

# Together for Kingsbridge Public Workshop#1 Synthesis

November 15  
2022

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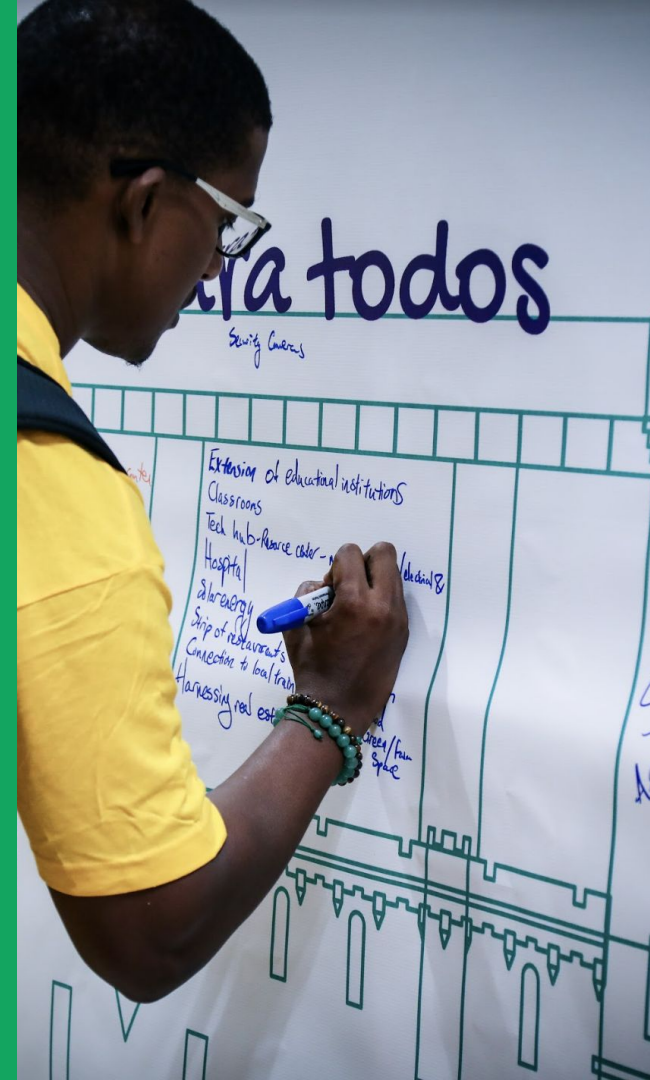


# Thank you for your participation in Public Workshop #1



# Engagement Goals

- Acknowledge past redevelopment attempts
- Communicate this is a new, exciting yet different moment
- Seek to understand the values of Kingsbridge residents and of the Bronx



# Engagement Activities



Engagement Worksheets



Exhibit Boards



Facilitated Discussions



Community Survey Boards



Interactive Mural

# Engagement by the Numbers

**4 hours of workshop time**

**180+ Participants**

**100+ Worksheets filled**

**4 Facilitated Discussions**

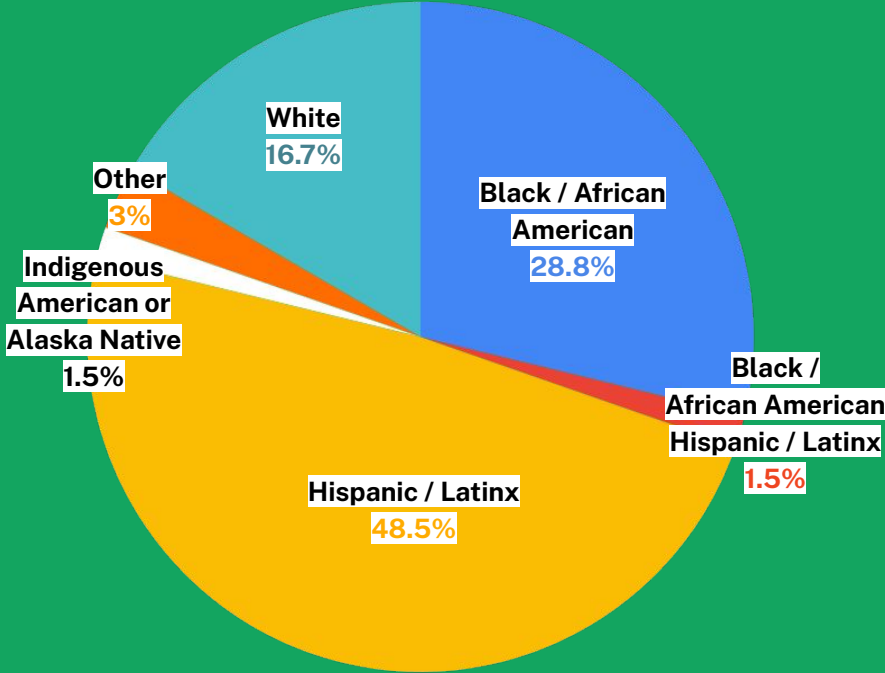
**11 Community Survey + Input Boards**

**450+ Sticky notes generated**

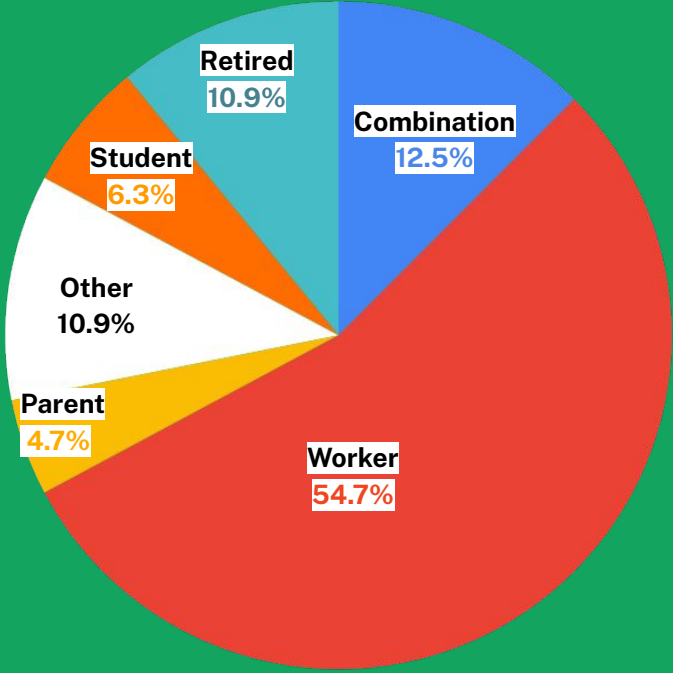


# Participant demographics

## Participant Racial Demographics

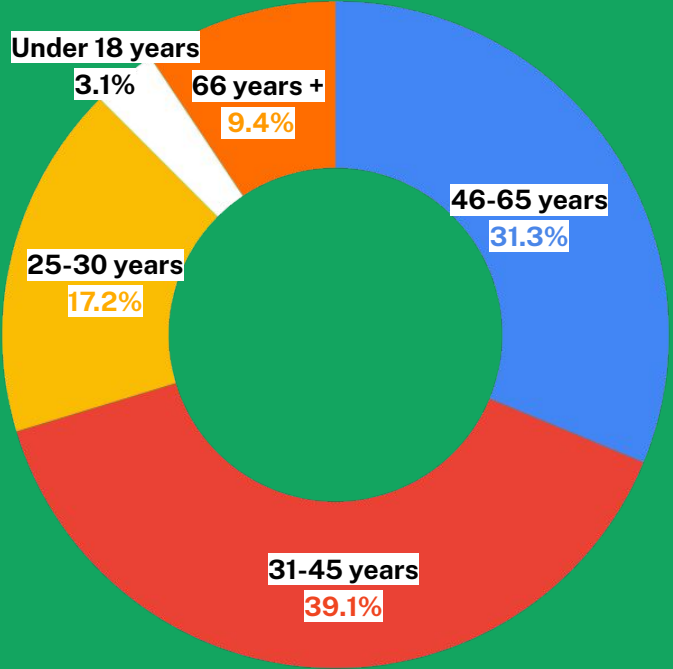


## Participant Occupations

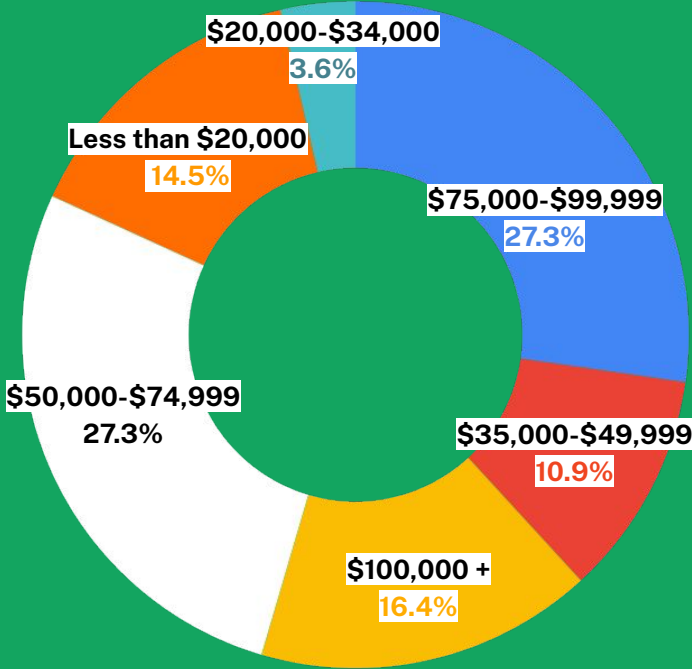


# Participant demographics

## Participant Age Brackets

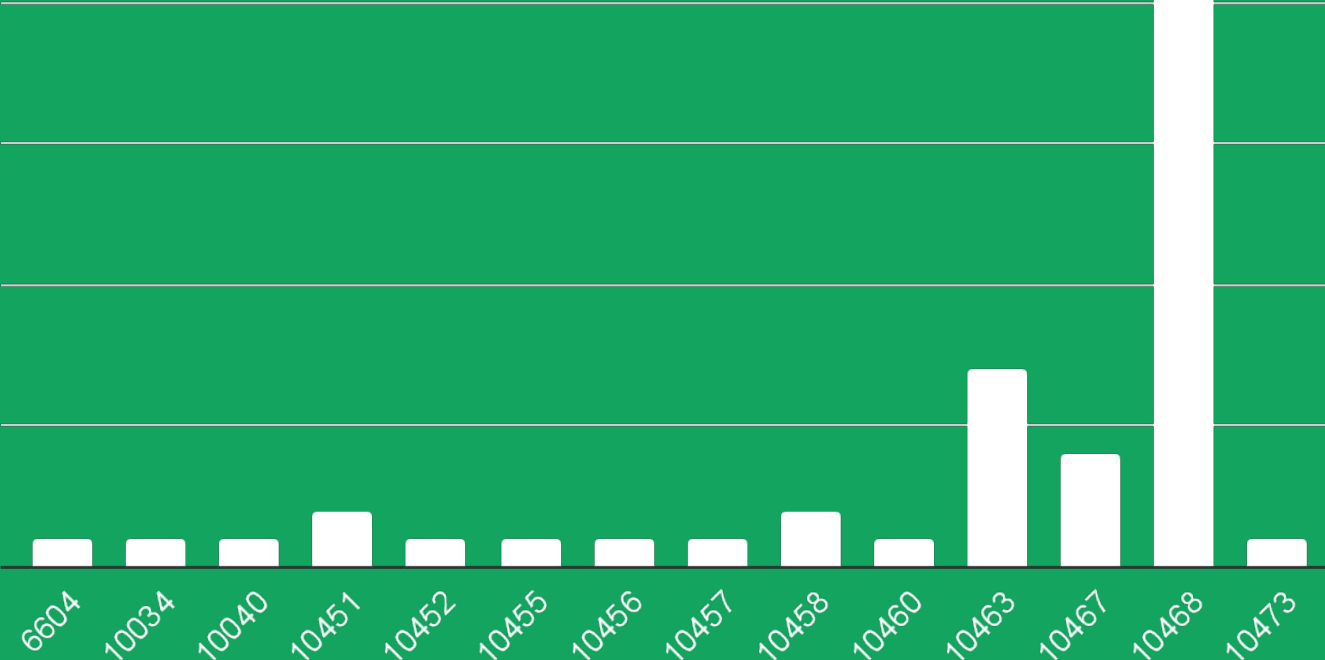


## Participant Incomes



# Participant demographics

Participant  
Zip Codes







# Emergent themes across activities

## **Kingsbridge + the Bronx**

Community Values,  
Strengths  
+ Present Condition

## **Armory Redevelopment**

Community  
Concerns + Ideal  
Situations

## **Armory Programming**

Program Ideas +  
Needs

# Kingsbridge + the Bronx

## Community Values, Strengths + Present Condition



# Community Values

## MOST MENTIONED VALUES

1. **Togetherness + mutual support**
2. Collective economy
3. Strong work ethic, working class values
4. Diverse, inclusive of all cultures
5. Resilience through creativity + resistance
6. Family
7. Kindness + compassion towards others
8. Educational + vocational progress

## DIGGING DEEPER

Unity

Community helping neighbors uplift each other

Pride

Working together



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## DIGGING DEEPER

Collective Ownership

Collective Resources

Unionizing

Using local resources



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DIGGING DEEPER

Resilient families

Loyal

Immigrant  
communities working  
hard to build a future  
for their children

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## DIGGING DEEPER

Different languages

Diverse neighborhoods

Diversity between Latinos and African communities

“The most diverse borough of NYC”

# Community Values

## MOST MENTIONED VALUES

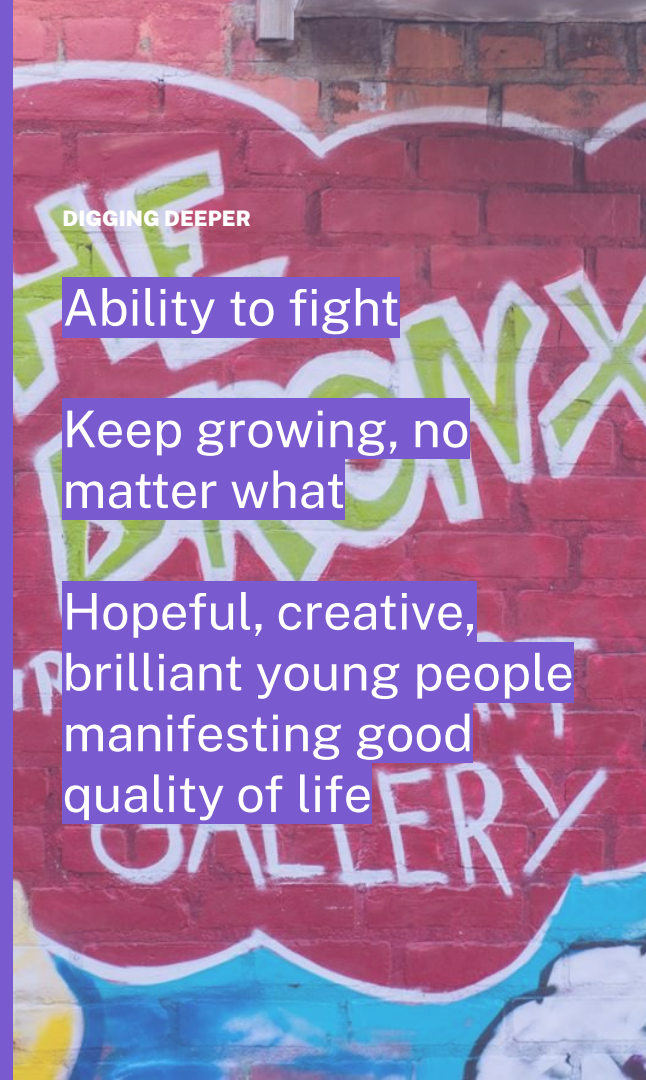
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## DIGGING DEEPER

Ability to fight

Keep growing, no matter what

Hopeful, creative, brilliant young people manifesting good quality of life





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## DIGGING DEEPER

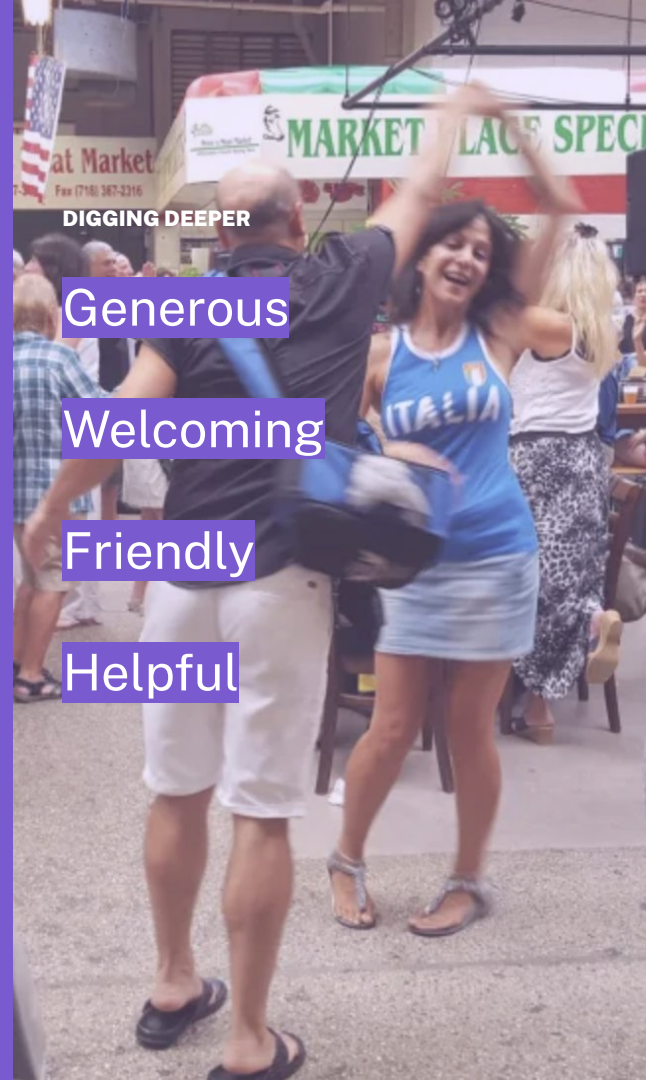
Family Activism

Families continue to live together

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## DIGGING DEEPER

Generous

Welcoming

Friendly

Helpful

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8. **Educational + vocational progress**

## DIGGING DEEPER

Good education policy

Job training

Outreach programs

Adult learnings, day  
and night classes

# Core strengths of the Bronx

A vibrant street scene in the Bronx, overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. The image shows a diverse crowd of people, including a skateboarder in the foreground. Storefronts with signs like 'DISCOUNT', 'OPTICAL', and '92KTU Party Store' are visible in the background. The overall atmosphere is energetic and community-oriented.

Its  
People

Diversity in  
Culture

Resiliency +  
Creativity

Green  
Spaces

Long + Rich  
History

Local  
Organizing

# **Present condition of the Bronx**



## Present Conditions of the Bronx:

**Thriving.  
Striving.  
Vibrant.  
An ideal city.**

“The pandemic set us back. Many of us lost our homes and jobs. Some of us haven't recovered.”

“A place of prosperity and opportunity for immigrant families.”

# Present Conditions of the Bronx:

**Development  
Boom. High  
Cost of Living.  
Gentrifying.**

Better buildings

Construction  
everywhere

More developed, but  
less local

Increased rent

Resulting in  
displacement

# Present Conditions of the Bronx:

**More populated  
and diverse.**

**Needs more youth  
programming.**

Very populated

Large Latinx  
population

Large senior  
population

Not enough  
after-school programs  
+ youth centers



# Present Conditions of the Bronx:

**Unsafe. High  
rates of crime.  
Disinvested.  
Dirty.**

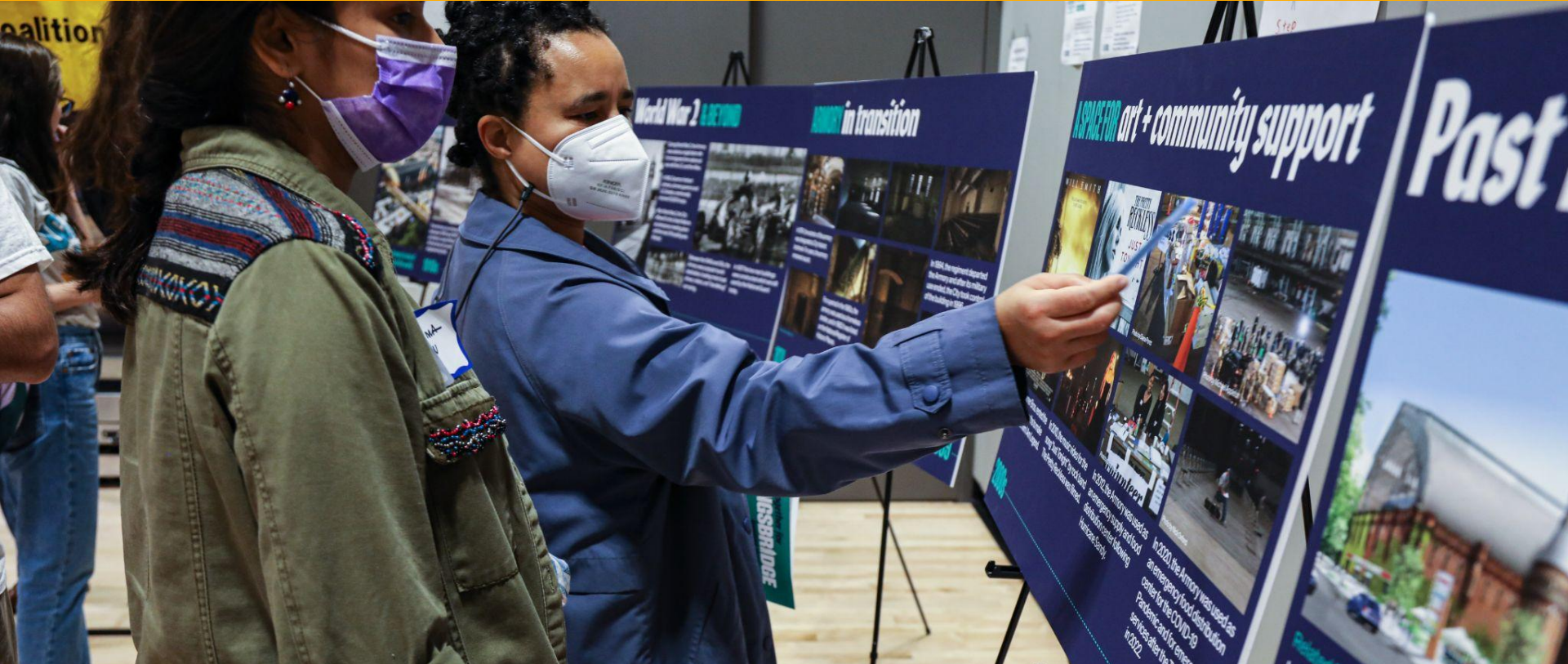
More drugs, more  
crime

Violence is still an  
issue but there has  
been a lot of positive  
movement

Lots of empty  
buildings + lots

Dirty + neglected

# Armory Redevelopment Community Concerns + Ideal Situations



## Community Concerns

**Redevelopment  
process failing.**

**High cost of  
development.**

Short timeframe. RFP  
beginning too quickly

Inflation +  
skyrocketing prices

Not enough funding  
to see the project  
through

Stagnation +  
Abandonment

## Community Concerns

**Community excluded from process.**

**Developer chosen without collective decision making.**

Lack of transparency

Lack of valuable youth input

City selects private developer that doesn't hear community input

No community ownership

Project becomes politicized

## Community Concerns

**Developer  
prioritizes profits  
over people.**

**Displacement.  
Gentrification.**

Exploitative  
companies

Big developers from  
outside, outside folks  
running the armory

Development linked  
to displacement

Brain drain, wealth  
drain

Corruption,  
gentrification, grief

## Community Concerns

**Profits not being  
reinvested into the  
community.**

**Ultimately, the  
Bronx does not  
benefit.**

Outsourced jobs

Draining of community  
+ culture of the Bronx

It will take small  
businesses out of  
business

Revenue not flowing  
into the Bronx

No reinvestment

## Community Concerns

**Damage to the  
landmark during  
construction.**

**Unsafe.  
Unsustainable.**

Lack of safety of  
builders + building

Wage theft

Too much traffic  
+ noise during  
construction

Unsustainable +  
exploitative practices

# Ideas to mitigate concerns

## MOST MENTIONED IDEAS

1. Community ownership of land + profits
2. More community involvement + outreach
3. Anti-displacement stance
4. Thoughtful + intentional development

## DIGGING DEEPER

Co-ownership of Armory. Equitable roles, not just jobs

Space owned by the community land trust, Worker cooperatives

Shared revenue + a portion of the profits made should support locals

Local hiring, procurement + living wages

Union jobs



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## DIGGING DEEPER

More community input

More transparency in decision making

More community voices, diverse voices

Developers should hold more town halls + engage community in process

Outreach to all generations, specially the youth

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## DIGGING DEEPER

Create sustainable jobs so people don't move out

No exploitative business or big retail stores

Create reasons to stay

Strengthened, not replaced



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## DIGGING DEEPER

Give the process more time. Maintain momentum. Act with purpose + consistency

Stabilize pricing

More action with community + politicians, more oversight

Transparent master plan

More community visioning, especially missing groups (youth, seniors)



# Armory Programming

## Community Concerns + Needs



# Community Concerns

**Not commercially viable.**

Balance needed between profitable funding and those who use it

Becomes something of no help

Ghettoization

# Community Concerns

**Too commercial  
and developed.**

Cannot be a mall of  
corporate chains

Cheesy retail stores

Over development

# Community Concerns

**Not designed for  
existing business  
community.**

Local biz being  
pushed out due to  
high rent and  
competition

What happens inside  
the Armory competes  
with what's outside

## **Community Concerns**

**Armory not serving  
community needs.**



## MOST MENTIONED PROGRAM NEEDS

### Value educational + vocational training for all ages

Supporting startups + smaller CBOs > large corporations

Local business > external interests

Healthy + local food access as key to sustainable regenerative economy

Culture

Supporting youth

Provide community services, especially in service of most vulnerable community members

## DIGGING DEEPER

Educational and vocational training for all ages, especially in tech + creative fields

Job training + placement

Education

Education + skills development



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## DIGGING DEEPER

Local Entrepreneurism

Co-working spaces

Manufacturing spaces

Employee owned co-op opportunity for locals

Startup incubator

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## DIGGING DEEPER

Support street vendors inside the armory

Center small businesses inside the armory

Local consideration and economic viability of community, circular + sustainable economy

NO large retails

NO corporates



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**Healthy + local food access as key to sustainable regenerative economy**

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## DIGGING DEEPER

**Healthy + local food access as key to sustainable regenerative economy**

- Farmer's market
- Best quality ingredients
- Diverse cuisines
- Community kitchen

**Food access + self-sufficient food production**

- Farmer's market
- Food employment
- Eco-forward food hub



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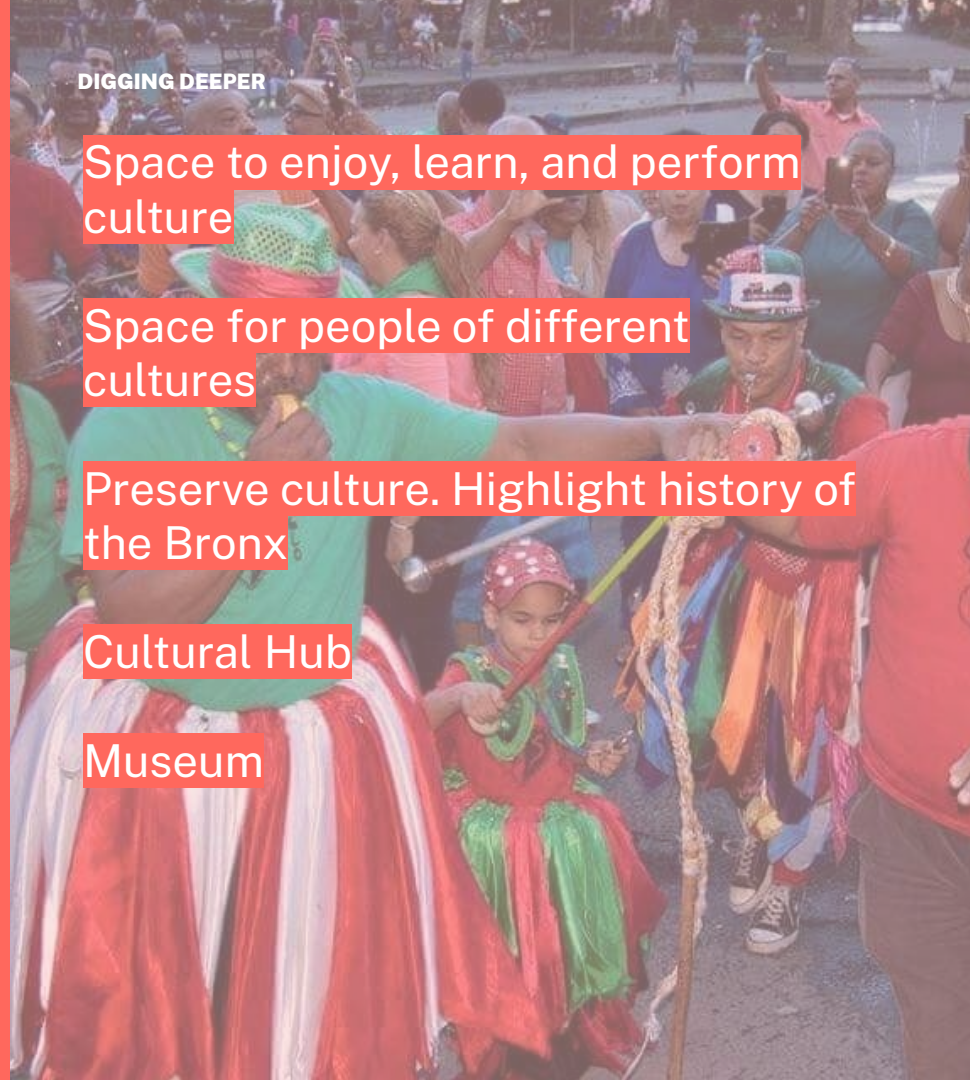
Space to enjoy, learn, and perform culture

Space for people of different cultures

Preserve culture. Highlight history of the Bronx

Cultural Hub

Museum



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## DIGGING DEEPER

Support future of children in community

Youth specific programming

- Low cost or free
- Safe space
- Include technology
- Sports facilities
- Art programs
- Vocational skills
- Tutoring and study hubs
- Cafe lounge
- Youth cadets

Leadership opportunities



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## DIGGING DEEPER

Center for disabled + aging

Community services for marginalized members of the community

- Free classes
- Free products
- Mutual aid

Multi-use community space

Healthcare facilities

- Mental health centers
- Indoor gyms
- Healthcare funding



**An Armory representative of  
many cultures and ideas.**

**Together for  
Kingsbridge**

**HESTER<sup>ST</sup>**

