

PROCEEDINGS (NOTES) FROM November 7, 2017 ACTION FORUM at the Sundowner

What are the issues & opportunities for Shaping the Future of the International District?

Link to action forum invitation - <http://bit.ly/2xJnAWM>

BREAK OUT GROUP #/LETTER: A **BREAK OUT TIME** _Round 1 _____

TOPIC & CONVENER: International Business Development Dorothy & Loretta

RECORDER: Dan Majewski

PARTICIPANTS: John Moore, Loretta, Dorothy, Kerwin, Dean Smith, Brian Reilly, Maggie

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

- Library at Caravan site could be Rt 66 visitors center, there's going to be one on the West side
- Rout 66 Casino- how do they get visitors? Isolated
- Old library on San Pedro – what happens to it?
- No just Rt 66 – International District – what is this?
 - Rt 66 International Info Center, finding into, becomes a destination
- How do we get more international type stores? Cloth, spices etc
- How does each neighborhood brand their own stop?
- When you know the ID is there, you can stop at all the different destinations
 - There need to be more “things to do” along Central, that's how you get less people driving.
- The City has a couple of programs to attract international businesses to ABQ, could there be a focus on bringing those businesses to the ID?
- There will be a market study from the TOD planning grant centered around San Mateo and Central by the end of Dec. It will try to identify unmet needs for certain kinds of goods and services
- Parking lot at State Fair is affecting the vacancy rate across the street
- Neighbors have been fighting State Fair for years, wanted soccer fields.
- Having more development on the parking lot of state fair along central could help make it more of a destination, less of a “no man's land” section.
- How did Talin Market get started? Ask Victor what it would take to develop his parking lot more
 - There used to be a farmer's market @ Caravan East site, it moved to Talin's parking lot and it died.
 - Other flea markets as a temporary use to activate a site? Ask current flea market vendors who comes to them, would there be a demand for an additional site? Move their current site?
- Randy Trask, International Business Development in City's Economic Development Dept. talk to him!

- International business can have it shipped into ABQ warehouse. What needs to organizations have here? Make ID an international business hub.
- How do you keep markets affordable?
- What is the design process for the Caravan site Library?
- Will all be laid out, will be public meetings
- Similar to library at Unser? The community wanted a landmark presence to a larger community room
- Can we broaden the community conversation around the design of the library? Should a library be just a library or can it be something else in addition? What should the design process be?
- How can the library be planned in a way that encourages development around it?

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

BREAK OUT GROUP #/LETTER: B **BREAK OUT TIME** _Round 1 _____

TOPIC & CONVENER: Homeless Support, Enrique Cardiel

RECORDER: Rita

PARTICIPANTS: Rey , Maggie

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Opposing legislation persecuting the homeless (panhandling)

Providing

Bathrooms / Showers

Shelter – tiny homes, vacant buildings, warehouses

Food

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

Substance abuse

BREAK OUT GROUP #/LETTER: C **BREAK OUT TIME** _Round 1 _____

TOPIC & CONVENER: Youth

RECORDER: Anna Horner

PARTICIPANTS: Reynaluz Juarez, Isla Garduño, Patrick Barrett, Baruch Campos, Christopher Ramirez, Eloisa Juarez

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Intros & why you are here.

People work with youth in ID, positive development, changing quickly in ID, lots of construction, young people need help, host open mic for young people. Young people hungry to lead & earn money. PED not funding Upward Bound (proven program for success to get kids into college) Youth leadership and leadership development so kids don't have to choose school OR work. APS connection to work with young people, why isn't there investment from Bern Co behavioral health in ID?

So many people willing to mentor young people in ID. Teach classes for youth at Sundowner. Peer taught classes – money for stipends to teach kids, kids getting paid to teach kids. Young people want classes @ Warehouse 508 but can't get there. Why not do it in ID @ Sundowner? Youth Health Board, youth employment. Connect APS to community through ABC Community School Coordinator. How to engage young people to make them feel valued? Pay youth to teach through the space where they teach.

Flea market very important to connect with young people. How do we find people where they are at? Half pipe @ flea market. Smoothie & bike pop up gardens, flower arrangements.

Young people need to facilitate meetings, making agendas, adults need to watch, understand youth and stand back and learn. Making art, being interactive, not being talked at – this works for all people.

Youth pedestrian safety, concerns in ID right now are being safe & feeding their family. ID is lowest income area of the city. Parents are forced to work or leave their kids home alone. Good pedestrian facilities. Public wash showers. Can youth shower @ Caesar Chavez Community Center- this often depends on who sits at the front desk.

“Report” doesn't address economic disparities in ID – people don't have food, transportation, technology. These conversations oftentimes don't get off the ground because they start from the place of privilege. Why do we even have these conversations? Afraid to share ideas because people steal them. We demand that planners make some sort of statement that acknowledges privilege and as a result they are responsible to us! To this community. “They” were we mean facilitators of TOD grant. We have to say this is how we want to do it – stipends for youth, stipends for mentors, the why adults interact with youth.

Art is going to be a game changer for ID –such as working with security officers on ARRT – taking this space and these people and using them as social service referrals. Put community health workers on ART. Have non police on ART supporting people to get home safe, to connect youth back to their parents. ART will be an opportunity for some of our neighborhoods. Frustration in AE being funded at the level that it is. ART is in 5 phases – next will be from airport to N. campus. ABQ Ride is about getting people out of their cars and on the bus but there are people that don't have cars that depend on the bus in live in areas where there are no bus routes. How are those people being engaged? People in the ID have to do 2 hour commute to get their kids to Mark Twain because there is no bus route on San Pedro.

More art (creative) opportunities in ID. So many empty buildings in ID – can one of those spaces be available for young people to do art? East Central Ministries has donated space to support cooperative businesses and uses – i.e. wood working space, art supplies and materials. Pop up art ideas. We need dedicated volunteers to support that kind of space – stipend youth to do that

where there are permanent, vacant spaces? Going to make the new library into a regional library and keep smaller library or close it? Libraries have strict policies about food, which is limiting.

Work on sustainable funding through bonds available library for youth events.
Participatory budgeting – can there be \$500,000 / year for ID and youth and community in ID to decide how that money is spent? Use community schools to host those events.

Soccer tournaments in ID every weekend – a lot of people biked and walked to the event.
Spread the word – work of mouth young people telling young people.

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

BREAK OUT GROUP #/LETTER: D **BREAK OUT TIME** _Round 1 _____

TOPIC & CONVENER: Community Development Without Gentrification or Displacement

Jessie Hardin (minister) & Stephen Bracht

RECORDER: Michaele Pride (UNM)

PARTICIPANTS: Daniel Rowan, Brian Reilly, Anthony Rael

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

- How can housing stay affordable for low-income households?
- Conditions haven't changed in a long time! Why/how might they change now?
- Can we create a "safe zone" so that people needn't fear displacement?
- We hope for greater opportunities for the children in the ID with improvements, e.g., better/more jobs, safer streets
- Want people to grow with this development—their situation improves with community development
- Bad/irresponsible landlords are a problem – maintenance, weatherization
- More home ownership opportunities would help families and homes stabilize
 - "zero tolerance" for irresponsibility of either property owners or renters
- Build upon the great entrepreneurial spirit
- Need a "town hall" space for meeting and co-creating solutions

- APS, Church leaders, business owners,
 - revitalize thrift store
- LISTEN intently – now interviewing
- Buy/secure property
 - Property owners coalitions – collaborate with the good ones
- ECM Casa Shalom – housing co op
- NM Direct Caregiver Association + Cooperative – Trains caregivers
- City owned lots – e.g. Waco Community Development
 - Scattered site CLT's , Co ops
- 100-year lease to ECM for community gardens
- Sense of Place and neighborhood management
 - Grassroots growth approach
- Tiny home village
- IDA's and dividends return on investment (ROI) on community revitalization (examples from somewhere)

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

- Anti Displacement Study forthcoming. People are invited to help design the questions it will address (contact Brian Reilly)
- Find a project to get involved in
- Staying in the ID and participating in action
- Follow up! Accept invitation and invite others around housing
- Engage others in fostering community
- Read all the notes
- Get and share data on vacant properties and government-owned lots (M Pride)

BREAK OUT GROUP #/LETTER: E **BREAK OUT TIME** _Round 1 _____

TOPIC & CONVENER: Immigrants and Refugee Assistance, Blanca Pedigo

RECORDER: Valerie Martinez

PARTICIPANTS: Sandy McCardell, Bernadette Hardy, Eric Renz-Whitmore, Khadijah Bottom, Danielle Pedigo,

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION (remember to write so people can follow the most important points when reading this later):

- Newest resources – training to help refugees with language access. Vision Sankofa makes home visit. San Mateo/ Katheryn- West Side.
- Language Barriers
- Mobile services unit- could travel to neighborhoods
- What about icons for bus stations so people of all languages can understand?
- Need programs for those whose federal benefits run out.
- Organizations need to cooperate

- We want a hub in the ID where immigrants and refugees can get resources Needs ot be a safe, neutral site. Could new library site also include service center?
- IRRVA /Women’s Global Pathways had center at Los Altos – prejudice in people ruined it. Experiences with prejudice, racism in our group. Shock at the lack of education
- Desperate need to change people’s minds about the ID – they don’t know us.
- We see strength, diversity and beauty here. How to influence those people in power?

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

Explore three ideas:

1. Service Centers for Immigrants and refugees
 2. Creative approach to getting info in many languages (bus stops, etc)
 3. PR-promote the strength and beauty of the ID. How to see our languages as abilities, that can be employed. Ideas in forming cooperatives. Importance of being bi-lingual – learn English, keep native language.
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BREAK OUT GROUP #/LETTER: F BREAK OUT TIME _Round 1 ____

TOPIC & CONVENER: Asian American Cultural Center

RECORDER: Karen Cathey

PARTICIPANTS: Rashid Ahmad

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

AA Cultural Center was promised but never developed. Money was set aside but never used for this center.

There is no such place which can provide a wide spectrum of community needs for the diverse Asia(Amer) population. There is an Asian Family Center but it is focused on direct services and advocacy / but space, money and programming is limited.

IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

Karen – Reach out to Filipino and Vietnamese Community

Rashid- Reach out to Afghan and South Asian

Karen & Rashid -Community meeting in Jan 2018 and there present the plan to city council