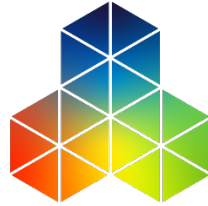




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## DGRI Citizen Alliance Meeting November 14, 2023, 2:00pm 29 Pearl Street NW (DGRI Offices)

1. Call to order (2:00)
2. Accept Minutes from June 20, 2023 (2:01)  
(enclosed) *Motion*
3. 2024 Citizen Alliance Plan (2:05) *Info Item (Kelly/Kirk)*
  - a. Review of Alliance intent and purpose
  - b. Goals moving forward:
    - i. January meeting: budget overview
    - ii. Options for continued involvement:
      1. Project committees
      2. Newsletter updates
      3. DGRI community engagement planning
      4. Speaker Series planning
4. GRForward master plan update – scope development (2:30) *Info Item (Kelly)*
5. DGRI/Citizen Alliance – community convening opportunities (2:40) *Info Item (Kelly/Kirk)*
  - a. CityGR master plan
  - b. Transit Master Plan
  - c. Other community projects
6. Alliance member discussion (2:50)
7. Adjourn (3:00)



**DOWNTOWN**  
GRAND RAPIDS INC.

**Citizen Alliance Meeting**  
**June 20, 2023**

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 2:08pm by Tim Kelly.
2. Accept Minutes from March 2023  
*Unanimous acceptance of the March 2023 Meeting Minutes as presented.*
3. Amphitheater  
Kelly introduced Kara Wood, Executive Director of Grand Action 2.0, and Bill Culhane from Progressive AE. Kelly clarified that this is an informational update, no action is needed. Wood presented past successful projects including the Convention Center, Downtown Market, and Van Andel Arena. She explained that they are building off these past successes and are now working on the Downtown Amphitheater. Wood referred to the 10-year plan of investments for the City and its inclusion of the amphitheater.  
  
The development is on the riverfront at 201 Market Ave. The 31-acre site is a mixed-use development, an essential riverfront trail, and estimated to bring in millions of dollars of combined residential, commercial, hospitality, entertainment, and parking investments. Culhane presented the technical design project overview breakdown of the 31 acres, including the potential developments. Culhane reviewed the specific details regarding the amphitheater’s build, seat numbers, adequate parking for events, and sound and vibration considerations. He discussed public engagement and the processes included to achieve the project’s goals. Culhane provided an overview of previous public engagement efforts and reviewed the estimated economic impact of the amphitheater, including: an estimated \$7 million in annual wage earnings, \$490 million in net new economic impact over the next 30 years, and 480 jobs within the county over the next 30 years. Next steps are to secure the remaining capital needed for this project, relocation of Public Works Facilities, and plans for demolition to begin in Spring of 2024.

Kelly reminded the board of GR Forward goals which, while not specifically referencing an amphitheater, highlight the importance of generating affordable housing, access to the riverfront, and the value of this City site. Culhane and Wood thanked stakeholders and stated this project will be transformational and a big boost for the local economy.

Member Concerns:

- Parking: The design includes 190 parking spaces and there are ongoing conversations with the City and The Rapid for parking and transit planning.
- Safety – The amphitheater will be owned by Grand Rapids-Kent County Convention Arena Authority and they will be responsible for managing safety on the site 24/7 through surveillance or physical presence.
- Noise – They are working on studies for noise mitigation and anticipate noise levels similar to what is currently produced in the area.

Member Suggestions:

- Incorporate neighbors with lived experience
- Create inclusive opportunities and more direct contracting with diverse contractors.
- Find an equitable way to include different groups in the opportunity.
- Utilize the hill on the other side of the theatre for public space.

9. Membership Discussion

None.

10. Public Comment

No public comment.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:06M.