



MEETING NOTES

Date: June 23, 2008
Project: Bloomington South Rogers Streetscape
Location: Bloomington City Offices
TSC Job Number: 7210.001
Reported By: Kevin Foster

Name	Company	E-mail Address	Phone
Gregg Zody	Monroe County Planning		
Lew May	Bloomington Transit		
Nancy Hiestand	HAND / Bloomington		
Lisa Abbott	HAND / Bloomington		
Bob Wolford	HAND / Bloomington		
Scott Robinson	City of Bloomington		
Kevin Foster	The Schneider Corporation		

cc:

MEETING MINUTES:

Government / Non-Profit Focus Group

1. Scott Robinson and Bob Wolford from the City of Bloomington introduced the project to the group and explained the purpose of the focus group meetings was to get input from key stakeholders on the project.
2. Kevin Foster explained that the purpose of the study was to develop a comprehensive plan that will improve the look and feel of Rogers Street. He also noted that the study would focus on above ground improvements to improve the functionality and work towards creating an identity that will beautify the corridor. Items such as lighting, signage, landscaping, pedestrian access, gateways, materials, etc. should be included in the thought process.
3. Kevin also noted that the study area of the project was the right-of-way along Rogers Street from the railroad tracks just south of Hillside to the south to Kirkwood Ave. to the north. He also stated that the design will attempt to stay within the existing right-of-way for the purposes of this study.
4. The following is a summary of the points brought up by the focus group during the session:
 - a. Need to be flexible in hospital area, don't really know what will happen if hospital moves.
 - b. Need for context sensitivity, in several areas. Plan must adapt to different areas
 - c. Needs to be ADA accessible.
 - d. Transit doesn't see bike lanes as a problem or as a conflict with buses.



- e. A lot of people cross between the church and the community kitchen. Also a lot of people get off transit on the west side and cross to community kitchen.
- f. Transit needs good pedestrian access as a key. (sidewalks, cross-walks, lighting) People need to be able to get to their buses.
- g. Several bus stops along corridor, crosswalks at key area.
- h. What about bus shelters? Not tremendous volume at any 1 stop. Hospital probably has the most. Not quite up to the threshold to warrant a shelter. Still might be nice aesthetically.
- i. Rogers Street old Dixie Highway??
- j. 4th Street gets a lot of pedestrian activity. Major school bus stop there as well.
- k. Can we formalize the bus stops a little bit more?
- l. Hospital has been there since the late 1880s. Farmhouse was start then built on to after that and kept expanding. The farmhouse is not there anymore.
- m. This was the old Dixie Highway according to Nancy. This could be a possible theme that ties together.
- n. Old houses on 2nd Street, not surveyed due to hospital expansion. These should be taken into account historically.
- o. Community concerned about existing limestone retaining walls staying in place. The plan must respect those.
- p. No historic sidewalks on currently on Rogers Street.
- q. Crosswalks may want to take into account location and the historical context of the area.
- r. Nancy to get me history information on the area, also used on the B-line trail. There are some history markers and explanations there.
- s. Neighborhood Improvement Grants are avail. and help to get message out. But everybody does their own thing. Needs to be coordinated.
- t. Hybrid busses currently run in this corridor. Much quieter than normal busses. Very few complaints about these.
- u. Future of hospital will impact transit in the future a great deal. Also future use of old Thompson site will affect future. Currently running smallest buses in the fleet on this road.
- v. BEAD plan is on city website. Check this out.

6. Kevin Foster noted the next opportunity for public comment would be at the design charette on Thursday, July 31st and Saturday, August 02nd.