

Bobbie Walthall

To: David L. Corliss
Subject: RE: 9th St Corridor

From: Burdett Loomis [<mailto:loomism@sunflower.com>]
Sent: Sunday, November 16, 2014 9:32 PM
To: Mike Amyx; Mdever14@gmail.com; Jeremy Farmer; Terry Riordan; Bob Schumm
Cc: David L. Corliss
Subject: 9th St Corridor

Commissioners one and all,

Last week, one of us (Michel) was present for the informational meeting with the designated architect re the 9th St. Corridor. Based on that meeting, it's apparent that the process will be inclusive, that there is no hidden agenda, and that Lawrence will be well served – in all probability – by this project. We hope that you will move the project along; there will certainly be contested elements in whatever plan is put forth, but the city will surely benefit, as will East Lawrence and a street that is already largely commercial. In addition, most economic activity surrounding the downtown is on a N-S axis, between 6th and 11th. This project will move more activity East (and in the end, perhaps) west, which would be a real long-term positive for the downtown and the city as a whole.

The meeting last week was a good start, and we hope the process can continue to a worthwhile conclusion.

Best,

Michel Loomis
Burdett Loomis

John A. Gascon
941 Pennsylvania Street
Lawrence, KS 66044
November 17, 2014

Mayor Mike Amyx
City of Lawrence
6 East 6th Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

RE: 9th Street Corridor Project

Dear Mayor Amyx:

As a resident of the East Lawrence Neighborhood at 941 Pennsylvania Street, I am writing to express my support of the 9th Street Corridor Project and the selection of El Dorado architects as the design lead for the project. I have closely followed this project from its introduction as an idea from the Lawrence Arts Center at an East Lawrence Neighborhood Association meeting in 2013, before an Art place grant was applied for.

I have been very impressed with the leadership the Lawrence Arts Center staff has shown and have been very happy with the level of transparency that they have demonstrated. I have had numerous opportunities to learn and give feedback about the project in public forums and am especially pleased to have El Dorado architects as the lead designer. As a former architect, I can say that El Dorado has an impressive portfolio of work and a reputation as a quality design firm.

My family currently uses 9th street on a near daily basis to walk downtown. With a newborn in a stroller and a toddler in tow, navigating the sidewalks is a challenging endeavor and they present unsafe conditions, especially at night. In several places, 9th street is in a state of disrepair as are many of the structures along 9th. As the most important street connecting downtown to the arts district, 9th street presents an opportunity to create something truly special for the neighborhood and the City of Lawrence.

The partnership that the Lawrence Arts Center has proposed between an urban designer, city engineers, and artist teams present a unique opportunity to create something that will not only repair and improve our existing infrastructure, but create a memorable experience and enhance the quality of life for generations to come. The potential of the 9th Street Corridor Project exemplifies exactly why we committed to East Lawrence and invested in our modest home.

Many of us East Lawrence residents are desperate to see improvements to the neighborhood infrastructure and the existing architecture in order to preserve the character of the neighborhood and improve our quality of life. We believe that projects like the 9th street corridor will encourage neighbors to invest in their own property to revitalize the character of the neighborhood. It will also provide a model of how to integrate art and community into the design process for future infrastructure development around Lawrence.

I ask you and the City Commissioners to fully commit to support the 9th Street Corridor Project, the Lawrence Arts Center and the El Dorado Design Team in this endeavor. This project has the potential to improve not only the physical and economic infrastructure of our neighborhood, but also the cultural heritage of Lawrence for generations to come. Do not waste this opportunity improve the lives of future generations of Lawrencians!

Sincerely,

John A. Gascon

Bobbie Walthall

To: David L. Corliss
Subject: RE: 9th St. Corridor

-----Original Message-----

From: sally Piller [<mailto:pillerprintmaking@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 9:45 AM
To: David L. Corliss
Subject: 9th St. Corridor

Dear David,

I attended El Dorado's open presentation of their proposal for creating a more inviting route down 9th St., which would connect downtown to the Warehouse Arts Area. Though I am not a resident of East Lawrence, I do walk, bike and drive this route on a daily basis. This area needs to be "rethought" in any event, (I would suggest that you just try to walk from 9th and New Hampshire to the Warehouse Area) so the opportunity to make it really wonderful is not to be missed. I was really impressed with El Dorado's approach. I love that the company has Lawrence ties. I love that they are involving many of our local experts from an historian to an herbalist. I love that input from the neighborhood residents will be intrinsic to the design from the very beginning. And also I am very appreciative of the fact that they have successfully done this very kind of project many times before, particularly in Kansas City and Manhattan.

I encourage you to support this project and the hiring of El Dorado to do it.

Sincerely,
Sally F. Piller

Bobbie Walthall

To: David L. Corliss
Subject: RE: 9th Street Corridor Project

From: Diane Horning [<mailto:dandahorning@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 11:08 AM
To: David L. Corliss
Subject: 9th Street Corridor Project

David~

I was present [at Thursday evening](#)'s presentation by El Dorado on the [9th Street](#) Corridor project. I strongly urge you to vote to hire El Dorado. I was immensely impressed by the firm with their expertise in such projects and by their sensitivity to the community with all its stakeholders. El Dorado has strong local connections and is bringing individuals onto their team who have deep knowledge of the history of East Lawrence.

Attending the presentation were landlords, artists and residents of East Lawrence among a standing room only crowd, some who have been very skeptical about this project in the past. The enthusiastic applause at the end of the evening showed a new understanding that something very good was going to be done...good for the city, good for East Lawrence, good for the Arts community.

Again please approve the hiring of El Dorado for the [9th Street](#) Corridor project.

Diane & Al Horning
[818 Louisiana](#)
[Lawrence, KS 66044](#)

Sent from my iPad

Bobbie Walthall

To: David L. Corliss
Subject: RE: 9th St. Corridor Project

From: Larry Chance [<mailto:LChance@emprisebank.com>]
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 11:21 AM
To: David L. Corliss
Subject: 9th St. Corridor Project

Dave,

I wanted to express my appreciation and support for the city's willingness to undertake the collaborative approach to the 9th Street Corridor Project and my support for the commission moving forward with el dorado to lead the project. I thought Mr. Sheldon did a great job of explaining their approach to the project with no pre-conceived notions of the end product, and reiterating their commitment to seek input from all of the varied project stakeholders along the way.

Thanks!

Larry S. Chance
Vice President

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