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# COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER UPDATE MEETING

January 6, 2015 • 7:30-8:30am • Meeting Summary

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## 1. ATTENDANCE & FACILITATION

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The meeting was facilitated by Esther Shin. There were 11 people in attendance.

## 2. OVERVIEW OF MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

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- Updates
  - The Near North Side had a fun and informative Community Update Meeting and Holiday Celebration on December 17. At this meeting, the community reviewed an outline of the Transformation Plan for the Near North Side.
  - The Youth Council is now the YMCA Leaders Club! All Near North Side youth ages 12-18 are welcome to join as they build leadership skills, complete community service, and earn the opportunity to participate in fun trips across the country! Starting on January 6, the YMCA Leaders Club will meet on Wednesdays at 6pm at Innovative Concepts Academy/Blewett School (1927 Cass).
  - Urban has not been involved in any additional meetings to discuss the proposed Biddle street homeless shelter. We will be sure to inform community members of any developments.
  - Review of the Timeline –
    - The Full Transformation Plan will be review by working groups through January and February.
    - During this time it will be available on the Near North side website.
    - Public comments on the plan will be accepted for a period of time.
    - Partners will be identified to assist in achieving strategies.
    - The Final plan will be delivered in March of 2016.
- Review of Strategies with the goal of condensing and prioritizing strategies per working group
  - Strategies are nonspecific and need fine-tuning. Stakeholders were encouraged to identify the three most important strategies per working group and come up with a strategic plan on how to implement these strategies.
  - Feedback or comments on prioritizing and reviewing strategies include:
    - Many strategies seem to be repeated or can fit under another.
    - Economic Opportunity:
      - The two most important strategies identified by community members are Employment Programs for Youth and Adults and Entrepreneurship and Small Business Opportunities.
      - Elimination of Barriers to Work and Free Wifi can be placed under Employment Programs for Youth and Adults.
      - Entrepreneurship and Small Business Opportunities includes access to working capital and mentorship.
      - Affordable Housing is already being addressed within this grant and can therefore be eliminated from list.
      - Financial Literacy & Technology Courses can be accessed through the creation of the state of the art community center.
      - Create a Credit Union and Urgent Care facilities are not needed if transportation is provided to community members.
    - The topic of education was addressed. Esther was concerned at why education is not identified within any working group category as a concern or strategy.

- Residents stated that education is a priority, but felt this should be addressed by educators or the SLPS. Residents were confused and unsure of the best way to address the educational needs.
- Education will be discussed further in the Individual Working Groups.

### 3. NEXT STEPS AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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- The next Housing Working Group Meeting will be on January 19, 2016; Evening Community Update will be on January 21, 2016; Neighborhood Working Group Meeting will be on January 26, 2016; and People Working Group Meeting will be on January 27, 2016. All meetings will take place at the Flance Early Learning Center

THANK YOU