

Listening Session One -- December 1st, 2018

Table Three Transcript

What do you love about East Lawrence?

It's funkiness

The community -- everyone comes together

Glad the buildings in the Arts District are being used and restored

East Lawrence loves East Lawrence -- special place

Not suburbia, not corporate

Grassroots, alleys

EL history, you can feel the history, different

Changing, not stagnant, eastlawrence is living, breathing

Different houses

There's already a lot of art here, full of artists

Just feels great

Every fifty years, big transformation

Front porches

Restore rather than replace

Strong community

Mystery

Old houses

Can't know all the history

Magic!

Oral lore -- you can talk to different families, there is no one history

Cultural diversity, racial diversity in history of EL

What piece of EL history is most inspiring to you?

- Bleeding Kansas -- civil war started in EL -- first skirmish between N and S happened here
- History of mixed race neighborhood is very important -- free steamboat ride to Kansas -- exodusters
- St Luke AME church -- Langston Hughes -- people really used to gather there as a community. People buried in a mass grave -- myth?
- First place where freed slaves could own property, in EL, but still suffered severe segregation at businesses and public pools up to 1970s
- Fight against Haskell Loop, would have gone right down Pennsylvania St, organized resistance in EL -- 1976. Officially zoned residential area. CDBG grants began in 73-74 to improve neighborhood. Another fight in the 1980s against another trafficway through the neighborhood.
- A lot of history recorded differently or lost
- Lucy Taylor Hobbs -- first female dentist in US
- Not all history positive
- Native lands we are on -- Kaw, purchasing lands, anti-indigenous bias in way history is recorded

What kind of public art have you experienced that is significant to you?

- Really like Andy Goldsworthy -- natural works of impermanent art
- Structure outside of spooner hall
- Artist who did structure outside of Mulvane made out of saplings

- Interactive works -- science museum
- Penguin artist at LAC -- with technology
- Living exhibits, interactive, be a part of it, engaged
- Some works that create a space or a gateway
- The wishing bench, people can add to it, always changing

QUESTIONS

How can temporary art be addressed when it's not permanent?

Might be a musical piece that lives on, but won't have a permanent footprint -- needs good documentation!

Not all needs to be temporary

Not all visual art -- poetry, dance, music, horticultural art

Not prescriptive -- flexibility allows for more ideas, but needs direction and structure for artists

9th street has great spiritual presence -- a proposal to name 9th Street Langston Hughes Way

Neighborhood loved to death -- wants this thought put into project

Wants to have a discussion about having small art works or different sized projects