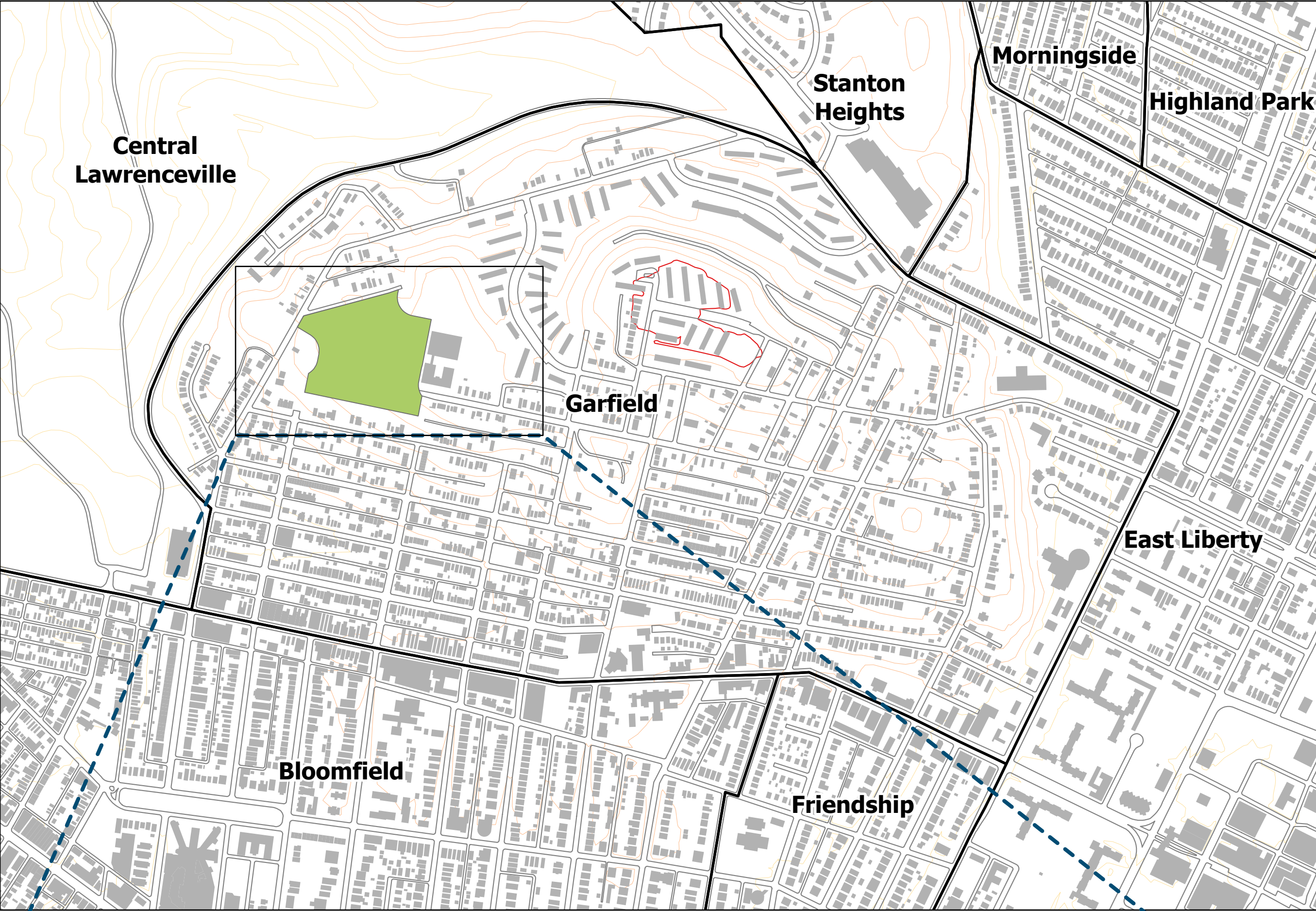
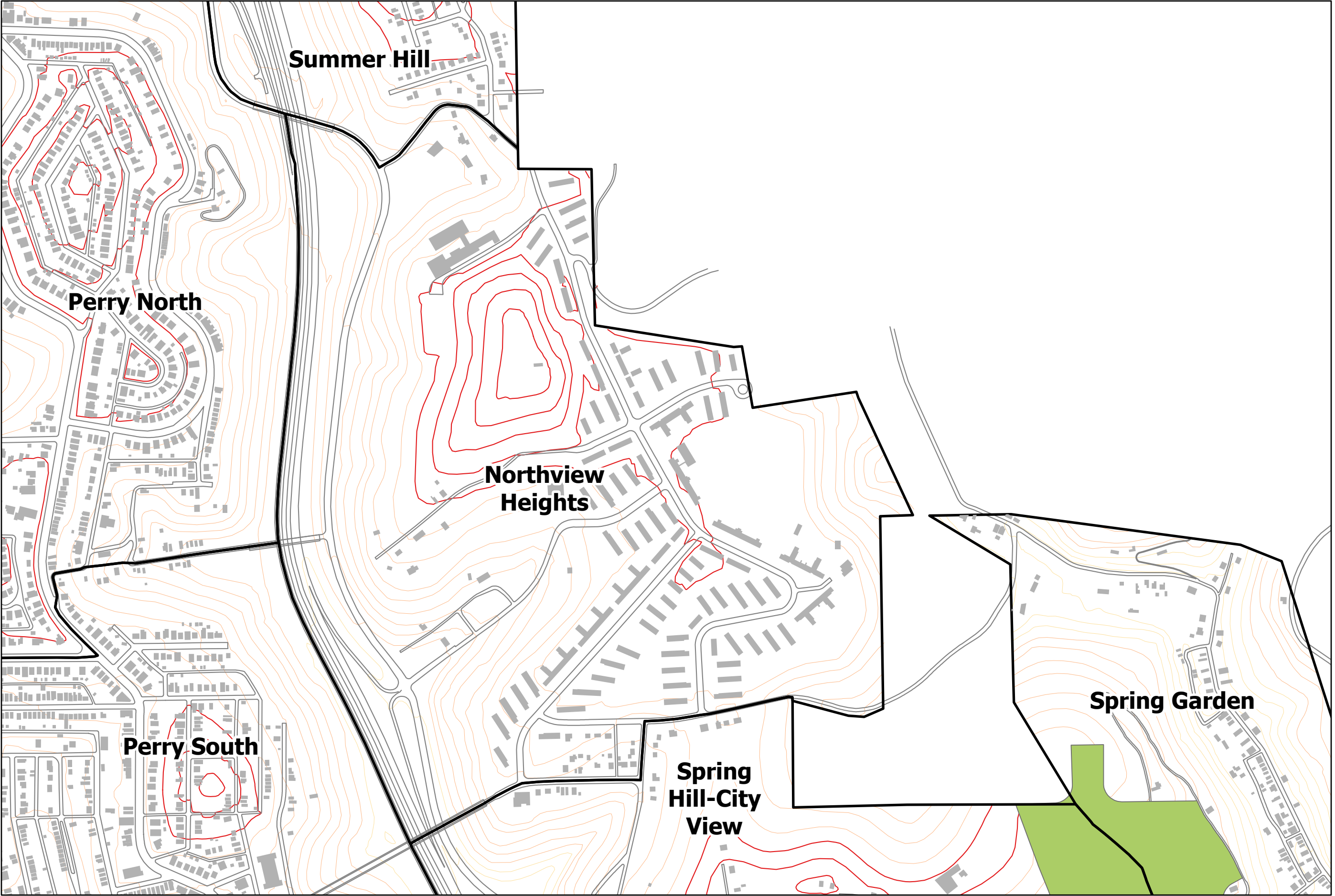


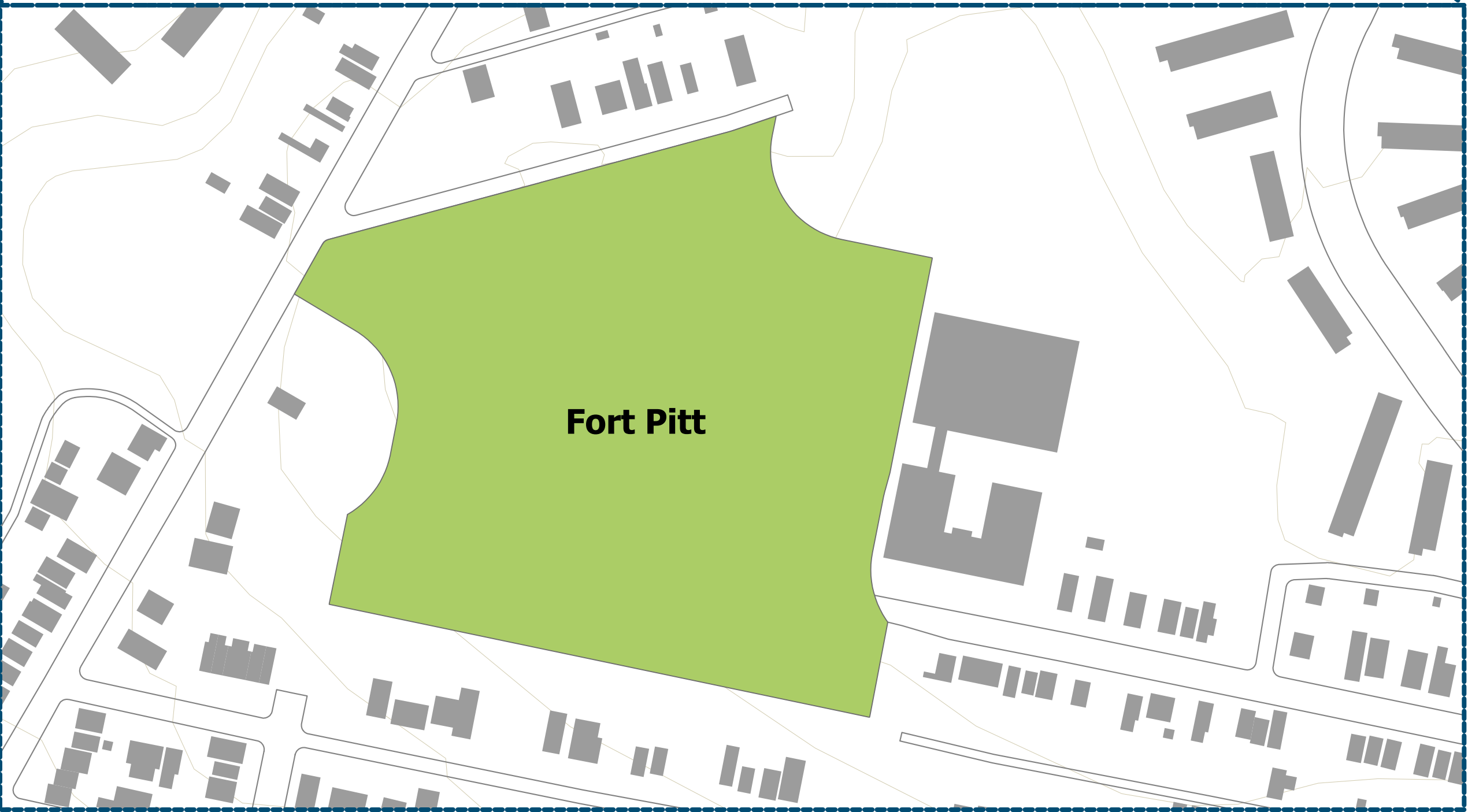
Assessing walkability in two Pittsburgh neighborhoods



MAP 1. GARFIELD



MAP 2. NORTHVIEW HEIGHTS



MAP 1B. FORT PITT PARK, GARFIELD

Maps 1, 1B and 2 strongly suggest that Garfield is more walkable than Northview Heights. The following criteria were considered in assessing 'walkability':

1. Density. The more dense an area, the closer locations are brought to people, and the more walkable it is. Both maps (1 and 2) have the same scale, so they show that, for the same area, there are more buildings in Garfield than in Northview Heights.
2. Flat terrain. It is easier for people to walk if there are fewer variations in the terrain's elevation. The red-colored topographic lines show that a substantial portion of Northview Heights reaches elevations above 1,150 feet. In contrast, Garfield neighborhood terrain is more leveled.
3. Availability of parks and playgrounds. Parks and playgrounds offer opportunities to engage in physical activities. The fact that Garfield has Fork Pitt playground (Map 1B) increases its walkability compared to Northview Heights.
4. Grid-like patterns vs. "cul-de-sac". Grid-like patterns (predominately in Garfield) favor shorter block length which allows pedestrians to get from point A to point B easier and faster, while cul-de-sac patterns (predominantly in Northview Heights) demand walking longer distances to reach the same goal.

Sources:
Data: City of Pittsburgh, City Planning Department (2010)
Criteria: Brian E. Saelens, James F. Sallis, Jennifer B. Black, and Diana Chen, 2003: Neighborhood-Based Differences in Physical Activity: An Environment Scale Evaluation American Journal of Public Health 93, 1552_1558.
Image: The Reason our streets Switched to cul-de-sacs, available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=d9vDcfH03gs

