

CNA Land Use & Transportation Committee Meeting

4 December 2013

In attendance:

Girard Kinney (Chair)
Jules Kniolek
Mark Schiff
Brendan Wittstruck (scribe)

Meeting Notes from Previous Meeting

- *ReConnect Austin*; There was confusion regarding LUT meeting language on ReConnect Austin with regard to CNA position; to clarify, CNA earlier this year voted to support the ReConnect proposal, a position which was represented at the ANC East meeting and at the ANC East General meeting by Girard Kinney;
- *AMANDA*; Question regarding SC member Jonathan Braden's offer to investigate/develop web tool to assist CNA in gathering permitting information from AMANDA; Need to co-ordinate with Jonathan, who likely needs the guidance of someone more familiar with City permitting process and CNA needs;
- *Permitting Notices*; Scanning of notices to CNA P.O. Box; The interface for accessing these is cumbersome and notices are not receiving proper attention; Notices on permitting are sent to neighbors within 200' as well as the CNA; Suggest permitting notices be scanned and emailed to LUT membership;
- *Meeting attendance*; how to bolster attendance?

Chair Report

- *4020 Airport*;
 - CNA quarterly meeting voted to take the position to not oppose residential scheme; this vote notes that PSW had responded to LUT concerns in previous versions of site plan (including moving units closer to Airport and paying for U-turn construction on Airport);
 - Design concerns persist: what is the value of the space between buildings and why can't townhouses be considered?;
 - PSW has filed for zoning change (removing residential percentage restriction) and expects to file for site development permit next week; CNA
 - SC will write official letter indicating lack of opposition, but plan is not completely satisfying;
 - Indication that PSW prefers residential option over mixed-use option; PSW will move forward with residential option pending Council approval, although restriction regarding masonry wall is expected to remain at this point;
- *LUT Mission Statement*
 - LUT will approach this matter at the following meeting;

10-1 Districting

- CNA is entirely within District 9; Note that Blackland NA is in the same District (1) as the Capitol and Governor's Mansion;
- Airport Boulevard Corridor District failed to get ICRC interest, and Airport is divided between Districts 4 and 9; regardless, this may represent opportunity to engage multiple Council representatives for future Airport advocacy efforts;

Parking Overflow

- Representatives from affected areas are not present at meeting;
- Question of streets as public space/Commons persists;
- Haymaker, for its part, is content with a Neighborhood Parking Permit Program; concerns, however, that program would simply push overflow parking deeper into neighborhood; Noted that several residents along the south end of Cherrywood comprise an *ad hoc* group has formed to address this issue, and the hope is that they will allow the LUT to work with them and to share what they learn with other similar groups as they form along other border streets;
- LUT policy has been to support neighbors if they come to group with issues;
- Questions regarding curb painting/lane striping—example of incorrect parking space markers at 38 ½ near Cherrywood Coffeehouse; discussion of Manor Map Charrette;
 - LUT discusses proposal for charrette on ideas for the redesign of traffic on Manor Road; Briefly, some options are discussed: one-side back-in parking, parking on both sides, one lane each-way; There are considerations to be made from point of view of drivers, cyclists, pedestrians, and business owners;
 - Propose that Blackland NA (perhaps also Bike Austin, Windmill Bicycles) to be involved in charrette; Venue TBD (prefer location with wireless access);
 - Tentative date set at Wednesday, January 22, 2014;

ReConnect Austin

- Girard Kinney reports from Alliance for Public Transportation (APT) meeting; CAC to vote this Friday on Project Connect proposal for first-phase transit corridors: East Riverside (ERC) & Highland;
- Concerns over Highland; is it distinct “travelshed” from Mueller? What is role of Hancock Center as transit hub? Is “Highland” a made-up corridor to circumvent issue of East vs. West?
- TIGER Grant to increase ridership on the Red Line (possibly including double tracking) will open up new design/planning options; Regarding, connectivity, will two corridors connect to Central Corridor as assumed?
- Congress Avenue Bridge can handle structural load of train crossing but City concerns over disrupting bat population; LUT generally in favor of a new bridge constructed at Trinity (fully multi-modal: train, bus, car, bike, pedestrian);
- CNA voted in favor of depressed highway proposal by TXDOT in the second phase of their Major Investment Study circa 2001;
- LUT will continue to discuss this issue as it moves forward;

Mueller Transportation Committee

- Tom Wald replaced Girard Kinney as CNA rep to MTC, but has limited availability to attend meetings and his focus is on issues related to bicycling;
- CNA seeks to increase its presence at MTC by making Tom Wald a “bicycle” representative, and electing an additional CNA representative; MTC has indicated approval of this idea;
- Brendan Wittstruck has been asked to serve as CNA MTC rep; LUT will ask SC to vote on this next week;

New Business & Future Agenda

- Trucks on 38 ½ Street (Mark Schiff);
 - Concerns over recent freight traffic (one truck clearly marked Family Dollar); echo recent concern by Dolly Ensey regarding tractor-trailer incident on Cherrywood; 7-11 opening is expected to exacerbate issue;
 - LUT to write letters to businesses whose freight is observed using neighborhood as cut-through;
- Parking at Lafayette & 38 ½ (Jules Kniolek);
 - Illegal parking consistently observed in front of Turtle Dragon results in impaired visibility for vehicles turning onto 38 ½;
 - LUT to look into curb painting to correct problem;
- in.gredients (Mark Schiff);
 - Store broken into night of December 3; a scale was stolen;
- Wilshire stone entrance markers (Jules Kniolek);
 - Markers are in bad condition; LUT recommend action toward historical protection for markers; look for support from City and CAN
- Creeks Signage (Brendan Wittstruck);
 - Interest in a signage program to identify creeks to residents and promote neighbor buy-in into creek protection, maintenance, and systemic watershed understanding;
 - Girard Kinney recommends a resource called “Austin Creeks” by Tom Sheffelman (ed: I can’t find any information about this resource), which explores how creeks affect development (i.e. 34th Street was once a creek);
 - LUT interested in pursuing this idea in the future;
- Mueller Tower (Girard Kinney);
 - Girard Kinney has been selected as the architect by Catellus for the preservation/adaptive reuse of the Mueller control tower;

Meeting Adjourned