



Highland Park
Community Council

HPCC Board Meeting

January 2025

Stephanie Walsh
Howard Degenholtz
Judy Beck
Sabrina Culyba

Elisa Lucke
Kelly Vitti
Jack Brice
Beth Hutton
Amanda Crossland
Laura

Absent: Rebecca, Andrew, Jason

Duquesne Light - Street Tree Cutting

Reservoir - Tree Cutting

- Received update today from Rebecca at Pgh Water
- For Pump Station Project
 - Duquesne Light will cut around 50 large and 50 small trees from around & sides of the covered reservoir. They started in Dec & will resume on Monday
- For the DEP order to cut trees around both reservoirs
 - They believe that they have to comply with that order
 - The intention is to “remove the trees and do structural repairs to stabilize the hillside and prevent erosion”
 - They will do a survey around the covered reservoir this year & develop a tree cutting & landscaping plan that will need to be approved by DEP. PW will then maintain the landscaping.
 - The work at the uncovered reservoir will happen later
 - All work should be complete by 2027
- We agreed we need to respond
- Sabrina & Stephanie have a call with Deb Gross tomorrow
- We forward her and the board the email from PW

Bus Rapid Transit

- Bus Rapid Transit is moving forward
- They are currently working on the University Line b/w Oakland and Downtown
- The long term plan is for the system to include a spur to Highland Park
- [BRT Service Plan](#)

HP Bridge Preservation Project

- This is a state DOT project
- The first Virtual Public Informational Meeting will be Jan 22 at 5 pm
- Registration for the meeting is available at the project website (below) and via www.penndot.gov
 - click on “**Projects Near You**” from the tile in the center of the page
 - Then click on “**District 11**”
 - Then click on “**Highland Park Bridge Preservation**”
 - The presentation will be posted after the meeting
- Project website: [Highland Park Bridge Preservation | Department of Transportation | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania](https://www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/projects-near-you/district-11-projects/highland-park-bridge-preservation.html)
(<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/projects-near-you/district-11-projects/highland-park-bridge-preservation.html>)
- Any questions, please contact Erik Porter, P.E., Senior Project Manager, at (412) 429-4869 or eport@pa.gov.
- Construction is tentatively scheduled to start in 2027

Gupta Properties asked about putting our logo on their banner

- Not sure what it means to have our logo on their sign. Does it mean we're a party to it? Does it imply that we've endorsed it?
- We decided to decline. It's a nice offer but we haven't done this in the past and we're not sure what message it will convey to residents. People might make assumptions about our relationship to the project or the company. If they can provide us with an update, pictures, timeline, etc, we'd be happy to share that information with the community on our social media channels.
- NOTE: Stephanie replied to their email on Jan 10

January Community Meeting

- Announcements & 80th Anniversary - Sabrina
 - See agenda, plus new stuff on Bryant Street (Gupta, restaurant)
- Wine Tasting - Howard
- House Tour - Elisa can't attend, but will ask event co-chair is Emily; not not, Jason
- New projects & businesses on Bryant Street - Jason?
- Parklet Purchase –Kelly - - EMAIL the URA
- 2025 Neighborhood Survey
- Parks Update & Trees - Beth (or Tina)

Judy stepping down as Secretary at the end of this term

- She and Jim will still do SOS if we find money
- Currently HPCC provides \$1,250 / year but there's an unmet need; not promoting
- Ongoing annual costs would be around \$2,000

Community Plan

- Add question re: use of Playground Funds
- Launch next Thursday?

Fundraising

- See notes in fundraising files
- Next meeting - two weeks from tonight!
 - Elisa to work up language
 - At meeting, refine and commit to plan components & subgoals, develop subcommittees and calendar