

Office of
Councilman
R. Daniel Lavelle



Proudly Serving:

Allegheny West,
California-Kirkbride,
Central Business District,
Central Northside, Hill
District, Manchester,
Mexican War Streets,
North Shore, Parts of
Oakland, Perry Hilltop,
Parts of the Strip District
and Uptown Communities

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Season's Greetings and Happy New Year!!

As we close 2010, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the faith that you have placed in me to be your City Councilman. It is both an honor and a privilege to serve you in this capacity. I have spent the year learning the inner most workings of city government and how the work is accomplished and I am pleased to provide you with a year-end report documenting some of our services provided to you.

This year we made a concerted effort to immediately address the many day-to-day quality of life issues that often affect us all the most. I believe the constituent service charts here in the newsletter will demonstrate our commitment towards this effort.

In addition, this year the Council successfully passed legislation to address prevailing wages for contractors, tighten the process of appointing replacements and strengthening the independence of the Citizen Police Review Board, while also addressing the needs of stormwater volume reduction standards.

Lastly, in no way is this newsletter an exhaustive list of the work we have done, rather a general overview highlighting a few initiatives we feel will be of importance to you.

As we enter into 2011, I hope to strengthen our ability to improve your lives via city services as well as work to improve your lives through development, issue advocacy and legislation. Thus, I will be able to remain true to my pledge to make District 6 more attractive, safe, and prosperous community for all to live and thrive in.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Daniel Lavelle".

R. Daniel Lavelle

Councilman Lavelle Adapts Social Media For District 6

Our office has created two new web based accounts to better serve you. We now have a Facebook and Twitter page for the use of additional correspondence. We will use these pages to relay information, legislation, and for promotion of pertinent events and community activities that happen in the many neighborhoods that I serve. You should also feel welcomed to use the sites to better engage the office. The social media interaction pages can be accessed by following the below links:

<http://www.facebook.com/LavelleDistrict6>

<http://www.twitter.com/RDLavelle>

Lastly, the Office of Councilman R. Daniel Lavelle has made electronic subscriptions available for all residents that would like updates on what is going on in their respective community as well as the monthly jobs newsletter. Please log on to <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/District6> and click on the "Subscribe" tab to subscribe to the electronic update for your community within our legislative district. We hope that you find this helpful and beneficial as a respected constituent of our council district within the City of Pittsburgh.



What's Happening Around District 6

Manchester Housing

In many parts of Pittsburgh, urban blight has become a growing issue of concern for public administrators and residents; a problem that has been expounded by the recent economic downturn. It is a battle I have taken on from the outset to promote rejuvenation in neighborhoods that have fallen or are on the verge of potential disrepair and neglect if considerable investment is not made. Alliances must be forged between the public sector, community organizations and residents to ensure the promotion of healthy neighborhoods. Such has been the example of the Columbus Square and Renaissance development projects, ambitious works overseen by the Manchester Citizens Corporation (MCC) which will serve as welcome additions to the ongoing up-and-coming story that is the Manchester neighborhood.

The Columbus Square master plan foresees the erection of 31 new construction units in a space which has been, up until now, a vacant field. The MCC has confirmed that a \$500,000 funding gap has recently been filled, allowing for work to begin on the first phase of development before the end of December 2010.

Deposits on the first five units to be built have already been received. Home prices begin at \$179,000 and units will be equipped with green energy components, with buyers benefitting from a ten-year tax abatement.



In addition, the MCC has been hard at work promoting and continuing development of the Renaissance Housing Program. First phase units are slated to be completed by the end of March. Buyers have already been secured for four of the seven units available in five structures. Phase two will have the ultimate goal of 38 units comprising a mix of old and new construction.

I encourage all interested parties to contact the MCC at 412-323-1743 for more information about these exciting projects. Through initiatives such as these, which are of direct service to the public, we can continue our battle against the detrimental visual, psychological and physical effects of urban blight.

Hill District Master Plan

The Hill District Master Plan began to take form in 2010. The project goal is to create a document that will be used as a guideline for the development of the Greater Hill District and Uptown.

The urban design teams of Sasaki Associates, and Stull and Lee were brought on to manage the process of developing the master plan. To date there have been community meetings to gain the input of the residents and stakeholders, tours of the neighborhoods to witness first-hand the uniqueness of each area, as well as extensive research on existing plans that have been put forth for the neighborhoods.

However, as chair of the Hill District Master Plan Management Committee, I can ensure you this is no small undertaking but one that is critical to our community's future. Therefore, as we work in these last months to complete the plan I ask that all residents and stakeholders in the Hill District community get involved in the process. Full participation from the community and from those that love this community is

Urban Recreation

Citiparks under the leadership of Director Mike Radley has continued to provide stellar leadership as did his predecessor Duane Ashley. There was a Splash Park opened in Beechview this spring and another scheduled for construction soon in East Hills. The Senior Centers are consistently providing our seniors with great opportunities for fun and conversation. They also serve as heating and cooling centers when the temperature becomes dangerous for our senior residents. Don't let your pool tags go to waste, the Oliver Bath House on the Southside is open and ready for you to take a swim. Visit <http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/parks/> to learn of all that Citiparks has to offer.

Development Review

As Vice Chair of the Urban Redevelopment Authority Board, I am proud to work with and through the URA to reinvest in the city and specifically District 6. The URA plays a critical role in both redeveloping and strengthening our communities through economic development. On the next few pages, you will see where the URA is working in District 6 making investments that have and will create jobs, increase the city's tax base, and improve the vitality of businesses, neighborhoods, and the city as a whole.

imperative. Your leadership and participation are essential in guiding and protecting the community's interests. We simply cannot afford to miss out on the opportunity offered forth by this moment. To find out more and to get involved please contact my office.

Market Square

After much anticipation the redesigned Market Square was reopened for business this summer. The renovations to the square have restricted the flow of the public transit and given it a very European feel as the square is now a foodie's haven with restaurateurs extending their boundaries and serving their fare on the new side walk café style eating areas.

After enjoying a meal, don't forget to take advantage of the ice skating rink next door at PPG Place; a renewed hot spot destination in downtown. There is also free wifi available.

Lastly, once again Market Square set the stage for the City of Pittsburgh's official Duquesne Light, "Light Up Night" with help from the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, which was the cities best Light Up Night yet with over 100,000 people attending this years festivities.



Market Square

Duquesne Pharmacy in the Hill District

As the Councilman to District 6 of Pittsburgh, I am very concerned with strengthening the health and well-being of the many constituents that I serve. With residents from all ethnic backgrounds, which vary from rising youth to elderly senior citizens, all are affected when there is a lack of sufficient medical treatment and care services. The Hill District community has long been impacted by the lack of affordable medical care within the neighborhood.

With Duquesne University as the leader and with the support of many community partners, the Duquesne Pharmacy officially opened on *December 20, 2010*. The pharmacy is located in the AUBA Shops directly across from the Hill House at 1860 Centre Avenue and can be reached at 412-246-0963.

All residents that come and visit the new pharmacy will be treated on arrival by licensed pharmacists and professional student pharmacists from the Duquesne University School of Pharmacy. In addition, the pharmacy will be fully available everyday excluding Sunday, and will offer private consultations, health and wellness education, and health risk assessment services, just to name a few. The newly added Hill District pharmacy is a first-in-the-nation

off-campus university-run community pharmacy.

Post Agenda on Student Issues

A current challenge for Pittsburgh has been the retention of its population, in particular the students who come to attend our educational institutions. It is important to foster a stronger connection between the city and its students to prevent their flight upon graduation. To open the lines of communication, I hosted a Post Agenda on November 15 to discuss student issues and concerns.

Attendees included the presidents and representatives of student organizations of various colleges and universities in Pittsburgh. Speakers from the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne, Point Park, Carlow, Carnegie Mellon and CCAC were present to express their insight on student life issues as they relate to the City of Pittsburgh. One recurring theme was the concern over the future of public transportation in light of possible Port Authority cuts to service. Discussion centered on a stronger partnership between City officials, the State and our educational institutions to promote continuation of bus lines students rely on for travel.

Other issues of concern were cultural diversity, employment opportunities, housing and safety. It was agreed that similar alliances were needed to address these issues and that a better distribution of information on amenities, assets and events in the City was needed.

Development Review (cont.)

Project Name: Aviary

Total Project Cost: \$8.2 M

Description: Expansion - to include new FliteZone Theater; Rooftop Raptor Encounter; new main entrance; and the Immersive Penguin Exhibit

Number of Jobs: 4

Status: Anticipated completion date – February, 2011

Project Name: Centre Heldman Plaza

Total Project Cost: \$7.2M

Description: 36,410 square foot neighborhood retail center at the corner of Centre and Heldman anchored by a 29,500 square foot Shop n' Save

Number of Jobs: 16 construction; 42 permanent (estimate)

Current Status: Under design and finalizing financing

Project Name: Connelley School

Total Project Cost: \$40M
(RACP portion \$24M)

Description: Renovation of the former Connelley and Letsche Schools to be transformed into the Energy Innovation Center

Number of Jobs: 400 over 10 years

Status: Anticipated completion for RACP phase – April 2012

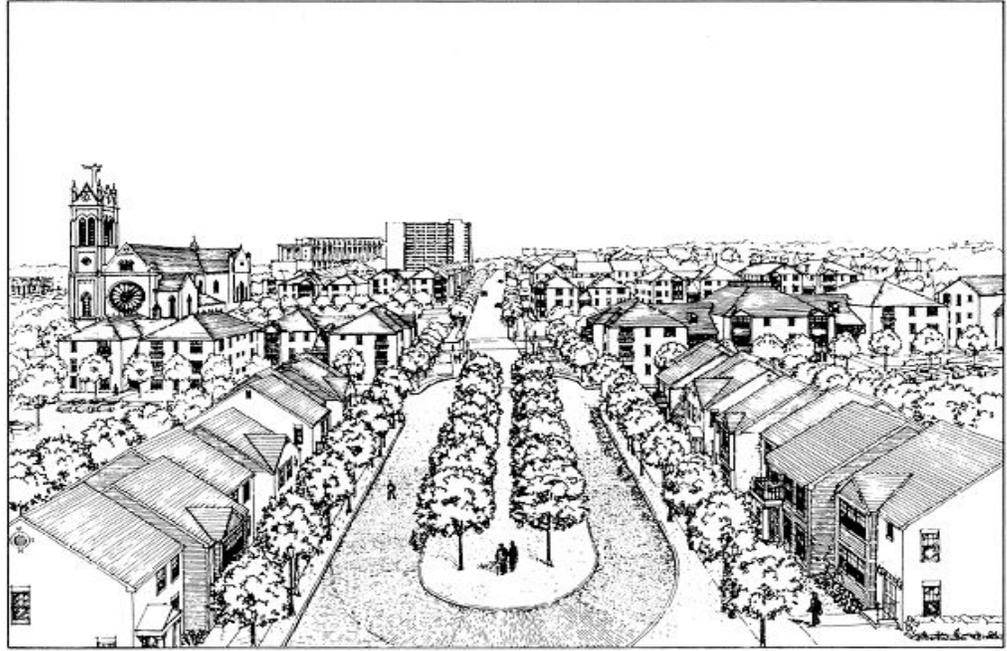
Project Name: Downtown Preservation Project

Total Project Cost: \$8M

Description: Facade, core and shell renovations on at least 6 buildings in Downtown Pittsburgh

Number of Jobs: 102

Bring Back the Grid and Restore the Community



One of the most contentious issues in my short time as Councilman to District 6 has been the question of the future of the Civic/Mellon Arena site, known to residents as the Lower Hill. Whether to demolish or repurpose the site, I have diligently followed arguments from both sides and listened closely to the desires of the Hill District's constituency, eventually reaching the conclusion that demolition and site redevelopment would yield the greatest benefit to the residents of my district. A reconnection of the Lower Hill to Downtown Pittsburgh is only possible by removing the arena. It would both serve as vindication to the harm caused by the dome's erection in the 50's, in which thousands of families were displaced and the Hill was ostensibly cut off from Downtown, but more importantly would provide a direct boon to the community of the Hill District.

My principal concern from

the start has been to maximize the economic and social benefit for the residents of Pittsburgh, specifically those surrounding the arena site. For these reasons I supported the September 16th vote from the board of the SEA to demolish the arena. This was followed by a vote from the City Planning Commission on November 23rd that approved demolition. Questions do remain, and I wish to clarify that my support of demolition does not preclude a blind support for the proposed surface lots to be built before actual redevelopment commences.

On this point I wish to echo the concerns expressed by the Hill District Consensus Group. What would amount to subsidized parking must offer a direct benefit for the community. It is a question of equity and fairness, and I look forward to continuing conversations that have been initiated on ways that revenue generated by new parking could be used to bolster the Hill District community.

Next year will see a continuation of the fight on what to do with the 28 acres that encompass the Civic/Mellon Arena site. Though the timeline has demolition slated to occur sometime in the spring of 2011, opponents will continue their appeal to further delay the process well into 2012. I am opposed to such tactics not only for my support of demolition, but for the fact that monthly maintenance of the building has been estimated at around \$50,000. The added financial burden is unnecessary and irresponsible at a time of economic stress, and it is my intention to work to prevent such delays in my second year in office. More importantly it delays both the preservation and development of the Hill District specifically, and the city in general.

The real question is - are we fighting to preserve a building or to preserve and develop lives.

Development Review (cont.)

Project Name: Federal North

Total Project Cost: Estimated at \$20M

Description: Renovation and new construction in a square block containing the Garden Theater - including residential, retail and office space

Number of Jobs: 84

Current Status: Developer is lining up tenants and securing financing, as well as scoping the 1st phase of the project

Project Name: Heinz Hall/Symphony

Total Project Costs: \$4.5M

Description: New sidewalks; renovated garden area; theater and stage house roofs; stage and chandelier rigging; and sound system

Number of Jobs: None

Status: Anticipated completion – Fall, 2011

Project Name: Hill YMCA

Total Project Cost: \$10M

Description: New YCMA on Centre Avenue

Number of Jobs: 20

Status: Under construction

Project Name: Lower Strip District Project

Total Project Cost: \$30.9M

Description: Produce Terminal renovation, new residential building, parking garage, office building, and infrastructure

Number of Jobs: 1424

2010 Legislative Overview

Below highlights a few pieces of legislation passed this year we thought would be of interest to you. If you desire more information on these or any other pieces of legislation, please contact our office.

(2010-0005, passed 2/2) – Ordinance to require contractors who provide building service and food services to the City of Pittsburgh to pay prevailing wages to employees employed pursuant to such contracts, and to require that building service, food service, grocery, and hotel employees employed on projects receiving City subsidies be paid prevailing wages.

(2010-0009, passed 5/11) - Ordinance amending the Citywide Policy Against Domestic Violence is an extension to include and cover the entire municipal workforce. The policy takes a proactive approach to domestic violence through prevention and training, early warning and intervention, subjection to the Domestic Violence Review Board, disciplinary action, and severability.

(2010-0248, passed 5/25) – Ordinance to increase fines for illegal parking, as fines have not been raised in over 2 decades, the cost of a ticket was lower than parking in a garage Downtown, and the City's Pension Fund is currently facing a shortfall..

(2010-0427, passed 5/11) - Ordinance requiring towing business registration, tow truck driver registration and general requirements related to non-consensual towing of vehicles within the City of Pittsburgh.

(2010-0500, passed 6/1) - Ordinance to permit and encourage sidewalk cafes in the City of Pittsburgh neighborhoods, as a way of providing vibrant enhancements to pedestrian-oriented business districts. Ensures adequate passing space and unobstructed access by police and emergency personnel, ensures the welfare of disabled persons, and streamlines the application process for sidewalk cafes.

(2010-0567, passed 7/27) – Ordinance amending City Code for existing stormwater management requirements to provide more protective stormwater volume reduction standards and Low Impact Development (LID) strategies for planning and construction of publicly funded development and publicly funded redevelopment projects.

(2010-0711, passed 8/2) - Ordinance amending the Citizen Police Review Board to clarify and define the difference between a vacancy and an expiration; to provide a detailed timeline and guidelines for the appointment/reappointment process of board members; to clarify what happens in the event of inaction on behalf of the Mayor or Council in electing members; and to clarify how the current board will be reconstituted, a process that differs from the one to be followed in the future.

(2010-0909, passed 11/16) - Ordinance removing legal powers from gas extraction corporations within the City. The goal of the bill is to prohibit gas drilling of the Marcellus Shale within City limits.

(2010-1140, affirmatively recommended 12/1) - Ordinance requiring City agencies to meet an

Development Review (cont.)

Project Name: Manchester Thomas Betts/Columbus Square/American Elec. Site

Total Project Cost: TBD

Estimated Project Cost:

\$3.75M for the public infrastructure needed for 31 homes/units, plus the construction of 5 homes/units in Phase 1

Description: Public infrastructure (to include new streets; water; sewer; utilities; remediation; and grading of the site) and the new construction of 5 units (Phase 1). Upon completion the site will be home of 31 market rate single family homes.

Number of Jobs: 150 construction

Status: Developer has broken ground on the public infrastructure, and anticipates beginning construction in the first phase (i.e. 5 units) in the first quarter 2011

Project Name: Market Square Place

Total Project Cost: 12.9M

Description: New YMCA, Condominiums

Number of Jobs: 258

Status: Completed

Project Name: Oak Hill Phase II Infrastructure

Total Project Costs: \$7.6M

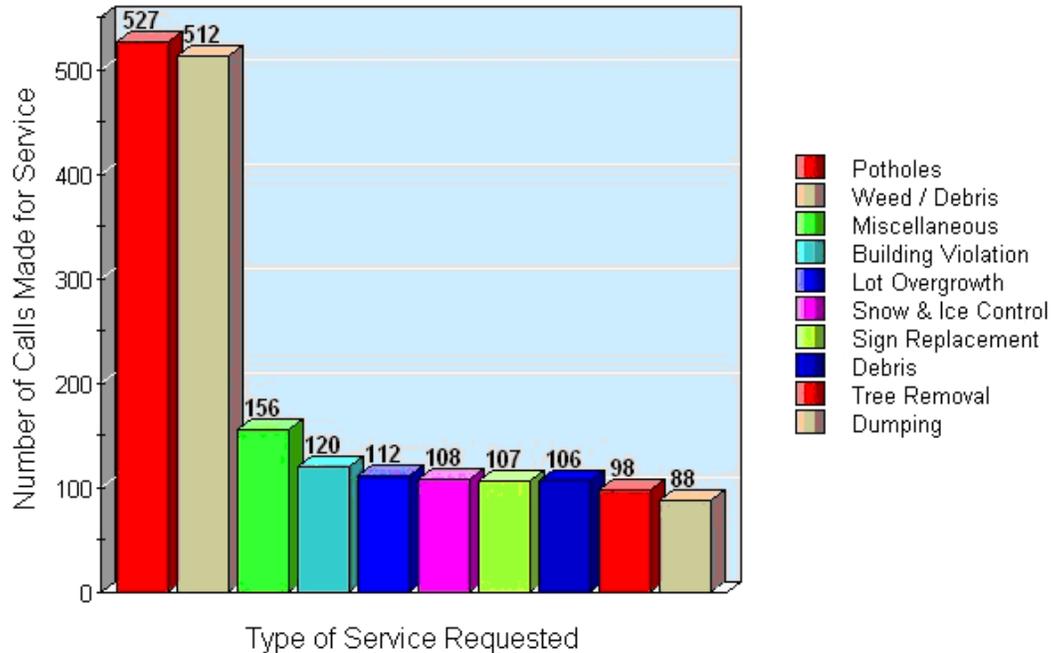
Description: The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh will be responsible for coordinating and constructing the required public improvements needed to support Phase II of the Oak Hill development. Phase II includes a community center and 86 rental housing units. The Phase II development will consist of 45 affordable units and 41 market rate units.

Number of Jobs: 12 full time jobs, 1 indirect full time job

Status: The project is under construction

CONSTITUENT SERVICE GRAPHS

Calls for Service Requested



Calls for Service Resolved

