

Monroe Street Project Meeting Notes

July 28, 2016

Advisory Board Members in Attendance: Dale Westhaver, EJ Ianelli, Megan Kennedy, Mike Trautman, Chris Bornhoft, Mike Wallace, Jill Leonetti

Public Participants: Steve Hopkins, John Leonetti, Jason Huston, Gary Jarvis, Katy Azar

Review of Questions from July 13, 2016, Meeting

- Transit
 - High performance transit network
 - ADA and bicycles
 - **Transit Meeting with STA in September**
- Traffic
 - LOS
 - Residential traffic impact
 - Snow Removal
 - Emergency Response Vehicles
 - Garbage Trucks
 - **Traffic Operations Meeting in August**
- Other
 - Underground utilities
 - Working with Avista
 - City Investment
 - \$2.5 million

Summary of Project

- Centers & Corridors
 - Infill Strategy outlined in Comprehensive Plan
 - Application of the Live/Work/Play Concept
 - An Infill Strategy helps manage growth, lowers costs of extending infrastructure, and decreases consumption of rural lands
- North Monroe is identified as a Centers & Corridors
 - Characteristics of the CC1 and CC2 zoning along Monroe
 - Greater Intensity of Development
 - Businesses cater to neighborhood residents
 - Transit
 - Street-fronted building
 - Central gathering spaces
 - Pedestrian emphasis while being auto accommodating

- How do we drive growth to Centers & Corridors?
 - Land Use and Zoning
 - Public Investment
 - Economic Development Programs
 - Incentives

- What Can Success Look Like?
 - Success is different in different locations
 - \$ 3.4 billion investments in Downtown
 - U-District in progress
 - Market, South Perry, East Sprague

- **Questions and Answers From This Section**
 - How does housing play into this?
 - We need a certain amount of housing to support increased services
 - Housing would be within mixed use buildings on corridor
 - Mixed use on corridor

Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Action Plan

- Visionary and conceptual plan with 20 year outlook assembled by large stakeholder team
- North Monroe Project is the heart of Emerson-Garfield neighborhood
- Issues identified as high priority for Neighborhood as a whole
 - Pedestrian safety
 - Neighborhood beautification
 - Business diversity
 - Community resources
 - Alternative and Public transportation
 - Neighborhood Connectivity and Events
 - Monroe Corridor
- Issues identified has high priority for Monroe Corridor
 - Pedestrian Safety
 - Neighborhood Beautification
 - Public Transportation
 - Business Diversity
 - Community Resources
 - Neighborhood Life
 - Engage with Business

- **Questions and Answers From The July 28 Meeting:**
 - How to meet/engage with the North Monroe Business Association?
 - The Organization has not been active for several years; however, efforts are under way to re-establish the association
 - Did the bus already leave the station? Will we as the citizens be heard?
 - Brandon: That is the point of this advisory board; to provide opportunity for input

- This is the big background meeting, we will continue to find what pieces can be moved around
- The neighborhood council did invite businesses to get involved and hosted business-only events; neighborhood council continues to advocate for business participation in meetings
 - Neighborhood spent extensive time going door-to-door and making sure businesses were notified of meetings. This was an extensive outreach project
 - This Advisory Board is a continuation of outreach
- The meeting times (both neighborhood council and advisory board meetings may not be convenient for some
 - The City is looking to the Advisory Board to help with outreach
- Partial closure/full closure/hybrid?
 - There are many options- Sprague wanted a full closure to get it done as fast as possible
 - No decision have been made on this point; the Advisory Board will be providing input to the City on the best approach for N. Monroe with extensive input from property and business owners on North Monroe
- Will traffic calming hurt my business?
- 15% volume reduction at peak times; means two things can happen: (1) the peak time for travel may increase slightly; (2) some traffic during peak time will use alternative routes.
- What is the city going to do to ensure a 9-month construction time?
 - 9 months is a conceptual construction schedule
 - The details will be worked out with the collaboration of the Advisory Board which represents businesses, property owners, and the neighborhood

Project Goals

- Safety
- Enhance Streetscape
- Pedestrian Access
- Support Daily Traffic Volumes
- Create Cohesive Business Area

Lessons from East Sprague

- Improved Fiscal and Economic Health
- Wide range of opportunities
 - Enhancing walkability
 - Creative placemaking
 - Transit

- Housing
- Place management
- What we learned
 - Focus within the focus area
 - Improve connections to surrounding neighborhood
 - Establish place management
 - Use complete/integrated streets to build value
 - Improve transit service

Final Questions

- Current status of water and sewer? Are they scheduled for repair? Need or opportunity base? If they are in good condition, does that lend more to a partial shutdown?
 - Water and sewer not in bad shape, mostly opportunity based, may lend itself to a partial shutdown
- Monroe is going from 5 to 3 lanes, but the details are to be decided by stakeholders
- Police and Fire Access?
 - City will design a street that will accommodate emergency vehicles
 - We will meet with emergency service providers to understand their concerns

Next on the Agenda

- 2 meetings in August
 - Meeting #1: August 11, 2016, 7:30am @ City Hall – 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd
 - Meeting Topic: Stormwater, Parking, and Landscaping
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 - Meeting #2: August 25, 2016, 7:30am @ City Hall – 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd
 - Meeting Topic: Traffic and Street Operations
- 2 meetings in September
 - Meeting #1: September 8, 2016, 7:30am @ City Hall – 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd
 - Meeting Topic: Transit
 - Second is a full public meeting (date to be determined)