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GRANT ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLAN TASK FORCE April 15, 2009

MEETING RESULTS

MEETING TOPICS

- Introduce new members: Nanci Beizer, Task Force facilitator, Joseph Maher, Planning Commission Appointee
- Overview Phase 2 Community Participation: Neighborhood Association and Business Outreach
- Review Phase 2 Public Communication and Conversation Schedule
- Introduce and gain input on Community Character Segment Workshops
- Present and gain input on upcoming Neighborhood Association and Business Conversations

PRESENTATIONS

- Phase 2 Community Outreach Overview
- Phase 2 Community Participation Schedule
- Neighborhood & Business Conversations Overview
- Community Character Segment Workshops Overview
- Community Character Centers & Districts Workshops Overview
- Roadway Access Workshops Overview
- Character Segment Workshops Review: Objectives, Outline, Session Design, Maps
- Neighborhood and Business Conversations Review: Objectives, Agenda, Facilitated Questions

DISCUSSION

Introductory Remarks

- Melissa Antol reviewed the public artist selection process. Roy Garcia, Judith Anderson, Beverly Rutter volunteered to represent the Task Force.
- Nanci Beizer, Task Force Facilitator and Joseph Maher, Planning Commission Appointee were introduced. Updated contact information will be distributed.

Phase 2 Community Participation: Neighborhood Association & Business Outreach

Dave Perkins presented an overview of Phase 2 Community Outreach efforts and proposed timeline. Planned outreach includes: Neighborhood & Business Conversations, Community Character Segment Workshops, Community Character Centers & Districts Workshops and Roadway Access Workshops. The process will build upon public comments from Phase 1 to be addressed and expanded in Phase 2. The proposed timeline includes 33 public sessions beginning in mid-April and ending in the Fall 2009. Comments from these sessions will be used to inform the ongoing preliminary roadway design plans and community character and vitality plan along Grant Road. *The Task Force was encouraged to help get the word out and attend*

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upcoming conversations and workshops. The proposed community participation schedule:

- April-May: Three Non-Fronting Neighborhood Association Conversations, Seven Fronting Neighborhood Association Conversations, Four Business Conversations.
- Late May-June: Three Community Character Segment Workshops
- Late summer: Eight Roadway Access Workshops
- Early Fall: Eight Community Character Center/Districts Workshops

Task Force members were concerned about the effectiveness and scope of outreach used to notify Neighborhood Association Presidents regarding upcoming neighborhood conversations. Invitations were emailed to Neighborhood Association Presidents in early April after initial contact with the Presidents was made by phone in March, yet some Task Force members had not received notification from their neighborhood association of the upcoming conversations. Some Task Force members that are also Neighborhood Association Presidents were unaware of or had not received the email invitations. Suggestions for improving outreach were elicited by the Task Force following the Neighborhood & Business Conversation Review.

Community Outreach Overview:

Neighborhood & Business Conversations will initiate the outreach effort. Input gathered here will inform the Community Character Segment and Roadway Access Workshops. Objectives for these initial conversations include: providing an update on project status, describing Phase 2 Community Participation goals, reviewing Approved Alignment features, summarizing comments, and gaining input from neighborhoods & businesses. Several subsequent Public Workshops are planned:

Community Character Workshops, targeted for three segments (West, Central, East), are designed to help formulate initial policy objectives for the Planning Team, Task Force and public, and refine centers and districts as a framework for Community Character concept alternatives. Workshop objectives include: introduce Community Character & Vitality phase, gather community input on planning framework, refine Guiding Principles to create policy objectives, begin defining mixed-use centers and districts.

Community Character Centers & Districts Concepts Workshops, scheduled for late Fall, will use community input to refine the Community Character Concepts for Centers & Districts and draft an initial concepts for land use policy objectives for the Planning Team, Task Force and public. Workshop objectives include: review design concepts for revitalization opportunities, refine Guiding Principles policy objectives leading to applicable policy objectives. Roadway Access Workshops, scheduled for early summer, will use input from fronting neighborhoods and businesses to influence access design guidelines and preliminary design plans. Workshop objectives include: present summarized input from conversations and CCS workshops, elicit neighborhood input on traffic concerns and crossing Grant Road.

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Character Segment Workshop Review and Recommendations

Phil Erikson overviewed the Character Segment Workshop objectives, outcomes, and design. The Character Segment Workshops are designed to introduce the public to the

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Character and Vitality Phase and to begin gathering community input on the planning framework. As defined in the Grant Road Guiding Principles, “*Character and Vitality mean the health of the places surrounding Grant Road — neighborhoods and businesses, public space and activity, and private investment. Character and Vitality define the overarching goals for aspects of the study area such as housing, neighborhoods, employment, and public space. Through character and vitality, the Plan will work to enhance, in a fair manner, the economic and social environment of neighborhoods and districts*”. The workshop design included two small group activities to introduce the public to the planning process. Phil overviewed the maps intended to support workshop activities. (1) three character segment maps (west, central, east) depicting a summary of area & neighborhood plans, summarizing current neighborhood plan preferences in relationship to Guiding Principles and (2) three segment maps depicting Districts and Centers and existing land use. The maps illustrate Phase 1 approved alignment and relevant public comments. *Jim Hogan initiated a discussion about how land use and zoning will be interfacing with the Community Character and Vitality Phase. Task Force members asked questions to determine if planning efforts would result in a re-zoning of parcels along Grant Road, or if some planning efforts could effectively result in a down-zoning of their property. There was a great deal of discussion and confusion regarding the relationship of the General Plan, neighborhood and area plans, and zoning. The Task Force was assured properties will not be re-zoned; rather the Community Character and Vitality Phase will encourage neighborhoods and businesses to review existing neighborhood and area plans to evaluate areas where updates to policy objectives may be needed. Other updates related to urban design and desired future use, access and incentives to encourage the economic vitality of the area could also be considered. Any refinements to the existing neighborhood and area plans would be brought to the Planning Commission so that these updates could be formalized.* Task Force members were directed to review the maps for each segment and provide feedback to the Project Team.

The Task Force identified a series of changes/recommendations for the workshop and on the maps themselves to provide guidance to the Planning Team on specific elements and information that needs to be corrected or simplified.

Neighborhood & Business Conversations Review and Recommendations

Anita Fonte presented Neighborhood and Business Conversation objectives, agenda and proposed facilitated discussion questions in the areas of access/mobility, character/vitality, aesthetics/environment and vision/implementation. Task Force members recommended revisions to several questions to ensure clarity and completeness and recommended including a sampling of questions on outreach communication to better inform and attract attendees. To ensure broad outreach, several alternative methods for contacting neighborhoods were suggested by the Task Force.

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Next Steps

Melissa Antol reviewed next steps: Neighborhood & Business Conversations in April and May, 2009; Community Character Segment Workshops in late May; ongoing property impact mitigation; ongoing centerline & initial geometric right-of-way, ongoing construction phasing concepts, Task Force Workshop, tentatively scheduled for June 2009.

Task Force Concerns and Recommendations

Task Force members expressed concerns regarding the planned next steps timetable and need to continue to follow context sensitive solutions tenets. Given the break between Phase 1 and Phase 2 start-up, there is a need for the Task Force to be more engaged in the process. The Task Force expressed concerns about:

- Community outreach efforts (Neighborhood & Business Conversations and Character Segment Workshops) are moving too fast. There is too much technical information to digest and provide input on. The concern is that the public will also be overwhelmed.
- The ability to get the word out to enough neighborhood and business groups prior to scheduled conversations may be compromised due to the aggressive timetable. There was a shared concern for continuing to uphold public trust in the process.
- Need to define and share overall Phase 2 outcomes, milestones, timeline and task force decision points on the way to the final 2010 goal.

The Planning Team acknowledged Task Force concerns, and reinforced the commitment to ensure Task Force members have the information they need to make clear decisions and to uphold the public trust in the process. To ensure effective community outreach:

- The Planning Team will help Neighborhood Association Presidents get the word out on upcoming Neighborhood & Business Conversations with their constituencies and others
- Kaneen Advertising will follow-up with April 27th Neighborhood Association Presidents, to see if outreach is broad enough or if the session needs to be rescheduled
- Mailings will be considered for broader outreach
- Task Force suggestions for alternative methods for contacting neighborhood will be reviewed and implemented where possible
- The Planning Team will revise the Character Segment Workshop design, maps/materials and timetable based upon feedback from the Task Force and Neighborhood Association Presidents.
- An additional Task Force meeting will be considered for early to mid-May or sooner to report to the Task Force on Neighborhood & Business Conversations feedback and to review revised Character Segment Workshop materials.
- Facilitator will poll Task Force regarding potential meeting dates and contact Task Force members to follow-up

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TASK FORCE PARTICIPANTS

Susan Alexander
Judith Anderson
Tom Bush
P. Wayne Cullop
Roy Garcia

Sarah Evans
James Hogan
Mike Humphrey
Joseph Maher
Michael Midkiff

Alice Roe
Beverly Rutter
Marshall Shultis
Robert Tait
Jay Young

UNABLE TO ATTEND

Barbara Bird
Dale Calvert
Fletcher Sliker
Moon Joe Yee

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