A Community Conversation about the future of Broad Street

Una Conversación Comunitaria sobre el futuro de La Broa’
Agenda

- 7:00 – Welcoming Remarks
- 7:10 – Presentation
- 7:20 – Roundtable Workshop
- 8:15 – Report Back and Wrap-Up
2.6 miles from Crossroads to Cranston line
30,000 people living within 1/3 mile of Broad Street (less than a 10 minute walk)

Data Sources: Unless otherwise noted, all data is adapted from the US Census 2015 American Community Survey. Census tracts 1.01, 1.02, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 12 were used to represent the study area.
Goals

- Give the community a voice in neighborhood planning
- Set a community-led vision for the future of Broad Street
- Determine actionable steps for realizing the community-led vision
Background
White alone, 32%
Black or African American alone, 27%
White alone, 32%

Non-Hispanic or Latino, 43%
Hispanic or Latino, 57%
Hispanic or Latino, 14%
Hispanic or Latino, 17%

Broad Street: Diversity
40% of the population is foreign-born

60% of households are multilingual

**Foreign-Born Population (Broad Street)**

- Population Born in United States: 60%
- Total foreign-born population: 40%

**Caribbean: 63%**
- Other: 6%
- Eastern Asia: 3%
- South America (Colombia, Peru, Venezuela): 3%
- Southern Europe: 4%
- South Eastern Asia: 5%
- Western Africa: 6%
- Central America: 10%
34% of people live in poverty (compared to 14% in metro Providence, and 16% nationwide)

Median household income is ~50% less than metro Providence average
Broad Street: Transportation Statistics

- 25% of households do not have a car
- 40% of working residents do not commute to work alone in a car
- 2X as many people carpool, take public transit, walk, and bike
Broad Street experienced the **highest number of crashes** involving people walking or riding a bicycle out of any corridor in Providence (2009 - 2015).

- **82** crashes involved a person walking or riding a bicycle (2009 -2015)
- **11** crashes resulted in a fatal or serious injury to someone walking or riding a bike (2009-2015)

*Source: City of Providence Vulnerable Road User Safety Action Plan, 2017*
>5,000 elementary, middle school, and high school students at schools along Broad Street between Downtown and Roger Williams Park
Services

• The Southside has the highest concentration of homeless services locations in Providence.

• Of the 7 shelters for individuals in Rhode Island, 4 are located in the South Providence.

Source:
Elmwood/Southside Crimewatch, Elmwood Neighborhood Assoc., South Providence Neighborhood Assoc.
Legacy Issues

- The Southside still suffers from discriminatory programs and practices of the 20th century:
  - Redlining
  - Highway building
  - Urban renewal

1935 HOLC map of Providence deemed South Providence “Definitely Declining,” making it difficult to qualify for a home loan.
Community Engagement
Community Engagement

- **Community Conversations**
  - Southside Cultural Center (Mar 11)
  - Southside Cultural Center (May 13)
  - Iglesia Visión Evangelica (Sep 6)

- **Attending meetings in the community**
  - Neighbors for Revitalization (Mar 9)
  - South Providence Neighborhood Association (Apr 27)
  - District 2 Crime Watch Meeting (May 23)
  - Providence Latino Business Association (Jun 13)
  - Academia Liderazgo, Iglesia Visión Evangelica (Jul 6)
  - Trinity Square Working Group (Jul 21)
  - Trinity Square Working Group (Aug 1)

- **Online stakeholder survey**
Q1:

- In a few words, describe your vision for Broad Street. What is the identity that you want Broad Street and South Providence to have? What captures the true essence of South Providence and Broad Street?

- En pocas palabras, describe su visión para La Broa’. ¿Cual es la identidad que desea que La Broa’ y el South Side tenga? ¿Qué captura la esencia verdad de La Broa’ y el South Side?
Q1: Your Vision for Broad Street

Su Visión Para La Broa’

- Celebrate diversity and cultural heritage
  Celebrar la diversidad y el patrimonio cultural
- Excellent quality of life for residents and a destination for visitors
  Calidad de vida excelente para los residentes y un destino para los visitantes
- Thriving retail business
  Próspero negocio minorista
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
  Mejorar la infraestructura de bicicletas y peatones
- Better-maintain of the physical environment
  Mejorar el mantenimiento del entorno físico
- Safe and crime-free
  Seguro y sin crímenes
- Improve economic opportunities for residents
  Mejorar oportunidades económicas para los residentes
- Transparent, equitable, and genuine civic engagement
  Compromiso cívico transparente, equitativo y genuino
- More neighborhood gathering places (a.k.a. “third spaces”)
  Más lugares de reunión de barrio (alias “terceros espacios”)
- Invest in arts and festivals
  Invertir en artes y festivales
- Improve food access
  Mejorar acceso a los alimentos
- Improve public/private and institutional partnerships
  Mejorar las asociaciones público-privadas e institucionales

The most-common responses centered around these themes.
Las respuestas más comunes se centraron alrededor de estas temas.

N = 107
Response categories with two or fewer responses not shown.
Categorías de respuesta con dos o menos respuestas no mostradas.
Q2:

- What are your two biggest concerns about the Saint Joseph's property?

- ¿Cúales son tus dos más grandes preocupaciones sobre la propieddad del hospital Saint Joseph’s?
Q2: Your Concerns About Saint Joe’s
Sus Preocupaciones sobre Saint Joe’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concern</th>
<th>Percent of Responses / Porcentaje de respuestas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other communities view South Side as a dumping ground and are unwilling to take their fair share</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redevelopment will worsen quality of life issues (e.g. littering, loitering)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outsiders making decisions for the South Side / lack of neighborhood voice</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mistrust of motives behind the Paolino proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missed opportunity to reuse St. Joe’s in a better way</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of expertise by Mr. Paolino in providing services to the homeless</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The potential loss of Peace and Plenty Park</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redevelopment will deter investment and reduce property values</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redevelopment will reinforce racial and/or socioeconomic segregation</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N = 77
Response categories with two or fewer responses not shown.
Categorías de respuesta con dos o menos respuestas no mostradas.

The most-common responses centered around this theme.
Las respuestas más comunes se centraron alrededor de esta tema.
Q3:

- What is your vision for the Saint Joseph's property? What would you like to see happen there?

- ¿Qué es tu visión para la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph’s? ¿Qué querrías ver pasar ayá?
Q3: Your Vision for Saint Joe’s
Su Visión para Saint Joe’s

N = 124
Response categories with two or fewer responses not shown.
Categorías de respuesta con dos o menos respuestas no mostradas.
Q4:

What other ideas or concerns do you have for Broad Street? Is there anything else that you would like to see the City pursue? In what ways can the City be a more active partner?

¿Cúales otras ideas o preocupaciones tienes para La Broa’? ¿Hay algo más que le gustaría que la Ciudad persiga? ¿De qué manera puede la Ciudad ser un socio más activo?
Q4: Other Ideas
Otras Ideas

- Improve maintenance of the built environment (e.g. litter cleanup)
  Mejorar el mantenimiento del entorno construido (p.ej. limpieza de la basura)
- Make walking and biking safer
  Hacer caminar y andar en bicicleta más seguro
- Redevelop vacant and abandoned properties
  Redeserollar de propiedades vacantes y abandonadas
- Address quality of life issues (e.g. noise, substance abuse)
  Abordar los problemas de calidad de vida (p.ej. ruido, abuso de sustancias)
- Increase support for artists, cultural events, and tourism
  Aumentar el apoyo a artistas, eventos culturales y turismo
- Improve public transit
  Mejorar el transporte público
- Increase support for businesses
  Aumentar el apoyo a las empresas
- Improve equity and transparency in the planning process
  Mejorar la equidad y la transparencia en el proceso de planificación

The most-common responses centered around these themes.
Las respuestas más comunes se centraron alrededor de estas temas.

N = 71
Response categories with 2 or fewer responses not shown.
Broad Street Projects Updates
Streetscape Improvement Grant

- Secured **$99,000** from Commerce RI for upper Broad Street:
  - Address littering / install waste receptacles,
  - Install tree fences to protect young trees,
  - Install bike racks.

- **Status:**
  - Product research underway
  - Awaiting grant agreement,
  - Outreach to merchants and schools planned to determine optimal locations
Broad Street Ped/Bike Safety

- Secured **$2.5 million** to enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety along Broad Street corridor
  - Broad St experiences most crashes citywide
  - Partnering with City depts and community orgs to collect data on transportation habits and safety issues

- **Status:**
  - Design/engineering team selected
  - Robust public planning process to launch Fall 2017
Special Redevelopment Plan for Vacant Houses

- A plan for redeveloping vacant and abandoned properties that are a blight on the neighborhood
- Enables PRA to transfer those properties to local developers, CDCs, others who can repurpose them.
- Proposal can be accessed at:
- Status: City Council is holding a public hearing on Sep 11 at 5:30PM at City Hall
Broad Street Cultural Tourism Initiative

$4,500 pilot initiative to promote cultural tourism on Broad Street
- Highlight monthly events on Broad
- Create and promote marketing materials
- Collaboration between DPD, AC+T, RI Latino Arts, Quisqueya in Action, PWCVB

More info at: http://artculturetourism.com/celebrate-broad-streetcelebra-la-broad/

Status: underway!
Workshop
Workshop Format

- We have **60 minutes** for this exercise
- Your table nominates a table leader. Bilingual individuals are encouraged to volunteer!
- Your table leader asks your table a series of six questions
- Participants at your table jot down their responses on sticky notes
- Your table leader asks each participant to say a few words about her response, then collects the sticky note on an easel pad
- Once everyone responds to the six questions, your table nominates a representative to report back to the entire room
- Your table representative has **1 minute** to summarize the themes that emerged at your table
Question 1:

- In a few words, describe your vision for Broad Street. What is the identity that you want Broad Street and South Providence to have? What captures the true essence of South Providence and Broad Street?

En pocas palabras, describe su visión para La Broa’. ¿Cúales la identidad que desea que La Broa’ y el South Side tenga? ¿Qué captura la esencia verdad de La Broa’ y el South Side?

10 minutes for responses!
Question 2:

- What are your ideas for how we (the City, the community) can advance your vision for Broad Street? Think of at least two steps that can be taken to move your vision forward.

¿Cuáles son sus ideas sobre cómo podemos (la ciudad, la comunidad) alcanzar su visión para La Broa’? Piensa en al menos dos pasos que se pueden tomar para mover su visión hacia adelante.

5 minutes for responses!
Question 3:

▶ What is your biggest concern about the Saint Joseph's property?

¿Cuál es tu más grande preocupación sobre la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph’s?

10 minutes for responses!
Question 4:

- What is your vision for the Saint Joseph's property? What would you like to see happen there?

¿Qué es tu visión para la propiedad del hospital Saint Joseph’s? ¿Qué quieres ver pasar allá?

10 minutes for responses!
Question 5:

- How can the City and community work together to address your concern about Saint Joseph’s and/or help achieve your vision for the property?

¿Cómo pueden la Ciudad y la comunidad trabajar juntos para tratar su preocupación por Saint Joseph’s y/o ayudar a lograr su visión de la propiedad?

5 minutes for responses!
Question 6:

- What other ideas or concerns do you have for Broad Street? Is there anything else that you would like to see the City pursue? In what ways can the City be a more active partner?

¿Cúales otras ideas o preocupaciones tienes para La Broa’? ¿Hay algo más que le gustaría que la Ciudad persiga? ¿De qué manera puede la Ciudad ser un socio más activo?

10 minutes for responses!
Report Back + Wrap Up
Stay Connected

- Sign up for email updates at the front desk
- Check the website for updates: providenceri.gov/planning/broadstreet
- Contact south side planner, Allen Penniman:
  - apenniman@providenceri.gov
  - 401-680-8523
- Invite us to your meetings!
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @ProvPlanning
What themes emerged at your table?

Table representatives, please summarize the dialogue at your table

1 minute per representative!
Stay Connected

- Sign up for email updates at the front desk
- Check the website for updates: providenceri.gov/planning/broadstreet
- Contact south side planner, Allen Penniman:
  - apenniman@providenceri.gov
  - 401-680-8523
- Invite us to your meetings!
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @ProvPlanning