43 Vine Street

Presented by the Smerd Group to the Hill CDC April 4, 2018



A third generation family-owned business



The Forbes Med Tech Center An economic engine in Uptown for 35 years

- Two former warehouses on Forbes Avenue between Stevenson and Pride Streets
- More than 200,000 square feet
- A dozen-plus employers: nonprofits, social services, high tech, architecture and design
- Hundreds of employees
- A history of re-use



Pittsburgh parking

To attract employers, landlords must provide parking

As Uptown grows, so too is demand for parking



43 Vine Street

Transform an abandoned nearly half acre property into a productive one



Its history

- Former St. Michael's Archangel Russian Orthodox church
- Original structure built around 1905
- Congregation moved out nearly two decades ago
- Purchased by RR Properties LLC in 2017
- Zoned for religious use



Current condition



Graffiti, vandalism, theft, dilapidated, overgrown

A plan for the future

Phase one: Parking for Forbes Med Tech tenants

- Change zoning or get variance
- Tear down structures
- Grade area for lot to accommodate around 70 vehicles
- Install sidewalks and proper curbs and drainage
- Landscape lot with trees and shrubs
- Local art component
- Seek to hire M/WBE for demolition/construction
- Employ locals to help run lot

Landscaped lots





The Cigar Factory in the Strip District: a parking lot landscaped with flowering trees and bushes.

Phase two and beyond...

- Fulfilling the goals of the Hill District master plan
- Building off the momentum of Lower Hill redevelopment
- Housing, commercial or mixed use tower with underground parking
- Letter of intent

Thank you!

Peter Smerd

(412) 431-8200

Pete112@aol.com

Jeremy Smerd

(917) 549-6179

Jsmerd@gmail.com