

CID Framework and Implementation Plan

Workgroup 1 - Community Development and Stabilization

Meeting Summary,

March 7, 2018

Work Group Members present

Tammy Deets	Leslie Morishita	Jessa Timmer	Jamie Lee
Cassie Chin	Quynh Pham	Betty Lau	Marlon Herrera
Brien Chow	Kathleen Johnson	Andrew Tran	

Staff present

Gary Johnson (OPCD)	Janet Shull (OPCD)	Ubox Gardheere (OPCD)
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Co-Chair Marlon Herrera opened the meeting.

The meeting's focus was a presentation and discussion on the Little Saigon Landmark Project. The first topic of discussion was a de-brief on the February 28 Community Open House Event.

Workgroup members who attended the February 28 Open House shared some impressions summarized here:

- The Community Stabilization information station was mostly attended by people who were interested in Affordable Housing
- It would have been nice to see more CID residents attend the meeting
- Other engagement strategies (besides an open house event) are important
- The CID Coalition will provide opportunities for engagement
- Some people thought Advisory Committee members were city staff
- Future events should have more time for notice and more emphasis on the purpose of the meeting.

The main presentation was led by Ubox Gardheere from the Office of Planning and Community Development and Quynh Pham of Friends of Little Saigon.

Ubox Gardheere presented information on the Equitable Development Initiative and the Equitable Development Fund summarizing its foundation in the City's Equity Analysis and the EDI Fund round 2 timeline.

In 2018 the program will prepare its first monitoring report.

Four neighborhoods received funding in the first round the Central Area, Rainier Beach, Othello and the CID with the Little Saigon Landmark Project. These four neighborhoods were identified as having the highest potential for displacement in the Equity Analysis.

Quynh Pham presented information on the Landmark project including project background and a current status update.

The Little Saigon community came together around the Yesler Terrace redevelopment and prepared a community vision that was documented in the Little Saigon Action Plan 2020. In that vision community members identified the following as priorities:

- Gathering space;
- Cultural space;
- Small business space – including space for indoor year-round night market;
- Space for history and arts; and
- Housing

The community's priorities transformed into what is now the Landmark project - a cultural and community anchor serving small businesses, the Vietnamese community, and the Greater Seattle area.

The Landmark project has faced challenges in market competition to secure a site.

The Workgroup had discussion following the presentations questions for Quynh and Ubax.

It was suggested that the Landmark project presents an opportunity to incorporate historical references to the neighborhood's history.

There was discussion about the types of housing that would be included. Quynh responded that originally the idea was that the Landmark Project would provide for workforce housing, but that as time passes and things have changed since the housing needs assessment was done and they are also looking at senior and family housing.

There was discussion about the small business spaces that would be provided and whether retail space needs may be different in Little Saigon than in Chinatown. Intracorp project was mentioned as an example of mixing larger anchor tenant spaces with smaller retail spaces.

There was a question about whether there was an identified need for office space. There is more of an interest in space for non-profit entities.

The discussion shifted to the needs of small businesses in the CID in general – the need for new development to respond to local small businesses – including affordable housing developments that have space for commercial tenants.

Discussion wrapped up with Marlon reminding the Workgroup that one of their objectives is to develop recommendations to forward to the Advisory Committee. Future meetings will begin to focus the discussion more in this area.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Shull

Next Meeting April 4, 2018 5:00 to 6:30 PM