Forum Meeting 7-13-17 Notes

* Welcome and Updates
  + Walking in Black History
    - Eric described what his experience as a student during the Walking in Black History trip
      * 39 students went on the trip
    - Depend gave the perspective of a chaperone.
  + Gave a reminder about National Night Out event on August 1st
  + Tolerance video camp
    - Ana talked about the tolerance video camp from the student perspective
    - Sr. Michele and Depend talked about the video camp from the perspective of a supervisor of the video.
    - After Sr. Michele and Depend talked about the Children’s March for Safety, a discussion began about the different safety concerns for pedestrians in the neighborhood.
      * 12th St. and the Bayfront Connector intersection is of specific concern.
  + Sam Miller gave an update on the Erie Coke plant
    - He and others recently walked around the coke plant and observed a great deal of the pollution that is going on in the water as well.
    - Sam also met with a DEP member in Pittsburgh
    - New benches in the overlook spaces will be built in the coming weeks at McClelland Park
  + Gary mentioned how he is meeting with a person from the Department of Environmental Protection on August 9th.
    - Gary will be discussing Erie Coke and also other environmental concerns in the neighborhood.
  + Gary also mentioned that Chris Mong informed him that Harlin Day Care Center is close to being torn down.
    - The city is also considering taking down the house next door to Harlin.
* Discussion on bus shelters
  + Passed out map of bus routes with bus stops in neighborhood
  + Introduced residents to what is happening in other neighborhoods
    - More bus shelters in SSJNN neighborhoods
  + Asked residents about who rides the bus or where they think most people get on and off the bus
  + There was specific concern for students taking the bus, especially with the school consolidation
    - We will try to get someone from both the EMTA and the Erie School District to hear concerns specifically about busing for students.
  + The Tacoma line (Route 22) is the most used route from the discussion
  + Suggested stops that should have bus shelters:
    - Fairmont Parkway & Broad (across from Erie County farms and other stores in that plaza)
    - Buffalo Rd. and Broad
    - 18th & Thompson
    - 18th & June
    - 10th & Tacoma
    - 10th & Marne
    - 11th & Franklin
* Creation of working groups
  + Introduce what the top issues were from February meeting
    - Street safety & road conditions
      * Sr. Michele
    - Neighborhood safety & crime
    - Opportunities for young adults & jobs
      * Gary, Patreece, Depend
    - Vacant lots, blight, and illegal dumping
      * Alva, Tom, Sue Wansor, Kevin
    - Outreach Committee
      * Gary
  + We will spend time during the next meeting about the working groups
  + The groups will also be posted on the Eastside Grassroots Coalition Facebook page with some type of group signup or forum
* Conclusion
  + Reminder of upcoming events and meetings
    - National Night Out on August 1st
    - International Youth Festival on July 29th @ Veteran’s Stadium (football field next to Collegiate Academy)