

PHILADELPHIA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION



IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE



Frankford Ave

RIVER WARDS DISTRICT PLAN

PHILADELPHIA2035

Philadelphia2035 is the city's Comprehensive Plan. Created and updated by the Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC), this document serves as a guide for the city's long-term growth.

Philadelphia2035 is a two-phase effort:

I. CITYWIDE VISION

The **Citywide Vision** lays out broad goals and policy for all aspects of the city. These include neighborhoods, vacant land, economic development, open space, and transportation.

II. DISTRICT PLANS

District Plans apply the concepts of the Citywide Vision to specific areas of Philadelphia.

IMPLEMENTATION

PCPC staff works with city agencies, City Council, and non-profit partners to see the District Plans become reality. PCPC has secured grants for follow-up studies, engineering, and construction totaling almost \$23 million. This document highlights projects being implemented and the progress so far.

BENEFITS OF PLANNING

ENVIRONMENT

Natural and man-made surroundings provide safe and healthful conditions for current and future generations.

ECONOMY

Economic development generates jobs, income, wealth, revenue and city services.

EQUITY

Planning helps ensure that everyone benefits from programming and funding, regardless of race, ethnicity, class or any other dimension of identity.

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Philadelphia's built environment encourages active living and supports fair access to the resources and amenities necessary for residents of all ages to improve their physical, mental, and social well-being

ENGAGEMENT

Many stakeholders come together to shape a common, future vision.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission adopted the River Wards District Plan in **August 2015**. The plan makes **50** recommendations across three themes:

Specific recommendations are identified as follows:

District Abbreviation

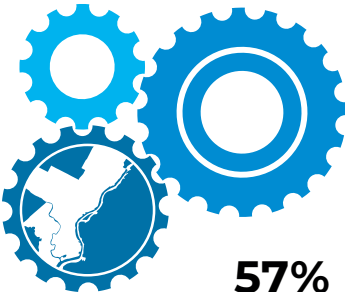
Recommendation Number

RW #

15 THRIVE
Neighborhoods | Economic Development | Land Management

12 CONNECT
Transportation | Utilities

23 RENEW
Open Space | Environmental Resources
Historic Preservation | Public Realm



With the help of our Implementation Partners, we've advanced 66% of plan recommendations:

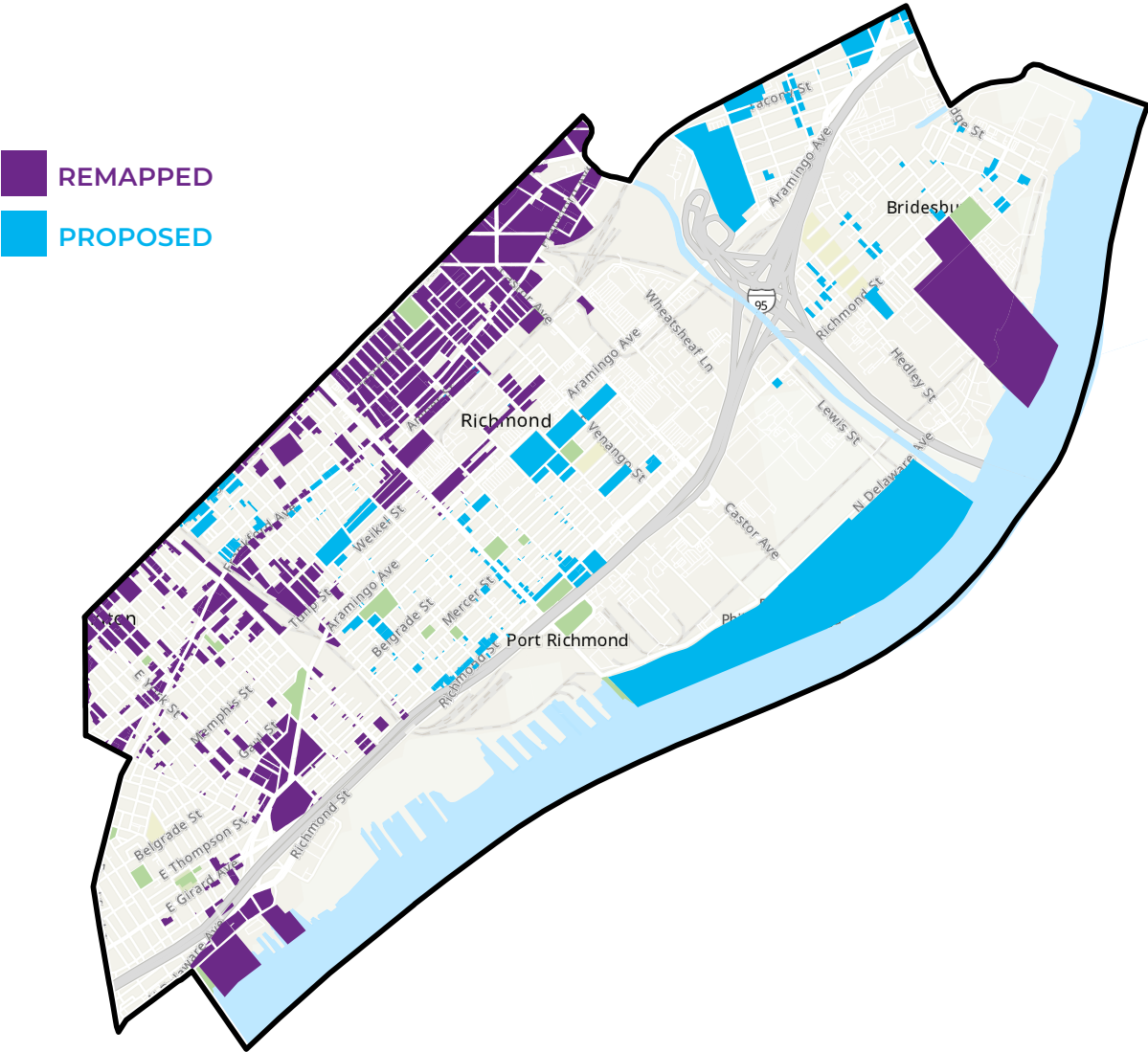
57% In Progress // **32%** Ongoing // **11%** Complete

Thank you to our Implementation Partners for these projects:

- Bridesburg Civic Association
- Bridesburg Community Action Alliance
- Councilmember Maria D. Quiñones-Sánchez
- Councilmember Mark Squilla
- East Kensington Neighbors Association (EKNA)
- Impact Services Community Development Corporation (CDC)
- Mayor Jim Kenney
- New Kensington Community Development Corporation (CDC)
- Olde Richmond Civic Association (ORCA)
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Philadelphia Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (oTIS)
- Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation (PPR)
- Philadelphia Department of Water (PWD)
- Somerset Neighbors for Better Living

ZONING REMAPPING PROGRESS

As of Spring 2022



A big part of making Philadelphia2035 a reality is updating Philadelphia's zoning maps. PCPC is working with City Council to make sure the zoning matches existing uses and points the way for future projects.



LEHIGH AVENUE

BUILDING SAFER STREETS

- Lehigh Avenue and the railroad tracks divide Kensington and Port Richmond. The city completed a study in 2020 to identify how to make the following intersections safer for everyone:
- Kensington and Lehigh Avenues,
 - Frankford and Lehigh Avenues,
 - Aramingo and Lehigh Avenues.

PennDOT has scheduled Lehigh Avenue for repaving in 2022 and the PCPC is working with the Office of Transportation Infrastructure and Sustainability (OTIS) to include many of the study's recommended safety features including shortened crossings and parking protected bike lanes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RW 24 Implement high-priority bicycle infrastructure projects, as identified in the PCPC 2012 Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan:

Explore the potential to protect the bicycle lanes along Lehigh Avenue with a traffic and right-sizing study

RW 25 Implement Complete Streets improvements along corridors and intersections to improve walkability, safety, transportation mode choice, stormwater management, and aesthetics for all users



Lehigh Avenue at Frankford Avenue



Rendering from the Complete Streets TCDI Study

BRIDESBURG PARK

BUILDING A NEW PARK FOR BRIDESBURG



Rendering of future Bridesburg Riverfront Park lawn



Proposed park plan

The City is connecting neighborhoods to the Delaware River. To do this in Bridesburg, the City and PennDOT are extending Delaware Avenue and building a new waterfront park.

Extending Delaware Avenue will reroute trucks out of residential areas. The City extended Delaware Avenue from Lewis Street to Orthodox Street. PennDOT will bring the road from Orthodox to Buckius Street as part of the I-95 rebuilding project.

Bridesburg Park will be at the river end of Orthodox Street. Funding comes from public and private sources. Construction is estimated to cost \$9 million.

RECOMMENDATION

RW 29 Identify a site and create public waterfront parks in Bridesburg on the North Delaware Waterfront, perhaps adjacent to the intersections of Orthodox and Brill Streets and the Delaware Avenue Extension.

REBUILD SITES

UPGRADES TO REC CENTERS, PARKS, AND LIBRARIES



New play equipment at Fishtown Rec

Renovations to Fishtown Recreation Center and Library were completed in 2019 with funding from Rebuild, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, Councilmember Squilla, Trust for Public Land, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Improvements included new playground equipment, multipurpose jogging and walking track, a sprayground, picnic tables, shade trees, a resurfaced basketball court, and renovated roller hockey rink. Rebuild also paid for emergency roof replacement and an elevator at Fishtown Community Library and improvements to the indoor rec facility. Along with improvements to Fishtown Rec, Rebuild funds are being used to renovate the Lederer Pool, called Swimmo by neighbors.

Upgrades are also underway at Heitzman Recreation Center in Harrowgate (\$1.8 million) and are in design for Cohosink Recreation Center in Port Richmond. Both projects will upgrade outdoor areas including play equipment, pools, athletic fields and courts, and amenities as well as indoor improvements to meet basic needs and make them accessible to persons with disabilities. All three of these projects included robust community engagement that included online surveys and a “project discussion” open house for Cohosink.

ROUNDBABOUT SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

MODERN ROUNDBABOUT AT FRANKFORD, TRENTON, AND YORK



Aerial of the new Frankford Avenue roundabout

No, we’re not in New Jersey! In Fall 2021 a roundabout opened at the intersection of Frankford Avenue, Trenton Avenue, and York Street. This previously confusing signalized intersection listed on the City’s High Injury Network transitioned to a modern roundabout. Curb extensions, crosswalk medians, new street lighting, and upgraded ADA curb ramps make this intersection safer for pedestrians and motorists alike. This is especially important for this high-trafficked intersection adjacent to an elementary school and playground and along a commercial corridor.

RECOMMENDATION

RW24

Install ADA facilities at intersections near senior centers, schools, parks and recreation centers, and libraries that serve disabled and sensory impaired residents. Prioritize improvements near the Horatio B. Hackett School.

PHILADELPHIA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

RIVER WARDS District Planner

Greg Waldman

215.683.4666

greg.waldman@phila.gov



Penn Treaty Park

www.phila2035.org

Spring 2022