

## Minutes

### Italian Village Society Complete Streets Implementing Committee

**Thurs, May 26, 2016, 5:30pm, Seventh Son, 1101 N. Fourth St.**

**Present:** Andy Klein (Chair), Robert Barksdale, Isom Nivins, Christopher Vidoni, Stephanie Harris, Sean Cullen, Mark Wagenbrenner, John Gallagher, Sherrill Massey

Andy called the Streets Committee to order at 5:36 pm in the backroom at the brewery. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and say who they represent.

#### **Jeffrey Park/Carpenter Marty Traffic Study**

Andy distributed a copy of the November 2015 recommendations and Mark made available a master site plan showing the 5 approved phases of Jeffrey Park. John noted that Carpenter Marty updated the traffic study after comments from the city requesting they examine additional issues, and he outlined the new recommendations: (1) no traffic signal at Warren and Fourth, due to the proximity to the I-670 westbound exit ramp making stops unfeasible; (2) no dedicated right turn lane on Fourth at Warren, due to preference for on street parking; (3) while the sight lines for westbound traffic on Warren at Fourth do meet the standards, the city will prohibit crossing Fourth on Warren, allowing right turns only, due to the proximity to the I-670 exit; (4) increase the length of the existing E. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue westbound left turn lane onto Summit, likely sacrificing existing on street parking on the south side of E. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, but no longer requiring a dedicated left turn lane on Summit at 1<sup>st</sup>, thereby keeping existing on street parking along the east side of Summit north of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue; (5) rectangular rapid flashing beacon marked crosswalk on Fourth Street at or near Neruda with bulb outs, because the preferred crosswalk location further south at Warren is not feasible due to the proximity to the exit ramp from I-670.

Andy asked for a copy of the new study recommendations. Christopher noted the possibility of pedestrian access at the south edge of Jeffrey Park. Stephanie asked if current or future traffic projections were used, John confirmed that future traffic flow projections were used to make the recommendations. Andy asked if there were any UIRF eligible recommendations, Mark appreciated the request, but said no infrastructure improvements are recommended other than the bump outs, which the developer typically incurs. Mark indicated that Phases 4 and 5 are now approved and underway, so Wagenbrenner will begin planning the southern portion of the development, the composition of which could include significant neighborhood retail. He noted that the existing right hand westbound I-670 lanes tends to back up while the left hand lanes to the convention center exit remain clear, so losing the Fourth Street exit in favor of using the convention center exit and circling back to Fourth wouldn't necessarily slow access to the neighborhood from I-670. He plans to start a conversation with the city about closing the Fourth Street ramp from I-670 to facilitate that development and would like the Society's input on the direction that conversation takes. Sherrill indicated her belief that closing the ramp should be a priority for the Society.

### **UIRF Reconsideration**

Andy noted that UIRF administrators at the city requested a meeting next week, and we together with Weinland Park and Milo-Grogan representatives will discuss how to coordinate efforts along E. 2<sup>nd</sup> and E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues using UIRF dollars. Robert outlined the greenways project recommendations for E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, originally developed through Transit Columbus but moving forward with city backing. Andy asked Mark if Wagenbrenner could support E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue improvements, Mark indicated that was something they'd endorse. Andy noted our rejected request for brick paving of Pearl between Warren and 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3 alley intersections with High. Given the favorable traffic calming impact of the bike lanes, we agreed to back off our request for traffic calming on Summit and Fourth at Warren and 1<sup>st</sup>. Andy noted that UIRF rejected our request for lighting on E. 1<sup>st</sup> and recommended approaching the Utilities Dept. instead. Andy asked Mark if Wagenbrenner's engineers could provide documentation on the lighting just installed east of Fourth and the projected cost to create equivalent lighting west of Fourth. The Society could then approach the Utilities Dept with documentation supporting increased lighting. The UIRF meeting's set for this location on June 1 at 3:15.

### **Prescott Street Closure**

Andy reported that while the residents appear to be using Prescott as one way westbound, the signage on Kerr is missing, and the alley is open at High Street. He emailed Reynaldo Stargell, the city contact, who responded that the closing at High will occur later, that they would check the signs again and replace any missing ones, and noted that Prescott between Pearl and High is to be "resurfaced" with details to follow. Andy questioned what that involved, Christopher indicated he'd had a conversation with Betsy Pandora about brick paving with a sidewalk paid for by Borror on the north side of the alley. Stephanie suggested this was an item to clarify at the upcoming UIRF meeting.

### **Eden Alley Improvements**

Andy reported that the Society wrote a letter to the city about the trees removed in violation of the Spring-Sandusky remediation plan, and the city responded that the trees had been "inadvertently adversely impacted (trees removed)" and should be replaced with details to follow.

### **Sandstone Curbs Advocacy**

Andy reported that he met with Betsy Pandora to discuss how sandstone curbs can be incorporated into upcoming High Street improvements. The construction schedule will skip from

the convention center to north of King to keep up with the rapid paced developments south of OSU, giving us time to develop a plan to incorporate sandstone curbs.

### **Sidewalks and Curbs Survey**

Andy noted we lost some sandstone curbs for handicapped ramps today as repaving E. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue begins. Christopher reported he doesn't have access to GIS maps and may use hand drawn maps instead. No survey date's been scheduled.

### **Undesignating US 23**

Andy reported that State Rep. Kristin Boggs' aid Serena has reached out to ODOT and will update us when she receives a response.

### **Fourth Avenue Sidewalk Reconstruction**

Andy noted that, thanks to Isom, he had a contact with Columbia Gas. Earlier today Andy surveyed the work completed by Columbia Gas on E. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue and N. Fourth Street, and saw no issues other than the E. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue sidewalk issue from the April meeting. He will reach out to them for resolution.

Next meeting is June 30, 5:30pm.

Adjourned at 6:33, with additional discussion following the close of the meeting.