



**Penn Avenue Corridor
Phasing Plan Committee (PACPPC)
Thursday, March 5, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.
BGC Activity Center**

MEETING MINUTES

In Attendance:

Aggie Brose (AgB)/BGC; Deadra Keener (DK)/BGC; Brian Krul (BK)/Kimball; Keith Halas (KH)/Kimball; Maureen Ford (MF)/LC; Patrick Hassett (PH)/City of Pittsburgh, DPW; Lindsay Myers (LM)/City of Pgh., DPW; Sidney Kaikai (SK)/Kimball; Melissa Rubin (MR)/PWSA; Ken Stiles (KS)/FDA & FPG; Patrick Roberts (PR)/PennDOT; Eric Hess (EH)/Children's Hospital; Sallyann Kluz (SK)/L+K Architects; Katherine Camp (KC)/ELDI; Shelly Martz (SM)/DCP; Tony Ceoffe (TC)/LU; John Barrett (JB)/FDA; Amanda Broadwater (AmB)/City of Pittsburgh, DPW; Grady Roberts Jr. (GR)/BGC Board; Sean Capperis (SC)/City Councilman Patrick Dowd's Office; Lloyd Wright (LW)/PA Senator Ferlo's Office; Matt Galluzzo (MG)/PAAI & FDA

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

- Introduced Sallyann Kluz from Loysen + Kreuthmeier Architects, who were awarded the contract to do the Penn Avenue Streetscape Design Plan
- Announced that Patrick Roberts is changing jobs—leaving PennDOT to work for the City. Not sure who is replacing him on the committee, but possibly John Krajcovic. **ACTION:** Find out who the replacement is.

II. Motion to Approve the January & February Meeting Minutes

- JB motioned to approve the January meeting minutes, BK seconded.
- **ACTION:** PH requested to hold approval for February meeting minutes until next month's meeting in order to look over and make further corrections if needed.
- PH noted an important correction to the February minutes: The PACPP is funded through the design phase. We have \$1.5 million so far for construction. It will probably take \$4-5 million total for the project.

III. Updated Timeline & Monthly Status report

- BK passed out handout with updates.
- BK: Want to submit to City, solidify funding and decide where the project will start so can start moving this summer.

Streetscaping/Street Tree Report

- BK: Submitted to City for final review, they had some comments.

Survey and Background Drawings

- BK: Were missing some vaults, so KH went out and located them last week. Should be finalized by the end of the month.

Lighting Plans/Report

- BK: Currently addressing City comments. Final Report should be up on the site next week.

Transit Technical Memorandum

- Met with Port Authority. They reviewed and asked questions. Currently 46 bus stops along Penn Avenue. Report makes recommendations on consolidating some and creating new ones. The City to further discuss the need for the 44th and Penn outbound stop once Children's is open and stop activity can be monitored.
- EH: Children's recommendation was always to leave all existing stops until after opening to see how it goes.
- BK: Our recommendation is to leave it there, but the City/Port Authority have the final decision.
- AmB: The sidewalk is very narrow there, which is why Port Authority is trying to avoid locating a stop there.
- TC: Want to talk about getting more bus shelters along the stretch of corridor, particularly at 36th and Penn—residents there are asking for one.
- BK: That is a recommendation in the report.
- SK: Currently there are 6 bus shelters and we are recommending more.
- AgB asked if the left hand turn at Penn and Main was happening.
- EH: It was resolved and is going to happen.
- PH: Let's get the final Transit report draft out to the committee before the next meeting—post online.
- BK: **ACTION:** Do we want a Port Authority representative here at the next meeting?
- PH: Yes, if they are available.

Bicycle Technical Memorandum

- BK: Finalized and available on the site.

Traffic/Pedestrian

- BK: Need to coordinate with Baker regarding Doughboy Square service levels.

Timeline

- BK: Reports should all be final or in the final draft by the public meeting

Needs Analysis

- PH passed out final draft of Needs Analysis.
- PH: Looking at two things: 1) Needs in corridor and 2) Qualitative needs. With this we can prioritize segments of the corridor based on needs. The Summary of Quantified Needs by Block/Intersection chart summarizes the magnitude of need on a scale from 1-6. The first five columns are block needs we were able to quantify. The last three columns are intersection needs we were to quantify.
- PH (explaining the large table titled "Summary of Need and Improvement Cost Estimates by Block/Intersection/Segment"): This is an attempt to visualize data on one page. It is an accumulation of everything shown on the Summary of Quantified Needs page into a visual presentation of the corridor. The longer the bars are, the higher the need. This is the finalized version of the draft we saw last month. Again, this is a compilation of needs by block and intersection along the corridor. The last two columns show the *qualitative* needs and include needs and issues identified in previous planning studies and at the public meeting that could not be quantified. Qualitative Needs/Issues are broken down by segments, as they were discussed/presented at the meeting, instead of broken down into blocks.
- Side discussion regarding the building at the corner of Penn & Main: PH advised moving forward as if it is staying. AgB asked if we can bring it up at the community meeting, to which PH replied that it was discussed at the last meeting. GR asked who gets the final word on whether it stays or not? PH replied not sure,

- which is why hesitant to bring it up at the meeting. PR stated that we have to show a good faith effort with the community and owner to work it out, but that it is not a democratic process with a yes or no vote by the public. If and when the Penn/Main intersection gets prioritized, we will need to come to some resolution.
- PH: There is lots of info here, but it serves two purposes: 1) To identify areas for first priority and 2) To get a sense of how far the \$1.5 million will take us.
 - AgB/PH: From Mathilda on, can see why it is so important that PWSA is involved.
 - TC: Still unclear about prioritization. When are we going to get pricing in there?
 - PH: Kimball is working on that now to get ballpark figures.
 - JB: Once we have the figures, what is the process to let the committee know? Unveiling them at the April 16 meeting?
 - PH (passed out a handout with some cost breakouts): No. These cost breakouts will help determine the cost per block. Prioritization is not a pretty process. There is an established procedure. The highest quantifiable needs will determine the recommended starting point. That is just one piece of the puzzle. The other two pieces are political and public. At the next public meeting, we will ask the public to validate the needs, and then it is up to this group to establish priority. The federal highway officials need to sign off as does state officials and Council and then to the Mayor, who has the ultimate approval. Keep in mind that this is phase 1 of multiple phases. **ACTION:** TC and MF will meet with PH to clarify and gain an understanding of funding and phasing.

IV. **Public Meeting**

- April 16, 2009. Committee arrival 5:00 p.m. Food/beverage at 6:00 p.m. Meeting start at 6:30 p.m.
- BK: Whatever resources we need for the meeting Kimball can take care of.
- PH: Five purposes of the meeting:
 1. Apprise of status of the project and the progress we've made since the last meeting (i.e., what we heard)
 2. Present the needs of the corridor and that we understood them.
 3. Introduce them to the projects in the broad sense, not detailed. Want them to validate the range of projects/investments that we are looking at.
 4. Next steps: Where we will go from here—cost out, prioritization, preliminary engineering, etc. (This is a whole other aspect to our deliberations. We have to view the projects not only as how they fit our current needs but also how they are consistent with our planning objectives for the corridor.)
 5. Interpretation of the vision for the corridor and validating that vision.
- PH asked if SK/Loysen will have something to present for the meeting. Advised that Loysen could use the public meeting as an input mechanism.
- MG: We probably won't have time to have something to present.
- SK: MG and I will talk and see where we are at that point.
- Question was posed as to whether we will do breakout groups again.
- BK: Do not think it would be good to separate into groups because it could start a clash of everyone for themselves. Want to present an overall picture to everyone.
- MG: An important message to impart regarding streetscape design is that it is for the entire project stretch of the avenue.
- PH (to SK & MG): Anticipate having around 10 minutes on the agenda just to let the public know what you are doing.

- AmB: Noted that the water line issue will come up and we should be prepared to respond.
- AgB (to MR): Who are you taking the meeting notes back to?
- MR: The Director.
- **ACTION:** AgB to talk to Mr. Kennedy/PWSA to make sure fully aware of PWSA's importance to this project.
- AgB: How do we want to move from here?
- PH: Need to get advertising out now.
- BK: When is the Bulleting deadline?
- DK: The 15th.
- BK: Will do same ad as the last time. Also will put together a letter to public officials and a flyer.
- AgB: Each person is responsible for turnout in their area.
- BK/AgB: Let's set up a subcommittee for meeting planning.
- MG: Already have a March 11 Streetscape meeting planned for 11:00 a.m. Can do a meeting subcommittee meeting right afterwards at 12:30 p.m. at the FDA office, and can order in food.
- BK: How do we establish who will be there?
- PH: Anyone who wants to be involved in the subcommittee for planning the meeting can attend.
- **ACTION:** DK will send out a meeting reminder to the entire PACPPC.

V. **Old/New Business**

Streetscape Design

- MG: As many of you know, we received a \$50,000 grant from PPND to do a condition-based streetscape design plan. Sent out an RFP and received proposals from 6 local firms. And ad hoc committee reviewed the proposals and awarded Loysen + Kreuthmeier the contract. Will be working with them over the next 8-12 weeks. The kick off meeting with them is next week on Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. at the FDA office. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. *Thinks this is the "sexiest" part of the project.*
- PH: So we have 3 meetings on the schedule: March 11th, April 2nd and April 9th.
- BK: **ACTION:** Everyone start thinking about what type of presentation materials we want for the meeting so Kimball can start on them.

VI. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, April 2 @ 9:00 a.m.