

9th Street Corridor March 23 CAC Meeting Summary

MEETING ATTENDED BY: ELNA Representatives: Phil Collison, Dave Loewenstein, John Sebelius; **City-at-Large Representatives:** Burdett Loomis, Rev. Verdell Taylor; **Downtown Lawrence, Inc Representative:** Emily Peterson; **Warehouse Arts District Area Representative:** Tom Larkin; **Lawrence Arts Center Representative:** Tom Carmody; **Business Representative:** Will Ogle; **Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission Representative:** Katherine Simmons; **LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Built Environment Workgroup Representative:** Tim Herndon; **el dorado inc:** Josh Shelton, David Dowell, Kara Schippers; **Lead Artist Sans Façon:** Charles Blanc, Tristan Surtees; **Mayor of Lawrence:** Mike Amyx; **Not in Attendance:** Ben Ahlvers (**Lawrence Arts Center Representative**), Marcia Hill (**Business Representative**)

Date: March 23, 2015

Time: 7:00PM-8:30PM

Location: Lawrence Public Library Auditorium

Agenda Topic #1: Introductions

Notes:

Members of the Citizen Advisory Committee briefly introduced themselves by explaining their connection to the project.

Agenda Topic #2: Definition of the Citizen Advisory Committee

Notes:

David from el dorado inc explained that the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) represents the core group of advisors for the 9th Street Corridor Design Team. The CAC meets with the design team on a monthly basis throughout the design process. CAC meetings provide a forum for updates, information sharing, and feedback in person, with one another. David also highlighted the importance of CAC members being empowered to speak on behalf of the groups, organizations and/or constituents they represent.

Agenda Topic #3: Project Deliverables

Notes:

Josh detailed the final project deliverables by outlining the following list of items that will be completed by the end of the project:

- Inventory of 9th Street
- Analysis of 9th Street in context of the City of Lawrence
- Multimodal transportation design strategies
- Streetscaping and landscaping strategies
- Public Art integration strategies
- Proposed infrastructural upgrades
- Phasing strategies
- Project cost estimates
- Project renderings

Agenda Topic #4: Project Intent

Notes:

Tristan from Sans Façon explained the unique opportunities this project affords in the way that it aligns artists, architects, engineers, and stakeholders at the onset of the project rather than enlisting artists to tack on a permanent sculpture at the end of a public project. He discussed the importance of building upon the character and personality of East Lawrence and pointed out that the project could become a new model for complete street design that could be implemented elsewhere in Lawrence.

Agenda Topic #5: Project Schedule

Notes:

Kara from el dorado inc presented the current project schedule which tracks the project through completion in November. She explained how the calendar was structured to allow for two-week review periods in-between each project deliverable due date and the day the item is taken to a City Commission meeting for approval. This allows for various stakeholder groups to discuss project progress at their monthly meetings and provide feedback to the design team before the project moves onto the next phase of development. The calendar outlines monthly CAC meetings and three open-to-the-public workshops in April covering streetscape design, the role of art in the project, and site history. There are also two public presentations following the completion of the Complete Street Document Plan in August and after the approval of the Design Development package in November. A printable version of the calendar is available on the 9th Street Corridor Project website: <https://www.lawrenceks.org/9th-street-corridor-project>.

Agenda Topic #6: Discussion

Notes:

Josh proposed a question to each of the Citizen Advisory Committee members: What does success look like for the 9th Street Corridor Project? Live notes from the discussion are included on the following page.

Discussion:

What does success look like for the 9th Street Corridor Project?

ELNA representatives:

Phil Collison (phil@collison.com)

- building consensus is important
- the neighborhood is already under renewal, very walkable - don't disrupt that
- buy-in needs to come from everyone
- understand the vision and plan 20 years out
- how to make the transition from vehicular to pedestrian traffic?

Dave Loewenstein (dloewenstein@hotmail.com)

- success means the process was equitable and transparent
- those who are directly impacted have impact on the project
- current residents and business owners maintain their lives and culture

John Sebelius (johnsebelius@gmail.com)

- interest in material integration into existing fabric (bricks, etc.)
- consider not only the user, but who is most impacted
- consider the perception of safety (lighting) for walkers and how the introduction of new lighting could be bright and intrusive to residents
- address those safety issues sensitively

City-at-large representatives:

Burdett Loomis (bloomis@ku.edu)

- this project is just a start

- though the process may not be smooth, it will be positive
- downtown and the Warehouse District create a barbell
- this is changing 9th street even before the project begins

Reverend Verdell Taylor (pastort77@aol.com)

- everyone is considered and included
- transparency is important
- places where people are living and working are enhanced by the project
- maintain the safety of the neighborhood
- avoid neighborhood displacement
- sidewalk accessibility concerns, what will change when it's rebuilt?

Downtown Lawrence, Inc. representative:

Emily Peterson, Merchants Pub & Plate

(emily@merchantsonmass.com)

- enhancing live, work, play
- the project could help with the flow to and from downtown during specific events like Final Fridays
- it would provide more exposure for those events

Warehouse Arts District area representative:

Tom Larkin (tlarkin@flinthillsholdings.com)

- use, people finding ways to occupy or circulate in ways they weren't before

Lawrence Arts Center representatives:

Tom Carmody (tcarmody@sunflower.com)

- diverse set of local, regional, international, and national artists involved
- the number of users will increase – that is one measure of success

-it's important to keep the pedestrian scale

Ben Ahlvers (ben@lawrenceartscenter.org)

(not in attendance)

Business representatives:

Marcia Hill (marciahill0815@gmail.com)

(not in attendance)

Will Ogle (gl_wll@yahoo.com)

-tenants are concerned about tax increases and being pushed out because they aren't necessarily art-related

Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission representative:

Katherine Simmons, (ksimmons@lawrenceks.org)

-user friendly, for all users

-the traffic increase would primarily be by foot or bike

LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Built Environment Workgroup representative:

Tim Herndon (timaherndon@att.net)

-letting Mass St. spill out and occupy 9th St

-the project won't see thoroughfare traffic

-Who is the project for? vs. Who is the project against?

Mayor of Lawrence:

Mike Amyx (mikeamyx515@hotmail.com)

-safe, multi-modal roadway