MINUTES

COUNCIL DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 – 4:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present:	Gary Daniel, Chair, Council Member Pamela Holder, Vice Chair, Council Member Nicole Bentley, Exec Dir. Heart of Brevard Lee McMinn, Citizen Member Mayor Maureen Copelof, Ex-Officio Member
Staff Present:	Wilson Hooper, City Manager Paul Ray, Planning Director Alex Shepherd, Assistant to the City Manager Becky McCann, Communications Coordinator Emily Brewer, Planner
Guests:	Monica Driscoll

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chair Gary Daniel welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

B. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by Assistant to the City Manager Alex Shepherd.

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. McMinn, seconded by Ms. Bentley to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of January 10, 2024 Meeting

Motion by Ms. Bentley, seconded by Mr. McMinn to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2023 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Times Arcade Alley Update

Mr. Hooper informed the committee that the contractor is currently working on moving the electrical transformers.

Mr. Ray mentioned that we are paying extra money to bury power lines running from the main trunk line into the individual buildings to eliminate overhead power lines. However, Duke Energy is exploring options to bury more of the main trunk line at no additional cost.

Ms. Bentley suggested that Duke Energy should be able to eliminate overhead lines starting on W. Jordan St. and extend them underground down the alley.

Mr. Daniel inquired whether the one holdout signed the agreement.

Ms. Bentley confirmed that they did.

Mr. Hooper added that we are hopeful to receive a schedule from the contractor to anticipate their completion timeline.

F. Sidewalk Usage Policy

Ms. Brewer mentioned that we have been discussing internally the insurance requirements needed now that we have all our sidewalk infrastructure in place. Once we have reached a decision, we will schedule a presentation after receiving guidance on the insurance and liability requirements.

G. Bike Corrals and TDA Grant

Mr. Ray presented several different options for bike corrals designed to provide protection to pedestrians with a barrier between them and oncoming traffic in the travel lanes. The bike corrals are eighteen feet long. However, I am not suggesting placing them in parking spaces but rather in the hashed-out spaces that are not utilized. We would like to implement a bike corral test pilot in front of the Earth Mountain Bicycle Shop.

Ms. Holder asked how many bikes the corrals can hold.

Mr. Ray responded that they have the capacity to hold fourteen bikes.

Ms. Holden inquired about the number of corrals to install downtown. Would it be one per street or just one for downtown.

Mr. Ray suggested starting with just one and evaluating its usage.

Mr. Daniel expressed support for the idea, noting that it helps address the issue of bicycle riders not being able to leave their bikes downtown. Installing the bike corral and observing how riders use them would provide valuable insights.

Ms. Bentley mentioned that the Built Environment Committee sent her a conceptual design of columns where people can hang their bikes. She noted that they are less

expensive but is unsure of the space requirements. Additionally, having input from the bicycling community would be beneficial.

Mr. Ray pointed out that the hanging bike racks can cause issues for handicapped people or if the bike was to fall. However, I wanted to receive the committee's approval before reaching out to NCDOT.

The committee came to the consensus for Mr. Ray to reach out to NCDOT and to explore bike corrals further.

H. Additional Comments

Mr. Daniel said that he has been reading a book called Paved Paradise by Henry Grabar. He said that he strongly recommends that the committee read this book.

I. Set Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council Downtown Master Plan Committee was scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM.

J. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Minutes Approved - March 18, 2024

X
Gary Daniel
Chair, Council Member

X
Alex Shepherd
Assistant to the City Manager