

Proctor Neighborhood Planning

Steering Group – Meeting #3 Minutes

December 8, 2022

5:30 – 6:45p.m.

ATTENDEES

Staff:

Lauren Hoogkamer, Neighborhood Planning

Anneka Olson, Neighborhood Planning

Charlotte Hevly, Neighborhood Planning

Steering Group:

Alayna Linde

Billy Frederick

Callie Stoker-Graham

Felicity Devlin

Georgette Reuter

Gerrit Nyland

Jodi Cook

John Hines

Karen Bowes

Karl Cunningham

Matt Stevens

Nicholas Bond

Rebecca Rossi

AGENDA

- **Welcome and Icebreaker**

Participants introduced themselves in the chat and Lauren reviewed an agenda for the meeting.

- **Engagement Debrief – 15 minutes**

Lauren recapped the Depave Walk on 11/28, with the goal of holding a meeting with business owners in January/February.

Discussion:

- Georgette: Group identified diseased trees that need to be removed. Will replant with a variety of trees for more biodiversity in future. Larger trees with branches that grow up won't block building signs.

- Jodi: Several business owners joined the walk and support this. N 26th St and N 27th St are the focus. Timeline is 2023. Comments from mapping suggest that people are interested in tree canopy.
- Nick: Did the Steering Group vet the survey questions, and is the “like” feature a statistically significant way of knowing what matters to people?
 - Lauren clarified that the Social Pinpoint map survey was launched before the Steering Group was formed, and that outreach and engagement can be continued. This is a first summary, but there is more input that we will continue to receive. “Likes” are not statistically significant or a vote.
- Jodi: Also noted that many people who have shared feedback may not be a part of the neighborhood. For example, North Union Ave is an important location that didn’t show up on the summary.
- Anneka noted that there have been many people volunteering to do outreach in the chat, including those who volunteered to reach out (UPS, PTA)
- Lauren: Next step is for these people to reach out and connect us with people you know

- **Summary of Public Input – 20 minutes**

Charlotte gave overview of Social Pinpoint map feedback to this point, including general themes focused on assets, challenges, and opportunities, as well as key locations.

- **Small Group Discussion: Topics/Priorities – 30 minutes**

Anneka introduced small group activity, asking participants to follow up on the following two questions:

- Is there anything that seems to be missing from the list of themes?
- What are the top 3 objectives that Neighborhood Planning could focus on?

Discussion:

- Jodi: Cushman Adams is off to the side. Do they need to vote for Cushman to be a priority. Lauren responded that Cushman was already a priority through its own process.
- Felicity: Had a similar question about using the “liked” comments as the most important. Also concerned about fact that residents and people who visit are given same priority. Should residents voice be considered more? Didn’t believe her thoughts took priority over McKinley residents in the McKinley Plan.
- CM Hines: Most steering group members are Proctor residents, so we know residents will be guiding this effort. In the breakout rooms, it will be helpful to bring up things you didn’t see on the list to make sure nothing is missing.
- Lauren: The Social Pinpoint map summary document is a first brush. Community engagement and prioritizing topics will be an iterative process where we continue to get community feedback.
- Jodi: Jefferson Park and Puget Gulch are far walks for a lot of people – are they part of the Proctor Plan? Seconds what Felicity said about how people who live in Proctor should be the top

priority. Wants to maintain safe and slow traffic. Big crash happened right near Mason statue and there are a lot of crashes in Proctor.

- Rebecca: Lives in an apartment in the center of Proctor and feels like Mason Trail, Jefferson Park, Puget Gulch are daily walks or bike rides, so feel like they should be part of the Proctor Plan conversation.
- Billy Frederick: Disagrees with only people who live in Proctor should have their voice heard. We want to be a better place for everyone – visitors, future generations. This is not a gated community with set boundaries. Maybe we should go back to check in on goal of neighborhood plan. Should check back with community and with Steering Group on core values.
- Karl: Agrees with Billy and Rebecca. Appreciates that it is quiet but knows that neighborhood will change. This should be an inclusive place where people want to come.

The group moved into small group discussions.

Group Report-Back:

- Karl: Group 1 Priorities:
 - Walk, roll, and ride safely (crosswalks, crosswalks on N 21st St, ped/bike/ADA/wheelchair access at problem intersections. Crosswalk repainting. Festival crossing. School pickup/drop off.
 - Housing affordability and keeping small and local businesses around. What is here? What is affordable? Want to set goals about what we should do for affordability. Preserve look and feel of neighborhood in design for new construction
 - Outdoor gathering space/community space, closing off to cars for pedestrian space. Like a festival street. Maybe something for outdoor concerts.
 - Missing: few comments about library as asset.
- Rebecca: Group 2.
 - Missing: community services like medical clinics, DOL. Preserving Proctorness. Affordable housing not as big a topic in the comments as the group expected.
 - Top objectives: pedestrian and traffic safety. More and more accessible community spaces. Trees and green space. Some disagreement about whether these should be at the top of the list, but other important topics were architectural considerations and parking.
- Matt: Group 3.
 - Missing: Nothing overwhelming was missing. But Union Ave and tree space should have been noted as an asset.
 - Pedestrian access and usage to core Proctor area, safe cycling and walking, making it easier for non-cars to use the area. Expand public spaces: street closures, move Farmers market onto Proctor and shut down intersections to cars for events or period of time.
 - Park shortage: how far do you walk to get to a park, where does Proctor fit in. Libraries and school outdoor spaces are underused. Community could have more access to these spaces. Cushman is a big opportunity.
 - Climate change adaptation – environmental sustainability, active transportation. Housing density is also a big part of this.

- **Next Steps –10 minutes**

- Lauren: A few questions came up about Cushman in the breakout groups.
- CM Hines: TPU is still using the property. They have to surplus the building before we do anything, and their timeline is still unclear. The City does not have another plan for the site and will be doing public engagement to determine what is most needed, but first we need to work with TPU to get a timeline down so we know when to focus the engagement efforts. Neighborhood Plan will also help to inform this process.
- Jodi: Want to make sure neighbors are notified and aware of this process. Want to make sure longstanding neighbors are heard. Not NIMBYs, just caring people in a neighborhood.
- Karl: City should reach back out to get additional input.
- Georgette: get the word out more to our neighborhood. Another mailer? Maybe door-to-door flyering as well.
- Lauren: There is definitely ongoing plans to continue to get neighborhood feedback from this broad outreach and working with targeted groups as well. Creating a Facebook group is also an option.
- Callie: Library is an underutilized asset for outreach. Could we put up a display in the Library to get feedback? More than just a flyer.
- Lauren: This was just the first conversation about Proctor Plan priorities – at the next meeting, we will bring back a summary of this discussion and then we will discuss which subject-matter experts you want to bring in to talk to the group. We will take all of this back out to the community multiple times.

Action items:

- Steering Group/Volunteering tasks:
 - Reach out to UPS, Mason/Washington PTA, and property management companies to set up targeted meetings/focus groups
 - Volunteer to pass out large flyers to business district
- Staff tasks:
 - Send out a reminder email to the NPP listserv to fill out the interactive map
 - Share flyer via Peachjar with Washington and Mason schools
 - Coordinate with Library for display and newsletter
 - Send information to Proctor listserv
- Next meeting:
 - Discuss door-to-door outreach and sending out another mailer.
 - Staff will come with a summary of the priorities heard in small groups, as well as a proposal for topics for the winter meeting schedule and next steps for engagement.