 

Pittsburgh Neighborhood Tours

Wednesday, May 6th, 2015

1. **Urban Disasters and Resiliency: An Urban Hike on Pittsburgh’s Northside** – From stadiums surrounded by a sea of parking, to elevated highways that divide and separate neighborhoods, and even wanton demolition of historic structures to make room for a suburban-style shopping mall, Pittsburghers from generations past have really gone out of their way to screw-up Pittsburgh’s North Side. Despite these and many other 20th-century mistakes, this tour will be a story of resiliency. On this brisk walking tour, you’ll learn how community leaders in Pittsburgh’s North Side have worked to build on a still considerable asset base to mitigate and undo the mistakes of the past, and build a brighter future for area residents. Bring comfortable shoes!
2. **Neighborhood Bingo in Lawrenceville** – From its early claim to fame as the birthplace of musician Stephen Foster (1826), Lawrenceville has certainly changed over time. In the Civil War, it was home to one of America’s most-important arsenals and Andrew Carnegie’s first iron works, the Lucy Furnaces. In recent years, the neighborhood transformed from a nationally recognized Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (RAND, 2004), to one of the “26 Most Hipster Neighborhoods in the World” (Business Insider, 2014). We’ll cover the range of changes in Lawrenceville through the eyes and ears of the neighborhood’s community development specialists and residents in the 21st century, and also discuss current challenges. This tour will be a combination bus/walking tour, with several stops to stroll around the neighborhood and play bingo. Prizes to be determined.
3. **Larimer and Connected Community Development** – In 2010, the Larimer Consensus Group and Green Team produced the Larimer Vision Plan, which set the stage for the next twenty years of plans and revitalization for this impoverished neighborhood located in the city’s East End. We’ll begin at the Kingsley Association, a 21st century community center tied to its 19th century settlement house roots, and view new transformations and sustainable development in the neighborhood, including beginning work on the 2014 [Choice Neighborhoods Initiative](http://www.discovereastliberty.com/choice-neighborhood-initiative-implementation-grants-focuses-next-generation) Implementation grant for East Liberty Gardens. This tour will be by bus, with 15 – 20 minutes of walking.