

Communities of the Future Advisory Committee

June 9, 2011 MSD Administration Building Inform & Influence Committee Meeting Meeting Summary

In Attendance: Marilyn Wall, Sierra Club
David Birt, Student Intern
Cassandra Hillary, MSD
Chad Edwards, Emersion Design/USGBC
Pickett Slater Harrington, Community Building Institute
Valerie Daley, Community Building Institute
Karen Ball, MSD/Hamilton County
Dustin Lester, MSD/City of Cincinnati
Laith Alfaqih, MSD
Deb Leonard, MSD
Dean Niemeyer, HCP&D
Brian Wamsley, HCP&D
MaryLynn Lodor, MSD

Handouts: Inform & Influence Committee Meeting June 9, 2011 Agenda
Project Groundwork Community Design Workshop #1 Overview
CFAC 2011-2012 Prospective Meeting Schedule & Agenda
MSD "Project Groundwork Partners" Designation Overview
Project Groundwork Partners List

Lick Run Public Design Workshop

The upcoming Lick Run Public Design Workshop was discussed. It was noted that the location will likely change from Theodore Roosevelt School. Other locations under consideration included Roberts Paideia Academy on Grand Avenue or Dater Montessori on Boudinot Avenue.

A handout was distributed titled Overview of the Community Design Workshop #1: Work Station Overview. MaryLynn Lodor explained that the Lick Run Watershed has been divided into four zones: Zone 1-Open Space and Urban Waterway, Zone 2-Neighborhood Business District, Zone 3-Priority Areas on for hillside areas, and Zone 4-Developed Ridgetop Neighborhoods. She stated the need to identify what tools/policies need to be changed and that can be used in the non-priority areas of Zone 4. Marilyn Wall questioned whether 20-30 minutes would be adequate to cover these areas. Others suggested that some participants may rather just do one or two of the zones. *It was agreed we'd attempt to scale it back to no more than 3 breakouts.*

Karen Ball expressed concern about the agenda for the design workshop and asked if this is just to get approval of a "box culvert"? She then stated that three of the five options that were presented at the Lick Run Open House are no longer consider viable by MSD and expressed desire for a detailed review of the Lick Run SWEP process with the CFAC committee before the Design Workshop. Note: A date for a Lick Run Technical Review Meeting has been set for August 4th.

Karen expressed her view that the box culvert for Lick Run is not a true stream day-lighting, and that the Value Engineering Study stated a true day-lighting could be done if a separate storm sewer were developed but that this was taken "off the table." Karen stated that the BOCC wants to see a sustainable solution advanced, but they want to make sure it works. Marilyn stated her concern that

conversation is not being had before this is taken out to the community for comment. MaryLynn reiterated that some preliminary planning was needed to determine the viability of any potential project before going to the community to prevent misleading them. This way, the design workshop will be an opportunity for the community to develop solutions within the design constraints and parameters.

Lick Run Watershed Tour Planning – July 2011

Tours of the Lick Run Watershed will be offered the week of July 11th to the 15th in advance of the Design Workshop. Tours will first be offered to CFAC members to test out the tour and then to all community members who are interested. Three dates will be selected for tours in the morning, afternoon and evening. Brian Wamsley suggested that bicycle tours be offered, modeled after Portland's Green Infrastructure Tours. Marilyn will contact Jim Coppick to gauge interest in this idea.

Pickett Slater Harrington suggested that after MSD does its tour, the "community" should take MSD on a tour and point out their concerns (e.g. vacant buildings) about the impact of Project Groundwork projects on these. Pickett pointed out that the importance of being up front with the community, and MaryLynn agreed, adding that MSD should communicate its constraints, offer two or three options, and request input on how these would impact the community and its residents, businesses, etc.

MaryLynn presented a PowerPoint presentation that identified locations in the Lick Run Watershed that showed where proposed MSD improvements would be developed, starting with Harrison Avenue. These improvements will be collaborative with Cincinnati Department of Transportation and Engineering with its realignment of Harrison Avenue. For the Fenton Avenue proposed project, it was suggested that a walking tour might be done if approval is granted by the property owners.

Other Topics

For the Guerley Road Reservoir/Detention Basin, the Cincinnati Stormwater Management Utility (SMU) has a 30% design completed for this project. One CFAC member stated that a medical waste site from an old tuberculosis facility is located on the site for the proposed detention pond and it was possible that medical waste still washes up there. Ms. Lodor stated that the City Stormwater Management Utility and the Office of Environment Quality are aware of this and completing reviews and if it is determined necessary, materials will be properly remediated and disposed prior to construction.

Design is being made ready for setup for the Glenway Woods Project. Dean said slides of this could be used as handouts for the Lick Run tours, keyed to a map of the whole watershed.

Ohio State University Extension Office is teaching the Garden Club of St. Francis about how to maintain the bioswale at the St. Francis project. Pickett noted this shows how these projects strengthen the community and impact quality of life. Karen stated that some of the Demonstration Projects are collaborations with Cincinnati Public Schools and are used to educate the students about these projects.

Project Groundwork Partners

Brian gave an overview of the Project Groundwork Partners program, noting that the goal is to recognize stakeholders for their commitment to Project Groundwork. He provided a list of possible Partners, and said the initiative will start in Lick Run and be expanded in the other watersheds as solutions are implemented there. Pickett said he feels more needs to be required of "Partners" and that they should identify what they are bringing as value to the project.

Next Steps

The CFAC Inform and Influence Subcommittee recommended reconvening a week before the first tour of Lick Run during the week of July 11th. After some further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.