



Uptown Task Force Presentation

Watson Substation Project Overview

December 2, 2021

Community Electrical Needs Requiring This Substation



Enhanced Reliability

- Further diversified sourcing to downtown
- More localized supplies to Uptown and Hill District



Increased Capacity

- Adds capacity for planned upgrades to Uptown electrical system
- Establishes capacity for Uptown university and hospital growth



Upgraded Equipment

- Once-in-a-generation investment into new facilities



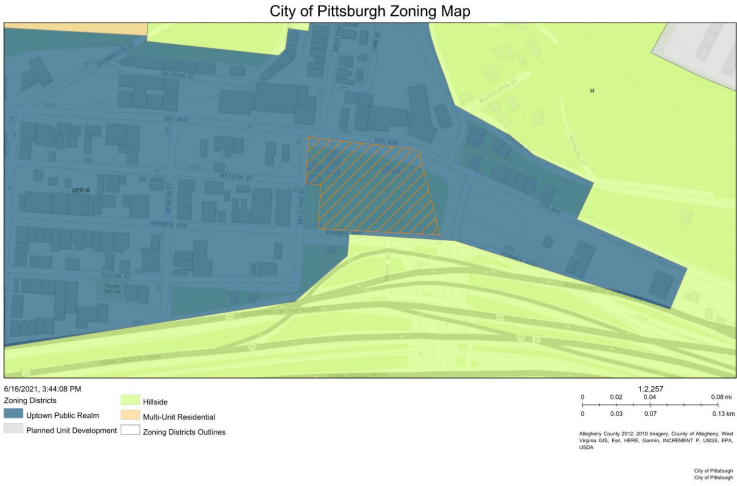
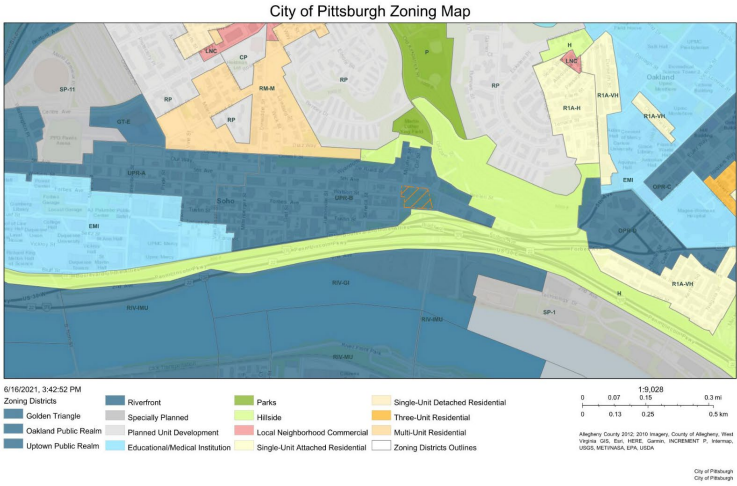
Community Focused

- Investment into the Uptown/Oakland Portal
- Develop the property in line with the Uptown Eco-Innovation District Plan



Architecture and Community Fit

Site Analysis – Welcome to Uptown



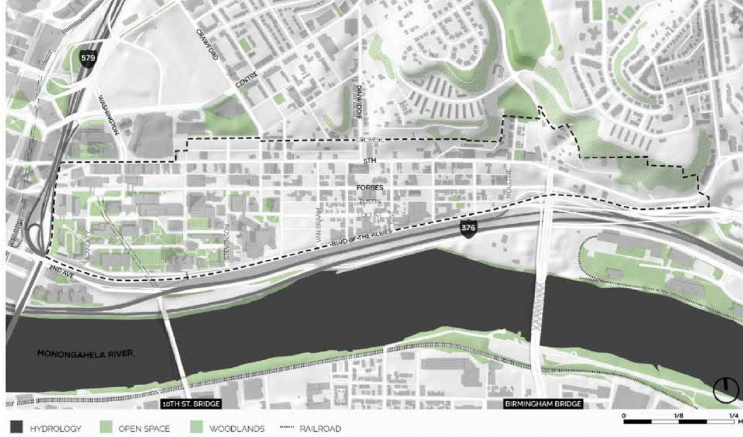
Architecture and Community Fit

Eco Innovation District

ECO: committed to the environment
INNOVATION: the act or process of introducing new ideas, devices or methods.
ECOINNOVATION DISTRICT: areas dedicated to sustainability, innovative development practices

Simply put, **THE ECOINNOVATION DISTRICT IS A COMMUNITY PLAN WITH A FOCUS ON HEALING THE ENVIRONMENT, SUPPORTING THE NEEDS OF EXISTING RESIDENTS AND EXPANDING JOB GROWTH.**

FIGURE 2: ECOINNOVATION DISTRICT STUDY AREA



SAFETY



STREETS ARE REDESIGNED to move traffic slowly in the community and improve safety for pedestrians.



NEW BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE provides a safe place to commute by bicycle. Each bike on the road is one less car on the road.



ENHANCED BUS SERVICE provides better bus stops and more reliability. Lights are timed to reduce time waiting in traffic.



NEW SIDEWALKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE help to create a safe and walkable community.



New STREET LIGHTING helps to address the real and perceived issues of safety at night in the community.

HEALTH



VACANT LOTS ARE REUSED for gardening and other community-driven greening activities.



NEW OPEN SPACES provide opportunities for your kids to play nearby and for you to enjoy time outside with neighbors.



More bicyclists and transit users help to reduce car traffic over time and LOWER EMISSIONS in the community.



NEW RAIN GARDENS AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE reduces street flooding, the flooding in your basements and the amount of trash and pollution in the river.

INCOME



New GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE helps capture rainwater and prevent flooding.



NEW TREES AND LANDSCAPING reduces the heat island effect, keeping home cooling costs low.

- The exterior of the substation should be bold in design and integrate some community spaces and exhibits that help to educate residents about energy in the City. A design competition attracting design talent from around the world would be a great way to have an open and active conversation about what a substation should be in the 21st Century.
- Multrie Street at Fifth is currently a very unsafe intersection because the street is offset at Fifth. To help provide a safer intersection, the site design of the substation should consider allowing for a slice of land to be used to shift Multrie south of Fifth Avenue slightly east.
- Land adjacent to the Birmingham Bridge controlled by PennDOT is very important to help retain and convey stormwater. Recommendations described in chapter 4 include a new stormwater park in this location to address the water issues. As the site plan for the substation proceeds, consider any unused land as an opportunity to create a larger stormwater park on the western edge of the site.
- The substation should incorporate elements consistent with its location in an EcoDistrict such as solar panels, bike facilities, bike share, plantings or other green infrastructure or public art.

Incorporated BRT and road reconfiguration into our site planning

Accommodating the planned bike lanes along Forbes

Anticipating Soho Station in terms of higher pedestrian volume, and key focal points

Incorporating BRT plan and right-of-way reconfiguration

Lighting is designed into each of the concept designs, to throw light onto the Forbes sidewalk and highlight the building features.

Building on what is now a vacant lot

Parklet between building site and Birmingham Bridge (PENNDOT)

Incorporating right-of-way reconfiguration including bike lanes

Stormwater infrastructure incorporated

Stormwater infrastructure incorporated

Designing landscaped edging, planted buffers, and a landscaped area in the SW portion of the site

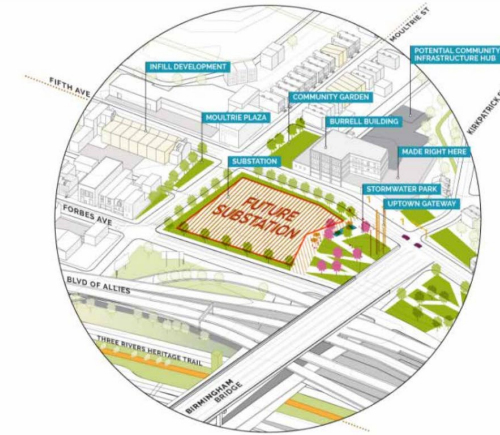
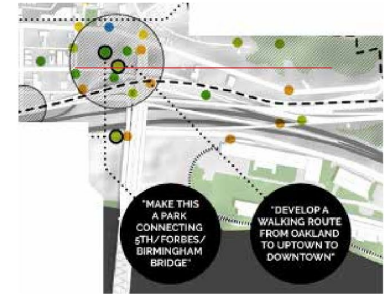
The exterior of the substation, the perimeter walls, and fencing, are designed to be bold. Every concept is predicated on making the building extraordinary, in its materiality and its form. It is not designed to hide or retreat.

All site planning is designed around the anticipated Multrie Street realignment.

The building and the perimeter fencing will be designed to be highly visible from key angles, including from the NE parklet and the future stormwater park.

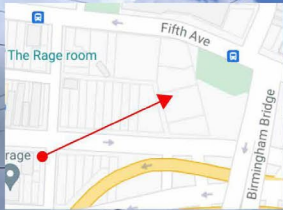
Green infrastructure is a key design component for the substation and the landscaping around it.

The building shall be equipped with a solar panel array at the rooftop, and "solar trees" located at the NE corner of the site.



Architecture and Community Fit

Site Analysis



Architecture and Community Fit

Site Plan - Overview



Architecture and Community Fit

Power Uptown – Concept Design



Architecture and Community Fit

Power Uptown – Concept Design

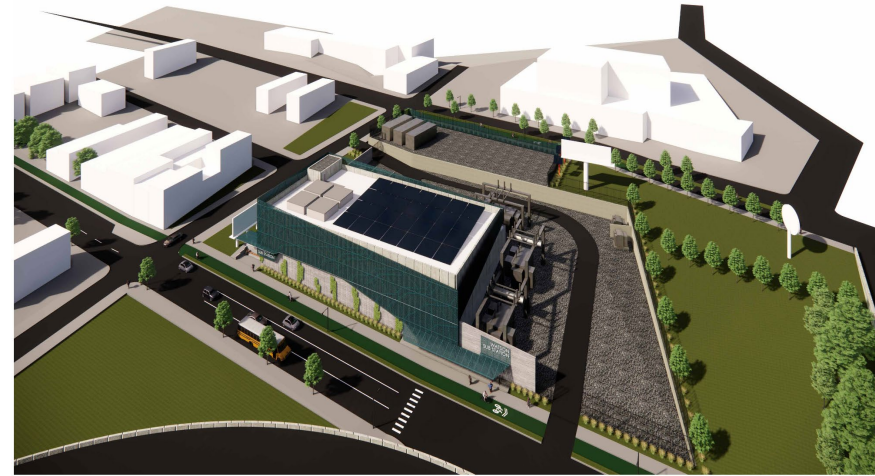


Architecture and Community Fit

On Ramp View



Aerial View



Forbes Ave



Forbes SW Corner



Forbes SE Corner



Architecture and Community Fit

Power Uptown – Concept Design



Architecture and Community Fit

Power Uptown – Concept Design

Fifth Ave Views

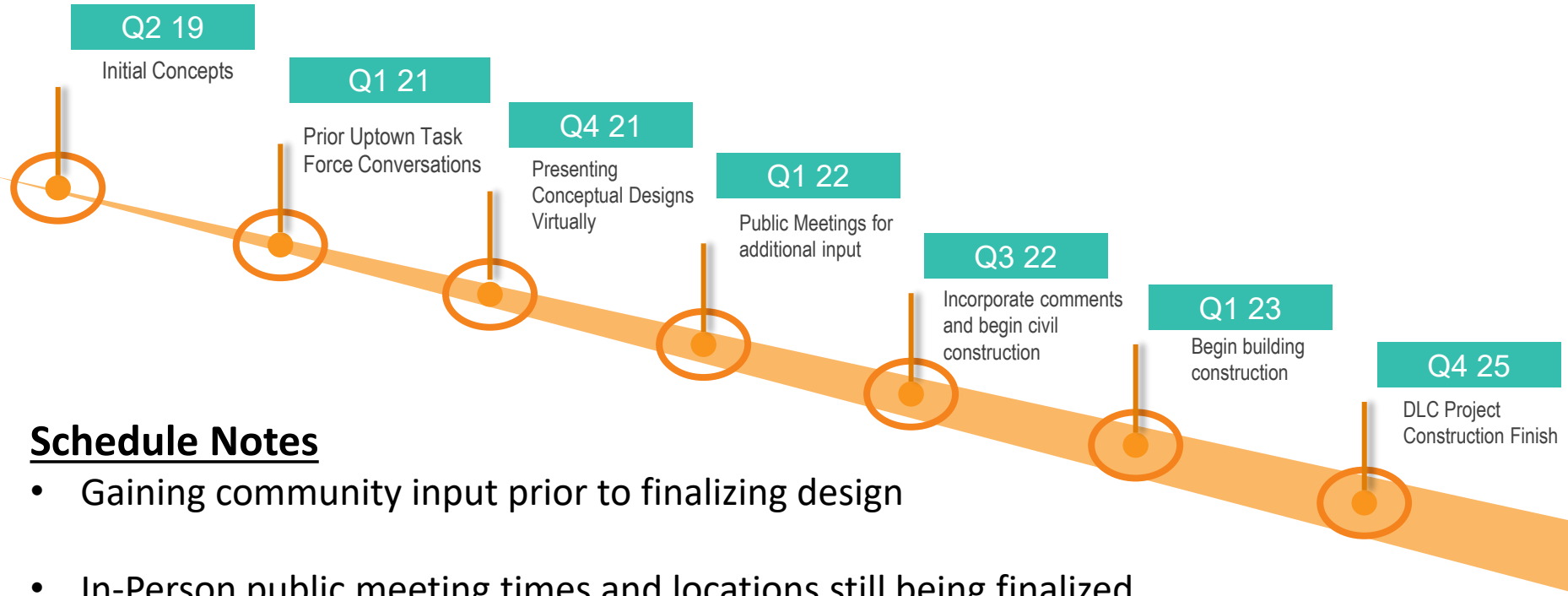


Architecture and Community Fit

Power Uptown – Concept Design



Watson Substation Timeline



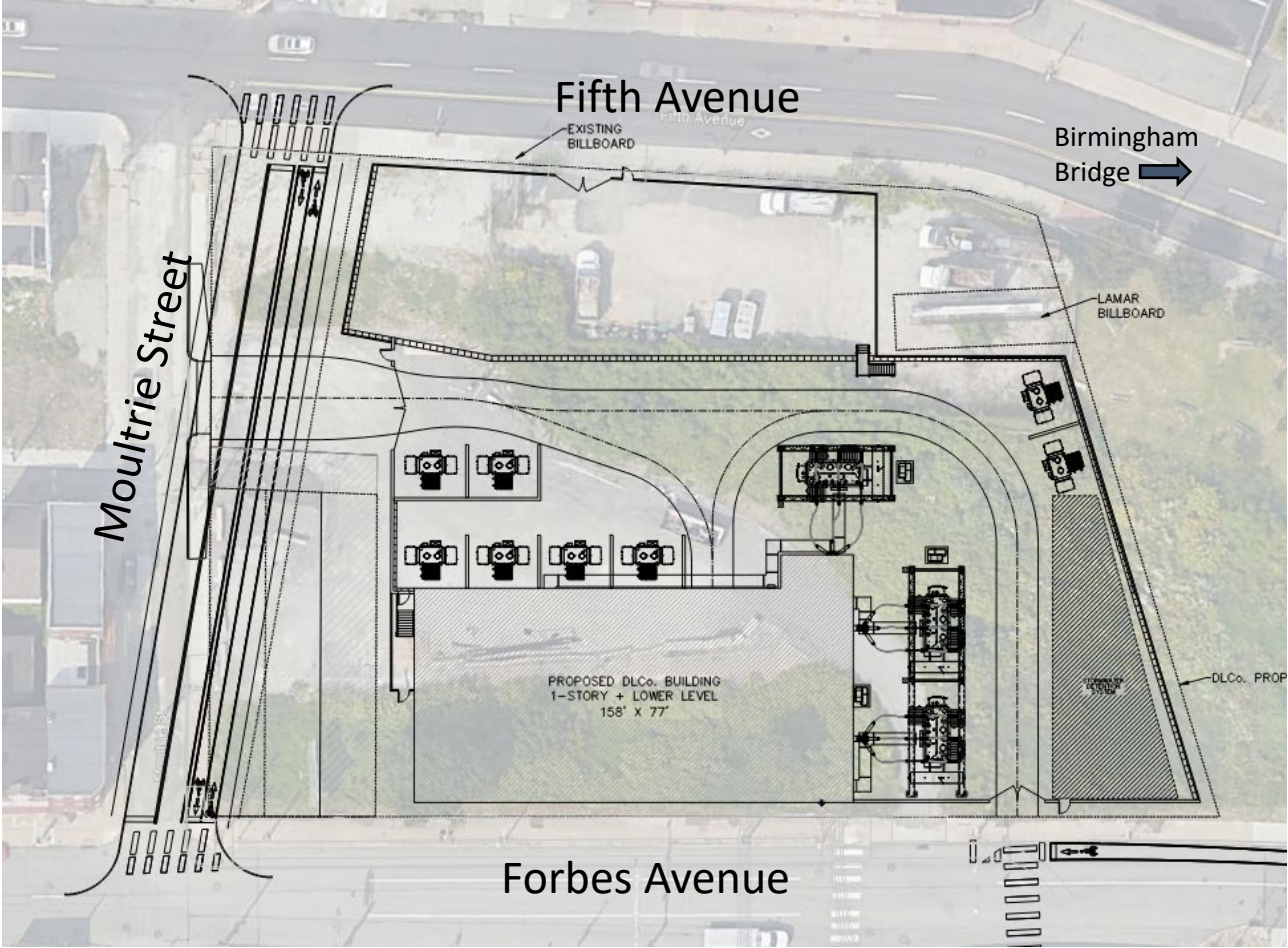
Schedule Notes

- Gaining community input prior to finalizing design
- In-Person public meeting times and locations still being finalized with hosts – to be held in Uptown
- Some site activity is already occurring connected with upgrades supporting the Port Authority’s BRT project.

Construction Considerations

Overview

- Traffic
- Noise
- Ingress/ Egress



Watson Substation Next Steps

- Public Meetings: Q1 22
- Planned Construction Start: Q3 22
- Contacts:

Project Email Address & Website will be finalized and shared following Bid Award

Tim Piette
DLC Project Manager



Richard Saporito
Distribution Planning



DLC Communications
Ashley Macik



Questions

