

## East Ninth December 16 CAC Meeting Summary

**MEETING ATTENDED BY:** Director of Arts & Culture: Porter Arneill; **Chair of the Citizen Advisory Committee:** Mike Amyx; **ELNA Representatives:** Phil Collison, Dave Loewenstein, John Sebelius; **City-at-Large Representatives:** Rev. Verdell Taylor, Burdett Loomis, Margene Swarts; **Warehouse Arts District Area Representative:** Tom Larkin; **Lawrence Arts Center Representatives:** Tom Carmody, Ben Ahlvers; **Lawrence Cultural Arts Commission Representative:** Katherine Simmons; **Business Representatives:** Marcia Hill, Will Ogle; **LiveWell Lawrence Healthy Built Environment Workgroup Representative:** Tim Herndon; **el dorado inc:** Josh Shelton, Kara Schippers, Chris Burk; **Team Historian:** Dennis Domer

**ABSENT FROM MEETING:** Downtown Lawrence, Inc Representative: Emily Peterson

**Date:** December 16, 2015

**Time:** 6:30PM-7:45PM

### Agenda Topic #1: Review of Updated Schedule

**Notes:**

Josh Shelton: We should find a time to get back together in January and February (or early March) to discuss progress even though we do not currently have a CAC meeting scheduled in either of those months. In February (or early March), we would be looking to recommend a plan to the City Commission.

Proposed meeting dates:

January 27

March 2

### Agenda Topic #2: Art Programming Process Updates

**Notes:**

Josh Shelton: We have sorted out the contracts with the integrated artists, and they are idling till we cover some ground with basic streetscape strategy. Jarret is working with Kate Dineen. Jim Woodfill is working with John Sebelius. Derek might be working with Tyler Peck on full-scale mock-ups and is talking to another artist named Alicia Kelly who works with light and shadow. We will have the design team back together in January for progress meetings with the integrated artists.

Phil Collison: Is the funding for the artists' entire project coming out of the Art Place grant.

Josh Shelton: Each artist is working with a budget of approximately \$100,000. Associate artists are also receiving a fee of \$5000. Those totals account for the entire project and come from the ArtPlace grant.

Josh Shelton: Nick Carswell and Zia are starting up work as well. Nick is talking about possibly teaming up with integrated artist Jim Woodfill (who is currently working with John Sebelius), so some nice overlap between collaborating artists is starting to happen on its own.

### **Agenda Topic #3: Design Process Updates**

#### **Notes:**

Mike Amyx: From what I understand, tonight is a work night for the CAC.

Josh Shelton: That's right. Tonight we are looking at two schemes, but we aren't voting on one just yet. One scheme shows the bike lanes adjacent to the traffic lanes, and the other involves a 10' wide recreational trail to the north of 9<sup>th</sup> Street that would take the place of bike lanes. So as we go through the plans side by side tonight, please let us know what your thoughts are on each.

*The following is a list of general comments about the two schemes:*

Phil Collison: Who shovels the new sidewalk/recreation path? Is a recreation path considered a sidewalk – would there be a smoking ban?

Mike Amyx: We would have to look to the Burroughs Creek trail rules for an answer to that question.

Verdel Taylor: How do you get to the church? I have concerns about the loss of street parking, but those spaces are tough to negotiate grade-wise as it is.

Josh Shelton: The church presents a real challenge from an ADA standpoint. We are still working through options that address the need for an accessible route but are sensitive to the church's historic entry.

Phil Collison: People do use the street parking near the church and John Naramore's property. Additionally, the proximity of the proposed recreation path seems dangerously close to the doors of the businesses in John's building.

Phil Collison: Will bikes on the recreation path be illegal? It is currently illegal to ride a bike on a sidewalk.

Mike Amyx: The recreation path would not be considered a sidewalk, so bike riding would be legal.

Dennis Domer: What about the street in front of Turnhalle?

Josh Shelton: The Historic Resources Commission has concerns about any deviation from the original straight street grid. So the bend we had in the street to allow for a larger, community green space north of Turnhalle has been removed in both of the schemes we are looking at tonight.

Tom Carmody: Do the bike paths have physical barriers?

Josh Shelton: We are not showing physical barriers in the bike lanes.

Dave Loewenstein: Even with a dedicated recreational path, people will still use bikes on the street. The path makes it tricky to actually travel to a specific place - when do you cross over to turn? I also have concerns that kids on a recreation path would feel safer, therefore there could be dangerous confrontations at intersections and alleys if they don't approach them with the caution they are used to exercising on the street.

Public Comment:

Erica (1026 Ohio): I have concerns about loss of parking; can we offset that somewhere?

Josh Shelton: We are losing a lot of street parking, but we are reintroducing it in the areas where it seems most appropriate – downtown and near the Warehouse Arts District. The hope is that as the street becomes more bike and pedestrian friendly there will be less need for vehicle parking.

Josh Davis: I have concerns about the appropriateness of the scale of the recreation path for the neighborhood. It seems too wide; that's a lot of concrete.

Josh Shelton: That's why we have presented these two different schemes tonight. We were looking to get this kind of feedback from the neighborhood about the best approach.

Amber Hansen: Will any trees be lost?

Josh Shelton: We are not removing any trees in either of these schemes at the moment.

KT Walsh: If the brick sidewalks are replaced with ADA accessible concrete sidewalks or a recreation path, they begin to look like quaint artifacts. I am worried that over time they will be forgotten. Also, is this the proper process for implementing a new trail? Shouldn't a pedestrian task force be consulted?

Josh Shelton: I understand your comments about the scale of the proposed recreation path and the worry that new, wider concrete sidewalks will render the existing brick sidewalks obsolete, but we also have to consider these two schemes from an accessibility standpoint. Many people that I have talked to that have mobility limitations prefer a wider concrete sidewalk or the recreation path. It's just easier to navigate concrete with a wheelchair or stroller. Brick sidewalks can be made ADA accessible, but over time they shift and settle and require constant upkeep to retain this accessibility.

Josh Shelton: I know we said we weren't voting on either scheme tonight, but I am very curious about where you all stand. How many of you prefer the scheme with the adjacent vehicle and bike lanes? (5 CAC members) How many prefer the recreation path? (0 CAC members) How many are undecided (6 CAC members).

*Moved by Verdell Taylor, seconded by Marcia Hill, to adjourn at 7:45PM. The next CAC meeting will be January 27.*