

Episcopal Diocese of Missouri

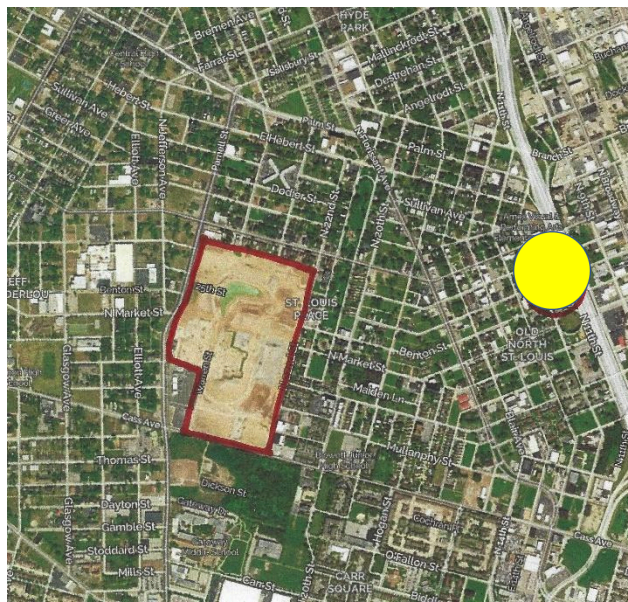
GRACE HILL TASK FORCE REPORT

October 2024

The Grace Hill Task Force was appointed in 2022 to explore the future of the historic Grace Hill campus in Old North St. Louis, which has been owned by the Episcopal Church since before 1850. In its history, the site was home to the Grace Church congregation and a variety of community services including Grace Hill Settlement House and Grace Hill Community Health Services. The campus has been maintained by the Diocese but largely vacant since the Settlement House merged with the Urban League and the health services became Affinia Healthcare, a major nonprofit.

Today, a portion of Grace Hill's buildings is leased to St. Patrick's Center for its Safe Haven program – called Grace House – serving unhoused people brought to this location for assessment and referral to permanent housing.

Grace Hill is located between Hadley Street and North 11th Street in Old North St. Louis, just blocks east of the large new National Geospatial Agency campus being completed for occupancy in 2025. Grace Hill's position is shown with the circle in this aerial photo:



In 2023, the task force created a vision and long-term development concept for Grace Hill: a community center, sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, providing services and spiritual growth for children, youth, and families in this part of the St. Louis community. We envision components including a worship and multipurpose community gathering space, a health and wellness center, K-12 student and family support services, visual and performing arts education programs, and potentially a licensed child care facility. We have identified community partners interested in working with us on these programs.

We estimate that renovation/restoration of the Grace Hill campus will require an investment of \$10-12 million to support these new uses. We have applied for grants – so far without success – and identified other potential funding sources to be approached.

The following sketches show some major elements of our Grace Hill development concept:

Renovated church building for worship, arts, and community gatherings



Renovated north wing for art studios and exhibition galleries



Renovated north wing for art studios and exhibition galleries



Renovated south wing for health, K-12 student support, and childcare services



Restored rectory for
program offices and
conference facilities



Our current goals are appointment of permanent leadership for our Grace Hill programs and acquisition of capital funding for campus improvements, perhaps in 2-3 phases. We welcome your ideas and thank members of the Grace Hill Task Force for their commitment to this major project.

*The Rev. Deacon Valerie Patton
Clark S. Davis*

Task Force Co-chairs