

PHILADELPHIA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION



## IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE



Source: Philly.com

Parkside Edge

## WEST PARK DISTRICT PLAN

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# 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.

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# 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 West Park District Plan in **March 2012**. The plan makes **88** recommendations across three themes:

Specific recommendations are identified as follows:

District Abbreviation: **WP**

Recommendation Number: **#**

**41 THRIVE**  
Neighborhoods | Economic Development | Land Management

**18 CONNECT**  
Transportation | Utilities

**29 RENEW**  
Open Space | Environmental Resources  
Historic Preservation | Public Realm



With the help of our Implementation Partners, we've advanced 40% of plan recommendations:

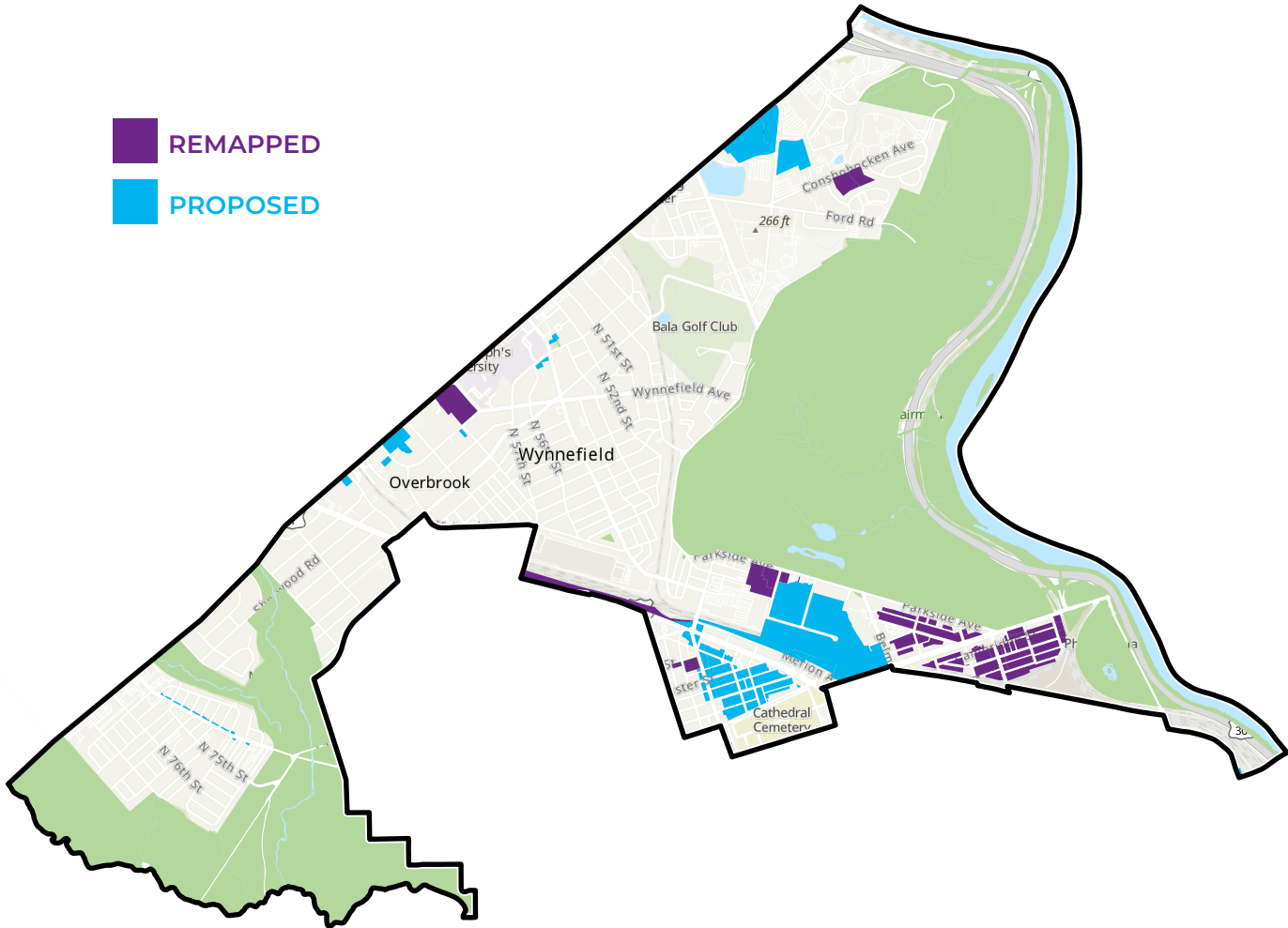
**60% In Progress // 40% Complete**

### Thank you to our Implementation Partners:

- Councilmember Curtis Jones
- Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC)
- Fairmount Park Conservancy
- John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
- Mayor Jim Kenney
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Philadelphia Department of Commerce
- Philadelphia Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (OTIS)
- Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Department (PPR)
- Philadelphia Streets Department
- Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)
- SEPTA
- William Penn Foundation

# 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.

**37%**  
**81 ACRES REMAPPED**

**63%**  
**140 ACRES PROPOSED**



# CENTENNIAL COMMONS

## CONNECTING NEIGHBORS TO WEST FAIRMOUNT PARK

In June 2018, the first part of Centennial Commons opened in West Fairmount Park. It includes porch swings, new trees, a rain garden, and a walking path. Centennial Commons is along Parkside Avenue between 41st Street and Belmont Avenue. This project has three different phases.

The plan for the next phases are:

- Creative play spaces for youth
- Seating and picnic areas
- Plants, shrubs, and trees
- More rain gardens
- Safer street crossings into the park from the neighborhood and from the Please Touch Museum and Mann Center

The Fairmount Park Conservancy has managed this \$11 million project. They have been working closely with the Parkside community on it.

Source: Bryan Haynes Studio



Centennial Commons Rendering

Source: WHYY



East Parkside

## RECOMMENDATIONS

WP 53

Improve Parkside Avenue with new medians, crosswalks, and traffic lights as recommended in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Parkside Traffic Taming Plan in order to facilitate better connections between East and West Parkside and Fairmount Park

WP 64

Make Centennial District improvements such as creating neighborhood amenities, such as picnic areas or community gardens, between South Concourse Drive and Parkside Avenue near intersections along Parkside Avenue to increase neighborhood use of the Park

WP 72

Create green infrastructure along Parkside Avenue, Upland Way, Blankenburg Elementary School, 52nd and Lancaster park space and at Dimner Beeber Middle School to capture stormwater runoff

WP 82

Increase programming to use West Fairmount Park for large events to promote awareness of the significant resources contained within



# CENTENNIAL VILLAGE

NEW MIXED-INCOME HOUSING IN PARKSIDE

## RECOMMENDATIONS

WP  
24

Provide new housing for the elderly near services and amenities, such as transit and commercial corridors

WP  
36

Consolidate publicly owned vacant parcels and sell for redevelopment

WP  
52

Utilize traffic calming measures including new medians, curb bump-outs, trolley pull-out, and signal prioritization to improve pedestrian safety along the 52nd Street corridor from Girard Avenue to Parkside Avenue, especially at the Lancaster Avenue intersection

WP  
85

Create pedestrian plazas as gathering places where there is a high level of pedestrian activity due to proximity of transit, such as at 52nd and Parkside Avenue



Centennial Village restaurant



Single-family homes at Centennial Village



Mixed use buildings at Centennial Village

Centennial Village was completed in 2018. It is a mixed-income affordable housing development at 52nd Street and Parkside Avenue.

Centennial Village includes:

- low-income senior housing
- low-income rental housing
- homeownership housing
- retail space
- a community park
- office space

The development now includes a sit-down restaurant, something the neighborhood was missing. It is also safe, easy, and enjoyable to walk through.

Parkside Association of Philadelphia and Community Ventures LLC built this project. The City of Philadelphia helped by giving funding and City-owned properties.



# PARKSIDE AVENUE CORRIDOR PROJECT

## COMMUNITY DRIVEN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- WP 30

Ensure that changes to the streetscape of Parkside Avenue allow access and movement of truck traffic to support the Parkside business park
- WP 52

Utilize traffic calming measures including new medians, curb bump-outs, trolley pull-out, and trolley signal prioritization to improve pedestrian safety along 52nd Street corridor from Girard Avenue to Parkside Avenue, especially at the Lancaster Avenue intersection
- WP 54

Enhance gateway at the 52nd Street Amtrak Bridge to improve pedestrian safety through improved lighting, gateway signage, and sidewalk maintenance

- WP 85

Create pedestrian plazas as gathering spaces where there is a high level of pedestrian activity due to proximity to transit
- WP 87


Create gateways at major entrances to neighborhoods, parks, and the city boundary
- WP 53

Improve Parkside Avenue with new medians, crosswalks, and traffic lights as recommended in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Parkside Traffic Taming Plan in order to facilitate better connections between East and West Parkside and Fairmount Park

CRASHES ON PARKSIDE AVENUE


On Parkside Avenue between 2012 to 2016, there were **147 reported crashes**. Although data for 2017 is not yet available, 1 person walking was killed and 1 was child seriously injured in crashes on Parkside Avenue in July.

120 PEOPLE INJURED

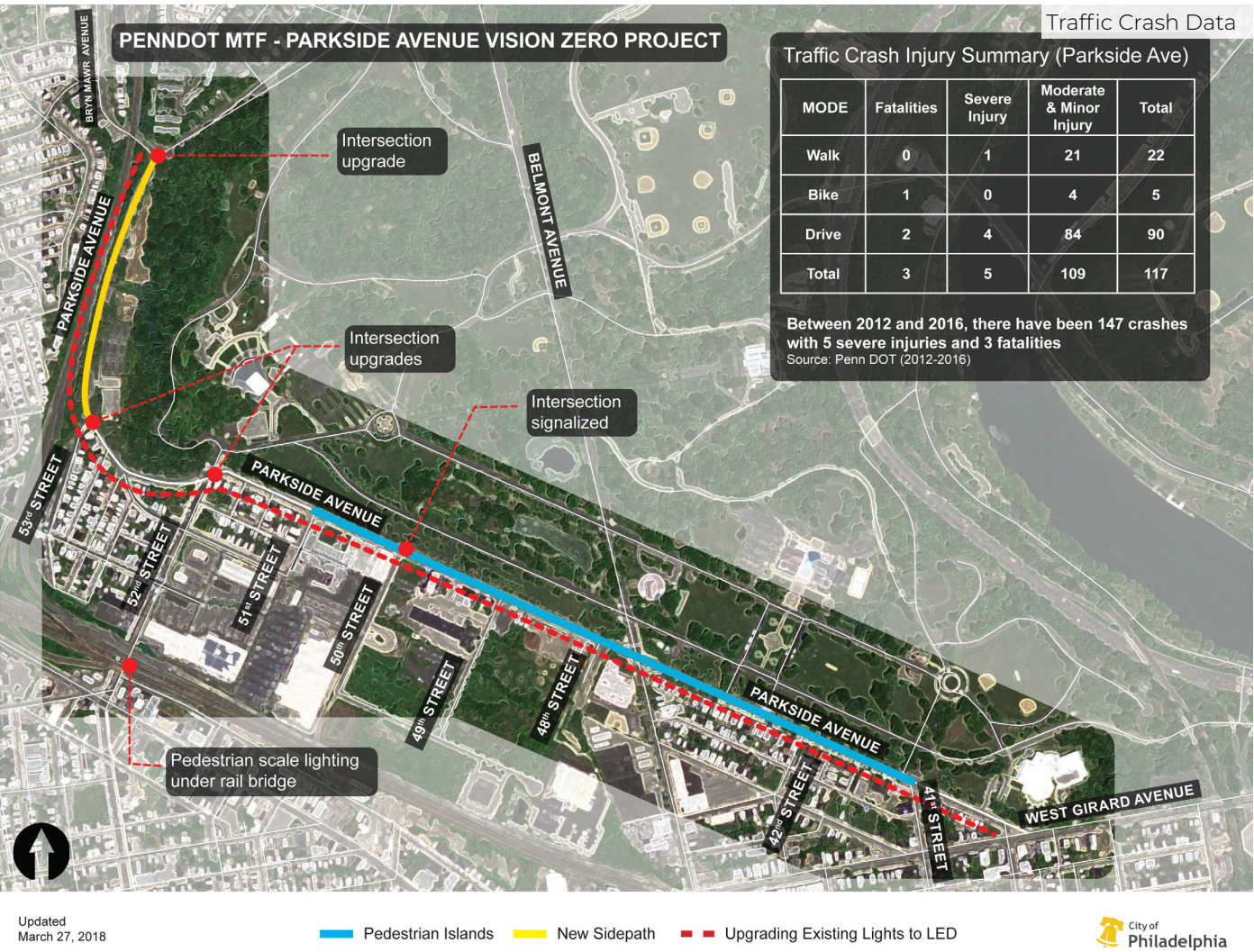


in traffic crashes on Parkside Avenue, since 2012.

Source: oTIS



Map of Parkside Avenue showing crash locations. The map highlights several intersections along Parkside Avenue, with numbered circles indicating the number of injuries or fatalities at each location. The numbers are: 5, 11, 1, 10, 2, 10, 1, 27, 1, 16, and 30. A legend indicates that orange circles represent 'Injuries [117]' and red circles represent 'Severe Injuries + Fatalities [8]'.



**PENNDOT MTF - PARKSIDE AVENUE VISION ZERO PROJECT**

Callouts on map: Intersection upgrade, Intersection upgrades, Intersection signalized, Pedestrian scale lighting under rail bridge.

MODE	Fatalities	Severe Injury	Moderate & Minor Injury	Total
Walk	0	1	21	22
Bike	1	0	4	5
Drive	2	4	84	90
Total	3	5	109	117

Between 2012 and 2016, there have been 147 crashes with 5 severe injuries and 3 fatalities  
Source: Penn DOT (2012-2016)

Updated March 27, 2018

Legend: Pedestrian Islands (blue line), New Sidepath (yellow line), Upgrading Existing Lights to LED (red dashed line)

City of Philadelphia

50% of all traffic deaths and severe injuries in Philadelphia happen on 12% of the streets. Those streets are called the High Injury Network. Parkside Avenue is one of those streets. To make Parkside Avenue safer, these improvements are planned:

- Medians for pedestrians to stand on
- New, brighter lights
- Traffic safety intersection improvements
- A new path for walking and biking separated from the street

Residents and business owners worked with the City to decide on this list of improvements. Lighting to make the 52nd and Lancaster underpass safer to walk under is also planned. The Streets Department and Office of Transportation & Sustainability received \$2,683,000 for these important improvements.

10

WEST PARK DISTRICT PLAN

IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

11



# PHILADELPHIA CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

## **WEST PARK**

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Source: Hidden City Philadelphia

Belmont Plateau

[www.phila2035.org](http://www.phila2035.org)

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