

CENTRAL EASTSIDE



Central Eastside Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (URAC)

July 13, 2009

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Grand Central Restaurant and Bowling Lounge
808 SE Morrison

Meeting Summary

URAC members present: Susan Lindsay, Buckman Community Association, Susan Pearce Hosford Abernethy Neighborhood; Rick Michelson, At-Large; Michael Whitmore, Kerns Neighborhood Association; David Lorati, Central Eastside Industrial Council ; Eric Shoemaker At-large; Dardinelle Troen, At-large; Linda Nettekoven, Alternate, Hosford Abernethy Neighborhood

Guests: Lee Perlman, freelance writer; Chris Armes, Portland Bureau of Transportation; Kate Allen, Portland Housing Bureau; Gilly Burlingham, Buckman NA; Robert Barncord, KABOO Radio News

PDC Staff: Kia Selley, Trang Lam, Geraldene Moyle, Keith Witcosky, David Sheern, Joleen Jensen-Classen

Call to order/Introductions/Meeting summary

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Susan Lindsay at 4:00 p.m. Introductions followed. The meeting summary of June 8, 2009 was approved with the following correction: The spelling of Hosford Abernethy was corrected.

Chair's statement:

Because of several changes in PDC staff, Susan Lindsay requested that staff explain their roles with regard to the Central Eastside (CES) Urban Renewal Area (URA) and CES URAC. Kia Selley, the current URA manager, will reduce her hours and therefore will not manage the CES URA after August 2009. PDC will select a new senior manager in August 2009, likely one of the current senior Central City Managers. Trang Lam is a project coordinator who will provide staff support to the URAC regarding overall URA projects. Geraldene Moyle manages the Burnside Bridgehead project and David Sheern coordinates housing projects in the CES URA. Joleen Jensen-Classen is the Public Participation Manager for all of PDC's work. In addition to the CES URAC, she manages the day to day affairs of three additional URACs. An organizational chart will be sent out with this meeting summary.

Portland Housing Bureau

Kate Allen, the city's Housing Policy Manager, discussed the transition of PDC employees to the new Portland Housing Bureau. The overall goal of this transition is to consolidate all of the city's housing functions, including policy planning, resources and implementation under one bureau. The city needs a broad housing agenda that includes the 10 year plan to end homelessness, affordable housing and home ownership that the market would not naturally provide. The consolidation is taking place now in order to allow the city to better compete for federal funds with a more comprehensive and coordinated policy. The multiple entry points in the current housing structure are confusing to clients and developers. The new bureau will have 70 employees (combination of PDC and BHCD staff) and the new director is Margaret VanVleet, former Deputy Director of the Housing Authority of Portland. A consultant group, headed by former Multnomah County Chairwoman Bev Stein, will develop the details around the reorganization and how the new bureau will relate to the public including the URAC's. PDC's 30% set-aside for affordable housing dollars from each URA will be transferred to the new bureau through intergovernmental agreements; and that policy is due for an evaluation next year.

Burnside Bridgehead Update

Geraldene Moyle provided the group with the project update. The consultant team, lead by SERA Architects, has completed their draft findings, which was shared with the Burnside Bridgehead Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) at the June 16th CAC meeting. SERA will update the draft incorporating comments shared by PDC staff and CAC members.

PDC is in the process of preparing the RFP for Framework Plan consultants. The RFP will include a scope of work, timeline, and criteria for selection; and will be shared with the CAC at the July 21st CAC meeting.

Washington Monroe Update

Susan Lindsay provided the group with the history of the Washington Monroe Project located at SE 14th and Stark. This area was not originally in the CES URAC but was added during an amendment process in 2005-06. The original plan was to convert the current school building for market rate housing to raise the level of home ownership in the Buckman neighborhood. Portland Parks and Recreation (Parks) is leading a new planning effort for the city-owned community center portion of the site. The citizen's committee would like to see a plan that would use the existing building (currently owned by Portland Public Schools) for a community center with an aquatic center in a separate, adjacent facility. SERA Architects has been selected through a Parks RFP process to conduct the feasibility and programming study for the community center. SERA will study various options including the adaptive reuse of the high school building. The Parks Bureau is leading this effort and Ross Plambeck is monitoring the project for PDC.

Parks and SERA have engaged the citizen's committee in a series of advisory committee meeting from July through September to work through the community center feasibility and

programming study. Susan Lindsay and Michael Whitmore, citizen's committee members, shared their concern of the aggressive timeline for the study.

Announcements:

There will be an open house for the East Burnside-Couch Couplet on July 22, 2009 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Jupiter Hotel: Dream Box Room at 800 E. Burnside. For more information contact Chris Armes (PBOT) – 503.823.7051 or Chris.Armes@pdxtrans.org;

The CES URAC will not meet in August and the next meeting will be September 14, 2009 back at the Goodwill facility.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by Joleen Jensen-Classen Public Participation Manager