

Livingston Avenue Area Commission



Meeting Minutes

640 S. Ohio Avenue ~ Columbus, OH 43205

June 26, 2012 General Meeting

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. by BS.
- 2) Roll call –TG-ue
- 3) Katie O’Lone-Neighborhood Design Center – Shifting focus to the Gateway Project, circulated a draft for the RDP application, which will be used by local artists to submit their idea for the freestanding sculpture at Livingston & Nelson. The project will be funded from a United Way grant with a budget of \$11-12,000 for implementation and installation. Project was held up while awaiting word from Norfolk Southern. The bridge surface is not fit to paint so the freestanding sculpture idea took its place. There is a steering committee made up from SSAC & Lava-C.
BS made a motion to approve the draft for the RFP with a change to include (Streetcar District) CW seconded
-The idea for Streetcar District came from the #1 line which brought development east of downtown.
Q-Where did the Heritage District sign come from at Livingston & Kelton?
A- Not really related to Livingston Ave. Corridor, it was a generic naming used throughout the city. Motion Passed 7-0-1
- 4) Doug Moore and Christine Marsh-COTA- Have been analyzing bus routes to determine if there could be a route along Lockbourne. Current bus stops serve the Home Port project. Evaluated all roads and stops along them. Looked at access to bus stops versus time on the bus. Starting 2010, posted notice of change at stops that may potentially be moved and will reevaluate based on feedback. See hand out for affected stops.
-Bus stop in front of 1138 Livingston should be moved for westbound route. Also, bus stop in front of 1127 Livingston should be moved. 11138 Livingston has been known for drug activity, have had multiple shootings in the past 6 months, in addition to the fact that the block also blocks traffic to and from Wilson Ave. Business owner at 1127 Livingston has complained numerous times to the AC about patrons of the COTA bus haggling their customers and its having an impact on return customers. Bus stop could be moved 100 feet east, to the Southeast corner of Livingston & Wilson in front of the vacant lot.
Q- Why is there no bus route along Lockbourne?
A- COTAs goal is to provide service within ¼ mile of each stop. The only option would be to move the # 81 East .



-The route that runs along Whittier could create a route on Lockbourne, taking it to Frebis and then back north to Whittier.

Q-Final recommendations will be available when?

A- Beginning of August.

- 5) Bill Hayes-OSU- Former NEAC member- OSU is considering diverting funds to expand Medicaid to those who are uninsured. Are negotiating with the Federal government, looking to serve the 43205, 03, 21 and 11 area. May include 06 and 07. OSU is a public entity, so they can match federal funds. Medicaid will cover dental, hospital, medical and prescriptions. OSU is interested in studying the effects of serving the increased population. If negotiations with federal govt. work, OSU will return to AC to discuss how to enroll people in the program.

Q- Will there be a co-pay for service or prescriptions?

A- It's Medicaid, so they will be very low.

-LAVA-C contact will be MS

- 6) John Turner and Hanna Jones-City of Columbus Landbank- Update on vacant home program and landbank status. Cities in the Midwest were built for large populations. due to the current economic status, population loss, and high foreclosure rate, there are currently a high number of vacant residencies within the coC. The landbank program is to acquire, demo/stabilize, or dispose of these properties working with non-profit organizations and investors. They have acquired many homes since 2008 through Neighborhood stabilization programs, including NSP and tax forecloseures. Of the 250 parcels sold since 2010, 40% were sold for rehab. Once properties are in the landbank, the title is wiped clean. It has demoed 190 homes with 80 pending to be demoed. Of the \$50 mil, the Landbank has only used \$3.2 mil to demo homes. The plan to demo Poindexter tower, some southside apartments and the gas station at Whittier and Lockbourne. Has spent \$2.4 mil on asbestos abatement. Created a housing program to streamline coordination with communities to address vacant structures, through the use of emergency or court orders. Creating community land care program to include "mow to own" so vacant plots can be acquired by homeowners within 400 feet of the vacant plot.

Q- Is credit a determination for the purchase of landbank homes?

A- No. Experience in renovation is required. Will conduct a background check for past code violations or tax delinquent properties. Does require proof of ability to purchase.

Also, created a vacant property prevention program, a rental rehab program, vacant property rehab and the OO renovation pilot program. Federal govt. gave the state of Ohio \$75 mil. For mortgage settlements. \$8 mil is slated for Franklin County. CoC plans to partner with the County landbank and may receive \$5.5 mil from settlement. Working to create a list of 900 properties to be demoed through this program.

Benita Lee has a list of properties prepared for demo in this area. Can refer properties for demo through email at vap@columbus.gov.

Q- Why is the city building homes in the area that has so many vacant homes?

Are these homes needed?



-The LAVA-C is working to compile a list of vacant homes available, to help promote their sale.

- 7) Ms. Ella Moody-Rock Hard Urban Outreach- First time attending a meeting, feels there is no voice for the community. COTAs refusal to create a Lockbourne bus route is an example. Would like to make an application to become a LAVA-C commissioner. Rock Hard is a non profit that serves Urban Youth. Will be sponsoring a food truck at the Juneteenth festival and plans to bring food truck to local neighborhoods.
 - Working with COTA can be like pulling teeth as they do not have to answer to anyone.
- 8) Dr. John Ratliff-Livingston Ave & Lockbourne- Looking to expand facility to serve a greater number of those in need. In 2009, came before the Commission with a plan for a new medical facility that would include social service in addition to medical. Would like to convert current medical facility into a daycare and a home health center.
 - Q- What happened with the plans for the new building that was approved by LAVA-C?
 - A- Funding fell through. Has acquired Donitas since then that would be available for parking space. Will need help with staffing in all areas. Ohio Health has a program for physicians but it is hard to keep them in the area.
 - Can contact LW to be put in touch with a commercial lender.
 - Q- Has a Board been created for this project?
 - A-Will need to be reassembled, possibly with new Board members.
 - Q- Do you still have builder?
 - A- When funding fell through, so did the relationship with the builder.
- 9) Commissioner Committee Reports-
 - CF-Edu- Summer reading program at the DP Library
 - CW- Zoning – OO has requested a meeting with the Department of Development to discuss OO pilot program. Meeting is about 6 weeks out
- 10) Comments from the Chair
 - There is a conflict with meeting on Wed., June 27th. There is a United Way meeting at DP Library at 5 pm and DP Civic is meeting at the Rec. Ctr. From 5-6pm, and the Hanford Village is meeting at the Rec. Ctr. At 6:30 pm.
- 11) Public Comments
 - None
- 12) Adjourned at 8:24 pm

Reviewed By: _____ Date: _____

Approved By: _____ Date: _____



