

2011 CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS (Morning)

10:45 AM – Noon

Neighborhood Preservation Begins with YOU: Using Tools with Teeth!

As a person who is actively involved with your neighborhood, no one knows it better than you. But what can you do to preserve the special place you call home? What are the tools and techniques and how to you get the ball rolling? In this session you will learn from neighborhood leaders about how they have taken action to recognize and protect their communities. The discussion will focus on the basic tools of historic preservation with teeth, their impact and benefits, and do-it-yourself processes available in Philadelphia.

Moderator: Patrick Hauck, Director of Neighborhood Preservation Program, PAGP
Ben Leech, Director of Advocacy, PAGP
Tom Potts, Neighborhood Advisory Committee Director, New Kensington CDC
Mark Sellers, Representative, Awbury Arboretum Neighbors

What's The Plan? Taking an Active Role in Shaping the Future of Your Neighborhood

There is a lot of planning on the table right now in Philadelphia. But what does it all mean, and how can neighborhood leads get involved and have a meaningful impact? In this session you will learn about the ongoing District Planning process and how it fits into the overall 2035 Comprehensive Plan; opportunities to educate yourself through the Citizens Planning Institute; and the Preservation Alliance's new Pride of Place workshops designed to assist communities to identify and celebrate community resources.

Moderator: Richard Redding Philadelphia Planning Commission
Panelists: Richard Redding, Director of Community Planning, Philadelphia Planning Commission
Donna Carney, Director, Citizens Planning Institute, Philadelphia Planning Commission
Melissa Jest, Neighborhood Coordinator, Preservation Alliance

Past Meets Future: Preservation and Green Design

It is often said that the greenest buildings are often the ones that are already built. This is especially true in a city like Philadelphia comprised of neighborhoods full of older and historic buildings. This session explores the intersection of historic preservation and green design in Philadelphia. Learn about models of existing efforts that are replicable throughout the city and see how historic preservation can be a key part of making Philadelphia one the nation's greenest cities.

Moderator: Representative of the Preservation Alliance
Panelists: Laura Blau, Blue Path Design
Frank Grauman, Bohlin Cywinski Jackson

Your Stories: What is Going On In Communities Across Philadelphia? (FACILITATED DISCUSSION)

By listening to people's stories and concerns and probing for deeper understanding and common themes the Preservation Alliance seeks to identify issues that are particular to specific communities or shared across neighborhoods. This facilitated discussion/workshop is an opportunity to listen to people's stories of issues, challenges, actions and hopefully identify potential new leaders and advocates who have passion, good judgment and relationships and with whom the Preservation Alliance can work with, engage, support and take action. (NOTE: Limited participation in this session—first come first served)

Facilitator: Donna Harris, Heritage Consulting Group

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EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS (Afternoon)

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM

There's No Place Like Home: New Life for Older and Historic Housing

It is a common misperception that restoring older and historic housing is an endeavor well beyond the reach of many communities, when in fact the benefits of retaining the historic housing stock in a neighborhood is not just reasonable investment, but restored housing also contributes to overall economic health. In this session you will learn about examples where community leaders in Philadelphia have successfully combined preservation and redevelopment of existing residential fabric to strengthen and revitalize their communities.

Moderator: Pamela Bridgeforth, Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations
Panelists: Verna Tyner, Tioga United CDC
Jessica Stackhouse and David Hahn, Columbia Property Management/Development

Corridor Realities: Historic Preservation and Storefront Façade Improvements

How can we preserve the historic character of Philadelphia's storefronts while meeting contemporary retail needs? Using case studies of real and recent projects, we'll discuss the historic elements—from the basic to the unique—encountered in storefront renovations, when and why to preserve original features, how to mix old and new elements, and how to negotiate with chains.

Moderator: Jim Flaherty, Senior Manager, Philadelphia Commerce Department
Panelists: Robin Kohles, Program Associate, Community Design Collaborative
Carol Ingald, Historic Preservation Planner, Philadelphia Historical Commission
Jim Flaherty, Senior Manager, Philadelphia Commerce Department

How to Look at Your Neighborhood

Learn about a step-by-step training to identifying important community features and landmarks that might go unrecognized by residents and the city at large. Using the "How To Look at Your Neighborhood: A Guide for Community Organizations" guidebook developed by the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia attendees will learn tools needed to identify important resources and be eligible for certain grant funds from the Alliance. A member of the Belmont Village community will share their experience in completing the guidebook as a training model.

Moderator: Amy McCollum Interim Director, Vital Neighborhoods Initiative, Preservation Alliance
Panelists: Amy McCollum
Bill Porter of Belmont Village Community Association

Making History Matter: Neighborhood Preservation and Planning (FACILITATED DISCUSSION)

How do we anchor sense of place, and preservation into planning? In this session, we will use a lively small group conversation technique to explore one powerful question that will open up possibilities in our thinking about preservation and neighborhood planning. Participants will have an opportunity to engage with and learn from ALL other participants in the room through "rounds" of discussion and sharing of insights. (NOTE: Limited participation in this session—first come first served)

Facilitator: Donna Carney, Director, Citizens Planning Institute, Philadelphia Planning Commission