

# Route 1 South Housing Affordability Strategy

## Community Meeting

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 | Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street

### General Community Questions, Comments and Concerns

#### Community Engagement

- Concern with notification process and how the process is being publicized
- How were residents in the focus area notified and how were residents in the Southwest Quadrant area notified?
- Concern that individual properties within the area are slated for redevelopment
- Concern about community participation or lack of
- What if people cannot attend the charrette?
- Concern that decisions are being made in a vacuum
- Feeling of distrust with City
- People do not understand the rush to approve this plan, we need more time. A broader area will be affected. Why this is being done such and intense way before May.
- Engagement is a two-way street. Community members are also responsible for getting involved.

#### Housing / Affordability / Relocation Process

- How does the Alfred Street Baptist Church (ASBC) redevelopment project factor in to this planning process?
- Concern with relocation plan (or lack of) regarding ASBC redevelopment as well as for Old Town West and Heritage Apartments
- If City approves ASBC application, is there a voucher one can receive if we do not want to go back in the neighborhood? Can we relocate wherever we want?
- What is the Office of Housing and what do they do?
- Where is your consideration for people who are retired, disabled and on fixed incomes? Where are the people in this plan who cannot afford \$1,000/mo?
- Where are you getting your data? And what is the most recent data pulled?
- Concerned about research you've been doing for this
- Can some of these affordable units be moved to other parts of the city?
- You said affordable housing has gone from 18,000 units to 1,800 in 10 years. If there is an Office of Housing and this is the concern, how has this been allowed to happen over time and why not addressed earlier? What is your target you are trying to get to?
- How about using housing choice vouchers to create more affordable homes?
- This is the last neighborhood that is affordable. My concern as a neighbor is that we maintain the housing for the people who live here. The City is bringing in federal offices that do not pay residential taxes. The City is overdeveloping and bringing in more and more expensive development and the number of affordable units is smaller and smaller. With those units, if under HUD, when developers build affordable units, how do you prevent the owner from changing them to market units?
- What if families are in a townhouse now? Will they still get a townhouse after redevelopment?

#### Plan Goals / Planning and Development

- Confusion regarding the focus area shown in yellow on the project maps - The initial flyer had one portion highlighted then another flyer that showed whole community. What exactly is the plan area?
- What is the boundary and what does it mean to be in the boundary?
- Will the document at the end of the charrette be binding?
- Be more specific about what the vision is for this strategy

- What does it mean to “strengthen the character of the neighborhood”?
- I’ve heard that the entire Southwest Quadrant is being rezoned. Will it be removed from the historic district?
- There is a lot of history here - how do we recognize it in the planning?
- The City is laying out a vision for everyone in the Southwest Quadrant – it doesn’t just affect the Heritage and Old Town West apartments. Average people live in this area, not wealthy people
- I hope the feeling/character/charm of this neighborhood is preserved
- Will these properties redevelop into high rise buildings?
- Have you looked to see what neighboring jurisdictions are doing for affordable housing? What are other models?
- Look at how Asia approaches housing
- Quality of redevelopment is important

#### Transportation / Connectivity

- Are you going to focus on bicycle awareness and responsibility? Bike share locations?
- Also need to focus on motorist responsibilities
- Can we do something about people trespassing on private property?