

HEC Meeting Notes*

December 6, 2017

5pm; Clyde Hupp Board Room, Bates Technical College

HEC Members Present: Brendan Nelson (BN), Marty Mattes (MM), Denny Faker (DF), Kiara Daniels (KD), Ashley Lipford (AL), Hally Bert (HB), Anthony Powell (AP), Brittani Flowers (BF), Bishop Lawrence White (BW), Lauren Wheeler (LW), Audra Hudson (AH), Pastor Anthony Steele (AS)

Staff Present: Carol Wolfe (CW, City), Lauren Flemister (LF, City), Andy Micklow (AM, City), Monica Ghosh (MG, City), Todd Sawin (TS, AHBL), Alayna Linde (Envirolssues), Mitzi McMahan (Sound Transit)

A. Call to Order (5:10pm)

- Acknowledge Guest

Paul Bernard, Enterprise Community Partners

Alex Hutchison, Smart Growth America

Laura Seafoss, Enterprise Advisors

Alayna Linde, Envirolssues

- Staff Report

MG: LTO Staff at Sound Transit Open House (Nov 7)

LW: Well attended, 90 people; community, developers, generally positive

DF: Of all the open houses, it seems people are starting to get more involved and more interested, terrific staff.

LW: Thank you to community partners.

Block-by-Blocks & draft 30%

RFP related to Jobs – Looking to have consultants on board in January and will attend upcoming HEC meeting

Released second round of RFP, looking for HEC volunteers to participate in review of the proposals.

Kiara is interested. Let Monica know by the end of the week.

Storefront hours during the holiday week may be adjusted. If changes are made, they will be posted to the project website and on the storefront.

CW: Sign in sheet for snacks.

B. Items of Business

- Recap of Streetscape Outreach Contracts (AM)

AS: What are the next steps?

HB: Will you loop back with the people contacted during grassroots outreach?

AM: Yes.

AS: Will we (the public) know which comments were responded to or what happened to feedback?

AM: Yes. This will be included in the final design reports.

- Recap of HEC Comments on 30% Design

BN: Any comments not captured in the written HEC responses from last meeting?

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KD: Business maintenance and streetscape is not barrier for those that want to come in. Smaller business. Affordable.

AS: HBA is concerned with the number of things going on to the street, signage being considered not to be blocked. Onus of having to do things now with respect to utilities. Same with signage?

CW: door-to-door; PDS regulations and director.

AL: Stop Mart location; CPTED; eyes on the street.

CW: High-priority CPTED; reclaim space for community – STOP MART; 15th

AL: Festival street locations.

CW: HBA will make the final decision about where to move streetfair. Activating alleys & THA. "Legacy Event"

MM: In what format will the draft 30% designs be presented?

TS: Flat plans, cross sections. A little bit of both. Start of the bulleted list about "hey, this is what we've heard from the community."

MM: How you might approach the different zones? Comprehensive approach.

- Outreach Plan (AM)

BF: Who is coming into the office? How is what you're collecting via storefront drop-ins substantially influencing design? Will you use social media? Push using Facebook?

AS: Unclear as to why the city is presenting AHBL's plan?

AL, DF, MM – City's plan, it's a team – AHBL/City.

CW: Buck stops with the City. Engineering is on AHBL.

DF: What's the difference between doing an open house and going to neighborhood groups?

CW: There is a difference between going to your house and inviting you to ours.

MM: Will you notify businesses/residents that you will do door-to-door?

AM: Yes, will coordinate.

HB: Presentations to PTA. Will Alta be present for bike related outreach events?

Vote: 10 for approval. 2 against (BF, AS)

- Smart Growth America Presentation of Findings and Recommendations

LF: Follow up on the last presentation. Existing housing issues up on the Hill. Study session, council members, directors, city staff; presentation on recommendations and findings – will have final report by the end of the year.

KD: Is ACS publicly available data? Census boundaries, don't align with hilltop – had to adjust. All data is secondary.

KD: What does it mean to be cost burdened and housing insecure? How much income is that?

AS: Data on age? As part of the lower income – what percent are seniors?

BF: Just early stages of gentrification?

LS: Yes, other block groups have higher percentages.

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LF: We're not trying to downplay the stages – but percentages and number of units is terrifying; council took it to be terrifying; staff is concerned; there is still room for impact – because it is early stage.

BF: Clarity, street level is “on fire” but good to know where we stand; sometime we're working with old data; anecdotal. It is hopeful. It's good and take back to constituents – pockets we can secure and sustain....

AS: From my perspective – African American, is southern region – it is on fire – we're at late stage. Block groups – difficult.

MM: This is all good information; our role is on streetscape; what role can we play to respond to our task. Is there something from the HEC that we can do for the report?

AH: Built environment requirements is burden; off-site costs....

HB: Transportation and affordable housing is not able to be separated; way to inform us.

MM: Is there something...

LF: Concerned citizens, invested in the Hilltop; applied for this grant – in her opinion – extension is one thing and reality is something different. She thought it was an opportunity to get some more information.

HB: How will your recommendations materialize?

LF: Her understanding... Team will finalize report; CED – Daniel Murillo will form affordable housing working group. Internal working group and will likely get consultant on board and will work on developing strategies and develop action plan – middle of 2018. Check in around Q1. Concrete and actionable for 2019/2020 budget. Encourage you to talk to elected officials.

LW: In other cities, how quickly were policies able to be put in place? Bettered?

LS: Cities move as fast as they want to move. Pittsburgh is a great example of unexpected housing boom and leaders move quickly and are often fighting the market. Balance.

PB: Philly & DC are examples of willingness. Walk away with feelings that tools are in place; fiscally fairly sound and a matter of prioritizing and reorganizing.

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