



**Penn Avenue Corridor
Phasing Plan Committee (PACPPC)
Thursday, August 13, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.
BGC Activity Center**

MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance:

Aggie Brose (AgB)/BGC; Deadra Keener (DK)/BGC; Paula Martinac (PM)/The Bulletin; Elaine Zelmanov (EZ)/Councilman Dowd's Office; Matt Galluzzo (MG)/PAAI & FDA; Shelly Martz (SM)/DCP; Maureen Ford (MF)/LC; Julian/intern @ LC; Katherine Camp (KC)/ELDI; Karen Loysen (KL)/L+K Architects; Sallyann Kluz (SK)/L+K Architects; Patrick Roberts (PR)/City of Pittsburgh; Ryan Sheran (RS)/Kimball; Keith Halas (KH)/Kimball; Ryan Sheran (RS) Kimball; Patrick Hassett (PH)/City of Pittsburgh, DPW; Melissa Rubin (MR)/PWSA; Grady Roberts Jr. (GR)/BGC Board

- I. **AgB called the meeting to order, and introductions were made.**

- II. **Motion to Approve the June Meeting Minutes**
 - MG moved to approve, KC seconded.
 - KC noted that Aggie Brose is sometimes shown as AB and other times as AgB. **ACTION:** DK will correct all to reflect AgB.
 - PH: Had some small corrections and gave them to DK. The number of shelters will be determined in discussions with the Port Authority. Is the September 6 meeting at 6:00 PM a go—the PAAI meeting?
 - MG: Yes. Have secured Most Wanted Fine Arts at 5015 Penn Avenue as the location.
 - PH: Will the PACPP be the main topic of discussion?
 - MG: It can be the main piece.
 - PH: We can discuss details later in the meeting.

- III. **Updated Timeline & Monthly Status report**
Monthly Status Report
 - RS passed out and went through monthly status report handout (via PP).
 - RS: Only change is regarding the final report. It is currently 1,060 pages. It has been sent to PH's office for review and should be posted before the next monthly meeting.

- IV. **Streetscape Design**
 - MG: A big thank you to Loysen + Kreuthmeier for the ridiculous amount of work on this project. They have gone well above and beyond the call of duty, putting in triple time.
 - SK handed out copies of the Streetscape Design packets.
 - DK: Is this the final product?
 - KL: Very, very close.

- SK: About 5% more to be done. Currently making sure the graphics are clean before printing and want the committee to see and review before printing. We are open for comments until next week.
- SK: Some ideas are refined and clear and some would have to be explored more in engineering.
- SK and LK went through the catalogue.
- PH: This is a key departure from what we usually propose for streetscape. Here the streets fixtures are background, letting the store fronts be at the visual forefront. For example, the light fixtures by the new Children's Hospital are nice, but are visible streetscape elements. Want to note that we cannot be reimbursed through federal funds for parking stations. Will have to talk with Parking Authority regarding their preferred option.
- SK: Talked with Lamar and also collaborating with ELDI to possibly create a new bus shelter standard for Penn Avenue.
- AgB: Who would maintain them?
- PH: Would have to work that out. City would maintain trash and clean the glass. The contract expires with Lamar in 2011, so there is an opportunity to negotiate. Lamar is contracted to advertise at 50 bus shelters.
- SK: Contract allows other bus shelters to be built, but no advertising allowed with other agencies. Lamar is willing to look at alternate shelter designs as long as it does not reduce advertising space.
- PH: Ideally the design would be such that we can put it out to bid for the best price.
- SK: The current company that makes the Lamar bus shelters is not strictly a shelter manufacturer. They also do signs and other items and are based out of Ohio. So we could put the shelters out to bid.
- AgB commended MG on his leadership on the Streetscape Design Plan.

V. **Letter to Officials**

- PH: The letters are all identical except for one section which is tailored individually to specifics for each recipient. The newsletter and recommendation statement are included. The letters are in the Mayor's Office for approval and to be signed. Hopefully will go out in the mail next week.
- PR: Did you get my email regarding another possible funding opportunity? For possible \$25 million.
- AgB: Yes.
- Discussion occurred as to setting up another meeting to discuss. Schedules were not aligning.
- PH: I'm not sure that the application is set up for this kind of project and would not want you to waste time that you, and we, do not have.
- PR: We can talk more after the meeting

VI. **Preliminary Engineering/ Final Design Progress**

- RS passed around samples of schematic designs and also showed them on PP.
- PH: This shows engineers what could be possible and gives the public a sense of what the project entails. It is a physical manifestation of the project.
- **ACTION:** KH will send out an email to the group with a link to the drawings. PH requested that the committee review them.

- RS: Will not show everything, rather is more of a visual starting point.
- MG: What requirements do we have for property owners for maintenance?
- PH: None. Would like to have the concurrence of property owners, but it is not required. It is more a negotiation than a mandate, and comes up mainly with street trees.
- MG: What about the sidewalk?
- PH: We rebuild and construct, and they maintain.
- SK: Getting documentation from FPUF (Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest) about the benefits of street trees.
- MG: We did discuss with Lisa Ceoffe about the TreeVitalize Program and getting trees through them. They are looking for suggestions. Spring is the earliest we'd get the trees, but next fall more likely.
- Parking meter head discussion took place. MG suggested an East End group discussion take place outside of the meeting to discuss possibilities further.
- SK: Property owners complained at the public meetings that they've had applications in for trees through the City for years and still have not received a street tree. Maybe we can also work to get them trees, particularly in the Lawrenceville section of the corridor.
- RS: BK will wrap up the scope and pricing when he is back from vacation, and will likely have finished by the end of the month. Before preliminary engineering can start, these have to be finished.

VII. Old/New Business

PWSA

- MR: The consulting engineer is still looking at the water pressure issue.
ACTION: Will have a report on suggestions to address this issue at the next meeting. Likely will have this by next week and can email to AgB, PH, BK and DK in the meantime.

PACPPC Meetings

- PH: We need to think about restructuring the meeting format and timeline and who is involved. Still need for the group to meet with an eye on the entire corridor. But also important now to focus specific attention to Phase I and the engineering.
- PH: Recommend going to quarterly meetings for corridor-wide interests, and then have special meetings if needed. A "task force" should be formed to work with the engineers. The task force could meet bi-monthly to keep things moving along, but with a more focused group and agenda. Need to also focus on engaging business and property owners for Phase I.
- Group agreed.
- PH: So we will forgo a September meeting and regroup in October, which can then be our first quarterly meeting.

Meeting to Engage Penn Avenue Businesses

- Discussion occurred as to whether should be a part of MG's PAAI meeting or separate. Group decided separate meeting would be better. Settled on Thursday October 1, and to have two meetings to accommodate attendees' schedules as much as possible. First meeting at 8:00 a.m., just prior to the regular PACPPC meeting. The second meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. Coffee will be supplied for the morning meeting and BGC will supply snacks for the evening meeting.

- **ACTION:** The Sept. 10 PAAI meeting and Oct. 1 PACPP meetings will both be advertised in The Bulletin.
- **ACTION:** MG will announce the Oct. 1 meeting at the PAAI meeting.
- **ACTION:** BGC will go door-to-door on the Phase I blocks to hand out a flyer advertising the Oct. 1 meeting and personally talk to business/property owners.

Other

- **ACTION:** PH requested that the committee engage FPUF to be a part of the PACPP task force.

VIII. **Adjourn**

- **Next Meeting Date:** Thursday, October 1 @ 9:00 a.m. (at BGC Activity Center)