Shelbyville, KY

EAST END STUDY

APPENDIX A: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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INTRODUCTION

The Shelbyville East End Study included a significant amount of public input and participation. The plan is centered and based upon the feedback received throughout the planning process. With a strong representation of the community's desires, dreams and ideas for growth, this plan is intended to serve as a guide for the future development of Shelbyville's East End.

Input was gathered in many forms including three Steering Committee meetings, two public meetings and two public adoption hearings. Various exercises and discussions were facilitated to gather opinions, ideas, and determine pertinent issues.

STEERING COMMITTEE

A Steering Committee of 12 members, representing a cross-section of city residents, businesses, government, and organizations was created to oversee the planning process and direction of the Shelbyville East End Study. This committee met jointly three times with HNTB to discuss and guide the development of the plan.

Steering Committee Meeting #1

July 20, 2009

The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the planning process, share existing conditions data, and begin to collect input from the committee. During this meeting, three exercises were conducted that allowed the members to share their opinions and insight for the future of the East End. The exercises included the following:

Issues and Opportunities Identification – Steering Committee members were asked to identify the top three issues and opportunities in the East End. The



Steering Committee Meeting



Steering Committee Meeting

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Steering Committee Meeting



Steering Committee Meeting

top issues were identified as inconsistent / poor streetscape, poor land uses, lack of a downtown identity or look, lack of investment, poor transportation network (including pedestrian), lack of diversity in retail, lack of recreational opportunities, poor sense of safety. The top opportunities included the ability to provide a consistent streetscape or downtown appearance, new growth and development, expand recreational opportunities, provide a gateway into Shelbyville and expand the transportation network (including pedestrian).

Land Use Preferences – Each Steering Committee Member was given a list of land uses and downtown elements that could possibly occur in a downtown and asked to identify if each was desirable and undesirable for the East End. This list consisted on a cross-section of land uses including examples that could be considered positive or negative for the future of the East End. Through this exercise, it was possible to start to understand the future direction of East End. The Steering Committee identified desirable or appropriate land uses for the East End that included:

- Sidewalk cafes
- Tourist attractions
- Live over work buildings
- Boutiques
- Lofts
- Front porches
- Improved streetscape
- Gateway feature
- Farmers market
- Churches
- Fine dining
- Pedestrian signage
- Greenway / multi-use trail
- Pocket parks
- Bicycle racks
- Specialty arts / crafts shops
- Outdoor dining

The undesirable or not appropriate land uses included:

- Distribution / warehouses
- Car dealers
- Drive-thru businesses
- Light industrial
- Adult-oriented businesses
- Heavy industrial
- Strip shopping centers
- Gated neighborhoods



- Chain drug stores
- Fast food

Land Use Locations – In small groups, the Steering Committee members drew boundaries for various land uses on maps. Four maps were created that outlined various locations for future land uses including mixed use, residential, retail / office, dining / entertainment, recreation, parking, industrial and public spaces / uses. The input gathered during this exercise was used, in conjunction with input from the public workshop, as the foundation for the land use element of this plan.

Steering Committee Meeting #2

August 24, 2009

The second Steering Committee meeting focused on refining the plan elements that were developed based on previous input. The group reviewed the visions, goals and objectives in addition to the five plan elements and the overall master plan. Issues were discussed and Steering Committee members provided the strengths and weaknesses for each of the plan elements through feedback forms. The plan elements were revised prior to the public open house based on comments and discussion received at this meeting.

Steering Committee Meeting #3

October 12, 2009

The purpose of the final Steering Committee meeting was to review the draft plan document to ensure all of the concepts and ideas presented in the study accurately reflected the input provided. The plan document was revised based on the Steering Committee's input prior to the adoption draft being forwarded to Triple S Planning Commission and the City Council.



Steering Committee Meeting



Public Visioning Workshop

Public Workshops & Open House

Public Visioning Workshop

July 28, 2009

Gathering information and ideas early in the planning process is critical to the success of any plan. HNTB facilitated a two-hour workshop designed to gather input from residents of Shelbyville on the future of the East End. Attendees participated in three exercises aimed at identifying the desires of the community. Throughout the evening, participants were able to learn more about the project and existing conditions, voice their opinions, and express their vision for growth through the following exercises:



Public Visioning Workshop

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Highest rated image by public meeting participants.



Lowest rated image by public meeting participants.

Image Preference Survey

During this exercise, participants were first asked to individually rank their response to an image from -5 to +5. Twenty images were shown that addressed housing options, parking, streetscape, parks / open space and gateways in addition to other downtown elements. These images were indented to evoke a wide range of responses.

Once participants scored each image, all twenty images were reviewed and discussed as a group. Participants shared initial responses and reactions as well as other issues, opportunities or concerns they might have with a particular image. This interaction helped the larger group uncover what would eventually become the collaborative vision and plan elements for the East End. Individual reactions varied, however, the larger group was able to participate in an open dialogue regarding the desirable characteristics or elements for the East End.

Several recurring themes emerged throughout this exercise which included:

Positive

- Incorporate public art into design
- Distinguishing the East End as a unique place
- Positive feedback on several images which displayed human interaction and active environments (e.g. amphitheater, playground, street cafes, and interactive public art).
- Strong preference to historic preservation
- Preference to walkable design
- Positive reaction to density in residential areas (townhomes), though *neutral reaction to traditional neighborhood design.*

Negative

- Negative or natural reaction to various parking options including onstreet parking, parking lots, and/or parking garage.
- Negative reaction to multi-family housing and strip retail development

Visioning Exercise

Workshop participants were given a blank newspaper front page from twenty years in the future. They were asked to "write the headlines" of Shelbyville's East End in the year 2029. This exercise enabled participants to dream big and imagine the ideal East End. The following are examples of the "headlines" from participants:

- "Home values continue to rise as X and Y generation establishes themselves in the East End"
- "Whole Foods store opens in the East End!"
- "City combines recreation, fine dining, and entertainment on the East End of Shelbyville"
- "Outdoor theater opens on Washington St."
- "City wins bid for relocation of Glass Works Studio in East End"
- "Unique mix of unique shops and eateries draws tourists and locals alike"

- "Tenth Anniversary of City Walk and Bike Park kicks off with fireworks, picnics, 10k; bike and canoe races on Clear Creek"
- "Shelbyville celebrates highest rate of per capita LEED Platinum buildings"



Sketch provided my Open House participant on their vision of the future East End

Downtown Elements Exercise

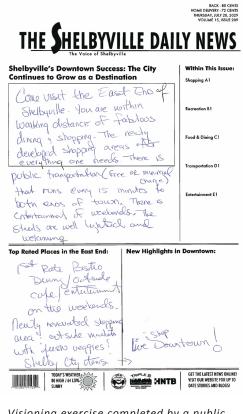
The final exercise consisted of two phases. First, three boards were displayed that contained a list of Urban Design, Land Use, and Economic Development elements which may occur in the East End. Participants were asked to indicate whether each element was appropriate or not appropriate in the East End by placing a green dot next to the caption. Participants then distributed three red dots on their top three priority elements.

Second, participants were given dots that corresponded to land use colors on a map. They were asked to place the colored dots in areas where they felt each land use should occur. For example, a participant placed a green dot representing parks in the floodplain north of Washington Street. This indicated that the floodplain should be used as a park in the future. Input gathered from this exercise was used as the foundation for the land use plan element incorporated into the Master Plan.

The top elements in order of priority for each category are indicated below:

Urban Design

- Historic/Traditional Design
- Pedestrian oriented / scaled
- Sense of place or identity
- Pedestrian wayfinding
- Economic Development
- Expand downtown Shelbyville
- Reinvest in residential
- Façade improvement grants
- Active recreation



Visioning exercise completed by a public meeting participant



Example of display board used at Public Open House.



Public Open House



Public Open House

Land Use

- Greenway / multi-use trail
- Specialty / craft shops
- Sidewalk cafes

Not appropriate

- Strip shopping centers
- Car dealers / auto-repair

Public Open House

September 8, 2009

A two-hour public open house was held to gain public input on the proposed plan elements. A short presentation was given by HNTB followed by input stations that focused on the major elements of the plan. Participants visited each of the stations and provided input on each topic. They also had the opportunity to talk one-on-one with the consultant team and city officials. Input gathered from this meeting was used to further refine plan elements. The following are a few comments offered by open house participants:

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- Add direct access of the Clear Creek Trail way for bikes/walkers from under the bridge at the gateway feature up to the Washington Street and Main Street levels.
- I'm concerned about the purple area (entertainment area). If not totally vibrant, it could easily become a backwater.
- I like the overall master plan. I believe that tit is exactly what we need to help revitalize our downtown. What happened to the little cottage (Insurance agency) on Main?
- Bad location (gateway feature) next to McDonalds. Not exactly Port of Downtown.

Adoption Meetings

November 17, 2009 and December 3, 2009

In accordance with KRS-100, for an amendment to the comprehensive plan, a public hearing was held with Triple S Planning Commission on November 17, 2009 for a recommendation on adoption. This was followed by a public hearing for adoption with the Shelbyville City Council on December 3, 2009.

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