

TEAM SNAPSHOT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



GRANT ERVIN **TEAM LEAD**
SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER, CITY OF PITTSBURGH, DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION & PERFORMANCE

Experience with neighborhood development: Over 15 years of sustainable community and economic development experience.
I am interested in learning about...the EcoDistricts framework, and how we deploy the framework in the Uptown project, but also how we can develop systems and policies that extend to future district-scale site development.
One challenge I'd like to address: Advancing higher standards for development in a resource constrained environment.



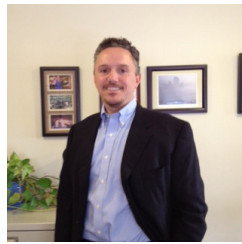
STEFANI DANES
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR & RESEARCH FELLOW, REMAKING CITIES INSTITUTE
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

Experience with neighborhood development: Over 30 years of working with community-based and development organizations on neighborhood revitalization planning, affordable housing, and community institutions.
I am interested in learning about...about the role of placemaking and community building in relation to ecodistricts.
One challenge I'd like to address: Processes that incorporate authentic community engagement and education.



COURT GOULD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SUSTAINABLE PITTSBURGH

Experience with neighborhood development: Technical assistance, facilitation, mini-charrettes, performance programs
I am interested in learning about...community engagement and introducing green/sustainability approaches that “meet them where they are” and attract investment too.
One challenge I'd like to address: Introducing ecodistrict approaches to communities and residents who are struggling on a daily basis.



THOMAS LINK
DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Experience with neighborhood development: I have approximately 11 years working in neighborhood and economic development in a variety of capacities at the URA.
I am interested in learning about...how neighborhoods and districts can gain competitive advantages to attract and sustain new economic activity through smart aggregation of resources.
One challenge I'd like to address: What role can local government play to support business start up and district-wide economic growth, beyond being a source of capital?



JEANNE MCNUTT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UPTOWN PARTNERS OF PITTSBURGH

Experience with neighborhood development: Strong community organizing skills and trusted relationships among community stakeholders, government entities, developers, funders, and community development change-makers.
I am interested in learning about...how sustainable concepts can be central to our community revitalization planning.
One challenge I'd like to address: The movement toward an ‘improved’ transit system through our corridors.



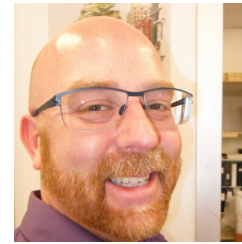
JUSTIN MILLER
SENIOR PLANNER, CITY OF PITTSBURGH, DEPARTMENT OF CITY PLANNING

Experience with neighborhood development: 7 years with DCP doing neighborhood & comprehensive planning.
I am interested in learning about...new and innovative ways to revitalize neighborhoods.
One challenge I'd like to address: Creating change in areas that are ripe for it, but without doing so in a way that leaves disadvantaged people behind.



CHRISTINE MONDOR
PRINCIPAL, EVOLVEEA / FACULTY, CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
PLANNING COMMISSIONER, CITY OF PITTSBURGH

Experience with neighborhood development: I have been engaged in community development, planning and design for over 20 years and have worked with public, private, and institutional clients.
I am interested in learning about...the challenges that other cities are facing.
One challenge I'd like to address: How ecodistricts work in existing communities and with social justice.



PATRICK D. ROBERTS
PRINCIPAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNER, PITTSBURGH CITY PLANNING

Experience with neighborhood development: I have worked as a team member on strategic financing around transit that provides a local dedicated source for community reinvestment.
I am interested in learning about...helping the City create a value exchange between private and community investment.
One challenge I'd like to address: How to address misunderstandings between residents, community/advocacy groups and government agencies.

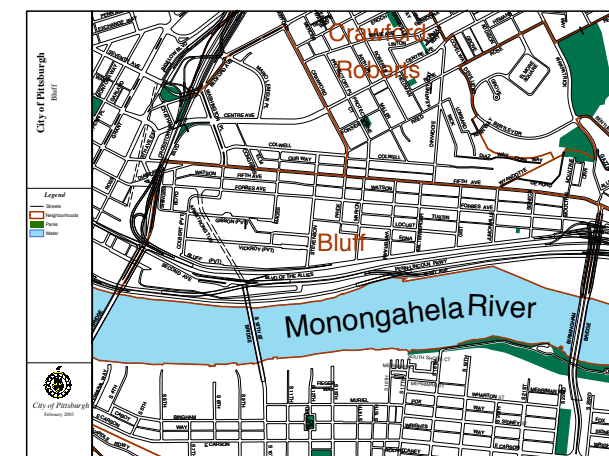


WANDA WILSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OAKLAND PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (OPDC)

Experience with neighborhood development: Nearly 20 years of experience in neighborhoods; community development, nonprofit management, and neighborhood revitalization.
I am interested in learning about...how the ecodistricts initiative can augment the Pittsburgh 2030 District initiative
One challenge I'd like to address: Mobilizing the necessary resources to implement projects.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Uptown Eco-Innovation District



Uptown sits at the epicenter of two of the most dynamic real estate markets in PA. Down-town Pittsburgh and Oakland are the second and third largest commercial centers, behind only Center City Philadelphia. The area also is home to two large Universities, a major medical center and a professional sports venue. According to PGHSNAP, data developed by the City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning, 82% of Uptown residents commute by using low carbon transportation

modes (walking, bus, telecommuting or carpool). The median home income in Uptown is 31% of the national average (2011 dollars).

As a result of recognition of the community’s potential by regional investors and the formation of nascent innovation clusters, an upstart community development organization is leading the discussion about Uptown. In 2010, a group of local civic and government leaders began conversations about developing a bus rapid transit system to run through the already transit-rich corridor, extending from Downtown Pittsburgh, Uptown and to Oakland. Maximizing this opportunity requires a holistic vision that captures the mobility needs of the community and builds upon timely real estate and market development opportunities.

Why this neighborhood? Pittsburgh is undergoing enormous transition. After a generation of economic decline following the collapse of heavy industry, the City is now benefiting from strategic investment and a resilient and progressive population, which, along with leadership, can catalyze sustainable growth and creative opportunities.

Neighborhood

PRIORITIES:

1. Create a “sense of place” and a vibrant destination for new firms and families
2. Enact standards to implement the community’s vision for sustainable infrastructure
3. Serve as a hub for innovation

Neighborhood

CHALLENGES:

1. A week market community due to shifts in industry
2. History of population loss, neglect and lack of public investment