

# Profiles of Baltimore's Neighborhood Tours

## 1 Reservoir Hill/Pennsylvania Ave: INSPIRE Neighborhoods and Schools Planning

This tour will introduce participants to a new program called INSPIRE (Investing in Neighborhoods and Schools to Promote Improvement, Revitalization, and Excellence). INSPIRE focuses on the ¼ mile area surrounding each modernized school that is a part of the 21st Century Schools Initiative, a city/state/foundation collaboration investing nearly \$1 billion to renovate or replace schools over the next several years. Focusing on a limited geographic area allows plans to concentrate impact around the school so that assets and investments support the school as a community resource and build on each other. Tour-goers will visit John Eager Howard Elementary School which is under full replacement and meet with staff from Whitlock Farm and Dovecote Café who are revitalizing the neighborhoods and engaging in programming at the school.

## 2 Arts and Culture in Highlandtown

This tour will take participants to the East Side of Baltimore, led by Chris Ryer and Kari Snyder of the Southeast Community Development Corporation. The tour will first pass through the McElderry Park neighborhood, site of a three-year Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Grant. A brief stop at Library Square will provide a discussion of the housing market in the area and then the tour will continue eastward to Highlandtown. Highlandtown has been home to many immigrant communities including recently, Latinos. A journey down Conkling Street and Eastern Avenue and through the Highlandtown Arts District will follow, past shops, cafes, galleries, murals, and art installations, ending at the Creative Alliance, based at the Patterson Theater. Our tour guides will share stories about the role data has played in community revitalization and how arts have shaped the community.

## 3 Water Quality in Baltimore's Inner Harbor\*

Participants will take a boat tour of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Kim Grove of the City of Baltimore's Department of Public Works (DPW) will lead the tour with an explanation of the City's stormwater management efforts, including a discussion of the partnership between DPW, BNIA, and the Urban Waters Federal Partnership led by the EPA. Adam Lindquist of the Waterfront Partnership will discuss the Healthy Harbors initiative and its goals for a swimmable harbor. The boat will dock and participants will disembark and learn about Baltimore's internationally recognized Trash Wheels that were designed and built in Maryland to process all of the garbage and debris that clutters that harbor after traveling from upstream sources. Both partners will share their experiences with data collection for stormwater management in the City and the role that BNIA plays in compiling and creating databases to reveal the story to a wider audience. **\*Please note:** Dress appropriately with flat-soled shoes. If you have any mobility concerns or suffer from seasickness please consider one of the other tours.