

## West Bank Community Coalition-Land Use Committee Report

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Brian Coyle Community Center Community Room

420 15th Avenue

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Attending: Becky Yust of U of M, Linse Lahti, Jan Morlock, Peg Wolff, Jessica Hill, Sophia Giniis, Linse Lahti, Councilperson Gordon, Polly Vollmar-Heywood, Doris Wickstrom, Dan Prozinski

6:30 Welcome and Introductions

6:35 Becky and Jan have attended 2 LUC meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to present progress on the University of Minnesota Master Plan and to receive input from community members.

6:40 **Discussion of Master Plan:** At the last meeting in January, the group mentioned three areas of concern. Lighting in the general neighborhood that is not intrusive and glaring. Riverside Park is in need of renovation and any help from the University would be appreciated. Riverside Avenue is a possible development site (open parking lot will someday be multiuse building). Possibly by early Fall, a draft University of Minnesota Master Plan will be available for community comment. Now they are looking at the campus proper and the greater area surrounding the campus. The development areas they are looking at are the same as in the 1996 plan. The old Art building location may be a campus-building site as well as the ball field by the law school. New buildings to expect are an addition for the Weisman building; classroom office building will be torn down for a high tech building.

How will the plan be implemented? The master plan work team expects to receive community input early. They want broad based participation from the community and from students. Information will be available on line.

7:00 **Central Corridor LRT update, Jessica Hill, Community Outreach Coordinator**

Central Corridor Project Office, Metropolitan Council. Jessica presented the latest alternative route for the Central Corridor – the Northern Alignment. Bridge #9 is the latest study route. The bridge is neither strong enough nor wide enough to accept trains. It would have to be torn down and replaced. This would add to costs to the overall project and make the Twin City plan unfeasible. In looking at Bridge #9, some section 8 housing, River Bluff cooperative, would be lost and the tracks would cross the Law school ball field, resulting in a loss of recreational ground.

This is only a feasibility study. The alternative route would require another Environmental Impact study, possible costs to rebuild Cedar Avenue. The University of Minnesota is financing a study of alternative routes for the Central Corridor (called the Northern Alignment), considering that a tunnel is too expensive to finance.

7:10 Dania site encroachment. Comments from Councilmember Gordon.

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, City staff brought a proposal to the Community Development committee that the City sells the sliver of the Dania Hall site onto which Bina Partners encroached. The total that was paid, according the terms staff will be recommended, is \$75,502. Cam reluctantly supported this. He succeeded in negotiating a settlement that includes \$25,000 to be used specifically for redevelopment of the Dania site. Now that the Small Area Plan is finished, Cam thinks it may be in the best interests of the neighborhood to get some activity in the building that has been vacant for far too long and,

more importantly, for the community to be able to move forward with a Dania site redevelopment without waiting for a long drawn-out legal process to wind its way through the courts. This is in opposition to the WBCC/Land Use resolution. However, this appears to be the best solution at present. It was suggested that this site could be of use to the local Mosque that needs to find new space and is looking for land and a building. Those present felt this might be an excellent solution.

\* Riverside Plaza and Fine Associates new agreements. The Council has approved key terms of a settlement that will resolve part of the ongoing legal dispute among Fine Associates, Sherman Associates and Crablex, Inc, regarding access issues for Riverside Plaza and the Currie Park Flats redevelopment. New access sites are secured for Sherman Associates to allow their vehicles and all vehicles into the parking ramp on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Also, access issues for 5th Street were resolved. What remains to be solved is the location of boilers for Riverside Plaza that is located on Crablex, Inc land.

7:20 Sergeant Preston new license and restrictions,

Dan Prozinski, Seven Corners resident and business owner, reports. The current status of Minneapolis noise ordinance enforcement has Dan very concerned. The courts have thrown out Mpls. noise ordinance 360.55 finding that it was too vague and enforcement had been inconsistent. What that means is that right now the bars don't have to turn down noise because the police can't issue a citation. Licensing must come out with their sound meters and document the infraction and that can be a difficult thing to arrange. Dan is asking Cam to work with the Police, the City Attorney, and the other council members to re-write a noise ordinance that the courts will uphold and that can be reasonably enforced by the officers on the street. Lisa Goodman is the councilperson for the downtown ward and her constituents in the warehouse district are very affected by this ordinance. Dan feels that Council member Gordon should not have supported expansion of license for Sergeant Prestons. The Corner Bar has also been a noise nuisance, which Cam is aware of. All the residents present, felt that they would all support Dan's' efforts to improve enforcement of noise from bars. The Land Use committee will bring that information to the WBCC Board.

**Resolution Request: The WBCC supports the efforts of residents to work with the Police, City Attorney and other council members to re-write a noise ordinance that the courts will uphold. Currently, the discussion focuses on the bar owners being responsible for noise.**

Could we purchase decibel meters for our local officers to monitor noise?

7:30 Riverside Park activity, Good neighbor Agreement was past out to those in attendance.

Adjourned at 8:00 PM

View WBCC Land Use Information on-line at [www.westbankcc.org](http://www.westbankcc.org)

## **Announcements:**

### **Cedar Riverside small area plan - status update**

Thanks to everyone who commented during the 45-day public review period for the Cedar Riverside Small Area Plan. The comment period has ended, and staff is making necessary changes to the plan based on these comments.

The plan is on track to have a public hearing in front of the **Planning Commission on Monday, March 17**. The recommendation from the Planning Commission will be forwarded to the City Council for final approval. Any comments we received during the public review period will automatically be forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council as part of the official record.

All material for the March 17<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting (staff report, revised plan, public comments) will be available about a week ahead of time from the project website: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/cedar-riverside.asp>.

Thanks to everyone for your participation in this process.

Haila R. Maze, AICP

Senior City Planner, City of Minneapolis

CPED - Planning Division

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On Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, the City of Minneapolis will host an open house to gather public input on the city's Pedestrian Master Plan. Your input is needed! You will have an opportunity to learn about the plan, mark up maps, record your observations and opinions, and discuss key issues with City staff, the consultant team, and other members of the public.

**Where:** Minneapolis Central Library  
300 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

**When:** Wednesday, March 26, 2008  
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. Opening Presentation  
*Arrive at any time and stay as long as you like.*

**For Further Details:** Please visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/pedestrian/pedestrian-masterplan.asp>.

**Sale of the Brian Coyle Center to Pillsbury United Communities.**

The Park Board will be discussing the future of the ownership of the Brian Coyle Center at the Committee of the Whole meeting this Wed. evening.

The links for that meeting and staff report are below.

Thanks, Scott Vreeland

<http://www.minneapolisparks.org/documents/meetings/agendas/uploaded03--19-08cow.pdf>

<http://www.minneapolisparks.org/default.asp?PageID=37&calid=482>

The WBCC Land Use Committee has requested a community review of this sale.

I would be happy to help plan or publicize a community meeting and would strongly advocate working through the WBCC to do so.

Cam Gordon, Minneapolis City Council Member, Second

**Riverside Park Neighborhood Task Force** will be meeting in the next 2 weeks. Please contact Doris Wickstrom [doris.wickstrom@gmail.com](mailto:doris.wickstrom@gmail.com) if you are interested in working on Park restoration

**2008 NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING SUGGESTIONS**

**Your specific neighborhood crime concerns:**

**How should the MPD address these concerns?**

**How should the community (i.e. your neighborhood association, block clubs, businesses, etc.) address these concerns?**

**I'm a:**

- Resident
- Neighborhood Assoc. Board Member
- Business Representative
- Rental Property Owner
- Security Officer/Manager
- Manager/Owner of a Bar
- Shelter/Transitional Housing Facility Employee
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

(Please check all that apply)

**Luther Krueger, Crime Prevention Analyst**  
**Minneapolis Police Department, First Precinct**  
 19 N. 4th St. + Minneapolis MN 55401  
 612-673-2923 + [luther.krueger@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:luther.krueger@ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

**What have you done, or are you willing to do, to pitch in toward crime prevention and reduction strategies in the First Precinct? Here are some on-going projects which over one hundred of our listmembers are actively involved with:**

- I will fill out Community Impact Statements for offenders arrested for crimes in and near the block where I live and/or work.
- I am a block club leader
- I can become a block club leader and will take the training ---  
 on-line (email instruction) or  at the next possible scheduled training in the neighborhoods.
- I would like to organize a building watch for my apartment/condo.
- I can print out the crime alerts and maps for my block.
- I can make time to help the MPD call people to get them involved in the Virtual Block Club.
- I can attend and participate in my neighborhood association's crime prevention committee.

**Additional Comments/Concerns:**

**Optional**

Name:

Address:

Phone: