

Waldwick

Alliance presents plans for renovations

The Waldwick Community Alliance, formed after last summer's controversial proposed redevelopment study by the borough, recently addressed the council regarding a plan for upgrading, rather than redeveloping, the borough's railroad area -- and the plans were well received.

According to a press release from the alliance, the threat of the use of eminent domain led to the formation of the non-profit organization. The group is focusing on the improvement of the existing balance of residential, commercial, and high industrial properties, which they say was the original intent of the historic downtown area.

Plans include adopting and refurbishing the train station building and possibly opening a rail crossing on West Prospect Street. This would allow removal of the aging walking bridge over the tracks. Other intended improvements include planings, old fashioned streetscaping and lighting, a walking history tour and monument around the train station and along Hewson Avenue, and a proposed historical or memorial park on Harrison Avenue. The alliance has already consulted with the Waldwick Historical Society, planners McCabe & Associates, and New Jersey Transit about this proposal.

The Waldwick Community Alliance plans to work closely with the borough in planning, executing, and maintaining the proposed improvements.

The group's goal is to bring a sense of pride and appeal to the area that will create new business opportunities and higher property values while maintaining the continued economic success of the existing businesses. The group welcomes residents and business owners to join the effort.