



**ECONOMIC VITALITY & TOWN CENTER TASK FORCE
MEETING #, April 26, 2018
Meeting Summary**

Attendance

Task Force Members	Attendance
Steve Cox, Chair	Present
Adam Bettcher, Vice Chair	Present
Ronald Skinner	Present
Sarah Bayle	Present
Jerry Osborn	Present
Linda Rogers	
Victor Eskenazi	Present
Joe Mustach	Present
Wade Heyer	Present
Marie Landsverk	
Mike Lavigne	Present
City Council Liaisons	
Councilmember Doug McCardle	Present
Councilmember Laura Sonmore	Present
Planning Commission Liaisons	
Commissioner Alice Kier	Present
Commissioner Nick Bautista	Present
Project Consultants – SCJ Alliance	
Jean Carr – Senior Principal	Present
Brett Bures – Project Manager	Present
Staff Liaisons	
Stephen Clifton, Assistant City Manager	Present
Christy Osborn, Community and Economic Development Director	Present
Bill Trimm, FAICP, City Consultant	Present

Open Task Force Meeting #2

- The Chair thanked everyone for their extra review of the materials.
- The Chair suggested all future meetings include the ability for community members in attendance to speak at the end of the meetings.
- Stephen and Brett updated the Task Force regarding the status of the website and dropbox. From now on the website will be the repository for all project materials. Dropbox will no longer be used for information sharing.

Discussion of the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA)

- Scott briefed the Task Force on the OPMA and the limitations on meeting and discussion topics. The key “do’s and don’t’s are:
 - Outside meetings, such as CLEAR, are not considered open public meetings.
 - Remember all email correspondence regarding Task Force business could be subject to a public records request.
 - Do not converse in a group of more than 6, because 6 is a quorum for the Task Force.
 - Even commenting on digital documents can be construed as a Task Force meeting if too many people weigh in via email.
 - All Task Force related communications should be sent to City Staff who will then distribute it in a manner that avoids running into problems with the OPMA.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Stephen highlighted Roles & Responsibility document.
- The Chair and Vice Chair responsibilities are outlined in the document, as well as the role of the City, Consultant, and Liaisons from the Planning Commission and City Council.
- Councilmember McCandle addressed the Roles & Responsibilities. The intent of having Council and Commission Liaisons on the Task Force is that they are available as resource and to keep informed about the process.

Review/Discussion of Information Generated at Meeting #1

- Brett presented the findings of the 5 questions asked at meeting #1 and how each breakout group was consistent the others.
- The question was raised if the meeting summary should be approved or just received? It was decided that it should be received and discussed.

Revisit Town Center Vision and Guiding Principles

- Jean provided a copy of the Guiding Principles and Vision Statement from the 2008 Town Center Plan. She asked each member to review the material and make edits to things that seem no longer applicable or add items that may be missing.
- The Chair questioned if the Vision and Guiding Principles need to be addressed or revisited because of the previous Vision work conducted.

- Jean commented that the goal of the exercise is to determine if the existing Vision is relevant to today's needs of the community. Task Force members were invited to speak to the Vision and provide their thoughts. The following comments were made:
 - What does vibrant mean? The Vision has lots of pretty words. It is so broad it doesn't say anything. What is the Town Center identify?
 - The Vision is way too broad– It could be any community
 - Keep MLT underlying identity? What are we trying to save? Extract truly beautiful points of MLT.
 - The 5 districts are too small.
 - The plan and the vision is not dated at all, it is a vision statement that is applicable and timeless. Would the demographic changes be in support of the vision statement? The vision process is tedious. We want Rogers Market back.
 - Urban cores more confined. The 5 districts are too numerous and too small. The vision is fine, it's how the vision gets applied that the Task Force should focus on. What is the geography and boundaries?
 - The vision was vetted in 2008. The visioning statement should be like a tree. Vision seems to be fine but jumps in scale. Define what things in core are not changing.
 - The Vision Statemen is missing something. Preserve topography, open space & parks, green spaces, wide sidewalks require interest. What's protected & what's leveraged?
 - The separation of districts is evidenced by the freeway and the business district. No continuity. A regional approach should be taken to concentrate the focus of the plan. A few changes in demographics are happening, does the vision gels with those changes?
 - What gets built caters to the market. The goal is to market as broadly as possible to attract tenants. The market will dictate and fill the spaces. The vision was not meant to be exclusive it was meant to be inclusive. The plan should reference parts of the City and the amenities. The market does not worry about the districts. Why weren't the Town Center boundaries extended to the active recreation areas?
 - Councilmember Sonmore gave an overview of how the Town Center boundary was created. It was a compromise and the Council at the time struggled to reach consensus about what the Town Center should be. There is more consensus amongst current council members regarding the need for updating the plan.
- Additional Comments during discussion:
 - Connectivity is a very important factor to consider in Town Center
 - Where are all the bulldozers? Why isn't development happening?
 - MLT identity could be placing exercise stations along trails at specific areas of the City. It will help connect the City and provide interest.
 - Having a good bike trail to the Inter Urban Trail would be beneficial.
 - Defining the character and identity of the City and Town Center is important
 - What makes MLT, MLT?

Highlights of Economic Profile

- Brett presented some highlights of the Demographic and Economic Profile which including current resident age breakdown, housing to job ratio, commuter status, commercial and retail leakage data.

Town Center Data

- Dan and Brett presented and discussed maps and data collected . Maps discussed included:
 - Walkability in Town Center area
 - Town Center areas within a five-minute walk of a transit stop
 - Existing land uses in Town Center
 - Building form in Town Center
 - Regional Town Centers in the surrounding area
 - Future light rail location
 - Upcoming City infrastructure projects in Town Center

Next Meeting

- The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2018. The agenda will include:
 - Review and discussion of feedback generated from the Public Workshop held on May 15, 2018.