

the GRID

Community Design Center News

December 2017



A Note from Executive Director, Maria Furgiuele

It's been a wonderful year for the CDCR! The Design Center has had the great pleasure of working in so many neighborhoods within the City of Rochester as well as many villages and towns throughout our region.

We've been invited to consult or make proposals for projects in Batavia, Geneva, Irondequoit, Pittsford and High Falls, to name a few. We could not be more pleased with the participation of community residents and stakeholders in the Hamlet of Rush Community Design Charrette in June and also the Port of Rochester & Charlotte Community Design Charrette in November. Both events generated many great ideas and more importantly, fostered much positive community spirit & engagement!

The ReShaping Rochester Lecture Series brought a diverse group of experts to share their knowledge about how programming can be a useful tool in building community and culminated with a luncheon presentation by Kim White of the River City Company in Chattanooga, TN to a sold out crowd in May. Our Awards Luncheon in November recognized persons, organizations and projects that are setting an example for others to follow.

Our organization has emerged as a CONVENER, bringing together various persons and organizations to share ideas in order to better understand what each is doing, identify gaps in service and to better support the work of each organization. We are so fortunate to have so many community partners with whom we collaborate - AIA Rochester, City of Rochester, Genesee Land Trust, Greentopia, Landmark Society, Re-Connect Rochester, Rochester Cycling Alliance, Rochester Neighborworks and many more!

We are grateful to the many people and organizations that support our work. Words can hardly convey the depth of our appreciation to each of you who has sponsored an event, provided funding through grants & donations or shared your time and talent with us. Please visit our website for a complete listing of our funding partners. Our work would not be possible without your generous and continued support.

The key word in our name is COMMUNITY! We exist for and by the community. Working together, we can create the place that best reflects the values of our community and that provides a better experience for all who live, work and play in our region. Please help us BUILD A BETTER BLOCK. Together, WE SHAPE OUR CITY, OUR REGION, OUR COMMUNITY!

All of us at the Community Design Center Rochester wish you a Holiday filled with JOY and a new year filled with health and prosperity!

WE SHAPE OUR CITY

A Time of Giving

Everyone can play a critical role in the future of their neighborhood, town, city and region, but many need help to move from ideas to plans and on to the transformation of their built environment.

The Community Design Center exists as a community resource to provide the guidance and expertise necessary to help make these ideas a reality! Through education, community engagement and advocacy, the CDCR strives to be a collaborative partner in creating a vibrant place that celebrates community.

Please help us to continue to work to make our villages, towns, cities and region the best that they can be by supporting our "Build a Better Block" Campaign. You can make a contribution online by clicking [here](#) or by mailing a donation to: Community Design Center Rochester, [1115 E. Main St. Rochester](#), Box #61, Rochester, NY 14609.

We thank you in advance for your generosity. Your contribution is an investment in the future of greater Rochester, and in the success of our community as a whole.

7th annual
**reSHAPING
ROCHESTER**
awards

Recognizing the people and projects advancing the Rochester region



Thank you to everyone who came and made our 2017 Reshaping Rochester Awards Luncheon a wonderful success!
We were so honored to be able to celebrate all the people, places and projects making Rochester a better place
with you.

Congratulations to the winners!

Betty Strassenburgh Award for Activism

Winner: Joseph Avenue Arts and Culture Alliance

Honorable Mention: R Community Bikes Inc.

Bob Macon Award for Urban Innovation

Winner: Stadium Estates

Honorable Mention: Eastman Gardens

Joni Monroe Award

Winner: Mark IV for Corn Hill Commons and Corn Hill Landing

Honorable Mention: The Landmark Society

Charrette and Vision Plans, a Time of Reflection



Having completed the Hamlet of Rush and Port of Rochester & Charlotte Community Charrettes, I realize the opportunity to show my appreciation to the four-charrette steering committees that I have had the pleasure to work with during my three-year tenure at the Community Design Center Rochester does not present itself enough.

I have not seen communities set aside their differences more than during our charrette and vision plan process. El Camino Revitalization Area, Hudson Avenue, Hamlet of Rush and Port of Rochester & Charlotte Steering Committees undertook the six-month long process with vigor and conviction that their charrettes were a time for everyone's voice to be heard and respected.

It is that understanding and their conviction to improving their communities that made each charrette a tremendous success. This success will act as a catalyst in creating a strengthened sense of community among stakeholders, educating about best design practices outlined for future development and future civic engagement. All crucial to creating what we know as a strong progressive and resilient community.

With that, I give my sincere heart felt appreciation to the determined work of each person who took the time to participate in these Steering Committees and charrettes.

Happy Holidays,

Aaron Mark Lehman

From our Intern, Shih-Hsuan Huang

As a student of Rochester Institute of Technology, my living area is mostly around West Henrietta. My impression of Rochester is simply the combination of some unique business buildings like Chase, Kodak and the Xerox building, High Falls and Strong Museum. The internship at the Community Design Center Rochester provided a wonderful opportunity for me to explore Rochester in-depth.

The most interesting and meaningful thing to me was the Charrette, which is an event held for the community to provide their opinion about their community. I was lucky to participate in the charette for the port of Charlotte in November, the very north point of Rochester.



I was impressed and touched by the atmosphere filled with enthusiasm from the community, and the intense discussions made me ignore the cold weather! It not only helps collect resident's opinions, it also enhances the bonding of the community.

Angela's Angle

Insights from CDCR's Director of Operations

Reminder: Spring Internship Opportunity!

Do you or someone you know want an opportunity to explore urban planning, community revitalization, and civic engagement? We want to hear from you!

The Community Design Center is looking for a student intern with a desire for a hands-on, unique experience which will encourage critical thinking and learned concepts that can be applied to the real world.

To apply, send an e-mail [here](#).

See what our friends are doing



Reimagine RTS "Meeting in a Box"

A "Reimagine RTS" Meeting-in-a-Box will be held at Workers United: 750 East Ave. in Rochester on Dec. 5th from 6:30-8:30. Members of local non-profit organizations with an interest in mass transit / sustainability are invited. The meeting is open to the public.

The Reimagine RTS is a planning process that will study and explore changes to the RTS fixed-route transit system to better meet the changing needs of the region. For this meeting, we will be provided with guidelines by RTS's "Meeting in a Box". The "Reimagine RTS" process provides a rare opportunity to improve the public transit system in Rochester, thereby significantly reducing green-house gas emissions, providing more equitable transportation options for low-income residents, increasing mass transit ridership, and providing a stimulus for urban revitalization in downtown Rochester.



Community Design Center Rochester | admin@rrcdc.org | [585.271.0520](tel:585.271.0520) | CDCRochester.org



CDCR is supported, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts
with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature

