

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE, BUSINESS & RESIDENT RESOURCE GROUPS

JEFFERSON PARK STATION AREA MASTER PLAN

November 30, 2017 | Copernicus Center

GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Jefferson Park Station Area Master Plan’s three resource groups convened at the Copernicus Center on Thursday, November 30th to review and discuss the plan’s draft recommendations. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met first and provided input on draft recommendations. The Business Resource Group (BRG) and Resident Resource Group (RRG) had a joint meeting in which participants offered valuable feedback using their knowledge of Jeff Park and its needs and opportunities in response to the draft recommendations.

Meetings began with a recap of the second community meeting, which had over 80 attendees. In addition to a print out of the full [Community Meeting #2 Summary](#), the project team also presented the most popular ideas heard from residents, summarized in the table below:

Transportation	Economic Development	Community Character	“Plan It” Model Exercise	Transportation Exercise
Shared parking (cars and bikes)	Fill vacant storefronts	Street landscaping	Create a central open space	Widen sidewalks and add more trees
Make railroad crossings more welcoming	Build on existing business clusters	Pedestrian-oriented lighting	Shared parking	More shared parking
Drop-off area outside transit center	Live-work space	Public outdoor space	Foster a variety of uses	Too many curb cuts and driveways
Safer crossings	Existing multi-family housing	Public winter garden	Focus on Ainslie/Lipps as key intersection	Need safer crossings
Simpler road network	Theater/venue space	Clear sense of ownership for every site	Buildings should face major streets	Improve safety with Foster Ave. realignment
Streetscape improvements to enhance walkability				Milwaukee and Northwest Hwy need streetscaping and new sidewalks

The feedback received at Community Meeting #2 provided input to the draft goals and projects. In addition, ideas from residents shaped the development of draft design guidelines, draft concept plans, and a draft streetscape design. These were presented to the resource groups for their review, and comments are summarized by topic and project below:

Transportation

- Project #1.2: Make railroad underpasses more welcoming
 - Union Pacific owns the facilities. Metra will need to coordinate with UP on both short-term and long-term improvements.
- Project #2.1: Identify locations for pick-up/drop-off outside the Jefferson Park Station
 - Potential options for pick-up/drop-off locations:

- Veterans Place → move parking meters to Avondale, improve sidewalks
 - Lipps Ave → east side of street, as part of new development
 - Milwaukee Ave → across from Transit Center, peak-hour or all-day options
- Project #2.2: Identify locations for bike parking
 - Locations considered within Transit Center and neighboring streets
- Project #3.1: Consider street network improvements to reduce crashes and improve public safety (Milwaukee/Foster/Northwest Hwy)
 - Drawings will be reviewed with CDOT to confirm feasibility
- Project #5.2: Shared parking as part of a larger development should be encouraged

Economic Development

- Project #1.3: Work with landlords and commercial property owners to improve landscaping, signage, access points, and marketing
 - City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Project offers neighborhood workshops that explain signage requirements and permitting

Community Character

- Concept Plans and Design
 - Milwaukee/Lipps/Lawrence Concept Plan
 - Of the two sites, development here seems more realistic in the shorter term
 - Concept that includes a public plaza should add notation about screening the back of the plaza from the alley
 - Indoor winter garden received strong response at the Community Meeting and from the resource groups
 - Milwaukee/Lawrence intersection has narrow sidewalks. The new concept plan should show buildings set back from the intersection to create pedestrian refuge
 - If a larger occupant were to come in on this site, it needs to be designed in a way that contributes to character of area
 - Design guidelines will help to prevent this; plus P-Street designation requires certain design consideration as well
 - Milwaukee/Long/Lawrence Concept Plan
 - This site requires more long-term thinking and vision, since development would be dependent on the Post Office Distribution Facility to be relocated

While most of the discussion focused on specific changes to make, a common thread throughout the conversation was the question of implementation. With this in mind, the final document will include suggestions for community partners who can take the lead on certain projects. The resource groups and the larger community are encouraged to offer ideas for these partnerships.

NEXT STEPS

- **Revise recommendations and prepare draft plan**
- **Outreach for Community Meeting #3**
- **Community Meeting #3: Early 2018**

MEETING ATTENDEES

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NAME	AFFILIATION
AGENCIES	
Ald. John Arena	45 th Ward Office
Ed Bannon	45 th Ward Office
Allison Buchwach	Metra
Emily Drexler	CTA
Luis Monterrubio	City of Chicago, Department of Planning & Development
Leah Mooney	CTA
Heather Mullins	RTA
Joseph Osowski	CTA
Scott Presslak	Metra

BUSINESS RESOURCE GROUP MEMBERS

NAME	AFFILIATION
BUSINESSES	
Justyna Frank	Cosmic Bikse
Loukas Kozonis	Kozonis Law
Cesar Lau	Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce

RESIDENT RESOURCE GROUP MEMBERS

NAME	AFFILIATION
Susanna Ernst	Resident, Jefferson Park Forward, Northwest Chicago Historical Society
Michael Flaherty	Resident
Michelle Kerr	Resident, GPNA
Ryan Richter	Resident, Jefferson Park Forward

CONSULTANT TEAM MEMBERS

NAME	AFFILIATION
Scott Goldstein	Teska Associates, Inc.
Michael Groh	Sam Schwartz Consulting
Francesca Sallinger	Teska Associates, Inc.
Laura Wilkison	Metro Strategies