Our West Bayfront Eclipse Weekend Community Gathering April 6, 2024



OUR WEST BAYFRONT





The mission of Our West Bayfront is to enhance the quality of life in Erie's West Bayfront neighborhoods by promoting civic involvement, thoughtful development, historic preservation and neighborhood pride.

Welcome!



Special thanks to:

- Our host, Martin Luther King, Jr. Center
- Herb and Honey Bakery for delicious snacks
- All of you for joining us this morning!









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pride.

Today's Topics:

- 1. West 7th Street Community Build and other OWB owned property renovations
- 2. Home repair assistance
- 3. Historic Erie Preservation Trust (Jeff Kidder)
- 4. Street Tree Planting Project
- 5. West 12th Street Reimagined Study (Jenni Easton)
- 6. Neighborhood Engagement Opportunities
- 7. Eclipse Tips



We are grateful to all OWB supporters, including these major sponsors:





















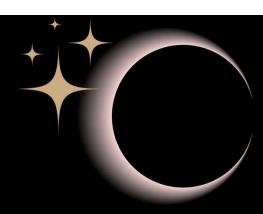












Question:

What day will the solar eclipse take place?

Answer:

Monday, April 8th!

Just making sure everyone is awake ©



Question:

About how many years will it be until Erie sees another total solar eclipse?

Answer:

375 Years. That will be in 2399!



Question: How long will totality last?

Answer:

4 minutes and 28 seconds

Question:

A solar eclipse can occur on every planet in our solar system except for which two planets?

Hint:

Which planets don't have moons?

Answer:

Mercury and Venus



Question:

Where will you be watching the eclipse?

At home?

At an event around town?

At a friend/family member's house?

811 West 7th Street Community Build



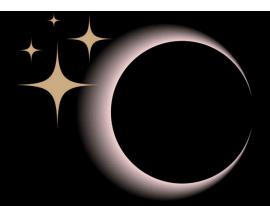


811 West 7th Street Community Build





811 West 7th Street Community Build Ways to lend a hand:



- 1. Sign up to volunteer at www.ourwestbayfront.org/build811 or contact Marissa
- 2. Support the volunteers with snacks
- 3. Make a contribution for materials/supplies at ourwestbayfront.org/donate



Vacant Property Rehab Projects



521 West 3rd Street

811 Walnut



702 Raspberry St







716 Myrtle Street

Liberty Street Renaissance Block



- 14 properties assisted so far with repair grant funding
- Boulevard plantings completed last summer
- Pedestrian improvements planned



Home Repair Assistance

Lead Hazard Control Program

- Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie
- Intended to eliminate LEAD in homes with children 5 or younger.
- Only for homes with certified lead present





Home Repair Assistance Healthy Homes



- Offered by the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie.
- Intended to improve overall health & safety of homes.
- Maximum of \$24,999 for repairs



Home Repair Assistance

Lead Program Requirements

- Income
 - Household max income shown to the right.
- Qualifying Child
 - **Owner Occupied** must have child who is 5 or younger who lives at residence or is there at least 6 hours a week
 - **Renter** qualifying child not required but will need an application from both renter and landlord



1 Person -< \$44,450

2 Person -< \$50,800

3 Person -< \$57,150

4 Person -< \$63,500

5 Person -< \$68,600

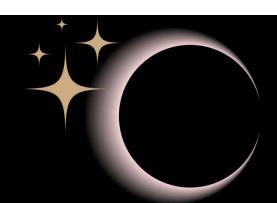
6 Person -< \$73,700

7 Person -< \$78,750

8 Person -< \$83,850

Home Repair Assistance Healthy Homes Requirements

- Income
 - household max income shown on the right
- Renters/Landlord
 - Renters and landlords both need to complete different applications.
 - Renter must meet the income requirements.
 - Landlords will be responsible for 20% of project costs.



Annual household income MAY NOT exceed the following:

1 Person -< \$45,180

2 Person -< \$61,320

3 Person -< \$77,460

4 Person -< \$93,600

5 Person -< \$109,740

6 Person -< \$125,880

7 Person -< \$142,020

8 Person -< \$158,160

(Subject to yearly changes)



Historic Erie Preservation Trust (HEPT)





Historic Erie Preservation Trust (HEPT)

2018-2024

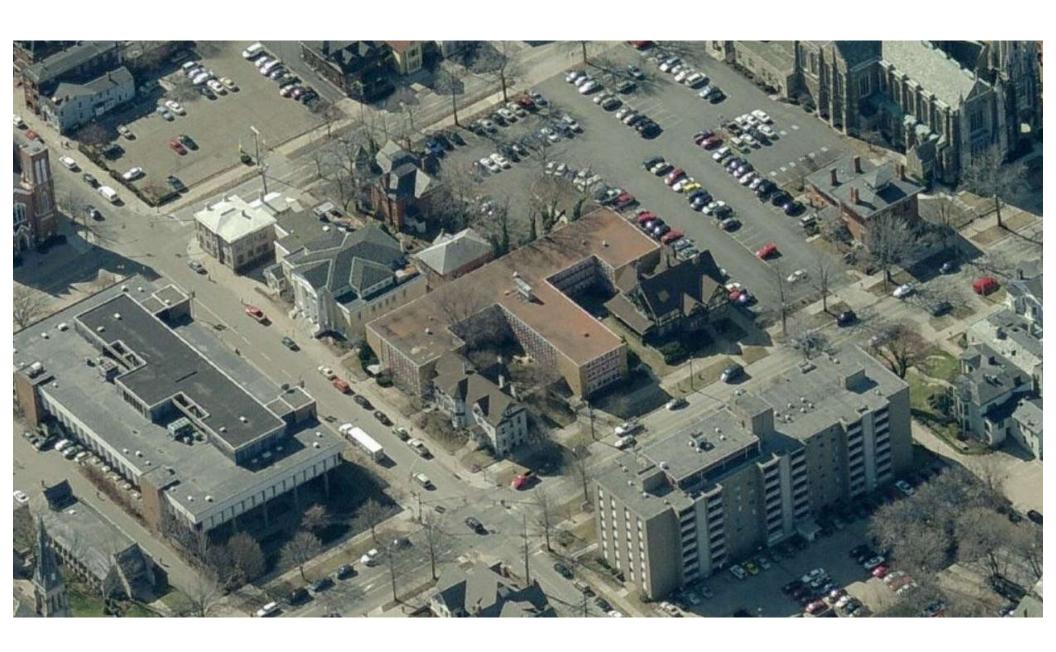
35 Buildings: 22 Apartment Buildings (90 Apartments)

2 Mixed Use Buildings (6 Apartments + 2 Storefronts)

7 Commercial Buildings (Offices + Restaurant)

4 Single Family Home

14 Miscellaneous Parcels





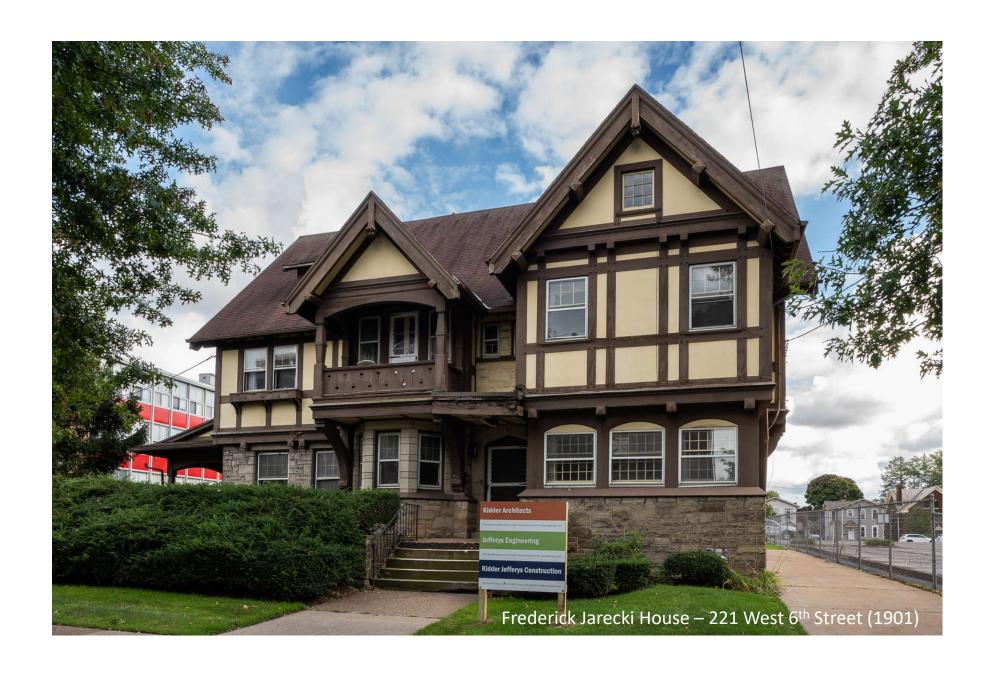




































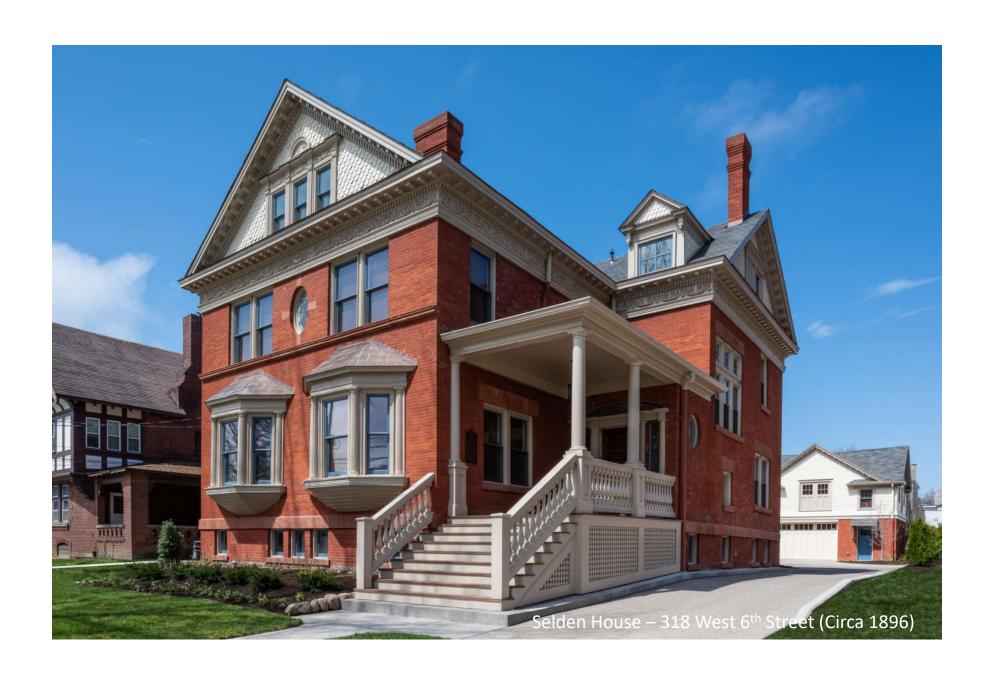










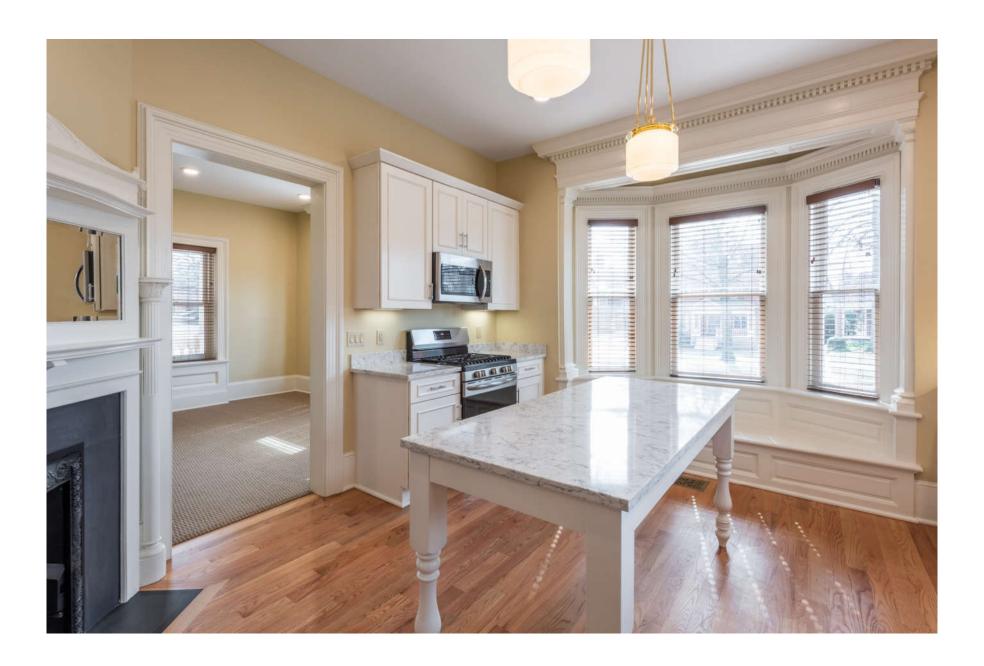






















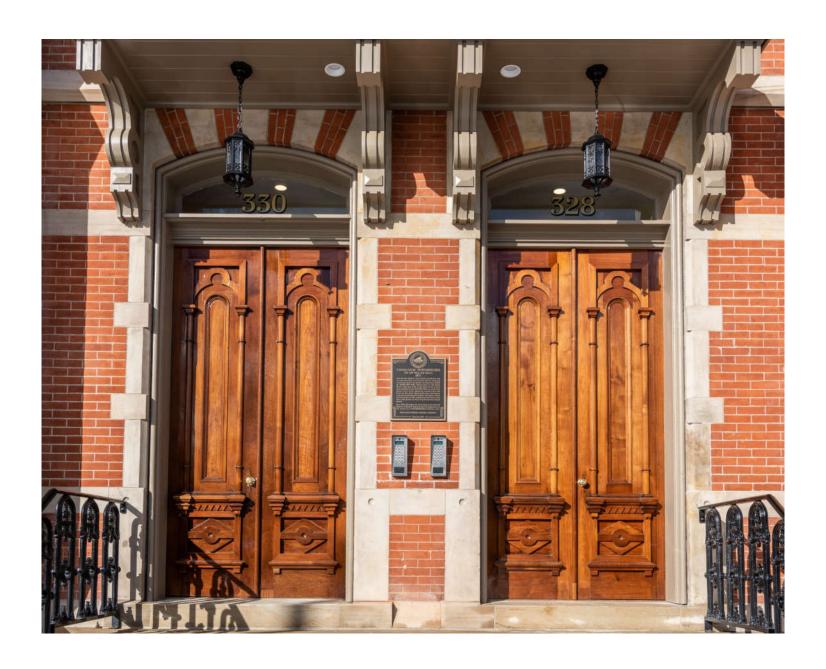




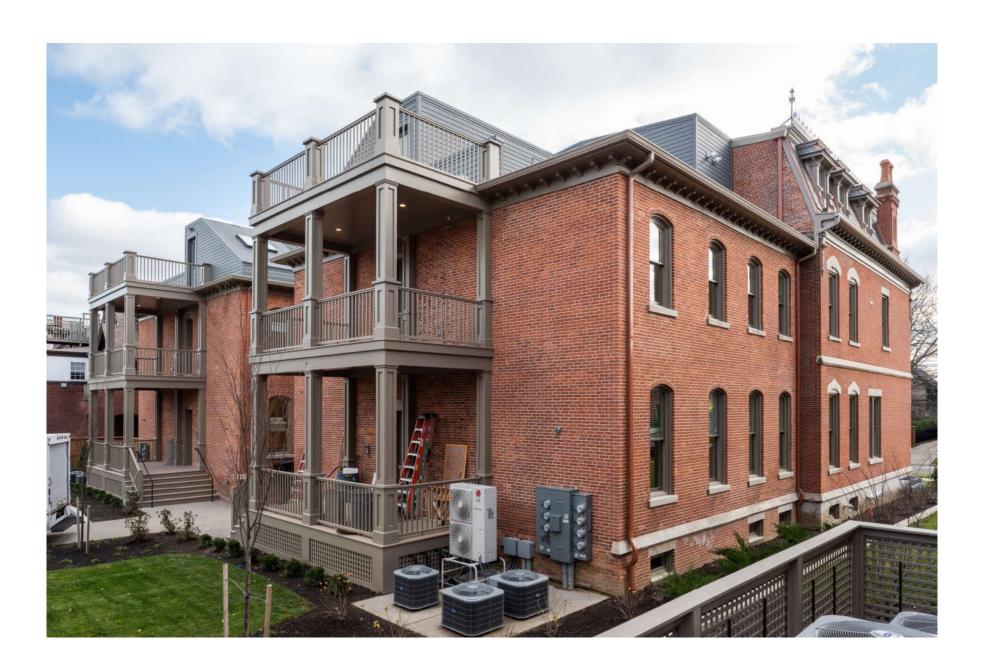










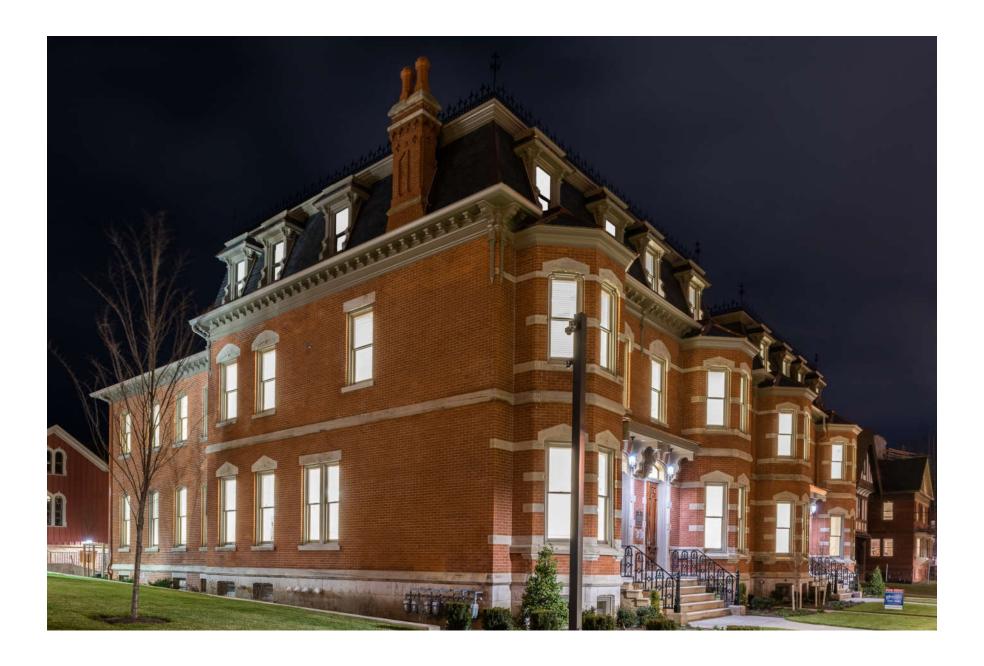




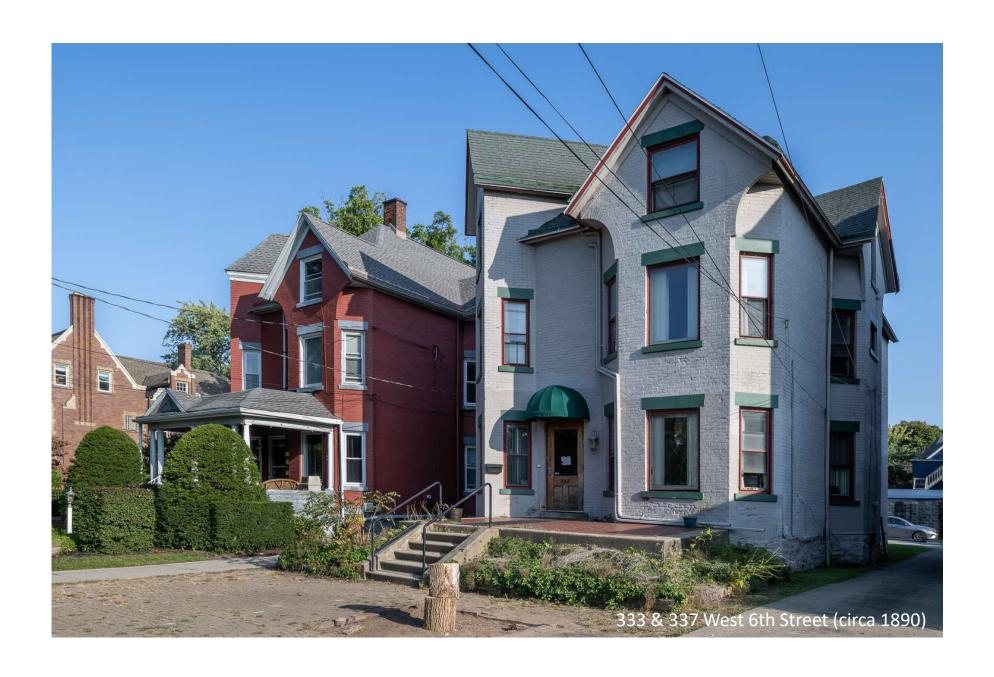






















































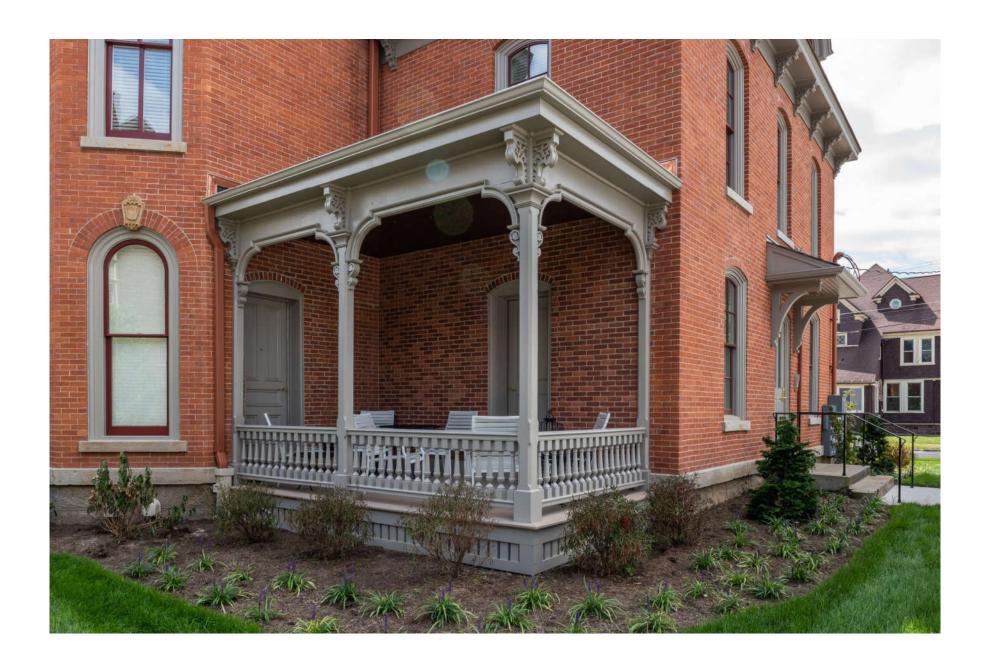


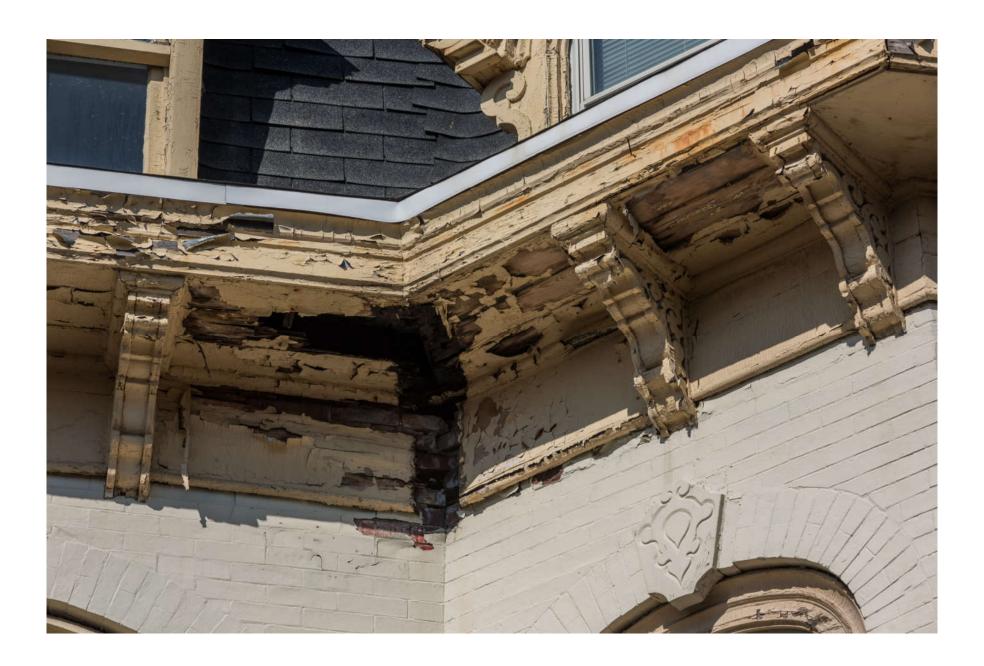


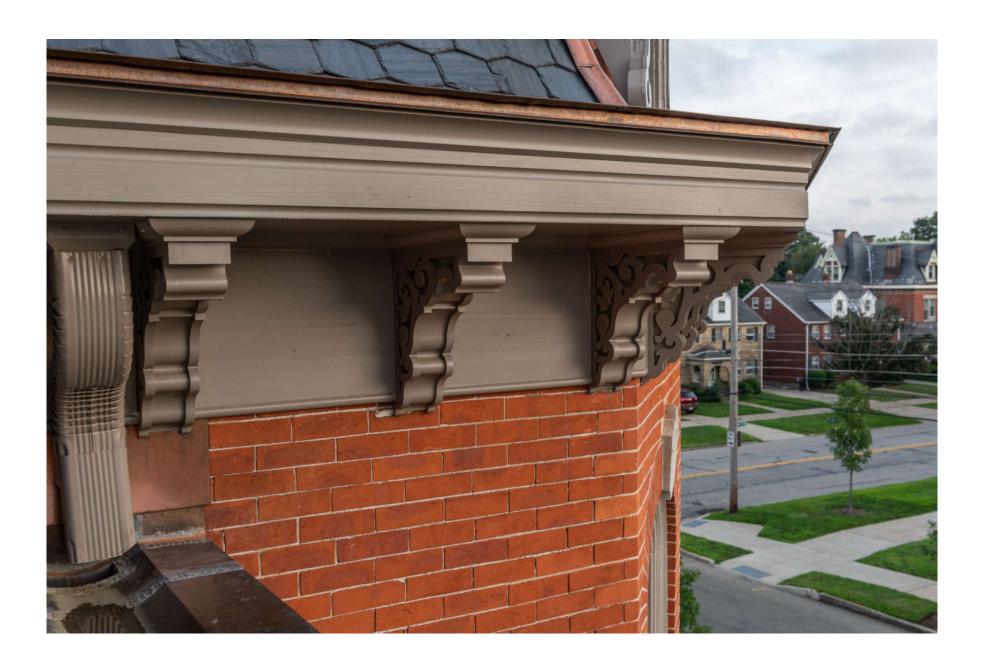






































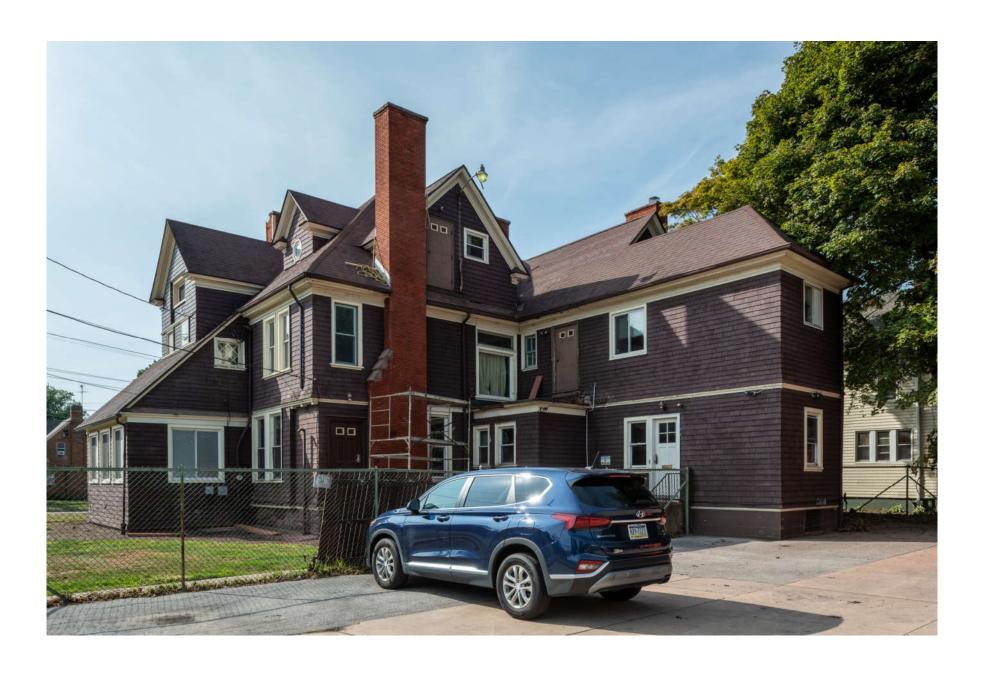


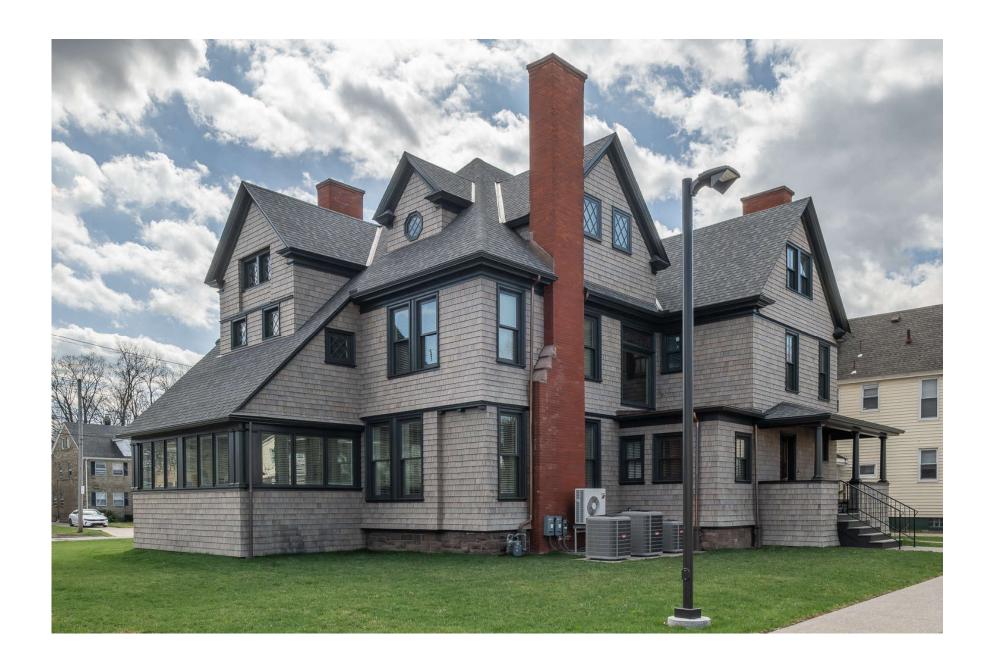




















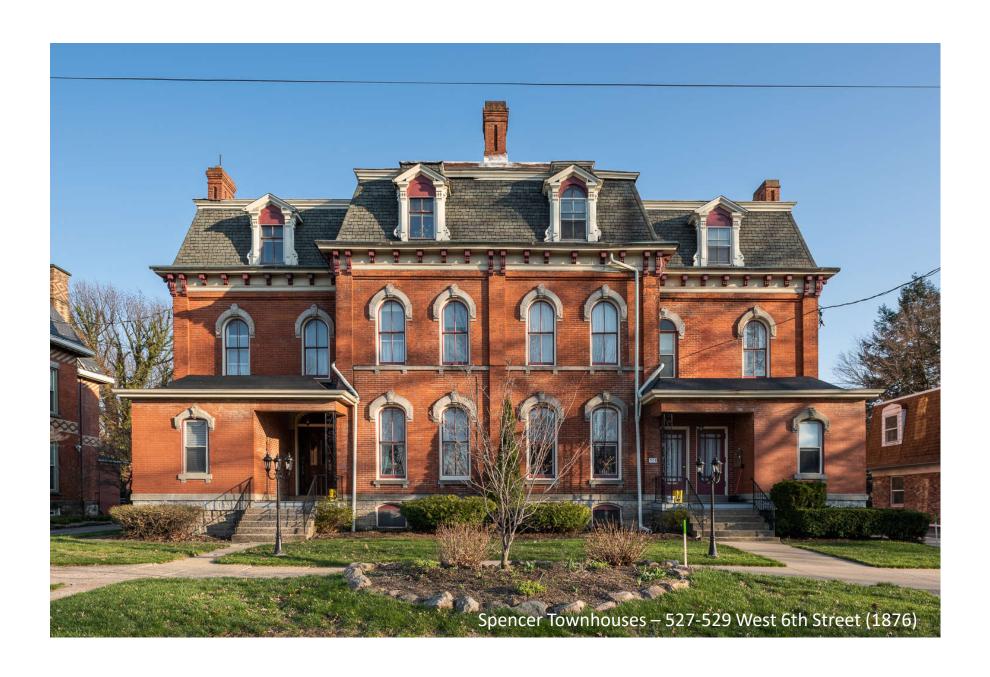




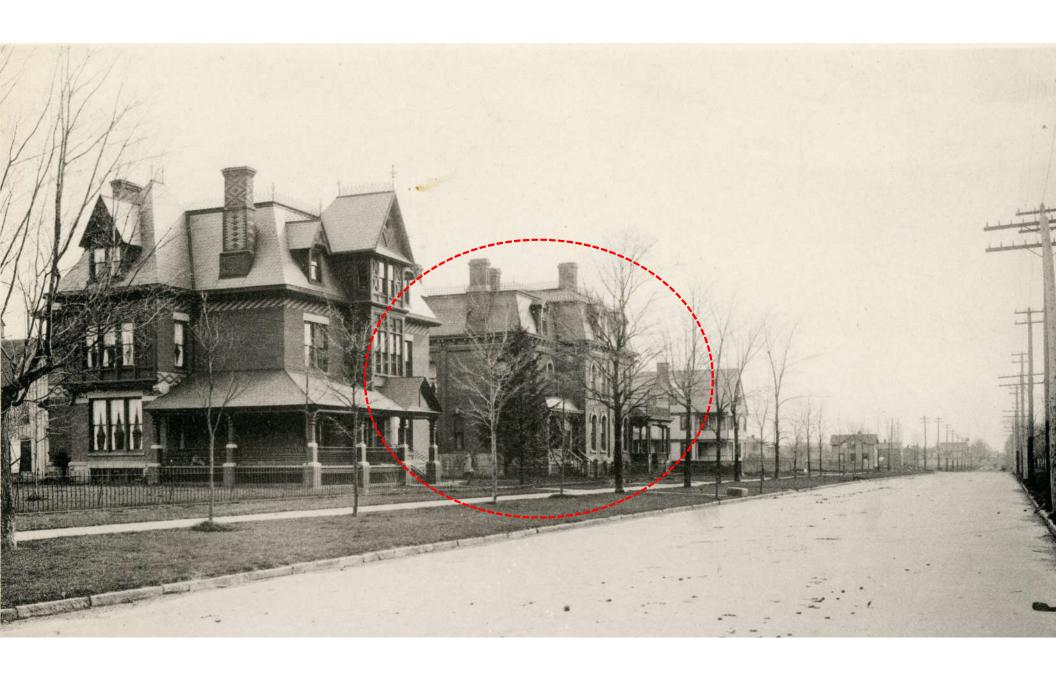


























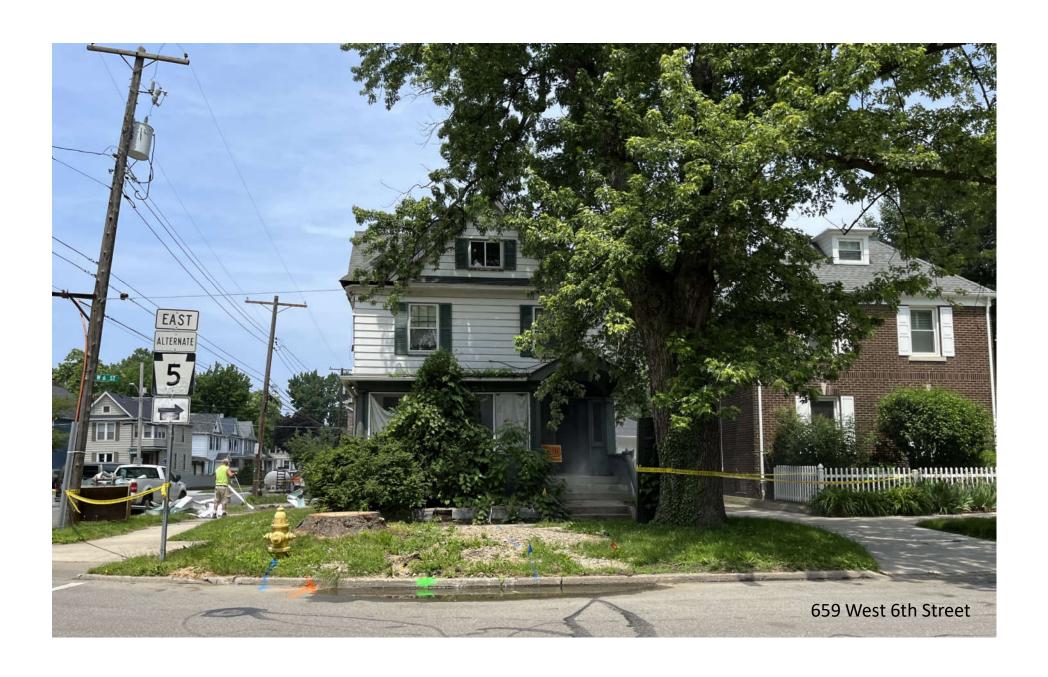








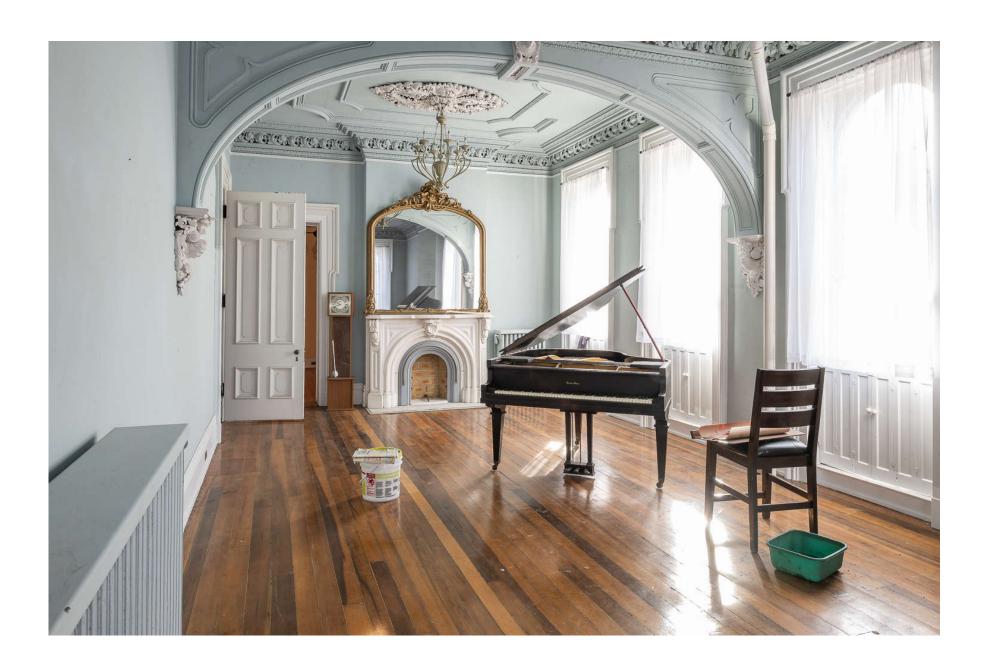




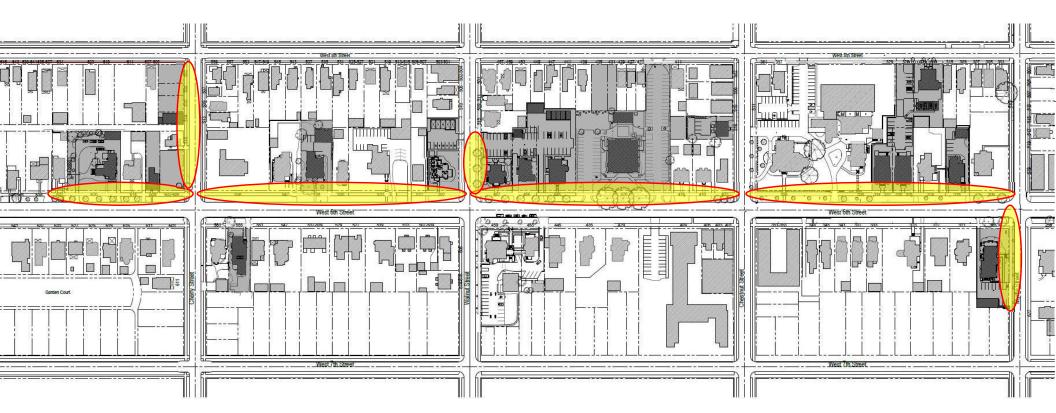




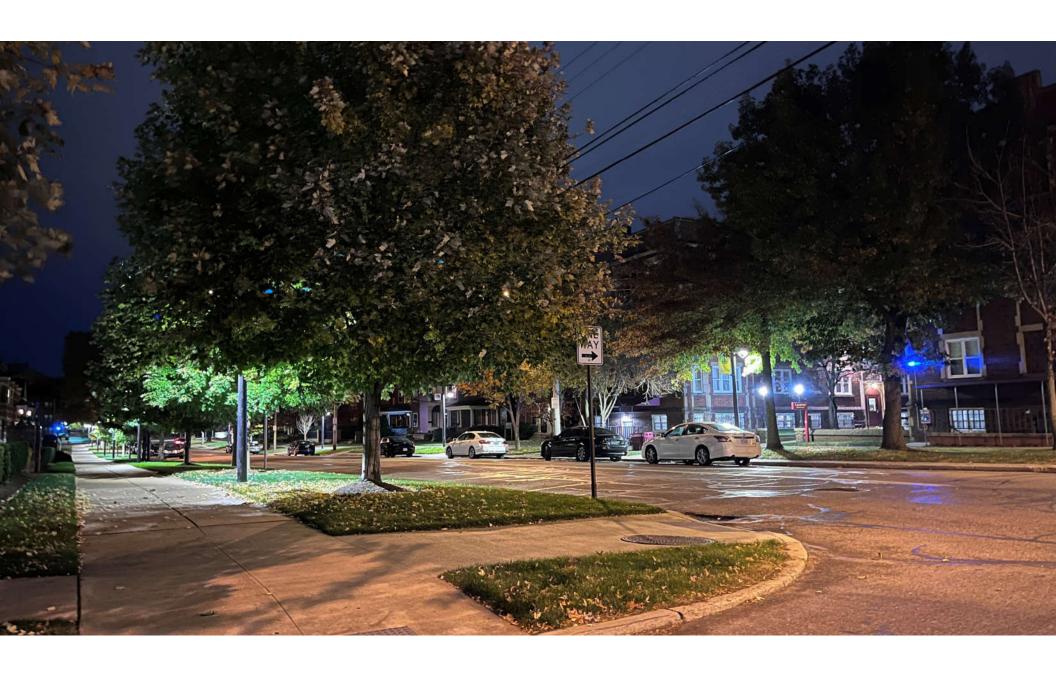


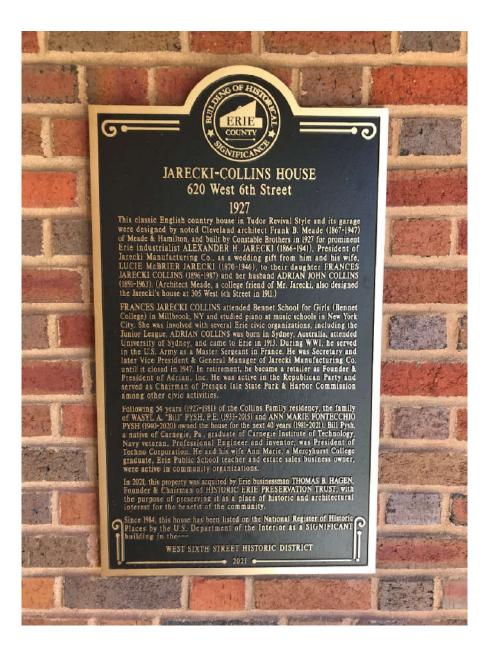


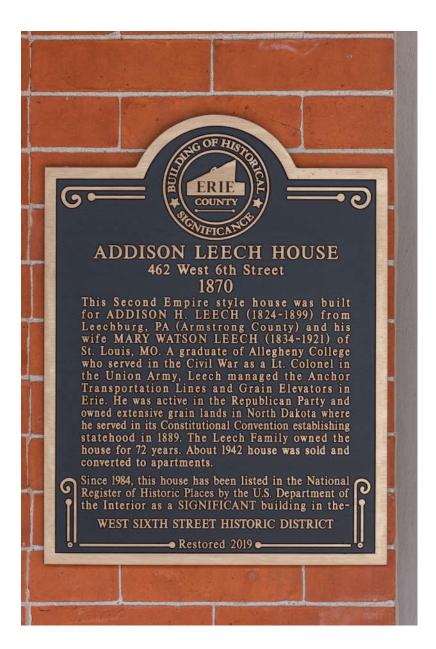




New Sidewalk Lighting (32 Light Fixtures)









Street Tree Project



Street Tree Assessments

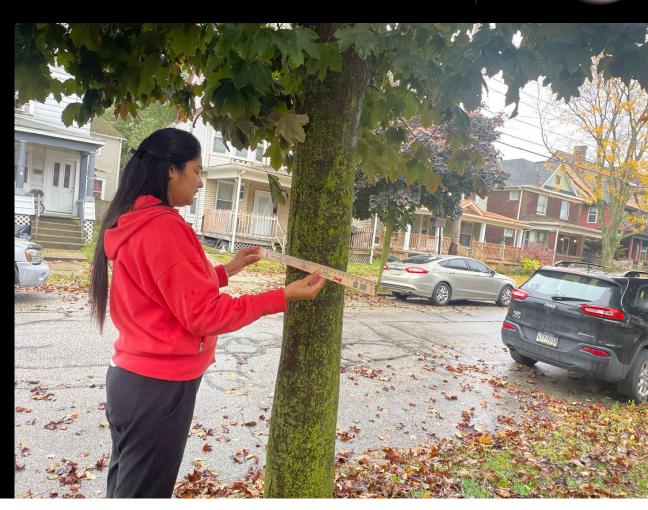
First Phase:

Sept -Nov. 2023

Second Phase:

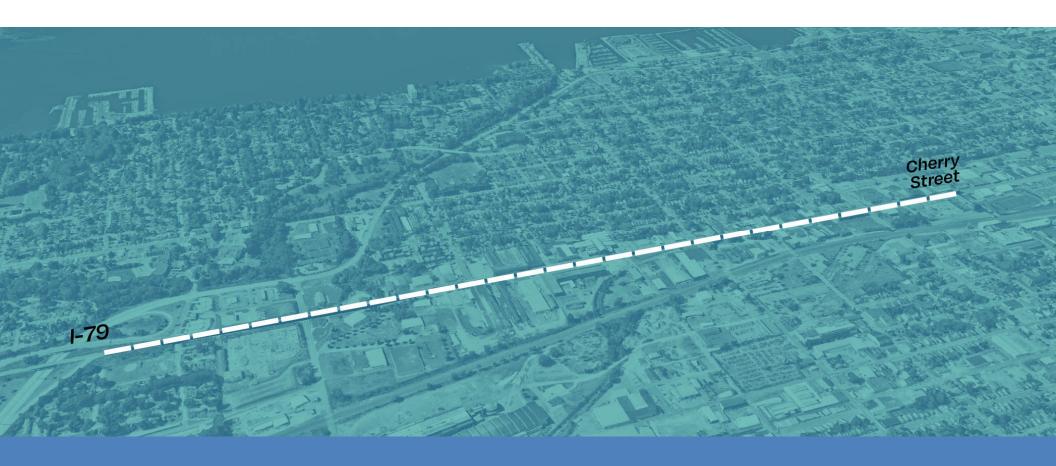
May, 2024

72 blocks remaining







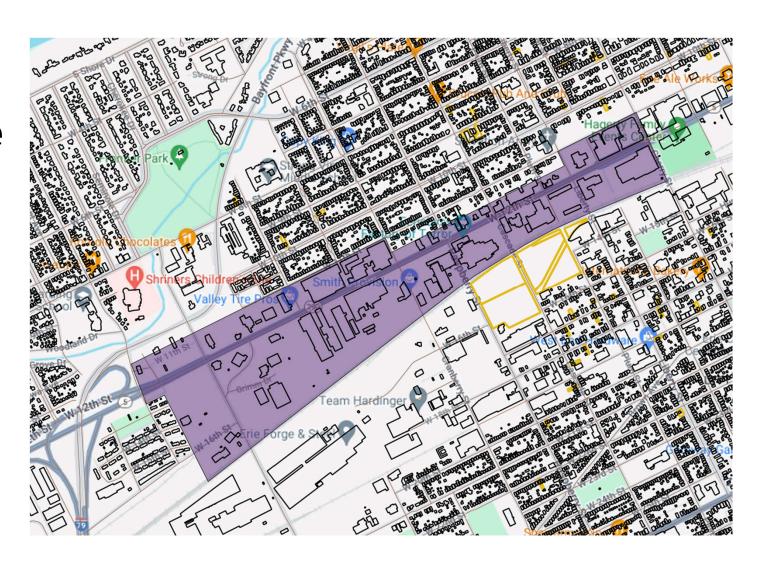


12th Street Reimagined Project Overview



Defining the Corridor

In the context of this plan, the Erie 12th
Street corridor spans
12th Street from the I79 interchange (1600 block) to Cherry
Street (600 block).



Project basics

- Develop market-supported land-use and transportation strategies
- Examine reuse opportunities for critical sites
- Establish practical action steps and funding plans for making the corridor more inviting and functional, ensure that the roadway meets the current and future needs of all users

What's the best-case scenario for improved conditions along West 12th Street?

How do we get there from here?

What's involved?

- Steering committee meetings
- Field assessment of existing conditions
- Transportation, land use and market data analysis
- Interviews, focus groups, neighborhood group meetings
- Two public events (in March and May)
- Identification of target sites, concept development
- Vision/concept workshopping
- Regulatory review
- Implementation and funding plan

Market overview

The strengths of the Erie 12th Street Corridor emanate from a strong industrial legacy to existing affordable housing. The corridor's connection to I-79, 1-90, and proximity to downtown could be further leveraged to create a district, or cluster of activity. Similarly, the district's infrastructure could support more density in terms of businesses or housing.

Key Analysis Findings: Real Estate

- **High Business Vacancy Rate:** At 10.6%, the business vacancy rate in the 12th Street Corridor surpasses both county (7.7%) and state (8.5%) averages, indicating a need for revitalization and business attraction strategies.
- **Residential Vacancy**: The residential vacancy rate stands at 6.8%, suggesting housing demand or quality challenges, which could impact the corridor's attractiveness to new residents and workers. Relatively few residents both live and work in the corridor. Increasing this share could both fill housing demand and create a larger local market for main street services.
- Underutilized Real Estate Potential: The presence of available office, retail space, and vacant
 land, combined with relatively low lease rates, highlights underutilized real estate potential
 that could be leveraged for economic development.

Key Analysis Findings: Industry Trends

- Limited Diversity in Business Types: The corridor primarily hosts professional, scientific, technical services, and manufacturing businesses, with a notable absence of accommodation, food services, and worker-support services.
- Low Absorption Rates for Industrial Space: Industrial space absorption has lagged behind national averages in Erie, with relatively low rents but also low vacancy (for space actively available for rent). The 12th Street corridor includes industrial space that does meet highest and best use standards or is not actively being promoted as available.
- Challenges in Multifamily Housing Demand: Despite the increasing rents, the demand for multifamily properties has been weaker than national averages. This could reflect a mismatch between the housing supply and the needs or financial capabilities of the local population, pointing to the need for affordable housing solutions.

Key Analysis Findings: Economic Indicators

- Slower Retail Absorption Rates: Compared to national averages, the demand for retail space in the Erie Metropolitan Area, including the 12th Street Corridor, is weaker, with slower absorption rates indicating potentially lower business activity in retail sectors.
- **Economic Performance:** Erie's median income is significantly lower than Pennsylvania's average, combined with a lower labor force participation rate and a higher share of people with disabilities, which could impact economic resilience and growth potential.
- Decreasing Population: Erie's population has been in decline since the 1960s, with the city's population falling below 100,000 in 2020. This trend could affect labor market size and consumer base.





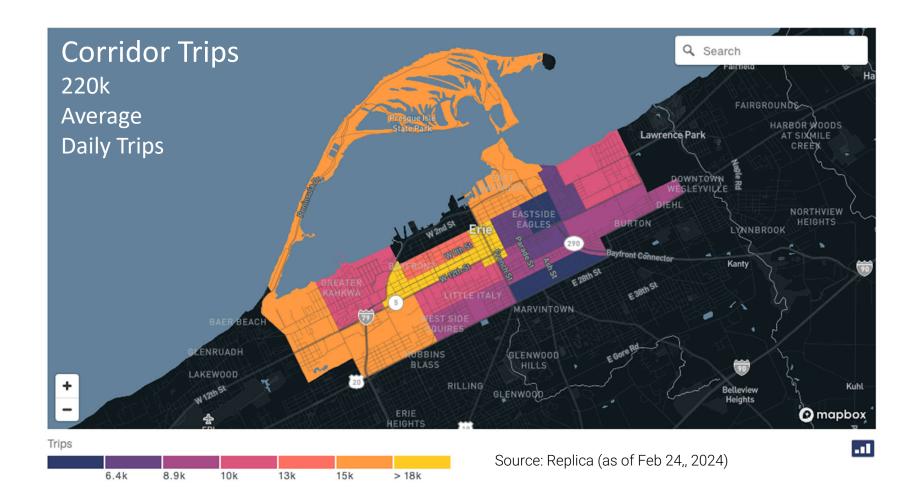
12th Street Corridor Businesses

Note many sole proprietor professionals and manufacturing facilities. There is a notable absence of accommodation and food service establishments. This is consistent with hearing there is a lack of worker supporting services in the corridor.

12th Street Corridor Businesses

Establishments (including Sole Proprietors)	
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	18
Manufacturing	11
Retail Trade	6
Construction	3
Transportation and Warehousing	3
Wholesale Trade	2
Finance and Insurance	1
Other Services	1
Real Estate Renting and Leasing	1
Total	46

Source: Google Business Cards







Follow the project online!

cityof.erie.pa.us/12streetproject





Get Involved with OWB!

460 Volunteers have put in 2212.5 hours so far this year!

Projects Include:

- 811 West 7th Street Community Build
- Events and Outreach
- Environmental Projects (Tree assessments)



Get Involved with OWB!

Sign up for current opportunities and get on the mailing list to be the first one to hear about upcoming opportunities!





www.ourwestbayfront.org/opportunities

OWB Spring Cleanup





www.ourwestbayfront.org/events to register

Eclipse Tips

Have your eclipse glasses on before and after totality!

View the eclipse from your home or any nearby event location, including:

- Perry Square
- Frontier Park
- Liberty Park/Highmark Amphitheater
- Gannon University (West 7th St)

Consider traffic and transportation. West 2nd Street will be closed from State to Cascade St.

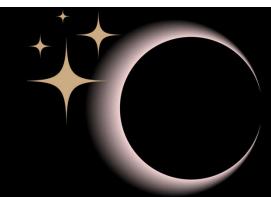
Enjoy this once in a lifetime opportunity!

Totality Begins:
3:16PM

Totality Ends:

3:20PM

Please mark your calendar:





Erie Gives Day:
Tuesday, August 12th
A donation of \$25 or more
suppports OWB's work!

Contributions are welcome any time! Visit <u>ourwestbayfront.org/donate/</u>

After this...

- OWB team members will be available for any questions or ideas
- Share your thoughts about West 12th Street with Jenni
- Enjoy more refreshments
- Purchase a Gridley Park Eclipse
 Shirt or other OWB attire
- Sign up to volunteer!





Contact OWB



- **814 871-7050**
- info@ourwestbayfront.org
- www.ourwestbayfront.org

Thank you for joining us this morning!