

AGRI-TRADE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Development Project

Proposed Location: Hill District 2300 Centre Ave, Lot / Block: 10-R-147

Project Description in Brief:

Project Love Coalition (PLC) proposes a new construction of a LEED Certified, Zero Energy three-story building powered by clean energy that will serve as a sustainable green “live-work-create” space (mixed-use development) focused on **C**onservation, **E**cology, **T**rade, & **A**griculture in the Hill District for veterans. Building structure includes: The first floor will be a retail space and a multi-purpose communal space connected to a research test kitchen, the second floor will be an Indoor Vertical Farm and office space, the third floor will serve as housing for homeless veterans. The rooftop will contain green infrastructure space for outdoor food garden beds and solar panels. The Center will foster agricultural learning (through its Green S.E.N.S.E. initiative) to generate opportunities for workforce + entrepreneurial development and the Entrepreneurial and Agricultural residence programs. Center will provide a place to develop, produce, sell, trade, or barter healthy organic foods grown in the Hill District by veterans and their neighbors. The Center will offer auxiliary services for job readiness and legal assistance, and accommodate the Peace Garden Club (veteran led) for meetings with neighbors to discuss using technology in Pop-Up farmer marketing, urban gardening, growing healthy food.

In remembrance of the American Legion Crispus Attucks Post #30 once located in the Hill District (15 Wooster St.), this development project will honor the veterans legacy of Legionnaires, retail space offering fresh staple and perishable organic foods for local consumers. The development will have space which welcomes neighborhood residents in a soothing environment that reflects **AFRICAN** culture and Nature, allow customers to partake in communal activities to learn, share, and connect with their neighborhood.

Problems / Performance Measures / Goals:

1. There is no Urban Agriculture representation in Hill District Master Plan, Green & Well Designed Community, Program Initiatives. Project Love Coalition could serve this capacity
2. Opportunities for poor African/American minority residents have been extremely low, this project will create jobs and opportunity to increase the number of local minority owned business participants from the Hill District that qualify under **MWBE and Section 3**.
3. Veterans are an under-valued asset in this neighborhood usually making veterans feel unappreciated, this project will encourage more veteran participation in the efforts to stimulate commerce needed for neighborhood revitalization.
4. There is a housing unit stock shortage in this area. This project will increase the number of new urban residential housing units needed for a growing area and families.
5. The Hill District is a distressed zone where people of “color” have been systemically deprived from social and economic opportunities. This project will provide entrepreneurs and execs with an opportunity to travel to this Emerging geography for in-residence placement at this local startup community, with the Agri Trade Development Institute.