

WHAT WE HEARD

North End Neighborhood Framework Plan
Bike and Walking Tour

Attendees: 12
6 May 2023



WHAT WE HEARD

Biking Tour Notes

Elements that would make the streets more welcoming...

AMENITIES FOR PEDESTRIANS

- Shaded seating (x2)
- Water fountain
- Hand-washing stations/bathroom
- Destinations such as: dime store, restaurants, book store
- More murals and artwork

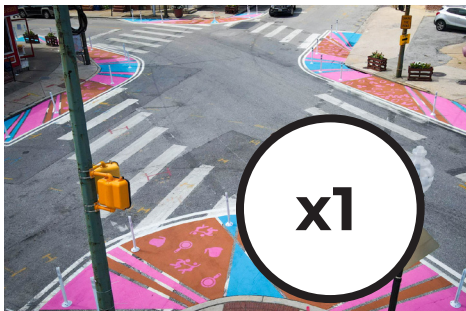
STREETSCAPE DESIGN

- Sheltered bus stops for elders along Oakland (x2)
- Buffer between sidewalk and street
- Segmented bike lanes
- More street trees
- Fix potholes north of Westminster

KID-FRIENDLY DESIGN

- Would like to see a more colorful play-scape
- Splash pad, more water elements
- Buffer against street fence for small kids
- More programming in the park
- Outdoor games

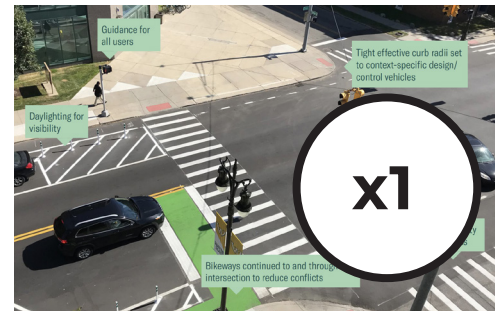
On Oakland, I would like to see...



Bump outs at intersections & parking



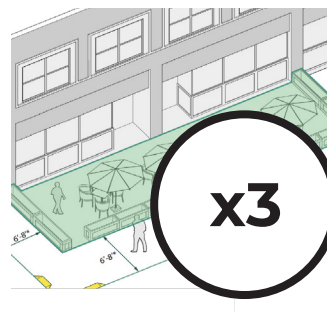
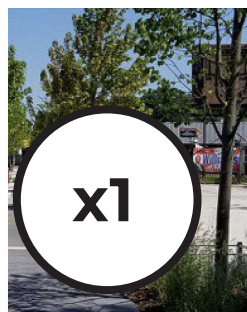
Buffered bike lanes



Visible crosswalks



Vary material (using color, texture, or edging) to differentiate between different sidewalk uses



Space on sidewalks in commercial areas for outdoor seating, retail, etc.



WHAT WE HEARD

Sidewalk Repair Needs



Bethune, between St Antoine and Oakland, both sides of street



On west side of Oakland, south of Alger



King Street, just west of Oakland, north side of street

General notes:

- Sidewalk very narrow along Oakland, not welcoming or suitable for people gathering; was also consistently overgrown with grass and had debris/broken glass (from Euclid to King St)
- Oakland Ave can also benefit from: pedestrian lights, trash cans

WHAT WE HEARD

Walking Tour Notes

STREETSCAPE ELEMENTS THAT WOULD INCREASE WELCOMING FEEL:

- Social gathering place of shared interests
- Internet access
- More businesses and destinations - Oakland is often only used to get to I-75; can feel divided from rest of neighborhood
- Murals from artist with North End roots

NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

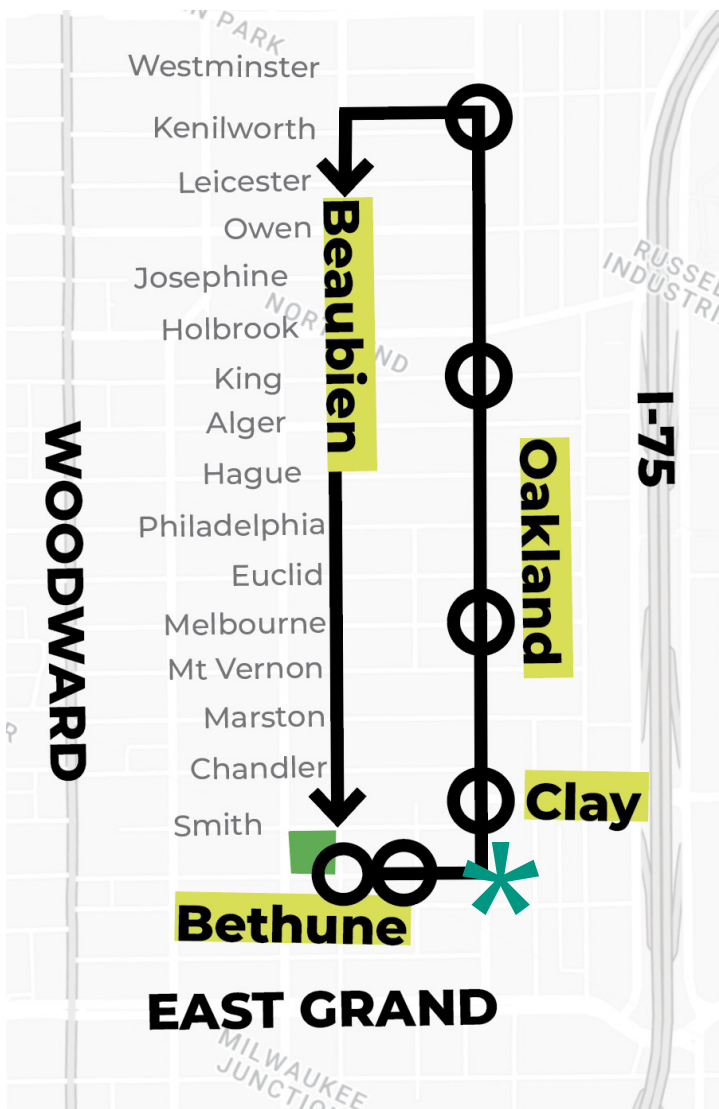
- Tension in neighborhood with new development
- Building owners, such as DR Castelow (owner of building a Clay and Oakland) is looking for funds to renovate their building
- Potential to partner with organizations like Izzie LLC; City to pay residents to maintain streetscape + be stewards of their neighborhood
- MUFI donating three lots to Humane Society for dog park
- Residents are concerned with being priced out of their neighborhood; biggest concern is that legacy residents receive housing maintenance support

SHARING THE STORY OF THE NORTH END

- Train legacy residents in storytelling - Legacy residents to be docents/consultants as storytellers in the neighborhood; Would be an equitable way to both support legacy residents with compensation for their expertise and support authentic cultural heritage celebration/communication
- Delores Bennett is known as a matriarch of the North End; among many things, was known to provide jobs to many youth in the neighborhood.

“We’ll heal this area by coming together, connecting dots.”
Sun Foster

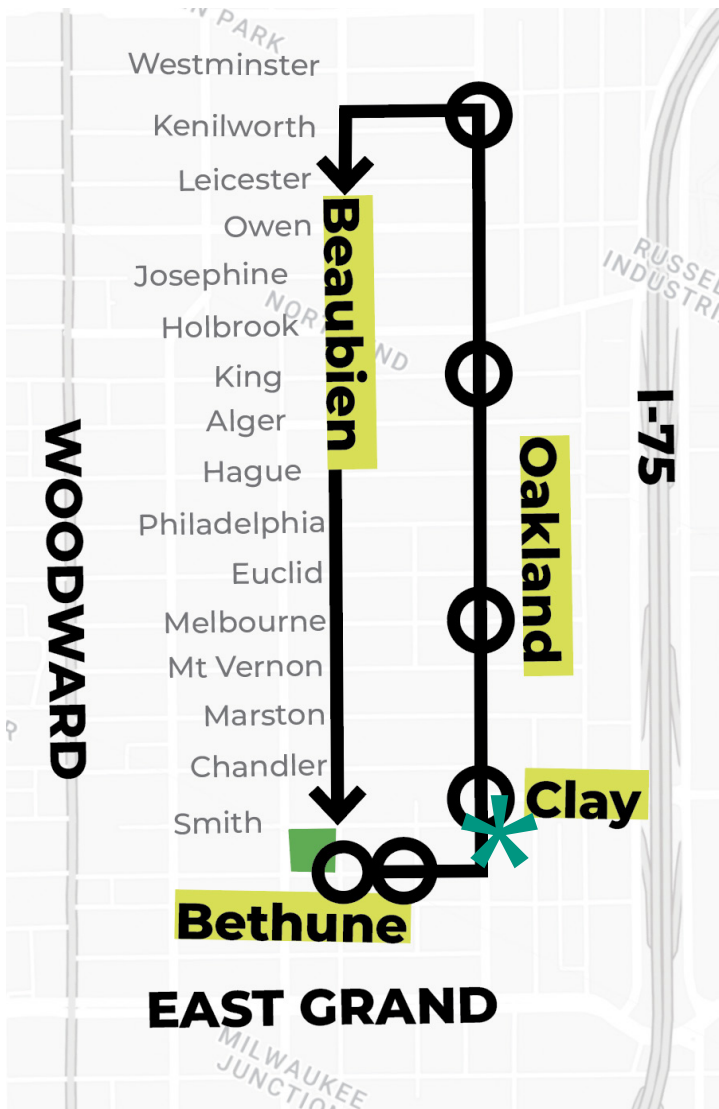
“North End used to be a self-contained community, you didn’t have to leave the neighborhood, you had everything you needed here.”
LaDonna Little



Bethune + Oakland

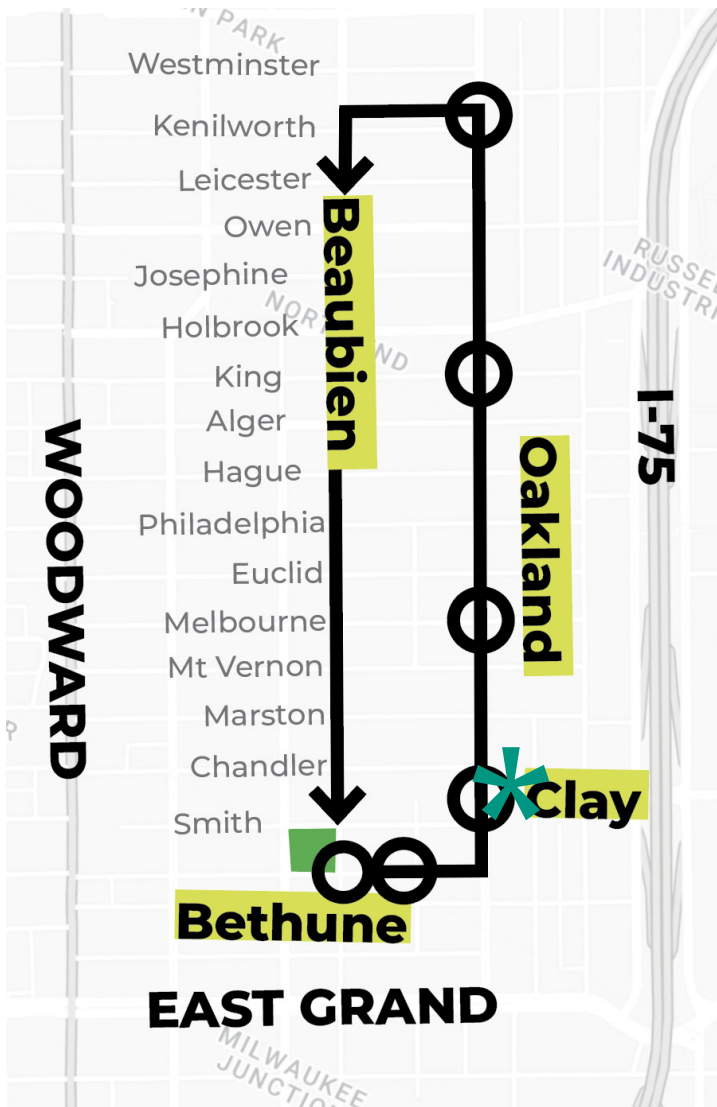
- Building at corner used to be a Dime Store
- Ms. Bennett lived on top floor of the Dime Store building
- Sugar Hill Lounge was across the street at Bethune and Oakland; historic corner
- Other amenities/businesses located near this location: newspaper print shop, gardens, grocery
- There was a petition to rename Bethune or Smith St into "Delores Bennett"
- Community members would like to see: trees, bump outs, native plantings/ beautification, seating, fixed sidewalks, covered bus stop, historical marker





Smith + Oakland

- Elements that are desired are: historical markers, more trees at pedestrian scale, beautification/native plantings, seating

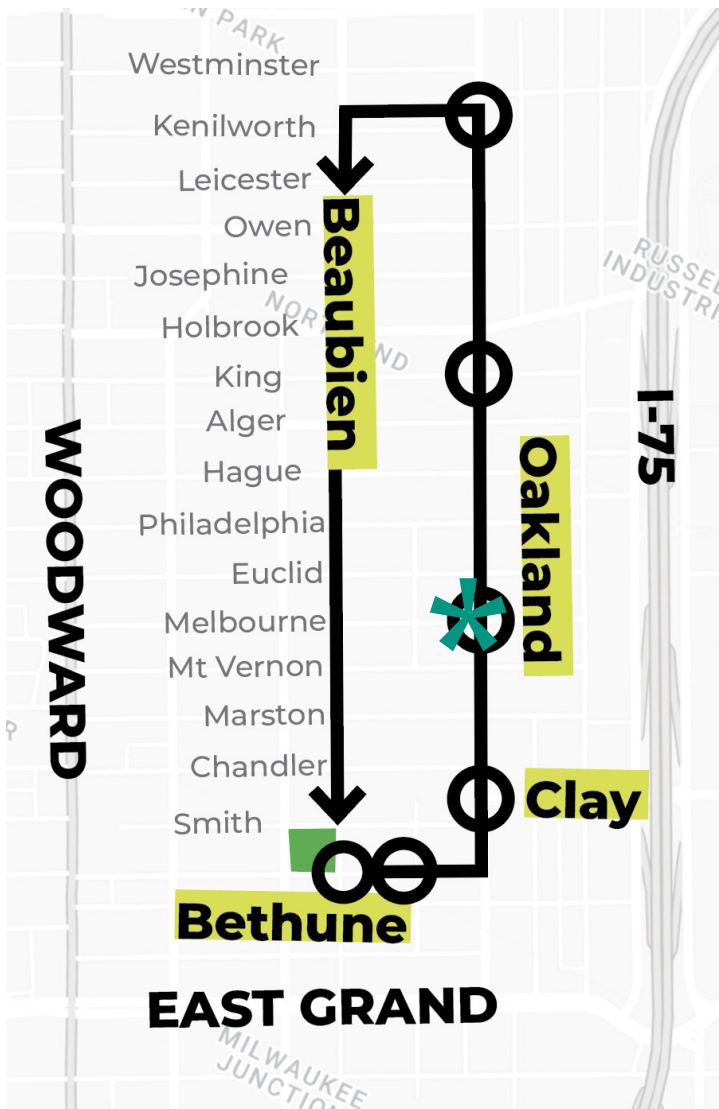


Clay + Oakland

- DR Castelow owns the building that was previously known as the Charlie the Pencilman Store
- DR looking to develop the building to be mixed-use, including housing on upper floors, and Ava's World Famous Sweet Potato Cakes and North End Apparel
- Used to have a density of businesses in this area, such as: several doctor offices, hardware store, pharmacy, restaurant

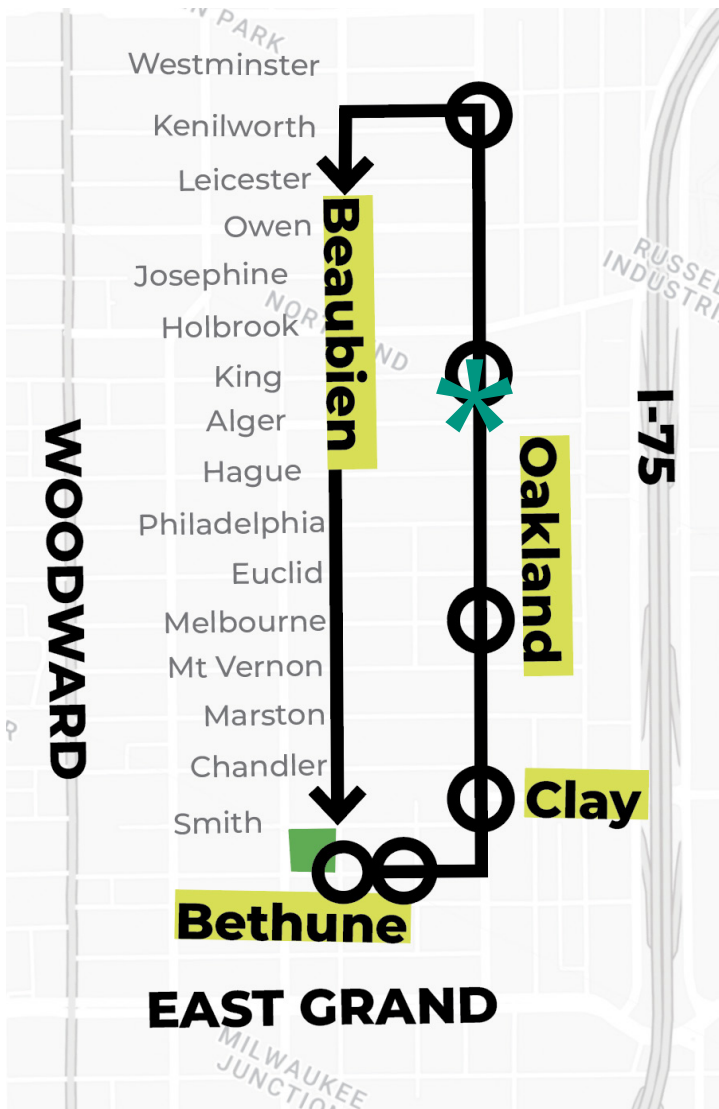
“Clay + Oakland was a popular corner, Motown singers used to come here and sing a cappella.”

Like the idea of art alleys that can also support micro-businesses + youth entrepreneurship



Melbourne + Oakland

- More pedestrian scale lighting; more ways for pedestrians to feel welcome in this area
- Lots of foot traffic and street was full of parking on both sides
- Potential for string lights
- Schvitz cares for the corner; planted a tree, upkeep mulch and planting bed



King + Oakland

- Need trash cans all along Oakland
- Love the vibe of string lights
- Lots of foot traffic at MJ's