

# McKinley Hill Neighborhood Planning

## Steering Group – Meeting #3

April 25, 2022

5:30 – 7p.m.

### Attendees

#### Steering Group:

Ahndrea Blue  
Alexandra Pilch  
Bonney Carpenter  
Caroline Edmiston  
Catherine Ushka, Deputy Mayor  
Jared Haeg  
LaKecia Farmer  
Leon Nettles  
Lynette Scheidt  
Roy Wang  
Tamara Georgick  
Tara Scheidt

#### Staff:

Lauren Hoogkamer  
Anneka Olson

### Minutes

- **Introductions**
- **Updates and Steering Group Survey Recap**

#### ***Business district roundtable recap***

LaKecia provided a recap of the Business District Roundtable held at Parable. This group is interested in forming a business district association and will start meeting monthly.

Tara asked if we paid Parable to host. Lauren confirmed that the City provided compensation for rental of the space.

#### ***Steering Group survey recap***

Anneka walked through the results of the Steering Group survey, including questions about:

- Goals: Desire for better understanding of program goals and process

- Steering Group: Questions about how the Steering Group is influencing the process
- Budget: What kinds of projects are feasible
- Meetings: Interest in more opportunity for conversations among members

Deputy Mayor Ushka provided an overview of different budget resources for the program, including opportunities to fund work through partner workplans, the City of Tacoma budget process, and additional grant-writing support.

Caroline asked about the funding for the Lincoln District project. Deputy Mayor Ushka shared that this was a unique program that set aside funding for this revitalization process.

Caroline and others indicated their willingness to support with grant-writing.

The group also confirmed the following logistics for future Steering Group meetings, based on the results of the survey:

- We will continue to hold virtual Steering Group meetings for now, explore a hybrid option for future meetings. Events will be held in-person/hybrid.
- We will not select community co-chairs for the Steering Group; there will be future opportunity for project leads/liaisons for specific topics.
- We will offer compensation for completing specific tasks, and discuss other compensation options as they arise.

Tara suggested that in-person events provide support for childcare.

- **Community Engagement Discussion and Report-Back**

***Steering Group members broke into groups to discuss two topics:***

- Community engagement: Where can Steering Group members play a role in these efforts? What specific ideas do you have for making engagement successful?
  - Moving forward project tasks: How should we structure McKinley Neighborhood Planning to move forward action steps?
- Community engagement discussion:
    - Interest in door-to-door flyering and within business district
      - Subdivide neighborhood and organize work with other steering group members and partner with partners to get the word out
      - Have people share flyers within their immediate block
      - Partner with local businesses to leave flyers on tables
    - Online platform - can share more info than a flyer. Recent Tacoma Creates platform is a good model (note: we have access to this platform as well)
    - Coordinate with library, community gardens, food bank, and other local organizations for office hours or to hold roundtables
      - Ahndrea offered to host a roundtable with Eloise's
    - Host walking tours (including one featuring gardens)
    - Host booths at local events
    - Monthly coffee - hosted by Deputy Mayor

- Working group discussion
  - Groups need a specific focus, goals, process, and timeline
  - Groups report back to the Steering Committee; groups select specific details of meeting time and place
  - Desire for liaison between steering groups and working groups
  - Interest in a shared document that working groups can work on outside of the meetings
  - Concern about potential for overwhelm, and don't want to lose people through the process
  - Create a signup form for Working Groups that can be handed out on paper
- Overall feedback:
  - Desire for more guidance and structure from the City
  - Desire to gel as a group; provide a list of tasks, defined roles, and deadlines, and have people take ownership of action-oriented tasks
  - Interest in online collaboration platforms for Steering Group

The group also asked for more detail about how the boundary is defined for the planning area in McKinley. The Deputy Mayor clarified that the focus is on including people who live, work, play in the project area and that the boundaries are intentionally porous.

- **Program Updates and Housekeeping**

***Planning for May 9 Community Walk***

The group discussed the route and plans for the Community Walk.

Tara suggested that the route should stop at the staircase off of East L Street, near the community garden. The team will update the route to accommodate that change.

- **Next Steps – 5 minutes**

***Action items – for group members to volunteer:***

- Flyering for the upcoming Community Walk in groups
- Setting up Google Documents for the Steering Group to collaborate on action steps
- Setting up and serving as administrator of a Facebook group for McKinley Hill Neighborhood Planning
- Help with event planning for our June event

***Action items – Program staff and future meeting:***

- Develop a paper copy of signup form for Working Groups to share at Community Walk and other venues
- Develop a list of available grants
- Work on an online engagement platform to engage the broader community

- Support logistics for coffee open house with the Deputy Mayor
- Use Steering Group feedback to develop a plan for Working Groups; discuss at the next meeting
- Brainstorm community partners for roundtable sessions
- Update program map and post on website