

Proctor Neighborhood Planning

Steering Group – Meeting #2

November 10, 2022

5:30 – 6:45p.m.

Attendees

Staff:

Lauren Hoogkamer, Neighborhood Planning
Anneka Olson, Neighborhood Planning
Shauna Hansen, Environmental Services
Mia Navarro, Office of Equity and Human Rights

Steering Group:

Alayna Linde
Billy Frederick
Callie Stoker-Graham
Felicity Devlin
Georgette Reuter
Gerrit Nyland
Jan Parker
Jodi Cook
John Hines
Karen Bowes
Karl Cunningham
Liz Collins
Matt Evans
Matt Stevens
Michael Lafreniere
Nicholas Bond
Rebecca Rossi
Tess Koning

AGENDA

- **Introductions and Icebreaker – All – 10 minutes**
 - Name
 - Community you're involved with, within Proctor (e.g. PTA; Church; Club)

Anneka provided an overview of the agenda and kicked off introductions.

Participants shared the following organizations they are connected with:

Local schools and preschools, Farmers' Market, UPS, Friends of Cushman Commons, NENC, Historic Tacoma, Emergency Food Network, P-Patch, Business District Association, Proctor Arts Fest

- **Equity Office** – 20 minutes

Mia Navarro presented on the City's Equity Framework:

- There are 3 major City policy directives on equity guiding this work.
- Focus is on systems versus individuals and eliminating disparities.
- Tacoma Equity Index map is a resource to understanding equity in Tacoma
- Alignment between disinvestment/redlining and opportunity index today
- Question for the Steering group to consider: How does this inform group norms and the neighborhood planning process?
 - Suggestion to think about who benefits and who is harmed by different policy decisions

Discussion:

- Karl: Proctor Treats handed out flyers to lots of people; good way to get the perspective of people who may not live in Proctor but use the neighborhood.
 - Gerrit: Who benefits and who is harmed resonates. We should include that when making recommendations.
 - Jodi: Wants to be specific about the maps being used to reflect historical redlining, for example which maps we're using, what the origins/purpose were, what legend says.
 - Lauren and Mia: Thank Jodi, as well as clarifying that we do know that there has been more investment in some areas of the City and that has had a longstanding impact
 - Michael: Agrees with Jodi; shared additional information on historical redlining maps.
 - Alayna: How does Proctor Neighborhood Planning fit into the index, since Proctor is a high opportunity area?
 - Lauren: We know that different neighborhoods have different needs. In the case of our work in Proctor, one of our goals is to see how Proctor can grow in an equitable way.
 - CM Hines: Agree. Proctor's Mixed-Use Center has seen and will see development. Neighborhood Planning is here to step in while growth and change is in action. Can serve as a model for other neighborhoods across the city as they grow and change. Future NPP will look at Equity Index
 - Nick Bond: Proctor is also a regional center in the County-wide framework. One suggestion is for each center to have a Neighborhood Plan
 - Felicity: Clarification on the goal of the Neighborhood Planning process. Is the final product a vision (qualities) or an actionable list of projects?
 - Lauren: The Neighborhood Plan goal is to do both. In general, Neighborhood Planning is not focused on changing city policy, but it can be referenced. And there are a lot of opportunities to create a list of actionable projects and support implementation.
 - CM Hines: Other subarea plans already exist (Hilltop), so the focus of Neighborhood Planning is where we haven't been able to pay as much attention through our planning work.
- **Group Logistics Update** – 15 minutes
 - Meeting time and location

Lauren provided an overview of the survey that the Steering Group provided, which addressed different topics such as hybrid/virtual meetings, community co-chairs, Zoom chat feature, and Steering Group compensation.

The group decided to meet on the second Thursdays of the month; keep facilitation by City staff for now, but revisit at a future meeting; and try the Zoom chat feature for now.

Discussion about hybrid/virtual/in-person meetings:

- Rebecca: If in-person is a barrier to anyone participating, we don't want to cut anyone out
- Liz: In favor of remote meetings. Barriers to attendance, hybrid can be technically difficult
- Karl: Agrees with Rebecca
- Jodi: Reserved meeting room at Peaks & Pints just to meet each other in person; city staff will send out this information to the group

Lauren also talked about the opportunity to pay volunteers – if someone has a financial barrier to participating in the Steering Group, they can email staff. Otherwise, this funding will be reserved to pay volunteers for specific tasks.

- **Next Steps** – 10 minutes

- Collecting initial input until December when we will start discussing priorities

Lauren described the process for generating Plan recommendations. The first phase is to collect community brainstorming ideas, then discuss what can be accomplished through Neighborhood Planning, and then bring in subject matter experts to help identify what is feasible and what resources exist to support it.

Because there had been previous discussion of a Depave project in the business district, this is a quick win that we will begin sooner in the process.

Discussion:

- Nicholas: How do these projects relate to the comprehensive plan? Is there a reason to adopt them by resolution? Should we be recognized as the public involvement strategy for Proctor within the comprehensive plan?
- Lauren: NP is the implementation of the comprehensive plan. This is the pilot year so we are doing adoption by resolution, but that may change as we continue. The updated comprehensive plan will acknowledge the NP program as a engagement and implementation strategy.
- Lauren: Later in the process, we will review ideas that people had in the survey comments and work together to prioritize those. We will also work on creating a glossary
 - Example: Alayna asked about Mid-Mod as a term that could come in the glossary

Upcoming dates

Lauren: The group is continuing to get the word out to hear from community members. Some upcoming opportunities include:

- Tables at Farmers Market
 - Matt: Has a table the group can use
 - Lauren: What kinds of materials do people want?
 - Karl: Having candy was important; update the flyer to make it clear that people who are visiting Proctor are also welcome to participate
 - Karen: Tree-lighting event is the one that may have the most community out and about
 - Callie: Can participating businesses have a printout of the NP flyer and the QR code?
 - Anneka: Suggestion to hand out flyers during the market, and to put yard signs up
 - Billy and Callie: Both have extra yard signs
 - Michael: Suggestion to put up yard signs like real estate signage
 - Jodi: Also sharing on the NENC page and listserv
 - Georgette: Upcoming NENC meeting is another opportunity to provide an update
- **Group Discussion: Proctor Depave** –30 minutes

Shauna Hansen, Environmental Services Depave Coordinator.

Working with Mike Carey, Urban Forester, and Melissa Buckingham, from Pierce Conservation District.

- Depaving is an opportunity to support more permeable spaces to improve stormwater and beautify the area. The City and Pierce Conservation District provide in-kind services to support some of this, and property owners agree to maintain.
- Group had a charrette meeting with business owners back in 2019 (pre-covid) to identify areas where there was an interest for de-paving
- Depaving will include some combination with replacing paving as well as replacing sick or dying trees
- Low water usage plants, similar to those planted by Met Market, can help to provide a palette for new landscaping
- Trees and soil amendments provided for free by City
- Property owners do have to pay for tree removal or other new shrubs/plants, as well as maintenance
- There are small grants available (Make a Splash and Sustainability grant) that could help provide funding
- Want to start phase 1 projects as early as next summer/fall - best to plant in early fall
- There is a group that has started meeting with business owners to re-engage around interest in this, and there will be a meeting to look at locations – November 28 at 10am, neighborhood walk with Depave folks and business owners. This is open to steering group members.

Discussion:

- Karl: Can new development include requirements for tree-planting?

- Shauna: new development has street tree and landscaping requirements, these resources are for existing properties
- Georgette asked about whether plants that are included in the planting palette could include plants that would succeed in rain garden
 - Shauna: Rain gardens currently require a ROW occupancy permit, that is an ongoing cost for owners. Shauna is working on updating this policy.
 - Shauna explained that the bowl-shaped garden are focused on filtration. They would overflow into a storm drain or feed back into the sewer system

Next Steps:

- Organize Farmers' Market booth
 - Coordinate with Karen for booth timing and materials
 - Coordinate with Matt, Karl, and others for tent and materials
 - Update printed materials – 11x17 poster to be distributed to businesses
 - Organize volunteers
- Forward invite to Nov 28 10am Depave meeting
- Send out flyer for posting on social media and larger-format poster
- Interest in creating and maintaining a FB group?
- Create “glossary” to help answer questions