

AGENDA



DOWNTOWN NEIGHBOR NETWORK Advisory

Members:

Amy Skentzos • Christopher Billmeier • Daniel Drent • Drew Terwee • Eddie Tadlock • Jane Reynolds • Kathy Steindler • Kelli Jo Peltier • Latesha Lipscomb • Laurie Craft • Mark Tangen • Michael Dorney • Myric Harris • Rose Martinez White • Wilma Banks •

February 6, 2020
11:30pm- 1:00pm
29 Pearl Street, Downtown Grand Rapids Inc.

- | | | |
|----|---|------------------|
| 1. | Call to order/ introductions | Kelli Jo Peltier |
| 2. | Approval of minutes | Kelli Jo Peltier |
| 3. | Downtown Wayfinding Program RFP | Melvin Eledge |
| 4. | DNN Engagement | Annamarie Buller |
| | • Action Planning for Community Change 1/25 | |
| | 1. Crosswalk Conversation | |
| | • MSU Extension Citizen Planner Course | |
| 5. | DNN Survey results | Annamarie Buller |
| 6. | Advisory member discussion | |
| 7. | Public comment | |
| 8. | Adjournment | |

The DNN exists to foster a community of downtown neighbors that are connected, informed and empowered to improve downtown living.





Downtown Neighbor Network January 2, 2020

1. Call to order:

Annamarie called the meeting to order at 11:35 am

2. Members Present:

Daniel Drent, Mike Dorney, Myric Harris, Wilma Banks, Latesha Lipscomb, Kelli Jo Peltier, Amy Skentzos, Drew Terwee, Jane Reynolds, Laurie Craft, Mark Tangen, and Rose Martinez White

Members Absent:

Christopher Billmeier, Eddie Tadlock, and Kathy Steindler

Others Present:

Annamarie Buller, Samantha Suarez, Marion Bonneaux and Amanda Sloan (DGRI)

3. Introductions:

The group was asked to provide an idea for what to work on this year to better Downtown. Ms. White stated she would like to address crosswalk safety downtown as she was almost hit twice at multiple locations in the last few weeks. Others agreed this is a key issue that we should address this year. Ms. Buller suggested staging crossings with the police for targeted engagement to bring awareness. Ms. White stated in Nashville there are lights that notify traffic that there is a person in the crosswalk. The crosswalk celebration this spring will be an opportunity to bring attention to this issue. Mr. Terwee suggested we launch a "Pedestrian First" campaign. Mr. Tangen suggested Captain Reilly be invited to a meeting. Ms. Buller agreed and suggested attending Coffee with a Cop in the future as well. Others added this is a cultural issue and a communication project for the city to educate the community. Mr. Harris suggested we encourage restaurant operations on Sundays in GR. Ms. White stated she has noticed more graffiti in her neighborhood lately; she has reported incidents to 3-1-1 but has not received much direct support from GRPD, noting the need to involve property management in more regular trash collection. Mr. Drent suggested expanding DASH routes. Others agreed. Ms. Peltier suggested educating people on this service. Mr. Drent noted a recent

supreme court ruling on homelessness and would like to better understand how this affects us. Mr. Terwee added panhandling and homeless camps downtown are an issue and suggested focusing on a few areas downtown that we want to keep desirable, at least on main areas, to create an enjoyable experience for visitors.

4. Approval of Minutes: December 5, 2019
Daniel Drent, supported by Laurie Craft, motioned to approve December 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes as presented. None opposed. Motion passed.

5. DNN November Analytics
Ms. Suarez introduced herself as the Communications Specialist, responsible for maintaining the website and social media platforms for DGRI. She shared December newsletter statistics noting this month saw 931 recipients (up from 443 contacts in February), an open rate of 32.3% (which is higher than most non-profit organizations average), and a click rate of 14.7% with the top links clicked being World of Winter kick-off, DNN survey, annual tree-lighting Facebook event, and the Prismatic website.

The Facebook group was launched in July and we have 169 total members (downtown or near neighborhood residents). Ms. Suarez stated there were 120 posts/comments/reactions over the last month. Mr. Harris asked what content should be posted on this page. She stated the intent is to feature news for downtown residents or share events and business experiences that enhance downtown life and build community. Thank you to Myric Harris and Daniel Drent for being top contributors to this page.

The DNN Project Page has 32-page views with an average time on page of 2 minutes. Ms. Suarez shared that DGRI is working on a “subscribe to our newsletter” feature on our homepage, the DNN project page, and the Info for Downtown Neighbors pages. We are also discussing the idea of a DNN webpage for the group.

6. DNN Engagement
Ms. Buller stated a Property Management Quarterly Happy Hour will take place January 23rd from 4-5:30 pm at DGRI featuring information on the DNN, DGRI (events, infrastructure and Downtown Ambassadors), and World of Winter programming.

The Action Planning for Community Change workshop will provide support and brainstorming time to create individual action plans and learn more about government agencies in order to assist in this journey for change. Breakfast and lunch will be provided with capacity for 25 residents on January 25th from 8:30 am to 5 pm at DGRI. Please register if you are interested in participating.

Ms. Buller stated the DNN Resident Census is still open. 292 responses have been received to date; results will be compiled, and an overview shared next month.

7. DNN Budget and Goal 2 Alliance Update

Ms. Buller reminded the board that our FY begins in July of each year. The DNN Advisory began meeting in February of 2019 and started developing our priorities and planning for the year in March. Spending in FY19 included consultant support, food sponsorship of National Night Out sponsorship, catering for meetings, DNN Holiday party, Mix Mingle & Share, promo pieces, and photography. FY20 spending included: DNN promotional pieces, advisory meeting lunches, National Night Out and other neighborhood association sponsorships, Civicize.Me training, Census planning support, other events (Community & Conversations, Holiday party), DNN survey promotions, and photography.

Ms. Buller provided Downtown Neighbor Network Project and Budget Plan FY20 spreadsheet and pointed out that we have four months remaining in this fiscal year. Ms. Buller noted the Holiday Party came in \$2,000 under budget; also, the funds allocated to the Rummage sale and the Belonging Dinner for Project 1 were not used. These potentially could be used instead for the Mix, Mingle & Share or other project. Under the Advocacy (Engagement) budget, the YMCA Veggie Van is having staffing issues which has prevented the continuation of Wednesday evening Veggie Van service. She stated we may need to send a print piece to notify participants they will not receive a Veggie Voucher as promised. Ms. Buller stated Near Neighborhood support will continue to evolve. We will fund participation in the Citizen Planner course through MSU Extension to provide a background in planning and zoning. This 6-week course will take place in April and Monday on Mondays from 6-9 pm. She asked if there were other projects that the board wanted to include in the budget yet this fiscal year.

Mr. Dorney suggested allocating funds for a print campaign on crosswalk education. Mr. Harris suggested a simple video for promotion of (how to ride) the DASH. Ms. Buller agreed, and stated drone areal footage would be great. Mr. Terwee suggested doing the same for pedestrian crossings and potentially panhandling. Mr. Drent suggested sponsoring a ride the dash day (including coupons for free drinks or free promo items). Ms. Peltier agreed and stated she participated in one with her building where they offered deals on some Westside restaurants for 20% off.

Ms. Buller shared Goal 2 FY20 Projects and Planning noting major spending in addition to our DNN items included: Fresh Food Access, Heartside Quality of Life Implementation, Public Restroom, and Affordable Housing (CLT and FUSE programs). Mr. Tangen asked how that FUSE program falls under Goal 2. Ms. Buller stated Dwelling Place is doing the work, in collaboration with near hospitals and Police and Fire departments. Mr. Drent stated HDNA is also addressing our medical crisis with the City.

Ms. Buller stated she will take these discussion notes to DGRI staff and come up with an agenda for February discussion.

8. Advisory Member Discussion

Ms. Buller stated our World of Winter festival will take place January 17th through February 18th. A kickoff will take place at SpeakEZ Lounge at 5pm with guided tours of the Prismatic installation. A Silent Disco will take place on January 18th at MNL. Lunar New Year is on January 25th from 5-9 pm and the World Market & Game Day is on January 26th from noon-6pm at Monroe North Lot. Movies on the Piazza will take place February 1st at 11am-9 pm at Studio Park with summer themed movies. Ms. Craft asked what will happen with Monroe North Lot if Movies on Monroe will now be at Studio Park. Ms. Buller stated eventually it will become a city park but, in the meantime, we will experiment with activations such as a Pop-Up Skate Park, rock climbing, and art installations. Human Hungry Hungry Hippo Tournament will take place on February 9th and there is space for both family and adult only teams. On February 14th Valent-Ice sculptures will be placed throughout downtown with Love on Ice that evening at Rosa Parks Circle. Paint the Park will take place on February 15th from 11 am – 6pm at Rosa Parks Circle. Walking Tours will take place throughout February with Chili Challenge, Snowga, and snowshoeing at various dates and times.

9. Next meeting February 6, 2019 11:30-1:00pm

10. Advisory Member Discussion

Ms. Buller reminded the group that January 22nd at 7 pm will be the DNN gathering at the Griffins Game in Suite 301.

Mr. Harris stated his building has limited rooftop access and would like to address this.

Mr. Drent stated May Mobility has changed their service schedule. Also, the Brunch Lounge grand opening will take place next week.

11. Public Comment

None

12. Adjournment

Ms. Buller adjourned the meeting at 1:10 pm

Minutes taken by:

Amanda Sloan

Office Manager/Executive Assistant

Downtown Grand Rapids Inc.



DOWNTOWN
GRAND RAPIDS INC.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

DOWNTOWN WAYFINDING PROGRAM

[DRAFT]

Deadline: March 7th, 2020

Deliver to:
Downtown Grand Rapids Inc.
Attn: Melvin Eledge Jr.
Meledge@downtowngr.org
29 Pearl St. Suite 1
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

BACKGROUND

Downtown Grand Rapids Inc. (DGRI) and the City of Grand Rapids (specifically Mobile GR) is requesting proposals for consulting services to develop a wayfinding program for Downtown Grand Rapids.

DGRI is the organization responsible for city building and place-management in the urban core of Grand Rapids, Michigan, the state's second largest city. Established in 2013, DGRI serves as the singular management entity for the combined operations of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), the Downtown Improvement District (DID), and the Monroe North Tax Increment Finance Authority. More details can be found at www.downtowngr.org.

Mobile GR and Parking Services is the City department responsible for providing residents, workers, and visitors with 21st century mobility. The department manages the city's parking system and works to broaden and strengthen transportation options so that people can choose to walk, bike, use transit, carpool or drive alone.

DGRI's work is directed by the GR Forward master plan which was developed through one of the most inclusive public engagement efforts in the city's history. GR Forward clearly defines the community's priorities for the next generation of growth in Downtown. Specifically, the Plan recommends improving Downtown navigation and wayfinding with its Goal 3 (Implement a 21st Century Mobility Strategy) by:

- Conducting a survey of all existing formal and informal wayfinding systems in the Downtown (*including Walk Your City, Michigan Street wayfinding, GR Tag Tour, etc*);
- Evaluate the success of existing wayfinding programs in Downtown;
- Choose the most successful system and explore expansion; and
- Consider integration of an app to assist with wayfinding Downtown

SCOPE

The Downtown Wayfinding Program seeks professional consulting services to develop a master wayfinding signage plan complete with analysis, system design, documentation, specifications and implementation for various forms of signage. The plan should define the types and design of signs, where they should be used, where they should be located, what they should look like, and what kind of information they include.

The Program should consider all modes of transportation and outline a phased implementation strategy for the project. The Downtown Wayfinding Program goals include:

1. Increase visitors and resident's awareness of Downtown.
2. Allow easy deciphering of directions to increase a person's ability to traverse the Downtown.
3. Incorporate inclusive and universal design into the entire wayfinding program and system so that wayfinding can be used by a wide range of diverse users including children, non-English

speakers, persons with vision impairment or low vision, and people using assistive mobility devices.

4. Welcome and guide the traveling public from gateways into Downtown as well as to and from key destinations and points of interest such as entertainment amenities, colleges & universities, convention center, Medical Mile, museums, parks, and the Grand River.
5. Coordinate Downtown wayfinding with existing adjacent non-city wayfinding. Examples include Medical Mile and adjacent college & university campuses.
6. Develop design standards for wayfinding that are reflective of the City of Grand Rapids' identity while considering the recently completed guidelines from the River For All Plan that describe wayfinding along the planned river trail system. DGRI's Streetspace Guidelines should also be used as basis for the wayfinding design and signage to ensure compatibility with the recommended streetscape elements.
7. Define and brand Downtown and Downtown districts.
8. Anticipate future development in each area, changes in traffic patterns, new attractions, and increased pedestrian and bike traffic.
9. To the extent that makes sense, all wayfinding installations should be able to be easily updated by either DGRI or City staff to keep content relevant and up to date.

The Downtown Wayfinding Program should consider the following types of wayfinding signage:

Pedestrian Signage

Signage designed for use by pedestrians for both directional wayfinding as well as destination wayfinding in order to orient people on foot within the Downtown fabric. Signage should incorporate a variety of installations (kiosks, primary signage, secondary signage etc.) and should consider, evaluate, and potentially integrate and enhance the use of micro-installations such as the existing Walk Your City program.

Vehicular Gateway Signage

Signage designed for vehicular traffic should be directional as well as destination wayfinding; limiting destination identification to significant civic, entertainment and cultural institutions, and to Downtown parking. These signs should function primarily as tools allowing traffic to easily navigate the downtown and should serve the secondary purposes of acting as a "gateway feature" that allows motorists to be able to distinguish they've entered Downtown and to introduce visitors to the Downtown's wayfinding system.

Skywalk Wayfinding

Signage should be designed for pedestrian usage within the Downtown skywalk to provide clear wayfinding throughout the skywalk, highlighting the destinations along the route (places the skywalk passes through) as well as highlighting the skywalk exit points and destinations at those exits. In addition to standard signage, skywalk wayfinding should consider the inclusion of digital wayfinding elements such as kiosks, interactive screens and other similar elements. The

consultant should also make housing and design recommendations consistent with the other elements of the wayfinding system. Refer to Attachment B for existing skywalk system.

River and River Trail Wayfinding

Signage for the City's river trail network (both current and future) and key streets and pedestrian-ways that interface and cross at river trail locations within Downtown. These signs and navigation aides should function primarily as tools to orient people on foot or on bikes to the Grand River and provide access cues to the river trail from Downtown.

Parking and Mobility Signage

Signage should be designed for both vehicular and pedestrian use and should provide consistency in branding and navigation within the Downtown. Parking and mobility signage should interface with the other wayfinding sign types in this RFP (pedestrian, vehicular, skywalk, river, and digital) to provide an easy to use interface for downtown users. Additionally, mobility signage should also consider bike and transit navigation within the Downtown.

21st Century Wayfinding

The project should include recommendations and designs for 21st century wayfinding elements to potentially integrate into the Downtown Wayfinding Program as either pilots or phased-in permanent elements. Examples include apps or digital kiosks. In the case of digital kiosks, the consultant should make recommendations for strategic placement and provide housing design for the installations that is consistent with the rest of the wayfinding program.

PROJECT AREA

The Downtown Wayfinding Program is limited to the DDA boundary, which is included as Attachment A. For reference, the DDA boundary is 1.7 square miles and is approximately bounded on the north by Leonard Street, on the west by Seward Avenue, on the east by Lafayette Avenue, and on the south by Wealthy Street (boundary extends south of Wealthy to Logan and the railroad tracks at various locations).

BUDGET

Applicants should prepare the budget based on implementing the scope of services; cost is one of the items that will be used to evaluate the proposals.

SERVICES REQUESTED

The selected consultant will work with a committee of individuals from DGRI, Mobile GR, Experience Grand Rapids, the Convention/Arena Authority, and other potential stakeholders. DGRI staff will be the primary point of contact and will manage the project. The contract will be facilitated and paid through DGRI. Services should include, but are not limited to, the following:

Task 1: Analysis

- Document and evaluate existing Downtown wayfinding, including existing adjacent university, college, and institutional signage, City parking facility signage, and transit signage.
- Review and evaluate existing Downtown district designations and determine whether these need to be retained, modified, expanded, and/or abandoned.
- Review existing documents including GR Forward, River For All Guidelines, and DGRI Streetspace Guidelines (links provided at end of RFP).

Task 2: System Design

- Design signage concepts
- Develop full sign type array
- Prepare Opinion of Probable Costs (OPC)

Task 3: Documentation

- Prepare sign location plan and sign message schedule
- Verify site and location
- Refine OPC and develop phasing plan
- Prepare bid package

Task 4: Implementation

- Assist with bid process
- Review shop drawings, color samples, proofs, etc.
- Consult with fabricator(s)
- Conduct final inspection and prepare punch list
- Develop wayfinding and signage reference manual

Task 4 includes the fabrication and installation of an initial phase of the project. Submitting firms should NOT include the fabrication or installation as those tasks will be secured through a bidding process and delivered by a contractor selected through that bidding process with the help of the wayfinding consultant as part of Task 4. Submitting firms should include implementation tasks to support this bidding, fabrication and installation as outlined in Task 4 above.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Inquiries regarding any aspect of this request for proposal should be emailed to Melvin Eledge Jr at meledge@downtowngr.org. Telephone calls or other methods of communication will not be accepted.

Potential consultants must submit information in sufficient detail to enable the review committee to give consideration to the proposal. Proposals must be in 8½" x 11" format and no longer than 12 pages (front

and back) in length. The 12 page limit is all proposal pages including resumes and front and back covers. At a minimum, the following should be included:

- Cover letter that provides overview of project understanding and project team composition.
- Project team composition and qualifications that identify all persons that will be actively involved on the project and their roles in the Downtown Wayfinding Program. Identify the project manager. Detail the qualifications, skills, background and relevant experience of the project team.
- Project experience that includes three (3) examples of similar projects produced in the last five years for similar urban areas. For each of these projects, include project references who can verify the capability of the potential consultant to complete the scope of work.
- A proposed technical approach that outlines the process to complete the tasks as identified in this RFP. Include the number of in-person meetings that are proposed for each task of the project and any other virtual meetings or engagement sessions that are proposed.
- Project schedule that includes a start-to-finish timeline to complete the project. Include milestone dates, major tasks, and deliverables.
- Project fee that includes a detailed breakdown of costs by task and an overall project cost. Costs should be fixed-fee. Also include a fee for additional in-person meetings (on a per meeting basis).

PROJECT EVALUATION

The following criteria will be used in the consideration of proposals:

- Previous experience designing and implementing similar urban wayfinding programs
- Project understanding and approach
- Proposed project schedule
- Budget; overall cost in detail
- Quality, clarity, and completeness of the submittal

PROJECT TIMELINE

DGRI reserves the right to request additional information from any or all potential consultants as necessary to clarify that which is contained in the proposals. Further DGRI reserves the right to negotiate with a consultant on terms of its proposal. DGRI also reserves the right to reject all proposals or to accept proposals in part.

- RFQ Issued – February 3rd, 2020
- Responses Due – March 7th by end of Business Day (4:00pm Eastern Time)
- Interviews – The week of March 17th, as needed
- Notice of Selection – April 3rd, 2020
- Program Start Date – July 1st, 2020

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals must be received in full at Downtown Grand Rapids Inc offices no later than **4:00pm Eastern Time on March 7, 2019**. Proposal not received by the deadline will not be considered.

Digital submissions in PDF format are preferred and should be emailed to Melvin Eledge Jr at meledge@downtowngr.org.

Hard copy submittals, if used, may be mailed or delivered to:
 Downtown Grand Rapids Inc
 29 Pearl Street NW
 Suite 1
 Grand Rapids, MI 49503
 Attention: Melvin Eledge

If submitting a hard copy, please include a digital file in the form of a PDF with the submittal.

Once submitted, the proposals become the property of DGRI and will not be returned.

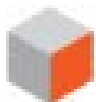
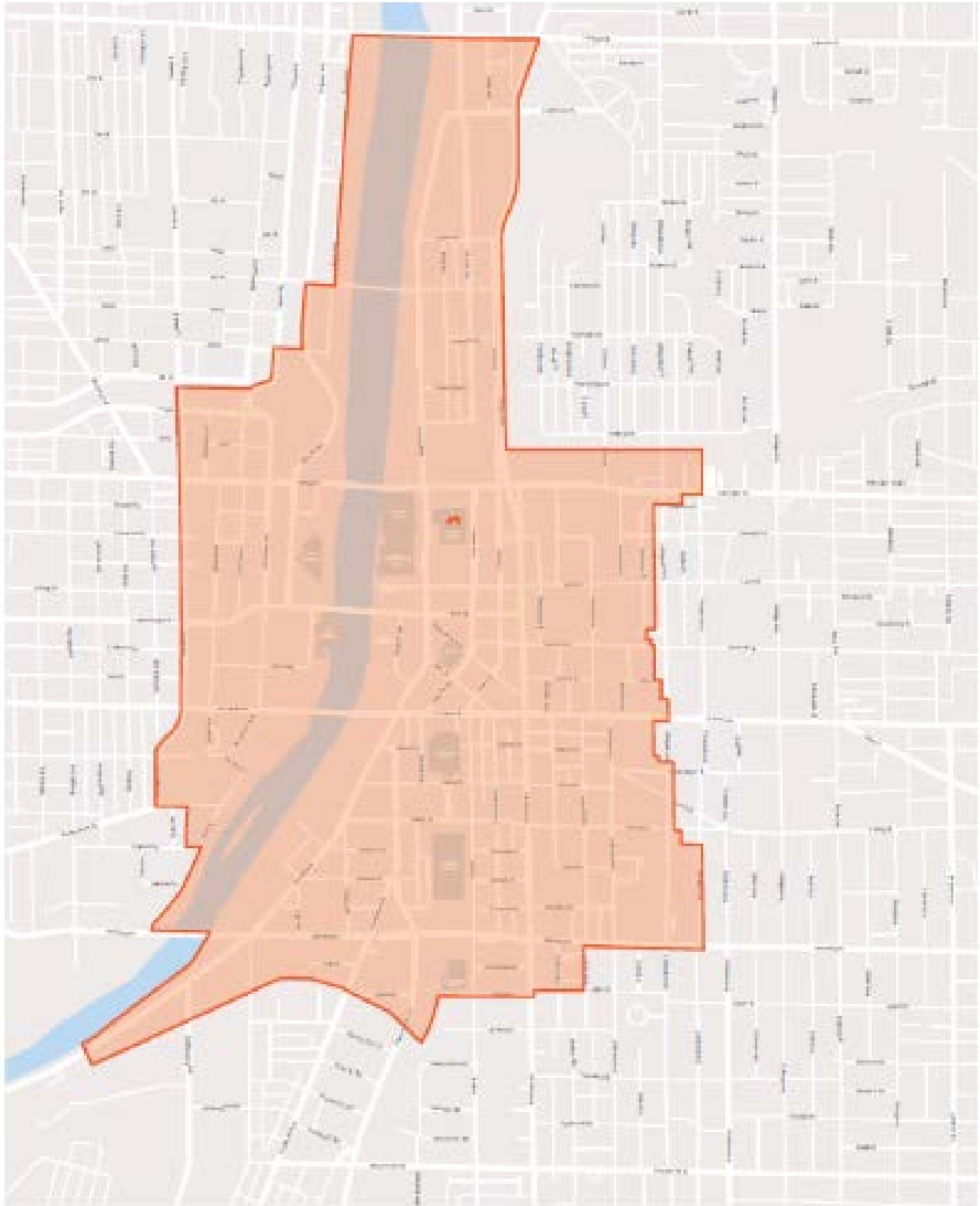
REFERENCE MATERIAL

GR Forward: <https://downtowngr.org/our-work/projects/gr-forward> (specifically the section on implementing a 21st century mobility strategy)

River For All Guidelines: <http://riverforall.com/> and at this Dropbox location:
https://www.dropbox.com/s/ij6obm5dhbhz9a6/2018-11-09_Design%20Guidelines_PRINT.pdf?dl=0
 (wayfinding guidelines begin on page 61 of PDF)

Street Space Guidelines: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/downtowngr.org/general/Downtown-Streetspace-Guidelines-2019-07-26-web-page-view.pdf?mtime=20190730091659>

ATTACHMENT A



DDA

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

DDA BOUNDARY LINE



ATTACHMENT B



Notes from Planning for Community Change Training City of Grand Rapids Staff Panel January 25

Our resident projects:

- Pedestrian Safety - Downtown
- Be Counted Be Heard - Heartside
- Creston Native Plants Initiative - Creston

Speakers

- *Asante Cain* - "Aid the camp" - Support the City Manager- Art Advisory Committee - Recommendations to the City Manager.
- *Jordoun Eatman* - Lead Neighborhood Connector - Executive Office- Lead neighborhood Connector - most things neighborhood, Neighborhood Leadership Academy - Deeper dive programming- Neighborhood Summit- March 7th - All day free event. Affinity groups in the City- Neighborhood Associations in the Neighborhoods of focus, support for Neighborhood Associations. Empower residents
- *Kayleigh Kramer*- Office of Special Events- help event coordinators to permit and oversee the use of public property. Filming, weddings, equipment rentals from the city. Small but mighty office.
- *Becky Jo Glover* - affect the lives of people - data to metrics and measures available to community but work with people to address hard problems. Innovation specific to service delivery to remove barriers. 311!
- *Josh Naramore* - Mobile GR, traffic signal systems, pavement markings- new mobility working with the Rapid- Own the Dash- constantly working with community - Equitable Economic and Mobility Strategy Plan- city has done well, but not for everyone. Can you get to those new jobs, where is car ownership and where is connected bus transport and other options.

How can we tell when we need to reach out to the city?

- When in doubt call!
- If you are unsure about where to start with an event- reach out to the City Events department - There may be ordinances you want to look into even if it is on private property. There is a free event planning event feb 27th hosted at 201 Market. Kayleigh
- Contact the city when you have questions- the number is 311 or 456-5000.
- Data- Has the tools GVSU interns to put together visualizations to help connect to your story- call Beckie Jo directly.
- Contact and reach out to Advisory Groups for the city example: Transportation- "Mobile GR Commission"

What can the city do to support these resident ideas?

Creston- Native Plant Initiative-

- Event mindset- can do a lot around supporting neighborhood how to plant certain trees/bushes- a larger event- team up with Forestry department- When to prune and how to upkeep plants- Kayleigh can help connect - Arbor Day - Blandford Nature Center - Growing communities of Justice (Neighborhood Summit theme) Native American Groups that may want to be included- planting Neighborhood Match Fund- Up to \$2,500 to a neighbor from the neighborhood - 2 cycles per year. Need more time to complete the project. Bigger summer projects up to \$7,000ish in funds.
- Being open to full native plants- zoning that needs to be changed - Code that is currently out there. Code Compliance and Commissioner Yasasi - It's allowed - but some of the species that might not be on the list and may need to be updated.

- 311 Receives complaints - Eric Jordan is in charge of code compliance. "Urban Agriculture Committee" - Lee Mueller may be the chair- "Natural areas and waterways commission" part of the Parks and Rec Department. State and Federal contact through Jordoun. Bio retention islands on Plainfield
- Meeting scheduled this week - Grand Valley Metro Council meeting. Kari Revet storm water system through Streets and sanitation. Hannah Berry- at Lions and Rabbits - May be able to help facilitate the creation of a mural about native plants in Creston to support the initiative.
- Yard signs will need to meet some of the compliance as well. Neighborhood Match Fund may be available for some of the funding as well. Catch Basin related artwork - Would go in front of the City Arts Advisory Committee. - bring youth into create the work. What other associated ideas could increase awareness - Recycling Bins for Compost - City is starting a future compost program. Work with vendors to be willing to provide a discount on plants could be up to 30% off.
- MSU has gathered some info about native plants - There may be information about plants available in the future. Code compliance - Native plants code compliance

Heartside- Be Counted, Be Heard -

- Kathi Census Coordinator & Census Ambassadors to attend events to share information about Census Participation - Census Jobs currently open
- Neighborhood Summit presentation about Census -Connect with Lou Canfield - use the city's printed census posters.
- Ex Felons to Vote- Urban League and Midwest Tech project - collaboration with Prison Release - Historical African American Sororities and Fraternities also have initiatives - may be a pilot project to educate people
- Office for Public Accountability. Katie & Christina who work with the parole board may be contacts
- Joe Jonaitis - joseph.a.jonaitis@2020census.gov Phone number - 655 - 8540
- Neighbors need Trust and know people to feel comfortable participating. If Kati and her team could come in and talk about the Census Kati's background is in voter registration as well.
- Daniel Kauamme (sp?) 454 3120 connection for some resources around voting and census - Register for voting each year - City can send someone to help people fill out the paperwork - can have them at events.
- Want to make sure that people send in their own voter registration paperwork. City is working on creating transportation available for the day of voting. Make sure we are clear on the process to register.

Downtown- Pedestrians Safety -

- We are now a Vision 0 Community- Must stop for pedestrians - Heads up GR and Driving Change was focused on Bike safety- pivoting to pedestrian safety. Mobile GR may have an interest in partnering and after July 1st funds may be available to support this area. Have crash data available and data analysis tool to look at basic investments when evaluated it shows that there are a number of pedestrian crashes in south east and near southwest side. Enforcement isn't what people want they want more education.
- Dash Busses to employ new tools around pedestrian safety.
 - There are 4 crossings to be improved this summer in downtown - including Ottawa and Fulton, Monroe and Campau, Devos Place, Hydro Beacon, increases along Ottawa by the courthouse.
 - Under the bridge where the Pew campus, the signage needs to be installed but they are working on a temp and long term solutions.
 - Crossings in Heartside that will be improved - Cherry street signaling Cherry and Grandville and Cherry and Commerce
 - Get a party to kick off, can paint outside of crosswalk- create a mural ON the street just not in the crosswalk

- Can reach out to other events to promote and connect in other community spaces. LEAD program through Our Communities Children. 16-24year olds to get involved and supported.

What advice do you have when building relationships with city staff?

- Be open minded and see from the perspective of the city. Know what the laws and ordinances are and Don't always work at the speed of business, know this is what you want but work in the spirit of partnership more likely to get it done.
- In 311- can sit down with an agent to want to be a servant leader- not everyone wants to listen, Not everyone is as a great person to work with
- Numbers are power- CONNECT WITH YOUR Neighborhood Association
- Note: It is easier to come to the city with desired outcomes than come with a specific plan. You must be willing to work with the city and be willing to change to meet outcomes.
- CIA- Corridor Improvement Authority (Jessica Salis)- contacts with funding efforts for community change
- Neighborhood Match fund next June submit- for fall events.
- Know the departments you need to connect with.
- Keeps you thinking about bigger vision!
- Board and Commissions getinvolved@grcity.us- <https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/Government/Boards-and-Commissions/Apply-Online>

Are you:

1. Know what is in the strategic plan and what is being focused on.
2. Collaborative and grouped well enough this is the voice of this group
3. Use 311 (app is very effective)
4. Work with your Commissioners
5. Be intentional- who are you planning with and collaborating with at the city level.



Citizen Planner Program Kent County

A Land Use Training and Certificate Course for
Community Land Use Decision-Makers

Citizen Planner Kent County

Begins Monday,
April 13, 2020
6:00—9:00 PM

Classes held April 13, 20, 27,
May 4, 11, 18

MSU Extension, Kent County
775 Ball Ave., NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Citizen Planner is a time-tested educational program proven to be comprehensive without being overwhelming. The program is delivered locally to provide a convenient way for busy community leaders to obtain the latest technical knowledge and the proficiency they need to perform their duties more effectively and responsibly.



Citizen Planner Classroom Sessions

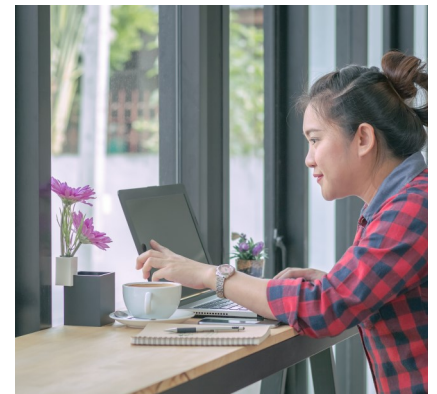
Citizen Planner instructors include MSU Faculty, MSU Extension educators, planners and attorneys. The classroom program consists of six sessions:

- **Understanding the Planning and Zoning Context** – Learn the legal sources and limitations of planning and zoning authority, and explore your understanding of ethical decision-making.
- **Planning for the Future of Your Community** – Recognize the function and importance of a master plan, know the process for developing one and its relationship to zoning.
- **Implementing the Plan with Zoning** – Discover the importance of zoning, learn how zoning is administered and gain confidence in your zoning reviews, including site plans.
- **Making Zoning Decisions** – Learn how to adopt and amend a zoning ordinance, understand the role of the zoning board of appeals and obtain skills in basic property development methods.
- **Using Innovative Planning and Zoning** – Strategize with placemaking and design-based solutions for local and regional success in the New Economy.
- **Successfully Fulfilling Your Role** – Strengthen your ethical decision-making skills, apply standards to your decision-making and know when to ask for help. Also Available: Citizen Planner Online

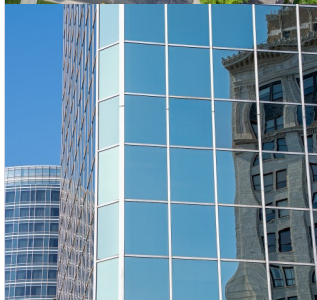


Contact

cplanner@msu.edu.
Visit <http://citizenplanner.msu.edu>.



Citizen Planner Program – Kent County



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Classes: April 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 2020

Understanding the Planning and Zoning Context

Monday, April 13, 2020
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Planning for the Future or Your Community

Monday, April 20, 2020
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Implementing the Plan with Zoning

Monday, April 27, 2020
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Making Zoning Decisions

Monday, May 4, 2020
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Using Innovative Planning and Zoning

Monday, May 11, 2020
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Successfully Fulfilling Your Role

Monday, May 18, 2020
6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Course Location

MSU Extension, Kent County
775 Ball Ave, NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Local Contact

Mary Reilly
reillym8@msu.edu
231-889-4277

Course Fee

The course fee is \$295 per participant for the complete core program. Group discounts are available for four or more. The fee covers registration, course materials and refreshments. Participants that complete all seven sessions will receive a certificate of completion.

How to Register

Online registration is available at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/CPKent20>. Payment can be made by credit card, or check with an invoice generated at checkout. Group registration is also available online. The registration deadline is one week prior to the first class, April 6, 2020.

Cancellations after **April 6, 2020** will be charged a \$45 late cancellation fee.

Grants/Scholarships

A grant program, Risk Reduction Grant Program (RRGP), may be available from your community's liability insurance provider. Michigan Township Participating Plan offers to its municipal members one per community, which covers the complete registration cost for participation in the Michigan Citizen Planner Program. For more information, please visit us on the web at www.theparplan.com. For member governments of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA), contact **Cara Kowal** at 800-243-1324 for more information regarding grants for education and training through the Risk Avoidance Program (RAP). For municipalities obtaining insurance through Nickel & Saph, Inc. Insurance Agency contact **Stephen R. Saph, Jr.** at 586-463-4573 or stephenjr@nickelsaph.com. Contact your local community liability risk insurance carrier to see if similar grants or scholarships are available.

Persons with Disabilities

Persons with disabilities may request accommodations by calling Mary Reilly two weeks prior to the event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests made less than two weeks prior to the event will be met if possible.

