



Washington State
Department of Transportation



US 395 NORTH SPOKANE CORRIDOR

North Spokane Corridor Executive Advisory Committee

November 13, 2018

10:00 a.m. - noon

WSDOT, 2714 N. Mayfair, Spokane, WA

Meeting Notes

- **Welcome – Safety Briefing**

- **North Spokane Corridor Project Update – (Bob Hilmes, NSC Project Engineer)**
Still progressing from north to south.
Columbia to Freya is under construction
Next project – 2nd BNSF Rail Realignment – begins in 2019
Two projects to complete mainline from Carlisle to Columbia including Wellesley Ave Interchange – begin in 2020. Will be able to open to Wellesley when this is ready.
Spokane River Crossing – begins in 2021
Sprague Ave to Spokane River will be done in two phases – beginning in 2020 and 2022 respectively
I-90 to Sprague Ave – begins in 2023

- **NSC Placemaking and Children of the Sun Trail**
 - **Overview of the NSC Place “process” and “engagement” - (Dr. Kerry Brooks, Eastern Washington University)**
Engagement kickoff was held July of 2017. Followed by four charrettes. Then formed Collaboration Team to refine and prioritize early work of charrettes. For a while, a meeting was held every two weeks with different groups, 30-40 attendees at each. Almost ready to finalize and prepare a report.

Placemaking and Placekeeping Process - two outcome categories: NSC Place Projects 30% develop concepts; strong ideas to pursue outside NSC Funding 10%.

Children of the Sun Trail – identified a preferred route –a large summary document is available at NSCPlace.com . In addition to meetings, an online survey also provided information. This is a working document, with more placemaking planning with the Chief Garry and East Central neighborhoods.

 - **Emerging Focus Areas - How were they conceptualized and developed?**
Placemaking – Community input has been compiled and analyzed to identify placemaking focus areas.

Paul Kinderman was instrumental in compiling information and translating it into buildable concepts. Collaboration Team enhanced and edited the concepts. Created a Placemaking Focus Area Survey – 153 total respondents/143 completed the survey and indicated their priorities.

Gardner (Chief Garry Neighborhood)– were there first responders involved in decisions?

Brooks and Kay – some police attended early on. City of Spokane and STA are part of core team.

o **Focus Area Presentations / Executive Advisory Discussion - (NSC Place Core Team Members) *Each Focus Area will be presented to receive feedback and general informed consent***

▪ **North Hillyard**

No questions/comments.

▪ **Historic Hillyard Business District**

Burris (Hillyard Neighborhood) – the area north that exists now with the trail is totally fenced off until you get to Central. At what point is it open to the business district and at what point will it be completed?

Hilmes – trail separated into separate contract. Access has been a theme all the way through – open from Columbia Trailhead to the south – private businesses may fence in some areas.

Have not looked into opening the fence up north – it is possible to change if there is a lot of energy behind it.

Kay - currently non-public access connections maybe deemed as private benefit with valuated cost. We are currently exploring access modifications in this area.

Larson – always been our intent to have as many accesses as possible.

Made a trail connection at Royale. Was able to use county property to provide the access.

Joe Tortorelli- this is in an industrial area – industries do not want to have an access into their property.

Kay – people have asked about the ability to have ingress and egress for safety.

Railroad R/W behind ice plant – connection to trail?

Hilmes – ice plant is private property.

- **Wellesley**
No questions/comments.
- **Garland**
No questions/comments.
- **South Market / Euclid**
Tolley – bus shelters came up as high priority. Business owners may not be happy where they are. Might need to be more creative.

Bindewald (Minnehaha Neighborhood)- Why Historic Wild Horses theme?
Native American? Movie theme?

Brooks – theme has been around Wild Horses with Native American aspect.
Movie theme could be added.

Tolley (Hillyard Neighborhood)– further north area was considered Wild Horse Prairie by the Native Americans; not farther south. Hillyard has been involved for quite some time. Minnehaha and further south – thinks it will take more time to understand what they want.

Hilmes – will bring more information back to the public – information that has been brought up in collaboration projects – through July 2020.

Wallace – how will new information be brought forward?

Brooks – will make changes to document they are preparing.

Kay – during the design phase we will coordinate with neighborhoods to ensure themes like the movie theme through Minnehaha are reflected in the final design features.

Bindewald - Setting of Minnehaha to the side. Industrial in Hillyard; Minnehaha is single, residential family neighborhood and has been there for a long time.

Have been bringing things up – don't know how to refine it.

Kay - Collaboration team identified focus areas where many activities are occurring. Neighborhoods wanted to develop gateways from the NSC into the neighborhoods; have entrances. We will work with neighborhoods to explore grant opportunities for artistic work beyond what the NSC can fund. Make sure prominent gateway entrances are incorporated into NSC infrastructure. Spokane Tribe has been contacted, and we will continue to collaborate with the Tribe and Gonzaga.

Bindewald - Euclid and Upriver are only entrances to the neighborhood to the west so it's important to have those gateways. Who do I contact?

WSDOT contact is Bob Hilmes.

Janet Sharp – WSDOT Title 6 Coordinator’s duty is to be sure everyone is heard. Bob and Char are very much paying attention to your neighborhood. Working together to include all neighborhoods.

Hilmes – We are coming up with a prioritized list from the community. Not everything on lists will be built – we have limited funding.

Kay - Plaza is the area around the trail – where the neighborhood envisions amenities – a gathering spot.

Lynch to Bindewald – let’s get together to get a better understanding of your ideas.

- **Greene Street**

No questions/comments.

- **Illinois Street - Auxiliary Pedestrian Route – (Dr. Kerry Brooks / Bob Hilmes)**

Received a high priority in the survey, but is a \$6 million project with no funding.

Tolley - Suggested a meeting with the City of Spokane and WSDOT.

Gribner is interested in this meeting. WSDOT will refine the concept and present to BNSF to get a sense if they would allow the modification to the existing RR bridge to make room for the pathway. Then schedule the meeting.

- **Practical Placemaking Solutions - NSC Wall Visual Typology Engagement Process - (Louis Meuler/ Dean Gunderson, City of Spokane Planning)**

Dean Gunderson is the Senior Urban Designer for the City – preliminary design into actual work – how do you find out what’s most important to the stakeholders?

WSDOT needs to bid out two walls to facilitate the RR realignment – want to help create a prioritization process that can be brought back to the focus groups and help tell WSDOT where the important walls are.

Next step - visual levels of service that ranks walls from where they are very visible to ones that are infrequently seen.

Two walls: Wellesley Ave & Market St; S Market St & Euclid Ave - and several railroad abutments to be installed after the first of the year.

Asking for help to rank level of importance for the walls.
Ranking and content will continue through 2020.

