

Clement Kern Gardens Community Newsletter

Thank you for attending the City's August meeting!

CKG August Tenant Meeting Update

Residents shared their thoughts on all parts of the City's Choice Neighborhoods Grant application at the Clement Kern Gardens (CKG) four-hour community meeting on August 25.

CKG residents met with presenters from the City of Detroit Housing and Revitalization Department and the owners of CKG to discuss the redevelopment of CKG. Resident feedback will help decide key features of the plan.

Residents gave feedback on:

- Future housing features/design
- Neighborhood improvements in the Greater Corktown area
- Organizations and nonprofits that would provide services to improve education, health and financial well-being for current Clement Kern Gardens tenants

Tenants who attended and returned the most recent survey got a \$25 gift card and were entered into a raffle for \$50 and \$100 gift cards.



Building Safer, Updated Housing

The City of Detroit is applying for a Choice Neighborhoods Initiative grant. The Choice grant is a U.S. Housing and Urban Development program that redevelops neighborhoods, preserves affordable housing, and provides supportive services to residents.

This is a very competitive grant. The focus of Detroit's application is to redevelop and add new housing in Clement Kern Gardens, Historic Corktown, and North Corktown. Current CKG residents will have the first choice of affordable units at any of these locations.

At the August meeting, CKG residents discussed what features they would like to see in future housing. The top five features were:

- More security cameras
- Walk-up/private entrances to housing units
- Private outdoor spaces
- A walkable community
- Better lighting

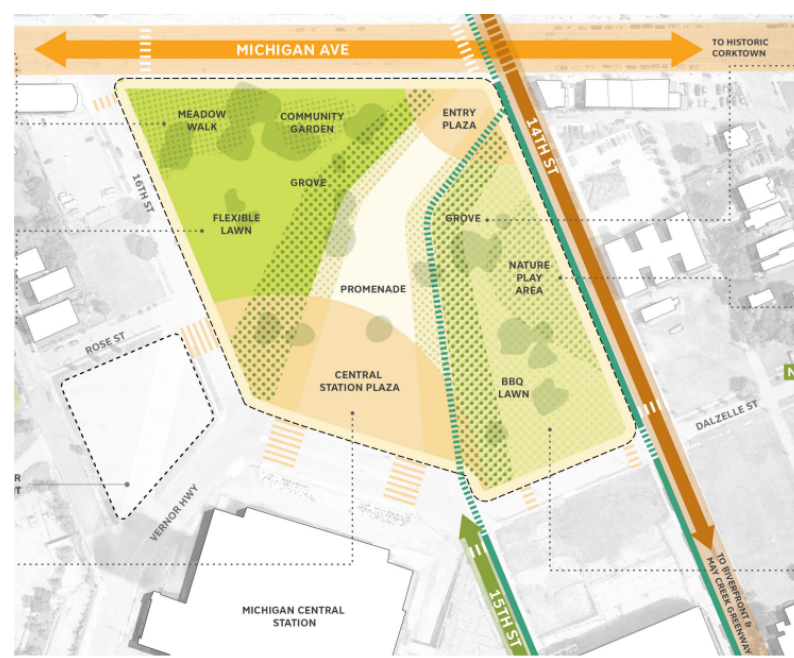
Residents also expressed interest in contemporary style housing and townhomes.

(See more on back of sheet)



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One of the neighborhood projects proposed to be part of the Choice application is improvements to Roosevelt Park (above).

Improving Neighborhoods

As part of the Choice application, the City plans to complete a variety of neighborhood improvements to serve the Greater Corktown community.

These projects potentially will include:

- Improvements to Roosevelt Park
- Street improvements that would improve safety, walkability, and accessibility, especially along Michigan Avenue
- Creating a community center on the former Owen School site

At the August meeting, Clement Kern Gardens residents:

- Said they were excited about improving Roosevelt Park, creating easier connections to the future West Riverfront Park, and the possibility of a community center in Corktown
- Raised concerns about the difficulties of walking across Michigan Ave
- Wanted more retail options in the neighborhood, especially affordable food options

Connecting People to Services

The Choice grant would increase opportunities for Clement Kern Gardens residents to get one-on-one support to maintain their health, increase their economic well-being, and help children achieve educational success.

On Aug. 25, residents shared their familiarity with and trust of various community organizations that could potentially provide these supports. Some of the organizations that residents highlighted include:

- Southwest Solutions
- Goodwill Industries
- CHASS Clinic
- Covenant Community Care
- Matrix Human Services
- Detroit PAL
- Mercy Education Project

Residents wanted more opportunities to:

- Exercise and improve nutrition close to home
- Connect with resources for entrepreneurship and to develop small businesses
- Increase access to the arts, educational support, and skill development for youth
- Use community space close to home

Our last public meeting at CKG will be the week of Oct. 19 from 3-7 p.m near the management office. Look out for more details soon!
For any questions, call Claudia at 313-570-0992.