walking our **mainstreets**

Our neighborhood business districts are the heart and soul of our communities. Revitalization programs like Mainstreets Pittsburgh drive investment to and create jobs in our neighborhoods.

—Mayor Luke Ravenstahl

Pittsburgh’s buildings have stories to tell. Sometimes, we just get too caught up in the daily grind to listen.

The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation is helping us reconnect to our urban environment. The organization has long hosted walking tours of Downtown Pittsburgh, and now—this fall—they’ll be adding other neighborhoods to the repertoire.

—Caralyn Green, *Pop City* (August 12, 2009)

Ten Free Walks

Always from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Reservations are **required**. Tours are limited to 25 people unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 5: Mt. Washington
Sept. 12: Friendship/Garfield
Sept. 19: Lawrenceville
Sept. 26: Downtown (45 people max)
Oct. 3: Strip District
Oct. 10: West End Village
Oct. 17: Bloomfield
Oct. 24: South Side
Oct. 31: Northside/Historic Deutschtown
Nov. 7: East Liberty

For meeting locations and reservations:
marylu@phlf.org
412-471-5808, ext. 527
www.phlf.org

Offered by the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation in cooperation with the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh and Mainstreets Pittsburgh.

(M)uch of the city’s revitalization can be traced to the smaller-scale efforts taking place in its 90 ethnically diverse neighborhoods . . . . Residents, community leaders and small-business owners have recognized the importance of maintaining, and in some cases, rescuing, their communities. Some are choosing to hang on to the last vestiges of authenticity. Some are maintaining and refurbishing what’s already there. Others are welcoming newcomers while still working to keep things local.


Photos courtesy of PHLF and Erin Shilling.
key concepts: **livable city**

**Locally-owned businesses**: form the economic backbone of urban retailing.

**Human scale**: People are attracted to places where they are not dwarfed by their surroundings.

**Green spaces**: People enjoy gathering or relaxing in neighborhood parks or city squares that provide “breathing spaces.”

**Concentration**: The more people (of all ages), the safer the city. The more activities and special events, the better.

**Human scale**: People are attracted to places where they are not dwarfed by their surroundings.

**Frequent streets/traffic**: Shorter blocks and lots of intersections create walkable cities, giving people choices and different ways to go. Lots of streets keep traffic flowing: the more cars and buses, the more people. Eliminating traffic from public spaces rarely enhances the place.

**Mixed uses**: One building can house a variety of uses (coffee shop, retail, apartments/offices) AND one area can include different types of buildings, providing places for people to live, work, worship, shop, eat, and be entertained.

**Recycled buildings**: Historic buildings are assets in a city. They can be easily recycled for new uses and they contribute to a city’s distinctive appearance. Great cities are about distinctiveness.

**Varied buildings**: Old and new buildings together create visually interesting streetscapes and provide a variety of useful spaces for small business owners and large corporations or institutions.

**Mass transit**: light rail, bus, and bicyclists help reduce automobile congestion and the need for more parking.

“A great city is, in fact, the art-work of its people.” —David Lewis, urban designer

From authors/preservationists Jane Jacobs, Roberta Brandes Gratz, Charles Landry, and Arthur Ziegler.

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**P H I L**

**Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation**

**Protecting the Places that Make Pittsburgh Home**

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