



**For Immediate Release:
Contact Renee Vallie
412-765-1820**

May 11, 2023

Hill CDC says City of Pittsburgh and Developer progress is real prior to critical public votes

Sufficient public controls and commitments in place to move forward

Over the past 48 hours, the Hill CDC has negotiated with City elected officials and the leadership of the Pittsburgh Penguins and the Buccini Pollin Group to reach a tentative agreement on key community commitments for Block E. The commitments are to be ratified as a part of the actions taken by the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) and Sports and Exhibition Authority (SEA) at today's board meetings scheduled for 10:30 am and 2:00 pm. The URA board is appointed by the Mayor of Pittsburgh, and the SEA board is appointed by the Mayor and the Allegheny County Executive.

President and CEO of the Hill CDC and member of the Lower Hill Executive Management Committee, Marimba Milliones, rounded the corner on negotiations on behalf of the community as the Hill CDC has fiercely advocated that [public commitments made in October of 2019 by the City, Pens, URA, and SEA](#) be fulfilled. The Hill CDC did not negotiate the initial terms of agreement for Block E, but has held the line on ensuring that they get completed. All agreements are to be ratified as a part of the Urban Redevelopment Authority's board actions today.

The Hill CDC, under Milliones' leadership, has now secured over \$45 million of commitments for reinvestment into the Middle and Upper Hill District, including the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA) funding, and more recently a \$2 per ticket surcharge at the to be constructed event venue to be held in a [community-controlled fund at the Urban Redevelopment Authority](#). "The areas of the Hill District with the greatest need should receive the greatest benefit since developers receive our tax dollars for their private developments," she stated. "Thanks to members of the EMC such as Glenn Grayson, Jr., Alicia George, Councilman Lavelle, Deputy Mayor Jake Pawlak, and others for supporting these investments." With the support of the Gainey Administration, the agreements reached at this stage must be completed prior to financial closing for the

Block E parcel. "I think we're in a good place, and I hope that what everyone takes away from this is that a serious focus on completing community processes in the future will increase collaboration and allow parties to direct their energies towards the community's goal of equitable redevelopment in the Hill District," she said.

Milliones continued, "The Hill District community and its residents need to stay engaged over coming weeks to assure that all commitments must be delivered in a contractually bound form before the URA, SEA, and City allow for financial closing, which the Penguins have communicated will happen in the next sixty days. The City, Hill CDC, Penguins, and BPG are now working together in that effort and the Hill CDC will keep the community apprised in the coming weeks of all new details.

Over the next two months prior, the Hill District community will need continued advocacy to elected officials, URA and SEA board members to ensure that all agreements are contractually bound."

More about the Hill CDC: www.hilldistrict.org



The Hill CDC's report to the community on the **ten** outstanding issues prior to the board action by the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) and Sports and Exhibition Authority (SEA) on Block E of the Lower Hill District.

✓	Develop Public Safety Rescue Station as a part of the Block E garage
✓	URA Retail Incubator Space for Minority Owned Businesses on Block E
✓	New Granada Support and Coordination
✗	Upfront Capitalization (Payment) of the entire Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance – LERTA for Block E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City supported payment over three years versus upfront payment due to current interest rates.
✓	Curtain Call Process and Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to a public community meeting with Hill CDC this summer before moving forward on the new proposed site. • Committed to evidence financing following meeting. This is a critical item to watch.
✓	Ammon Youth Recreation Center Upgrades - \$1 Million Total Investment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One upfront payment of 400K • Balance of payments due over 24 months
✓	First Source Hiring and Training for jobs at new Live Nation entertainment venue
✓	\$2 per ticket surcharge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment made for a ten-year period at Live Nation venue, Hill CDC will revisit terms of contribution and parking surcharge for garage and surface lots.
✗	Completion of community Development Review Panel (DRP) for Hill District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developer failed to complete the Hill District's unified community review process, the neighborhood's tried and true process that has reviewed over 50 projects. www.hilldistrict.org/drps
✗	Equitable Split on Parking Tax Diversion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City support is insufficient to support a more equitable split of these funds.