

VOTED HUB ASSET · TNN RETREAT

INSTITUTIONAL ANCHORS

The strongest vote on this board went to something missing. The group noticed the church was never named among the institutions, and marked it as the one that could be the connection, the institution that ties the others and the neighbors together. The room found the gap on its own.

Seventh of the seven boards · the set is complete

THE BOARD'S TOP VOTE · ABOUT WHAT WAS MISSING

THE CHURCH WAS NEVER NAMED, AND IT COULD BE THE CONNECTION

DOTTED · THE ABSENCE

Church not mentioned. No one had named it among the neighborhood's institutions.

DOTTED · THE POSSIBILITY

It has the possibility to be the connection, the institution that ties the others and the neighbors together.

This drew the most dots on the board. Plenty of institutions serve the neighborhood, but the group's attention went to the one that could connect them, and to the fact that it was absent from the list. The board names that role elsewhere too: community quarterback, or connector. The gap a network map usually has to surface, the room surfaced first.

PULL FROM HERE

CANDIDATE DIMENSIONS

This board was an analytical scratchpad more than a tidy set of clusters, and the dots landed on insights scattered across it. These distill the five that carried weight, ranked by where the dots fell. The title is the filing handle; the line under it is the concrete, notice-if-missing dimension you lift. Counts are provisional, from the photos.

1

A CONNECTOR INSTITUTION

One institution ties the others and the neighbors together, a connector or community quarterback, and the group named the church as the one that could play it.

● ● ● ● ● ●
~6 dots · most

2

CLOSE, AND ANSWERABLE TO IT

The institutions stay close to the people they serve and answer to them, measuring success by the neighborhood's flourishing rather than their own survival.

● ● ●
~3 dots

3

GOVERNED BY THE COMMUNITY

Residents actually govern the institutions that serve them, through shared leadership and shared power, rather than one charismatic leader.

● ●
2 dots

4

HEALTHY AND DIVERSE

The neighborhood has a working spread of institutions, childcare, healthcare, a grocery with good food, a library, schools, social supports, and they function.

on the board
0 dots

5

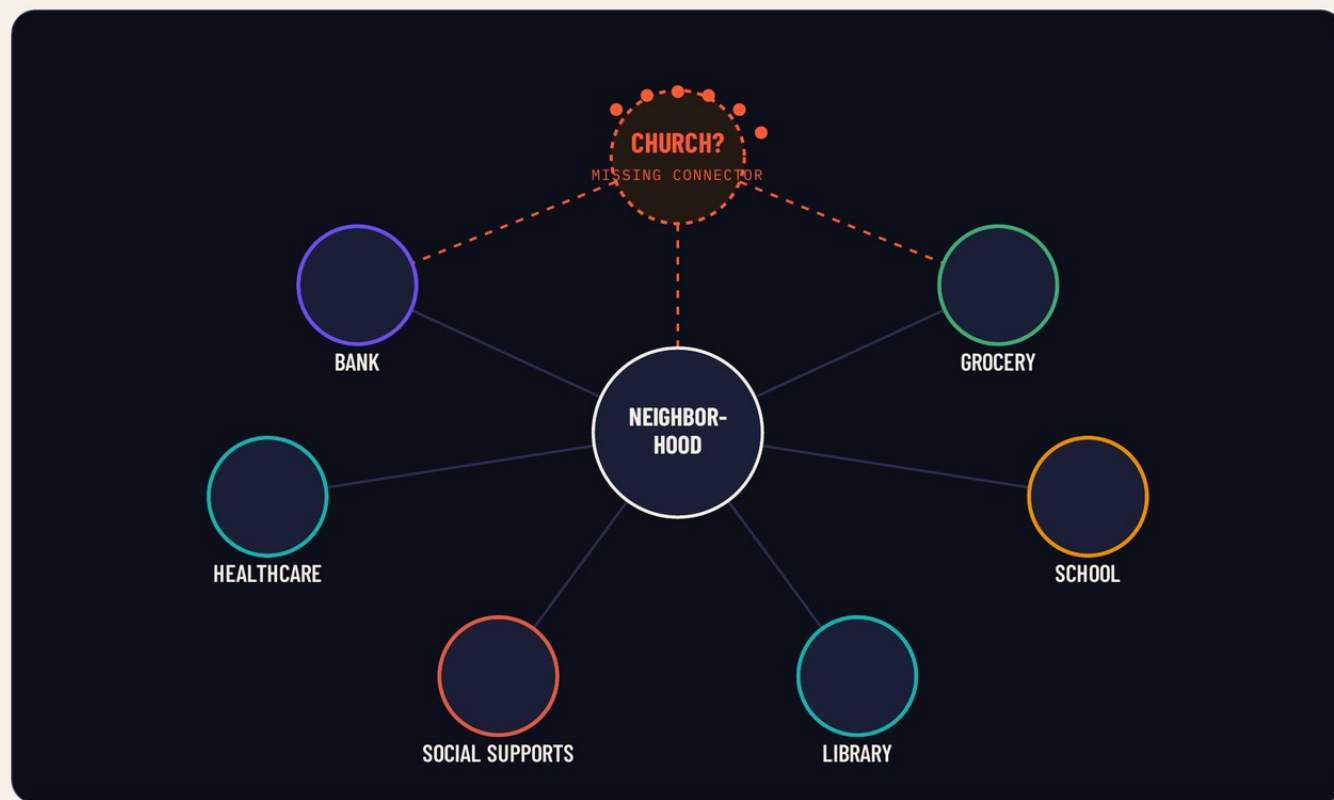
UNDERSTANDS THE COMMON STAKES

The institutions understand the neighborhood's shared stakes and obligations, and add to the place rather than extract from it.

on the board
0 dots

The top vote, about six dots, went to one insight: the church was never named, and it could be the connection. Two dots sat on governance by community members, and roughly three more on the handwritten tension about institutions staying close to the community. The dots were spread across the board's notes and margins, so read these as weighted insights rather than a clean ranking.

Each institution serves the neighborhood, the solid lines. But the group's top vote went to what ties them to each other, and that was missing. They noticed the church was never named, and marked it as the one that could be the connection. Here it is the dashed node, reaching across to bridge the others: the gap, drawn as one.



THE DIMENSIONS IN DETAIL

01

● ~6 dots · most

A CONNECTOR INSTITUTION

The vote winner, and it is about an absence. The group noticed the church was never named, and marked it as the one institution that could tie the others and the neighbors together.

church not mentioned

has the possibility to be the connection

community quarterback or connector

city staff, church leaders, school admin work together on a problem to solve

overlapping trust & collaboration

02

● ~3 dots

CLOSE, AND ANSWERABLE TO IT

The central tension the room kept circling. Institutions serve best when close to the people, but are large by nature. Success has to mean the neighborhood's flourishing, not the institution's survival.

institutions are best when close to the community

but almost by nature they are large; how do they act as a stakeholder?

reciprocal relationship: success is not self-preservation

must understand and positively contribute to the neighborhood

a responsive government, to people not money

03

● 2 dots

GOVERNED BY THE COMMUNITY

Who holds the power. The group wanted institutions governed by community members, through shared leadership and shared power, not run by one charismatic leader.

governance by community members

not one charismatic leader; community decision-making

shared leadership, shared power

trustworthy leaders available; local governance

programs led and co-created by neighbors

04

0 dots

HEALTHY AND DIVERSE

The everyday spread. A thriving neighborhood needs a working range of institutions, though not every type in every place.

thriving neighborhood requires healthy + diverse institutions

childcare, healthcare, a grocery with healthy food

library, schools, literacy programs in summer

social supports and aid; safety

not necessarily a library or hospital in every single neighborhood

05

0 dots

UNDERSTANDS THE COMMON STAKES

What separates an anchor from a building. The institution understands the neighborhood's shared stakes and obligations, and adds to the place rather than extracting from it.

institutions engage, understand common stakes & mutual obligation

generosity with resources that tend to community needs

decision-making structures that include community input

an anchor differs from a common stake: an actual org, with systems and paid workers

creating common stakes allows us to create institutions

OPEN, AND WORTH CARRYING FORWARD

This board did the most conceptual work of the set, and it ties the other boards together. These threads are where it connects, and the clearest seeds for tomorrow's enabling-conditions and barriers work.

T1

THE ROOM FOUND THE GAP

The top vote was not a feature but an absence. The church was never named, and the group marked it as the institution that could be the connection. Plenty of institutions serve the neighborhood; the one that ties them together was the one missing.

T2

WHAT MAKES IT AN INSTITUTION

The board drew a line the others did not: an institutional anchor differs from a common stake because it is an actual organization, with systems and paid workers. And it noted the path, creating common stakes is what lets a neighborhood create institutions. Common Stakes feeds this board.

T3

CLOSE, BUT LARGE

The central tension, starred: institutions are best when close to the community, but almost by nature they are large. How does something large act like a stakeholder? The answers reached for were shared leadership, shared power, and governance by community members.

T4

SUCCESS IS NOT SELF-PRESERVATION

A sharp line: an institution's relationship with the neighborhood should be reciprocal, its success measured by the place's flourishing, not its own survival. That is the reciprocity from the Mutual Obligation board, applied to institutions. The test of an anchor is whether it would still act for the place when that costs it.

CONNECTING FOR CHANGE

Institutional Anchors · voted hub asset · v0.1.0

Provisional. Built from session photos and dot voting. The top vote concentrated on the missing-connector insight (the church); the remaining dots were spread across the board's notes and margins. To be reconciled against David's transcription for the final asset. This completes the seven-component set.