

Meeting Notes
Scotlandville Comprehensive Community Development Plan Update
Neighborhood Committee Meeting
November 5, 2020, 5:00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Attendees:

CPEX: Lyneisha Jackson and Janet Tharp

Sustainability research and presentation: Angelle Bradford

Community members: Angela White, Pat LeDuff, Rinaldi Jacobs Sr., Reverend Cushenberry, Stephanie Allen, Debra Tilson

Southern University: Zhu Ning

MOVEBR/GOTECH: April Renard, Conway Cummings,

Agenda:

1. Project overview
2. Review of Community Vision and Guiding principles
3. Review of Initial Priority Recommendations
4. Sustainability Initiatives discussion

Committee Comments on PPT presentation

- Should remove “Scotlandville Plaza” from implement community wide beautification programs guiding principle
- Include construction of SU Alumni Center by SU Federation in initiatives underway. SU Federation has \$25 - \$30 million for construction on Harding Blvd.
- Remove Harding Blvd from “detailed development plan” under new initiatives, since there are other focus areas as well.
- Should include MOVEBR project initiatives underway.
 - GOTECH project managers for MOVEBR project presented overview of their project.
 - They are tasked with designing a new Scenic corridor at the intersection between Swan and Harding. They are currently collecting existing data and will be considering conceptual alternative design to include bike/ped/transit in alternatives.
- Angelle Bradford introduced the concept of incorporating sustainability into the plan and making Scotlandville a demonstration for the city and region. She facilitated discussion with national experts and summarized need to incorporate these strategies into plan recommendations.
- Zhu Ning, Chair for Urban Forestry Program at SU highlighted some of the sustainability initiatives currently ongoing at SU.

- Campus environmental and sustainability programs:
 - Tree Campus USA (SU may be first or the only HBCU participating in Tree Campus USA, due to Urban Forestry program). The Mississippi Bluff helps with campus beautification
 - Utilizing waste
 - Pruning trees to turn into bio-oil
 - Students went to DC to represent SU at the National Advancement of Sciences conference
 - Urban Forestry inventory and assessment eco-model, estimates number of trees needed and their contribution to reduce carbon, future pollution, stormwater management.
- Bike Rental program
 - Would be great to connect SU with Scotlandville community businesses (e.g. I Hop and Smoothie King)
 - Bike stations should be placed within the community for students to access (e.g. Scotlandville Plaza, library, Airline 190, central location at SU gateway, disaster center, Plank Road)
 - Need to also implement bike paths to support the bike rental program
 - Consider locations for bike stations where people may want to ride
 - Develop a map of potential bike paths with community input
 - The current bike path is on Curtis St, which is in a residential location and does not connect to any destinations or businesses. The area is not well lit for bicycles. Consider placing bike path on Harding Blvd where businesses are and the park near the interstate (Scotlandville Parkway Park).
- Recycling Program
 - Recycling program can connect to persons not in Ag Center and are in the community
- Alternative Energy-Solar
 - SU Go Green Program. Envisioned a large solar farm of 100 acres off Harding Blvd.
 - Is a superfund site/ may need remediation to implement farm.
 - Can partner with KSU to discuss site feasibility
 - <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative>
- Alternative Energy – District Energy Plant
 - Could this be used to foster business development on Scotland Ave.
- Community Garden
 - Consider economic impacts of community garden (NYC is a good example)
 - Can support local farmers

- There are a few potential sites for community gardens within the Scotlandville community. Potential locations include:
 - Scotlandville Garden Park,
 - Swan Street area (The Walls project did a project here)
 - Garden at Ryan Elementary
 - Railroad track near plaza
 - Anna T. Jordan Park (already have a garden),
 - Jewell Newman Community Center.
- These gardens can be programed so they are all connected.
- Community Composting
 - www.growdirtbr.com
 - EBR is starting to look at composting and recycling
 - Having a target audience to use the compost helps to support its success
 - UL Lafayette already does composting: <https://louisiana.edu/news-events/news/20190214/ul-lafayette-adds-composting-food-donations-landfill-diversion-efforts>
- Adaptive Re-Use
 - For adaptive reuse, one of the buildings can be used for a co-op, which includes grocery store and study hall for university students to encourage students to engage with community.

Other Notes:

- Update on Harding Blvd beautification.
 - Adopted theme for beautification is “Human Jukebox”.
 - Public Art- 3-dimensional band figures are planned to be placed along the median on Harding Blvd from I-110 to gateway of SU.
 - Phase 2 would include I-110 to Plank Road
 - Also plan to implement along I-110 Harding to Blount Road (working with airport)
 - Currently working with state for guidelines and standards to place figures
 - First phase is scheduled to be implemented by second quarter 2021
- Adam Knapp with BRAC is currently working on a Façade Improvement program for Airline 190 and Scotland Ave out to Scotlandville Plaza.
- Reimagined Zoo project should be included in the list of ongoing initiatives to support

Community Updates:

- Brownfield site on Scotlandville Plaza is being investigated and is currently in remediation phase. An environmental company is looking into what needs to be done. There is \$25,000 available towards this project.
- Programming for the Scotlandville Plaza is being planned and designed
- LSU students are currently developing concept designs for Scotlandville Plaza and will host an in-person pin-up to present their final designs to the community.