

Gateways Workgroup Meeting Notes
Room 2001
City-County Building
October 19, 2004
5:30 PM

A. Introduction

Carolyn Coleman opened the meeting and welcomed the Workgroup members.

B. Committee Update Reports

Carolyn Coleman introduced each of the committee chairs that were present. The following reported on their progress in prioritizing potential gateway locations:

Southwest – Sherry Siewert

Sherry reported that the Southwest Committee is focusing on the old rail overpasses along West Washington Street. These are approximately located at 7820 and 3518 W. Washington Street. A third location at 1520 received treatment a while back. Sherry expressed the Committee's desire to incorporate some form of continuity, e.g., a City emblem, at the design level of any gateways that are eventually constructed. The Committee felt that the airport is already a prominent gateway. Because the midfield terminal project will incorporate urban design features in and around the site, the group was uncertain as to whether it should be included in its priority listing. In subsequent discussion, it was agreed that the Committee will further review the airport project.

Northwest – William Plater

Dean Plater reported that the Northwest Committee identified 4 potential gateway locations and completed the evaluation forms for each site. After evaluating the sites, the priorities that were identified matched the informal listing the group had earlier performed – Cold Springs Road from 16th to 38th Streets followed by 38th Street and Michigan Road and then the West Washington Street Corridor, the latter location reinforcing the findings of the Southwest Committee. The Lafayette Square area is a possible fourth location, but is probably farther away from being ready for a gateway project. The Committee has done some work in assessing opportunities for project "ownership" and has identified Marion College, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Crown Hill Cemetery, Woodstock Country Club, and IUPUI as possible resources that may be interested in partnering in the future on a project at one of the priority locations.

Regional Center – Jim Lingenfelter

Jim Lingenfelter reported for Tamara Zahn who could not be at the meeting. Jim explained that the Regional Center Committee identified 13 potential locations addressing different levels: interstate, artery, pedestrian. The completed identification forms for these locations have been posted to the Gateways website. The Regional Center has many important sites and it was hard to narrow them down to 3. Jim explained that after completing the evaluation forms for each site, the Committee identified 5 priorities. Jim listed the locations in order of priority: 1. Monument Circle, 2. I-65/West Street, 3. I-70 – Meridian Street – Illinois Street corridors, 4. I-65/70 ramp to be constructed at E. Washington Street, 5. I-70 at West Street. The Committee exceeded the recommended 3 priorities, in part, because Monument Circle is the premier gateway; as such, it was thought to be a "given". Jim explained that the 2nd priority was a focal point for life sciences, IUPUI, Clarian Health, and the Cultural Trail. Jim referred to the number 3 priority location as the "Ellis Island of Indianapolis"; it was thought to have potential as an economic development project. The number 4 location should incorporate Context Sensitive design as part of INDOT's process. The number 5 location is important because of the Convention Center and the opportunity for development around that corridor.

Northeast – Carole Darst

Carole Darst reported for Cindy Porteous who could not be at the meeting. The Committee started with a large set of possible sites and has continually narrowed the list. Carole listed the top 3 priorities as: 1. I-70 at Keystone Way and Rural, 2. I-70/65 North split, and 3. Fall Creek at 38th Street. The other sites included: Fall Creek Pkwy, I-465 and I-69, 10th and Sherman, College and Mass. Avenue intersection, Washington Street and Southeastern Avenue, intersection of Ritter and Washington Streets, Central Avenue near the Red Cross Building, I-70 at Cumberland. The Committee will "revisit" , the intersection of Ritter and Washington Streets before finalizing its list.

Southeast – David Forsell

David Forsell reported for Harry McFarland who could not be at the meeting. As previously mentioned, the Committee has identified 5 sites and is prioritizing them. Their priority sites will most likely have some overlaps with the priorities identified by the Southwest and Regional Center committees.

C. Discussion of Next Steps for November 9th Public Review Meeting

Dean Plater presented 2 alternative prototypes of a storyboard. The storyboards were prepared by Alicia Chadwick and Karen Terrell. The work group was most appreciative of their excellent work. Carole Darst discussed some storyboard elements that could be standardized. To expedite preparation of the storyboards, Brad Beaubien has been hired by the Rotary. Brad has excellent graphic skills and experience in similar projects. David DiMarzio will collect the needed information from the committees and coordinate with Brad.

Carole Darst provided a handout of a proposed process for the public review meeting. The work group liked the proposal and offered only minor modifications involving how the attendees will break into discussion groups and the discussion summarization.

In general discussion it was noted that development of gateways should possibly be view as a long-term effort. The group also noted that proposed location appear to emphasize sites well within Marion County rather than outlying sites. There was also a desire to develop some method to catalog existing initiatives and determine whether there is a gateway opportunity.

D. Conclusion/Next Steps

Upcoming meetings:

Community Meeting

Tuesday, November 9th, 2004

5:30 p.m.

Indianapolis Arts Garden

Workgroup Meeting

Tuesday, December 14th, 2004

5:30 p.m.

2001 City-County Building

Gateways website: <http://www.indygov.org/dmdplan/gateways/>