

Gateways Committee Chair Meeting Notes
Room 2001
August 25, 2004
5:30 PM

A. Introduction

Carole Darst opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and led the group in personal introductions.

B. Committee Update Reports

Carole Darst introduced each of the 5 committee chairs who reported on their progress in identifying potential gateway locations:

Southeast – Harry McFarland

- The Committee has held a couple of meetings
- Began by clarifying the goals of the committee and seeking to engage the appropriate organizations
- Have identified 8 potential neighborhood-based sites so far
- An additional meeting is planned

Northwest – William Plater

- The Committee has held 2 meetings.
- 15 sites were initially identified.
- The committee discussed the potential sites extensively and concluded that there are three primary sites. Moreover, the committee was mindful of the opportunity to make linkages among several possible sites in a thematic or historical context. Members concluded that this approach had particular merit for the three most highly recommended sites:
 - a. Corridor along Michigan Road from I465 to the North to West Street in the city center. The key sites for thematically related gateways are:
 - (1) At I-465
 - (2) At 38th Street near the Indianapolis Museum of Art and Crown Hill Cemetery
 - (3) At or near a site on Martin Luther King Street (e.g., the bridge over Fall Creek)
 - b. Corridor along Washington Street from I-465 on the west to the city center. The key sites for thematically related gateways are:
 - (1) At I-465
 - (2) At Rockville Road (near a planned trailhead for the B&O trail)
 - (3) At Central States
 - c. Corridor traversing the Riverside Park area from I-65 on the north to 16th Street on the south. The key sites for thematically related gateways are:
 - (1) At I65 and 38th Street near the Veladrome and wetlands park
 - (2) At the Taggart Memorial (possibly in combination with Caleb Miller Society)
 - (3) At 16th Street to alert visitors to the remarkable park to the north

Northeast – Cindy Porteous

- Met 1 time in July
- Group is communicating extensively by email
- 9 possible locations have been identified – including major thoroughfares
- Sites include:
 1. Major thoroughfares that should be considered:
 - Binford Boulevard
 - Pendleton Pike

- Washington Street
- Keystone Avenue
- 2. Meridian Street & Fall Creek Pkwy/White River Bridge – need to use our river and it's "gateway" points
- 3. 10th & Sherman Bridge – a neighborhood symbol in a place that surely needs attention and encouragement
- 4. I-70 & Keystone Rural Intersection – introduces a stunning view of the city that will be preceded from the east by anything that is done at the Emerson/Pogue's Run Greenway sculpture site
- 5. I-465 & I-70 Intersection – the arcs and configuration of the roads are fascinating
- 6. Irvington
 - Ritter & Washington Streets
 - Arlington near Brookville Road
 - Pleasant Run Trail at the Pleasant Run Bridge on Washington Street
- 7. Cumberland
 - Cumberland entry on Washington Street
- 8. Lawrence at 56th & Post Roads
- 9. Downtown
 - 10th & Central at the split
 - College Avenue & Mass Avenue
 - Southeastern Avenue & Washington Street

Southwest – Sherry Seiwert

- Met 1 time
- Sites include: I-70 (downtown to airport)
 1. SR-67 bridge over White River
 2. West Washington Street
 3. S. Meridian

Regional Center – Tamara Zahn

- Committee is reviewing current projects/gateways and assessing opportunities for new gateways at three different levels: interstate, artery, pedestrian
- Committee is meeting on September 1st to begin identifying sites on maps

C. Project Overview Presentations

Dave DiMarzio thanked the project representatives for participating. Their projects are important to the community and the information they provide will assist the committee in their analysis of potential gateways. Due to the large volume of topics to be covered, presenters were asked to be brief and to focus their comments on items relevant to the gateways discussion.

Indiana State Fairgrounds – Bill Stinson

- This year's fair attendance was over 100,000?
- Attendance records were set on three different days?
- Many improvements have been made in the vicinity of the fairgrounds including the purchase and demolition an abandoned hotel used as a crack house and the construction of a new BP station at the intersection of 38th and Fall Creek.
- Other roadway and median enhancements along 38th Street are in progress.
- He wasn't aware of the definition of a gateway, but felt that Fall Creek corridor was significant

Cultural Districts – Tamara Zahn

- The Cultural Development Commission created the cultural districts program to enhance the cultural development of distinct districts offering a mix of arts, cultural, and hospitality activities.
- A handout describing the cultural districts program and identifying the priorities and key strategies specific to each of 5 designated areas was distributed.

- Named districts are: Broad Ripple Village, Downtown Wholesale District, Historic Central Canal and White River State Park, Fountain Square, and the Mass Avenue Arts and Theater District
- A sixth district, Indiana Avenue, is anticipated.
- A complete version of each district's plan is available at www.culturalindy.com

Cultural Trail – Meg Storrow/John Kinsella

- The Cultural Trail Proposal would link the Cultural Districts.
- As proposed, the trail would make use of underutilized lanes of existing roadways to create a unique pedestrian environment.
- Opportunities for gateways exist at each of the cultural districts as well as along the trail itself.
- We will know more about the status of this proposal later in the year.

I-465 West Side Reconstruction – Lori Miser/Scott Siefker

- HNTB provided a brief summary of the Context Sensitive Solutions work that is currently under design as related to INDOT's planned reconstruction of the west-side of I-465. The process of introducing Context Sensitive Solutions (or Design) into a major roadway project at this scale is a first for INDOT. The CSS team has met on a routine basis with a group of stakeholders, commonly referred to as the Community Advisory Group (CAG). Among the desires of the CAG was to create a "significant" gateway to the city, community and neighborhoods, as well as provide strong connections between the neighborhoods.
- The CSS Design Team presented three "big ideas" to the CAG to introduce potential conceptual ideas of how the various elements of the roadways (including bridges, retaining walls, landscaping and noise walls) could be treated. The three "big ideas" were 1) Natural Heritage; 2) Cultural Heritage; and 3) Progressive Heritage. Based on the feedback from the CAG and INDOT, a preferred concept was developed that merged various elements from each of the "big ideas" into one concept, titled the "Crossroads Heritage."
- Currently, the CSS Design team is working on developing the recommendations for each of the specific elements to be included in the final set of design guidelines. This set of design guidelines will dictate the "look" of the various physical elements along the corridor, and will be used by the final design engineers as they prepare their construction drawings.
- Through the utilization of the Context Sensitive Solutions throughout the design process, this large-scale project will have a definite and positive impact on the image of the City and State -- providing a welcoming gateway to both visitors and residents alike.

Airport Midfield Terminal – Greta Hawvermale

- A powerpoint presentation on the airport midfield terminal was provided. The airport, itself a gateway, is an extremely significant project.
- Aerial views depicting entry into the redesigned terminal (from west to east) were provided.
- Many interesting design features will be incorporated in the project.

Central State Reuse/Certified Technology Park – Gordon Hendry

- Central State is approximately 160 acres located 3 miles west of the downtown.
- The Reuse Commission has proposed a mixed-use approach to developing the site.
- The reuse plan is generalized and would need to be developed in several phases.
- Washington Street, also a FOCUS Corridor, is a likely candidate for a gateway project.
- The area near the old fire station, also on Washington Street, is proposed as a trailhead for a future greenway element and might serve as a gateway.
- Gordon provided additional information about the Certified Technology Park

FOCUS Corridors – Sherry Seiwert

- FOCUS is an innovative partnership between LISC, the Central Indiana Chamber of Commerce, the Indianapolis Coalition for Neighborhood Development and the City of Indianapolis.

- This city-wide collaboration is making changes in the planning, advocacy, and delivery of economic development projects.
- The goal is to build long-lasting relationships that connect neighborhoods with businesses and new resources to revitalize urban markets.
- Corridors include: East 10th Street, 16th Street, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, West Washington Street, and Fountain Square.

Lafayette Square Area Plan –Andy Fraizer

- The 1999 Lafayette Square Area Plan identified several opportunities for gateways.
- A map was distributed that highlighted these gateway opportunities.
- The handout also discussed design elements desired by Lafayette Square Area residents.
- The City of Indianapolis has submitted an application to the State Budget Agency to designate the Lafayette Square Area a community revitalization enhancement district.
- It is expected that this designation, when approved, will spur redevelopment in the Lafayette Square Area.

Regional Center Plan – Harold Rominger

- The plan identified eight critical areas within the Regional Center which each offer opportunities for gateways.
- Existing structures such as bridges and overpasses that serve to define areas also offer potential for gateways as well as the need for improvement.
- A likely gateway opportunity is in the proposed bio-crossroads research community – there is a strong convergence of activities in this area, particularly at the intersection of East Tenth Street and Indiana Avenue.
- Gateways and corridors that strengthen ties from the Regional Center to the adjacent neighborhoods should be considered.

Historic Park and Boulevard Designation – Don Colvin

- 3400 acres placed on National Register of Historic Places.
- Designed by landscape architects George Kessler and Lawrence Sheridan.
- One of largest, most intact park and boulevard systems remaining in country.
- It includes parks, parkways and boulevards. It is both a recreational and transportation system.
- Potential gateway interactions could be at Fall Creek and Meridian, 39th and White River, or Shadeland/I-465 and Fall Creek Parkway.

Greenways Master Plan, Pogues Run Art Park – Michael Krosschell

2002 Greenways Master Plan

- Greenways are the 'interstates' of pedestrian traffic.
- This traffic is moving at a pedestrian pace, offering the opportunity for a smaller scale gateway.
- The system includes (shown on detailed maps) existing and planned greenway trails, as well as conservation corridors along streams in the county.
- The trails that offer potential as gateways in or out of Marion County include the Monon Rail-Trail (north), Fall Creek Greenway (north-east), the Pennsy Rail-Trail (east), the B&O Rail-Trail (west) and White River (north and south.)

Pogues Run Basin

- The basin, south of I-70 and west of Emerson Avenue, began as a flood control project to protect residents downstream on Pogues Run.
- Indy Parks has worked with DPW to open the property to the public for recreation, primarily walking trails.

- The opportunity exists to include large scale, and small, public art in the site, visible from I-70 entering the City as well as to park visitors.

Regional Transportation Plan – Phil Roth

- Traffic is increasing on all roadways, and is projected to continue, and might be considered a quantifiable objective for prioritizing gateway placement.
- The long-range transportation plan, currently undergoing a major review, identifies potential opportunities for partnering with state and local governments on gateway projects.
- The rapid transit system currently under study in the northeast corridor will identify new opportunities for gateways. North of I-465, it is expected (but not confirmed) that the Nickel Plate rail corridor will be the transit corridor, while south of Fall Creek, it is expected (but not confirmed) that the Monon right-of-way will be the transit corridor.
- Several inter-community bike-ped facilities have been identified, including: the Monon on the north, the Pennsy on the east, the B&O/New York-Michigan Streets on the west, and Bluff/Arlington Roads on the south.

For further information about any of the presentation topics, please contact:

Project	Resource Person	Email	Phone
Indiana State Fairgrounds	Bill Stinson	bstinson@indianastatefair.com	927-7501
Cultural Districts	Tamara Zahn	tamara@indydt.com	237-2222
Cultural Trail	Meg Storrow/John Kinsella	storrow@storrowkinsella.com or kinsella@storrow.kinsella.com	639-3420
I-465 West Side Reconstruction	Lori Miser/Scott Siefker	lmiser@hntb.com or ssiefker@HNTB.com	917-5263
Airport Midfield Terminal	Greta Hawvermale	ghawvermale@newindianapolisairport.com	327-5276
Central State Reuse/Certified Technology Park	Gordon Hendry	ghendry@indygov.org	327-3608
FOCUS Corridors	Sherry Seiwert	sseiwert@liscnet.org	396-0588 x 12
Lafayette Square Area Plan	Andy Fraizer	afraizer@indygov.org	327-4336
Regional Center Plan	Harold Rominger	hrominge@indygov.org	327-5147
Historic Park and Boulevard Designation	Don Colvin	dcolvin@indygov.org	327-7031
Greenways Master Plan, Pogues Run Art Park	Michael Krossschell	mkrosssch@indygov.org	327-5725
Regional Transportation Plan	Phil Roth	proth@indygov.org	327-5149

D. Update/Next Workgroup Meeting

The next date for a Gateways work group meeting is September 28, 2004. After reviewing the workgroup timeline, it was decided to complete both the gateways tool kit and location identification process by December 2004.

E. Comments/Meeting Conclusion

Thank you all for your efforts to make this initiative a success.