

**HPCC
Monthly Community Meeting
October 18, 2018
St. Andrew's Church**

Meeting Called to order at 7:10pm by Monica Watt

FOCUS Pittsburgh- Rev. Paul Abernathy, Director

The Hill District-based organization is a faith-based non-profit working to meet the needs of a community through trauma informed community development. Rev. Abernathy thanked residents of Highland Park for their generosity in donating hundreds of items to the organization through neighbor Mike Nadler's monthly mobile pick-up. He described the faces of recipients who "light up" and feel like they are not forgotten when receiving the donations.

FOCUS Pittsburgh is in its 8th year and began initially to meet the basic needs of the community. The program has expanded to specifically address the health and behavioral impact of a disproportionately high rate of community trauma in the Hill District.

The organization is working to heal the community with strategies under three programs:

1. Community Support- FOCUS provides donations of food, clothing, household goods and more, as well as a feeding program for children in the community.
2. Health and Well-Being- FOCUS offer a free clinic to those without health insurance that includes primary care, behavioral care, and dental care. It trains and fields a volunteer Trauma Response Team that serves Allegheny County and is dispatched to provide community intervention after a homicide.
3. Leadership Development- FOCUS develops leaders within the community.

Neighbors can help by donating cold-weather items, new socks and underwear, feminine hygiene products, toiletries, and any household items or clothing. Everything is needed, and everything is used. Volunteers are also needed for the Trauma Response Team. For additional information, visit focuspgh.org.

City of Pittsburgh, Department of Mobility and Infrastructure- Karina Ricks, Director

Director Ricks discussed a need to look at traffic concerns through the lens of the transportation network as traffic calming initiatives often migrate problems to nearby streets. The desire for traffic calming initiatives in Highland Park has arisen on several streets due to increased neighbor complaints and increased aggressive

driving throughout the neighborhood. Apps such as Waze have been sending cars to side streets, further challenging the system.

The City is moving away from a vehicular focus to a multi-modal approach, prioritizing bike and pedestrian safety. People need to improve how they use the system with patience and respect for all.

The newest department in the City, the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure has recently developed a Traffic Calming Program with three different kinds of solutions. The program primarily targets speed reduction and speed compliance. Traffic volume reduction and conflict reduction are other goals of the program.

When a traffic problem is reported in the community, the department responds by:

1. Identifying the problem.
2. Setting up speed and volume counters.
3. Analyzing distribution of speed--how many vehicles are exceeding legal limit and is the speed limit appropriate?
4. Analyzing crash data--what types of crashes, are pedestrians and bikes involved? Are youth, children, or seniors involved?
5. Identify solutions.

Tools and Measures from the Traffic Calming Toolbox were discussed and explained including:

1. Visual Controls--vertical enclosure, yield streets, and narrow lanes.
2. Vertical Controls--speed hump, speed lump/cushion, and speed table.
3. Horizontal Controls--chicane, bulbout/bumpout/neck down, pedestrian refuge island, raised median, traffic circles, and reduced corner radii.
4. Operational Controls--opposing one-way, and turn and access restrictions.

The Neighborhood Pace Car program is a new initiative coming soon to Pittsburgh. In the program, residents sign a pledge promising that they will always drive the speed limit not only in their own neighborhood, but also in all neighborhoods. As a participant, they will receive a decal to display in their cars.

The common Pittsburgh practice of parking on a two-way street facing the wrong direction is illegal. Cars could be ticketed for parking in this manner.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM