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Comment submitted by West End Revitalization Association (WERA)

Posted by the **Environmental Protection Agency** on Feb 10, 2025

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Comment

RE: WERA Enlightenment
Focus on Local Government Cumulate Impact and Assessment: Comprehensive and Long-Term Planning and Zoning for Industrial, Business, Residential, and Highway Development and Construction.
Welcoming and Inclusive Community: (City, County, and ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction)
a) Recognize and map historic African American and Indigenous communities and lands. Post for preservation on local government websites so perspective businesses, residents, and tourists recognize historic racial diversity.
b) Install markers for century-old places of worship and cemeteries (encourage site visits).
c) Incorporate these sites on local government Welcome Center website so perspective residents, businesses, and vacationers can visit these sites and be greeted by long-time residents of diverse racial, age, and economic backgrounds. NOTE: When Omega and Brenda Wilson were married, in 1974 at Mother Bethel AME Church (built by former slaves in 1794) in Philadelphia, there were tourists on the back pews (see enclosure).

Full-Serve Community: (City, County, and ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction)
a) Insure installation of infrastructure for affordable housing (water, sewer, pave street, and storm water management) for Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and low-wealth communities that will encourage in-fill housing construction in the east, west, north, and south. Improve long overlooked quality of life issues and public health disparities with new growth.
b) Protect burial grounds and cemeteries from industrial, residential, and highway growth.
c) Plan an annual “Green Space Day” to recognize and encourage use of the new greenways, parks, outdoor recreation for the young and old, wheelchair assessable, including buffers and waterways for large and small wildlife.
d) Install educational markers on greenways and roadways to recognize the Indigenous lands and encourage collaborative work to make quality of life more equitable and inclusive.

Give Feedback

Advancing environmental and public health justice in planning and zoning.
Omega and Brenda Wilson, Co-Founders
WERA Senior Sages

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