

Meeting Summary:
Suulivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association
Land Use and Transportation Committee
Holladay Park Plaza
January 22, 2019

Attendance: David Peterson, Julie Hoffinger, DJ Heffernan, Ken Peterson, Ann Tyler, Kathy Hansen, Lynn Coward, David Brook

Motion to approve Meeting Summary: A summary was not available. DJ provided an oral report.

Board Updates: DJ summarized land use and transportation related discussions from the most recent Board meeting, which included progress on forming a parking district.

Chair's Report

DJ noted that there was a preference for meeting on the third Tuesday of the month.

The meeting with City officials about painting the crosswalk art area was cancelled because of snow. It will be rescheduled.

The City is nearing completion of a draft Pedestrian Plan. It should be out next month.

The new owners of the Access Apartments propose to close the walkway between 15th and 16th that aligns with Halsey Street. We have expressed our opposition and are working with Access to find a solution to the loitering and crime problems cited as the reason for the request.

Draft Plan – Discussion of Housing, Economy, and Land Use sections

DJ reviewed comments he made to the Board on these sections of the plan.

Discussion: Concerns were expressed about the impact of residential infill on the neighborhood. Ken Peterson described it as a slippery slope, citing apartments in Irvington, Grant Park and SGN built in the 1970's whose designs don't fit in. DJ agreed but felt that design guidelines might address the concern. He acknowledged that the R2.5 zone, which applies to most of SGN east of NE 21st Ave, makes it impracticable to build much density because the lot size and FAR limits are too small. That is a different issue in GP and Irvington where R-5 zoning is more prevalent.

Committee discussed the idea for a neighborhood commercial focal point on Broadway between 24th and 33rd. It was generally felt that east of 33rd was more auto oriented. Ken noted that the Burger King is being redeveloped as a another burger joint but local. He shared that the QFC closing was related more to economic performance but shoplifting was also a problem. After considerable discussion, the

idea emerged not to designate one focal intersection but adopt design guidelines for the stretch between 24th and 34th with angled entries at corners, wider sidewalks, and pedestrian orientation. Move bike routes to Weidler and Schuyler because there is no room on Broadway. Would it make sense to designate the area a pedestrian district?

There also was discussion for why businesses were closing and how to strengthen the climate for businesses. Lynn noted how we're becoming a less walkable area because we're losing services. One solution offered was to try again to strengthen our relationship with NEBBA and to reach out to the businesses in the upper part of the corridor. DJ said he would reach out to NEBBA.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.