

## **McKinley Hill Neighborhood Planning**

### **Steering Group – Meeting #5**

June 27, 2022

5:00 – 7p.m.

#### **Attendees**

##### **Steering Group**

Ahndrea Blue  
Angela Clark  
Bonney Carpenter  
Caroline Edmiston  
Deputy Mayor Catherine Ushka  
Cathy Oden  
Dylan Ashley  
Kristy Fry  
Leon Nettels  
Lindsay Wills  
Lynnette Scheidt  
Rick Slater  
Roy Wang  
Tamara Georgick

##### **Staff**

Anneka Olson, City of Tacoma NPP  
Aris Efting, City of Tacoma Open Space  
Ian Crozier, Makers Architecture  
Lauren Hoogkamer, City of Tacoma NPP  
Liz Kaster, City of Tacoma Public Works  
Markus Johnson, Makers Architecture  
Rachel Miller, Makers Architecture

#### **Minutes**

##### **5:00 – 5:30p.m. – Special Pre-Meeting**

- **Public Works Presentation**

Liz presented on proposed improvements part of Street Initiatives Package 15. A proposed traffic diverter at E 34th Street and E I Street would limit right and left turns from E 34th Street onto E I Street. This location is part of the on-street connection for the Pipeline Trail, and the goal for the diverter is to slow down traffic at intersection, and improve safety for people walking and biking.

Questions:

- Kristy – concern about car traffic failing to give right away to pedestrians and bicyclists. Question about adding new signage along the Pipeline Trail, possibly for bicyclists to dismount at this location. She also noted that the condition of E 34th Street means that people often avoid this location.
- Cathy agrees with concerns about speeding along E 34th Street, including at the 4-way stop at McKinley Ave.
- Caroline – question about how the diverter will impact the car lineups on E 34th Street on the days the food bank is out providing food.
- Ahndrea – clarified that permits from the city for the foodbank car lines is on E Harrison St and is in compliance with the permits they have been granted.

**5:30 – 7 p.m. – Steering Group Meeting**

- **Introductions**
  - New members - Sophia Agtarap
  - Consultant team MAKERS - Rachel Miller, Ian Crozier, Markus Johnson

- **Program Updates**

**Gault update recap**

There was a fire earlier this afternoon on the ground floor of the Gault school property. Fire services were quick to respond and put out fire quickly and limit damage. Additionally, Deputy Mayor Ushka provided update that Tacoma Public Schools has announced their internal recommendation for a developer to purchase and redevelop the Gault site is the Chaffey Group. This will be recommended to the Tacoma Public School Board for a decision on July 14.

**General updates**

- There is a group of volunteers that are helping the planning of summer events and connected to such a group there are volunteers working on a Facebook group for the neighborhood planning for McKinley Hill.
- Please join and invite others to the McKinley Hill Family Fun in the Park event on Sunday, July 10.

- The Our Town Grant, which is potential funding for certain art specific action items has a deadline in early August. Two volunteers will get started on the grant writing while the project committee will eventually be able to provide insights and comments at a later date.

- **Business District Association Update**

- Members speaking: Dylan Ashley, Rick Slater, Carol Wolfe

Dylan shares there is a lot of interest from business owners in the business district for a business district association and therefore is the group is pushing forward with a formal business district association. Additionally, the group is looking at the potential for a safety grant, Actions the business district is considering are the bike corrals, landscaping, trash cans, art, and traffic calming. The next business district association meeting is July 11.

- **Project Task Prioritization (continued)**

**Introduction of Action Matrix:**

Rachel introduced the action matrix, first going over the matrix key and defining symbols and then moving to actual matrix to point out key columns for those seeing it for the first time.

Short- and long-term projects are identified based on how quickly partners may be able to implement them, and quick wins already have partners identified to help support implementation.

Items are prioritized preliminarily based on the feedback shared via the steering group survey and at the May steering group meeting. Future public feedback can impact these prioritization rankings as well.

Rachel then walked through the matrix to pose the following discussion questions:

**Prioritization discussion (large group)**

**Neighborhoods Amenities:**

- Q: Does the Business District Association plan to take the lead on many of the action items in this category?

A: Business District Association is interested to take the lead on key actions that align with their goals in the action matrix, and this can be discussed further with the full group at the next meeting. The business district representatives at the meeting are interested in ongoing collaboration with the steering group.

The group also discussed possible water fountain placement, including at E 40th Street and the Pipeline Trail, another idea of more fountains spread along McKinley, and asking for more than just two water fountains. Others stated that repair of current fountains is needed. Landscaping maintenance and planting strips don't have identified funding yet.

**Arts and Interpretation:**

- Q: Some interest has been expressed in being part of an arts project committee, who would like to confirm their interest and work on defining next steps such as project descriptions, quick wins, and grant applications?

A: Rick, Kristy, Lynnette, Sandesh, Deputy Mayor Ushka + other folks not in steering group. Group established an interest in moving forward on the actions that have funding and can be handled in the short term as fast as possible rather than wait on a larger comprehensive strategy.

Also, important to note that the Puyallup Tribe is actively involved in many of the art-oriented actions. They will attend meetings when ready.

**Walkability and Transportation:**

- Q: Some interest has been expressed in being part of a transportation project committee, who would like to confirm their interest and work on defining next steps?

A: A potential working committee of Kristy, Sandesh, Leon, Roy, and Lynnette

**Open Space:**

- Q: What priority are these open space actions?

A: The group reviewed the open space priorities listed in the matrix and discussed how Neighborhood Planning can help play a role. The group determined that the M Street slope is a lower priority, Memorial Park determined medium/high priority, McKinley Park Overlook determined high priority, and plaque and park determined high priority. Lynnette, Sandesh, and other adjacent neighbors are interested in being part of project committee. There is interest in ensuring that open space and parks in the neighborhood are activated and places where people feel safe.

**Overall:**

Rachel asked every group member

Q: Does this reflect back your ideas and priorities? What did we miss?

A: Group is in agreement that priorities, interests, and actions have been heard and that planning process is moving in the right direction. Optimism that at least two projects to be completed in the short term, which one participant was pleasantly surprised by. P

Participants expressed general excitement around prospect of the trash cans, and interest in seeing a specific sidewalk project along E L Stree.

*Group contributions to the matrix will be reflected in the updated version of the document.*

#### **Working Group discussion**

- Business district can take the lead take lead on specific neighborhood amenities and is interested in coordinating with the broader community when appropriate.
- Rick, Kristy, Lynnette, Sandesh, Deputy Mayor Ushka + other folks not in steering group interested in arts and interpretation project committee.
- Walkability and transportation project committee interests include Kristy, Sandesh, Leon, Lynnette, Roy
- Lynnette, Sandesh, and other adjacent neighbors are interested in an open space project committee – more information can be discussed about this at the next meeting.

#### **• Next Meeting**

Lauren shared plans for the upcoming July meeting, including:

- Action Mapping Project Update
- Working Group planning
- Roundtable planning
- Housing discussion - would like to have a mini-series on Home in Tacoma work, DADUS, infill projects, and learning about zoning. This may take place in August or September.

#### **Action Items**

##### **Steering Group**

- Attend the upcoming McKinley Hill Family Fun in the Park event, and help to get the word out
- Join the new McKinley Hill Neighborhood Planning Facebook group
- Participate in new project committees (as relevant)

##### **Staff**

- Send minutes and revised matrix to steering group
- Share flyers for McKinley Hill Family Fun in the Park event

**Commented [ma1]:** I don't think we got here or I don't have anything written for this. Should I delete? Something you want to fill out?

- Set up first project committees (arts, walkability)
- Coordinate with business district on project opportunities

