

## **LPC Meeting #2**

November 29, 2018 at 5:00 PM

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

A list of Local Planning Committee (LPC) attendees and public attendees is attached.

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

LPC co-chair, Mayor David Wohleben, welcomed and thanked all LPC members for their attendance and participation. Chris Bauer (DOS) also reminded LPC members of the required recusal form to be completed and submitted to the State. Kimberly Baptiste (Bergmann) began the formal presentation by welcoming members. She also explained that this meeting would be a working session for the LPC and time would be reserved for public remarks/comments at the end of the meeting.

#### **Downtown Profile**

Samantha Herberger (Bergmann) discussed the downtown profile portion of the larger Strategic Investment Plan. The downtown profile provides a snapshot into downtown Lockport as well as the City and region, and includes topics such as demographics/socio-economic characteristics, housing characteristics, historic resources, transportation, environmental constraints, and recreational resources.

Bethany Meys (Camoin Associates) discussed the market and economic analysis completed for the Lockport DRI area. She explained key opportunities and trends that the City of Lockport can take advantage of moving forward with revitalization and redevelopment. She also discussed key challenges and opportunities for the Lockport DRI area.

#### **Public Engagement**

Kimberly reminded LPC members about the Open Call for Project Proposals through this DRI process. Deadlines for project proposal are due on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018. She explained that there have been no proposals received to date, but based on experience with other communities the majority of proposals are submitted on the due date.

Kimberly also reviewed the components of the Public Engagement Strategy presented to LPC members at the last meeting. Two comments were received from LPC members that included ensuring diverse populations are represented in the public engagement process and ensuring youth engagement. The LPC discussed additional public engagement opportunities including:

- Distribution of public notices to the community by each LPC member;
- Engaging DRI area churches
- Public notice distribution and engagement at the Lockport Farmer's Market

Kimberly also reminded LPC members of the upcoming LPC meetings through March 2019.

*Note: The next scheduled December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the YWCA of the Niagara Frontier.*

#### **Draft Vision and Goals**

Kimberly provided a recap of the visioning exercises that were completed in both LPC Meeting #1 and Public Workshop #1. She discussed the similarities and differences between both groups of people. In most of the exercises, there were overlap of ideas and potential revitalization projects.

Kimberly also presented the original vision statement that was provided in the City's DRI application. The following additions and revisions were recommended by the LPC:

- Replace "Eastern Niagara County" with "county seat"
- Potential replacement of the word "progressive" to "dynamic" or "forward-thinking"
- Adding "history" to statement
- Adding "job creation" and "employment" to statement

Kimberly also presented four draft goals that were prepared based on the City's DRI application and gathered information from the LPC and public thus far. Kimberly explained that the goals are to be broad and support the elements in the vision statement. At the next meeting, strategies to fulfill the goals will be drafted and presented to the LPC. The LPC's discussion and suggested revisions to the goals are provided below.

- Revisions to Goal #3:
  - Ensure City's streetscapes are both functional and beautiful
- Revisions to Goal #4:
  - Adding element of "live, work, play"
  - Ensure compatibility between quality of life for residents *and* tourists

Based on the committee's feedback, the vision statement and goals will be revised and circulated to the LPC for review and confirmation.

### **Project Review**

Kimberly discussed the evaluation criteria the LPC and State will use to evaluate proposed projects. Kimberly also discussed key milestones related to the review and evaluation of projects and development of the Strategic Investment Plan.

Kimberly also provided an overview of the proposed projects in the City's DRI application. She noted that the project list is not exhaustive and will be updated to include project proposals received through the Open Call as well as other projects identified throughout the planning process. Kimberly also noted that the preliminary cost estimates and funding requests presented are likely to change as projects are further developed. For each project presented, Kimberly provided an overview of the scope, the estimated total project cost, and the preliminary DRI funding request.

*Note: A LPC member asked a question about the inclusion of a downtown hotel to the potential projects. Kimberly explained that the Bewley Building and Historic Post Office may include details of a hotel, but these will be further developed through the process. Also, an opportunity for a downtown hotel project may come through during the open call for proposals.*

*A LPC member asked if there was a specific way to measure the success rate of specific projects. Chris Bauer explained that through the last two rounds of the DRI, success rates have been measured with the percentages and timelines of completed projects.*

### **Next Steps**

Kimberly described upcoming public engagement and project development activities, which include:

- LPC Meeting #3 – December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 5 -7 PM at the YWCA
- Project Sponsor Coordination

- Open Call Proposals Review / Outreach
- Completion of Downtown Profile / Vision, Goals, and Strategies
- Continue Preliminary Project Development
- LPC Meeting #4 – January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 (location TBD)

### **Public Comments**

- Heather, City of Lockport Resident
  - Walk Score data may not be analyzing or measuring what it should be. Even though there is a high walk score for downtown Lockport, walkability in the downtown needs to be reassessed and include additional accessibility and connection points. Walkability assessment should also consider children's safety and ADA-accessibility.
- Jean Keeny, City of Lockport Resident
  - Is there anything that can be done with Urban Park Towers? They are a detriment to the downtown and residents are troublesome.
  - Mayor Wohleben and Anne McCaffrey spoke to the private ownership of the building and HUD requirements for the City.
  - Kathleen DiMillo (LPC Member) asked how the City can change the living requirements of the Urban Park Towers.
  - Mayor Wohleben said that there has been increased security and property maintenance. Code enforcement will also continue inspections.
- Unidentified resident
  - Is Union Station within the DRI boundaries?
  - Kimberly explained that it is not within the boundary but if a project comes forward through the Open Call, then it can be considered by the LPC.
- Harry Sicherman
  - What is the timeline for project funding?
  - Kimberly explained that the Strategic Investment Plan will be submitted in March 2019 to the State. The State then typically announces awarded projects in June/July 2019. Construction can generally begin in 2020 (some variations in timeline depending on the project and overseeing State agency).

LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING #2 SIGN IN | LPC MEMBERS

NAME	CHECK IN
DAVID WOHLEBEN, CO-CHAIR	<i>David Wohleben</i>
DEANNA ALTERIO BRENNEN, CO-CHAIR	<i>Deanna Alterio Brennen</i>
PAUL BROWN	<i>Paul Brown</i>
JOAN AUL	<i>JOAN Aul</i>
GARY BENNETT	
BECKY BURNS	<i>Becky Burns</i>
KATHLEEN DIMILLO	<i>Kathleen D. Millo</i>
JESSICA DITTLY	<i>Jessica Dittly</i>
AMANDA FARRELL	<i>Amanda Farrell</i>
AMY FISK	<i>Amy Fisk</i>
DAVE KINYON	<i>David Kinyon</i>
TOM MANCUSO	<i>Tom Mancuso</i>
ANNE MCCAFFREY	<i>Anne McCaffrey</i>
KEVIN MCDONOUGH	<i>Kevin McDonough</i>
CHRIS SMITH	<i>Chris Smith</i>
JEFF TRACY	<i>Jeff Tracy</i>
SHELLEY UNOCIC	<i>Shelley Unocic</i>
CHRIS BAUER	<i>Chris Bauer</i>
LEONARD SKRILL	
ANGELA ROSSI	<i>Angela Rossi</i>
ADAM SASSONE	<i>Adam Sassone</i>



LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING #2 SIGN IN | PUBLIC ATTENDEES

NAME	EMAIL	ORGANIZATION
Scott Schrader	SSCHNADER@lockportny.gov	City of Lockport
HARRY SICHERMAN	HSICHERMAN@HARRISONPLACE STUDIO.COM	HARRISON STUDIO, LOCKPORT
Michelle Faron		Mayor-elect
PAUL PYNON		
Tom Mancuso		
Heather Peck		
RICK ABBOTT	RABBOTT@YAHOO.COM	CITY OF LOCKPORT
Anne McCaffrey		Unlock Lockport.
Heather Hildesheim		

