

**Welcome to the February Community Meeting**  
**2/6/2024**  
**at West Penn Rec Center - 450 30th St**  
**and online thru Zoom**



# Welcome to our new Board Member, Dan Berg

Dan shared interest in joining the board and was nominated/voted in at our last board meeting as an interim director for 2024.

Dan's focus is going to be fundraising and he's been a great addition already!



# Herron Station Busway Project Updates

## HERRON STATION AREA PLAN



The final Herron Station plan is ready!  
Attend one of the meetings below to learn more!

### Community Meetings

~~Jan 31 at 5:30~~ ~~Strip District~~  
~~Neighbors~~

Feb 6 at 6:30 **Polish Hill**  
**Civic Association**

Feb 8 at 6:30 **Lawrenceville**  
**United**

### Online Meetings

**Thursday,**  
**February 15th**  
**6:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

PRT is hosting an online meeting to present the final Herron Station Area Plan! The meeting will be held via Zoom, to register, visit the website link below.

Join by phone by calling  
646-558-8656.  
Meeting ID: 821 1872 4307

Questions? Visit us at: [engage.rideprt.org/herron](https://engage.rideprt.org/herron)

# Herron Station Busway Project Updates

Representatives from  
Pittsburgh Regional Transit  
helped to answer q's following  
their presentation (thank you!!).

For more information, visit:  
<https://engage.rideprt.org/herron>

\*\*\*And, check out a 10-minute  
PennDOT TRID tutorial here:  
[https://www.dot.state.pa.us/public/  
Bureaus/press/Connects/Training/  
TRID/presentation\\_html5.html](https://www.dot.state.pa.us/public/Bureaus/press/Connects/Training/TRID/presentation_html5.html)



Pittsburgh Regional Transit

## Conversation highlights:

- Herron Station is least used stop along the East Busway.
- Q: What does 10% design mean? A:10% is conceptual, where the vision comes together, it's the least technical. Visually, will be the same.
- Q: can we incorporate public art into final design? A: Yes. Esp. as new art division at PRT getting underway.
- ^Mural^ theme suggestion: 1877 Railroad Strike
- Possibility of TRID (Transit Revitalization Investment District=innovative transit funding)\*\*\* designation, would need to perform study, get developer buy-in. Would require approval by ✓City Council, ✓Pittsburgh Public Schools, ✓Allegheny Co. (3TB - Three Taxing Bodies); and the ✓State leg. - happy to send follow up info
- Q: Will the construction close the station? A: No, minimal closures, will take place at night - pointed to Negley Station redo
- Q: Can we add a sidewalk connecting the Harding steps to the station side of the Herron Ave S curve? A: PRT consultant had recs for that but it would be up to the City to install that.
- Funding for everything on PRT property, PRT will fund - City will complement with gateway improvements, help with wayfinding signs
- Cliff is PRT responsibility, will remove invasives plants and install native species
- Q: What will happen to the grassy area along Downing top of the hill? A: No plans yet, will do outreach to neighbors once considering.

# 3202 Brereton Street

- **Nathan Hart (Architect) and Taner Nalbert (Property Owner) are looking for community input.**
- **Current occupancy permit = two units**
  - **Property owner wants to renovate from two units to four units.**
  - **Parking variance is being requested for the two additional parking spaces required for the two additional units.**
- **Possible 1st floor commercial use?**



# 3202 Brereton Street - conversation

“Parking on Brereton is already atrocious. I have to park blocks away from my house and I am interested in getting a Residential Permit Parking\* program going.”

“We can’t continue to get caught up in this cycle of letting parking overshadow the need for new housing any time someone asks for a variance!”

Currently unoccupied so variance granted or not, there will be impact

“Thank you for being a responsible property owner and showing up today!”

“I would love to rent your 1st floor as an office for my accounting business!”

- Could the tenants park in Phelan Way? No room.
- Taner explained he has looked into leasing parking nearby, no good option for reasonable \$
- If 1st floor was used commercial (as it is currently permitted), providing addtl parking is not required

\*Lindsey from Mayor’s office to share info on RPP requirements

Planning to charge  
\$ 1,000/mo. for the 1/bedroom  
\$ 1,550/mo. for the 3/bedroom

A sentiment was expressed of not preferring more renters in the neighborhood, that they cause issues. Everyone in attendance in the West Penn Rec basement meeting room murmured to refute this and affirm that we are a welcoming community.  
Editor’s note: Polish Hill has an almost 45% rental rate.



# 329 Downing Street

## Development Activities Meeting

- **Join us on Thursday, February 15.  
7pm @ West Penn Rec Center  
(Zoom info is meeting reminder email)**
- **Incorrectly marketed as four unit dwelling  
when owner purchased in 2019.**
- **Currently has four units, but is only zoned  
for 2 units.**
- **No physical change is being made to the  
building, but requesting property zoning  
change from two family to multifamily.**



# Safety & Mobility Committee

- **Bigelow Pedestrian Tunnel is being closed after several accidents damaged railings and concrete walls.**
- **DOMI is coordinating with PennDOT to make sure pedestrians are still able to cross Bigelow at Herron Ave.**
- **Immediate changes: Crosswalks will be painted in Spring 2024.**
- **Long term changes: (PennDOTs Bigelow Boulevard Improvement Project) Signal replacement and crosswalk improvements should be completed by 2026.**



# Safety & Mobility Committee

(conversation re: Bigelow Pedestrian Tunnel/  
the tunnel below the 5-way intersection of  
Paulowna, Herron, Bigelow)



Google maps street view - Oct. '22

- Bigelow is a State road, within PennDOT jurisdiction (District 11)
- PennDOT standards for crosswalks are if able to cross, not if safe to do so
- There is currently a “no pedestrian crossing” sign at street level - crossing the street here at street level has always been a challenge, even “hellacious”
- DOMI is coordinating with PennDOT to make sure pedestrians are still able to cross Bigelow at Herron Ave.
- Immediate changes planned: Crosswalks will be painted in Spring 2024.
- Question if this is a done deal? Brennan from State Rep. Lindsay Powell’s office introduced himself and will report back.

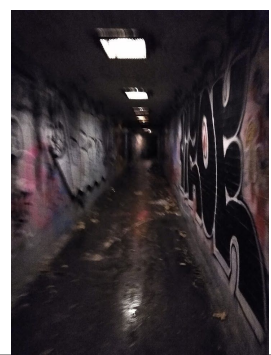
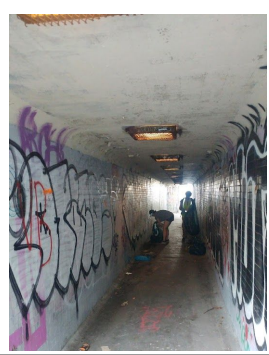


Photo @RuntheChance Instagram 9

## UPDATE as of February 15 - for pics check out @RuntheChance on Instagram ->

- ✓ Tunnel completely filled with cement :( :( R.I.P. ): ):
- ✓ Painted fresh crosswalks
- ✓ Installed two new crosswalk buttons
- ✓ Adjusted traffic lights to an all 5-way stop

## Safety & Mobility Committee (more conversation re: Bigelow Pedestrian Tunnel)



- Bigelow - can we ask PennDOT to decrease the speed limit from Herron to Bigelow Blvd to 25 mph? And could those have flashing lights and/or “your speed is \_\_” trackers
- Outbound Bigelow travellers making U-turns at 5-way stop, can we get a no thank you sign posted at the traffic light?
- Lindsey from the Mayor’s office added that she can include the City’s Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator in Bigelow conversations

*More Safety & Mobility conversation:*

- Can lights be added to the stop sign at Finland and Bethoven?



# Safety & Mobility Committee



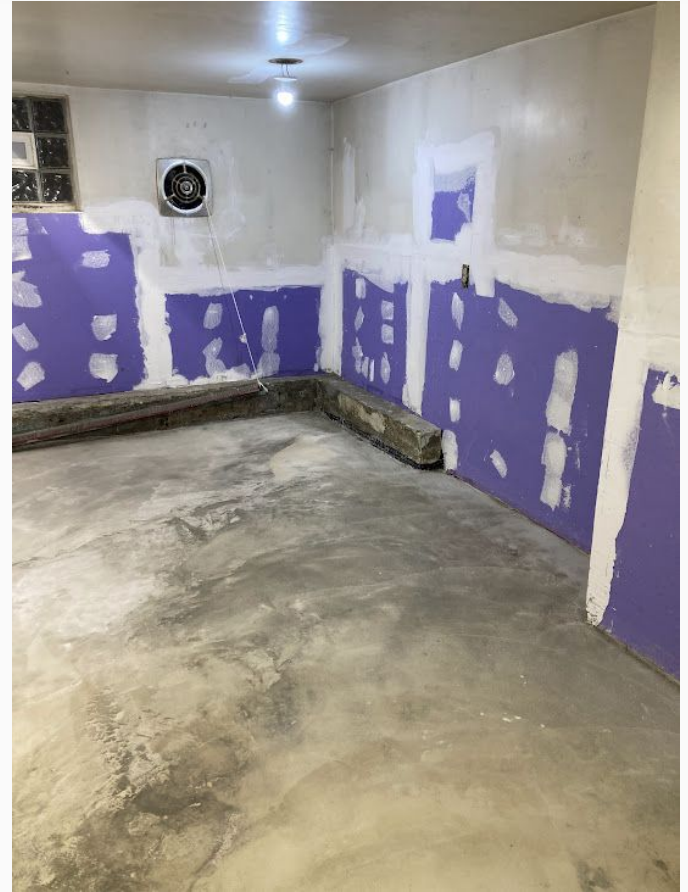
- Most members currently reside on Eastern side of neighborhood
- Looking for involvement from Western side - Brereton/Paulowna/Dobson.
- Email [matt@phcapgh.org](mailto:matt@phcapgh.org)



# Before...



# DURING! Thanks to LeBlanc Contracting!





# AFTER! Thanks to LeBlanc Contracting!



**We have  
some  
industrial  
shelving we  
will be adding  
soon!**





# 2024 PHCA Membership - Time to Renew!

## POLISH HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

### Become a Member

- COMMUNITY MEETINGS 1ST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
- VOTING PRIVILEGES FOR POLISH HILL RESIDENTS

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- \$10 VOTING MEMBER (POLISH HILL RESIDENT)
- \$10 SUBSCRIPTION MEMBER (NON POLISH HILL RESIDENT)
- \$50+ SUPER SUPPORTER (FREE TOTE BAG!)

[Phca@phcapgh.org](mailto:Phca@phcapgh.org)

[www.polishhillcivicassociation.org](http://www.polishhillcivicassociation.org)

(412) 467-6596

SCAN HERE



# PHCA Membership Boundaries



### ARTICLE III

#### NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARIES

SECTION 3.01: The geographical area which is the focus of the PHCA and which is the geographical boundary by which voting membership will be determined in accordance with Article IV hereof shall be that area known as "Polish Hill" according to the City of Pittsburgh.



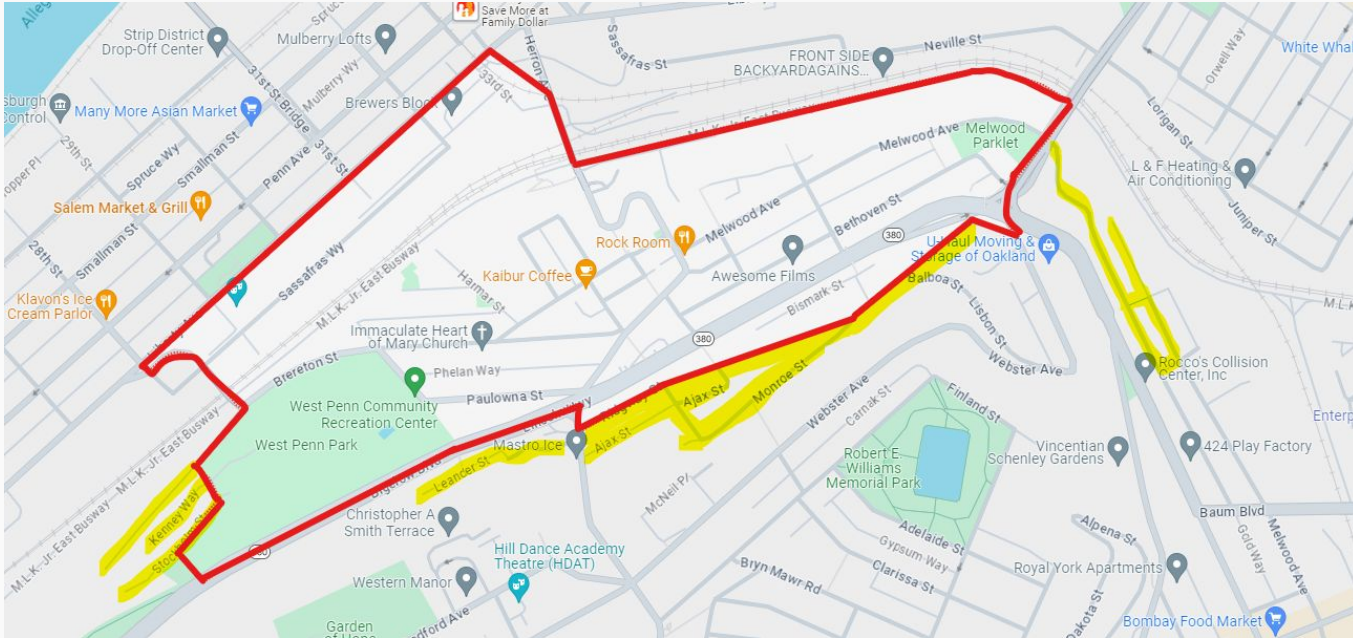
## Bylaws Revision Request:

### ARTICLE III - NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARIES

SECTION 3.01: The geographical area which is the focus of the PHCA and which is the geographical boundary by which voting membership will be determined in accordance with Article IV hereof shall be that area known as "Polish Hill" according to the City of Pittsburgh. **In addition, the organization recognizes residents of the following areas to be eligible for voting membership:**

- **Lower Brereton Street, Kenney Way and Stockholm Street**
- **Lower Melwood Ave to Denver Street**
- **Monroe Street, Hancock Street, Ridgway Street, Ajax Street and Leander Street**

# PHCA Membership Boundaries



**Red** = existing boundary

**Yellow** = proposed expansion that we will put up for vote at March 2024 community mtg

~\*Discussion around inviting the new Brewers Block development neighbors to join the PHCA\*~

# Upcoming Events!

A graphic with a light orange background and a jagged, starburst-like border. The text is centered and reads:

**Fundraising  
Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, February 8  
6:30p**

**3060 Brereton St. and zoom**

## Fundraising Committee Meeting

**Thursday, February 8**

**6:30p**

**3060 Brereton St. and zoom**

- Meeting @ PHCA office & online:  
Thursday, February 8, 6:30-7:30pm
- We are looking for committee members! Please join us if you are interested in helping PHCA meet our fundraising goals for 2024!
- Email [phca@phcapgh.org](mailto:phca@phcapgh.org) for more info!



# POLISH HILL GREEN TEAM

FEBRUARY UPDATE 2024



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH 5:30PM-8:30PM**

Seed Exchange @ West Penn Rec Center

Come share seeds with neighbors before and after the community meeting!  
Edible and non edible seeds welcome!

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH 6:30PM-8PM**

2024 Spring Meeting@PHCA Building 3060 Brereton st.

## UPDATES AND UPCOMINGEVENTS

- Garden plots are still available at Harmar and PHCA Gardens!
- Seedling exchange: show off your green thumb and share your seedlings after the May Day Parade



DONATIONS



GUS@PHCAPGH.ORG

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?:  
WWW.POLISHHILLCIVICASSOCIATION.ORG

# Upcoming Events!

- **Green Team Meeting @ PHCA office & online. Tuesday, February 13 from 6:30- 8:00pm**
- **Overview and 2024 Goals, Stewardship Opportunities, Exploring Resources**
- **Email [gus@phcapgh.org](mailto:gus@phcapgh.org) for more info!**

NEW!

# PHCA Community Marketplace

Do you have:

**1: A Declaration?**

*(Announcement to share?)*

**2: An offer?**

*(How can you support your community?)*

**3: A request?**

*(How can your community support you?)*



# See you at our next Community Meeting on March 5, 2024!

