

Mayor's Southern Dallas Task Force
Area #6 Team Meeting
04/14/09 @ 3 p.m.

In attendance were Charles English, Richard McNeal, Robin Bentley, Kent Anderson, Michael Immler, Amanda Popken, Michael Hellmann, Claude Spivey, Richard Boyd, Staci Thetford, John Lau, Lee McKinney and Cynthia Rogers-Ellickson.

The meeting began with discussion regarding Grady Niblo area redevelopment.

Ms. McKinney made the following announcements (1) presentation to Mayor's Task Force was moved from May to June with date to come and (2) Kim with Economic Development is working with Ms. McKinney to develop marketing material for packets that will be distributed prior to the June presentation date to the Mayor's Task Force.

Mr. English started the conversation off by commending Mr. McNeal on the great job he did on the Power Point presentation. He mentioned that he read that there are 87 million extreme bike riders in the U.S. and that building a bike trail would be moving the Mountain Creek area in the right direction for future benefit.

Mr. McNeal had a sample of the Power Point presentation and started his review of the presentation by asking Team #6 to think about a question "How do we present the message we are trying to convey?" Mr. McNeal stated that he believed that the speaker presenting the idea should be humorous and humanistic. The presentation starts with a quote, then a synopsis of the area, the density of the area, and finally identifies characteristics of the area. Visuals will include housing development, golf course and landscapes. He mentioned that there are many power lines and using those right-of-ways would provide extensive trails. He also mentioned that the housing stock ranges from modest pricing to millions. He believes that there is potential for greener community development.

Mr. English continued further discussion of the area's golf course. He mentioned that the membership fee is \$150,000 and that it attracts corporate executives and professional golfers. He said it is the 3rd highest ranked course in the country due to difficulty. He believes the course could draw corporations to the Mountain Creek business sector. He added that the course is 25 minutes from the airport. Ms. McKinney asked about housing around the golf course. Mr. English responded with the explanation that the terrain does not accommodate that type of development. Several members asked who owned the golf course. Is it possible to build a high-end hotel such as Four Seasons resort? Mr. English said that may be a possibility. Ms. McKinney mentioned that the course is 15-20 minutes from the new stadium which could draw visitors to the course.

Mr. McNeal continued the presentation with suggestions for Goal setting for the area along trails such as (1) paths, shopping, transportation and access (2) bike trails and recreation and (3) club houses and soccer fields. The next slide was the Action Plan that led into discussion about the next steps to take. Mr. English asked about supporters that can champion their idea. He mentioned that he will be meeting with Lance Armstrong at an upcoming event and would "put a bug" in his ear about the team's bike trail idea. Ms. McKinney discussed inviting Councilman Neumann to the next meeting to get him used to hearing about the idea.

Mr. Hellman began his presentation about the City's trail plan. He discussed current and future growth for bike trails and believed it is well supported based on the current bike trail plan. He suggested ways to obtain funding to build the trail to include grants, friends of trails, Bond funding, and other types of funding. Mr. English asked about the cost to build trails. Mr. Hellman replied that currently it costs approximately \$1,000,000 per mile which is 12 ft wide by 6 inch thick reinforced concrete. He discussed Dart's interaction with the trails and those trails connecting to Dart get support from the City. Mr. Hellman discussed how projects are selected via request from the County and the importance of advocacy groups helping projects move forward. Finally, he discussed how the City's funding, usually Bond, pays for the ribbon of concrete and other various surfaces but private support pays for benches, fountains, landscaping, etc...

The Team further discussed the area to start in and what amenities they want on the trails such as dog parks, restrooms, benches, etc... They also discussed charging fees into some of the amenities. The Team wrapped up the discussion with selecting 1 of the 3 possible Goals to present in June. Ms. McKinney asked Ms. Thetford to provide her a list of homeowner's associations and other parties that may be interested located in the Mountain Creek area.

Mr. Lau gave an update on the man-made ski resort concept and indicated that it is on hold for now. He was planning a visit to the first man-made ski resort completed in Virginia.