



Strong Community. Strong Economy. Vibrant City.

# Public Meeting Minutes

## East King Street Community Meeting

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Date: November 11, 2015

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: La Academia Partnership Charter School

Purpose: Inform neighborhood stakeholders about the City's Strategic Economic Development Plan, Hear from neighborhood about neighborhood strengths and opportunities and collaborate with neighbors to support and facilitate ideas for enhanced quality of life.

Presenters: Bob Shoemaker, President/CEO; Marshall Snively, Executive VP/COO, DID Executive Director and Shelby Nauman, Vice President

Prepared by: Lancaster City Alliance

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This meeting is one of a series of community meetings to further engage and discuss strengths, opportunities and vision for the areas of South Queen and South Prince Streets with residents and stakeholders as outlined in the 15-year Strategic Economic Development Plan which was released on June 11, 2015.

25 attendees participated in this meeting. Bob Shoemaker, Marshall Snively and Shelby Nauman gave a brief overview of the Plan focus area, community engagement, community insights and Plan vision, aspirations and outcomes related to Strategic Economic Development followed by a group dialogue.

Highlights of the conversation were as follows:

### Neighborhood Strengths and Weaknesses

- Downtown is well branded and organized, residents would like to see the branding expand to East King Street.
  - The corridor has a lack of signage. Example: bus signage has no route numbers.
  - No trespassing signs are not welcoming.
- The neighborhood is concerned with lack of enforcement and pride in the condition of rental properties and absentee landlords.
- East King has beautiful housing stock.
- Bicycle laws are not being enforced, both bicyclists and motorists are not abiding to the 4 foot law. The 4 foot law requires motorists to provide a 4-foot buffer zone when passing a cyclist on the road. County Planning's website has a location list of bicycle racks. East King has a lack of bike racks, places to park bikes.
- Appreciation of the curb replacement project at intersections. Desire to see it continue its reach further on East King.
- Attendees are happy to be part of the City of Lancaster.
- The need for more trash cans in particular, near the corner stores and Reservoir Park.
- Reservoir Park also referred to as Franklin Park. Attendees felt the park is underutilized and could be used as an East Side social gathering location for the neighborhood. Ideas for use at the park included: rec programs for children, music, summer activities, Christmas tree, flea market. Create an East Side social gathering place.
- East King continues to be a cultural dividing line for the Northeast and the South neighborhoods. Need to address.

### Neighborhood Opportunities

- Façade Improvements
- Many front porches are in disrepair
- Engage absentee landlords, decrease rental turnover
- Increase home ownership
- Coordinate construction efforts
- Strengthen relationships with community partners
  - Lancaster Rec
  - East Orange Street and Musser Park Civic Association
  - Hensel Alley Activities – such as annual yard sale
  - Shippen Street distribution list
  - Neighborhood Crime Watch
  - Fire house #3
  - Friends of Reservoir Park
  - Commonwheel

Resident Note: The Lancaster County Prison will begin testing their alarm system on Tuesdays at 12 noon. The prison would like to engage the neighborhood and invited residents to attend the monthly prison Board meetings.

**Next Steps**

LCA will continue engagement with the corridor and will plan a meeting with the neighborhood in six months.