

Minutes

Italian Village Society Complete Streets Implementing Committee Thurs, February 23, 2017, 5:30pm, Seventh Son, 1101 N. Fourth St.

Present: Andy Klein (Chair), Stephanie Harris, Mike Navarro, Mark Dravillas, Christopher Lohr, Susan DeLay, Robert Barksdale, Carl Lee, Ellen Moss Williams, Brenda Johnson-Williams.

Andy called the Streets Committee to order at 5:36 pm in the back room at the brewery, asking everyone to introduce themselves, give their affiliation and, on the occasion of the mayor's State of the City address, tell us their hope for what the mayor would prioritize for the city tonight. Identified priorities included connectivity, the urban core neighborhoods, public education, bringing private money into the city, coordination between public and private redevelopment, crime patrol, spreading the redevelopment, inter-city trains, and increasing safety through public investment in infrastructure.

UIRF Update Andy welcomed those present from Italian Village (IV), Weinland Park (WP) and Godman Guild, and noted especially the strong representation from Milo-Grogan (Milo), and the presence of the 3 city representatives here to discuss the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF) process and the allocations for our respective neighborhoods. Lists of approved projects for IV, University including WP, and Milo were distributed. See <https://www.columbus.gov/planning/uirf/>. Mark noted that UIRF reaches the quarter century mark this year, and has transitioned from grant driven to planning department led outreach and, since it's no longer weighted towards those neighborhoods with more developed grant writing skills, a more equitable allocation to all the pre-1950 neighborhoods. The UIRF staff has expanded to six planners and two engineers in addition to Susan, who started the program as its only staffer. The city has built the program over the years with additional funding, currently allocating \$7 million/year for these roadway, street lighting and parks improvements to the pre 1950's neighborhoods. Christopher led the discussion of the specific IV projects, noting that Brickel and Hull sidewalks have been abandoned due to lack of space. Andy noted that the city's discussing restricting vehicles on Brickel so the scope of work may change if that happens. Mark reported that the sidewalks on N. 6th Street and E. Fourth Avenue are on hold, because Christopher noted that pending developments at those locations will include sidewalks at the developers' expense. Andy suggested that the same would apply to redevelopment along E. Fifth Avenue in both WP and IV as affects street lighting. Susan noted that the city is bundling the smaller sidewalk projects for bidding at one time to lower cost, and those will include Hamlet and Kerr. Stephanie updated us on the IV Pavilion project, which has been allocated \$250,000, noting the IV Commission approved final design earlier this week. Stephanie noted this is a public private partnership with the Wood Companies, thanked Susan for her participation at every step in the process, and noted that the pavilion's construction will follow completion and occupancy of the residential tower to be built at the west edge of the park.

Mike asked what happens to \$ for IV allocated for abandoned projects, Mark noted that they've developed a form and will work with IVS on the process. He assured the group that the funds will remain designated for IV purposes. Andy asked about previously discussed projects in coordination with WP and Milo, the city will continue to discuss those items, that is the decorative lighting planned on E. Fifth Avenue and the improvements planned for E. Second Avenue in IV

and Milo. Andy noted that the city had been cool to the very aspirational EPA plan for E. Second Avenue when we discussed UIRF last year, Mark responded that the city has warmed up to the plan and the updated UIRF plan endorsed by the Milo commission includes funds for determining right of way and scope of services for reconstruction of E. Second Avenue between St. Clair and Sixth with the understanding that additional funding will be sought to implement the EPA plan's vision. Andy asked if the railroad overpass was an issue, Susan indicated that the city would attempt to work with the railroad (CSX) but historically it has been an issue. Robert noted he had worked successfully with ODOT to rebuild the wood sound wall east of I-71 to modern standards and to incorporate the Milo logo. Andy asked about the timing of the E. Second Avenue improvements, Mark indicated it was a work in progress, and suggested we schedule an appearance six months out at an IVS general meeting to review the IV UIRF plan. Andy agreed but noted we should prepare by using earlier meetings to familiarize IVS with the Milo plan for E. Second Avenue and the WP Mobility plan.

Short North Parking Study Update Mike reported that the study group met last week and reviewed the pilot residential permit parking zones. Two upcoming public forums will be held in the next month, one for IV and WP and one for Victorian Village and Harrison West. The parking committee will meet monthly until the plan is in place, the city is having internal meetings in advance of the public forum, with the pilot program then going to city council for implementation. Right now, no permits will be issued for High Street, Goodale, Poplar or the streets east of N. Fourth Street and south of E. First Avenue (the Jeffrey). The rest of the neighborhood is divided into 3 permit zones. Zone “C” covers the eastern part of IV from the east side of N. Fourth Street between E. First and E. Fifth Avenues. Non-residents could park in Zone C for free. Zones “B” and “A” extend west from the west side of N. Fourth Street and cover north and south of E. Second Avenue, respectively. Paid parking for non-residents would be required only west of Summit in Zones “B” and “A”. WP gets its own permit zone between E. Fifth and E. Seventh Avenues, with free parking for non-residents east of Summit. Rates for on-street parking for non-residents is still under discussion, as are time limits (3 hour?) and renewal policies (one 2 hr renewal?) Permits for residents would cost \$50 annually with reduced rates for seniors and a limit of 2 permits per household. Visitor permits would be available to permit holders for additional fees. Businesses would have a different fee structure and be limited to 2 permits per business. A limited number of kiosks are planned, and “pay by cell” technology will avoid the visual pollution of installing individual meters. Supportive parking programs are also under discussion to encourage use of public transit and the garages such as a visitor validation programs, and address employee parking. Details of the whole pilot plan will be circulated in advance of the public meetings, likely to be held at Goodale Shelter house.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:47 pm. Next meeting is March 30, 2017, in the backroom at the brewery at 1101 N. 4th Street.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Klein, Chair, Streets Committee (02/28/17)