

DOWNTOWN LINKS CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DLCAC)
DECK PARK REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday July 2, 2014
*Accepted and Approved by the Downtown Links CAC
Deck Plaza Review Subcommittee on December 8, 2014*

FROM: TDOT Project Manager Tom Fisher

DECK PARK SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, Daniela Diamente, Dunbar Spring Neighborhood Association
Kylie Walzak, Tucson-Pima Bicycle Advisory Committee
Susan Gamble, Warehouse Arts Management Association

DECK PARK SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

PROJECT TEAM PRESENT:

Sam Credio, City of Tucson Department of Transportation
Tom Fisher, City of Tucson Department of Transportation
Michael Bertram, HDR Engineering, Inc.
Brent Kirkman, HDR Engineering Inc.
Kathy Jirschele, Kaneen Advertising and Public Relations
Lindsey Normoyle, Kaneen Advertising and Public Relations
Laura Mielcarek, Wheat Design Group
Chelsea Marshall, Wheat Design Group

DOWNTOWN LINKS CAC MEMBERS PRESENT

None

1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:22 a.m. at Wheat Design Group, 442 N. 6th Avenue, Tucson, AZ
Quorum confirmed

2. Introduction of Committee Members and Staff

Downtown Links CAC Deck Plaza Review Subcommittee and Project Team Members introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 29, 2013

Motion to approve the minutes of April 29, 2013 with a spelling correction, was passed by a voice vote of 3 to 0.

4. Announcements

None

5. Staff Reports and Presentations to DLCAC Deck Plaza Review Subcommittee

- **Laura Mielcarek** briefly gave an update on the prior rendering from April 29, 2013. Laura reviewed the changes between the two concepts, including some changes to the right of way near the deck plaza as well as some circulation changes. **Sam Credio** said he had recently met with the Tucson Fire Department (TFD) regarding emergency access in the area. TFD said that emergency vehicles cannot back out of a roadway/area that is longer than 150 feet. As a result of this restriction, an access point and/or an alleyway near Ash and 9th Avenues has been included in the plans. Sam added that they were still in the process of figuring out how emergency vehicles could

pull through the Deck Plaza onto 9th Avenue. There was discussion about what the area between Ash and 9th Avenues would look like and everyone agreed that the area should not become a “waste land” because it could invite transients. **Brent Kirkman** added that a small section of multi-use path would be added between Stone and 9th Avenues. **Kylie Walzak** asked how they planned to keep cars from driving down the multi-use path. **Daniela D.** asked what could or could not be done with 9th Avenue. **Sam C.** said that they would keep the full street width on 9th Avenue. **Chelsea Marshall** added that the railroad crossing also has an impact on the design. **Sam C. and Brent K.** discussed the considerations being made as it relates to the multi-use path near the Steinfeld building. **Chelsea M.** reviewed the Plaza elements including shade, planters, trees, pavers, pathways, lawn area over the culvers, play wall, passive water harvesting and informal gathering areas. **Chelsea M.** said that recycled concrete rubble would be formed into gabions to create the amphitheater style seating. She explained how concrete pavers would be incorporated within the emergency vehicle access areas. She also discussed where the columns would be placed throughout the deck plaza. Chelsea said she thought the area with organic mulch might evolve into a little conversation type area. Also, that they planned to create a stabilized path that would loop around the grass area. **Daniela D.** said this plan is not a drastic shift from the prior concept, but thinks this is a better use of space, and would better accommodate some of the neighborhood group activities. **Laura M.** added that they continue to coordinate with the design team to make sure adequate electrical/lighting opportunities are provided. **Chelsea M.** showed the members the concept for the shade structure which is a combination of materials including perforated metal, solar panels and a resin material to direct the flow of rainwater. **Chelsea M.** also showed the members images of water harvesting panels that direct rainwater to a central spot. She said this type of panel also offers the opportunity to add more color and interest to the area. **Daniela D.** asked where the child area with swings and interactive sculptures would be located. **Laura M.** responded that it most likely would be in/near the grass area and suggested that some areas in the plan be left open for public art installation. **Kylie W.** asked if the team was aware of what was planned for the Bender property. **Tom F.** said he thought they were planning on using it as event space. **Susan G.** said she really likes the flatness of the shade structure and how it looks like a friendly place.

Daniela D. said she wanted to present the plans at the next Dunbar Spring Neighborhood Association meeting to hear their feedback. **Sam C.** said he thinks that they also need to take it to the full CAC. He also added that this Deck Plaza plan would be submitted with the 90% design plans. **Daniela D.** said she wanted to get feedback from neighborhoods on the emergency vehicle access changes. **Sam C.** agreed that feedback from neighborhoods on safety concerns was important.

6. Next Steps

Items for Future Meetings - None at this time

Confirm Future Meeting Dates - The next meeting will be the full Downtown Links CAC meeting on July 14, 2014.

7. Call to the Audience

None

8. Adjournment at 11:07 a.m.