



Steering Committee February 7, 2007 Meeting Synopsis

Committee members present: Mayor Cornett, Bob Long, Tim O'Toole, Michael Laird, Dan Straughan, Luisa Gomez, Dave Lopez, Larry Nichols, Jann Hook, Terry Taylor, Terry Ott, Ann Simank, Ira Schlezinger, Willa Johnson, Eickman, David Rainbolt, Kirk Humphreys, Chuck Wiggin, Bill Cameron, Ray Doonkeen, Patrick Ryan, Jennifer Vogler, John Yoeckel, Jim Roth, Pete Delaney

Others present: John Dugan, Mel Morgan, Dennis Clowers, Terry Ash, Kristy Yager, Joy Parker, Mark Hancock, Joe Van Bullard, Matthew McLarty, James Plumlee, Jennifer Lindsey-McClintock, Bill Phillips, Brett Hamm, Steve Lackmeyer, Heidi Rambo Centrella, Laura Story, John Estus, Janie Deupree, Jessica Gonzalez, Bud Bradshaw, Xavier Neira, Gary Marrs, Roy Williams, Kathy Wallis, Todd Lewis, Jennifer Gooden, Larry Kilduff, Alison Oshel, Doug Rex, Aquilla Pugh, Michael Brooks-Jimenez, Rick Cain, Russell Claus, Terry Taylor, Robbie Kienzle, Kim Cooper-Hart, A.J. Kirkpatrick, Blair Humphreys

- Mayor Mick Cornett and Dave Lopez reconvened the Steering Committee on February 7, 2007 at 2pm at the Beacon Club.
- Russell Claus, OKC Planning Project Manager, reviewed project goals and process and gave an ODOT update.
- Dennis Clowers, Director of Public Works, and Dan Kreuger (URS Team) gave an update from the transportation sub-committee.
- Sara Jane Maclennan (URS Team) presented a case study of Millennium Park in Chicago and the significance of the urban park.
- Marty Shukert (RDG) presented retail concepts along the proposed boulevard and Reno as well as the proposed convention center site.
- Sara Jane Maclennan (URS) presented the revised schemes with an emphasis on the key components such as the park, a Mercado district, a marina and the waterfront, and a downtown educational campus capable of hosting several different academic institutions.
- The committee broke into four small groups for round table discussions facilitated by a URS Team member. Each group refined the schemes, discussed alternatives, and presented their summary for discussion with the full committee. Issues discussed included:
 - Support for the concept of a downtown park, but concern that its implementation will require the full support of the community. Committee members discussed Oklahoma City's past history of park funding, potential uses within the park, and the possible negative impacts that the area's homeless population could have on perceived safety within the park.
 - Support for the concept of a convention center with underground parking, but lack of consensus on its final location with respect to the proposed park and existing hotels.
 - Support for future redevelopment of the cotton seed factory site, but no consensus on a new use for the land.
 - Concern that the campus site as presented could create competition problems for existing colleges in the region. New campus would have to offer something completely different than others.
 - Support for development of a youth sports facility within the project area that is large enough to attract multi-state tournaments.
 - Support for extension of the Bricktown Canal, but uncertainty whether a campus could take full advantage of its redevelopment potential.
- The committee chose to move the March 7th meeting to 9:00-11:00 am that same day to avoid any conflicts with the Women's Big XII Tournament games.
- The Mayor and Dave Lopez adjourned the meeting by reminding the committee that this planning effort is for the city that will be...not the city that is and to keep the consultant team posted on any feedback they get from there constituents.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 from 9:00-11:00am at the Beacon Club, 24th floor, Oklahoma Tower.