

Perth Amboy Transit Hub Plan



City Council Presentation
March 13, 2024

City of Perth Amboy
Community Planning Assistance Program - APA-NJ
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority



Community Planning Assistance Program - NJAPA

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North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority Transit Hub Program

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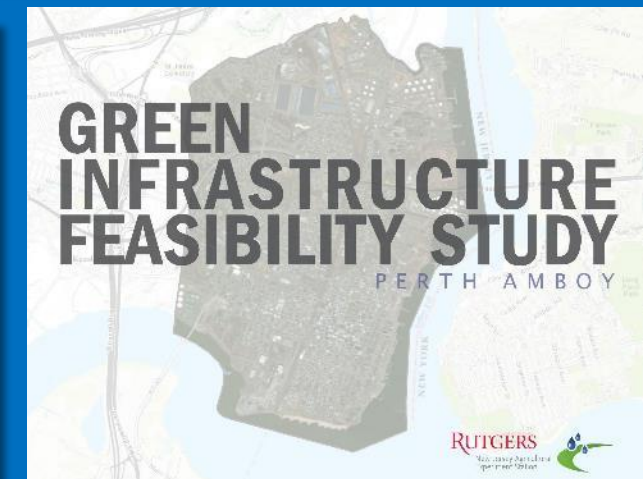
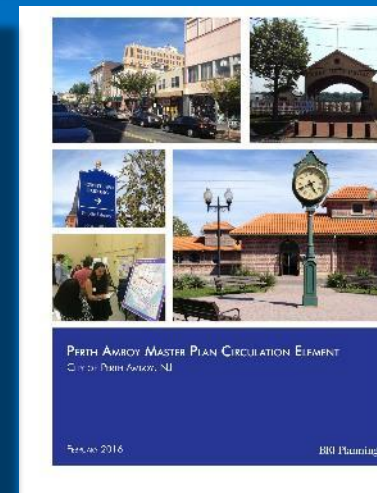
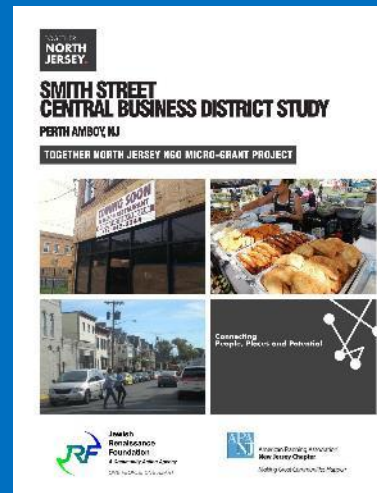
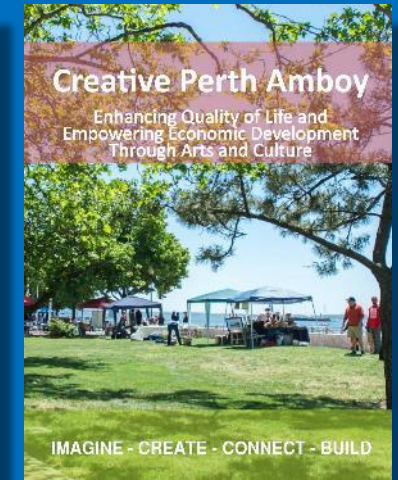
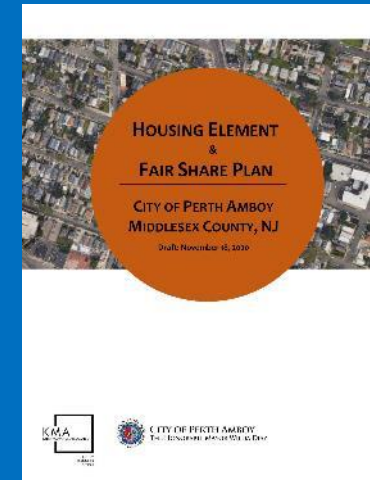
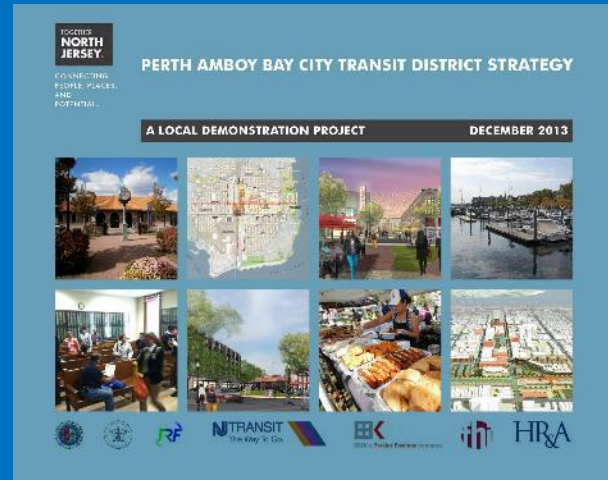
Peter Primavera

Max Vazquez



Building on Existing Plans and Studies

- ❑ The Perth Amboy Bay City Transit District Strategy (2013)
- ❑ The Smith Street Central Business District Study (2013)
- ❑ Creative Perth Amboy (2015)
- ❑ Perth Amboy Master Plan Circulation Element (2016)
- ❑ Fink Park Vision Plan (2022)
- ❑ Housing Element and Fair Share Plan - Draft Plan (2020)
- ❑ Green Infrastructure Feasibility Study (2015)



Informing the Ongoing Planning

The Perth Amboy Bay City
Transit District Strategy (2013)

The Smith Street Central
Business District Study (2013)

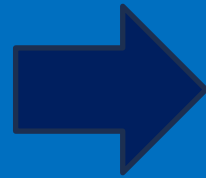
Creative Perth Amboy (2015)

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**Transit
Hub Plan**

**Outreach
and Updates**



**Master Plan
Updates
&**

**Redevelopment
Planning**



Study Area
As defined by April 2023 Area in Need of Redevelopment Resolution

A group of people are seated around a large, U-shaped table in a room with historical murals. The murals depict various scenes, including a soldier with a backpack, a group of people in uniform, and a ship. An American flag is visible on the left. The room has a high ceiling and a large window. The text "Where do we want to go?" is overlaid in white, bold font.

Where do we want to go?

Priorities

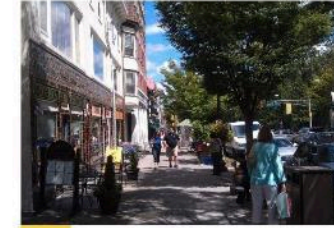
Online Survey

- ❑ Online survey in English and Spanish conducted in fall of 2023
- ❑ 20 questions – a combination of multiple choice, commentary, and visuals
- ❑ Outreach and survey promotion at a few community events
- ❑ Can be an ongoing tool during the planning process moving forward

What Should Sidewalks in Downtown Perth Amboy Look Like?



1A Regular Street Trees and Planters



1B Sidewalk Displays and Signage



1C Landscaped Seating Areas



1D Brick Paver Accents



1E Awnings and Canopies for Shade



1F Outdoor Dining Areas

1

Photo Credits: Google Maps, PWA

What uses could be incorporated into the upper floors of downtown buildings? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Affordable housing
- ☐ Market-rate housing
- ☐ Senior housing
- ☐ Commercial office space
- ☐ Shared office space/Business incubation
- ☐ Space for community organization and arts
- ☐ Other...

Online Survey

Key Takeaways

- ❑ Support for reuse of upper stories for affordable housing or community uses
- ❑ Desire for more parking options
- ❑ Interest in more events like farmer's markets, food festivals, and live music
- ❑ Strong support for making it easier to visit the waterfront
- ❑ Desire for better bus stops, shelters, & secure bike parking
- ❑ Support for existing businesses, but also strong desire for greater mix of business types
- ❑ Encouragement for reuse of existing buildings and facades

Top Survey Selection



Top Survey Selection



Top Survey Selection



Top Survey Selection



Online Survey

“A walkable city is a huge draw and is your connection between downtown and waterfront. Spend money downtown while making your way to relax and enjoy the waterfront and parks or vice versa.” – Survey Response

“Circulating the train station can be tough due to lack of sidewalks or sidewalks in poor condition and the massive staircase to get to the platform (hampers accessibility and can be dangerous when wet/in the winter).”
– Survey Response

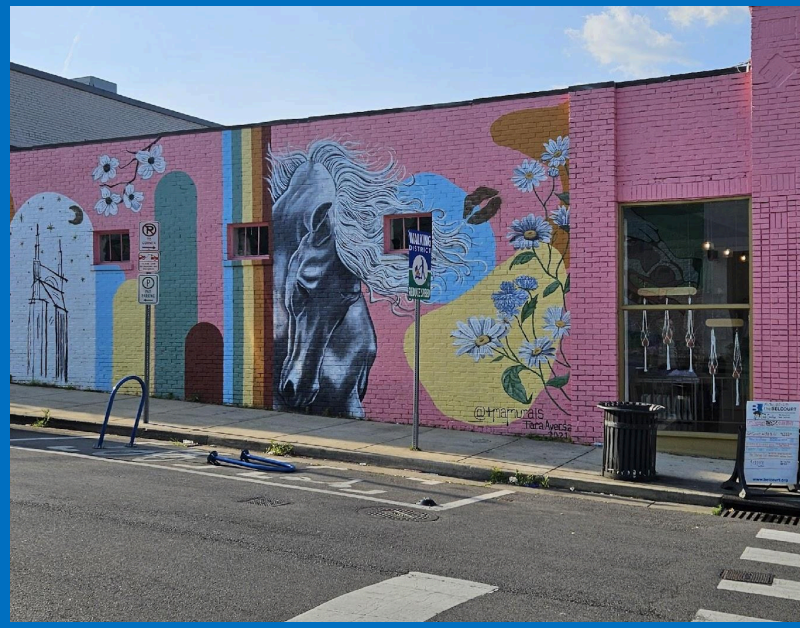
“Driving Smith Street is much like navigating a video games...the double-parked cars and distracted pedestrians are the obstacles.”
– Survey Response

“Our architecture and terra cotta is what makes this city unique and gives it its charm that out-of-towners come to the visit for. Don't turn it into a replica of every other downtown out there.”
– Survey Response

Strategies

Key Recommendations

Build upon Arts and Cultural Resources



Key Recommendations

Parking Inventory and Analysis
needed as part of Master Planning
and Redevelopment efforts



Strategies



Key Recommendations

Provide traffic calming and more accommodation for various mobility types

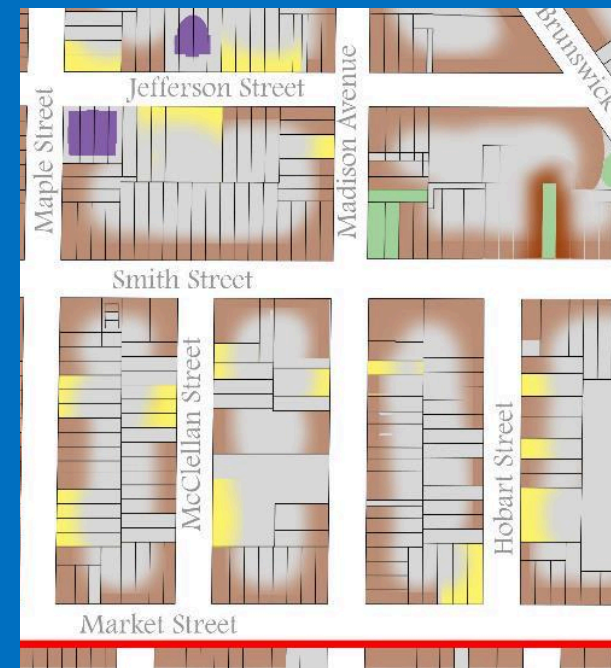
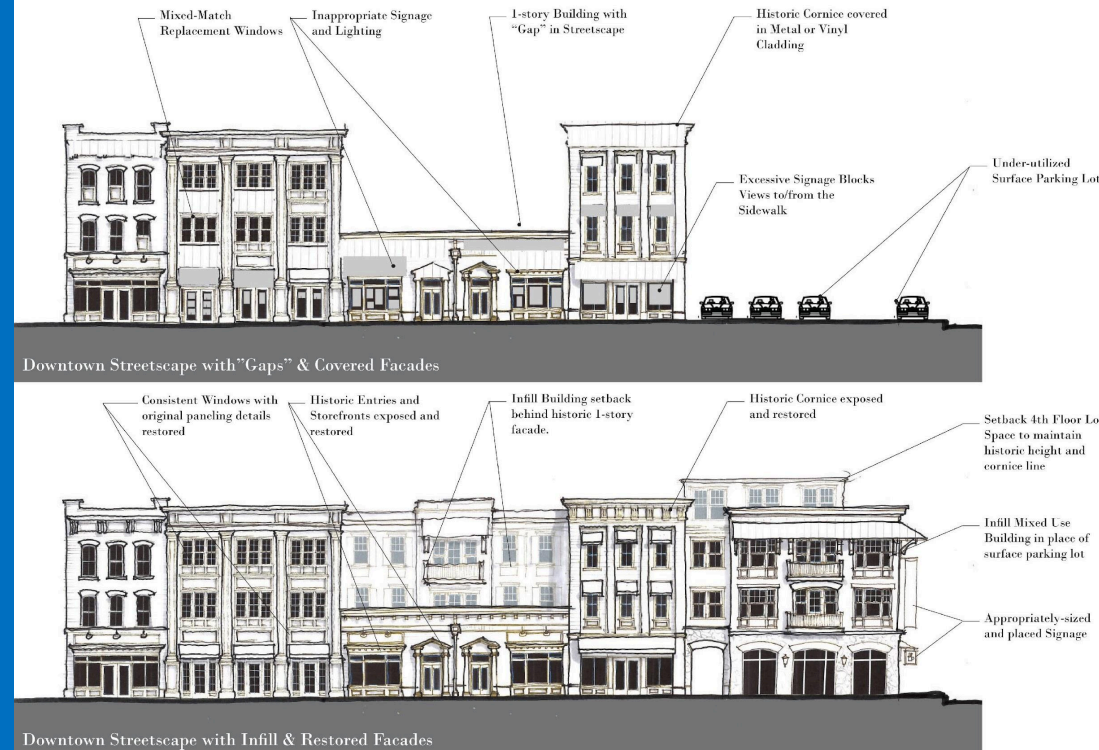


Strategies



Key Recommendations

Use Rehabilitation Plan process to Preserve and Adaptively Reuse downtown buildings and fill gaps



Key Recommendations

Redevelopment for underutilized lots adjacent to rail line

Top Survey Selection



Key Recommendations

Revisit New Brunswick Ave as a pedestrian-street and add public space anchor at west end near train in any redevelopment

Top Survey
Selection



Strategies

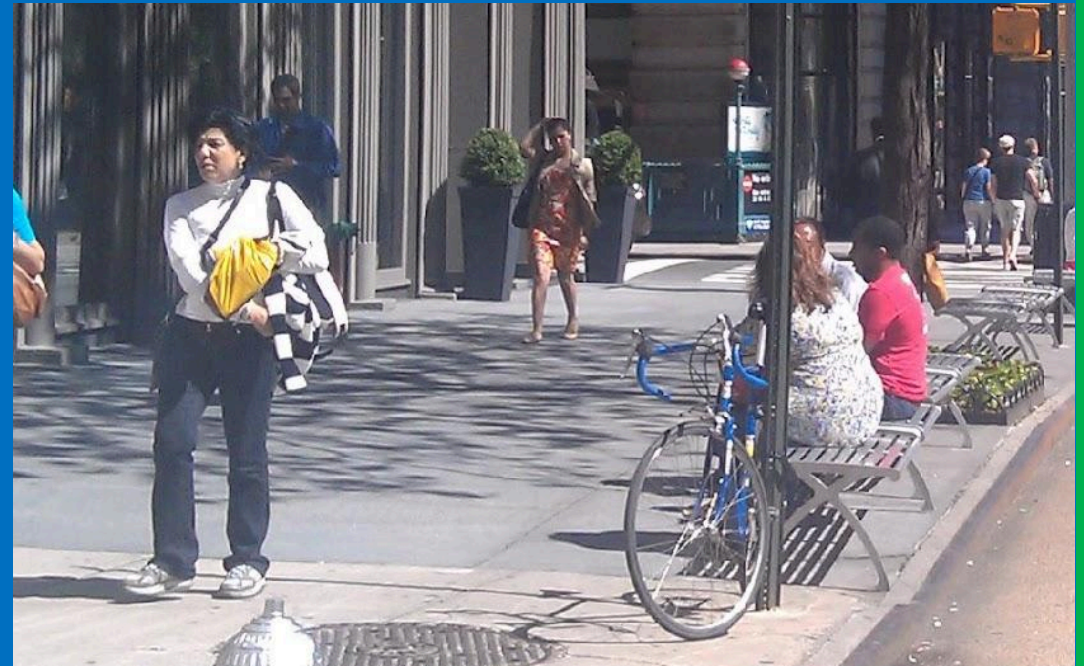


Top Survey
Selection



Key Recommendations

Incorporate new uses and design standards into Downtown



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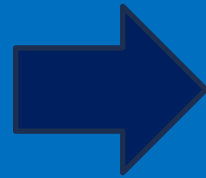
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Key Recommendations

- ❑ Build upon Arts and Cultural Resources
- ❑ Parking Inventory and Analysis part future Planning
- ❑ Provide traffic calming and more accommodation for various mobility types
- ❑ Use Rehabilitation to Preserve and Adaptively Reuse
- ❑ Redevelopment for underutilized lots adjacent to rail line
- ❑ Revisit New Brunswick Ave as a pedestrian-street and add new public space as part of redevelopment to anchor west end
- ❑ Incorporate new uses and design standards into Downtown