As a result of the Urban Renewal project, an entire neighborhood of the lower hill district was uprooted and were forced to move. The initial plan of the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) was to continue the project further on the east side towards the upper Hill, but they were faced with a valiant protest from the residents and the project area was kept limited up to Crawford street. A monument named "Freedom corner" marks this protest. Currently the remaining Hill district is still cut off from the Downtown by large expanses of parking lots and the old highway. The main goal of this project is to make Hill district connected to the surrounding areas. With the increased connectivity, Hill district can attract the students from the adjacent universities. The target of the design is to make Hill district vibrant and economically sustainable by integrating the student community of Pittsburgh.
Hill district is a predominantly black majority neighborhood. Much of the household are low to lower income and works outside hill district.

**SITE ANALYSIS**

As hill district is almost isolated from rest of the Pittsburgh city, there is less employment opportunity. Most of the jobs are outside hill district, mainly in downtown area, therefore people need to travel long distances to go to their work place.

**Employment within 15 minutes**

- **Major Access to Employment**
  - 4.63%
  - 10.24%
  - 90.13%
  - 75.04%
  - 60.95%
  - 46.86%
  - 32.77%
  - 18.68%
  - 14.59%
  - 10.50%
  - 6.41%

**Daily Vehicular (VMT)**

- **Daily VMT per household**
  - 12.17
  - 9.61
  - 7.04
  - 4.47

Freeway in hill district has travel 30-30 miles each day for work or get access to other facilities. Although the average income of the people living in hill district are lower than other areas in Pittsburgh, people living here have to travel more which put more economical burden on them.

The hill district is physically cut off from the downtown Pittsburgh by the highway routes. To reduce travel time, hill district needs to be physically connected with downtown area and must be accessible by walking.

Although Pittsburgh has a working bus network and is heavily used by the people, the situation is quite different in Hill district. Only a few bus routes are connected to Hill district and the bus stoppages are deprived from any basic facilities. Only a few secondary roads connect the hill district with other parts of the Pittsburgh. Therefore, it is important to increase the connectivity.

Currently there are few designated bicycle paths in Pittsburgh, but in Hill district, there is none. To increase the connectivity, the road conditions needs to be improved and bike lanes should be provided.
UNITE
To develop a comprehensive design strategy that connects the different parts of the hill to create a unified hill district.

INFILL
Generate an infill plan to properly utilize the vacant lots in the hill district, connect the existing green with new urban forest to create a green network.

CONNECT
To attract students and new business to move into the hill district, new connections should be created to make the hill district easily accessible by walking, bicycling, and public transportation.
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- Slope between 11-13%
- Areas suitable for development
- Steep slopes converted to urban forest
- Proposed structures
- Providing event space
- Creating pedestrian connection
- Connecting Hill District to Downtown
- Providing green roof

Key Points:
- Train station
- Community brain
- Mix use residence
- Bicycle hire
- Incubator
- Trade park
- Forum
- Forum park
- Regional bus
- Local bus
- Mobility hub
- Business start-ups
- Network coordination
- Community outreach
- Union Station
- Crawford-Roberts
- Freedom Corner
- Downtown
- Uptown
- PPG Paints Arena
- Sky Walk
- Public park
- Event space
- Store
Religious institutions can be a great place for interactions. As the community now a mosque and church side by side, it is an indicator of the tolerant nature of the neighborhood. To strengthen the interaction among the youth, a sports park and basketball court is proposed between the two religious institutions.

Every residential area should have its designated open space for the community. Unfortunately, the new row houses have eliminated the neighborhood did not find that. In a series of open spaces with outdoor furniture have been proposed. This area can also become economically beneficial as an extension of the bar and restaurants.

From the site survey, the lack of greenery and community gardening was observed. To promote urban farming and to encourage small businesses, a pop-up neighborhood market with semi-permanent structures is proposed. The space can accommodate various activities like farmers market, art exhibitions, annual cultural events and so on.

To align with the target of making Pittsburgh a biophilic city, urban forest parks have been proposed. The types of plants used will be mainly fruit bearing ones, so it will not only provide a healthy environment but also act as a source of healthy food.

Every community park will have universal accessibility. The parks will provide recreational opportunities for people of all age groups. Parks will have light lighting that will create a safer environment. In addition to recreation, the parks will have planter beds for food cultivation.

View towards Wylie Avenue

View at intersection of Kirkpatrick St and Wylie Avenue