

Neighborhood Alliance Meeting Comments
February 26, 2009

Attendees: Peter – Midtown Benefits District; Lance Decker – Mount Vernon; Leon BDC; Pamela Johnson – Madison Park; Wanda B. Upton Planning Com.; Harold, Arlene, Ms. Johnson – McCulloh, Terri, Baltimore Symphony; Beth B. – Bolton Hill; John Kyle – MRIA and Mid Town; Steve C. Univ. of Baltimore; Micheal G. – DGS; Jim P. MDOT; Caroline M., Omari P., Kate M. Nancy B. – SBER; Sasha A. - MBS

- What will happen with the traffic patterns? Plan to re- work Howard and MLK intersection. Changes to Preston Street, Dolphin Street – pedestrian friendly. Necking down where pedestrians cross, crosswalks, passing intersections for cars. Can address in more depth off-line.
- What happens when traveling N. on Howard Street? 2 choices – go down Chase or Reed.
- Have we worked with Howard St. Strategic Plan? Yes, we are talking with them.
- How do you see this potential structure meshing with the future plans for State Center?
- What region would this cover?
- How can we use State Center to make the rest of the neighborhoods better?
- Will the project be officially called State Center or will there be a new name? We want to put the naming out for competition.
- We're here b/c this is a huge project that will impact all of us. Here is an opportunity to help define what a successful project is by being involved. Concern about how we set this up so that it has teeth, has funding, and is sustainable.
- Need to get information on Human Capital on what jobs might be available at the State level and during construction.
- We know there will be approximately 3000 jobs during each construction phase but it is only in concept that when State employees retire, we would like to fill those spots locally.
- Is there a document that says what Phase 1 details will be? No, we are not there yet.
- What will happen in the human capital bubble? Job opportunities, day care facility idea, opportunity for a new school, ongoing public safety. We are getting into a finer grain of flushing out these ideas.
- We need a formal structure than what CityScaping allows. There needs to be representation/people that are growing with the project as it grows. What do we (the community) want to say about the needs and demands of each goal?
- How does the Alliance have sufficiency in terms of funding? TMAs can get funding but what about the others or the larger Alliance group? TMAs can be funded through dues, associations, membership; but there can be other funding through foundations; other kinds of State funding potentially.
- Is it possible to get seed \$ for this group?
- Taxes that are going to be generated where there are none now- can we capture some of this for seed \$
- What would be the goal of PUD stewardship if it is already defined?
- MD. General rep willing to step up and be part of the team!
- What should the structure be, what resources will be available? It is useless to talk about the structure if there isn't any funding available.
- BSO wants to be add the table and we want to kept in the loop. If there will be a formal structure then that's great but we want to be involved.

- In the interim we can provide staff assistance
- Set timeline for the project; human capital and TMA seem like time consuming jobs. Should the City planners be staffing the interest of the community organizations till we get funding for a TMA person?
- Indicate to our constituencies that this group is forming. This was the first formation meeting and stakeholders will invite the right representatives to attend.
- Could we draft what we believe is a charter? How heavily should the businesses be involved, or how involved should residents be involved?
- Stakeholders can make recommendations.
- MRIA wants to be at the table. McCulloh wants to be at the table, Upton wants to be at the table; BDC is in; Mt. Vernon Belvedere – is on board; we are missing Seton Hill’s representation; UB is in and so is Charles North.
- We need to know who the nine representatives are from each neighborhood and who the five reps are from the 5 cbos.
- MICA, Heritage Crossing, and Seton Hill are absent.
- We are hoping after MDA is complete the stakeholders tell us how they want the team to communicate on first phase design.
- We need to spend time on the organization and structure first.
- Attendees will help get the rest of the stakeholders to the next meeting.