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PILOT COURSE: Session Summaries

Session 1- The BIG Picture- Planning in the City

November 4, 6:00-9:00pm

Unit 1: What is Planning? Gain an understanding of the historical forces that have shaped Philadelphia and how planning continues to influence decision-making in the city. Everyone is a planner- in the sense that we all prepare for the future. Learn the tools and principles city planners use to assess current conditions, chart a future vision, and get things done. You will draw an 'ordering' map of your neighborhood to understand and assess the elements of your neighborhood's "sense of place".

Gregory L. Heller- Managing Director, Economic Growth & Community Revitalization, The Enterprise Center CDC, 4548 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA. 19139

Unit 2: The Work of the Planning Commission. Learn about the Philadelphia City Planning Commission- the distinct functions within the PCPC, what role it plays and how other city agencies work with it. You will get a preview of the city-wide comprehensive plan- **Philadelphia 2035**- and understand how the various goals and strategies will be implemented over the next 25 years. You will also learn how citizens will be involved in developing Strategic District Plans over the next five years. Examples of neighborhood plans will be available with resources on how to implement one for your community.

Rick Redding- Director, Community Planning Division, Philadelphia City Planning Commission, 1515 Arch Street, 13th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Session 2- Land Use and Zoning 101

November 11, 6:00-9:00pm

Unit 1: How Zoning is a Good Tool of Planning. Understand the origins and reasons for zoning as a tool of planning. Visual examples will illustrate what physical parameters are regulated by zoning. You will identify the circumstances in which the community has a right to respond to proposed development.

Thomas P. Witt, Attorney, Cozen O'Conner, 1900 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA. 19103

Unit 2: Zoning in Philadelphia. Gain an understanding of reasons for zoning code reform, including preserving neighborhood character and creating a clear, transparent and easily navigated process to encourage economic growth.

Kiki Bolender, Schade and Bolender Architects, LLP, 2118 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Session 3- The Development Process & Panel Discussion

November 18, 6:00-9:00pm

Unit 1: The Development Process. Understand how public and private development has shaped our communities and how policy and incentives influence the types of development. The roles and relationships of all stakeholders in the development process will be outlined and you will "walk" through the development process in your chosen role. You will learn to recognize the elements of a high quality project design.

Anuj Gupta- Chief of Staff/Deputy Commissioner, Department of Licenses & Inspections, 1401 JFK Blvd., 11th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Brett Martin- Department of Licenses & Inspections

Unit 2: Civic Organizations & Best Practices. A moderated panel of leaders representing the civic voice in neighborhood development will share stories of positive change and lessons learned. Q&A will focus on how to improve the quality of community involvement.

Moderator: Rick Sauer, Executive Director, Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations, 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1600, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Panelists:

Andy Toy- Director of the Retail Resource Network , The Enterprise Center, 4548 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19139

Larry Freedman- Northern Liberties Neighbors Association, 700 N. 3rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Patricia DeCarlo, Executive Director, Norris Square Civic Association, 149 Susquehanna Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19122

Penelope Giles- Founder, Executive Director/President, Francisville Neighborhood Development Corporation, 1729 Wylie Street, Philadelphia, PA 19130