Doolen/Fruitvale Dodge/Flower

Healthy Neighborhoods Planning and Design Process

July 27, 2011

The Drachman Institute
College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture
THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA · TUCSON, ARIZONA
DRACHMAN INSTITUTE: MISSION STATEMENT

The Drachman Institute is a research and public service unit of the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona dedicated to the environmentally sensitive and resource-conscious development of neighborhoods and communities.

It is our contention that good quality and innovative design and technology, sensible community planning, and landscape architecture that fosters beautiful and healthy private and public space is the cornerstone of this work.

We engage in a collaborative, research-based outreach enterprise to make our communities healthier, safer, more equitable and more beautiful places to live.
• Communities Putting Prevention to Work is a project funded with stimulus money by the Centers for Disease Control.
• Pima County received this grant to improve community health using policy, systems, and environmental changes.
• We will focus on creating a community environment that encourages healthy eating and active living, a lifestyle that protects us from obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and other health issues.
• Create safe communities that support physical activity.
  • Enhance safety in areas where people are or could be physically active
  • Improve access to outdoor recreational facilities
  • Enhance infrastructure supporting walking and bicycling

• Promote the availability of affordable and healthy fruits and vegetables.
  • Increase the availability of healthier choices
Planning & Design Process

1. Identify opportunities
2. Identify concerns
3. Gather ideas
4. Look at some ideas
5. Develop an overall concept plan
6. Decide upon and implement action project(s)
DOOLEN/FRUITVALE NEIGHBORHOOD

DODGE/FLOWER NEIGHBORHOOD
Survey Questions & Results

- 72 members of the Doolen/Fruitvale and Dodge/Flower communities participated
- 100% were conducted in English
- The survey was conducted through door knocking, community events and email distribution throughout January, February and March of 2011
Survey Questions & Results

What do you like MOST about your neighborhood?

- The people/neighbors (26%)
- Location/convenience (26%)
- Quiet/peacefulness (10%)
- Sense of Community (6%)

Other responses: Streets; lots; houses; schools; butterfly garden; parks
Survey Questions & Results

Do you currently walk or bike in, or through, your neighborhood?

- Yes : 74%

Most common walking or biking destinations:

- Walk the dog : 45%
- Grocery store : 36%
- A walk : 32%
- Convenience store : 29%
- Bus stop : 28%
- Neighbor’s/friend’s house : 28%
- A park : 25%
Survey Questions & Results

Does your neighborhood or local school have any public recreational facilities?

- Yes: 13%
- No (unaware of recreation facilities): 17%
- Unsure: 60%

Nearby schools accessible to the public:

- Blenman Elementary
- Catalina High Magnet School
- Doolen Middle School
- Boys & Girls Club – Frank and Edith Morton Clubhouse
Survey Questions & Results

What types of facilities would you like to see available at Doolen Middle School?
Survey Questions & Results

Top 5 community concerns:

- Threatening situations (drugs, crime violence, gangs) : 29%
- Police and public safety : 15%
- Litter : 13%
- Lack of community engagement : 13%
- Home ownership/rental : 6%

Other issues expressed: poverty, rental conditions, unemployment, lighting, traffic speed, sidewalks, unsupervised kids, air quality, stray dogs
Survey Questions & Results

Top 6 desired improvements

• Walking paths/sidewalks: 43%
• More trees: 43%
• Parks: 31%
• More police: 31%
• Playgrounds: 28%
• Crosswalks: 19%
Goals for Healthy Neighborhoods

• Create safe communities that support physical activity.
• Promote the availability of affordable and healthy fruits and vegetables.
Building Healthy Neighborhoods

**Crime Prevention**
- install pedestrian scale lighting
- use solar lighting
- hold regular community events
- provide beautification activity

**Traffic Calming**
- traffic circles
- medians
- chicanes
- street narrowing
- partial closures
- public art

**Urban Forests**
- on private property
- in rights-of-way
- along streets
- in parks
- around schools
- partnerships

**Networks & Connections**
- greenways
- bike boulevards
- bus stops
- safe crossings
- traditions & events
- participation
- leadership

**Local Food**
- home gardens
- community gardens
- farmers markets
- urban farms
- local grocers
- local restaurants

**Open Space**
- variety
- close-by
- accessible
- types for all ages

**Water Harvesting**
- cisterns
- berms and swales
- curb cuts
- in-street basins
Urban Forests

Provide many benefits including:

• Shade for pedestrians and bicyclists
• A cooler recreational environment for residents
Water Harvesting

• Helps solve drainage problems
• Saves money on water bills
• Allows native plants to thrive creating a more comfortable urban environment
• Can form the basis for neighborhood greenways supporting recreation and social interaction.
Water Harvesting Methods

Curb cuts

Berms and swales

Street basins in Rincon Heights
Networks and Connections

- Greenways (linear corridors)
  - Neighborhood streets
  - Drainage ways
Networks and Connections

• Bicycle Boulevards
  – low-volume, low-speed streets that have been optimized for bicycle travel

• Street crossings

• Bus stops
CPTED Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Four principles of design
• Express ownership
• Allow natural surveillance
• Control Access
• Support positive activities
CPTED Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Community activities

Walking group

Pedestrian scale lighting

Community activities
Traffic Calming

- Improves safety
- Enhances sense of community
- Encourages walking and biking

![Pedestrian Fatalities Based on Speed of Vehicle](image)
Traffic Calming Skinny Streets

A typical residential street in Tucson

A 28 ft street with parking both sides

A skinny street in Portland
Traffic Calming Methods

Traffic circle

Speed tables also serve as crosswalks

Median in Civano

Chicanes in Rincon Heights
Local Food

• Community Gardens
  – Provide a local outlet for recreation, exercise and social connections
  – Are a source of fresh, nutritious, inexpensive food
Local Food

• Local Food Producers
  – Healthy alternatives to fast food creating small business opportunities

• Farmer’s Markets
  – Are an outlet for local and regional growers
  – Provide fresh, healthy, food to neighborhoods
Local Food  Proposed Schoolyard Design

Community Garden
Community Orchard
Open Space

• Supports recreation
• Supports leisure
• Supports social interaction
• Spaces for all ages and abilities
Open Space (Types of)

- community garden
- community orchard
- flower garden
- playgrounds
- exercise loops
- exercise circuit
- basketball court
- ball field
Open Space (Types of)

• shrine or memorial
• rest node
• bus stop
• neighborhood gateway
• healing/meditative space
• dog park
• walking trail
• pocket park
Meeting Goals

• Identify neighborhood opportunities – on map & as notes
• Identify neighborhood concerns – on map & as notes
• Discuss ideas for CPPW projects
• Focus on possible projects – participants, materials, locations

Post-Meeting Goals

• Develop a Doolen/Fruitvale Dodge/Flower neighborhood master plan concentrates on healthy neighborhood guidelines
• Develop a project timeline and plan
Top 6 desired improvements

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