

**Edgewater Drive Vision Task Force
Meeting Minutes, February 7, 2008**

A meeting of the Edgewater Drive Vision Taskforce was held on Thursday, February 7, 2008 at approximately 3:30 p.m. at Orlando City Hall, 400 S. Orange Ave., in Conference Room "R."

Task Force Members Present:

Chair Claramargaret Groover
Tom Cook
Karen Schimpf
Eric Apen
Greg Bryla
James Pruett
Mary Dees (via phone)
Robert Carr

Task Force Members Absent:

Others Present:

Commissioner Robert F. Stuart
Jason Burton, Chief Planner, City of Orlando
Jon Ippel, Planner, City of Orlando
Michaëlle Pierrette, Planner, City of Orlando
Natalie Barnes, Resource Analyst, City of Orlando

1. Summary of the Walkabout

All members "downloaded" info that they compiled via interviews and e-mails to City staff. Staff then synthesized information into booklets and distributed at the meeting. Jason Burton also indicated that a draft survey with the input from the walkabout will be going online. Task Force members offered comments regarding survey, in order to make it more relevant and suggested including graphics with questions.

2. Upcoming Meetings

The Chair discussed how important it is to disseminate information to the public and to maximize the impact of their input to make meaningful and efficient recommendations to City Council. Eric Apen mentioned branching out to the local business associations and the College Park Neighborhood Association.

Robert Carr suggested a change of venue and/or time for upcoming meetings, specifically suggesting holding a meeting at the College Park Community Center. It was discussed that the Task Force might want to target businesses along the corridor by having meetings take place after normal business hours. Everyone agreed with this idea to solicit more input. Staff responded that it will work with Commissioner Stuart's office to schedule some of the meetings centrally in College Park. The Chair explained how each member must commit to contact people in the community, and if there are any responses to e-mails that members gather, please copy Jason Burton so that they can become part of the public record.

3. Survey

Jason Burton mentioned that a 10-question survey will soon be posted on-line and will be publicized after taskforce members test it. Staff will add a "further concerns" section at the request of Task Force members. Members also requested that the landscaping/pedestrian question be changed to solicit better information and staff agreed. Tom Cook suggested that within the survey, citizens could describe other places or cities that they like to utilize as a comparison to College Park, or to what Downtown College Park should become (EXAMPLE: Park Avenue in Winter Park, etc). Eric Apen suggested that we place a question about how citizens utilize Edgewater Drive today. James Pruett refined this concept by suggesting the question, "Do you walk, drive, or bike Edgewater Drive?" Greg Bryla suggested that staff include a visual preference survey, keeping in mind what policy decisions we want answered with the survey questions.

4. Power Point Presentation

Jason Burton proceeded with a presentation and proposal on Urban Design. He overviewed design concepts discussed earlier, including road networks.

- Discussed form-based zoning
 - Transects of density
- Urban Form Proposal:
 - stretched activity "node" with alleyways parallel to Edgewater
- Access management
 - limited access to Edgewater Drive and Princeton/Smith Street
- Height along Edgewater Drive
 - tapering of height from 3 stories to the 6-7 story maximum.
- Existing zoning district discussion
 - Current zoning allows 75 ft, but this height is only practical in the central "6-block" core due to the depth of lots and their zoning.

-Discussion of transition between residential and commercial

5. Zoning and Urban Form Discussion

Discussion ensued of what might constitute a “downzoning” of property –. The question was posed about whether it was worth it to the developer to have an idea of what might be politically acceptable to the neighborhood through a form based plan prior to pursuing a project, as the Master Plan and Planned Development process have the right to look at height as a neighborhood compatibility issue. This is one of the reasons the Wellsley tapers toward the east in height.

The question was discussed whether to terminate vista at Smith and Edgewater. Greg Bryla suggested that Urban Form could give guidance to the termination of vistas along off-set streets in the corridor, similar to how architecture in London takes particular advantage of these aspects.

Discussion ensued about the aesthetics of alleyways. Is there a way to make them more attractive? The suggestion of utilizing *Smartcode* requirements for the location of parking and dumpsters was raised. The point was made that businesses might have issues with the restrictions and difficulties with deliveries.

6. Presentation of Computerized Model

The meeting finished with a presentation of several graphics as well as a 3-D computerized model on Urban Form of the Corridor.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:10 PM.