

Minutes

Italian Village Society Complete Streets Implementing Committee

Thurs, May 25, 2017, 5:30pm, Seventh Son, 1101 N. Fourth St.

Present: Andy Klein (Chair), Sherrill Massey, Isom Nivins, Rory Krupp, Evelyn Van Til, Betsy Pandora, Mike Navarro, Stephanie Harris.

Andy called the Streets Committee to order at 5:38 pm in the back room at the brewery and asked everyone to introduce themselves, give their affiliation and comment on the Kroger at 7th and High.

High Street Streetscape Improvements Andy briefly summarized the open house and presentation on May 2 at the convention center. Betsy noted that a public art consultant will lead additional public meetings this summer and fall, guided by the city's Lori Baudro. Betsy suggested that the consultant could incorporate our concerns with the safe alleys into the public art component, along the lines of what was achieved with Poplar Park and Chase Park. Andy noted that the streetscape improvements specifically exclude the alleys from this project and are limited to reconstructing the High Street sidewalks and curbs. Andy inquired on the status of Brickel Alley's conversion to pedestrian only, Betsy noted that the business advocating for the change has closed and that her inquiries at the city haven't been answered. Andy noted this may be an opportunity to address safety concerns with the High Street intersections with Brickel, Hull and Prescott Alleys in a consistent manner, using funds other than UIRF which we've unsuccessfully sought for several years. Andy also noted the concern expressed by small retailers at the open house over the disruption to their business during the two years of construction. Betsy noted that the city is requiring the contractors in Phases 2 (Poplar to Second) and 3 (between Second and Seventh) to limit the number of weeks of disruption, provides a cash incentive for early completion, and a cash disincentive for exceeding the contract's time frame. There's also no construction after November 1, to help promote holiday shopping, and there will be no stoppage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic at any time. Public art will be implemented on the temporary walkways, using stickers on the insides of the movable concrete barriers and along the plywood doorway ramps. The Short North Alliance will also institute a paid advertising and marketing campaign.

Short North Parking Study Update Mike distributed copies of the survey completed by 320 open house attendees, and the city's handout from yesterday's expanded working group meeting listing three competing pilot proposals side by side: the original open house proposal, the independent neighbors' proposal, and the director of Public Service's plan based on her review of the 320 completed surveys. Mike noted that the administrator's proposal bans non-resident parking (but including employees) after 6pm from all permit zones, creates a separate permit zone for the NECKO neighborhood, expands permit parking to include High Street residents, and removes N. Fourth Street and Summit from all permit zones. Mike noted the city has hired another consultant from Cleveland to advise on the eventual implementation of the pilot program. The working group, which now includes representatives from Weinland Park and the independent residents' group. That group has proposed 4pm to 7am residents only parking with appeals process for businesses, and two permits per household and one hang tag. Mike reported that the group expressed concern that the new director of Public Service has ignored 18 months of work by the group, and that no future meetings were scheduled. The working group requested Director Gallagher appear to defend her plan, and Amanda Ford promised to go over the working group's concerns. Mike planned an email to the working group to summarize their concerns. Steve Hurtt and Rex Hagerling attended the meeting but not the IVS rep, James Rozewski, nor was there any discussion of the IVS survey or recommendations. Neither Evelyn nor Mike received any IVS email containing the survey results and our recommendations. Andy wondered if it had been communicated to the city (Amanda Ford, city council and the area commission). Isom noted that he'd met with Amanda prior to the open house, and sensed she felt under assault, with almost a bunker mentality prevailing at Public Service on the subject of parking in the Short

North. Despite these problems, the plan is still to implement the pilot within 3 months to avoid the High Street improvements phased construction disrupting the pilot program's usefulness under normal conditions.

Sidewalks and Curbs Survey Update Andy noted we have an excel spreadsheet provided by German Village Society and a .pdf showing every IVS block, and believes this is a project that would benefit Weinland Park and Milo Grogan as well as IV. Rory and Evelyn expressed an interest in participating, and Andy promised to send the survey spreadsheet used by GVS to attendees by email. Stephanie noted she'd spoken in the past with Jason Sudy about using OSU students and suggested we revisit that prospect. Rory agreed to touch base with the University Area Commission Planning Committee to gauge their interest, and Stephanie noted the need to educate participants on what to look for and how to grade existing conditions of sidewalks and curbs. Andy noted that we need to move forward on this in a coordinated manner after more than a year of discussion.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:47 pm. Next meeting is June 29, Comfest 2017 eve, in the backroom at the brewery at 1101 N. 4th Street.

Respectfully submitted,