

Bobbie Walthall

From: chris lempa <8lempa8@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 10:25 AM
To: Leslie Soden; Lisa Larsen; Stuart Boley; Mike Amyx; Matthew Herbert; Tom Markus
Cc: Bobbie Walthall
Subject: 9th Street Budget

Mayor Soden and City Commissioners,

I am writing to request that the City Commission not vote on Phase II of the "East 9th Street" development project tonight. This is based on a lack of transparency during the most recent planning process.

City Staff has been communicating with the Lawrence Arts Center (LAC) and, it seems, ArtPlace in regards to 9th Street for at least two months. The agenda for the Tuesday, June 20th meeting was released on Thursday, June 15. However, The correspondence from Porter Arneill to LAC CEO Kimberly Williams is dated April 12. This letter proposes a revised plan that includes new programs and potentially new artists. As a 10 year East Lawrence homeowner, and the Vice-President of ELNA, I am deeply concerned that these correspondences were done in way to minimize community input and participation.

The closing paragraph of Mr. Arneill's letter says, "The City and Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission appreciate the work conducted by the Lawrence Arts Center and the patience of the ArtPlace." However, the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission (LCAC) minutes and agendas do not seem to discuss this even though Mr. Arneill's letter was written on the same day as the April LCAC meeting (the April and May minutes have not been posted as of 10:30 pm on June 19). The agenda also did not include a reply from the Lawrence Arts Center or confirmation that ArtPlace is supportive of Mr. Arneill's proposed plan. It is also unclear as to who else received this letter and/or took part in the process. It is not even clear that the Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission approved using their name in this letter.

I recommend that the City Commission not vote on Phase II tonight. Community stakeholders have not had enough time to review the new plan due to the nature of the conversations and overall process. At the very least, the residents of Lawrence as a whole and East Lawrence specifically deserve more than four business days to look over and comment on a major redevelopment of the neighborhood.

Best,
Chris Lempa
1215 Delaware St.

Tom Markus
Monday, June 19, 2017 3:58 PM
City Commissioners Email; Executive Staff
FW: E 9th
fyi

From: Leslie Soden
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 3:17 PM
To: Tom Markus <tmarkus@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: Fwd: E 9th

Please forward to the other commissioners commissioners.

Mayor Leslie Soden
913-890-3647

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cynthia Trask <ozdog@sunflower.com>
Date: June 19, 2017 at 3:15:33 PM CDT
To: <lsoden@lawrenceks.org>
Subject: E 9th

Dear Mayor Soden

I would like you to know as a 25 year resident of East Lawrence { 842 New York } my husband and i are totally against and redevelopment of E 9th that would bring crowds of people through our quiet residential neighborhood.

If you could pass this on to the other city commissioners it would be much appreciated

thank you

Cynthia Trask

Dave Loewenstein <dloewenstein@hotmail.com>

Monday, June 19, 2017 11:09 AM

Leslie Soden; Stuart Boley; Mike Amyx; Lisa Larsen; Matthew Herbert; Tom Markus; Bobbie Walthall

Phil Collison; chris lempa

East 9th Street considerations

June 19, 2017

To Mayor Soden and Lawrence City Commissioners,

(Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend tomorrow's commission meeting, but wanted to reach out to you about the new concept for East 9th Street.)

East 9th Street needs maintenance and repair.

East 9th Street and the East Lawrence Neighborhood does not need the imposition of the largest public art project Lawrence has ever considered, implemented after a divisive and protracted debate about [how such development activity has spurred real estate speculation and the potential for displacement](#).

Before any such art corridor is developed, the City needs to complete the recommended Conservation Overlay with the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association.

The guidelines developed through this process will be instrumental in evaluating proposals such as this. A Conservation Overlay will give us the perspective we need to make good decisions about the cultural impact that arts-based development can have on this historic, residential working-class neighborhood.

Thank you for attention to this important issue. Feel free to contact me to discuss it further.

Sincerely,

Dave Loewenstein

785-550-8531