

February 25, 2011

PARKVIEW GARDENS PLANNING PARTNERS:

We have not met for a number of months and wanted to give everyone an update. Since October we have been working with HUD and, starting in later December; DOT to get our budget, work plan and official paperwork in place. This has been quite a challenge considering HUD and DOT do not operate in the same manner, speak the same language and generally are from different planets. Our main contacts, Josh at HUD and Victor (who is from U City) from DOT worked closely with us to finalize everything and were as frustrated as we were in overcoming some major issues. Those included:

1. Question was if we need to request formal proposals for the consultants. Considering the time involved in that process we were concerned. After a joint call with HUD and DOT attorney's it was determined that if the grant application contained information about the consultant or they were involved in preparing the grant application a formal proposal process was not needed. Therefore; H3 Studios, RHCD and Trailnet have provided their scope of work and contracts have been developed.
2. Question was if we needed to do an in-depth environmental study (beyond the components we included in the grant). This would have been very expensive and would have meant cutting something else out of the plan. Our argument was that our project is strictly a planning process and no dirt was going to be turned. Again, this was resolved with their attorney's that we would not be required to do this in-depth environmental review.
3. The grant funding is predicated on Congress appropriating the funding. With all the discussion in Washington it became important to have signed contracts with HUD and DOT (yes, separate contracts) that committed the funds ASAP. In order to do this U City City Council needed to pass a resolution to authorize the City Manager to sign the agreements. This was put on the agenda at the last minute but it passed unanimously.
4. Related to #3 the grant start date was supposedly the date we received the letter of award of funding (October). We had been assured that we could count all the hours from then as in-kind costs to the grant. If that was the case the Trailnet Walk Audit was the major issue because that was a contracted task that could not occur prior to the contract signing. HUD contract was effective February 21st and DOT February 25th (the day before the Walk Audit). Also impacted were the hundreds of hours put in by Cheryl Adelstein, Andrea Riganti and I plus the class time of the students and faculty at Washington University. There is more than enough work to make up for Cheryl, Andrea and my time and because there are two classes dedicated to this project vs. the one noted in the grant application we should be able to make up the difference.

So all in all we are doing okay with HUD and DOT

Other major tasks over the last two months included:

- A. Issuing a Request for Proposals for the Communication consultant. This was issued twice because we only got one proposal the first time. The second time we got 4 good proposals; we interviewed all and had follow up questions for the two finalists. 501Creative was recommended to City Council for this task.
- B. Reconciling the budget was a challenge. This project has so many things to accomplish and less cash than we would like. This has been accomplished because our consultants were willing to work together to hold the line and share the resources.
- C. We finalizing the consultant contracts; inclusive of all the HUD and DOT requirements, and got them ready for approval by City Council for their February 28th meeting. H3 has the following sub-consultants working on the project:
 - a. CH2MHILL – Transportation
 - b. Development Strategies – Market Study, Economic Development Assessment & Integrated Funding Plan
 - c. David Mason and Associates – Landscape Architecture

Upcoming tasks:

- Walk Audit with Trailnet this Saturday from 9 am to 1:30 pm utilizing volunteers and Washington University students. Meet at Regional Arts Council, 6128 Delmar. Free lunch!
- 501Creative to begin work on the logo/style for the whole process, the web site designed, social networking, and information out about the project and the first public meeting.
- Planning and promoting the design charrette for Ackert Walkway with the class from Washington University. **SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 26th**
- Finalize over the next 60 days all the work plans and budgets with HUD and DOT.
- Meet with each of PPP members to develop a memorandum for understanding for in-kind and cash contributions as well as sharing HUD and DOT requirements relevant to their tasks.
- Setting up the reimbursement systems (of course they are different) with HUD and DOT.

Hope this gives you an idea on where we are in the project. If you have any questions please call me at 314-412-6995 or e-mail me at nmaccart@sbcbglobal.net

Nancy MacCartney
Grant Administrator



May 5, 2011

Planning Partners

PARKVIEW PLANNING PARTNERS

City of University City

UPDATE #2

Washington University
in St Louis

Parkview Gardens
Association

Great Rivers
Greenway District

Trailnet

Regional Housing
and Community
Development Alliance

Arcturis

St. Louis Regional Art
Commission

Advisors

Christy Fox, Executive
Director, Gateway
Foundation

Mark Phillips, Long Range
Planner, Metro

1. **SAVE THE DATE** – Wednesday June 8th will be a joint public hearing and PPP meeting to kick off the planning process where we will review and draft our Vision, Goals and Sustainability/Livability Principals. It will be held in the meeting room on the 2nd floor of the U City Public Library. Tentative time 6 – 9 p.m.
2. **CALL FOR INTEREST** – anyone that wants to be involved in development of the web site and content please let me know by Monday so I can set up a meeting with 501Creative. We have a template, but this will be the repository of all of our work and our major communication tool so we need to get it right.
3. We now have a better handle on the schedule and have an extensive Gantt chart that unless you have a strong magnifying glass you can't read it. Attached are a summary of that chart and the latest rendition of the work plan.
4. Ackert Design Studio – this Washington University Class has been completed. Thanks to Jill McQuire, Regional Arts Commission and Christy Fox, Gateway Foundation who met with the class to talk about public art. The graduate students presented their ideas to the public on March 26th. The student teams made brief presentations and took comment from the public. The turnout was great despite a snowy, cold day. On April 21st they gave their final presentations to representatives of the arts and planning community. Attached is a summary of their presentations but please keep in mind that these are not final plans and that the final plan we consider may incorporate ideas from multiple designs.
5. We now have a logo which many of you have seen.
6. Still finalizing the PPP agreements and would like to have them all in place soon.
7. There was a slight delay on DOT grant agreement signing and the Trailnet Walk Audit was already scheduled. Because of the delay we have made a \$3,500 budget transfer to have the walk audit expenses charged to HUD and an equal amount of the H3 contract charged to DOT.
8. Changes to the PPP – Mark Phillips mephillips@metrostlouis.org has joined as an advisor. Mark is the Long Range Planner for Metro. Ray Lai rlai@ucitymo.org has joined as a member of the PPP. Ray is the Deputy Director for Community Development for the City of U City and will be the main contact from U City to the project.

**CALL OR E-MAIL ME YOUR INTEREST IN WORKING NEXT WEEK ON THE
WEB PAGE**

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