Pittsburgh Regional Transit

Herron Station: Station Area Plan

Public Meeting #1

22 June 2023

Today's Objectives

- Provide an overview of Station Area Planning
- Provide an overview of the project, scope, and timeline
- Share existing feedback we have heard from the community
- Discuss synergies with other projects and initiatives
- Discuss goals for the project and answer questions



PRT Planning Overview

Station Area Planning

PRT's Approach to Herron Station

- **Station access** – making it easier and safer for people to get to the station, prioritizing upgrades that make the station accessible for all riders
- **Station design** – making PRT facilities more comfortable and easier to use
- **TOD feasibility –** coordinate with the City and URA to investigate how nearby developments can be better connected to Herron Station, identify community goals for future TOD offsite



Why Herron Station?

- Herron Station is isolated and underutilized
- Improvements can make using the station a more attractive option for existing residents and employees
- The Herron Station area has become attractive for new development, creating new ridership potential
- PRT and community organizations want to make transit a safe, comfortable, and easy choice for new residents, employees, and visitors.

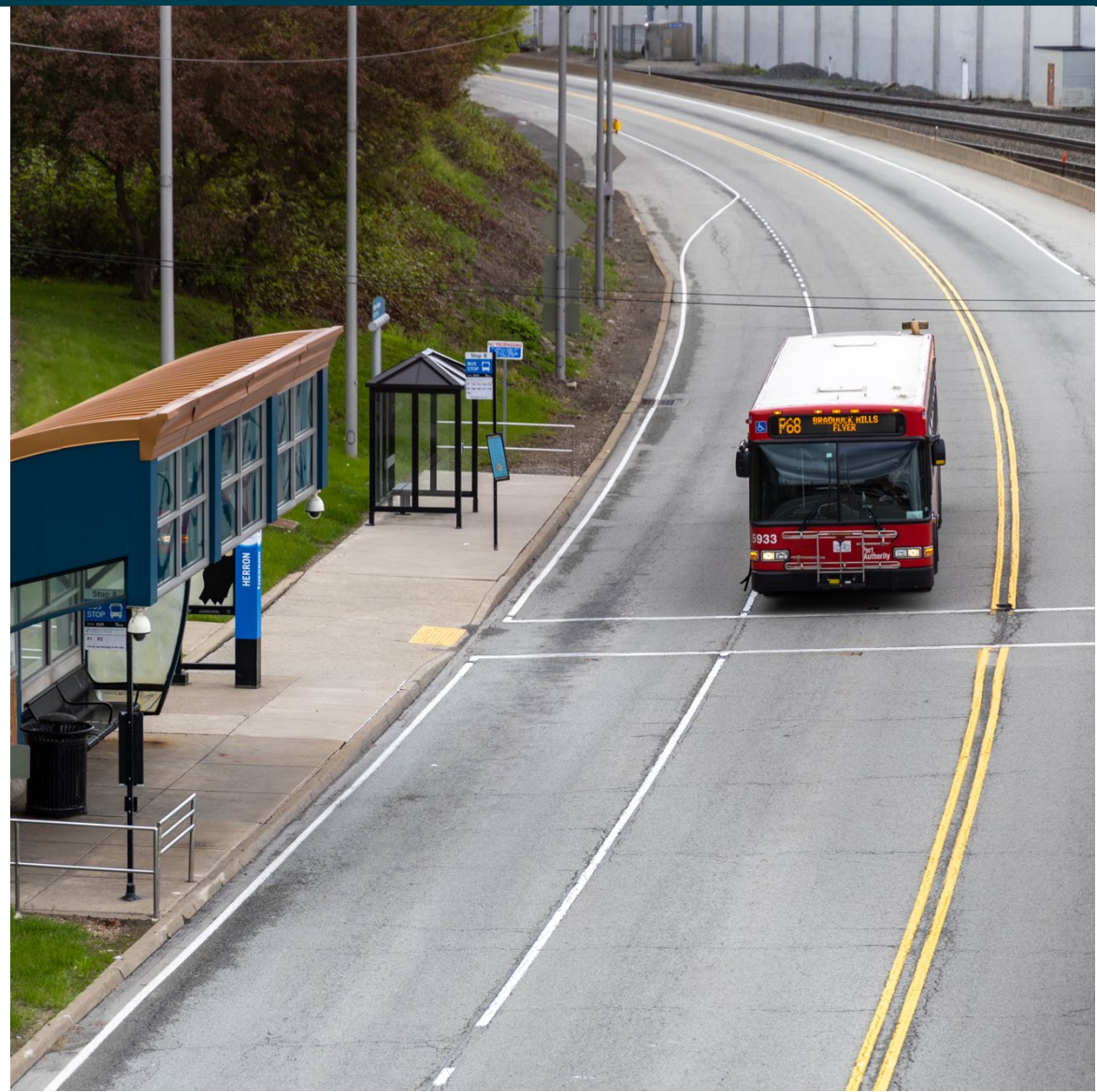


Station Area Plan

The Herron Station Area Plan will include recommendations to improve the station itself and make the station more accessible from the surrounding neighborhoods.

- Community engagement:
  - Three rounds of public engagement, each round will feature pop-up events and online virtual presentations.
  - The project is advised by a steering committee that includes Lawrenceville United, Lawrenceville Corp, Polish Hill Civic Association, and Strip District Neighbors.

- The project will conclude by December 2023.



Herron Station

Project Overview

Project Area

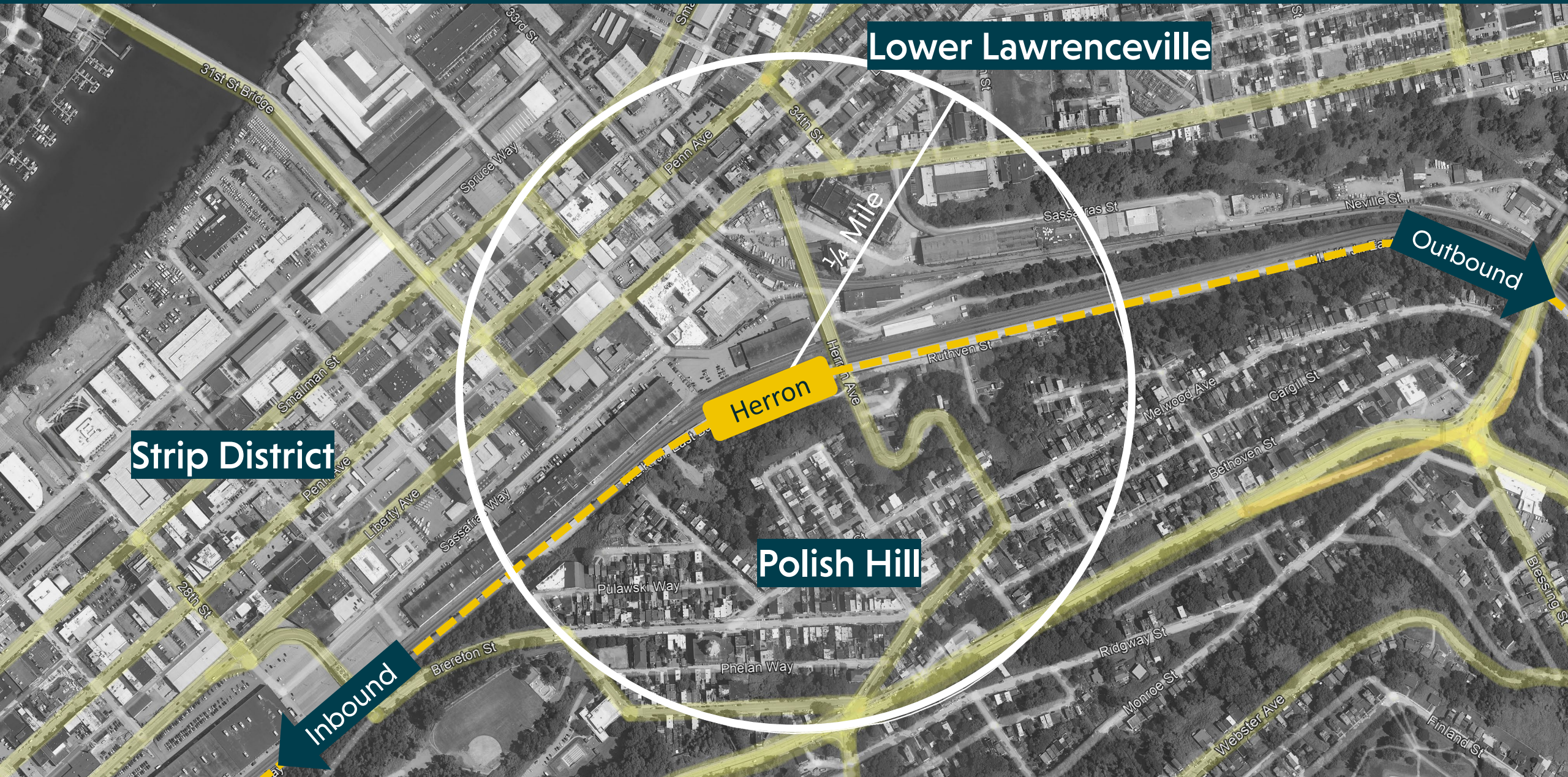
Herron Station



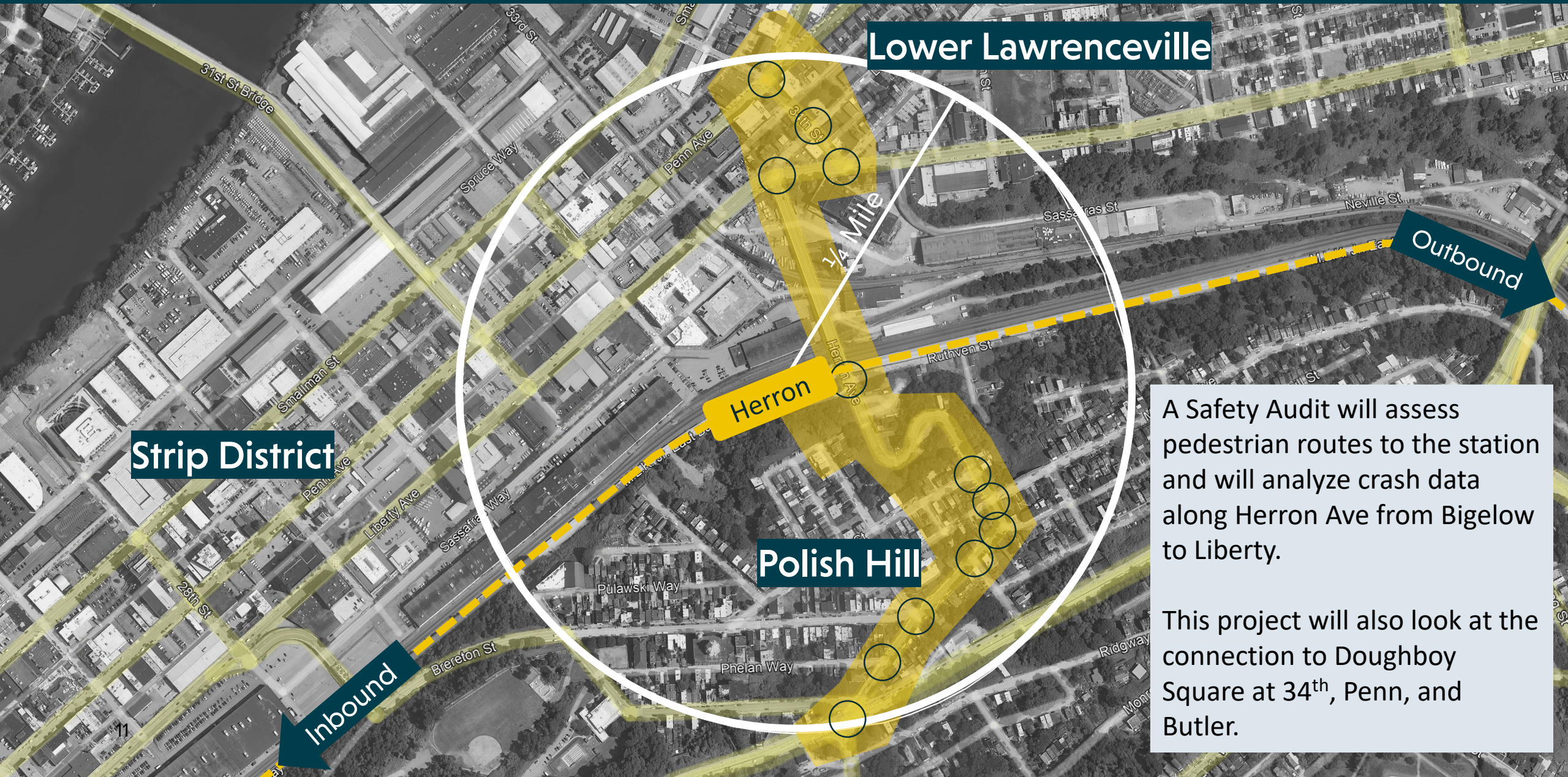
Herron Station



Herron Station



Herron Station



A Safety Audit will assess pedestrian routes to the station and will analyze crash data along Herron Ave from Bigelow to Liberty.

This project will also look at the connection to Doughboy Square at 34th, Penn, and Butler.

Existing Conditions Overview

Existing Conditions Analysis

Existing Conditions

- Current residents in Polish Hill could benefit from easy access to the station.
- Steep terrain makes it challenging for residents to access and utilize the station.





Existing Conditions

- Herron Station is near areas with great development potential.
- There is an opportunity to highlight Herron Station as an asset to the multiple communities that are growing.





Existing Conditions









Existing Conditions









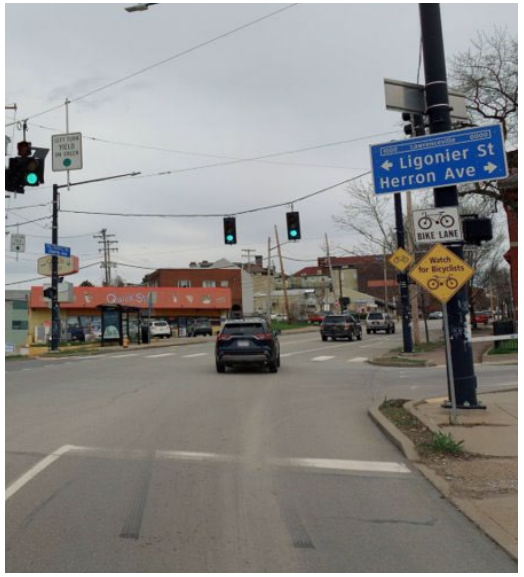
Concurrent Projects

- Liberty Ave Intersection
- Herron Ave Bridge Preservation

Liberty & Herron Intersection (DOMI Project)

The project is entering into final design now

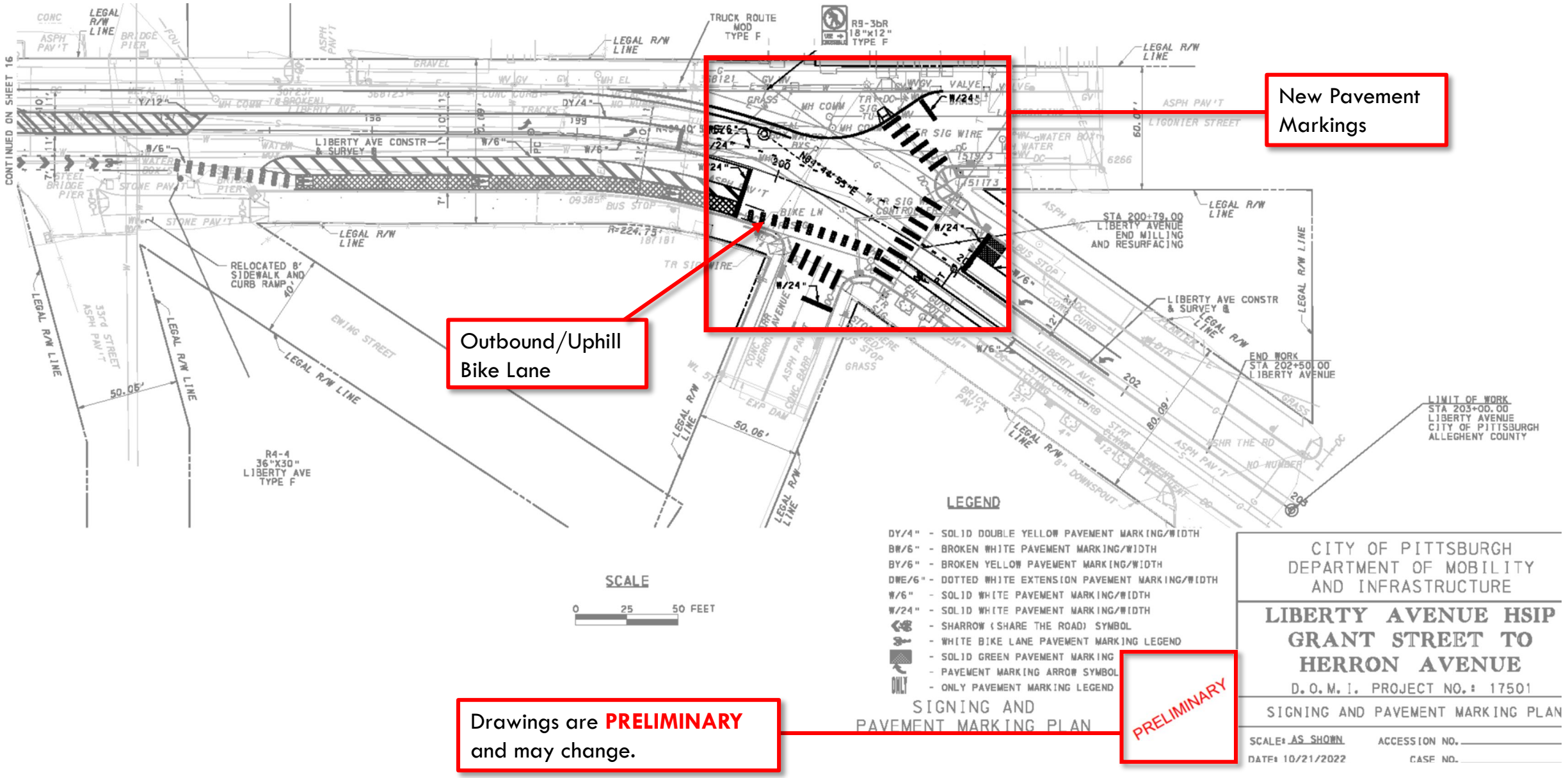
- **Scope**
  - Minor Signal Improvements
    - Ped push buttons
    - Left turning phases
  - Outbound/Uphill Bike Lane
  - New Pavement Markings
- **Timeline:**
  - Anticipating construction starting Summer/Fall 2024 and extending into 2025







Liberty & Herron Intersection



Herron Ave Bridge Preservation (DOMI)

Scope:

- Maintenance and improving current structural condition

Timeline:

- Finalizing contract details now with selected consultant
- Preliminary Engineering will probably begin mid-summer
- Expecting construction to begin in 2025

Designs:

- No designs drafted at this time

Busway access to the bridge is a critical component to be factored into the design and construction staging.



Scope to Designers:
"Expansion joint and bearing replacement; concrete barrier and sidewalk repair; steel superstructure repair including beam ends and diaphragms with, at a minimum, zone painting of the beams at the expansion joints. Anticipated construction work will likely also include concrete substructure repair and updating bridge drainage and lighting, and potentially a new retaining wall."

Collecting Community Input

Community Engagement – Round 1

Collecting Community Input

What you can expect from PRT:

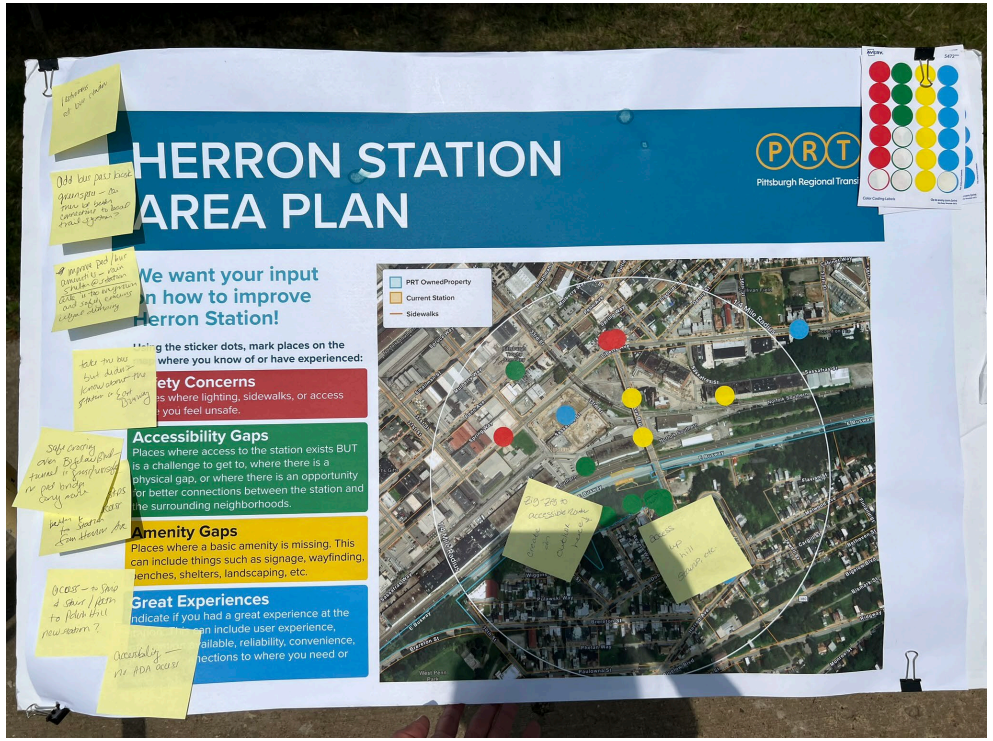
- Transparency
- Collaboration
- Responsiveness
- Consideration of your input in decision-making



Collecting Community Input

Herron Station Area Steering Committee

- Meets quarterly
- Representatives from:
  - Allegheny County Economic Development
  - Department of City Planning
  - DOMI
  - Lawrenceville United
  - Lawrenceville Corporation
  - Polish Hill Civic Association
  - Strip District Neighbors
  - URA
  - SPC



Community Conversations

- Lawrenceville
  - United Community Meeting 5/11
  - Lawrenceville Farmer's Market 5/30
- Polish Hill
  - Kaibur Coffee 6/3
  - West Penn Park 6/17
- Strip District
  - Salem's Market and Grille 6/13
- **STILL TO COME: Open Streets PGH, Lawrenceville and the Strip District**
  - **6/25 from 10:00AM-2:00PM**



Website Feedback

How you can get involved!



Upcoming Events

Give input at one of our in-person pop-up events or online meetings in June 2023!

Learn More



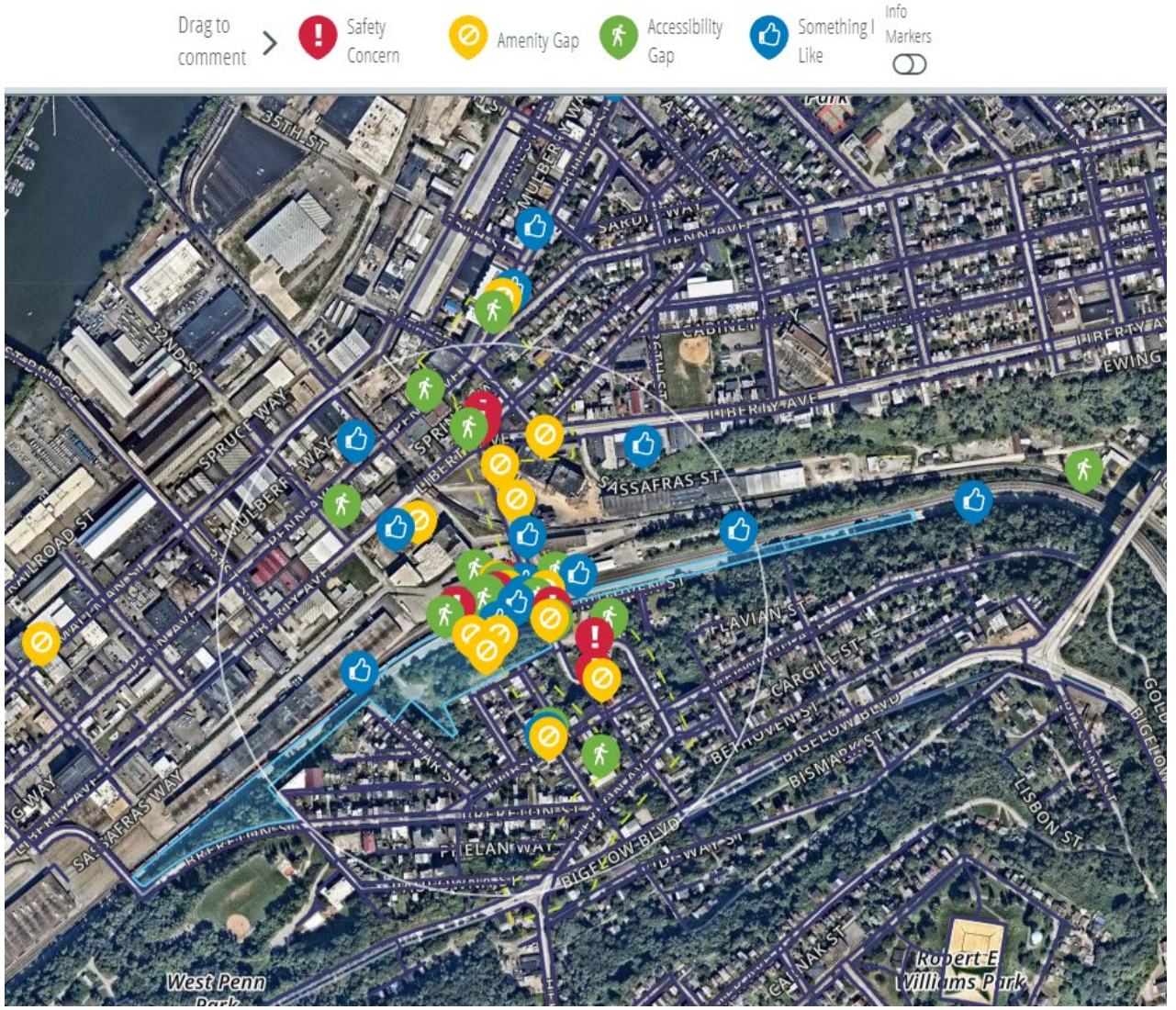
Add your input to the map

View the map



Take the Survey

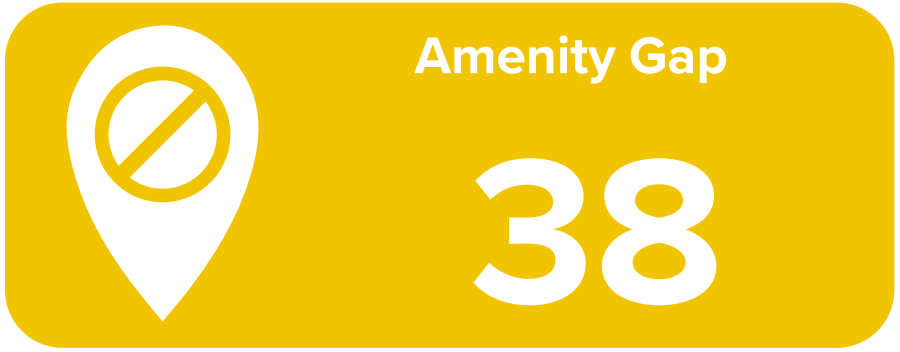
Take The Survey

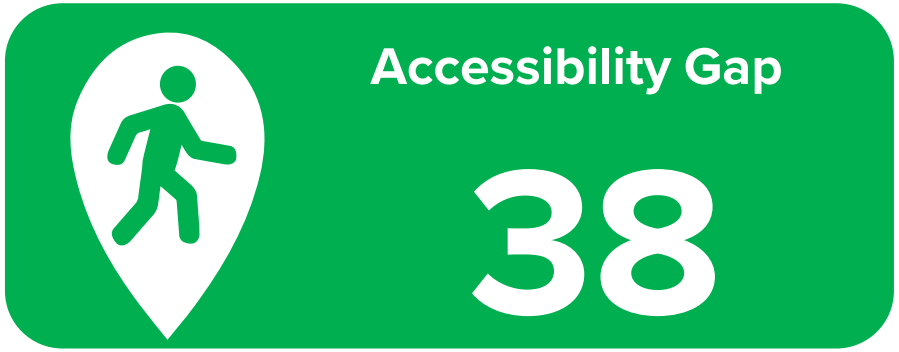


What We've Heard So Far

122 Total Comments









As of June 22, 2023

What We've Heard So Far

- The greenspace is very nice
- Other routes are more convenient
  - 88 and 91 in Lawrenceville and the Strip District
- A connection from the East Busway to BRT to make a loop would be great
- Great connection to East Liberty

- There is a lack of wayfinding and awareness of the bus stop
  - It can be hard to find if you don't already know it's there
- Connections to other buses are difficult or non-existent
- Lack of at-grade ADA accessible access
- Paths are covered by weeds
- Stairs are broken/dangerous

What We've Heard So Far

- Walking across the Herron Ave Bridge is not a good experience
  - Protection from the elements are needed, as well as places to stop
- There are no good pick up/drop off locations
- Lack of signage
- Lack of landscaping and shelter

- Timing of lights is not pedestrian friendly
- The station feels unsafe because of how isolated it is
- There is a lack of sidewalks, forcing you to walk on streets
- Lack of lighting
- The infrastructure and bridge feel unsafe



Feedback Opportunity: Station Access



How can we make it easier for people to know where Herron Station is?

How can we make it easier to get to the station from Polish Hill, Lawrenceville, and the Strip?







Feedback Opportunity: Busway Experience

How can we improve movement for people walking and rolling to the bus platforms?











Feedback Opportunity: Improving Local Bus to Busway Transfers

How can we improve the bus stop for the local 54D bus at Herron Ave and Ruthven St?

What would make transferring between local buses and the busway easier and more pleasant?





Station Area Plan

Goals for this project

- How can the experience of being at Herron Station be improved for passengers?
- How can connections to Herron Station be improved?
- What kinds of amenities can a new station design bring to the community for non-riders as well as riders?
  - Public art?
  - Parks, plazas and open space?



Discussion/Mapping Exercise

Next Steps

- Take the Online Survey!
  - May 30 – July 14
  - https://pghtransit.mysocialpinpoint.com/herronstation/home
- Draft Concept Plan
- Community Engagement Round 2
  - Late Summer / Early Fall
  - Online Meetings & Community Pop-Ups



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Thank you!