

Harrison Neighborhood Guiding Principles

Harrison Neighborhood Guiding Principles for the Redevelopment of the Bassett Creek Valley

Guiding Principles for the redevelopment of the Bassett Creek Valley (BCV): voted on at a Harrison Neighborhood Community meeting February 28, 2005 and voted and adopted by the Harrison Neighborhood Association Board of Directors on March 14, 2005 and voted and adopted by the BCV Redevelopment Oversight Committee (ROC) on September 13, 2005.

We support redevelopment that does the following:

Overarching Guiding Principle: We, the people of Harrison, view the redevelopment of the BCV as an opportunity to improve the lives of the people who currently live and work in the Harrison Neighborhood. We will not support redevelopment which does not benefit the existing community. Sixty-six percent of us are people of color; sixty-three percent of our children live in poverty; and nearly a quarter of us speak a language other than English at home.

RESIDENTIAL/HOUSING

Redevelopment shall:

- Preserve and improve existing housing in the BCV area while safeguarding against displacement and gentrification.
- Create a wide variety of new housing options – both single family and multi-family, both ownership and rental – at a mix of affordability levels to meet the housing needs of future – but especially current – residents.

ECONOMIC

- Provide long- and short-term living wage jobs for area residents.
- Create work opportunities and resources for existing businesses in Harrison, with an emphasis on those that are minority- and female-owned.

- Establish links between educations/job training resources and neighborhood residents, including youth, to enhance employment opportunities.
- Set minority and female construction participation goals above City minimums; provide for the necessary outreach to attain these goals.

ENVIRONMENT

- Improve the air, water and land quality with the Bassett Creek Valley. This is to be achieved through permitting, monitoring and regulation all industrial pollution in the BCV; this is also to be achieved through incorporating green space in to each industrial site in a way that reduces run-off, pollution and litter.
- Increase public access to new and existing green spaces within the BCV and adjacent areas by creating north and south open space corridors.
- Project the ecological integrity of the creek and surrounding wildlife habitat by restoring Bassett's Creek to a more natural and meandering route.
- Use green building materials made with safe building materials.

QUALITY OF LIFE/COMMUNITY

- Address the basic retail and service needs of the people who live and work in and around the Harrison Neighborhood.
- Support HNA in creating a “sense of place” in the Bassett Creek Valley and within the larger neighborhood that reaches across culture and economic classes.
- Create designs that are pedestrian friendly and fully accessible – that inhibit crime and improve the sense of safety.
- Improve linkages to other parts of the city and surrounding areas.