



Task Force Attendees: David Cohen, Bradley Flamm, Sadie Francis, Kelly Edwards, Lindsey Graham, Straso Jovanovski, Dick Linderman, Peter Meyer, Jean Mitchell, Sari Steuber, Shoshana Akins (Staff), Laura An (Staff), Giselle Babiarz (Staff), Melissa Andrews (Staff), Amy Verbofsky (Staff), Amber Knee (Presenter), Anne Leavitt-Gruberger (Presenter),

Additional Attendees: Bill Comer, Dennis Winters

Welcome and Meeting Overview

Shoshana Akins opened the meeting with a brief overview of the agenda and welcomed all the attendees. Peter Meyer, Chair of the PPTF, facilitated introductions. All members and attendees reported out about their county of residence and background. Select PPTF members also reported out on the various opportunities at DVRPC they are lending their time to. The attendees then heard four presentations on the public health and planning.

Presentations

Overview of Built Environment and Public Health... *Shoshana Akins, Public Participation Planner, DVRPC*

Shoshana Akins gave a short presentation on the history between public health and planning as well as how the two fields are working together today. She highlighted the overlap of interest between the two disciplines and gave examples of how public health and planning intersect.

Vacant Land in Philadelphia County... *Amber Knee, Program Manager, Pennsylvania's Horticulture Society's LandCare Program*

Amber Knee presented on the Philadelphia LandCare program, giving background on the program, the need in the county for this type of intervention, the effect the program has had thus far on land vacancy, and current public health findings from a University of Pennsylvania study on the program.

Pedestrian Safety in Montgomery County... *Anne Leavitt-Gruberger, Assistant Section Chief of County Planning, Montgomery County Planning Commission*

Anne Leavitt-Gruberger presented on Montgomery County's walkability study, Walk Montco, and their incorporation of public health and built environment priorities into their recommendations. This included highlighting the case studies of the project and detailing the procedure of conducting this study.

Food Systems in Camden City... *Amy Verbofsky, Research Analyst with the Office of Environmental Planning, DVRPC*

Amy Verbofsky presented on the *Cultivating Camden* report from DVRPC and the ongoing work with Campbell's that is looking to build out the report's recommendations. Food insecurity, lack of transit access, and food deserts were primary components connected to public health.

Panel Discussion... *Amber Knee, Anne Leavitt-Gruberger, Amy Verbofsky*

A panel discussion was facilitated by Shoshana Akins. Attendees asked questions about specific projects within the panelists' organizations and general thoughts on the intersection of planning and public health.

Closing ... *Peter Meyer, Chair of the Public Participation Task Force*

Peter Meyer closed the meeting with a few summary comments and thanked all attendees for coming to the meeting.

Member Discussion and Networking... *all attendees*

Many attendees stayed after to network and gather additional DVRPC reports and resources.

Committee Business and Upcoming Outreach, Events, and News

Shoshana Akins announced that the next Task Force meeting will be July 26th, 2016.

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