# **Benjamin Franklin Parkway Action Plan**

Community Meeting – July 30<sup>th</sup>
Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church

## **Project Goal:**

Develop an action plan for the Parkway that is based on civic engagement and, ultimately, leads to a set of projects that can be funded and implemented in the next few years.

### **Agenda**

6:00 - 6:30: Registration and socializing

6:30 - 6:45: Introductions and Welcome

Michael DiBerardinis, Commissioner, Department of Parks and Recreation

6:45 - 7:00: Overview of the Project and of the Work Tonight

Harris Steinberg, PennPraxis

Harris Sokoloff, Penn Project for Civic Engagement

7:00 - 8:15: Small Group Work

Moderators: Germaine Ingram, Ted Enoch, Carol Lyndon, Ellen Petersen

**8:20 - 8:30: Plenary Discussion** Key action ideas and next steps

8:30: Adjourn







Parkway Forum

Location: Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church

Date: July 30, 2012

Moderator: Germaine Ingram

My group, at its largest, was about 18 people----some people filtered in during the course of the breakout session. All except one lives in the surrounding community----some have lived there since the 1960s. The person not from the community lives in South Philadelphia. From appearances, there were just a couple of people who were non-Anglo. The overwhelming majority were women. I would guess that the age range was late-20s to 70s/80s. I would place the majority in the 40s/50s range. There were a couple of parents of young children. One woman works at PMA; another at UArts; a couple of men identified themselves as designers. It was an animated group, with well-formulated and well-articulated opinions about the Parkway's assets and deficits. As distinguished from the two previous groups I moderated, this group made more mention of what they like about the recent improvements on the Parkway. The size and animation of the group, the difficulty hearing one another across the circle, the acoustics in the room increased the moderating challenge. I had to call a halt to cross-talk a couple of times, but overall, participants shared the floor, built on one another's comments, and shared differences of opinion respectfully.

#### 1. Why people came to the meeting:

- ~ The Parkway is a huge, underutilized asset
- ~ Lives in S. Philly, but heard about the forums and was interested in participating
- ~ Wants to make the neighborhood better
- ~ Moved to the area many years ago due, in part, to the proximity to the Parkway; is a long-time leader of the local civic association
- ~ Concerned about auto-hegemony along the Parkway
- ~ Particular interest in making the Parkway more friendly to dogs and dog owners
- ~ Wants something other large events on the Parkway
- ~ Wants to see the Parkway become more friendly to pedestrians, more shady, more bathrooms...
- ~ Likes the recent improvements along the Parkway---got an email about the forum
- ~ Is interested in seeing more "passive recreation" on the Parkway
- ~ Wants to see better ways of dealing with the autos and parking along the Parkway, but concerned about impact on parking for neighborhoods around the Parkway
- ~ Recent improvements are "great"; tourists and local residents are starting to use the amenities now.
- ~ Concerned about the future of Von Colin Field (There was resonance around this comment.

Apparently there are rumors circulating that the City might want to close the field. Several people in the group expressed opposition to this possibility. One person said that Von Colin Field is "extremely important, way beyond the sports")

- ~ "Curious to see what's going on"
- ~ Wants to see changes in the big intersections----they are currently impassable
- ~ Wants to see more uses for Von Colin Field and Eakins Oval---smaller events, more "human scale" activities

- ~ the Parkway is a "special place"
- ~ Pennsylvania Avenue needs a lot of work
- ~ People use the Parkway to get from here to there, but not as a destination. It's hazardous, especially for people traveling with children
- ~ Person who identified herself as "a walker" said that there is no sense of community, and nothing beyond the institutions
- ~ You don't see "engagement" along the Parkway; people don't know where to go, or how to get to where they might want to go.
- ~ Neighborhoods abutting the Parkway need to be integrated into the uses for the Parkway.

#### 2. Who Uses the Parkway?

- ~ Institutions
- ~ Hotels
- ~ Churches
- ~ Tour buses
- ~ People engaged in exercise
- ~ People with dogs
- ~ People with children
- ~ Drivers who use Kelly Drive
- ~ Schools and Colleges (Hallahan High, Moore College, Friends Select)
- ~ Architectural tourists
- ~ Environmentalists
- ~ Fundraisers/Event Planners

#### 3. Who Doesn't Use the Parkway

- ~ Local residents don't use it because there is nothing to do there, although some participants commented that they have seen more use since the recent improvements.
- ~ Tourists don't use it because there is nothing to do, it's hard to negotiate, there is poor signage.
- ~ Runners don't use it because the paths aren't long enough for a good run.
- ~ Given the size of the City, people who don't live near the Parkway don't travel there; however, Sister Cities has become a major draw---perhaps the only destination on the Parkway.
- ~ People with children find it hazardous due to the traffic, the bad intersections, and the lack of shade.
- ~ The fields aren't being used effectively.

#### 4. What do people do along the Parkway

(Do to the press of time, and the fact that Question 2 addresses this question to some degree, I moved on to asking how the Parkway could become more useful and utilized.)

- 5. What would make the Parkway more useful and accessible to you?
- ~ Design distinctive planters that would be consistent along the Parkway, maintained by the local institutions, to help integrate and unify the space; involve local college students in a design competition for design of the planters.

- ~ Engage local musicians for small performances along the Parkway.
- ~ Create spaces that are smaller scale---more human scale, but don't destroy the sense of one big Parkway
- ~ Install a carousel----it's magical and brings people together
- ~ Think about creating multiple uses of the spaces along the Parkway---create more continuity of activities----create "niches" of variable activities
- ~ Better communication about the amenities and features
- ~ More concessions for food, beverages, newspapers...
- ~ High quality children's park----if you build it, they will come (as evidenced by Sister Cities Park)
- ~ Focus on "natural", as distinguished from "commercial" improvements; e.g., add a rhododendrum garden
- ~ Create play areas for adults----an outdoor exercise circuit
- ~ Create places to sit and gather---equip them with concessions, landscaping, game boards
- ~ Create dog parks that are connected to other uses
- ~ Don't be overly impressed by places in New York City----consider how the Parkway is different and play up those assets
- ~ Deal with the "extremely long diagonals" that pedestrians have to deal with----reduce the need for pedestrians to stand on islands waiting for traffic to stop
- ~ Create a way to walk straight up to Eakins Oval
- ~ Reorder traffic; create pedestrian-only crossings; increase time for pedestrians to cross
- ~ Better enforcement of traffic rules
- Better management of trash---more and better receptacles---peddle-operated receptacles

#### 6. What makes the Parkway important?

I had to bypass this question in the interest of time. But extrapolating from the comments in the group, I think they would say that the Parkway is a premier arts and culture location; that it's a distinctly beautiful, green place within the heart of an urban area; that it's an important gathering place for the city as a whole and potentially for the people who live near the Parkway.

#### 7. What would you do first?

Three main ideas/criteria emerged in this part of the discussion (not in order of priority):

- ~ Improve the everyday experience of being on the Parkway----install more plantings and casual seating, improve maintenance, especially after large events
- ~ Improve transportation to and from the Parkway: calm traffic and reroute public transportation; have free shuttles; better information about transportation options
- ~ Make the experience along the Parkway more human-scale: outdoor movies; speakers; small concerts; install a special events stage----for audiences of 250-500 people; create indoor/outdoor restaurants, pop-up restaurants, transferable licenses for restaurants and vendors (rotation of licenses at certain locations in order to create diversity of food offerings), food trucks, a beer garden. But be careful that things don't become too dense!

[The Von Colin Field contingent needs to be acknowledged here. There were suggestions for diversifying the use of that space---adult uses, adult leagues, fitness activities----use the space for more of the year.]

## Parkway Project

Meeting Location: Olivet-Covenant Presbyterian Church

Meeting Date: 7/30/12 Moderator(s): Carol Lydon

There were between 17-20 people in the group. Most lived in Spring Garden or Fairmount, though there was a man from Malvern attending with a friend and a woman from Powelton Village.

The group started out stilted and slow, which lasted through the users/non-users. In fact, I was concerned about the lack of energy because we met in the kitchen, which was warm. I was afraid that the low energy would get worse as the room got hotter. Actually, the opposite happened. As the project progressed and we moved into "things they could do there" and "why the Parkway is important", the energy increased, despite the heat so that by the time we ended, we were having a rousing discussion.

- 1. Why people came out to the forum this evening
  - Neighborhood concern
  - Architect/urban designer with interest in subject (2)
  - It's a good/interesting idea
  - Idea is exciting
  - Want to see rejuvenation of the Parkway
  - Uses the Parkway "a lot"
  - I cross it all the time, would like a reason to stay
  - It can be more than what it is
  - Artist uses the parkway
- 2. Who uses the Parkway:
  - tourists
  - Museum-goers
  - joggers
  - commuters
  - bikers
  - homeless
  - dog owners/walkers
  - school groups

- wedding parties
- event-goers (4<sup>th</sup> of July, parades, etc.)
- parents/kids
- little league/t-ball participants/spectators
- exercise groups
- vendors
- "pool" users (fountains)
- church-goers
- readers
- hawk observers
- Segway-ers
- fitness boot camps
- Yoga
- drivers
- institutions
- workers
- library-goers
- those working at or attending Court
- botanists
- neighbors
- shoppers
- roller-bladers
- skateboarders
- tour buses
- city buses
- cabs
- photographers
- lunchers
- artists
- graduations
- funerals
- those visiting the Rocky statue
- television news media

- 3. People/groups who do not use the Parkway:
  - 2401 Pennsylvania Ave residents
  - commuters
  - it's not diverse (age, race, economic class)
  - elderly
  - handicapped
  - Neighbors use it as a means to get somewhere else, they don't stay
  - adult sports
  - West Philadelphia/University City residents (hard to get to)
  - bird watchers
  - bike renters

## Why not?

- food at events not geared towards everyone, i.e. not healthy
- Big events deter some neighbors don't feel safe, not interested in events
- Not pedestrian friendly
- No toilets
- No parking
- Cross-walks are not placed where people cross
- It's a speedway not inviting
- Lanes are confusing (for driving and crossing/walking)
- It's hard to know when it is closed for events not well publicized
- Trains are not nearby (this is a deterrent for tourists and suburban residents)
- the south side of the Parkway is a "dead zone"
- It's dark at night
- Other than the museums and playgrounds, there's no where to go and nothing to do
- It's closes down at night there's nothing to do there at night after the library and museums close
- There is no communication about what is nearby (restaurants, stores, etc. of nearby neighborhoods)
- It seems like its own "zone" with neighborhoods on either side
- It presents a psychological barrier between the city
- It's VAST there is no "little stuff" to see along the way it's a long walk between attractions

- No store fronts
- The events that take place on the Parkway don't appeal to everyone
- It feels remote
- Crossing Vine St. is "horrible"
- The 22<sup>nd</sup> Street ramp is a "death trap" for pedestrians
- It is designed for drivers, not bikers/walkers
- The area of the 5 points (23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Spring Garden, tunnel) is impossible to cross
- There is nothing interesting along the sidewalks
- 4. What people do along the Parkway (uses):

I started this conversation, but before it could take off, they started talking about what people actually wanted from the Parkway. Some people said they preferred the idea of empty space and didn't want it cluttered with more stuff and especially more people. There was a lot of discussion about whether they wanted to attract people from other parts of the city/region and how that would affect parking, for one thing. There was a general feeling among about half of the participants that they didn't like living near the Parkway because of the large events. The other half either accepted it ("you knew what you were getting when you moved here") or enjoyed it.

5. In addition to those current uses, here are some other things they could do there: (with possible "early action items" starred):

- Outside art
- beer garden
- skywalk
- bus loop
- use the existing buildings as space for projected images
- monorail (long-term idea)
- trash cans with pedals so you don't have to touch them
- recycling receptacles
- easier traffic patterns
- art shows put on by schools and university students
- concert by the Curtis Institute students
- Use the Eakins Oval as a amphitheatre for plays, concerts, movies (this would involve removing the parking)

- Shakespeare
- Jazz/classical concerts
- Shuttles from Univ. City/West Philadelphia
- Make it more pedestrian friends near MLK Drive
- Dances (big band, Cajun, etc.)
- Ethnic concerts
- Move the Christmas Village from City Hall to the Parkway
- Toilets
- Sheltered areas to get out of the sun/rain
- Bike sharing
- Bike rentals (beyond Kelly Drive)
- Bring back the snowflakes on the flagpoles (holiday décor)
- Small fireworks displays
- Christmas caroling
- Sing-alongs (e.g. the Messiah, other works (classical or popular)
- Cafes, especially those that are open late, with beer/wine/cocktails
- "Flash" events (invitations by Twitter and other social media) such as Yoga or dance or music
- Flash art
- Buses that go directly to the Parkway
- Universal passes to the institutions (one-day passes to all, weekly passes, etc.)
- Open the train line from Fairmount to Center City (long-term goal)
- Shuttle from train station (both for every day use and for special events)
- Shuttles for special events (park and ride)
- Feature events that normally take place in a certain neighborhood for a "taste of (neighborhood)" (\*Note: in order to clarify that I understood the idea I suggested that in my neighborhood, we have lots of Mummers events throughout the year such as concerts and parades, but Center City only sees the parade on New Year's Day and asked if he meant having an event that we in Pennsport do regularly, but putting in on the Parkway. He agreed. So, that's what this means.)
- Close it or outside lanes at certain times for biking, strolling, roller-blading, etc.
- Connect events on Kelly Drive with the Parkway.

- Kiosks displaying neighborhood events, establishments Suggested that these be in different languages
- Information kiosks, also in several languages
- Apps for smart phones
- A parkhouse (perhaps run by the Center City District) offering guidance, information, assistants (multilingual)
- Moveable seating
- Convert Eakins Oval into ice skating rink
- More space for children to play more playgrounds
- Water spray parks
- Don't allow playing in fountains
- Vendors
- Food
- An adult playground
- More creative horticulture important to keep some green, open spaces.
   Perhaps keep the kiosks on the outer fringes/lanes

## 6. Why the Parkway is important:

- It's a gateway to the City
- It's a gateway to the park
- Cultural gateway
- It's a great diagonal
- It's the most beautiful part of the city
- It provides access to the park
- It's "our home"
- Green
- A moneymaker/potential moneymakers
- There is great potential to be more than it is
- It's our equivalent to Central Park
- It has the ability to unity a lot of communities
- It's a little bit of country in the middle of the city
- Cuts down on congestion
- "My front lawn is the Parkway"
- Creates better air quality
- "It feels like Philadelphia"

- 7. If we can't do it all, the things we should do first are:
  - Increase walk ability improve crosswalk locations
  - Improve lighting
  - Have smaller events more often and with a lot of variety
  - Have 2-3 events going on at the same time at different locations
  - Remove parking at Eakins Oval convert space to amphitheatre
  - Make is more visually interesting
  - Toilets!
  - Beer garden

## Parkway Project

Meeting Location: Olivet Church Meeting Date: July 30, 2012 Moderator(s): Ellen Petersen

## About the group: There were 12 women, 5 men and 2 babies (with the women)

- 1. Why people came out to the forum this evening
  - I completed a survey about parkway traffic two years ago, nothing happened
  - Pedestrian issues
  - Traffic, parking
  - People are parking here because they don't want to pay to park elsewhere in the city
  - Issues regarding walking around the neighborhood
  - There is a plan that was done by the Rittenhouse Architects and should be used (AI)
  - Family friendly issues for the Parkway
  - I live in the neighborhood and want to see what is going on
  - I live in Mount Airy and come here to bike
- 2. Who uses the Parkway:
  - Neighbors
  - Residents
  - Families with children
  - Visitors (to Museums and Parkway)
  - Owners of area real estate
  - Computers
  - Dogs
  - People who come for recreation
  - Homeless
  - Bikers
  - Walkers
  - Drivers
  - Parkers

3. People/groups who do not use the Parkway, and why not:

There was not any real discussion of this as the group was sensitive and wary about who else they could attract to the parkway. They thought there was a comprehensive stakeholder list already and felt it was oversubscribed at big events.

- 4. What people do along the Parkway (uses):
  - Walk (but not sit and relax)
  - Transitory path
  - Passageway
  - Go to playground and sit
  - Attend special events
  - Local musicians play music (jazz, etc.)
  - Museums
  - Don't eat
  - Go to Whole Foods (no other food and shopping)
  - Go to Library
  - Picnicing at Sister Cities Park
  - Lie down on green spaces
  - Play chess (on concrete tables and chairs)
  - Playground
  - Biking
  - Jogging and exercise
- 5. In addition to those current uses, here are some other things they could do there: (with possible "early action items" starred):
  - Street cleaning for litter
  - Trash cans\*
  - Shade for pedestrian routes
  - Consider traffic light sounds for blind people
  - More light enforcement
  - Put in small places to sit around the concrete chess tables
  - Street corner type entertainment

- Less mega "big tent" entertainment (with two to three weeks clean up) and more small entertainment
- Pedestrian bridges if you can't stop traffic
- Take care of railroad pit at 21<sup>st</sup> and Hamilton-cover it, or make it a walkway, and find another place for police cars to park
- Put in bus from 30<sup>th</sup> street to the parkway
- Build the proposed rail line
- 6. Why the Parkway is important:
  - For splendor and beauty (over function)
  - Boulevard of Arts
  - Major recognized icon
  - It differentiates Philadelphia
  - Evacuation route (not sure if this is true but if so should be considered)
  - Largest public space in the city
  - Designed for flow of people as seen by the circles
  - It is the wedge connecting Fairmount to Fairmount Park
  - It connects the rivers
  - It is a major commuter artery (and designed like one)
  - Green space for recreation
  - Cultural destination
  - Designed open space for places of art and works of art
  - Green space for beauty
  - Open space
  - Oxygen contribution
  - Major parking lot for visitors (too cheap to pay elsewhere)
  - Enriches the city
- 7. If we can't do it all, the things we should do first are (\*Please note \* which notes group priorities. They each had opportunity to mark their top three priorities):
  - Better pedestrian passageways \*\*\*\*\*
  - Put more trash cans \*\*\* (fits quick, simple and highly effective criteria for taking action)
  - Re-pattern traffic lights (e.g. lengthen at Pennsylvania as one example) \*\*\*
  - Better parking solution \*\*

- Community College has parking lot that can be opened on the weekends to ease parking congestion. Can charge money if they wish as well
- Pedestrian walkways and pocket parks
- Use Rittenhouse and Washington Square parks as models: zones for a lot of unstructured activity

#### 8. Barriers:

- Need museum incentives for people in the neighborhood
- Need a museum "bundle pass" for two or three attractions in a period of time
- Need a café between 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Need for parking- it is currently a barrier to any change
- Lacks pedestrian walkways
- Crossing the streets, light patterns. Some too long and people ignore
- Unfriendliness of museum buildings. They are destinations within, not meant for street life
- No restaurants or shopping
- No intimate sitting spaces
- Seating spaces can't be moved
- Lack of responsiveness of government (issues of closing off neighborhood on July 4<sup>th</sup>)
- Homeless situation has to be dealt with-they are at the fountains, benches, they are scary to people and need to be helped

## Parkway Project

Meeting Location: Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church

Meeting Date: July 30, 2012 Moderator(s): Ted Enoch

About the group: A paragraph about the group: number of people, demographic break down, energy of the group, etc.

A robust and engaged group attended the Benjamin Franklin Parkway Action Plan forum tonight at Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church. A capacity crowd meant for large break-out groups and the one moderated by Ted Enoch was no exception. The group was comprised of about 17 highly invested and interested adults who were mostly neighborhood residents living close to the Parkway. The group was roughly split along gender lines, was almost entirely white, and most were middle-aged or older. Most were home-owners and all cared deeply about the proceedings, though most, if not all, were very intersted in the views of others and were ready and able to listen to one another and build upon the numerous ideas that zinged and pinged throughout the group.

- 1. Why people came out to the forum this evening
  - This is my neighborhood true for most in attendance I walk the Parkway everyday for work.
  - This is where I jog. I love the museums.
  - I walk through often. I care about the events. I bring my grandchildren here.
  - The Philadelphia Museum of Art is important to me. I am here often. I have a sense of ownership for the Parkway.
  - The people are friendly here.
  - Zumba (and other group fitness classes)
  - I moved here for the facilities and institutions, but, there is a definite people/traffic conflict going on here.
  - I like to bring visitors to this area. It's a great place to show off Philly, but I'd like to enhance its "pedestrian friendliness"
  - I am driving through the Parkway all the time.
  - I have studio space here and I wanted to represent our studios and our upcoming open studio events.
  - I am very interested in the future of the Parkway
  - Want to see a balance of recreation and other activities

- Want to see what my neighbors' ideas are
- Love to see a more "Parisian" future, one that is eloguent, enhave the blvd aspect. Love to see that groove...

#### 2. Who uses the Parkway:

- Tourists
- Neighbors
- Commuters
- Big Events, so the whole city and broader region
- Joggers, walkers, bikers, dog walkers...
- Parents and children
- Roller bladers, sequeers (sp?)...
- Museum goers
- Fairmont Athletic Association and other sports leagues
- Waders in the fountains
- Schools and their sports teams (like Roman Catholic)
- Homeless, for food, benches and pretty spaces
- Lovers, for walks and romantic dates
- Weddings, wedding pictures, artists...
- Library goers
- Family Court goers
- Walkers and other work commuters
- Those who are strolling and relaxing
- People watchers
- Charity events, 5K runs, fundraisers
- Church goers
- Bike racers and spectators
- Paraders and watchers and revelers
- Bus riders
- Tour buses
- TV and News Crews
- Taxis
- Free or cheap daters
- Shoppers, grocery store goers and other shop patrons
- Moore College of Art students
- School buses
- Adult recreation seekers

And when asked if there was a difference between "Stakeholders" and "Users" the group identified these **additional stakeholders**:

- Philadelphia, this is our calling card, our iconic image. To the region, this is how we communicate and realize our "great city."
- Cultural Institutions
- Business, merchants, restaurants
- PA and the US, this is when we are a "world wide attraction" and setting for major events
- Frequent Users
- Parks and the Streets departments.
- 3. People/groups who do not use the Parkway, and why not:
  - Truck drivers during work -- forbidden
  - Elderly walkability and access issues, lack of bathroom facilities
  - Non white people in many places, but the fountains and library are noted exceptions. Economics and a lack of welcoming or sense of connection or ownership were cited
  - Regional folk, like folks from Bucks County. Perhaps a sense of danger or lack of safety prevents greater use...
  - People with disabilities, likely due to lack of accessibility and facilities
  - Public transit users no subway stop and few buses come here

And general barriers for any and all were though to be:

- Many activities are cost prohibitive
- The area is not pedestrian friendly, very disruptive
- There is a lack of info and promotion. People often stumble into lesser events and fundraisers.
- 4. What people do along the Parkway (uses):
  - Please see 1 and 2 for current users, including those reasons listed for why people came tonight...
- 5. In addition to those current uses, here are some other things they could do there: (most were "early action items"):
  - Food Trucks could be maximized with designated areas and consistent lineups

- Beer of Wine Gardens Many wanted them where the current parking now is in Eakins Oval, most wanted that parking removed
- Ice Cream business or kiosk or station
- Other weekend only businesses
- A more permanent cafe Moore College
- Numerous programming ideas:
- Tango and dance classes
- Pianos for public use
- Concerts of varied types on a regular basis create a stage or pavilion to support and enhance this
- Film showings
- Art shows and sales
- Light shows and other night activities
- Activity ideas:
- Game tables, like chess and checkers. Some thought that just north of the current baseball park and batting cages would be a great location
- Bike Sharing
- More playgrounds. For children and adults. "SPRAYgrounds" and other water park ideas
- Workout stations
- Walking tours, including through and into Cultural Institutions
- Making Parkway more pedestrian friendly (at times or in general) ideas:
- Weekends close center lanes to traffic and let it be open for walkers/bikers, like MLK Drive on weekends
- Traffic Cameras or guards to slow cars, help walkers
- Longer lights on weekends to support walking, crossing
- A pedestrian bridge on both sides of parkway to support travel from PMA and across Eakins Oval traffic to S. River trail (this idea had detractors)
- Any and all "car traffic slowers" and pedestrian friendly ideas
- Is Spring Garden street bridge open beneath Eakins Oval?
- Infrastructure Ideas that will promote activity and use naturally:
- Wi-Fi areas
- Mobile/movable chairs
- Public Bathrooms
- Creative and enhanced lighting to promote night use
- More trees/shade
- Free bus stations/loopps that take users from CC to PMA and back

- Cab stands/stations
- Repairing fountains (like on PMA) and utilizing guards if needed, to maximize natural beauty of existing structures
- A stage or pavilliion for programmed and spontaneous public use, supports music, theater, poetry, etc...

### 6. Why the Parkway is important:

- Due to its beauty, its views, the unrivaled panoramic views
- Its connectivity, the way it connects our cultural institutions, center city and our park(s)
- The green spaces, its spaciousness
- Its sense of destination, setting and place.
- It's a city oasis that is proximate and central to so many
- Its a unifier and connector. Physically and culturally through many events
- It's a main thourougfare for cars and commuters
- It's "angledness", its lack of being part of a grid, makes it different
- It's iconic
- Openness and views
- The way it connects us to the world, the flags
- Historic
- Timeless and historic, there is a coherence here
- It's free, beautiful public space

# 7. If we can't do it all, the things we should do first are:

- Restrooms. This will support other uses. Artists can enhance the look of these.
- A free bus loop. Will enhance predictability and accessibility.
- Any and all traffic slowers to enhance the pedestrian experience. Many suggested weekend and nighttime patterns.
- Game tables.
- Remove parking from Eakins Oval.
- More food and drink options.
- Any and many of our programming ideas.
- Bike sharing.