

11/10/2015:

Agenda review....

Went over the why of the project

- Neighbors to engage with one another
- Neighborhoods engaging with other Neighborhoods
- Neighbors to engage with the City of Fort Collins

Timeline – History of Neighborhood Engagement

- Early to mid-90s – exploration of Neighborhood Resources
- Late 90s – creation of Neighborhood Resources
- Early 2000s – looked at a similar program to what we are looking at; had a couple of pilots; worked well in one neighborhood, not so well in another
- Mid-2000s – shift to online technologies
- Mid 2010s – back exploring neighborhood programs

Name

Neighborhood

How Can Neighborhood be Transformed

Ruth Rollins

S of Harmony and W of College

Brookwood Estates

Physical connections to other neighborhoods – separated by railroad tracks

Talisha

University Acres

Party Neighborhood

Everyone would be super happy

Diana

East side

People would know each other

Susan Hoskins

Loomis Addition

Historic District

Alex Gordon

FCHS

Like to know what

Devon Herning
Fossil Lake
Physical connections

Orie Conner
Mantz
Community would be a blend of rental and family oriented houses

Stephanie Alley
Neighbor to Neighbor – Bruce Spruce
Neighbors feel disconnected

Sue Ballou
NW of Shields and Prospect

Greg McMasters
Avery Park
Return to what we used to be – functioning neighborhood that had cohesion, balance, hope for the future, improved physical connections

Clay Frickey
Campus West
Know all of his neighbors

Jim Jante
Rolland Moore

Lloyd Walker
Rolland Moore
Preserve and enhance N vitality and stability – make a place they want to live

Ben Story
Co-Housing Community – Martinez Park
Greater sense of Place – knowing neighborhood

Martine
Huntington Hills
Neighborhoods being co-creators on things

Annie

Prospect and Taft

Much greater sense of connection and working together

Josh

Rogers Neighborhood

Knowing neighbors, connecting

Delynn

Gates

Engagement on new levels – co-create, pro-active conversations, connecting

Citizen Advisory Group Report Out

- Shared a chart that was created based on sticky-note exercise – ranked order shown below
 - Staff Liaison – very popular – more in touch with neighborhood than we have now
 - Awards/recognition/branding – finding and recognizing leaders for their work within the neighborhoods
 - Grants – expand some of the current programs for things such as community events and infrastructure improvements
 - Leadership training – building capacity – popular at all events
 - Connection and collaboration
 - Added voice to development review process
 - Neighborhood planning
 - How do we figure out boundaries? Still need to work through this
 - Increased formalization could have adverse impact and result in more status quo projects and not give added voice within the neighborhood

Community Issues Forum Report Out

- Provided info on twelve possibilities, giving pros and cons of each, and allowed them to have discussion about the options. Gave them three green dots and three red dots. Let them place green dots on the items they liked and the red dots on the items they disliked.
- Liked:
 - Leadership training
 - Developing a council of neighborhoods
 - Community Impact Statements
 - Neighborhood planning
 - Geographic areas for services
 - Expanded neighborhood grants program
 - Participatory budget process
- Did not like:
 - Neighborhood branding
 - Neighborhood association model

- Neighborhood awards
- Annual budgets – some concern about where money would come from
- Will send information to the team

Comment:

- Last point about HOAs – people don't want restrictions of HOAs – city has regulations so not about an environment where there is no regulation. Think this might be somewhat a stereotype.
- Change “combat” to “contact”

Request:

- That this group have a mission statement or definition (elevator speech) from this group that helps them discuss the difference between what we are proposing here and the difference between an HOA.

Survey Results Report Out:

- Asked about neighborhood people lived in – how did they define it
- Asked whether neighborhood had formal association
- Asked about participant's role in association
- Asked about how neighborhood interacts with City of Fort Collins
- Asked how a participant would like to interact with the City
- Asked about neighborhood issues that need improvement
- Asked about how satisfied participants are with access to City departments
- Asked about how familiar people were with current initiatives
- Asked about how frequently participants participate in government activities
- Asked how participants prefer to engage with the City
- Asked about whether participant uses Nextdoor
- Asked about how a participant would spend a \$500 neighborhood project

Will send results out to everyone.

Comments:

- Survey will stay open for some time; will go out in various ways
- Question about how to reach the most people – think some paper copies might be good
- Suggested Coloradoan advertising

Homework report out:

- Conversations quickly move to issues versus process. Engagement is good now – want to engage to solve a problem..
 - Short term rentals – how does this impact N
 - Continued enforcement of occupancy ordinance and nuisance codes

- What can be done to develop programs and policies to help neighbors age in place – senior friendly housing – main floor living versus split levels
- How can we preserve historic structures of importance within N
- Virtual front porch – Nextdoor; think we should do more of this
- All kinds of modes of traffic flow through N
 - Traffic calming
 - Safer crosswalks and pickup sites
 - Continuous sidewalks
 - Sidewalk repairs
 - Permitted parking – can be an issue
 - Buffered bike lanes
- Open space in N – on-site detention basins – some are public, some are private – most are rather stark – more could be done to enhance them – wildlife plants that attract birds, picnic tables, etc. Use areas for multiple purposes
- Surprise is how quickly issue of short term rental is shooting up
- Surprise – so many requests for slowing traffic down
 - Close to university
 - Lots of construction
 - People are cutting through N because of this
- Rental standards came up
 - Want increased regs
- Occupancy a big deal
 - Fear that they will be over-run with students if this goes away
 - ASCSU talking about sponsoring a ballot initiative to do away with this
- Avery Park has great relationship with City staff. Want this to be strengthened and formalize relationship with City staff.
 - Formalize feedback and communication
 - Plan implementation – what if had N representation on these? Neighbors really liked this!
- Rental licensing conversation came up
 - Tired of fighting battle of occupancy ordinance being repealed
 - Can there be a document from the City on why occupancy was implemented, and other data, etc.
 - Some concern about this not allowing affordability
 - Some disagreement that this repealing the ordinance will not fix this

Exactly the reason for this project – how do we improve engagement to make sure that the right people are in the room talking about things, coming up with solutions, etc.
- Went out on Halloween – dressed up and went out and participated in adult pub crawl
 - Tired moms and tired dads – not aware of what was going on in City – they wanted additional ways of communication to keep them informed

- Having trouble with break-ins
 - Police held N meeting
 - Was great – lots of engagement
 - Like the Nextdoor component for notifications
- Safety and traffic
 - When trains are coming – people are racing down street
- Problems with patients being released from hospital with mental health problems
 - End up filtering through their N
 - End up on properties where they don't belong
 - Asking people if they can come in and take a shower
- Community wants to come together
 - Like the open door policy
 - Like focus on problem-solving
 - Want to find ways to work with students and accept them
- N just annexed into City a couple of years ago
 - Still don't want to be in the City of Fort Collins – open wound
 - Don't want to connect more with the City of Fort Collins
 - New housing project – Redtail Ponds
 - Specific type of construction
 - Talked about engaging with the N after project was built; has not happened
 - - Might help bring some of these N together – think this would be a positive thing
- City put in new crosswalks signal by Blevins – really good
- New turn lane at Horsetooth and Taft – really good
- People did not have sense of what N was
 - In Seattle obvious – they tell you the N and they know what that means – no sense of identity
 - N clean up days – City previously provided dumpsters – really helped – created N pride
- Affordability – resort towns
 - Owners are starting to move towards Air BnB and/or VRBO because it is making more sense for them
 - Need to keep this in mind
- Issue of identity is interesting
 - N here are often known by development names; some N have rebranded themselves
 - Comes from identifying boundaries and finding landmarks such as Rolland Moore Park and then assuming name
- Traffic is a general issue
 - People don't want people from outside N to speed through N
 - Real problem for N
- Surprise – Eagle View Natural area

- Talked about affordable housing and using natural areas for this
- Would be nice to have a staff person so that ideas like this could come up and they would have someone they could forward these to – great for the person to be familiar with their area, etc.

Community Connections is current name – other suggestions?

- NoCo Connections
- Neighborhood Connections
- Engage Fort Collins
- Connect Fort Collins

Exercise – small group discussion:

Chris provided explanation and some training....

Positive characteristics and negative characteristics – not necessarily bad; natural tensions exist

- We are programmed for more is better
- Challenge is to balance outcomes and inputs
- Gave explanation on worksheet: + and –
- Information will be used by staff to come up with some potential options/models for the team to react to at the next meeting

Report out:

- Need a City Liaison
 - Have to have someone in N that liaises in the other direction
 - Speaks to need for leadership training
 - Could be a problem if liaison is self-appointed but not the voice of all
 - All residents don't care about providing a voice or participating if they trust the leadership that is in place
 - Have to be respectful of time, energy, and commitment
 - Need term limit
- Informal is good
 - Let people participate as they have time and energy to do so
 - Let people come and go
- Neighborhood plans
 - Build upon what has already been done – don't reinvent the wheel
 - Have formalize structure of how to work through problems and processes
 - Has potential to become bureaucracy
 - May want to change what was done in the past
 - We grow ,progress, etc.
 - Plans get outdated
 - Want to avoid having a plan and then no implementation/follow through

- Speed of implementation is a concern
 - Have issues arise where response is needed now
 - Confidence in solution – get timely feedback
- If have 60+ neighborhoods – have monthly meetings that cover timely topics – would get through all neighborhoods every 5 years
 - Would add confidence
 - Would be more follow up because each N would know they would have a chance with the City of Fort Collins
- Would like to be able to be informed about and be able to influence a topic early
 - People nixing everything is an avoid

Homework:

- Do what you did last time and give them a link to the survey
- Wrap Up survey before you go

Delynn follow up:

Jim – Huntington Circle

Has a rental unit next door

Someone living in tool shed – got this issue addressed

Neighbor Blows leaves into the street

Russian olive getting rid of next week

2016 Huntington – mattresses leaning up against the fence, blows leaves into the street