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COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

November 21, 2002 Meeting Notes

CITY STAFF ITEMS

Mike Robinson, Planning and Redevelopment Manager, invited comments regarding the Bluffs Rezoning RFP Scope of Work. The question was raised as to whether it is appropriate to go forward with this study prior to the CRAC developing its recommendations. Mr. Robinson noted that if the City goes forward with the RFP now, it is unlikely that the results from that study would be available prior to March 2003 at the earliest, and by that time the CRAC should have prepared its recommendations. It was the consensus of the group to move forward and issue the RFP.

The suggestion was made that the study should include an analysis of the impact of construction of the 19th Street bridge on the Westside. The Committee approved this suggestion (25-7, 1 abstention) and it was recommended that the City move forward with the study with this addition to the scope.

MEETING NOTES

The October 24th meeting notes were unanimously approved.

WORKSHOP – HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

The facilitators introduced the workshop by noting that this is the first in a series of five sessions that will lead to the development of a vision and action plan. The first session will examine past events and their significance for this Committee's task. The second session will focus on current trends affecting the Westside and adjacent study areas. The third, fourth and fifth sessions will be devoted to building a common vision and action plan.

The framework, ground rules and roles of the participants were briefly described and were provided as handouts in Committee members' notebooks (see Attachment 1).

The first exercise was a compilation of the group's shared history in three timeframes (1960-74, 1975-89, and 1990-present) and in three settings (personal, global, and local). Participants recorded noteworthy events on three wall charts (see [Attachments 2-4](#)).

Small groups then discussed the common themes that emerged from the wall charts. Each group was assigned one of the three settings to focus on (personal, global or local). After small group discussions, the full Committee heard brief reports from each group on the events and trends they believe were most significant for the Westside study area. The

DRAFT

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November 21, 2002 Meeting Notes

workshop concluded with some common observations from the Committee as a whole (see Attachment 5).

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 19th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Costa Mesa Senior Center, 695 W. 19th St.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.

DRAFT

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November 21, 2002 Meeting Notes

ATTACHMENT 1

Framework for COMMON GROUND Conference

How this PROCESS differs from typical participative meetings:

- The **WHOLE SYSTEM** participates--a cross-section of as many interested parties as practical. That means more diversity and less hierarchy than is usual in a working meeting, and a chance for each person to be heard and to learn other ways of looking at the task at hand.
- Future scenarios--for an organization, community or issue--are put into **HISTORICAL** and **GLOBAL** perspective. That means thinking globally together before acting locally—learning about the “whole elephant” before acting on a part. This feature enhances shared understanding and greater commitment to act. It also increases the range of potential actions.
- People **SELF-MANAGE** their work, and use **DIALOGUE** as the main tool. That means helping each other do the tasks and taking responsibility for our perceptions and actions.
- **COMMON GROUND** rather than "conflict management," is the frame of reference. That means honoring our differences rather than having to reconcile them.

DRAFT

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November 21, 2002 Meeting Notes

WORKING AGREEMENT

Conference Co-Facilitators:

John Douglas, Jennifer Lilley, and Rigoberto Rodriguez

Conference Mgrs:

- Set time and tasks
- Make room for all points of view
- Keep task front & center

Participants:

- Provide information/analysis
- Manage own small groups
- Future scenarios & action steps

GROUND RULES

- All ideas valid
- All information written on flip charts
- Listen to each other--all points of view matter
- Strict time frames
- Seek common ground and action
- Differences/problems noted, explored, understood--not "worked."
- Have fun!

DRAFT

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 21, 2002 Meeting Notes

LEADERSHIP ROLES FOR SELF-MANAGEMENT

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Each small group manages its own discussion, data, time, and reports. Here are useful roles for self-managing this work. **Leadership roles can be rotated.** Divide up the work as you wish--

- **DISCUSSION LEADER** - Assures that each person who wants to speak is heard within time available.
- **TIMEKEEPER** - Keeps group aware of time left. Monitors report-outs and signals time remaining to person talking.
- **RECORDER** - Writes group's output on flip charts, using speaker's words. Ask people to restate long ideas briefly.
- **REPORTER** - Delivers report to large group in time allotted.

DRAFT

COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 21, 2002 Meeting Notes

ATTACHMENT 5

Common Observations

- Infrastructure was built quickly, a long time ago – not much has been done since then
- Isolation – economic and social
- Lack of City leadership – no champion with full support
- City acquiescence to code violations and problems and dirty businesses – opportunities were taken advantage of
- Increasing density over the past 20 years – population more than buildings
- Laissez-faire attitude on enforcement and investment by City
- Lack of consensus and political power on Westside due to diverse interests – no cohesive effort
- The ocean is a plus, but accessibility is limited
- Mindset that the Westside is where you can go without standards