

Vine City/Washington Park LCI Study

Steering Committee Meeting

March 3, 2009

Meeting Notes

Introductions:

Follow-up on research questions from Draft Plan Presentation:

1. Bed & Breakfast zoning
 - a. Woody Giles researched the possibility of implementing Bed and Breakfast inns in the historic district of Vine City. This would not only help preserve the historicity of districts older homes, it would also become a destination point for Vine City.
 - b. The current zoning allows for up to 6 non-related individuals to live in a unit, so as long as the property owner resides at the residence, only a business license is necessary to run a Bed & Breakfast of 1-2 rooms. This has been added as an additional reference to the plan
- Questions/responses:
 - i. Resident states: It had been noted from previous attempts to implement Bed and Breakfast Inns in the area that because they bring in transient people, it hinders neighborhood watch efforts.
 - It was asked that this be considered.
2. Parking/game day parking options
 - a. Dan Dobry met with the City of Atlanta as it relates to the issues of parking raised as a topic of high interest by Vine City residents. Surprisingly, on 3 streets in the study area have been designated for on-street parking. The process to apply only requires a \$20 processing fee and an annual renewal. Any homeowner can therefore apply.
 - b. Having spoken also with Lt. Whitmeyer of the city's Police Department, traffic is not a heavily reported issue in the study area. Lt. Whitmeyer deploys his staff through anticipatory efforts to evade any problems before they arise.
 - c. Yet one possible option for the city would be to privatize traffic control, to narrow the scope of which complaints are made by the residents and to define the necessary enforcement.
3. Multi-use trail options
 - a. Also discussed with the City of Atlanta, the option for pedestrian trails has been previously outlined by the City. Many of their defined routes correlate with the design recommended within this study.
 - b. However, due to concerns of pedestrian safety, the City much rather focus on single-use trails which run on-street as side bike lanes. The "share the road" preference is transit oriented. The multi-use option suggested in the study is transit and recreational, routing through various corridors, but the city feels that this type of option creates potential dangers due to high intersections with traffic.

- c. The City offered little feedback on the study's suggested promenade along MARTA's transit route.
 - Questions/responses:
 - i. Resident/Business Owner states: Agreeing that Sunset Ave is probably the most ideal route for the promenade, it touches upon many marked historic touchstones.
 - ii. Resident asks: Has crosswalks and wheelchair traffic been considered, since the neighborhood currently has a more elderly demographic.
 - 1. The study currently has provisions to ensure that all sidewalks are to ADA codes and standards.
- 4. Vine City MARTA station
 - a. The study proposes family living units along Northside Dr for better accessibility to the MARTA station.
 - b. The plan suggests no changes to the current station, but will only augment the density of the area with higher density zoning.
 - Questions/responses:
 - i. Resident/Business Owner states: Higher height restrictions will create a barrier between the living corridors against the retail units.

More information and past meeting notes are posted on the City of Atlanta web page:
<http://www.atlantaga.gov/government/planning/vinecitylci.aspx>