

SSNA APRIL 2, 2019 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SSNA Chair Jack Campbell welcomed the attendees to the April meeting. Also, in attendance from the SSNA Board was Vice Chair Nathan Stokes, Secretary Pat Lute, Treasurer Dot Walker and Director Chris Von Kahn. Approximately 18 neighbors were in attendance.

Chair Campbell introduced CM Brandon Todd.

CM Todd swore in the SSNA Board.

CM TODD Updates:

- Ribbon cutting at Target
- Thick into budget season
- Pleased that Mayor's budget has doubled down in affordable housing \$130 million.
- Introduced bill that would increase Homestead deduction to \$125K/year, full Council didn't pass (yet). Hope to revisit later this year.
- Looking at how to create more oops for middle income residents.
- Mayor's budget also includes \$500 million additional funds for roads, infrastructure
- Weather accounts for roads being in worst condition to date. Looking for priority spots with DDOT. Know anywhere in Ward 4 please let his staff know
- Mayor's investment in EDU. West campus to get \$75 million investment and others will also.
- Investments in public safety—burglaries, car break ins—new component be used: violence interrupters — edu, jobs, etc. Violence interrupter program under Deputy Mayor of a public Safety, has contract w/ Community Bridge. They've done a lot toward rehabilitation, jobs, etc.
- They have a lot of relationships in the area. Public health approach combined with MPD. Get people opportunities so they don't stick to crime.
- Walter Reed Broke ground on 400 units last week. Opening senior units and veterans units later this year.
- New bldg at GA and Quackenbush with low income and senior units. Looking for grocery store tenant, important component.
- WMATA investment in Bus Barn. Four working groups—environment, support of business corridor (loan fund bill hopes will pass—4200-4800 Block of 14th), small area plan, construction.

Cecelia—how to we work for changes in the plan? Electric buses for example.

CT: working groups are the way to go, will help to drill down on pressing concerns so we can come to WMATA w/ unified voice. WMATA committed to best outcome for the community.

Sandra brought up increase in crime, Buchanan and 14th, person who is identified in the neighborhood. Probably reason for uptick in crime. Can we get more MPD presence? He'll make sure he communicates that there is the need of additional patrols. The person is on parole. Do we need to get with prosecutor to get this further down the road.

Audrey question: is ?? a fit for Walter Reed

CT: he doesn't think so

WMATA Bus Barn

Representatives present: Nina Albert, Ann Chisholm

No new updates, same presentation as before

100+ years old, concrete falling from ceiling, safety nets installed but cut off more area from buses.

Rebuild where it is.

Close existing garage, perhaps by summer

Employees are mostly Union, and this process has started to relocate employees

Facade stays.

Reduce number of buses, 140 there today.

Create space behind facade for retail or other.

Infrastructure for electric buses

High standards for architecture

Rebuild street scape

Art in transit along one or more sides of building

Select contractor in August 2019

Will be looking for environmental issues (remediation).

By next spring hope to have scope finalized.

Demolition last part of 2020.

2024 completion.

8' plywood fence around project.

Will continue to have community meetings.

Development opps along 14th Street.

Can't find new location, have looked for 10 years

Expanding building to be a mixed use facility.

Place retail on both sides of street.

Three developers responded, two of three would pursue a bid.

Results—Stay in current zoning, existing building envelope.

Some uses suggested: grocery, home improvement, in-line retail, urgent care facility, gym, etc.

In-line retail seems to make most sense.

We'll begin to contract with retail broker to develop retail strategy. Test market.

Design Bus Barn with retail tenants in mind.

Will work with CT office to be certain concepts fit with the community.

Progressive design build contract has been advertised just today.

Make a selection in August. Preliminary design for new building. Two scopes of work by spring. Design build definition elaborated on. DC "ship" (ask Nathan).

Fiscal year starts July 1, because of Union the staff and moving employees around. Bus drivers pick twice a year June and December. Drivers get to choose—routes, days off, swing shifts.

Questions

- Any consideration given to moving 500 drivers away from commercial businesses along 14th?

- What we're missing is IMPACT. 70% of drivers frequent those businesses. Morals, ethics not present.
- Give businesses until December so they have time to figure out what they're going to do. WMATA rep says he'll take it back to his team.
- On WMATA's web site there is an incredible amount of info on Southern Bus Barn renovation. Why not same for this?
- Filtration above and beyond EPA standards...what if we push this? No more carbon emitting buses. DC should be a leader in electric only buses.

WMATA:

Aug'19 to March '20 is time frame that scope of work will be developed so that is the time frame for committees to give feedback and things being changed.

Environmental impact not required by Federal Govt.

Why not do it anyway? Highly residential area.

WMATA follows federal guidelines.

Dept. of energy and environment has a lot of info about other types of processes that can happen outside of Metro. Clearly environmental impact important to neighborhood.

How does DC compare with other cities in terms of environmental impact.

WMATA—Site has to be remediated. Proposing highest level of LEED. Facility is, in essence, a new facility. Their convenient is the highest level of responsibility.

There are still things to be addressed. Bus purchase people are another group entirely.

WMATA ready in a month or so to be will be willing to talk more about electric buses.

More Questions

Talib: my research shows northern division bus barn assessed at \$24 million, it is tax exempt. Trying to understand how WMATA will put in retail spaces w/o subdividing lot and how Will property taxes be paid. Businesses won't have the same tax exemption.

WMATA WILL BE SURE TO GET AN ANSWER, deal with working groups.

What type of maintenance are you doing on lower floor for buses—oil change, fluids, Light Bus body shop type work? Whole different environmental concerns if painting taking place.

WMATA: extends offer go tour new bus barn, early in May, before it opens.

Working group leads

Environment team head Russell — lives on 15th and Crittenden — goes over areas/phases that they are looking at. Trying to gain better understanding of who is responsible for what.

Actlocally1@gmail.com. phone number?

Small Area team head Taalib din Uqdah

Sites study, small area plan, short term and long term plans, called for certain things to be done. Office of Planning. Meeting last night about reopening Decater, solution to use it as a promenade. Will survey community to see what it is we want in retail. Community benefits—what can we extract from WMATA for the community.

Tauqdah@aol.com,

Kamal Anderson, construction team lead:

Keep up with changes with community input, fencing, dust levels, etc.

Phone number: 202 870 7209

Audrey Nwanze, Retail and business sustainability working group Co-Chair:

Loan grant program for businesses

Advertising for businesses (on buses?)

Funding for Circulator bus for upper 14th up to Kennedy (free of charge).

Activate sides of building so we can become a draw for the city.

Mitigate loss of revenue for businesses.

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Meeting adjourned.