

The first Community Meeting for Bartram Choice was held on April 24, 2018, at the Kingsessing Rec Center. Approximately 60 people attended the meeting, which included a brief introduction to the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative planning process. Afterwards attendees broke into small groups to discuss the strengths of the neighborhood as well as the challenges before identifying as a group one thing that they would like to see change as a result of the planning effort. Then one member of each group reported back to the room about their discussion. Attendees were also invited to “vote” with dot stickers on the most effective ways to communicate with them during the planning process.

Below is a compiled list of feedback recorded at the community meeting.

STRENGTHS

- Schools
- Access to center city
- Churches
- Open space/recreation assets
- Bartram’s garden
- Woodland Ave shops
- Improved rec centers
- Richard Allen school
- Neighborhood is walkable
- Good food
- Riverfront
- Trolleys
- Trees/foliage
- Signage/wayfinding

CHALLENGES

- Affordability
- Need more stores (supermarket, laundromat, day care)
- Access to food/groceries
- Shared driveway for Village and Garden
- Shared Bartram name is confusing
- Need more restaurants
- Unsafe railroad crossings
- Vacant lots
- Safety: need lighting, cameras, more police officers
- Could use another rec center
- Need street improvements—potholes, lighting, crossings, signs
- Lindbergh Boulevard is unsafe
- Need more recreation/program options for younger kids
- Need homeownership support
- Chop shops
- Need to revitalize Chester Ave as commercial corridor
- Fewer convenience stores
- Need better playgrounds—separate for both young and older children
- Need a dog park
- Need a local hiring agreement for development projects that come out of this plan

Best Way to Communicate

- Email: 9 votes
- Flyers: 2
- Social media: 6
- Text messages: 11
- Local paper: 4
- Plan website: 4
- Word of mouth: 1
- Phone calls: 16

One Thing to Focus On

- Workforce training/economic development
- Improvements to Cobbs Creek
- Improvements to 60th St
- More spaces for distinct age groups