**Transportation and Public Spaces Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 24, 2019**

**8:30 – 10:00 am, Toole Design**

Attendees: Mary Snodgrass, Carol Kachadoorian, Jon Morrison Winters, Diane Wiatr, Katie Wuestney, KL Shannon, Lizzie Moll, Kristen Lohse

1. **Introductions**

* No ice breaker needed.

1. **Review Committee’s Toolkits**

* Advocacy Toolkit
  + Mary presented a draft of the advocacy toolkit, and plans to follow up on suggestions from last month, including: Age Friendly Street Design Toolkit (Lizzie Moll), Results for America (Brent Butler), and AARP (Amanda Frame)
  + The committee discussed other potential resources and information to include, such as the Department of Neighborhood’s Resource Learning page, SDOT’s Communities Realized page for funding opportunities, and possible resources from the PSRC.
  + There was also a suggestion to create an introduction to the toolkit, explaining that it is a community empowerment document – that people have more power than they think, and organizing can have an impact, etc.
* Process Report
  + Jon has begun pulling old minutes together for the committee’s process report.
  + He noticed themes and lessons beginning to emerge that should be discussed further in the document, such as:
    - The site selection process
    - The walking tours
    - Bringing in community partners
    - Managing expectations
  + Jon will reach out to Katie for notes on the maps she created; Katie will help write up an explanation of using publicly available data

1. **Updates on IDIC Projects**

* The committee discussed the status of ongoing projects with IDIC:
  + Sidewalk Drawings
    1. Carol and Kristen Lohse presented design options that Toole Design drafted for a sidewalk to IDIC’s entrance
    2. They highlighted some of the challenges for pedestrians trying to access IDIC, including distances to bus stops, crossings on Beacon and Othello, curb ramps that do not meet code, and no sidewalks to the building.
    3. Option 1 was to create a sidewalk on the north side of Othello, with a mid-block pedestrian crossing to IDIC further west on Othello. This would allow for longer sightlines for cars turning from Beacon onto Othello.
    4. Option 2 was to relocate the 107 bus stop in front of IDIC, and orient the improvements around the bus stop. This would include an accessible soft-surface walking path to the building entrance along the south side of Othello.
    5. Lizzie and Diane will talk to the SDOT engineers to make sure both options are viable, and then Toole can make tweaks based on feedback.
    6. Further conversations are needed with IDIC and its members, as well as the building owner, to get more feedback on the designs.
  + Moving 107 Bus Stop Closer to IDIC
    1. Metro is amenable and is waiting for more information from IDIC and the committee, including more information about why the move is necessary and how it will benefit IDIC.
    2. Metro mentioned that moving the stop may require the consolidation of two stops; the committee discussed the potential impact of consolidating two stops and the poor impact that would have on the community.
    3. It may be a good idea to invite Metro to a future meeting with IDIC to discuss the sidewalk drawings and bus stop location.

1. **Understanding the NSF Grant Process**

* KL Shannon from Seattle Neighborhood Greenways (SNG) discussed Seattle Neighborhood Greenway’s project for Beacon Ave. trail improvements. SNG had applied for the Neighborhood Street Fund program at SDOT but the project was not selected. SNG is planning to submit the project again, and is talking to different local organizations to gain support.
* Diane suggested speaking to SDOT staff, who can help organizations strengthen their proposal. She also explained the many layers of approval that NSF proposals have to go through for approval. She noted that there were over 300 applications, and only about 10 per district are funded.
* The selection criteria are posted online, so applicants should review those, and think about projects that get a lot of “bang for the buck,” in terms of not being super expensive but impacting a lot of people. It was also suggested to really focus on building and telling a story.

1. **Next Steps**

* **Jon**: check for PSRC advocacy resources; reach out to Katie for the maps; continue drafting the process report
* **Mary**: email Lizzie, Brent and Amanda re advocacy materials; include NSF layers of approval in toolkit; continue drafting the toolkit
* **Katie:** help draft pieces of “Selection of Focus Area” for the process report
* **Lizzie and Diane**: talk to the SDOT engineers about the sidewalk design options
* **Diane**: send KL Shannon the SDOT contacts for NSF; write a brief explanation on green sheets