

2024



CITY PLANNING INSTITUTE

IMPACT REPORT



Center for Community Planning



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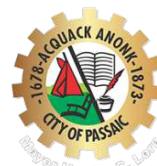
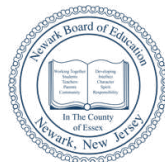
The Center for Community Planning is a nonprofit organization in New Jersey with a mission of engaging young people in the civic processes that govern their communities and guiding them in the process of critically evaluating them. The Center does this by immersing youth in the City Planning Institute, a program designed and tailored to support young people in creating professional community development proposals to present to their elected officials and engage them in real city planning projects happening in their cities.

In the Summer of 2024, the City Planning Institute (CPI) continued its mission of inspiring young people to critically assess their neighborhood and communities and make thoughtful proposals for changing them. The CPI was run in 4 cities this summer, yielding in the development of real projects that will support real planning efforts in each area. This year, the Center for Community Planning is proud to share that all students were paid a stipend for the valuable contributions they made to their city's planning and community development efforts.

This work could not be done without the consistent support from our partners. The City Planning Institute is made possible by a network of organizations, both public and private, as well as individuals that contribute time and resources every year. The Center for Community Planning is eternally grateful for the generous support from each and every one of them.

SPECIAL THANKS

to all of our individual donors and partners





CITY PLANNING INSTITUTE AT A GLANCE

Highlights in 2024:

- 4 cities directly served.
- 72 students enrolled.
- Over 180 hours of City Planning instruction provided to students.
- 18 partnering organizations.
- \$55,000 in student stipends paid.
- 120+ hours of student led field work in various parts of the state.
- 4 final projects and presentations

As of 2024 the City Planning Institute has:

- Facilitated the CPI for over 75 independent student groups.
- Served over 1,500 students.
- Facilitated the CPI in 8 cities and municipalities throughout the state.
- Guided the development of over 40 proposals for youth driven redevelopment projects.
- Raised over \$150K to fund student stipends.
- Partnered with over 40 community-based organizations throughout the state.
- Have had student groups sit on 4 conference panels to highlight their work.



2024 CITY PLANNING INSTITUTE: BLOOMFIELD, NJ *BUSINESS INVENTORY and SIX POINTS PLAN*



The Bloomfield City Planning Institute partnered with the Municipal Internship Program, the City Council and the Bloomfield Center Alliance to conduct a large scale and double pronged project in the city's downtown. First the students conducted a full-scale business inventory, recording each business, its type and condition of building. They organized those businesses and analyzed them to determine possible new businesses to introduce to the downtown area. The second focus of their project was to create a new concept for the design of the infamous "6 Points", where 6 main roads intersect at one point in the central business district. The students created thematic concepts and renderings for each arm of the 6-points intersection using modern designs that promote walkability and movement through the downtown. Students presented their work to their mayor, town council, and community stakeholders in council chambers. Several students are continuing their efforts and leading the development of the first Municipal Youth Guidance Council. They will serve as a team of young liaisons between their elected officials and young community members to ensure that young people remain an integral part of their towns planning process.



2024 CITY PLANNING INSTITUTE: NEWARK, NJ

EMPTY PROPERTY INVENTORY AND PROPOSALS



The Newark City Planning Institute students partnered with the City of Newark and the Summer Youth Employment Program to conduct an empty/abandoned property analysis in their home neighborhoods. They created maps to show the exact location of these properties spanning 3 wards and chose one close to home for redevelopment. Before deciding what they would like to see on their chosen lot, they conducted a business analysis in their respective neighborhoods to see what may be missing from their communities. Using Google Maps and SketchUp, students then created proposals and architectural renderings for what they would like to see on these sites. Their proposals varied and included recreation centers, clothing stores, dentist offices, playgrounds and mixed use community spaces. They presented their work to community stakeholders. Their identification of properties in need of redevelopment will assist the city in identifying these sites city wide.



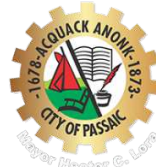
Proposal - 93 Dr Martin Luther King Blvd

- Proposal: mini park/hangout.
 - ◆ Allow a space for everyone to be welcomed
 - ◆ walk around
 - ◆ children or teens can come after school and hangout have some fun.
- Schools nearby and a high school.
- There is also corner stores which you are able to get snacks/food while spending some time at the park with friends.

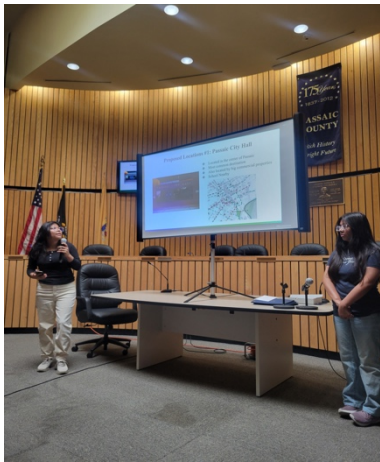


2024 CITY PLANNING INSTITUTE: PASSAIC, NJ

CITY WIDE RENT A BIKE FEASABILITY STUDY



Students from the Passaic City Planning Institute partnered with the Business Administrators office and Neighborhood Preservation Program to assess the feasibility of a new bike rental program in Passaic. The City is in the midst of preparing a full-scale bicycle plan, complete with a tiered bike path system and bike rental stations. Students assessed the proposed plan, and then set out to see what residents thought about it. They surveyed people in the downtown area as well as in their home neighborhoods to see where those bike paths and bike rental stations should be placed. They also conducted traffic studies to see which directions people were traveling in most often. Based on their findings from the survey, the students were able to identify 6 potential prime locations where bike rental stations were most likely to be used, safe and maintained. Students also articulated “things to consider for the city, including a cash rental option for non-card holders and helmet availability. The students presented their final findings and proposals to the Mayor in Council Chambers.



2024 CITY PLANNING INSTITUTE: PATERSON, NJ

VISITOR RETENTION IN THE GREAT FALLS NEIGHBORHOOD



The City of Paterson is home to the Great Falls which draws thousands of tourist visitors every year. The City wants to find creative ways to let visitors know about the wealth of assets in the neighborhood that they can visit to extend their stay and boost the local economy at the same time. Students from the Paterson City Planning Institute canvassed the surrounding neighborhoods for businesses and attractions that would appeal to visitors. They mapped and categorized the attractions and proposed other innovative ideas such as seasonal attractions, ziplines, streetlights to let people know where the neighborhood starts and ends, water sports, and offering business discount packages to visitors. They proposed that the district create a tourist app that would include self-guided tours, trip planning based on interests and highlight cultural places and neighborhoods. They presented their findings and proposals to their elected officials and community stakeholders.

