



Southside Steering Committee

City of Paducah | Planning Department | December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Members Present**

Mike Muscarella  
Susan Ybarzabal  
Leslie Ballard  
Rev. Charles Dunbar  
Bryson Wells

**Members Absent**

Kristian Prather  
Connie Ragsdale  
Sonya Thompson  
Tami Snyder

**Staff/Guests**

Melanie Reason – Planning Dept.  
Nic Hutchison – Planning Dept.  
Palmer Stroup – Planning Dept.  
Mayor George Bray  
Commissioner Raynarldo Henderson  
Jay Staples – Staples Properties  
Lasica McEwen – Section 8 Housing

**1. Discussion: Southside Engagement Recap, Transportation feedback**

- Transportation Feedback:
  - ✓ Several people explored public transport with positive feedback on riding/hailing system.
  - ✓ Riders noted that stops where one would embark can be located inconveniently if rider is not already on a route to hail, as well as a lack of sidewalks and infrastructure to support safe travel on foot to get to stops in some neighborhoods.
  - ✓ Riders also noted that there is a process to overcome to secure a pass.
  - ✓ *All members of the committee are encouraged to continue to utilize public transport in order to observe real-time conditions and to better advocate for members of the community. See the PATS schedule [HERE](#) and report sidewalk/infrastructures to the City using the 311 App or online portal, [HERE](#).*
- Brief recap of October event at Coleman Park
  - ✓ Estimated 250 attendants. Exceedingly positive feedback on the event.
  - ✓ Data from engagement reflects requests for action-oriented equipment and programming (see below).
  - ✓ Parks Department plans to work with Engineering to time upgrades to equipment, sidewalks, and streets in 2023-2024.
  - ✓ Committee requested a visit from Parks Department Director Amie Clark to provide an update on the project.

**2. Planning Process: Housing**

- The group discussed possible value statements for Housing that will encompass the community's view on priorities for housing in Southside neighborhoods. These value statements will be revisited in January.
  - i. *Southside businesses provide a hub of commerce to other neighborhoods.*
  - ii. *Southside neighborhoods can thrive equitably alongside commercial development.*
  - iii. *Southside neighborhoods support a mix of large and small businesses.*
- A **draft** housing incentive was introduced (see attached) and a draft of housing incentive programs reviewed.
- Discussion surrounded need for housing that is accessible for middle income families, how to transition lower income families into quality permanent housing and/or home ownership, and how to enact anti-displacement strategies in housing policy to facilitate families to remain in their neighborhood.

**3. Vision: Business Grants**

- Second viewing of the **draft** business grants (see attached).
- Discussion surrounded workshopping business grants with the business community before they go before commission in February.

**4. Next Steps: Next meeting and action items**

- Mayor Bray tasked the committee with reviewing and finalizing housing and business incentives before February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. There will be two working sessions in January 2023 to meet this goal:

Monday January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 5:30pm at CFSB Southside

Monday January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 – 5:30pm at CFSB Southside

Please review the attached documents and provide comments via email to the project lead, Melanie Reason no later than Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.