Chick

Tuesday, April 19, 2011
5:30-7:30pm
16+ attendees

BREAKOUT SESSION #1 (DC, DB)

Significance
- Center of afro centric education
- Teachers would sew African attire for the children to wear
- Black History flowed through the halls
- Losing school created a major disconnect to neighbors. Had to bus kids out of area to go to school

Strengths
- Parking
- Large facility for multiple accommodations
- On the bus line
- Lots of surrounding space
- Water tight building
- Building could be retrofit for handicap access
- Art deco design
- Well kept building

Challenges
- Handicap access- SOLUTION: build ramp next to stairs for each elevated bathroom
- Not in my back yard attitude for some reuses – SOLUTION: engage neighborhood early with idea. Sell benefit of the facility and services

Community Needs
- Jobs
- Shopping within walking distance
- Well maintained park
- Safe place for children
- Access to fresh food
- More security
- Alternate energy resources
- Vacant houses - repair/ not demo
- Infrastructure for waste water
- More entertainment

Reuse Options (that could address community needs)
- Theatre (live and film)
- Small super market
- Early childhood/before and after school care
- Action center
- Multipurpose center for social needs/ mall that provides goods
- Farmers market: Would like to have supermarket next door
- One stop shop for social services: rent to multiple agencies that can service neighborhood
- Multi-purpose room for wholesome family activities
- Urban agriculture: could teach community how to tend to their gardens. Place to rent out tools
  Note: KC Urban Agriculture says this area is too dark and too hilly to grow any crops
- Housing: There are enough vacant houses in the community. Rehab those first. Could develop some rooms for senior housing, but retail on bottom
- 1st floor retail- 2nd floor offices

Parking Lot (Technical or other questions to address at the next meeting)
- How would the district handle leasing to a main entity and they sublease to other individuals