Meeting Summary

Shelby Street Corridor Plan
Meeting Summary October 16, 2008 7:00 p.m.
Location: University Heights Christian Church, 4050 Shelby Street

Attendance: Joe Wilson, Mike Rogers, Marilyn Saunders, Phil Borst, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Schemba, David Wantz, Pat Weaver and Jeanette Stinnett

Staff: Dennis Slaughter, Alice Gatewood, Keith Holdsworth, Tina Jones, Tom Beck and Gary Loveless.

Mr. Slaughter welcomed the group and started introductions. Participant introduced themselves. Using a visual presentation, Mr. Slaughter explained the meeting agenda. He explained that this meeting was the fourteenth meeting and acknowledged the meeting hosts: University Heights Christian Church, University Heights United Methodist Church, University Heights Baptist Church, the University of Indianapolis and Zink Distributing. Mr. Slaughter thanked everyone that had attended that evening’s meetings and acknowledged several persons that attended many of the previous meetings.

Mr. Slaughter pointed out the boundaries of the study area. He noted how corridor plans have evolved to include more attention to bicycle, transit and pedestrian modes of travel. The transportation history of the corridor was described. The major intersections within the study area were described and the effect of the railroad corridor was discussed. Mr. Slaughter identified the many types of inputs that helped to shape the plan including interviews with stakeholders, public comments from meetings, site visits, transportation plans and coordination with city department staff.

Mr. Slaughter explained that public comments on land use and development included loss of destination points along the corridor and concerns that the corridor’s market potentials have been disregarded. He noted that the City of Indianapolis has not recorded many permits for demolition, construction or land use changes within the study area. He stated that several sites had zoning that did not match the current or likely usage. The presentation continued with discussion of the wider retail context. He noted that transportation plans prepared on a county-wide or regional basis must be brought into focus within the corridor boundaries. The need to improve “walkability” within the corridor was explained. Current transit services and regional transit service plans were described.

The image and identity of the corridor were referenced and the plan’s overall Vision Statement was presented. Mr. Slaughter then described land use recommendations and “Critical Areas.” He explained that the adopted plan will be used to guide the City’s review of land use petitions and will influence updates to transportation and infrastructure plans. He also noted that the plan will be a resource for the community’s efforts to improve image, health, quality of life and connectivity. He noted that the adopted corridor plan will become a segment of the Indianapolis/Marion County Comprehensive Plan. He explained that a public hearing was anticipated to be set for Wednesday December 3, 2008. Participants asked questions on content of the plan. Several comments were received expressing support for the draft plan and thanking planning staff for the effort.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.