



## Uptown Task Force

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 2, 2021

10:00 AM

Via Zoom

**Present:** Roger Altmeyer, Sabreena Miller, Dr. Brittany McDonald, Katie Grimm, M Schmidt Phillips, Jamie Piotrowski, Jennifer Szczesniak, Tim Piette, Paul Svodoba, David Wohlwill, Dana Kramer, Jeff Ballantyne, Chris Sandvig, Mike Madden, Greg Alan, Katelyn Oeler, Amy Hart, Ashley Macik, Richard Saporito, Derek Dauphin, Sean Luther, Megan Ziegler

### Agenda:

- (1) **Call to Order/Welcome:** Dr. Brittany McDonald convened the meeting with a welcome to all present Task Force members.
- (2) **Approval of Minutes:** Dr. McDonald asked for a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. No additions or questions regarding the October minutes. They were seconded by Roger Altmeyer without objections.
- (3) **Continuing/New Business:**
  - a. **J.S. Jones & Still Consulting Final Report:**
    - Recap of Jason's November reporting
    - UTF decided on Option 1:
      - Infrastructure Partner
        - Recommendation: Tri-Boroughs Eco District, which has indicated interest
        - High-Level: Shared, full-time staff with TBED. 1/3 of work on EcoInnovation District, 1/3 of work on Tri-Boroughs, 1/3 of work focused on advocacy, fundraising, etc.
      - Mobility
        - The City would bring on a full-time Transit District Management Coordinator\*
          - Job Description
          - Funding for role
      - Governance of UTF
        - Reference to York Road Partnership - Received their bylaws and governing structure

- Suggestion for UTF to adopt York Road partnership organizational structure
  - When it meets, how a board is structured
- Memberships: Members (Voting), Associates (Non-Voting)

b. **Watson Substation UTF Engagement, Duquesne Light Company**

- The substation will be located between Fifth and Forbes, primarily serving Uptown and the Hill District and in response to the forecasted increase in electrical needs.
- Architecture and Community: consideration of anchor tenants and historical residential core
- Solar trees located near the “Welcome to Uptown” sign an indication of EcoInnovation District. More solar implementations, vegetation, lighting, and consideration of the BRT.
- Highlight: An LED display of the amount of how much solar energy is collected during the day as a form of community reporting.
- [Discussion]:
  - The LAMAR billboard will stay and there will be no impact on the arena or Oakland at this time.
  - Currently, there has been no discussion on public recycling or trash receptacles, but DLC has committed to having this conversation with DPW.
  - With regards to the Moultrie Street re-alignment, that project is not a part of current DLC planning but would be a discussion with consideration of BRT. Members noted that the re-alignment is a critical piece of the Hill’s plan and it may be best for DLC to have those conversations with DOMI sooner rather than later. Members also expressed concern about public perception around how and how much money goes into the substation.

**(4) Action Team Updates**

- a. Chris Sandvig is the new Mobility Action Team chair.

**(5) Member Updates**

- a. Derek Dauphin
- Funds to Development Team
  - Potential to collaborate Children’s Museum with UP for community meeting point [Fifth & Dinwiddie]
- b. Roger Altmeyer:
- Discussion of a Public Art Component (UPMC VRT?)
    - Altmeyer confirms that the UPMC garage will not be open until next year.
- c. Dana Kramer:
- I-579 Cap Park Ribbon cutting was last week. Park is open now.

**(6) Adjournment**

**Next Uptown Task Force Meeting - 10:00 AM on Thursday, January 6th, 2021, via Zoom.**

*\* Transportation Demand Management is a federally-recognized industry practice from Mobility Lab, TDM “focuses on understanding how people make their transportation decisions and helping people use the infrastructure in place for transit, ridesharing, walking, biking, and telework.” This is what transportation management agencies historically have existed to do and*

*what is increasingly needed in Uptown (in very close coordination with PDP and OTMA).*

*Transit district management may be a practice, but this is definitely not what TDM means or does, and the EID recommendations (and the writeup within the consultant's report) is referring to transportation demand management. We should make this change before the report is published so, at a minimum, we sound like we know what we're talking about with the pros and the public also knows what this is about. -Chris, Mobility Chair*