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Citizens for a Loring Park Community
Land Use Committee
Monday, November 15, 2010
Loring Park Office Building (430 Oak Grove), Room 207

Joint meeting—Land Use Committee and Master Plan Committee

Attendance: Dick Sandberg (1201 Yale Place), Jan Sandberg (1201 Yale Place), Janine Jelks-Seale (110 West Grant), Neil Reardon (1213 Hawthorne), Beth Elliot (City of Minneapolis), Peter Musty (consultant), Paul Hinderager (Summit House), John Van Heel (100 West Grant), Jana Metge (CLPC Coordinator), Dave Hile (Summit House), Katie Hatt (Hennepin County and resident), Chuck Ballentine (Hennepin County), Bill Weber (consultant)

I. Call to Order—John Van Heel, CLPC Land Use Chair

John called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and led introductions of those in attendance.

Approved the agenda with change in start time. (Motion Dick Sandberg, second Janine Jelks-Seale) Motion passed

Approved the minutes from October 25, 2010. (Motion Dick Sandberg, second Neil Reardon) Motion passed

Announcements

- **Master Plan Community Gathering** – Thursday, Jan. 20th – 6:30-8:30 (6:00-6:30 social time/music) @ Basilica of St. Mary -*Panel: Multi-Model Transportation & Public Realm*
- **Master Plan Steering Committee** – Wednesday, Dec. 8th – 7:00-8:30 p.m. – Loring Park Office Building/430 Oak Grove – Room 207; FFI – Report back from Consultants on additional Discovery phase items.
- **Master Plan Community Design Workshop / “Urban Plan Development”** – Saturday, Jan. 22nd – 9:00-Noon @ HN United Methodist Church
- **Community Sing-Along** – Tues., Nov. 16th @ 7:00 p.m. @ Loring Park Community Center
- **Historic Resource Action Team** – Dec. 1st @ MCTC/Wells Bldg. – Call CLPC @ 874-9002. Meeting from 7:00-8:30 p.m. – Presentation by Master Plan Consultant - Discovery Report & synthesis for the Loring Park Master Plan
- **Annual Holiday Party & Curry Dinner** – Thurs., Dec. 2nd – at the “Mansion on the Hill” – 228 Clifton – 5:30-8:30 p.m. – All are welcome – donation requested – come whenever you’d like & stay as long you’d like!
- **Downtown Court Watch** – Friday, Dec. 3rd - from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Central Library – Floor 2
- **Loring Kitchen & Bar Lunch** – CLPC will earn 20 percent of lunch sales for the week November 15 – 19.
- **Givemn.org** – Give to the Max Day is November 16, 2010.

- **“Light Up Loring”** – Thurs., Dec. 9th – 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Music, Food, Horse & Carriage Rides, Bonfire, Dance – EVERYONE Welcome & Help us Spread the Word!!
- Jana circulated **MCTC newsletters**.
- **Peavey Plaza architect interviews:** Dick Sandberg reported that there will be public interviews for four architect candidates with a meet and greet starting at 9:30 a.m. and interviews starting at 11:30 a.m. The interview panel is comprised of government representatives and orchestra representatives.
- **Project Homeless Connect** – Dec. 13th @ Minneapolis Convention Center from 10:30 – 4:00 p.m. 1.5 hour training required to volunteer. Closest training site is 3400 Dupont/Universalist Church on 11.30.2010. Pull up www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org to register as a volunteer and sign up for training.
- **“LOVE LORING”** – CLPC Annual Fundraiser and Silent Auction – **Friday, Feb. 11th** – Hosted by The Woman’s Club of Minneapolis/410 Oak Grove. Tickets Available!! Call CLPC to at 612-874-9002
- **CLPC Annual Meeting** – Tues., March 22nd – 5:30-6:45/Information & Resource Fair – 7:00-8:30 p.m. – PROGRAM – CLPC Master Plan – Review of progress to date – Hosted by The Woman’s Club of Minneapolis/410 Oak Grove – parking available adjacent to and across the street.
- **MCTC Health Fair – WELLFEST** – April 6th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. @ MCTC Cafeteria
- **Health update:** Jana announced that Robert Cook continues to be very ill. Mark Nelson from the steering committee was ill tonight. Neil Carlson is also very ill.

II. 7:15-7:45 The Interchange Project – Chuck Ballentine, Hennepin County

Chuck noted that the Interchange is a multi-modal transportation facility located near Target Field and distributed copies of the PowerPoint presentation. There will be an open house on December 7 at a Target Field meeting room. Stage One needs to be completed by 3rd quarter of 2014.

The Interchange is the location of trains intersection near Target Field, with land - owned by the county. Currently Target Field station is one of true multi-modal stations in the state—train, LRT, bike, and near buses.

The first part of the project will just look at LRT. Central Corridor goes into service 2014; Southwest in 2017. While the most recent election put something of a hiccup into the planning process for the Interchange and LRT lines, they are likely to continue.

Chuck displayed a series of photos of current and proposed rail/LRT lines. Bottineau interlines with Hiawatha and Southwest will interline with Central Corridor -- they run on the same track downtown. Chuck feels that Stage I (LRT) is on track but Stage II (passenger rail) may have been derailed by the recent election.

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Decisions considered by county staff include: (1) how to handle the environmental services building (it may need to come down and its functions relocated); (2) Target field transit station and site high point; (3) HERC and Target Field promenade; (4) 5th Ave N and 7th Street may need signalization due to heavy foot traffic; (5) Royalston Ave N and Southwest LRT needs to determine if train should travel at grade, tunnel or overpass; (6) 6th Ave N/Hwy 55 and N 7th Ave has issues with bus storage and plans for Southwest LRT to cross here; (7) HERC driveway and Heywood Garage is used by 300 garbage trucks a day which may need separation from LRT; and (8) 5th Street N pedestrian crossings can be difficult;

Metro Transit staff considerations include: (1) crowd control issues are needed as they need to use sidewalks for queuing; (2) paid fare zone vs. street crossing raises safety issues; (3) station locations ideally have platforms close to current platform; (4) tail track area is now used for train storage

Currently the project is in the environmental review stage that will end in August 2011. They are looking for support from FTA, there will be a bonding request and the Ballpark Authority has already contributed \$1.5 million. The environmental assessment process includes urban, natural environment, cultural and transportation elements. Mr. Ballentine reviewed a map that denotes the primary and secondary areas. For more information see the Hennepin County website and search for "The Interchange."

Questions:

Sustainability goals—Chuck reviewed several components focused on transportation.

The alignment of Southwest line into downtown? Chuck referred to a map and noted that there are some discussions about heavy rail in the Bassett Creek area.

Comment that there has been considerable investment in the area and the Interchange will help with other developments. This is a regional development that can have repercussions for our neighborhood.

Cedar Lake Bike Trail? The trail will be completed by the end of the year and they are in negotiations to connect the trail to Target Station to allow access to the street.

Farmer's Market? Beth said that the North Loop small area plan looked at the current location of the Farmer's Market and how to connect with the station on Royalston and discovered that there is no direct connection. Current thought is to expand the market into 12 month operation with an indoor component and expansion toward the station with new pedestrian paths. Janine suggested getting together to discuss the North Loop plan--Karen Rosar would be a good contact person.

III. 7:45-9:00 Master Plan – Pete Musty

Pete noted that with the Interchange project, the focus of downtown may shift.

Review of Consultant Discovery Work:

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- **Report on Existing Public Realm Framework**

Pete circulated a copy of the consultant team workflow that he will send as a PDF. The document will be posted on the CLPC website.

Pete noted that the heart of the public realm of the neighborhood is the park.

The work to date included community gatherings and workshops, then moved into visioning. Pete also distributed the first few key stakeholder interviews that will be posted on the CLPC website. There will be a meeting of the northernmost condo boards in a few weeks. There will be a series of design meetings to evaluate policy impacts. Finally they will begin drafting the plan.

A number of base maps have been developed. An archive of photos has been developed. Focus areas were previously defined as Harmon, Nicollet, the park edge, and the neighborhood perimeter. Pete reviewed boundary maps for each area.

- **Review and Discussion on Master Plan Work completed to date**

Bill asked that committee members send comments on the draft to Jana.

The draft reviews existing conditions then identifies specific street problems and opportunities. This version does not integrate visioning. It then identifies major issues identified in the document. There were several suggestions—add 13th Street Plaza and Westside Convention Center. Ask Friends or similar to review the Loring Park section and the Loring Greenway Association to review the Greenway section.

Adjourned 9:05 p.m.