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| To: | Team |
| From: | Cuningham Group |
| Project: | Logan Park |
| Project Number: | Logan Park Small Area Plan |
| Subject: | Meeting Notes: Steering Committee |
| Date: | Febraury 2, 2016 |
| Copy To: |   |

Meeting Date: January 28, 2016

Location: Logan Park

* Group generally agreed on the three key points of the vision statement
* Neighborhood has a unique mix/balance between housing and employment- and that has been its character historically

Strategic Direction #1: Strike a balance between preservation, adaptation, and new construction

* General agreement on the idea of “mostly preserving” within west residential area (Goal A), with support for adaptation and building new medium density housing along Broadway and at 17th/Washington node
	+ One committee member voiced support for medium density interior to the neighborhood (not just along the major corridors)
	+ Hundred-year old homes may have a lot more life in them if well-maintained; newer homes are not necessarily longer lasting
* Concerns about Goal D - medium density development/new construction in residential zone north of 18th avenue and east of the rail:
	+ Area is “transitional” – there is vacancy and underutilized properties
	+ Some of the single-family homes in the area are in good shape and should be preserved – Should be “preserve, adapt, and build new”
	+ “Build new” should be limited to area immediately facing 18th Avenue as a complement to the Thorpe building and arts development to the south
* General agreement about Goal C: mix of preservation of “legacy buildings”, adaptive reuse, and new construction.
	+ Need flexibility within zoning to support creative reuse of buildings
* Differing views on Goal E, “mostly build new” along Central Ave:
	+ Arts building owners talked about loss of surface lots/move to structured parking – and impact to affordability, convenience, customer access; Northrup King and Casket Arts tailor building use to available parking spaces, not the other way around.
	+ Building owners work out parking situations among themselves and we should not build a ramp for anticipated densities because it will go unused and will end up adding costs to the building owners.
	+ Concerns about how higher density development will impact access/circulation in the area; need to focus on improving bike and pedestrian connections today in advance of future development
	+ Concern that City already has a plan for Central Ave and future streetcar development that will overshadow local development goals
	+ Others see opportunity to direct future growth and redevelopment along Central – This plan is our opportunity to have a say in where and redevelopment occurs

Strategic Direction #2: Build connections to and through the neighborhood

* General support for connectivity goals.
* 13th and Monroe – both have potential as future bikeways
	+ Monroe is already used by some as an unofficial bike route (and alternative to Central); could be a bike boulevard.
	+ Questions about limited right of way and impact to parked cars
* Support for traffic calming and road diet (conversion from four lanes to three lanes) on Broadway Avenue
	+ Pedestrian experience is bad; fast moving traffic with only a narrow boulevard separating the sidewalk from the street
	+ Central Ave and Broadway should be better pedestrian experience

Strategic Direction #3: Revitalize/Reinvent community spaces

* Strong support for improvement in Logan Park
	+ Make walking paths more intuitive/smooth; create a promenade
	+ More landscaping/garden feel; flowering trees along paths
	+ Better lighting – could be an art project
	+ Integrate public art and seating/furniture
	+ Focus on north and south edges of the park in particular
	+ Athletic facilities are well-used
	+ Think of park as the neighborhood’s “front yard” - Bring more community programming/events into the park
	+ The north edge as a promenade, a place of beauty, friendliness, and safety.
* Support for undercover parks and more public art in the neighborhood
	+ Create a neighborhood dog park
	+ Do something with vacant lots (snow lot or BNSF lot north of Indeed)
	+ Prairie garden on BNSF site
	+ Franconia is a well-loved destination
	+ Do something along public works lot at Jefferson and 18th
	+ In the past the neighborhood organized a sculpture tour during Art a Whirl.
* Reminder to group about the February 17th public meeting at Able Seedhouse Brewery; format will include more social/open activities rather than a typical open house presentation- to take advantage of the pub room vibe and provide a fun and social experience.

**END OF MEMO**