City Planning Institute

West Haven Corridor Proposal
Summer Youth Employment Program
Newark, 2019
City of Newark

- 282,090 people total
  - Mostly African American and Hispanic
  - 28% are living in poverty
  - 35% have a HS diploma
  - 4% have a graduate degree
History and Assets

- Settled in 1666 by Puritans from New Haven Colony
- Shortened to Newark
- Newark riots → White Flight
- Essex County, Rutgers, Seton Hall, Princeton, NJIT, Berkeley
- Prudential Center, Newark Museum, NJPAC
- Broad & Market, Port Newark
- Whitney Houston, Shaquille O’Neal, & Queen Latifah, Michael B. Jordan
The team traveled over 50 square blocks between South Orange Avenue to Springfield Avenue to evaluate the:

- Condition of the neighborhood and properties
- Properties that are candidates for demolition
- Vacant lots

Loveland Property Survey preliminary results:

- 1,593 individual parcels surveyed
- 158 likely vacant structures
- 257 vacant lots were identified
- 138 parcels had some form of Dumping on them
- 219 had Severe Overgrowth of Vegetation
- 34 had Sidewalks that were Deteriorated/Trip Hazard
West Side Neighborhood

Population: 19,523

- More than 65% Black or Hispanic
- Higher percentage of single mothers than the rest of the city
- Only 19% have a HS diploma vs 35% in the rest of the city

Housing

- Occupied housing: 4,663 people
- Rented housing: 3,609 people
Community S.W.O.T. Analysis

Strengths:
- Churches
- Police stations
- West Side park
- New construction
- Schools
- Transportation
- Concerned citizens

Weaknesses:
- Overgrowth
- Dumping
- Crime/security
- No services
- Vacant land
- Littering
- Graffiti
- “Lonely streets”

Opportunities:
- Empty Lots
- Empty business
- Tree beds
- Concerned citizens
- Parking lots
- Schools

Threats:
- Trash
- Vacant land
- Stalled construction
- Destroyed sidewalks
- Crime/Gangs
Proposal:
West Haven Corridor
“West Haven” Corridor

- South Orange Avenue between 11th Street and 16th Street
- 1.5 miles from Downtown Newark
- Mixed-use and neighborhood commercial zone
- Home to West Side High School
“West Haven” Corridor

- A neighborhood designed specifically for West Side High School students and the residents who live in or near the West Side area
- Will include a recreation center, a sustainable farm, a fresh food market, a cafe, a “chill spot” and a flower garden.
West Haven “Chill Spot”
Property Overview

- 387 South Orange Ave.
- Between 11th and 12th Streets.
- Takes up a whole city block and is around stores and overgrown vegetation
- It is an abandoned corridor that had a laundromat, Papa Johns, and Ambassador’s Fish & Chicken
Proposal

A place where kids can either come and play video games and have a blast with their friends at this amazing West Haven Fun and Games Arcade, or slowly unwind and relax at the West Haven Lounge.

Arcade games

More arcade games with a fooding area

The third floor-gaming area such as Xbox, Playstation etc..

Third floor-vending machine and computer lab

Second floor-lounging area vending machine

Library and work stations to study-vending machine
West Haven “Chill Spot”: Rationale

- Quiet place to study and have fun
- Next to the high school
- Big open space that has not been in use in years.
- Enjoyable for residents
- Close to transportation
- Provides job opportunities for teens
- Families don’t have to worry about their kids being in danger.
- It can be a new space for the Lights On Program
- This will bring a good amount of money into these communities.
- This will create great opportunities and space for tutoring for teens and community service.
West Haven “Chill Spot”: Impacts

- Giving kids a place to study
- Great place for homework help/community service
- Keeps kids off the streets
- Could also possibly create after school jobs for teens as well.
- Gives parents a sense of security to know that there kids are in a safe place that is also very close to home/school
- Make the community a little safer for teens and the residents.
- Having less kids off the streets and something fun or productive.
West Haven Flower Garden
Property Overview

- This is a vacant lot on South Orange Avenue. It’s on the corner of S 12th Street and South Orange Ave. 400-402 South Orange Ave, Newark, NJ.
- It’s on one of the busiest streets in the West Ward, which is South Orange Ave.
- The vacant lot is surrounded by two churches, a new bar, and 2-4 family houses.
Proposal

Tracks

Benches

Gazebo

Flowers
West Haven Flower Garden: Rationale

- It would be the first community garden in the neighborhood.
- The neighborhood currently lacks nature and is dull.
- Provides the neighborhood with a natural look.
- It would be a safe place to relax and spend time with friends and family.
- Bring wildlife to West Side
- It would be a form of education to the neighborhood
West Haven Flower Garden: Impacts

The garden will benefit West side residents, students, and different kinds of wildlife.

- It will be a model for other community groups to follow.
- It would help community members because it would make them in touch with nature.
- It would teach the community that nature is part of our life.
- It would need people who would cut the grass and make the garden nice and clean (jobs!!).
West Haven Sustainable Farm
Property Overview

- 401 South Orange Ave, Newark, NJ
- On the corner of South 12th street and South Orange Ave
- Vacant Lot
- Lot is adjacent to West Side High School and a cemetery
- Proposed to be a Prison
Proposal

Farm Shed
Farm crops
Trees
Fencing
Pathways

stairs
A ramp
Machinery
Lockers

The interior view of the Farm Shed
West Haven Sustainable Farm: Rationale

- Source of raw vegetables, fruits and fresh farm products for the community.
- It would be one of only a few of its kind in the city.
- It could attract people from other cities.
- It creates a job opportunities for students.
- It gives room for learning new skills.
- Students can acquire farming skills.
West Haven Sustainable Farm: Impacts

- It creates job opportunities with boosts the economy
- It is a great source of organic foods
- It creates healthy foods to improve the health of the community
- It is a more healthy way of producing foods than in factories and better for the environment.
West Haven Community Store and Café
Property Overview

- Located at 436 to 444 South Orange Avenue, Newark, NJ between S 14th and 15th Streets.
- The site is a vacant lot, a busy place it's an entire block, corner to corner.
- Around the site is West Side High School, bus stops, and a cemetery.
Proposal

West Side Community Cafe

Outside dining space

Rooftop dining

Glass roof

Service in each corner of the store

Solar panel
West Haven Community Cafe and Food Market: Rationale

- There are no free community store and no cafe in the community.
- The residents lack access to healthy, organic food.
- Residents that work in it will spend their money in Newark.
- The Cafe could also serve as a relaxation spot for teens after school and for residents of the West Side community.
- It would attract more people into the community to eat healthy food from the free store.
- It increases the property tax revenue for the government.
West Haven Community Cafe and Food Market: Impacts

- It would bring new jobs to the teens in the neighborhood, and it would also bring new people into the city.
- It will help the community get stronger by helping teens get a job and providing community service to the homeless.
- It would help residents get healthy food and decrease diseases in the West Side community.
Property Overview

- The property is located at 462 S Orange Ave, Newark, NJ.
- The property is located on a main street, which takes up a whole block and appears to be around two corners.
- The parcel is surrounded by residential properties, opposite a graveyard and close to a high school.
- The parcel is an empty lot.
Proposal

- First Floor
- Second Floor
- Third Floor
- Elevator
- Volleyball court
West Haven Recreation Center: Rationale

- No recreation centers in this neighborhood.
- The rec center will be a good opportunity for the residents because they won’t have to travel long distances to utilize a rec center.
- Some teenagers who live in the neighborhood were asked about their opinion on this project and they were excited.
- There are rec centers in the city but they are situated in the South Ward, East Ward and the North Ward.
- The high schoolers will be hired to work at the rec center.
- High school students across the street deserve access to a state-of-the-art sports facility.
West Haven Recreation Center: Impacts

- The High School students will earn money by working at the rec center.
- The rec center will cause the movement of non-residents who don’t reside in the city but want to access the rec center.
- Individuals will have access to exercise equipment, volleyball court, basketball court, a pool, a table tennis and a pool.
- It will be beneficial to the kids, elderly and also non-residents.
- It will make the community stronger by eliminating some medical conditions that can be cautioned by exercise.
Conclusion