

# MEETING SUMMARY

## Eisenhower West Small Area Plan Steering Committee Meeting #14

Monday, June 22, 2015 | 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Cameron Station Clubhouse | 200 Cameron Station Boulevard

### 1 Steering Committee Members Present

- Mindy Lyle, Steering Committee Chair, Planning Commission
- Judy Coleman, Steering Committee Vice Chair, Park and Recreation Commission
- Maria Wasowski, Transportation Commission
- Michael Adams, Community Representative
- Art Impastato, Community Represented
- Jim Durham, Community Representative
- Agnés Artemel, Business Representative
- Mary Catherine Gibbs, Business Representative

### 2 City and Project Staff Present

- Karl Moritz, Department of Planning and Zoning
- Susan Eddy, Department of Planning and Zoning
- Radhika Mohan, Department of Planning and Zoning
- Katherine Carraway, Department of Planning and Zoning
- Laura Durham, Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities
- Yon Lambert, Transportation & Environmental Services
- Tamara Jovovic, Office of Housing
- Steve Sindiong, Transportation & Environmental Services

### 3 Welcome and Updates

- Ms. Lyle, Chair of the Steering Committee, welcomed members and made introductory remarks.
- Ms. Mohan reviewed the goals for the meeting, which included an update on transportation and connectivity, discussion on the suggested implementation concepts outline, and review of future meetings.

#### **Staff Presentation**

*Mr. Sindiong updated the Steering Committee on the status of the Transportation Study and next steps. The committee also discussed draft Transportation and Connectivity Guidelines for the plan. Mr. Moritz followed with a discussion on plan implementation concepts. Ms. Mohan concluded with an outline of next steps. Below is a summary of those discussions.*

### 4 Transportation and Connectivity Discussion

- Mr. Sindiong presented an overview of the Van Dorn Metrorail Ped/Bike Access Study being conducted by WMATA and initiated by Fairfax County. He noted that the study is almost complete and that most recommendations suggested in the study are not currently funded by the City. However, some recommendations align with or compliment concepts in the Eisenhower West Small Area Plan and the West End Transitway and could be included in the transportation long range plan for potential funding.
- Mr. Sindiong also presented an update of the transportation study, including the 2040 baseline and build assumptions and transportation improvements.

- As a follow up, the Steering Committee requested to discuss the evaluation criteria for the multimodal bridge alignments and WMATA's planned improvements to the Blue Metrorail Line.
- The Steering Committee stressed the importance of defining potential setbacks for transit improvements now, while in the planning process and before development begins. They also suggested more specific language when discussing "enhanced" transit service on Eisenhower Avenue, such as improved bus shelters, circulator service, and private vehicle service options.
- The Steering Committee also discussed the proposed Eisenhower Avenue cross section including how it will be implemented and how truck traffic will be addressed in the plan.
- Other topics that shaped the Steering Committee discussion on transportation and connectivity included:
  - The federal standards on pedestrian and bike lane separation and safety on Eisenhower Avenue.
  - Emergency vehicle access.
  - The character of parallel roads to Eisenhower Avenue and adjacent proposed land uses.
  - The ongoing discussion with Norfolk Southern.
  - Preferred block size dimensions, particularly along secondary streets.
  - Encouraging outdoor seating along sidewalks for pedestrians to rest.

## 5 Implementation Concepts/Outline

- Mr. Moritz reviewed implementation concepts and strategies, as well as capital improvement prioritization.
- The Steering Committee also discussed adding stronger language about co-location of recreation centers, transferring densities across plan neighborhoods in conjunction with transportation studies, and the duration of the catalyst phase.
- The group noted the importance of relieving permitted uses from the SUP process but incorporating surface parking guidelines.
- The Steering Committee also suggested adding pedestrian improvements on Van Dorn Street, Backlick Greenway improvements, and the public plaza near the Van Dorn Metro Station to the capital improvements list.
- The group discussed the length of development approvals before they expire in order to foster a variety of development.

## 6 Community Comments and Questions

- After the Steering Committee discussion, the larger community present at the meeting asked questions on the following topics:
  - The definition of open space.
  - Developer contributions envisioned for the catalyst phase.
  - Affordable housing recommendations for the plan area.
  - Inclusion of a public school and recreation center, including stronger language for co-location facilities.

## 7 Next Steps and Meetings

- Discuss the evaluation criteria for the multimodal bridge alignments.
- Discuss next steps with Norfolk-Southern.
- Share WMATA's planned improvements to the Blue Metrorail Line.
- Review cross sections of other key streets in the plan area.
- Discuss truck traffic on Eisenhower Avenue.
- Steering Committee Meeting on Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm
- Steering Committee Meeting in early September (TBD)
- Community Meeting in September (TBD)