

Monroe Street Engagement Resource Team Meeting Notes

Date: January 11, 2017	Time: 5:00-6:00pm
Location: Barriques, Monroe Street	Recorder: Katie Fadelli
Attendees: Christy Bachmann, Robbie Webber, Hiam Garner, Peter Armstrong, Zia Brucaya, Mary Campbell, Ben Yahr, Aaron Williams, Alder Sara Eskrich	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Follow-up
Cross Section Resolution Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The cross section resolution was approved by the Common Council. The item was on the consent agenda, no one came to speak on the subject. 	
2017 Public Engagement Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Green Infrastructure Focus Group will take place on February 16. It will be led by Phil Gaebler and will be attended by the 12-13 people invited who either have technical expertise on the subject or who will support the implementation/advocacy side. A lot of the discussion will be around side-street and off-street opportunities, as well as opportunities at Crazylegs and other key location. These ideas will then be brought to the public workshops. Participation is geared toward those with technical expertise, but others may attend and observe. - The business meeting will most likely be held in March at HotelRED, date TBD. The City of Madison will lead their own process for business on preparing for the construction period, so this meeting will focus on the possible business district improvements and what the city will pay for v. what business will pay for. - Robbie wondered which of the upcoming meetings will cover general urban design/landscape design to create an environment along the length of the street that reduces traffic speeds. Visual changes such as landscaping can contribute to making the street feel like less of a thoroughfare for higher speed travel. Zia noted that this will be discussed at the business district meeting, as well as at the east segment and west segment workshops which will cover ideas for key placemaking locations as well as design decisions for the whole segment. - Christy clarified that any rain gardens installed would likely be on side streets due to the fact that Monroe is a salt route and because the terraces are too narrow. Phil understands that people are interested in this, however, and will be able to discuss the benefits of green infrastructure beyond infiltration, such as salt collection. We know that beautification/traffic calming, as well as improving water quality, are priorities for green infrastructure on the street. - Mary noted that art installations could also be used for traffic calming. Alder Eskrich asked that Karin from the art Commission be involved in the upcoming placemaking workshops to consider opportunities for public art. - Peter asked about the goals of the upcoming placemaking workshops and how they will be different from previous ones. Zia said that because we know what roadway space we have to work with from the approved cross section, city staff can be more specific on what will and will not be possible. Also the UW landscape architecture class will be working with city staff, and possibly this ERT, to compile precedent research and create design visuals and ideas for major placemaking locations such as Crazylegs as well as along the length of Monroe. 	<p>UA: send list of Green Infrastructure meeting attendants to ERT</p> <p>Christy: reach out to Karin from the Art Commission</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Peter suggested creating another briefing sheet to clarify what has been done so far, what is left to do, and goals for workshops. Alder Eskrich recommended emphasizing the effect that placemaking has on adding activity, and therefore reducing speeds and improving safety, on the street. Christy also noted that this will be a huge opportunity to discuss the future of Crazylegs Triangle. - The group discussed how to best use time indoors and outdoors at the upcoming workshops. Zia noted that the plan so far is to have a brief orientation indoors, then a walk-and-talk portion outside with stops to discuss design ideas relevant to that place, then additional discussion indoors, where people can join the meeting if they don't care to walk. The ERT suggested holding the west segment workshop at Temple Beth El and splitting into two walking groups to cover both Edgewood and the business districts. - The outdoor parts of the workshops will discuss key placemaking locations at the entrance of Wingra Park and Crazylegs Triangle, as well as streetscaping elements for the corridor as a whole such as landscaping, trash/recycling, bus stops, lighting etc. An activity for the walk may include thinking about the "Power of 10" rule for placemaking; What activities do you observe on the street today? What activities would you want to see? What is missing from the street to make those possible? Participants will be given worksheets to make observations as they walk to better report back to the group. - The final open house is scheduled for July 20th at Edgewood College where the City's first iteration of the complete plan for the street will be shared, including the location and design of the speed tables and the bulk of design choices for the street. 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Preparing for Construction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Christy noted that the City of Madison will do its own outreach process with immediately adjacent property owners starting around the third quarter of 2017, to give them information on the construction schedule and other details such as assessments, staging areas, etc. If decorative lighting were to be proposed in the residential sections, this would be controversial because it would be assessed to the adjacent property owners and is very expensive. The city will hold an informal meeting with property owners, and is also required to hold formal public hearings at the board of public works. Mary asked that Wingra School be included in this group. 	<p>Christy: include Wingra School in adjacent owner meetings.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Other & Wrap Up</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ben shared that Grilling for Peace will be held at Vilas Park on February 4. 	