

**Downtown Revitalization
Association Advisory Team
Meeting Notes ~ April 13, 2009**

Association Advisory Attendees: Paul Rosales, Jackson Hill III, Jason Opat, John McKay, M.S. Mitchell, Wess Galyon, Richard Brown, Chester Daniel, Don Sayler, Allen Bell, Collen Allen, Heather Arreguin, Corie Holbrook, Jason Dilts, Randy Roebuck, Lindsay Young, Shannon Bohm, Mike Haggar, Dick Honeyman, Rick Cline, Janet Miller, Bryan Frye, John Todd, Kelly Parks, Michael Lunsford, Stacy Woody, Jan Hiebert, Cathy Holdeman, Stacey Boyd, Larry Weber, John Stevens, Hoyt Hillman, David Babich, Dion Avello, Charles Steiner, John Waltner, Joe Yager, John Willoughby, Stephen Steward, Patti McDonough, Kelli Glassman, Debra Miller Stevens, Janet Wilson, Deborah Fisher Stout, Laura Raudonis, Trista Curzydlo, Keith Lane, Bob Hanson, John Andrade, Carl Brewer, Jeff Fluhr, Suzie Ahlstrand, John Rolfe, Jon Rolph, Diane Longfellow

Welcome & Purpose of the Meeting

Mayor Brewer welcomed everyone. There is a lot of momentum right now that we need to build upon. We know these are challenging times but we must continue to be aggressive and come to an agreement on where we need to go and how we are going to get there.

Case for Downtown

Jeff Fluhr presented information on the Case for Downtown. It included information on what is currently going on in downtown and the opportunities ahead of us.

- We are building our identity
- We have a lot of “wins”
- We are building upon our investment
- We need to determine how to keep moving forward; how to connect the assets we have built – Old Town, INTRUST Arena, River Front, Water Walk
- We need to identify strategic development initiatives
- We can learn from other communities such as Chattanooga, Louisville, Raleigh, Kansas City, Oklahoma City
- We need to create the environment businesses can build upon
- The goal is how to take a 20 year vision and make it happen in 10 years.

Invitation to Dream

The Mayor invited everyone to share their dream for downtown Wichita. We want to create an environment where people will want to live, work and play downtown. Let’s take this city from good to great!

Comments & Discussion

- Q – How do we access some of the other visions that are happening?
A – Wichita Downtown Develop Corporation has this information. Those plans are creating the foundation for going forward.
- Q – Understanding that plans need to be fluid and past plans have gotten side-tracked, how will this not happen to a future plan?
A – This plan has an implementation strategy to keep the focus.
- Visitors driving through town don't see the best image of our city. Redevelopment needs to be conscience of the area aesthetics.
- We need a performing arts center that would be a signature building.
- The convention center needs to be remodeled or rebuilt.
- We need a smaller version of a county club plaza.
- Q – What does the current TIF pay for?
A – For the arena neighborhood it pays for infrastructure and wayfinding.
- Connectivity – we need adequate transportation.
- Where are the essential elements – dry cleaner, grocery, laundry?
- Q – Where are we with infrastructure – transportation?
A – We do have the Q Line. We don't have a compact downtown. We want to create a downtown where people do want to walk.

What do People Want?

- Transportation system that runs late into the evening downtown.
- Foreign film/arts
- Make streets 2-way
- Theatre district (start with Orpheum, Scottish Rite Temple)
- Arts district revitalized
- Keep things affordable downtown
- Police and security downtown – especially in the evenings
- Art crawl on Final Friday brings a lot of people downtown; there are a lot of positive things happening
- Delano another place for an arts district in addition to Commerce Street
- There's a lot of talk about Century II and what we need to do. We need a commitment from the elected officials and see some action.
- How do people know they are entering downtown? We need physical features when entering downtown that are coordinated.

The group was overwhelmingly in favor of developing a new master plan for downtown.

Adjournment & Thank You

Invitation to Dreams cards were given to attendees. Jon Rolph thanked everyone for attending and encouraged them to complete and return these cards.