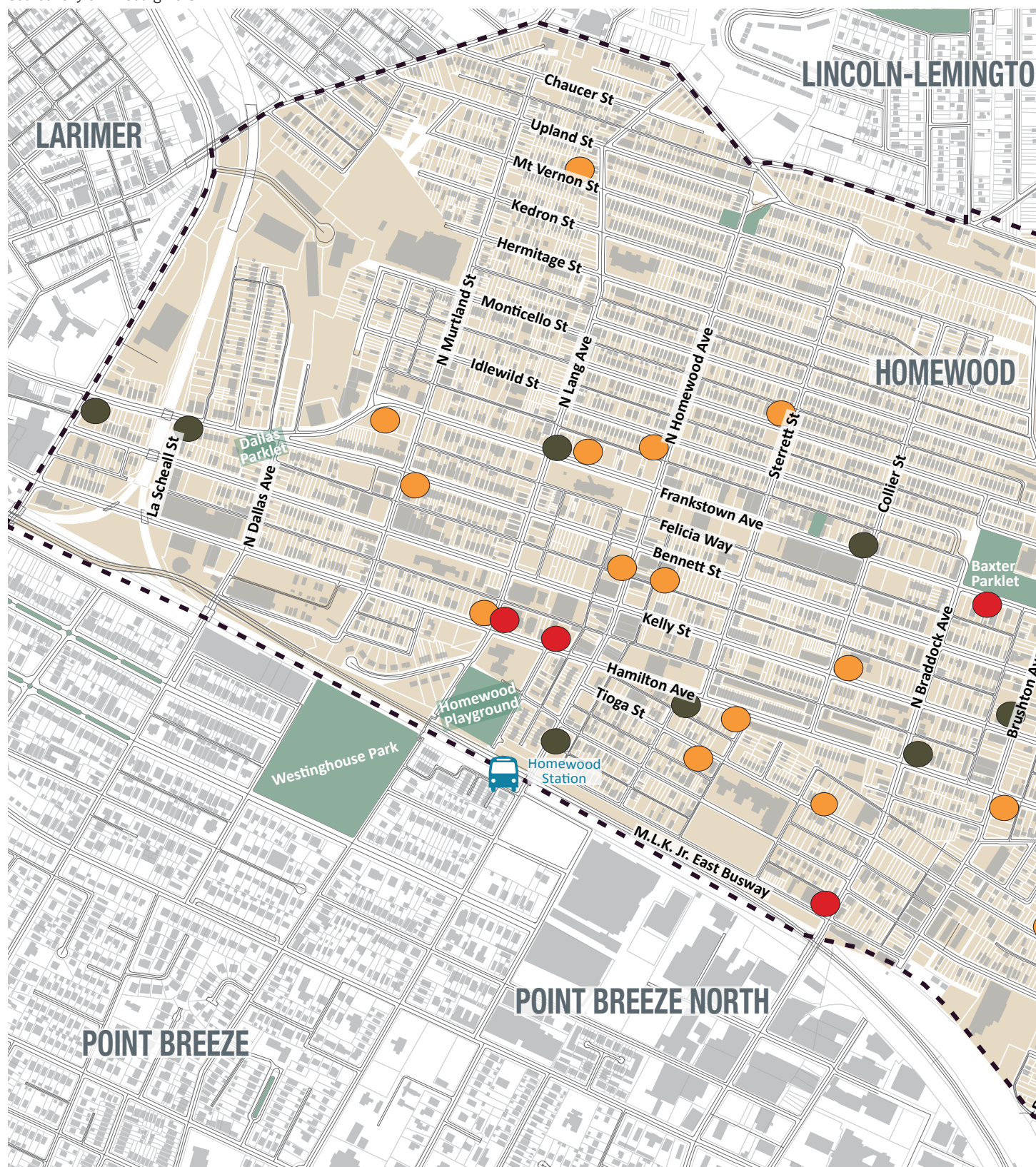
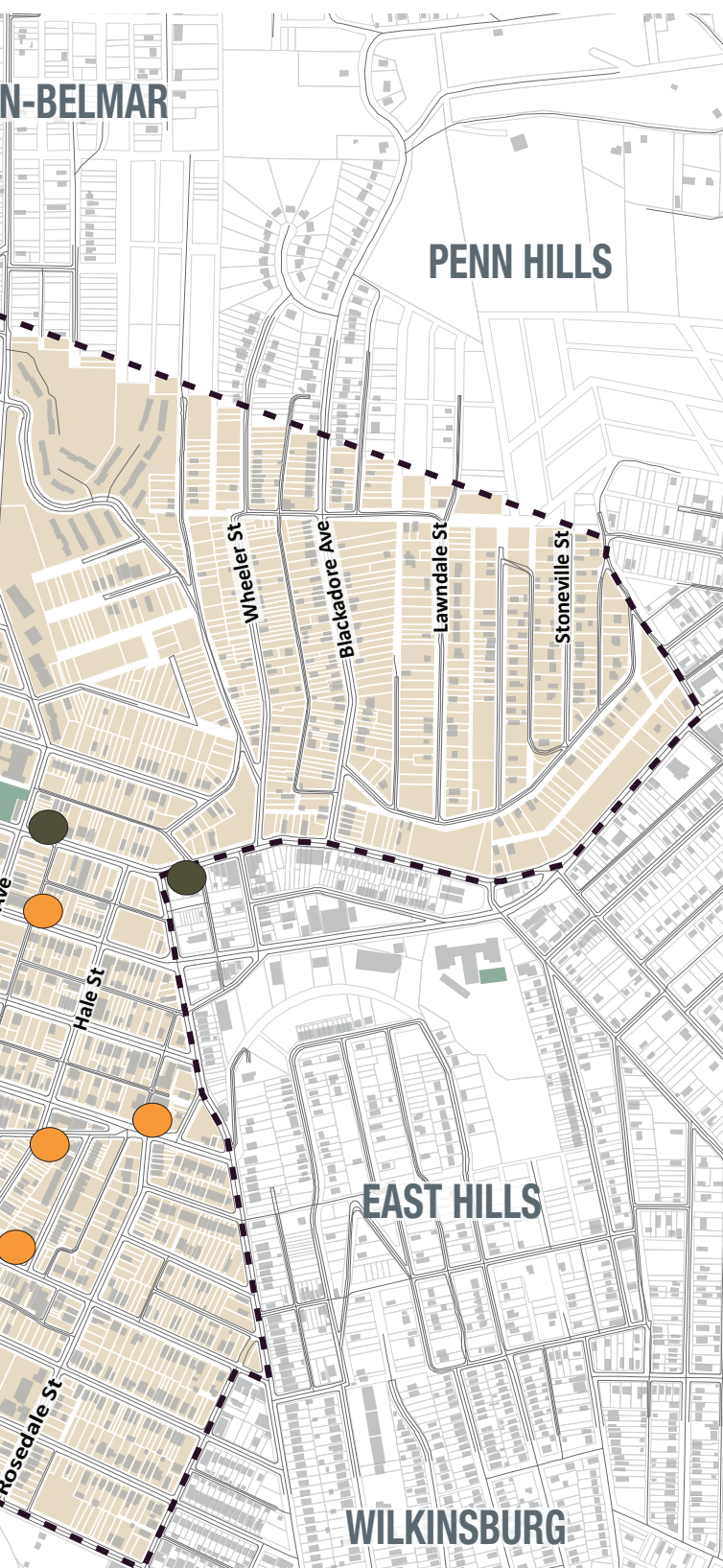


Figure 3.30
CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS
 Source: City of Pittsburgh GIS





CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Cultural institutions are often a source of pride for a neighborhood. Homewood has a wealth of cultural institutions including culinary, musical, faith-based, historical, and many more. Looking toward Homewood's future, there are opportunities to establish significant cultural institutions that show the national and citywide contributions of people who lived, worked, and played in Homewood.

Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- How do institutions contribute to local culture?
- What type of cultural institutions would fit in Homewood?
- Who is currently preserving and promoting local culture and are they working together?
- What partners would need to work together to bring a new cultural institution to Homewood?
- What should be done to better highlight the existing institutions and historic resources in Homewood?

--- Project Boundary

● Green Space

● Music Landmark

● Public Transit

● Faith-based

● Restaurant





CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Originally established in 1910, this historic Library underwent an award-winning renovation to revitalize its space in 2005. Today, this three-story neighborhood location is completely restored to its original grandeur and offers a fully-equipped 300-person auditorium.

https://www.carnegielibrary.org/clp_location/homewood/

Figure 3.31 The Homewood Branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 7101 Hamilton Avenue in Homewood South

PUBLIC SPACE

Culture in the public space can provide a cohesive identity for a neighborhood. Homewood has a vibrant array of murals and publicly accessible art. Most of them are in the southern half of the neighborhood. Homewood also has a few historic landmarks recognized by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation. The landmarks are the following: Baxter-Brushton School (1909), Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Homewood Branch (1910), Brilliant Cutoff Viaduct of the Pennsylvania Railroad (1902), The Church of the Holy Cross (1905-1906), Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church (1928), Meado'cots (1912), and Westinghouse High School (1917).

Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- Which historical locations, moments, or people should be memorialized in Homewood?
- What purpose does public art currently serve?
- What additional purpose can public art serve?
- Other than plaques or statues, what are ways to highlight Homewood's culture and identity in the public realm?

CULTURE - NOW

Promoting and uplifting Homewood's culture includes recognizing contributions happening right now and looking into the future. Currently, Homewood is home to fashion designers, musicians, producers, sculptors, poets, painters and more. Additionally, some Pittsburgh creatives are experiencing burdensome rent increases in other parts of the city. Vacant or underutilized commercial space along multiple corridors could serve as affordable space for a locally relevant mix of contemporary and experimental art, performance, and installation. Homewood is in a unique position to be a creative hub for generations to come.

Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- Who are local creatives working and/or living in Homewood?
- Why do they live and/or work in Homewood?
- What assets does Homewood have to offer creatives looking for multi-use spaces?
- What would these non-Homewood residents need to fit into the fabric of the neighborhood?
- What multi-use space is available for local creatives (considering proximity to transit, potential for foot traffic, ability to have evening hours, etc.)?

The recent Homewood-based exhibition, **The People Are the Light** curated by Alisha B. Wormsley, was a series of public art installations and workshops running from September 16 to October 15, 2017 in various locations. The exhibition was a program of the Carnegie Museum of Art and centered on healing and cleansing and invited participants to reflect on Homewood's past, present, and future. With 12 artist-collaborators, **The People Are the Light** uplifted a citywide dialogue about Homewood and will result in photographs and a film premiering at Carnegie Museum of Art this December.

The exhibit brought significant positive attention to Homewood. Audience members, from Homewood and other parts of the city, spent time at formerly vacant lots, walked around the neighborhood to visit multiple installations, and patronized local businesses. This type of activity is significant for investment in Homewood.

The People Are the Light bridged Culture - Institution, Public Space, and Now.

Figure 3.32 Murals in Homewood (right and below)

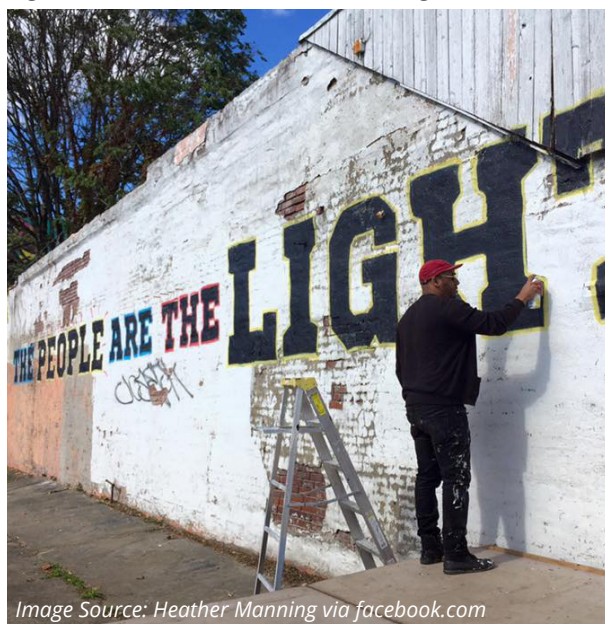


Image Source: Heather Manning via facebook.com



MURALS + ARTISTS.

Homewood has no shortage of local artists and craftsmen as evidenced by the **People Are the Light** exhibition (below). Murals are shown here and are throughout the walls of Homewood's buildings (left and top).

Figure 3.33 **People Are the Light** exhibition (below)

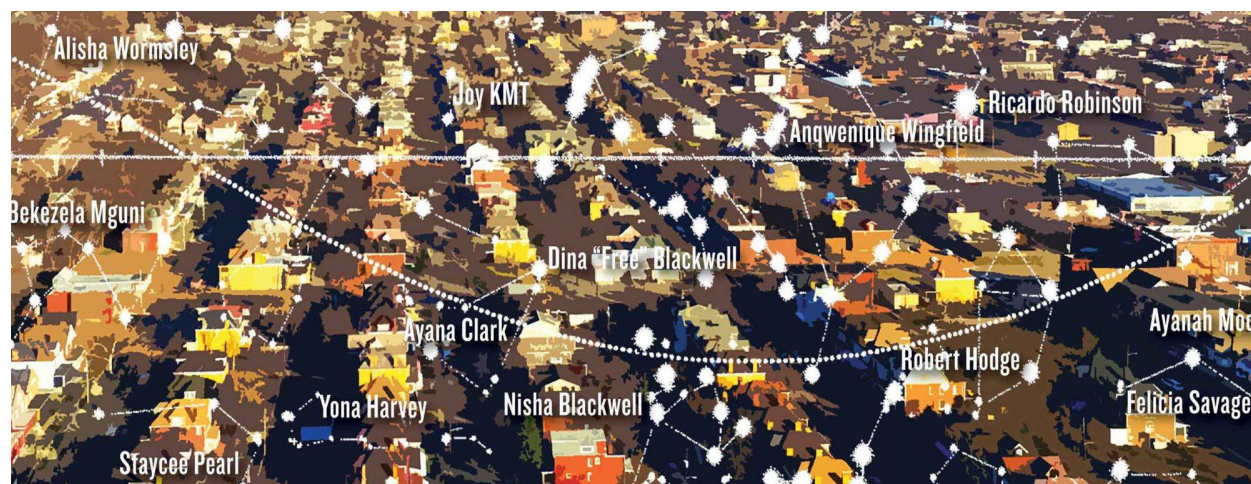
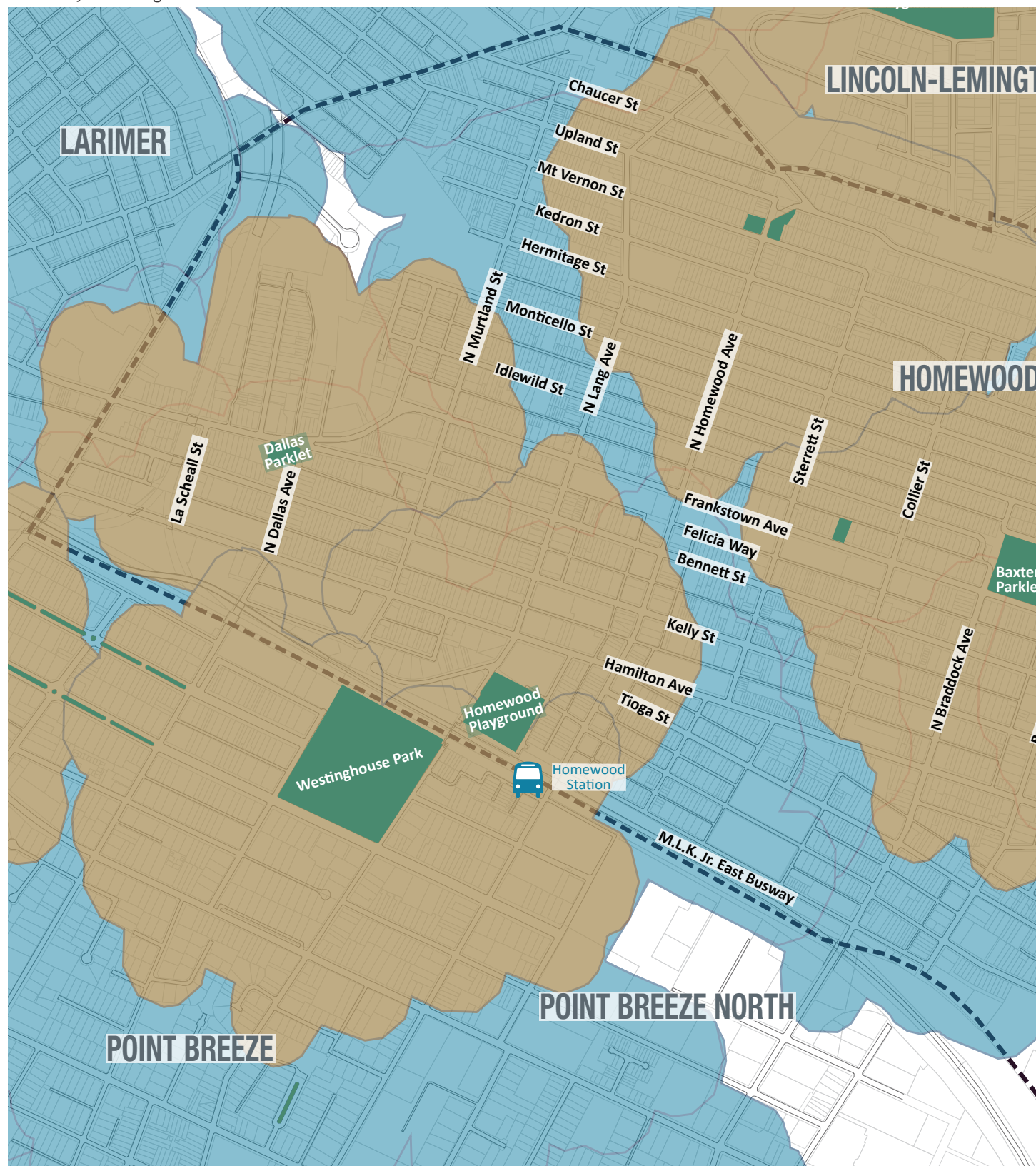
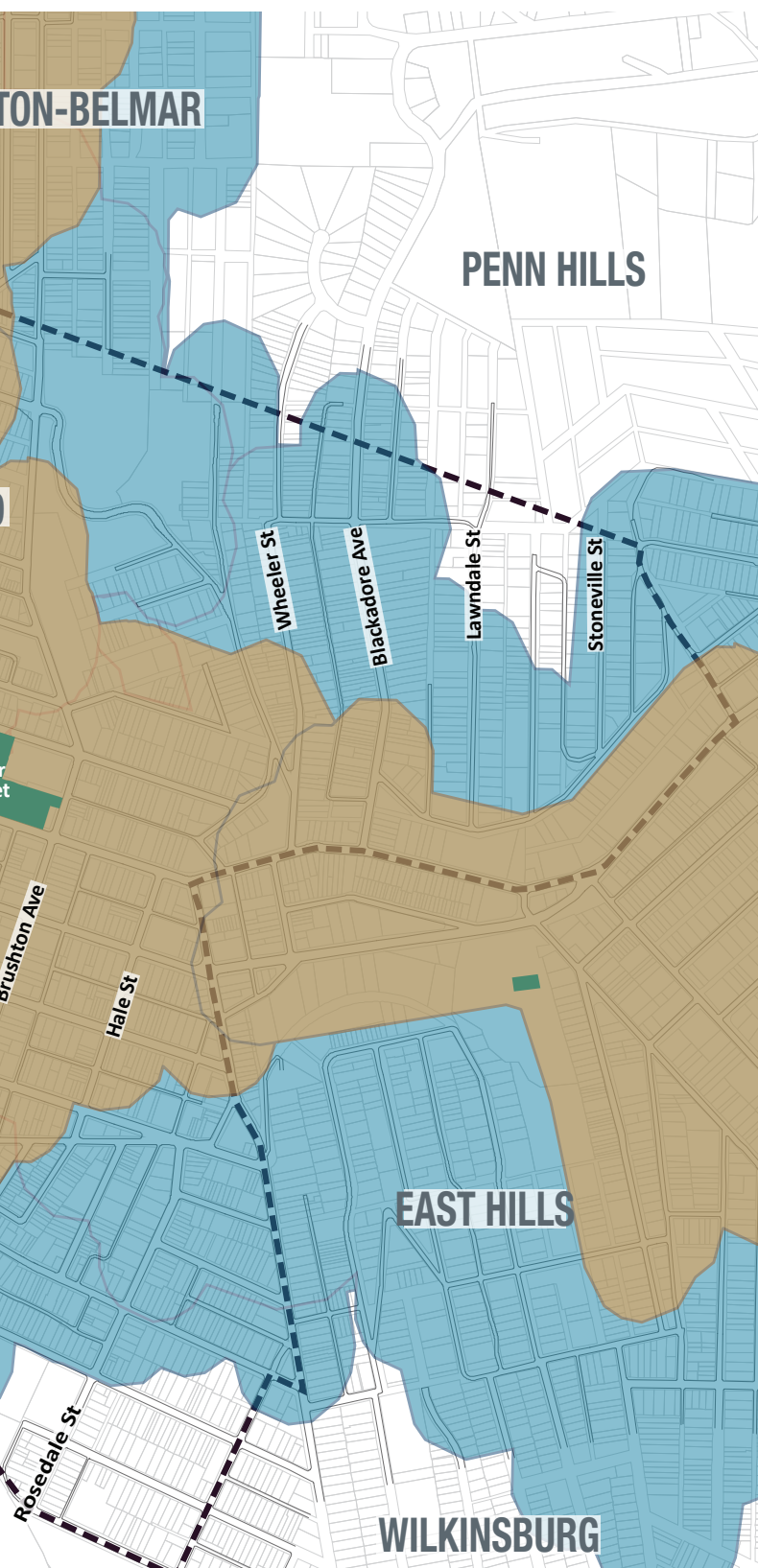


Figure 3.34

PARK ACCESS

Source: City of Pittsburgh GIS





PARKS ACCESS AND QUALITY

Parks and recreation play a vital role in ensuring the health of the community and aid in improving the economic and environmental well being of a neighborhood. While Homewood has a number of park spaces not all of these parks are accessible to all community members and not all of the parks have adequate recreational equipment. By improving the quality of recreational space in Homewood and encouraging our neighbors to spend more time in green space we have the potential to reduce stress levels, lower blood pressure and improve physical health. Homewood can further improve the mental and physical well being of its residents by shortening the walking distance to green space. This map shows us a 5 minute and 10 minute walk radius from existing park space in Homewood, it is clear there is opportunity to improve access to park space.

Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- What are the existing programs in Homewood related to recreation?
- Are people physically active?
- Are these recreational spaces safe?
- What are alternative options for recreational spaces such as Wheelmill?
- Are these recreational spaces clean?
- What is the quality of parks and open space in Homewood?
- What area are most in need of new parks?
- What are the key connections between parks and neighborhood centers?
- Should parks serve many functions beyond just public amenity? If so, what functions?
- What amenities do current parks provide?
- What amenities do current parks NOT provide that the community needs?

— Project Boundary

● Green Space

● Park (5 min walk radius)

● Park (10 min walk radius)

● Public Transit



Figure 3.35

VACANT LAND OPPORTUNITIES

Source: City of Pittsburgh GIS





VACANT LAND

Homewood is home to a vast amount of vacant land that is currently underutilized. Though a number of vacant parcels have been reclaimed as a variety of community resources including community gathering spaces and community gardens, there still remains great potential in vacant land within Homewood to improve the ecological well being of the neighborhood and provide space for relaxing and recreation.

Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- How should we prioritize competing needs in Homewood to find the highest and best use for each vacant parcel?
- What types of interventions could be implemented on vacant parcels to improve recreation goals?
- Who are the key partners in moving forward for vacant land re-use?
- How can we link vacant land to showcase existing culture and art?
- How can we involve youth in re-imagining underutilized land?
- How can we build on the success of the Wheelmill to encourage alternative uses for vacant space?
- Which vacant parcels should be prioritized first for culture and recreation use?

--- Project Boundary

● Green Space

● Vacant Land

● Parklet

● Playspace

● Food Garden

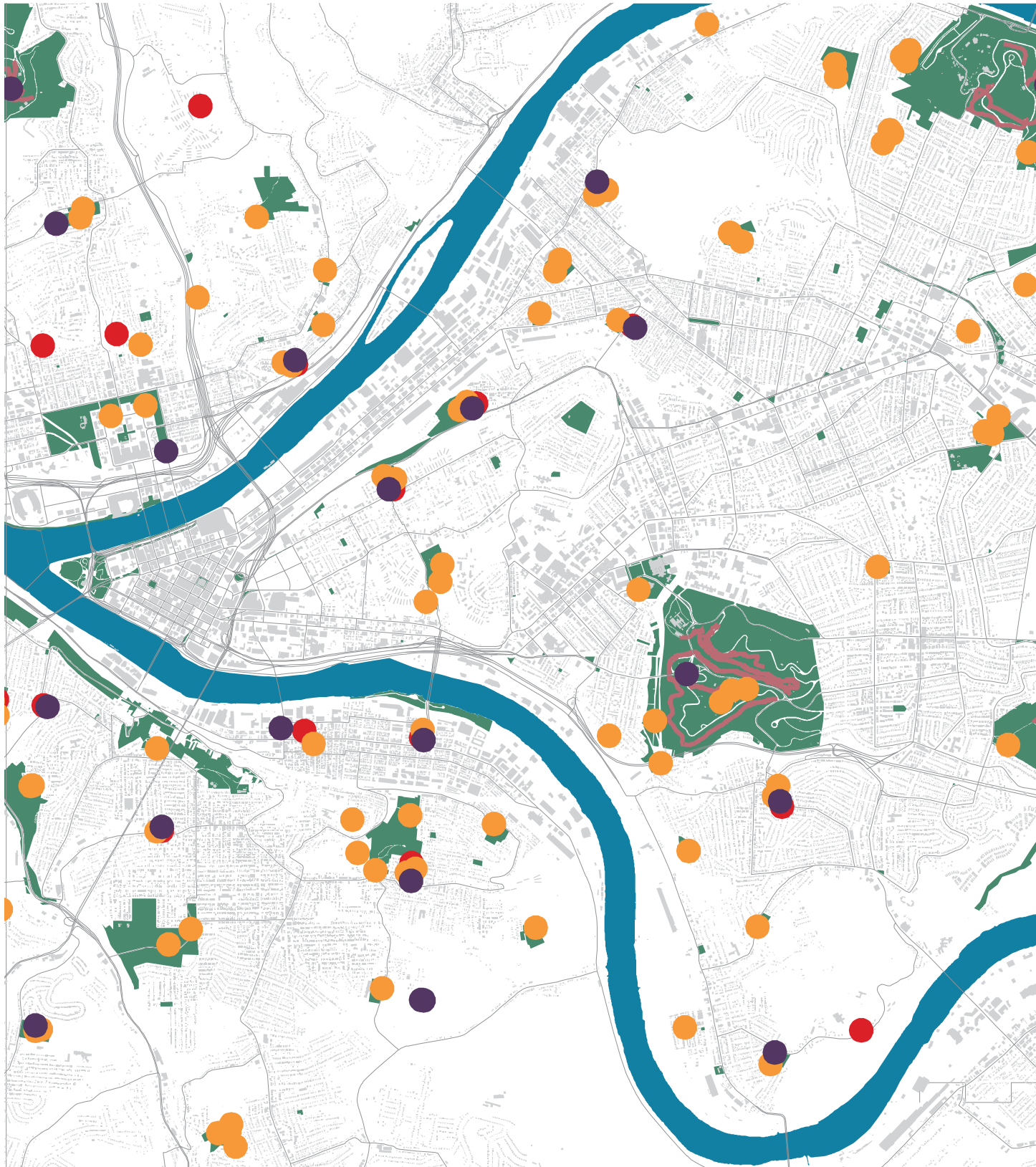
● Flower Garden

● Rain Garden

● Public Transit



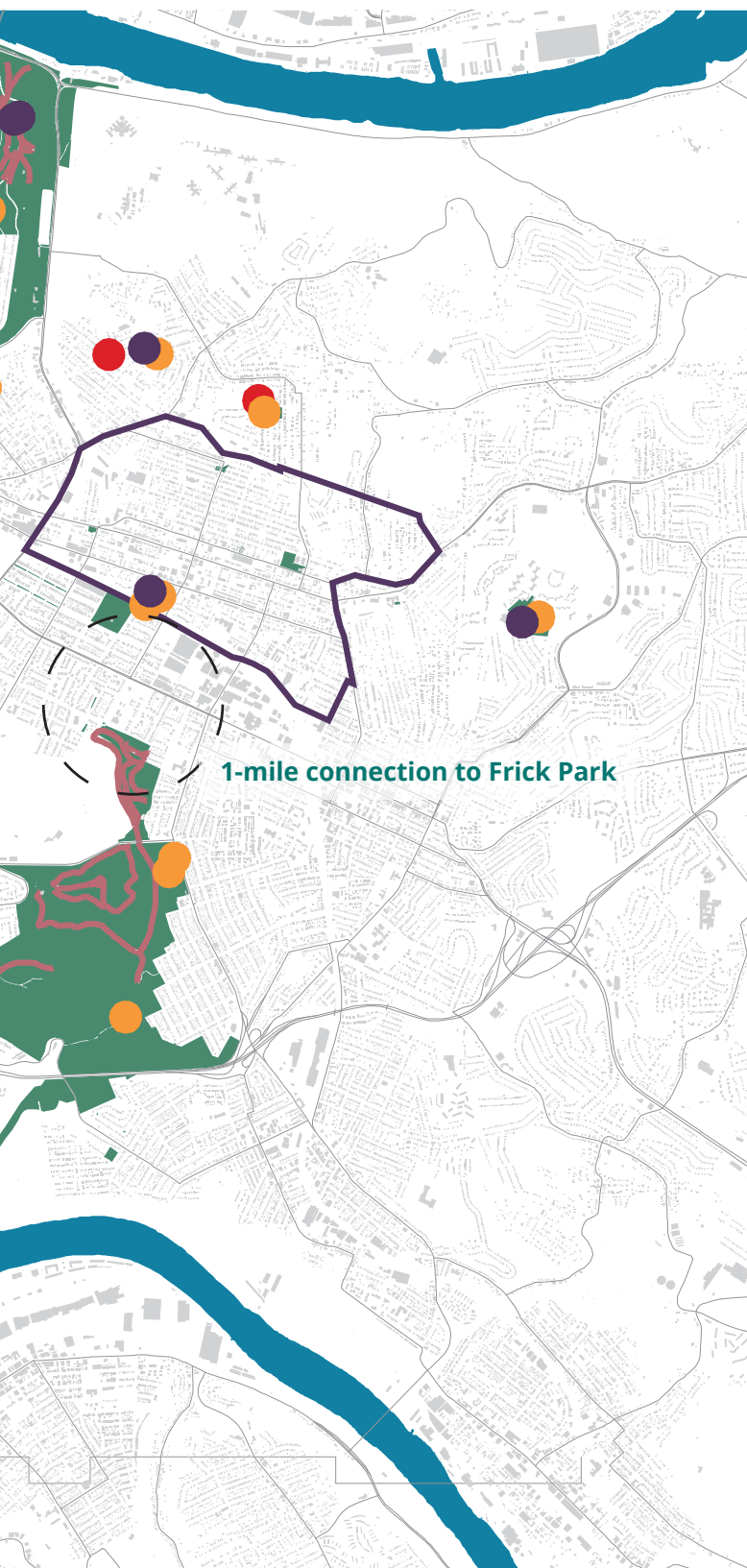
Figure 3.36
PARKS SYSTEM CONNECTIONS
Source: City of Pittsburgh GIS



REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

A regional park network would be a great asset to Pittsburgh with the potential to improve the health and wellness of local residents, provide opportunity for employment and educational exploration and would better connect neighborhoods with each other. Creating a sustainable regional park network would also greatly improve the ecological well-being of Pittsburgh with greater potential to address flooding, and air quality. Open Space PGH is a great guide to consider what next steps should be taken to improve vacant, green, and recreational spaces throughout the area. Open Space PGH recommendations are summarized below:

- **Baxter Park- Invest & Expand.** Adjacent blocks have scattered public ownership. Redesign site, removing parking and fencing, and adding recreation amenities.
- **Dallas Park- Relocate.** The park's current size and use are restricted, so expansion on another site is needed in order to serve as a neighborhood park.
- **Homewood Park- Invest & Expand.** Adjacent sites have been identified that are suitable to host the full range of neighborhood park amenities. This new site will have increased curb appeal and investment in recreation facilities.
- **Westinghouse Park- Invest.** Highlight the rich cultural history of the site.



- Project Boundary
- Park Trail
- Green Space
- Pool
- Ballfields
- Recreation Center



Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- How can we link existing recreational spaces to create a larger network of publicly accessible park space?
- What are existing trail networks (formal and informal)?
- How can we expand on informal trail networks to create safe passageways throughout the neighborhood?
- What is the potential for greenways?
- What are the existing gaps in the recreation network?



HOMEWOOD PARK / STARGELL FIELD

Homewood Community Sports has already embarked on planning, design, and costing for the refurbishment of Homewood Park. The Stargell Field is an important community space and core cultural resource for families and children.

Key questions that influenced recommendations:

- What should Stargell Field look like in 10-20 years?
- What facilities need to be improved at the field?
- What is important about the future design of the field?
- What types of programming should be considered for the field?
- How can it support safety and health?



STARGELL FIELD

Stargell Field is one of the community's most well-used assets and a place where many in the neighborhood connect with each other (left and top). Homewood Community Sports concepts for the refurbishment of Stargell Field (right).



Figure 3.37 Recreation at Stargell Field

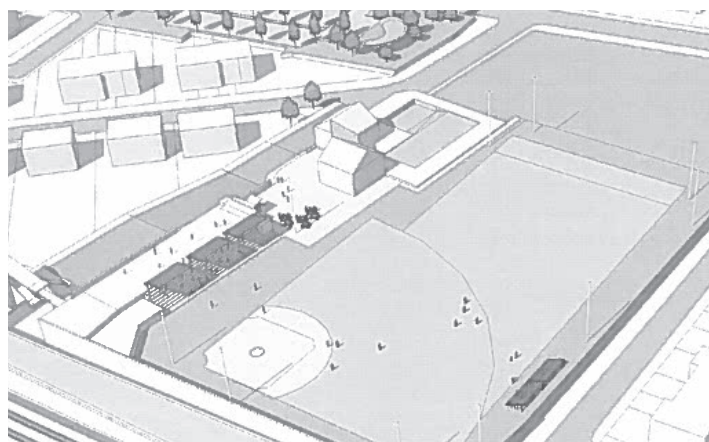
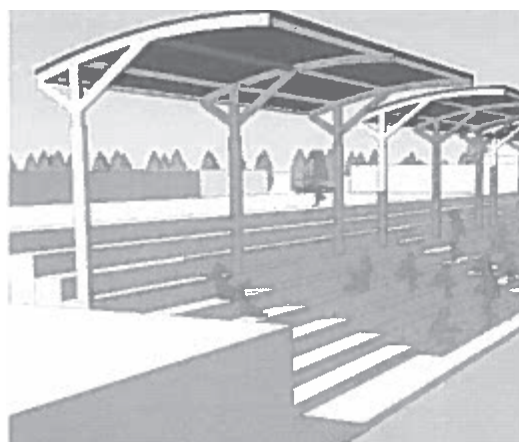
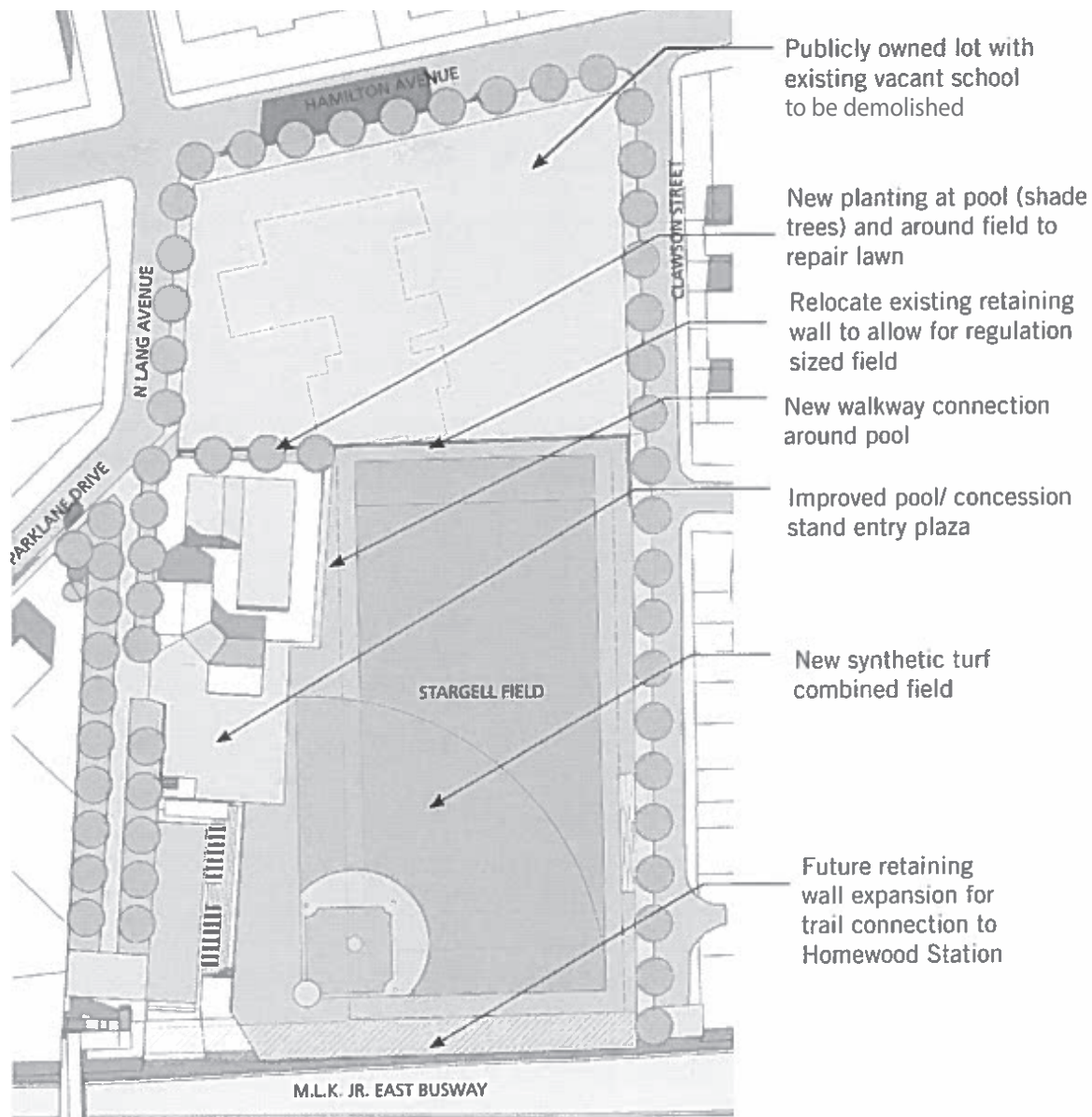


Figure 3.38 Stargell Field site plan from the "Stargell Field Expansion Study"