North Main-Huron River Corridor Vision Task Force
MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 22, 2012
Time: 5:00 to 7:00 pm
Location: 2nd Floor South Conf. Room, Huron River Watershed Council, 1100 North Main Street

Attendees: Task Force Members present: Bonnie Bona, Tamara Burns, Rita Combest, Ray Detter, Julie Grand, Cyndi Ives, Mike Martin, Darren McKinnon, Elizabeth Riggs, David Santacroce (Chairperson), Sandi Smith
Task Force Members absent: Connie Brown, Paul Ganz
Staff present: Eli Cooper, Connie Pulcipher, Sumedh Bahl
Public present: Ethel Potts, Alice Ralph

Re: 3rd Task Force Meeting

1) Roll Call: David Santacroce

2) Approval of Agenda: Minor additions suggested & revised agenda approved

3) Approval of Minutes: August 8, 2012 Meeting Minutes approved

4) SmithGroup/JJR Update: SmithGroup/JJR had previously offered to provide technical support and assistance to the Taskforce. Due to concerns over a potential perceived (but not actual) conflict of interest and the demands of other City projects, it was forced to retract its offer but, as a stakeholder, did offer to provide its expertise on an as needed basis at the request of the Taskforce.

5) Complete Streets; Input to MDOT about N. Main Street improvements; Rail Crossings Discussion: Eli Cooper, A.I.C.P., Transportation Program Manager, City of Ann Arbor: [See attachment 1]
   - State reviews Complete Street projects and has final determination regarding safety
   - The state policy includes a cost proportionality test for Complete Street projects
   - City staff experience is that MDOT is easy to work with, open to local ideas and effective accommodating Complete Street investments; a good partner
   - N. Main St rehabilitation project is not in the MDOT 5 year plan although funding flows and local focus/quality of road may alter that schedule, also the railroad grade crossing will become a critical issue as MDOT rail service between A2>>Detroit becomes active
   - Green Street & Complete Streets – similarities/differences? The state does not recognize all components of the city’s Green Street efforts but the goals are similar so there is much overlap
   - Rebuild vs refurb of Main: MDOT views Main Street as a repair project while this task force is viewing it as a rebuild. What are we willing to compromise on?
   - Shared Use Access Possibilities (reviewed by City but not funded):
     1. Path under RR Bridge (North End)
     2. Path Under Railroad (North End)
     3. Path Under M-14 (North End)
4. Shared Use Bridge North of AARR (South End)
5. Shared Use Bridge South of AARR (South End)

6) **721 N. Main Process Update and Overview:** *Connie Pulcipher*

- 2005 resolution is that the floodway will be a greenway; two alternatives are on the table:
  1. Alternative A: Open Space
  2. Alternative B: Open Space & Some Building Development
- This task force must make a recommendation to Council for best use of 721 N. Main as part of the Allen Creek Greenway trails by December 31, 2012.
- Concern expressed over the schedule. There is no contract yet with JJR so technical sub-committee meeting can't be scheduled yet.
- Darren McKinnon will be liaison between this task force and the technical committee.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Task force members to forward all questions regarding 721 N. Main to D. McKinnon by Friday, August 31.
- Conditional Approval of FEMA grant to demolish the two existing buildings in the floodway has been received.

7) **Addressing the Balance of the Task Force Charge:** *tabled*

8) **Communications Received:** *None received*

9) **New Business**

- Moving forward, the task force will have an Agenda Setting Committee comprised of Sandi Smith, David Santacroce, Elizabeth Riggs, Tamara Burns, Ray Detter

10) **Next Meeting:** *Wednesday, September 12, 5:00-7:00pm, location TBD*

- Proposal to meet every 3 weeks. Same location would be ideal. Debra Williams will review City meeting schedule/room availability and confirm meeting dates.

11) **Public Comment:** *Alice Ralph*

- Please consider improving public communications – current information is difficult to locate on website
- Someone on technical committee should also be on agenda setting committee (satisfied by R. Detter sitting on both committees)