



THE CAPITAL MARKET



THE TURNIP TOUR



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Explore the Turnip Tour!

Visit TheTurnipTour.com or scan the QR code to visit our interactive digital story map and follow the journey of the Turnip Tour! Discover the history, people, and places behind this unique experience

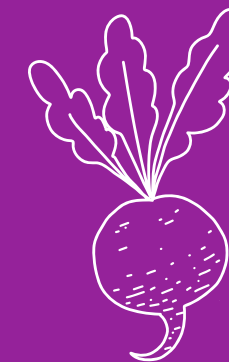




THE CAPITAL MARKET



The Capital Market was formed in direct response to the ongoing cycle of disinvestment and food apartheid happening in Capitol Heights, Maryland. Our mission is deeply rooted in not just increasing food access for residents in neighborhoods that have been victims of systematic marginalization, but to advocate for increased land ownership for Black farmers, financial support for Black business, and organizing residents through foodways and food stories that we cherish to build the beloved community we want to see. For us, the relationship between American plantations, urban design, and an inadequate food system in our neighborhoods are intertwined. Our focus is to reverse that damage by advocating for those most affected by systemic oppressions and building (quite literally) our community's future.



**THE CAPITAL MARKET IS A
COMMUNITY-LED ORGANIZATION
THAT CENTERS FOOD SYSTEMS AND
LEVERAGES CULTURAL CAPITAL
TO REVITALIZE COMMUNITIES
THROUGH ADVOCACY, EDUCATION,
SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT AND
LAND-USE DEVELOPMENT.** **OUR MISSION**





OUR VISION

A place where all have access to healthy foods, affordable housing, and opportunities for community and self-actualization. A place where history is used to guide the present and future to sustain an environment that is safe and engaging for each community member no matter the stage of life. A place where everyone can connect with their food systems and neighbors in a meaningful way.

OUR VALUES

Embrace Joy

Celebrate the vibrancy and resilience of our community in all that we do.

Lead with Love

Approach interactions with empathy, respect, and compassion.

Ingenuity + Imagination

Use what we have to build the future that we want.

Stewardship

Responsibly care for the people, places, land, and things that make up our food system.

Self-Determination

Take ownership of our personal destiny and the evolution of our community.

Act with Integrity

Practice transparency and accountability to ensure that our actions align with the needs and aspirations of the communities we serve.

Collective Action

Organize diverse groups of people, to achieve common goals, build community power and knowledge, and create inclusive places.

Guided by Legacy

Prop up the strength, hard work, and stories of our ancestors in our work.

Kinship

Recognize and cultivate connections with both familial and chosen kin networks, to build individual and community accountability.

ARE YOU READY TO TURN-UP?

In 2023, with support from Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) DC, The Capital Market completed The Turnip Tour – a series of food-based community activations at five stops along the Central Avenue – Blue Line Corridor. Each stop focused on a different aspect of sustainable and equitable community development and were undergirded with principles of promoting small and emerging local businesses and supporting farmers of color, as these groups have been disenfranchised or displaced during different iterations of community development projects.

The Turnip Tour leveraged creative placemaking as a strategy for equitable community development. By transforming underutilized public spaces into vibrant hubs of activity, the project increased food access and availability, supported local businesses, fostered community engagement across the Central Avenue – Blue Line Corridor. Each pop-up market created a unique experience tailored to the identity and needs of the host community, combining access to fresh, local produce with cultural programming, arts, and interactive activities.



GOALS OF THE TURNIP TOUR



The three challenges in the Healthy Food Priority Areas in Prince George's County:



A lack of healthy food retail outlets



An abundance of vacant or underutilized properties



A high-demand for food-based activations in the community

Create unique food-related and culturally meaningful experiences for residents in Healthy Food Priority Areas



Connect local farmers and emerging businesses, based in Prince George's County, with local customers



Increase access to local, healthy food for families using food assistance programs including SNAP/WIC, by reducing the food miles traveled and increasing assistance benefits for a dollar-for-dollar matching program



Assess the community and environmental landscape for people to safely access food in Healthy Food Priority neighborhoods



Establish recommendations for an ongoing process to recognize agricultural, artisan, and craft businesses at farmers markets in Prince George's County



PROGRAM DESIGN

The Turnip Tour rotated across a series of strategically selected locations along the Prince George's County Central Avenue-Blue Line Corridor, including vacant lots, transit hubs, historic sites, community centers, and informal gathering spaces. These locations were chosen for their potential to become catalysts for broader community revitalization efforts, as well as to amplify. The project integrated housing and recreation, equitable transportation, arts and entertainment, health and wellness, and cultural heritage as a core component of each pop-up market.



June 17, 2023

Sports and Learning Complex
Housing and Recreation



September 28, 2023

Addison Road Metro Station
Equitable Transportation



October 6, 2023

City of Seat Pleasant
Arts and Entertainment



October 21, 2023

Town of Capitol Heights
Health and Wellness



November 4, 2023

Ridgely Community
Cultural Heritage



COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

The Capital Market coordinated with several organizations based in the Central Avenue-Blue Line Corridor to help implement the series of food-based activations.

Mildred Ridgely Gray Charitable Trust
The Mildred Ridgely Gray Charitable Trust is a nonprofit organization, that was established to preserve and promote the history and legacies of the Ridgely Community in Prince George's County. Founded by Mildred Ridgely Gray, an influential community leader and historic preservationist, the Trust researches family histories and institutions, maintains the Arthur and Mary Ridgely house, supports the preservation of the Historic Ridgely United Methodist Church and Cemetery, and the Historic Ridgeley Rosenwald School.

Gethsemane United Methodist Church
Gethsemane United Methodist Church is a faith-based organization that is committed to transforming the world through relevant outreach and service to the broader community. Since 1980, Gethsemane has partnered with local/state agencies, civic/community organizations, and interfaith partners to identify and solve critical social justice and equity issues in Prince George's County and the state of Maryland. The church supported with coordination for the Community Archive and Cultural Heritage Day.

Black History Program (Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation)
Prince George's County Black History Program encourages public engagement with Prince George's County's African-American history and its historical and cultural resources. In doing so, it provides educational, interpretive programs, and exhibitions for the general public and the school-aged community. The Black History Program will serve as a nucleus of historical data for citizens as well as area organizations that depend on an archive of accurate, and interpretive information about African-American history in Maryland and Prince George's County. The organization manages several historic sites related to Black History including Ridgely Rosenwald School, Dorsey Chapel, Abraham Hall, and the Concord Historic House.



The Sports and Learning Complex (Prince George’s County Department of Parks and Recreation)

The Prince George’s Sports & Learning Complex is an approximately 80 acres facility adjacent to the Washington Commanders’ NorthWest Stadium in Landover. The athletic and educational facility is located on the site of the former Wilson Dairy Farm. The centerpiece of the complex is the Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Center, a building which houses an Aquatic Center, Fitness Center, Field House, Gymnastics Center and Learning Center. The facility was constructed as a community benefit in response to the impact of the Washington Commanders’ football team.

Town of Capitol Heights

The Town of Capitol Heights was incorporated in 1910, as a residential suburb located in western Prince George’s County, adjacent to the southeastern boundary of Washington, D.C. The population of Capitol Heights was 4,050. Geographically, the town is defined by several boundaries: Southern Avenue NE/SE to the north, Yost Place and Eastern Avenue NE to the east, Watts Branch Stream, Brooke Road, and Capitol Heights Boulevard to the south, and Marlboro Pike to the west.

OUTCOMES

Outcomes	Projected	Actual
# of community partners engaged	5	7
# of businesses & community organization engaged		58
# of people engaged in-person & online	100	1,250
# staff employed through local partnership	1	8
# of small business contracted	2	10
# of community archives produced	1	In Progress
# of community cookbooks produced	1	In Progress

City of Seat Pleasant

The City of Seat Pleasant was incorporated in 1931, located south of Martin Luther King, Junior Highway (formerly George Palmer Highway) and Seat Pleasant Drive and is bisected by Addison Road. The population of Capitol Heights was 4,520. Seat Pleasant is located on part of what had been the Williams-Berry estate.

Central Avenue-Blue/Silver Line Sector Plan (Prince George’s County Planning Department)

In 2024, the Prince George’s County Planning Department kicked off the development of the Central Avenue-Blue/Silver Line Sector Plan. The plan is a guiding document developed through a multi-year public engagement process, extensive review, and public hearings. The sector plan will address future development in and around Capitol Heights, Addison Road-Seat Pleasant, and Morgan Boulevard Metro Stations. The Sector Plan team used the Turnip Tour sites as engagement activations for the plan.

WMATA

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), commonly referred to as Metro, is a tri-jurisdictional public transit agency operates transit service in the Washington metropolitan area. WMATA owns and operates three metrorail stations, and multiple bus-transit lines in the focus area.

WMATA’S ADDISON ROAD METRO STATION HOSTED ITS FIRST-EVER FARMERS MARKET AS PART OF THE TURNIP TOUR.

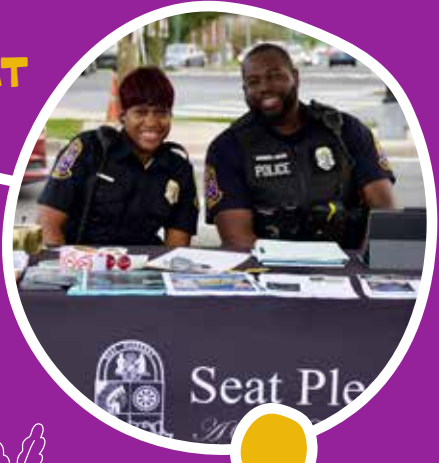


THE TURNIP TOUR STOPS

ADDISON ROAD
METRO STATION



CITY OF SEAT
PLEASANT



TOWN OF CAPITOL
HEIGHTS



SPORTS AND
LEARNING COMPLEX



RIDGELEY
ROSENWALD
SCHOOL





SPORTS AND LEARNING COMPLEX - HOUSING AND RECREATION

The first stop on the Turnip Tour, was to the Sports and Learning Complex on Saturday, June 17, 2023. The Capital Market partnered with Prince George's County Parks and Recreation. This pop-up event was held in an open-field in between the Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Center and the Marvin Wilson outdoor track and field house. It focused on Housing and Recreation, coinciding with the *Welcome Home Showcase* hosted by the Prince George's County Housing Authority in partnership with Maryland REALTORS to promote homeownership and the Amateur Athletic Union's PVA Track & Field District Qualifier. During the activation, The Capital

Market team distributed surveys to attendees asking questions. The event also featured interactive games and creative arts and crafts activities. The event featured produce from six local farms (Whitt's Produce, Cottage City Community Gardens, Curemore Farms, Sisters of the Soil, Lovebug Farm, and Elements of Nature), and seven local businesses to participated in the pop-up farmers market (I Got The Scoop, Mars Neem Oil, Poetry in Bloom, Stuff It Bakery, LulaDees Breads & Jams, and Kathy's Delicious Cakes). An estimated 150 individuals participated in the various activities.





ADDISON ROAD METRO STATION: EQUITABLE TRANSIT

On Thursday, September 28, 2023, The Capital Market partnered with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for the second stop of the Turnip Tour at the Addison Road–Seat Pleasant Metro Station. Addison Road–Seat Pleasant Metro Station has a daily metrorail ridership of 1,600 during this time period. This pop-up event focused on Equitable Transit and marked the first farmers market held at a WMATA Metro station. The event featured produce from three local farms (Bravajas Produce, Sisters of the Soil, and Lovebug Farm) and featured six local businesses and community organizations (Mars Neem Oil, Poetry in Bloom, Renay’s Brownee Bar, HealthLinks, Council Member Wala Blegay’s Office & Metro Lift, a program that offers discounted fares on Metrobus and Metrorail for income-qualified riders in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia, to make transit more affordable. Chef Nikk conducted two healthy food cooking demonstrations preparing both smoothies and a kale salad. The Prince George’s County Planning Department collected public feedback on the Central-Avenue Blue/Silver Line Corridor Sector Plan. Throughout the activation, we interacted with approximately 175 patrons primarily Metro riders passing through the station.

This activation significantly boosted morale for commuters at this station. The event followed an incident the day before, where an altercation involving a shooting injured two bystanders. Furthermore, there are limited convenience amenities (food and beverages) available on the same side of the street as the Metro station. Metro customers often cross Central Avenue—a seven-lane highway—to reach local convenience stores, leading to multiple pedestrian injuries and fatalities along Central Avenue near the Addison Road Metro Station.

When Metro customers encountered the pop-up market, they were thrilled by the positive atmosphere and the opportunity to access fruits, vegetables, prepared foods, home goods, and community information safely and conveniently. The introduction of the pop-up market not only transformed the space into a vibrant third place hub also directly addressed safety and accessibility concerns, highlighting the positive impact that thoughtful food-oriented development can have on enhancing public spaces and improving quality of life for commuters.





CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT: ARTS AND RECREATION

On Friday, October 6, 2023, The Capital Market partnered with the City of Seat Pleasant for the third stop of the Turnip Tour. This pop-up event, focused on Arts and Entertainment, was held at an underutilized city-owned plaza located at the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Highway and Eastern Avenue, along the Washington, D.C.–Maryland border.

Generally, this intersection is frequently activated, albeit for salacious purposes. There is a liquor store, multiple carry-out restaurants, and tobacco stores surrounding the site. Community members have indicated that the plaza and surrounding public spaces (both on the Seat Pleasant and DC side) are used to sell and use illicit drugs and is a hotspot for sex-trafficking. Activating this space served as an opportunity to reclaim it for the broader public.

The Capital Market utilized the smaller plaza space efficiently by setting up a farmstand featuring produce exclusively from Sisters of the Soil and LoveBug Farm. The event saw participation from seven local small businesses and several nonprofits, including Prince George's County Fire Department, Health Links, and Community Ministries of Prince George's County. The Seat Pleasant Police Department and their Police Athletic League

(PAL) program, which focuses on juvenile crime prevention through mentoring, education, athletics, and recreation to foster character, integrity, and leadership in youth, also supported the event.

Interactive elements of the event included games, healthy smoothie demonstrations, and a survey exploring the components of resilient communities. Creative arts and crafts, along with music and dance sessions led by Seat Pleasant Chief of Police Demetrious Harris, added to the festivities. Additional features included a steering wheel lock giveaway, cooking demonstrations, and engagement from the Prince George's County Planning Department, which gathered public input on the Blue Line Corridor Sector Plan. The activation successfully attracted approximately 150 attendees, including residents from the neighboring Washington, D.C., community.

Notably, this event featured a large number of young people who participated in the different games and activities and were also able to connect with local public safety officials. This event not only provided valuable community services and entertainment but also fostered a stronger sense of community and safety through inclusive participation and feedback.



TOWN OF CAPITOL HEIGHTS: HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The fourth stop on the Turnip Tour was on Saturday, October 21, 2023. The Capital Market partnered with the Town of Capitol Heights and Council Member Krystal Oriadha for the town's Health and Wellness Fair. This pop-up event, focused on inspiring healthy living and promoting overall well-being, was held at an underutilized town-owned vacant lot across from the Capitol Heights Metro Station.

The greater Capitol Heights community has been identified by the Prince George's County Health Department and the state of Maryland as a Health Enterprise Zone, or an area with health outcomes that contribute to racial/ethnic and geographic health disparities. The area has some of the fewest medical care providers per capita. Highlighting health and wellness is critical as community design greatly influences health outcomes and population health. Focusing on health and wellness public activations in Capitol Heights is vital because it helps to shed light on existing community challenges, while also bringing together community resources as intermediate stop gaps directly address the critical shortage of healthcare services and improve overall community health outcomes.

The event featured 30 small businesses and nonprofits offering a variety of resources, services, and activities to improve physical, mental, and emotional health. The Capital Market's farmstand featured produce from Olalekan Farm, Barajas Produce and Owls Nest Farm, as well as healthy prepared foods from Judy Makes Juices and Souldarian.

Highlights included free health screenings provided by Athena Healthcare, other healthcare providers and wellness coaches, fitness demonstrations led by FightshapeFit, and information on affordable health insurance coverage from Prince George's County Health Connect. Additional attractions included healthy food cooking demonstrations from AnK Entertainment and tours of the Capitol Heights Community Garden. Finally, the Prince George's County Planning Department, collected public feedback on the Central Avenue - Blue/Silver Line Corridor Sector Plan. The activation attracted approximately 200 patrons throughout the day, showcasing strong community engagement.





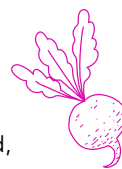
RIDGELEY ROSENWALD SCHOOL: CULTURAL HERITAGE

On Saturday, November 4, 2023, The Capital Market partnered with Prince George's County Parks and Recreation for the final stop of the Turnip Tour. This pop-up event, focused on Cultural Heritage, was held on the grounds of the historic Ridgeley Rosenwald School, fronting Central Avenue.

The event was held in celebration of Maryland Emancipation Day. By celebrating the Ridgely Community, this activation drew attention to the importance of preserving cultural and historical heritage. The community's efforts to maintain its identity amid urbanization can serve as a reminder of the need to preserve cultural and culinary traditions. Moreover, the Ridgely Community's story serves as an inspirational narrative of triumph over adversity. The event celebrated the rich history of the Ridgeley community, where emancipated Black Americans in the 18th century leveraged their influence to cultivate farmland, establish a church, barter for a school, and foster self-determined economic growth.

The Capital Market's farmstand featured produce from five farms (Barajas Produce, Black Rock Orchard, Owls Nest Farm, Sisters of The Soil Farm, and Southern Queen Foods). Fourteen small businesses and nonprofits participated, including the Mildred Ridgely Gray Charitable Trust, which delivered a presentation on Mildred Ridgely Gray—a beloved educator, civic leader, philanthropist, and historic preservationist. Other businesses included Poetry in Bloom, Gethsemane United Methodist Church, AnK Entertainment, SmokenLo BBQ, Maryland Insurance, and RENAY's Brownee Bar.

Activities included tours of the Ridgeley Rosenwald School. A libations ceremony was conducted by Cheryl McLeod former member of Maryland Commission on African American History & Culture. Additional activities featured a recipe swap, and recreational games. The activation attracted approximately 105 patrons.



COMMUNITY COOKBOOK AND ARCHIVE

As part of this project, The Capital Market wanted to create both a Community Cookbook and Community Archive. Food is an important part of our collective cultural heritage. Food tells us a lot about the history of places and communities, nature, and the people who helped to grow, harvest, prepare, cook, eat, deliver, and clean food. As part of the Turnip Tour, participants were requested to share information about their Favorite Food Dish, as well as their "ingredients" for a resilient community. In total, we collected 20 recipes to include in the cookbook, as well as photographs from Gethsemane United Methodist Church, Mae Williams (Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta and Activist with Ridgely Rosenwald School), as well as newspaper clippings. Additionally, a photo digital archive was created of images from the events. The cookbook is still in production.





MARKETING & PROMOTION

The Capital Market promoted The Turnip Tour in several different ways including through social media, website, e-newsletter, word of mouth, flyers, and a street billboard.

Social Media

Eight social media posts (both graphics and videos) were posted to Instagram about the series, 80 stories were posted, and 4 reels were made.

E-Newsletters

Six email newsletters were distributed to The Capital Market's distribution list. At the first market, The Capital Market's distribution list was 1,186, which grew by 16% throughout by the end of the Turnip Tour.

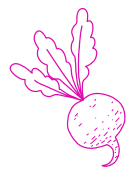
Digital Billboard

The team worked with Clear Channel to produce a digital billboard for the event series. This ran from October 10 – November 10 at 8601 Central Avenue.

Website

A vanity url was created for the Turnip Tour (TheTurnipTour.com), as well as a landing page that provided more information about the event. From June 10 – November 5, 2023, 597 unique visitors accessed the Turnip Tour landing page, with the majority being directed to the site from a Google Search.





PEOPLE & PARTNERSHIPS



The Capital Market hired eight individuals for The Turnip Tour, including five TCM Ambassadors, a Social Media Coordinator, a Market Coordinator, and a Farmstand Manager. Of the eight individuals hired to work for the Turnip Tour; five individuals were either currently residing along the Blue Line Corridor or were raised in the area.



PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

7 Studios (Photography)
Abundant Life Market
Andrews Credit Union
Ank Entertainment
Athena Healthcare
Black Rock Orchard
Blessed Jewels by Cynthia
Bravajas Produce
Byrd's Nest Box
Chef Nikk
Chesapeake Home Health Care
Clayton Family Farms
Clear Channel
Community Ministries of Prince
George's County
Cottage City Community Gardens
Council Member Krystal
Oriahta Office 7
Council Member Wala
Blegay's Office 6
Curemore Farms
Dre Directed This
Dream City Brass
Electric Llama (Videography)
Elements of Nature
Elite Expression
Employ Prince George's
Mobile Unit
Flowers x Flores

Fort Knox Media
Gideons International
Gokoro Designs
HealthLinks
Healthy U / Optavia
Herb Lifestyle
I Got The Scoop
Insurance by Donielle
Judy Makes Juices
Kathy's Delicious Cakes
Landover Printing
Lovebug Farm
LulaDees Breads & Jams
Mars Neem Oil
Me Moment Manicure & Makeup
Mending Families, Inc
MGE Custom Prints
Mildred Ridgely Gray
Charitable Trust
Miller Farms
Mommi & M3 Creations
N2Positivty Coaching
Naranti Granola
Olalekan Farm
Organic Soul Chef
Owl's Nest Farm
Poetry in Bloom
Prince George's County
Fire Department/EMS

Prince George's County
Health Connect
Rainbow Child Development Center
ReNay's Brownie Bar
Sassy Wrist
Seat Pleasant Police
Athletic League
Seat Pleasant Police Department
She Care
Sid & Tills, LLC
Sisters of the Soil
Smoken Lo BBQ
SOFGI Connection LLC
Soularian
Stuff It Bakery
The Boxing Guy LLC DBA
Fight Shape Fit
The Busi Vegan
The Training Source, Inc
Town of Capitol Heights
Civic Association
Town of Capitol Heights
Police Department
Town of Capitol Heights Toastmasters
United Healthcare
Whitt's Produce
WMATA Metro Lift



KEY FINDINGS

1 Leverage Relationships with Existing Community Organizations

The success of The Turnip Tour was largely due to The Capital Market's strong relationships with municipalities and institutional partners. These partnerships allowed the team to execute activations within as little as 45 days—and, in some cases, as quickly as 10 days. When planning temporary events on vacant land or properties, it is essential to first engage organizations that have established trust and strong community relationships.

2 Partner Pop-Up Activations with Existing Initiatives

To amplify the impact of The Turnip Tour, The Capital Market strategically scheduled events alongside existing community activities.

THIS APPROACH:

- Allowed the organization to connect with new audiences.
- Created opportunities to bridge seemingly unrelated topics and experiences.
- Enhanced engagement by meeting people where they already gather.

For example, hosting The Turnip Tour at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex during an outdoor track meet was an innovative way to engage families interested in health and fitness with The Capital Market's work.



3 Consider Site Conditions and Infrastructure Needs

When activating vacant properties, careful evaluation of site conditions and infrastructure is crucial. Factors such as land slope, elevation, heat island effect, drainage, electrical access, and fencing should be assessed before determining site feasibility.

SITE INSIGHTS:

● Ridgely Rosenwald School (PG Parks)

This location, fronting Central Avenue and near several commercial establishments, presents an ideal opportunity for temporary activations due to high foot traffic from people waiting nearby. However, security fencing made vendor access difficult, and permanent signage creates obstructions that impact event layout and visitor experience. Additionally, limited exterior electrical service increases costs, setup time, and permitting requirements.

● Capitol Heights

The site's uphill location posed accessibility challenges for individuals with mobility issues. Additionally, its proximity to a berm created a wind tunnel effect on a particularly windy day, drastically lowering temperatures and making setup and vendor experiences more difficult. Future evaluation should be conducted in developing site analysis criteria for activations and potential mitigation strategies when environmental or infrastructure present challenges.

4 Address Challenges in the Permitting Process

The county's permitting process presents a significant challenge, particularly for rapid-turnaround temporary events. Events requiring less than 30 days of planning often face delays due to uncertainty about permit requirements—especially when occurring on municipal or parkland properties. Activations held in conjunction with municipal and M-NCPPC, are not always subject to temporary use and occupancy permits, however certain types of vendors will require Health Department and Fire Department permitting and inspection. Greater clarity on the permitting process and streamlined approval pathways would improve feasibility for short-term activations.

5 Integrate Public Safety in a Community-Centered Way

Historically vacant lands may have been informally used by local communities in various ways. When activating these spaces for broader public benefit, public safety officials should be involved in a manner that fosters a welcoming environment without intimidating law-abiding residents. At the same time, their presence should ensure overall event safety and situational awareness.

INSIGHTS:

● Turnip Tour at Seat Pleasant

Due to the location's history as a crime hotspot, safety considerations were a priority. Having the City police involved as the musical entertainment allowed for residents to engage with police office in a relaxed environment, while also ensure the presence of emergency personnel in the immediate vicinity.

● Turnip Tour at Addison Road Metro Station

Following a shooting incident, safety measures had to be reassessed for public confidence. WMATA station managers and police officers were visible throughout the event. Station managers were engaged in activities and found ways to involve and invite riders to the event.

● Turnip Tour at Capitol Heights Health & Wellness Activation

While the Town of Capitol Heights Police Officers were present, the addition of the County's Sheriff's Office provided additional oversight. A driver attempted to bypass traffic redirection and drive through the crowd. The situation was quickly de-escalated by Sheriff's officers on site.

These incidents underscore the importance of integrating trusted public safety professionals who provide security while maintaining a community-centered approach.



CONCLUSION

The 2023 Turnip Tour demonstrated the transformative power of creative placemaking in fostering equitable community development along the Central Avenue–Blue Line Corridor. Through five strategically selected stops, the initiative activated underutilized public spaces, bringing together over 70 community partners, engaging 1,250 people, and showcasing 30 small businesses and nonprofits. Each event highlighted a key theme—Housing and Recreation, Equitable Transit, Arts and Entertainment, Health and Wellness, and Cultural Heritage—ensuring a diverse and tailored experience for the host communities.

The Turnip Tour not only addressed critical issues like food equity and affordable transit but also celebrated local identity and history through arts and cultural programming. The initiative amplified the voices of underserved communities, enhanced access to resources, and strengthened local economies by prioritizing small and emerging businesses, particularly farmers of color. With meaningful engagement from stakeholders, strong community turnout, and a focus on sustainable, inclusive development, the Turnip Tour stands as a model for how collaborative efforts can revitalize public spaces while building trust, celebrating heritage, and supporting economic growth.

THE TURNIP TOUR ENGAGED 1,250 PEOPLE ACROSS FIVE STOPS, SUPPORTING OVER 70 COMMUNITY PARTNERS, SMALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS.



