



## Department of Planning Meeting Report

**Subject: State Center Alliance Meeting**

**Date:** September 13, 2006

**Location:** Union Baptist Church

**Participants:** Representatives of the Alliance's various neighborhoods: June Johnson and Arlen McCain (McCulloh Homes), Joyce Roundtree (MacCulloh Home Tenant Council) Sam Minnitte (MDOT) Jim Peiffer (MDOT), Don Halligan (MDOT), Connie Lieder (Bolton Hill), Gary Rodwell (Upton), Thomas Curtis (MD Department of Disabilities), Rev. Al Hathaway (Union Baptist), Dominic Wiker (SBER), Amy Bonitz (SBER), Jennifer Goold (SBER), Caroline Moore (SBER), Susan Glassman (Urban Strategies) Sharon Grinnell (Doracon), Stan Mulvihill (MBS), Louvenia Thomas (Marble Hill), Harold Young (McCulloh Homes) Fran Allen McKinney (Congressman Elijah Cummings Office), Pamela Johnson (Madison Park) Janet Allen (Heritage Crossing), Nelson Reichart (MDGS), Yolanda Takesian (Bolton Hill), Mico Milanovic (Seton Hill), Marcia Hart (Bolton Hill), Michael Deets (Charles North), Marty Baker, Dr. Bijan Yarjani and Theo Ngongang (all 3 from Baltimore City Planning)

**Reporting:** Theo Ngongang

**Copies:** Director Rolley, Bijan Yarjani, Division Chief

**Purpose: Regular biweekly meeting of the Alliance**

**Issues:**

-After the usual introductions, Rev Al Hathaway led the group into a prayer.

-Sam Minnitte (MDOT) briefed the group on the status of the State Center Project: It has slowed down over the summer for three main reasons:

-Tenants assessment not yet completed

-Environmental assessment not yet conducted

-Memorandum of Understanding not yet signed with the Development team because of selection process being currently challenged.

-Nelson Reichart (MDGS) stated that Maryland Department of General Services was currently looking into tenants' assessment.

-Caroline Moore from the Development team (SBER, MBS, Urban Strategies) highlighted the team's next major steps:

-Meetings with stakeholders (Institutions)

-Due diligence work including Architectural and Engineering site plans, historic survey of the neighborhoods, title/legal work, environmental survey, informal market analysis.

-Understanding of development process / Meeting with MDOT

Caroline mentioned that she is available for "development 101 sessions" at anytime.



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-Susan Glassman from the Development team (SBER, MBS, Urban Strategies) presented the results of the communities' interviews that have been conducted throughout this past summer. (Handouts distributed at the meeting). She stated that she came away from those interviews with a general positive and productive feeling.

-Susan Glassman went and asked each community representative to list the highest priorities s/he feels the State Center project could help address in its development. A list was established (and summary will be made available to the group later). Susan stated that no more meetings/interviews will be scheduled except for the communities/neighborhoods yet to be reached.

-Q&A session followed.

-Theo Ngongang (City Planning) distributed a "Planning 101" handout but postponed his presentation until the next meeting.

-Next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2006 at 5:30pm at Union Baptist Church

### Next Steps

- Our group will NO LONGER meet every other week but rather just once a month from now on, based on numerous comments I received.