

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021 AT 04:30 PM WASHINGTON DISTRICT LIBRARY

The meeting was called to order by Kristy Howell at 4:35 p.m.

Present: Troy Reed, Randy McGuire, Kristy Howell, Liz Heider, Brad Mahony

Also Present: Jon Oliphant, Planning and Development Director; Zach Borders, Civic ArtWorks

1. Public Comments:

None

- 2. Approval of Minutes from March 25 Meeting: *Randy McGuire made motion to approve minutes, seconded by Brad Mahony. Motion approved.*
- 3. Business Items:

A. Comprehensive Plan Update:

Zach Borders presented a Visual Preference Survey (VPS) to gather input on any common themes related to desired future changes to the built environment. A VPS is a technique for obtaining feedback on physical design alternatives. It is often used when designing zoning codes, planning redevelopment, and conducting urban planning research. Zach presented a series of slides showing two distinct photos in categories such as single-family home frontage, side-by-side duplex, stacked duplex, residential street frontage, commercial street frontage, and commercial right-of-way. The responses that help shape the plan can then be used to determine if any regulatory changes to topics such as setbacks, off-street parking, landscaping, or building design guidelines may be necessary. Additional outreach is planned for future meetings.

Comments: The Commission generally favored pictures that promoted better aesthetics, walkability, and a mix of land uses, even with slight development cost increases that may result. Improvements could be undertaken around the Square to encourage greater use of the sidewalks for outdoor dining. Business 24 could be names Washington Boulevard to put a branding spin on the corridor upon its reconstruction. There is a desire to have continuity throughout blocks or neighborhoods. Street trees should be incorporated where they wouldn't interfere with utilities, which should be placed in the rear whenever possible.

B. Development Progress Update:

The City's TIF extension request has been approved by the State Senate and now awaits the Governor's signature within the next 90 days before it is finalized. The existing boundaries would be reduced by about half but the district would run through 2033.

Comments: No questions or comments.

C. Future Meeting Date: Schedule for Monday, August 2 at 3:00PM.

The meeting will be held at the Five Points Library.

4. Other Business:

None.

5. Member Comments:

None.

6. Adjournment: Motion approved by Troy Reed, seconded by Brad Mahony. Motion moved. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.