

Pittsburgh Public Schools Public Hearing Testimonies Submitted Not Read
March 24, 2025

Renee Rosensteel

Re: Manchester-Chateau TRID

[3/24/25

Dear Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors,

I live in the Manchester-Chateau community. I would like to register my support for the Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID).

The Manchester-Chateau TRID will be a powerful tool to support riverside redevelopment, reconnect Manchester and Chateau, and help to invest in our community priorities like affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, transit, and more. As the first project within the Manchester-Chateau TRID, we are also supportive of the Esplanade project.

Since early in the Esplanade's planning process, the developer, Piatt Companies, has been engaged with our community meeting frequently with residents and community stakeholders. They have been receptive to our needs and those of other businesses, stakeholders, and residents and have implemented community feedback into Esplanade's design.

We look forward to continuing to work with Piatt for the Esplanade project and urge you to approve the Manchester-Chateau TRID to unlock additional potential opportunities to build the tax base and invest in Manchester-Chateau. The projected economic impacts of the TRID will ensure the continued success of our organization and the Manchester-Chateau community and will create new opportunities for the neighborhood, city, and region to grow and thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.



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March 24, 2025

Linda Hansen

Dear Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors,

My name is Linda Hansen, I'm a 29 year home owner within the Manchester-Chateau community. I would like to register my support for the Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID).

I care very much about Affordable Housing, Transit, Infrastructure upgrades etc. I am also very supportive of the Esplanade project as the first step in the TRID. As a community member, I was a participant in the community wide feedback meetings with the developer, Piatt Corporation. They have been very open for feedback and active in working with the entire community. They have been available for our group meetings and individual meetings if the timing was bad for the community meetings. I'm in full support of this developer and the effort that they have had in place in my community.

There should be no reason at all why we should not move forward with the Manchester-Chateau TRID and Esplanade.

Thanks for your consideration,

Linda Hansen

1337 W. North Ave

Pittsburgh, Pa 15233

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[INSERT NAME]

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Shaun Fleming

Re: Manchester-Chateau TRID

Dear Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors,

I am writing on behalf of Manchester Bidwell Corporation, which works within the Manchester-Chateau community to unite education, creative expression, and social enterprise to inspire individuals of all backgrounds to achieve personal success. We would like to register our support for the Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID).

The Manchester-Chateau TRID will be a powerful tool to support riverside redevelopment, reconnect Manchester and Chateau, and help to invest in our community priorities like affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, transit, and more. As the first project within the Manchester-Chateau TRID, we are also supportive of the Esplanade project. Since early in the Esplanade's planning process, the developer, Piatt Companies, has been engaged with our organization both in individual meetings and community stakeholder meetings on several occasions. They have been receptive to our needs and those of other businesses, stakeholders, and residents and have implemented community feedback into Esplanade's design.

We look forward to continuing to work with Piatt for the Esplanade project and urge you to approve the Manchester-Chateau TRID to unlock additional potential opportunities to build the tax base and invest in Manchester-Chateau. The projected economic impacts of the TRID will ensure the continued success of our organization and the Manchester-Chateau community and will create new opportunities for the neighborhood, city, and region to grow and thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Jenkins
President and CEO
Manchester Bidwell Corporation

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March 24, 2025

Tiffany McKenzie

Dear School Board of Pgh Public Schools,

I am here tonight with several other Brookline neighborhood parents writing to you as concerned parents of students at Pittsburgh Public Schools. Fellow parents and I are VERY concerned and nervous for the potential closures and mergers proposed. With the scary state of the proposed elimination of the Department of Education and funding, we feel that now is Definitely NOT the time to be thinking about these massive changes at Pgh Public. We can't help but feel like it seems rushed to consider this this year during this extreme political turmoil and uncertainty. We understand wanting to best use the spaces but we feel you're looking at numbers on paper and what "looks good on paper" from an out of state company and we Need to take more time to listen to the families needs here. This is very concerning as a parent of a special needs student with an IEP. What is the backup plan for Conroy? HOW exactly will it be better as promised, especially with autism diagnoses growing at alarming rates? Several of us moved to Brookline BECAUSE the Brookline Elementary school is a K-8. Now we hear this may be chopped down to a K-5 and shuffling those 6, 7, and 8th graders elsewhere. Fellow parents and I Really Need our community school Brookline Elementary to remain a K-8. This school going to grade 8 is what drew many of us families here to Brookline. Some of us work tomorrow evening and will not be able to attend the hearing tomorrow on Monday. We found out from the TV news tonight that the board is voting in just a few days on Wednesday. This seems rushed and alarming. We are begging you to hold off on these dramatic changes that affect So many families lives until next year after we know the fate of the Department of Education and the current uneasy political state. (This is in no way a political email message). We are just begging for more time, more consideration, and more feedback from tax paying families. Thank you for your time.



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March 24, 2025

Samuel Patti

Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors
341 Bellefield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Re: Manchester-Chateau TRID
3/25/2025

Dear Pittsburgh Public Board of Directors,

I am writing on behave of La Prima Espresso Company, which works within the Manchester-Chateau community. I would like to register my support of the Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID).

The Manchester-Chateau TRID will be a powerful tool to support riverside redevelopment, reconnect Manchester and Chateau, and help to invest in our community priorities like affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, transit, and more. AS the first project within the Manchester-Chateau TRID, we are also supportive of the Esplanade project.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Samuel J Patti

LA PRIMA
ESPRESSO Co



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March 24, 2025

Stephen Hansen

Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors
341 S Bellefield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Re: Manchester-Chateau TRID

24 March 2025

Dear Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors,

I am writing on behalf of Stephen Hansen, who works and lives within the Manchester-Chateau community. I would like to register my support for the Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID).

The Manchester-Chateau TRID will be a powerful tool to support riverside redevelopment, reconnect Manchester and Chateau, and help to invest in our community priorities like affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, transit, and more. As the first project within the Manchester-Chateau TRID, we are also supportive of the Esplanade project.

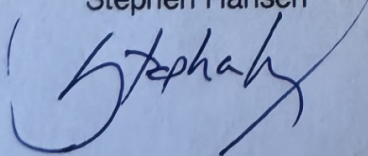
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen Hansen



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March 24, 2025

LaShawn Burton Faulk



MANCHESTER
Citizens Corporation

1319 Allegheny Ave., Pgh., PA 15233
ph-412.323.1743 | fx-412.323.1744
www.manchestercitizens.org

Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors
341 S Bellefield Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

3/24/2025

Re: Manchester-Chateau TRID

Dear Pittsburgh Public School Board of Directors,

I am writing on behalf of Manchester Citizens Corporation (MCC), which works within the Manchester-Chateau community to plan, to build, to promote and maintain a thriving community. We would like to register our support for the Manchester-Chateau Transit Revitalization Investment District (TRID).

The Manchester-Chateau TRID will be a powerful tool to support riverside redevelopment, reconnect Manchester and Chateau, and help to invest in our community priorities like affordable housing, infrastructure improvements, transit, and more. As the first project within the Manchester-Chateau TRID, we are also supportive of the Esplanade project.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



LaShawn Burton-Faulk

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Devraj Kori

My name is Devraj Kori, and I would like to offer my thoughts on the facilities utilization plan as they relate to my family. I originally moved to Pittsburgh with my wife in 2018 to attend graduate school, and we unexpectedly fell in love with the city and decided to grow our family here. We now reside in the Garfield neighborhood with our two-year old son, and love being a part of this community.

I am a strong believer in public education, and our family is fortunate to have the resources to support our son's learning outside the classroom, which should create spillover benefits for his peers. The unfortunate reality is that many families with our resources have opted to either move out of the city to enroll their kids in better funded schools, or pay for private school. Many families who can't afford these options will opt for Charter schools.

I'm very concerned that the consolidation plan will drive more kids toward one of these alternatives, further dropping PPS enrollment and hastening the funding death spiral. The closest schools to our home in Garfield are all on the chopping block. I have heard nothing but good things from parents of children at Pittsburgh's Montessori and we want to put our son in the lottery, but with this option disappearing, I think many families like us will remove their children from PPS entirely. As more kids leave PPS and funding dries up, it will be very hard for us not to follow suit.

Additionally, with fully functional school buildings like the Pittsburgh's Montessori being vacated, I'm concerned that private and charter schools will snap up these properties, making it even more difficult for PPS to maintain the enrollment and utilization needed.

Public education in this country is threatened at every level, and we need to fight back. I am ready to do my part as a parent to help PPS succeed, but that collaboration between parents and school officials needs to be a two-way street. While I understand the short-term financial considerations motivating the consolidation plan, I have seen nothing from the district to convince me that there is a long-term plan to maintain necessary enrollment levels. I urge you to hear the concerns of parents like myself and please provide more details before proceeding with the utilization plan.

Thank you.



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