



Revitalizing urban neighborhoods through innovative design.

Infill Philadelphia is an initiative of the Community Design Collaborative.
www.infillphiladelphia.org

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Exhibit Demonstrates How Innovative Design Can Improve Access to Fresh Food in Urban Neighborhoods

Community Design Collaborative hosts publication launch party on Wednesday, February 25, unveiling the results of an initiative created to revitalize older, urban neighborhoods through innovative design solutions

Philadelphia, PA – February 18, 2009 –*Infill Philadelphia: Food Access*, an initiative of the Community Design Collaborative in partnership with The Reinvestment Fund and The Food Trust, has just completed a highly-collaborative effort exploring how innovative design can improve access to fresh, healthy food in urban neighborhoods. The results—three conceptual designs for food markets in Philadelphia and Chester—will be featured in an upcoming publication and exhibition.

Infill Philadelphia: Food Access will officially wrap up with a publication launch party on Wednesday, February 25, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Center for Architecture, 1216 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA. The conceptual designs created through *Infill Philadelphia: Food Access* will be exhibited at the Center for Architecture, February 13, 2009 through March 27, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

The designs reflect different approaches to using infill development to address food access and include: a satellite co-op for Weavers Way in a storefront building in West Oak Lane; the adaptive reuse of a former warehouse in downtown Chester, PA.; and a supermarket on a complex urban site on Girard Avenue.

Food access has a huge impact on a community's health and well-being. It is estimated that low-income neighborhoods have 30% fewer grocery stores per capita than higher income neighborhoods. Living in one of our nation's "food deserts" can mean an unreliable and limited diet, high food prices, soaring diabetes rates, and childhood obesity.

About Infill Philadelphia

Infill Philadelphia is a five-year initiative created by the Community Design Collaborative to promote workable, innovative design solutions to revitalizing older, urban neighborhoods. *Infill Philadelphia* brings together design practitioners, community development experts, policymakers, funders and the media to address urban infill development—a significant neighborhood revitalization strategy for Philadelphia and older American cities. The goals of the initiative are to generate workable solutions for under-utilized space in Philadelphia neighborhoods, promote systems change by developing exciting ideas that will help Philadelphia's leaders rethink the future of city neighborhoods, and foster an understanding among community leaders and developers. www.infillphiladelphia.org

Food access was the topic of second phase of *Infill Philadelphia*, which is being implemented in three phases—each addressing a specific infill development opportunity. *Infill Philadelphia: Food Access* was funded through the The William Penn Foundation, Fresh Food Financing Initiative, National Endowment for the Arts, Claneil Foundation, and Philadelphia Office of Housing and Community Development.

The Community Design Collaborative is a volunteer-based community design center that provides *pro bono* preliminary design services to nonprofit organizations; promotes best practices in community design and development; and offers design professionals a unique way to volunteer their skills in service of neighborhoods. Founded in 1991 as a program of AIA Philadelphia, the Collaborative is an independent 501(c) 3 with a network of more than 600 volunteers. In addition to its Infill Philadelphia initiative, the Collaborative offers grants of services to over thirty community-based nonprofit clients each year. www.cdesignc.org.