BUFFALO, NY

Bringing Food Retail into the Central Park Plaza Redevelopment

MY IDEA FOR CHANGE

The purpose of this project is to provide a fresh food market on Fillmore Avenue to fulfill the needs of the neighborhood residents. In order to ensure that the community weighs in on what type of market it wants, the main objectives of this project are to create an outreach strategy and a citizen committee that will solicit community feedback and advocate for this input to be taken into account when the market is being developed.

WHERE THE CHANGE WILL HAPPEN

The Fillmore-Leroy Area needs a fresh food market. This need was caused by the population exodus from this area and the widely acknowledged failure of the former Central Park Plaza, which once hosted stores where residents could purchase fresh foods and produce. Recently though, with the expectation of more foot-traffic, an increase in population density of the neighborhood, and the current climate of positive change with the redevelopment of the former Plaza, citizens such as Ms. Daria Pratcher and the leadership of the neighborhood group Fillmore-Leroy Area Residents, Inc. (FLARE) have been encouraged to start advocating to bring a fresh food market into the area.

It is essential though that this market be developed with the community’s desires and needs in mind. The neighborhood has seen significant growth in the past two years of families who previously did not live in the Buffalo area. The new residents are primarily of Southeast Asian descent and were either residents of New York City or their native country. Therefore, a typical market would not be suitable for this diverse neighborhood.

Planning a Change

ACTIONS TO MOVE IT FORWARD

Research funding sources
Coordinate a public engagement campaign
Recruit public and private partners
Help identify potential sites adjacent to the Central Park Plaza redevelopment site

RESOURCES NEEDED TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

Partnerships

FUNDING RANGE

$0 - $5,000

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

IDEA PLAN ACTION

Our neighborhood needs a place where residents can have access to nutritious, affordable food to increase their health and quality of life. Any market that comes into the neighborhood should reflect the needs and desires of the neighborhood’s diverse and vibrant population.

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