

## Summary of April 16 Meeting

Approximately 32 persons attended the meeting. Planning staff distributed a summary of the March 12 meeting that included the results of the Strengths, Weaknesses, and Opportunity & Threats (SWOT) exercise. It was explained that results were grouped one set that related to people, institutions, organizations and leadership. Another list was compiled for responses that related to physical development, land use and infrastructure. A request was made to meeting participants for corridor photographs that could be loaned to the planning staff for possible inclusion in project presentations and documents.

Staff explained five objectives for enhancing the image of the corridor.

- Discover the unique identity of the corridor;
- Strengthen the community's sense of place;
- Embrace local heritage and history;
- Serve as a catalyst for economic development;
- Incorporate public art where possible.

Using photographs of major sections in the corridor, staff asked participants to respond how the five objectives applied or were not applicable to each section. The responses are as follows:

### **30<sup>th</sup> and White River Parkway**

- The river
- Lake Sullivan
- The marina
- There used to be a restaurant on the west side of the river
- The Naval Armory
- Golf courses
- The Iron Skillet (2 responses)
- The North-south walkway
- The promenade serves as a gateway.
- Riverside Park, White River, and walkway a connection could be made there.
- There used to be a pavilion by the river
- Southeast corner at 29<sup>th</sup> street, there is a boulder inscribed by the donors.
- The marina restaurant was open six years ago.
- There was a large anchor at the naval armory as a monument.
- Keep the area green the way it is.
- Soap box derby hill should be showcased.
- There is a potential for boat racing on the river

The group concluded that economic development was not a strong point in this section. Some business activity could be associated with events and attractions on White River such as boat racing.

### **Cold Spring Rd. and 30<sup>th</sup> Street**

- Connect the derby to the rest of the neighborhood.
- There is unused greenspace outside the derby gates.
- Need information on Wilbur Shaw
- General racing history
- We have racing in our community that no one really knows about.
- The University has a good history of cycle racing, advertise that.
- Maybe there can be other events on the soap box derby track such as skateboarding.
- Cold Spring road used to be known as "millionaires row"
- Municipal Gardens used to be the yacht club that served the wealthy residents on Cold Spring Road.
- There is very limited land unless the city lets loose of some land
- There is economic development potential for the southwest corner (the gas station)
- Maintenance is a key factor
- West of the gas station west of the parking lot is a overgrown space that detracts from the image.
- There is a lot of development at the university and a lot of heritage
- The area lacks interest for the students, there needs to be some related businesses for the students
- Using the draw of Marian University for drawing in restaurants

### ***Kessler and 30<sup>th</sup>***

- There needs for cohesiveness between commercial developments
- There are no sidewalks or landscaping. There needs to be landscaping and sidewalks
- There used to be a Westerleigh Pharmacy where the Laundromat is now.
- There used to be a riding stable where the Safeway is now.

### ***Centennial to Tibbs***

- Kessler Boulevard is part of the George Kessler Plan.
- The neighborhood character is strengthened by the stable housing.

### ***Tibbs and Lafayette***

- Gateway to the first shopping center in the Indiana area
- Lafayette Road is old 52. Can we have a link to the history of old 52?
- Flackville School 100 is for sale
- Flackville school number 100 should be condemned.
- Wesley Methodist Church used to be at the gas station
- The houses in Flackville that face 30<sup>th</sup> street have mostly been converted to businesses.
- Guion Road is like a back alley that goes all the way up to 71<sup>st</sup> street
- How about putting a traffic circle there at Lafayette Road and 30<sup>th</sup>?
- There needs to be sidewalks linking the apartments to the neighborhood
- Yes this is a place for public art to tie into the multi-cultural aspect
- There could be art there on a rotating basis the kind of art appreciated from a car
- Putting more green space on Lafayette road would help pacify the public's mood in traffic
- Is there a thought to having a place to pull off of the road? Have places to park on 30<sup>th</sup>, a parking lane.
- This is a big area for exchange students, a lot of international interest.

### ***Merchants Drive to Railroad***

- Little Eagle Creek is thorn in some people's side due to flooding.
- Little Eagle Creek could be more of a natural amenity
- A business there would not be good because the back wash would flow into people's houses.

### ***Lafayette Road north of 30<sup>th</sup> street***

- The speed of the traffic is killing the businesses (like Cairo Café)
- The restaurants there participate in "Taste the Difference" event to promote the Lafayette Square area restaurants.

### ***Lafayette Road to Eagle Creek***

No comments for this section.

### ***Additional Comments***

- As you reach the river have a consistent image to and from the area.
- Could there be a place for students to hangout?
- There needs to be a hardware store in the area.
- Trashy reused businesses' surrounding new attractive businesses is a problem.
- Sidewalks
- Flooding is a problem
- Soapbox Derby is an attribute
- Catholic education Pre. K to 16
- Don't let 30<sup>th</sup> street look like Lafayette Road from Cold Spring to 30<sup>th</sup> Street

Staff indicated that four image themes seemed to be emerging from previous public input.

- Potential linkages of the West 30th Street corridor area to racing at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway;
- Marian University and a campus atmosphere for the larger neighborhood
- Ethnic diversity increasing in the neighborhood
- Cultural and recreational attractions.

Staff explained that land use problems and potentials could not be explored due to time constraints. These topics will be placed on a future agenda. Participants were reminded of the next meeting, May 14 7 PM at Cardinal Ritter High School.