

Project Partners Meeting Notes - 6/9/10

Present:

Dahvi Wilson

John Carney (via phone)

Tim Adams

Chris Lundburg

Sandy Mason

Mike O'Neill

Cari Golden

- 1) Dahvi updates the Partners on model construction.
 - a. Dahvi took feedback from partners, weeded out (with John Carney) things that were either impossible or impractical to measure
 - b. Now Dahvi, Cari, and Rob Heuseveldt are working on figuring out the GIS strategies for measuring these things and getting the model built.
 - c. From here, Sunrise will work on building the draft model.
 - d. When complete, the draft model will be brought before the public again for gut check and corrections.

- 2) Discussion on Main Street funding news
 - a. ITD has informed us that Victor has been slashed from the improvement budget for 2013, meaning we will not be able to put our Main Street plan into action in the way we intended.
 - b. Partners agreed that we will wait to learn more from ITD about what may be possible and what they may need before deciding where to head with this (ITD may still fund the signal, and may need a complete main street plan in order to design it correctly.)
 - c. A meeting with ITD is scheduled for later this month, so we will make this decision when we learn more.

- 3) Follow-up discussion on preserving EV after 2010 - What is the *heart* of

Envision Victor? What makes Envision Victor Envision Victor?

- a. Partners discussed what makes Envision Victor a unique project.
- b. The following list of ideas were brainstormed:
 - i. the core values that have been found should be used as check-points... to see if the values that we've found are reinforced by our actions
 - ii. EV uses values to lead to predictable outcomes
 - iii. EV incorporated the collective energy of a greater than normal number and diversity of people working towards a solution
 - iv. EV respects the collection of opinions from diverse groups and in different ways. EV finds different ways to collect views and opinions.
 - v. EV uses consensus to bridge our community
 - vi. EV is something outside the standard process
 - vii. EV is like a book club, a conversation that happens BEFORE the decisions get made
 - viii. EV is a comfortable setting for people to discuss an issue in more of a neighborhood situation than a formal situation
 - ix. EV is an addition to the city, not run by city council, but with buy-in from the city in the process when they get the information
 - x. EV does planning in a different way – it's a different way of making decisions - it's not the status quo, and in order to continue to be different, the process will have to constantly change, because it must be adaptable and dynamic, even the processes that are involved with EV will continue to evolve.... not just a static toolkit. We have to look at this as something that becomes adaptable to the community's needs...
 - xi. EV is a liaison between the city council and the people – there needs to be someone who's job it is to facilitate community conversations... not city council, but a position that the city has on staff or consulting. There should also be a council member who is making sure EV is happening and working...

- xii. EV could become the outreach arm of the city....
- xiii. EV needs to be consistent. City Council can't just decide which times to use it and which times not to.... they need a staff member who's job is to keep it going.
- xiv. EV is integrating a new way of planning, gathering info out of city hall, where people are more comfortable. Also EV should be completely revisited every 2-5 years, as needed
- xv. EV might need to be run by a separate person who is independent, not a city employee, because then it is associated with the city...
- xvi. EV will create a cultural shift so that people realize that they will be heard...
- xvii. EV will help make people feel more trust for the city... people need to feel comfortable talking to city staff...
- xviii. EV involves front end work, multiple group discussions with a variety of people, mapping out conversations, conversations on pros and cons...
- xix. EV starts with values
- xx. EV gets people involved from the beginning, rather than after decisions have been made...
- xxi. EV is not just a tool box to be used... if the city is committed to this process, then they have to commit to having someone who is going to do this job.. someone not on the council.
- xxii. EV is not reactive. It is proactive.
- xxiii. EV should create a little facilitation manual - if you have an issue and want to have a meeting, what are some things you need to do in that meeting. Don't start out meeting in traditional form...
- xxiv. In EV processes, City Council members shouldn't be facilitating meetings. If they are participating, they shouldn't be facilitating. You have facilitators to make sure there's a third party, good recording, fairness, etc.

- xxv. EV could offer a training for all new council members to show them how it works and give them some facilitation training.
- xxvi. EV consists of some fundamental principles - reflections of the characteristics of what has worked so far: frontloading outreach efforts, go to the people instead of requiring that they come to you, continue to use the EV values as a touchstone for any decision the council makes, when appropriate the CViz model gets brought in.
- xxvii. EV believes community is first. We look to the community first to help us.
- xxviii. EV meetings are like family meetings..
- xxix. EV always tries to invest time and energy to engage the people
- xxx. EV does not attack specific issues in a head-on manner, but comes from values to do so
- xxxi. EV processes create conversation, groups mediate themselves, everyone in the circle creates the new norm, and consensus is easier to reach....
- xxxii. EV processes take place on a continuum, rather than a single point of decision. There is a release of pressure when you know it's a continuum...
- xxxiii. EV is a process and a product
- xxxiv. EV's CViz model is to be used as a guide
- xxxv. EV tries to bridge the divides in our community.

4) Plan for a dinner retreat on August 4, 2010 from 4-8pm. This will be a retreat for project partners, city councilors, and some city staff to discuss how to bring EV forward past 2010.

CARI will see if Johnson Lodge is available

SCOTT GOLDEN will cook

DAHVI will prepare for the meeting by working with a facilitator and compiling ideas of partners about EV

CHRIS will call Cathy to find Martha Doyle's number as a possible facilitator
DAHVI AND JOHN will come up with an outline for the meeting goals and
agenda
DAHVI AND JOHN will select and hire a facilitator for this evening.