LISC Activity on Four out of Six Points in Highland Park

If you haven’t been down Brookland Park Boulevard in a while, now is the time to take a quick trip to the Northside. Activity is sprouting up all along this commercial corridor, one that has seen decades of disinvestment.

Six Points intersection, located farther down Brookland Park Boulevard, is bustling with change, and LISC is supporting partners with projects on four of the six corners of that intersection.

Pictured: Six Points intersection, where LISC and partners have been working since 2014.

Virginia LISC and Tricycle Gardens have partnered to bring healthy, fresh produce to corner markets of neighborhoods labeled as food deserts. One of the participating markets in the Healthy Corner Store Initiative is Six Points Express Market, located on one of the corners of the Six Points intersection.

Across the intersection from the corner market sits a vacant storefront that used to be home to the thrift shop Sunny Daze. However, Storefront for Community Design, an organization that Virginia LISC provides capacity support to, Art 180 and Saving our Youth are collaborating to turn the former thrift store into a youth programming center for Highland Park children and teens. The center will be named Six Pic and is scheduled to open in February 2017.

On a third corner, sits Trimms, a neighborhood barber shop with a facade in need of a face lift. Virginia LISC was recently awarded a $250,000 challenge grant from National LISC for their continued efforts in Highland Park. Part of this funding is going directly to corridor revitalization, including facade improvements. Storefront for
Community Design and Virginia LISC, along with volunteers, gave Trimm's a fresh new paint job this past Friday.

Most recently, on a fourth corner of the six point intersection stands an old school. Virginia LISC gave close partner Community Preservation and Development Corporation a $318,000 pre-development loan to turn an old school into an affordable senior living apartment complex. Construction began this past spring and is projected to be completed by the end of this year.