

MEETING MINUTES
Public Works Site Small Area Guide Process
Kick off Meeting
Thursday, April 8, 2010, 6:30-8:30 pm
Edina City Hall Council Chambers
4801 West 50th Street

Staff Present:

Heather Worthington, Assistant City Manager
Cary Teague, City Planner

Planning Commissioner Present:

Mike Fischer, PC Chair
Kevin Staunton, PC-Vice Chair
Michael Schroeder, Commissioner

Introduction/Discussion

Commissioner Staunton introduced the public works site small area guild plan process and referred the audience to photos of the area taken 50 plus years ago. Commissioner Staunton asked the audience to note the changes to the area, adding one can imagine that viewing this area 30 years from now will also show changes.

Continuing, Commissioner Staunton said the goal of this process is to define principles and guide future development of the area. Commissioner Staunton said the process is proposed over the next three weeks and is a community process, adding the process will be short and intense with the target end date of May 18th.

Continuing Commissioner Staunton said the small area guide plan process will include a number of "teams". He added he was chosen to lead the community group which will be referred to as the Community Advisory Team or CAT. Commissioner Staunton explained that included in the CAT are members from Edina's boards/commissions and business community. Commissioner Staunton said one of the goals of this meeting is to choose residents from Edina's four quadrants, along with two at large members.

Commissioner Staunton introduced boards/commissions members volunteering to serve on the CAT: Josh Sprague, Transportation; Michael Platteter, Energy & Environment; Chris Rofidal, Heritage Preservation Board; Ellen Jones, Park & Recreation and Brian Hedberg, School Board.

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Commissioner Staunton introduced business owners volunteering to serve: Bob Shadduck, Jerry's Enterprises, Nancy Grazini-Olson, property owner of the office building Arcadia/Eden Avenue; Linda Odell, Edina Family Physicians.

Commissioner Staunton introduced Commissioner Schroeder, adding that Commissioner Schroeder would be one of the leads on the Design Team.

Commissioner Schroeder introduced members of the Design Team: Peter Sussman, Maya Blanchet, Jim Miller and Tom MacAfee. (Other members may be added later in the process). Commissioner Schroeder said the goal of the design team would be to apply the principles formulated by the CAT and depict what those principles would look like.

Continuing the presentation Commissioner Staunton encouraged community participation for all.

With graphics Commissioner Staunton pointed out a map indicating the area. Commissioner Staunton said there are two study areas; one, the primary study zone and the influence zone. Commissioner Staunton defined those areas.

Commissioner Staunton shared the work schedule. The dates are as follows:

- April 8th – Thursday, kick off meeting
- April 10th - Coordination Meeting
- April 10th -Site Tour also after the coordination meeting a walking tour would be taken of the area. A debriefing would follow
- April 12th – Monday, Developer Roundtable
- April 14th – Wednesday, Focus Group – property and business owners
- April 21st, Wednesday, Community Meeting
- April 22nd – Thursday, CAT Summary Meeting
- April 23rd – Friday, Design Charrette
- April 24th – Saturday, Design Charrette
- April 26th – Monday, Open House
- April 27th – Tuesday, Refinement Meeting
- April 28th Wednesday, Planning Commission
- May 18th – Tuesday, City Council

Commissioner Staunton said the final result of this process would be to articulate principles that will guide illustrations to demonstrate the vision. Chair Fischer said it should be noted that these principles and illustrations are not a blueprint, noting this area is comprised of multiple property owners, private and public. He added what this guide plan should do is create a guide for future development; which is a good start. Mr. Bonneville suggested that a more current survey be done of the entire area. Commissioner Staunton agreed that is a good idea.

Commissioner Schroeder said the public works site could be viewed as a catalyst that could frame the entire area. Continuing, Commissioner Schroeder said it should also be noted that this process does not change the Code or the Comprehensive Plan. What this process should achieve is providing guidance on what the community would like to see happen in this area. Commissioner Schroeder said this process will also provide the City Council a foothold on one of the areas identified for potential change in the Comprehensive Plan. Concluding, Commissioner Schroeder said this process could be considered the first step in a small area plan.

A resident asked Commissioner Schroeder to explain how this process is different from a “small area plan” process. Commissioner Schroeder said the small area guide plan gets into more detail, more regulation and financial attachments. A small area guide plan also amends the Comprehensive Plan and is a Council directive. Commissioner Schroeder said this process could be considered a “first step”.

Commissioner Staunton said at this point he would like to elect members to the CAT. Commissioner Staunton said first they would like the audience broken down into four quadrants. 1. Northwest. 2. Northeast. 3. Southwest and 4. Southeast, and out of these four quadrants pick a representative to serve on the CAT. Commissioner Staunton said after those members are chosen more members to the CAT would be elected at large.

The following residents volunteered to represent their quadrant.

Kim Montgomery – Northwest Quadrant
Steve Buss – Northeast Quadrant
Sue Davison – Southwest Quadrant
Gene Persha – Southeast Quadrant

The following were selected to serve at large: A motion was made to increase the at large participation from two to five. That motion carried.

Larry Chestler
Jo-Ann Olsen
Andy Brown
Lisa Diehl, and
Greg Domke.

Commissioner Staunton thanked residents for volunteering and said these individuals would be joining the members of the business community, and members from the various boards/commissions to serve on the community advisory team (CAT).

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Commissioner Staunton said that Saturday (April 10th) there will be a meeting and walking tour beginning at 8:00 am at the Grange Hall. A walking tour of the area will begin at around 9:00 am. Commissioner Staunton invited all to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm