY COMMONS

COMMUNITY COMMONS		WEIGHTED
EQUITY, INCLUSION & OWNERSHIP	30	x 5
SAFETY & ACCEPTANCE	14	x 3
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND STEWARDSHIP	13	x 3
AUTHENTICITY & DESIGN EXCELLENCE	8	x 1
RESTORATIVE PRACTICE	5	x 1

LEGACY PARKS

LEGACY PARKS		WEIGHTED
EQUITY, INCLUSION & OWNERSHIP	20	x 5
AUTHENTICITY & DESIGN EXCELLENCE	12	x 3
RESTORATIVE PRACTICE	11	x 3
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND STEWARDSHIP	9	x 1
SAFETY & ACCEPTANCE	8	x 1

CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURES

CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURES		WEIGHTED
2. EQUITY, INCLUSION & OWNERSHIP	18	x 5
1. SAFETY & ACCEPTANCE	12	x 3
5. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND STEWARDSHIP	10	x 3
3. AUTHENTICITY & DESIGN EXCELLENCE	4	x 1
4. RESTORATIVE PRACTICE	4	x 1

PROJECT METRICS

At a later date THE’s program staff will review and identify the most useful metrics to be used by THE and its grantees to evaluate the progress and success of its investments. The metrics below are draft and in progress.

1 | SAFETY & ACCEPTANCE

1A. Safety and Protection <i>An environment that minimizes threats to physical, mental and emotional wellbeing where all are kept from harm or loss, and freedom from exclusion</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in crime rates in public spaces, • Reduction of crime in adjacent neighborhoods • A well-lit public realm • Removal/elimination of physical barriers • Community policing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Park crime rates 2. Neighborhood crime rates 3. Presence of fences, gates, locks or other barriers 4. Public surveillance equipment 5. Hours of operation 6. Pedestrian lighting levels/presence of blind spots 7. Pedestrian accidents

1B. Belonging <i>The provision to feel accepted and comfortable in the public realm despite age, gender, race, sexuality, income or citizenship.</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased interactions among people of difference in the public realm 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. User counts by race, age, gender, etc. 2. Hate crimes 3. Police fatalities 4. Crime rates 5. Multicultural events 6. Multicultural youth events

2 | EQUITY, INCLUSION & OWNERSHIP

2A. Distribution and Access <i>The geographic allocation of public open spaces in a manner that brings the greatest benefits to a community with convenient proximity to, quality of and connectivity to public realm amenities. (Community = all civic sectors including but not limited to residents, private, public, nonprofit, faith based and institutions)</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased acreage of public realm throughout the region, city, neighborhood Improved 10-minute walking distance access to quality public space Diverse of program offerings Improved connections between public parks Improved access for all abilities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acres of public open space by neighborhood; by regional municipality Public realm walking radii Bike, Trail and Greenway mileage completed ADA accessibility

2B. User and Design/Construction Inclusion <i>The acceptance and valuing of difference and the intention to involve diverse populations, opinions, attitudes, cultures and behaviors in the use, design, construction and management of the public realm</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased user demographics by race, age, income Reduction of Dissimilarity index Racial and gender diversity of design, construction and maintenance contractors/consultants 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> User counts by race, age, income MBE/WBE contracting and hiring provisions Organizational leadership diversity Programming by cultural theme Programming by audience type Seasonal programming

2C. Retention versus Displacement <i>The ability to have a stake in neighborhood property and processes that promote the ability to thrive Physically, economically, socially, culturally and civically in place without involuntary dislocation</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased retention of existing adjacent businesses Increased retention of existing residents Increase in mixed-income, racially-mixed neighborhoods Stabilized communities of color 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial retail occupancy Commercial business ownership Home ownership rates by race Home sales Rehab and new construction permits Population growth or decline by race Population income by race Residential housing affordability Commercial lease affordability

2D. Capital and Maintenance Resources <i>The access to capital and sustainable long-term maintenance and operational funding distributed equitably across all geographies</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative capital investments by neighborhoods; by municipality • Comparative maintenance resources availability by public realm type/by neighborhood; by municipality • Distribution of funding sources (public, private, philanthropic) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comparative Capital funding budgets 2. Comparative Maintenance funding budgets

2E. Public Private Ownership <i>The sharing of property and process control between the public, private, nonprofit and community sectors in a manner that retains the right to publicly accessible open spaces.</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased shared ownership and stewardship of public realm spaces • Uniform operational and accessibility standards for privately-owned or community-owned (nonprofit) public spaces 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of privately-owned public spaces 2. Number of community-owned public spaces 3. Operational compliance reporting 4. Number of public/private/community partnerships

3 | AUTHENTICITY & DESIGN EXCELLENCE

3A. Aesthetics and Identity <i>The recognition, preservation and elevation of characteristics that are genuine to the culture of the region, city and its neighborhoods, enhanced through design ingenuity, design thinking and creative collaboration to produce exceptional public spaces</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased presence of cultural and heritage representation • Increased multilingual signage • Increased cultural landscape historic designations • Increased involved by local, national and international designers • Increased artists of color • Increased civic pride across all population demographics 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cultural histories represented 2. Number of design competitions 3. Multilingual signage installations 4. Number of new art installations 5. Number of artists of color installations

3B. Quality of Space <i>Everyone’s right to well-designed and well-maintained public spaces and environments that enhance distinct features or attributes of the region, city and neighborhoods</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elevated design excellence Increased design competitions Increased cleanliness 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cleanliness Maintenance schedule Trash receptacle count Site furnishings count Tree canopy

4 | RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

4A. Healthy Bodies <i>A state of physical, mental, and social wellbeing that supports the presence of happiness and enjoyment.</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased time spent outdoors Reduction in obesity rates in adjacent neighborhood Reduction in asthma rates in adjacent neighborhood Reduction in bike-pedestrian accidents 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Obesity rates Asthma rates Bike traffic counts Programming counts Time spent outdoors

4B. Healthy Environment <i>A state of environmental wellbeing that supports the reduction of contamination and deterioration, or depletion of resources while not being harmful to social wellbeing</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced incidents of flooding Increased tree canopy Improved air quality 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality Water quality Green infrastructure installations CSO incidents that exceed capacity Tree canopy coverage Urban agriculture/community garden permits

4C. RESTORATIVE DEVELOPMENT <i>The removal or replacement of harmful and exclusionary development practices and interventions that deepen social or spatial injustice in the public realm.</i>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing racial segregation in public spaces Increasing the number of mixed-income, racially-mixed neighborhoods surrounding public space Removal of exclusionary and discriminatory public space laws 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> ADA accessibility Privately owned public space (POPs) regulations Public space city ordinances

5 | COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION & STEWARDSHIP

<p>5A. Engagement <i>An environment that promotes collective groups from all civic sectors to build shared pride and goals around common interests, reconciling different points of view, and accepting different cultural norms into decision-making, design and programming processes.</i></p>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in engagement events before during and after the design process • Increased number of program and events • Increased use of public spaces 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participatory engagement processes executed 2. Number of events and programming 3. User demographics

<p>5B. Civic Capacity & Partnerships <i>The ability, rights and capability of an individual or group to make decisions and take actions on behalf of their own interests – alone or in collaboration with other.</i></p>	
<i>Desired Outcomes</i>	<i>Proposed Metrics</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased stewardship through local organization partnerships • Increased resident participation in project leadership roles or local hiring • Increased number of local organizations with the capacity to design, build, and/or maintain public spaces • Increased number of community clean-ups 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community partnerships 2. Diverse local representation on project boards, panels, committees, etc. 3. Number of community-led public realm projects 4. Operational/capacity-building support to local organizations 5. Number of community clean-ups