University City Community Vision
Listening Session Summaries
November 8-10, 2021

Listening Session #3, Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Trends/Drivers, challenges and concerns for University City:

- Concern about the project at 170 and Olive and the impact on the surrounding neighborhood.
- Support for the SHED initiative
- UCity is landlocked so we need to be creative about growth – perhaps use annexation of West Charleston as option
- Concern about 2 divides in UCity: Delmare and Olive Divides. These segregate the City.
- Concern about a communications void and misinformation. People don't know what is going on in the City and act on rumors.
- We need youth in the visioning process.
- Would like to see a commitment to the development of COSTCO area from TIF will go to the 3rd Ward.
- Issue writ large is the imbalances that exist in the City. Need a correction of where attention and resources go in the community. This decade needs bolder thinking to give tailwinds to technological advances and social shifts (aging, millennials, social resets – Black Lives Matter, MeToo Movement, climate change)

Future aspirations for University City/Visioning: Thinking of the future, what would be a delightful, aspirational shift for University City?

- Build on Heman Park and our park amenities. We need to attract people to our community, especially Olive Boulevard. Establish a UCity organization devoted to improving the attractions of Heman Park and others. Connect the parks by trails.
- Consolidate the City with the County to align services. Consolidation with other neighborhoods is possible with a vision. School districts could be consolidated.
- Establish a vision for the parks 10-20 years out and determine revenue to support
- Develop a school district that all residents want to send their children to; unify.

How to structure outreach to the community to reach as many people as possible:

- Apps for virtual Town Hall
- Cable broadcast
- Create interest through technology, survey, virtual engagement
- Go to people at grocery stores, churches, board meetings at schools, PTO/PTA, elementary early childhood, etc…
- Future Summits, Town Halls
- Need school district involvement