

## **February 23, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Ritter Elementary

**Attendance:** 16

### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- **Youth Mentorship**
  - More youth programs for children aged 13-18
  - More mentorship and volunteering from the community
  - Invite more youth organizations to a future CHATT
- **Trash & Litter**
  - Continue the conversation and invite the City's Recycling Education Manager and SWEEP Manager, more environmental groups
  - Pride in Cleanliness- more community cleanups
- **Traffic Safety**
  - New Stop Signs at Key Intersections (Maxwell + E Cedar, Sherman + E Cedar, Tacoma + E Cedar)
  - Repaint Crosswalks and Install Flashers around school
  - Paint No Parking Zones
  - Cars go too fast with little visibility- install speedbumps?

## **March 23, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Ritter Elementary

**Attendance:** 55

### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- **Youth Mentorship**
  - Survey Students about their experience, interest in programs
  - Post City Links for Parks & Rec Opportunities at Schools
  - Create more mentorship opportunities at Elementary Schools
- **Trash & Litter**
  - Apply for grants to supply decent trash bins
  - Remove metal litter baskets and replace with enclosed containers
  - Find solutions for illegal dumping and filthy/littered properties
- **Night Clubs**
  - Get more updates from Public Safety after reporting incidents
  - More community conversations- between neighbors, police, owners
- **Playgrounds**
  - Gated Fencing around playgrounds
  - Proper Seating for parents and guardians

- Updated Equipment
- **Traffic Safety**
  - More Traffic Patrols by Police
  - Road closures around schools, not signs
  - More ticketing of illegal parking around schools

### **April 27, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Mosser Elementary

**Attendance:** 22

#### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- **Playgrounds**
  - Gated Fencing around playgrounds!
  - Partner with Parks Department to rehab playgrounds
  - Park Cleanliness- more community policing and more trash receptacles
- **Night Clubs**
  - Redraft the Nuisance Ordinance and enforce it
- **AARP Walk Audit across LV**
  - Join a team to look at your streets, curbs, sidewalks, crosswalks, and signage

### **May 25, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Dieruff High School

**Attendance:** 6

#### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- Quality of Life
  - Get a Park Ranger to make sure people are leaving the park when it's closed

### **June 22, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Newcomer Academy at Midway Manor

**Attendance:** 21

#### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- **Youth Sports Leagues**
  - File a Right to Know Request to understand the contracts between the City and the Leagues

- Get a third party mediator to settle disputes
- **Nightclubs**
  - Investigate Zoning Uses
  - Partner more with Police and State Police (ask to ticket cars? Officers to be on site after 2am?)
  - Get City Council to pass an ordinance prohibiting Hookah Use in establishments?
- **Quality of Life**
  - Bring back Welcome Packets
  - Recruit young people to the community group
  - Have more community gatherings with “hip” music and diverse food options
  - Report Noise Violations

### **July 13, 2023**

**Location:** West End- Civic Theater

**Attendance:** 35

#### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- **Street & Shade Trees**
  - Attend Muhlenberg Watch September meeting with City Arborist
  - Try to get a tree survey done for the neighborhood (apply for a grant)
  - Learn City Policy & do more to promote it to new buyers
- **Traffic Safety (& Quality of Life)**
  - Traffic Studies for Traffic Calming Measures
  - Street Safety: Convex Mirrors, More Street Lights, Stop Sign Studies
  - Educate about new noise rules
  - Track City response times to complaints
- **Small Business Support**
  - Investigate Barriers to entry (zoning, parking, cost of relocation)
  - Incentives to explore opportunities
  - Better Promotion of Small Businesses
  - Survey of Residents
  - Establish a Point Person dedicated to welcoming and resource navigation
- **Trash & Litter**
  - More dog poop stations
  - Speak with Church of the Mediator to educate refugee population
  - Community cleanup challenge
  - PSAs at concerts and events
  - Explore avenues to partner with ASD
  - Advertise dog park
  - Partner with Humane Society

- AirBnBs/Rental Apartments
  - Permit AirBnBs so conditions and taxes can be applied
  - Have a way to engage new renters to build a community
  - Understand the needs of new renters

### **September 26, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Ritter Elementary School

**Attendance:** 21

#### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- Air Quality & Green Economy
  - Join the Allentown Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)
  - Plant more urban gardens
  - Make and deliver a presentation to ASD on the importance of green training for students
  - Call your legislator about the Farm Bill (to prevent more Warehouse development)
  - Air Quality monitoring campaign (Lehigh Valley Breathes)
- Trash & Litter
  - Investigate secondary options for TVs and other hard-to-dispose-of items
  - Educate landlords/residents on how to properly empty large amount of trash
  - Identify problematic blocks and have City Departments go out to educate 1 on 1
  - Build sense of neighborhood accountability
  - Push more residents to use trash cans to help combat litter & rodent issues
- Employee Appreciation (Civil Servant Edition)
  - Stress stems from unmet needs: make a card with a QR code that points to a list of social resources
- Daycare Expenses
  - Investigate Pre-schools at ASD
  - Improve Communication about Daycare Licensing
  - Explore loosening federal regulations
- Bullying
  - Go to school board meetings to advocate for bringing back the uniform policy
  - Keep trying to be involved with your kids' social media life

### **October 24, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Newcomer Academy at Midway Manor

**Attendance:** 17

#### **Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- Community Health Needs Assessment
  - 2 New Surveys completed!
  - Plan to attend church events to spread the word
- Traffic Safety
  - Host APD + Traffic + APA regular checkins
  - Monthly FB posts about Traffic Improvements
  - Incentivize Public Transportation
  - Support the Vision 0 campaign
- Allentown's Budget
  - Come to our budget council meetings to voice your concerns!
  - How can we get more local businesses to serve as vendors to the city?
- Housing
  - Continue the Conversation with other community groups
  - Publish eviction data

**November 6, 2023**

**Location:** West End- Civic Theatre

**Attendance:** 24

**Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

- Traffic Safety
  - List of Trouble Spots that Need a Left Arrow
  - Study the Accident Data
  - Better communicate the UGI paving process
- Opportunities for Youth- Cedar Beach Playground
  - Amount of Children in the Neighborhood has multiplied- where do they play?
  - Keep lights on until 7pm until the first snow of the season
  - Recreation events in the off season- advertised at bus stops, partner with churches and nonprofits to deliver
  - Swim lessons for grown ups to encourage utilization of City Pools
  - Better Recreation Communication, especially in other languages
  - More opportunities for free family activities
- Trash & Litter
  - Citizens are not aware of the recycling rules
  - Education- make people understand their impact and hold them accountable
  - What to do about needle trash?
- Housing
  - Inspections seem haphazard, not operating according to any process- but it's good to see that they're using iPads now!
  - Need for a grocery store downtown
  - Illegal rentals are a fire hazard

**November 14, 2023**

**Location:** South Side- Jefferson Elementary

**Attendance:** 26

**Topics and Potential Next Steps:**

**November 28, 2023**

**Location:** East Side- Ritter Elementary

**Attendance:** 10

**Topics and Potential Next Steps:**