

SLPNA RIGHT OF WAY CONVERSION COMMITTEE

STATUS REPORT

Status Period: May 7 – June 30, 2014
Submission Date: July 1, 2014

Prepared by: Sharon Louie

TEAM MEMBERS

Executive Sponsor: South Land Park Neighborhood Association Board

Project Sponsor: Mike Ellison

Sub-Committee Working Team: Charley Cartwright, Michael Conlan (Land Park Neighborhood Association), Brian Ebbert, Angie Ellison, John Flath, Sharon Louie, Julie Marengo, Bill McElroy, Dan Weitzman

Committee Assistants: Jessamyn Huang (City of Sacramento), Kelley M. Taber

HIGH LEVEL STATUS AND RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The team met May 7, at Executive Airport to discuss objectives and meet each other. Sharon Louie was selected as the Sub-Committee Chair.
- The team met again on May 10, to begin work on the Project Charter and next steps. Charley Cartwright agreed to document meetings and keep artifacts. The Committee began work developing key project documents including a participant roster, project charter and communication matrix. These are working documents and will evolve as the project scope is further defined.
- The team agreed the first priority was to meet with Regional Transit (RT), the current owners of the Right of Way (ROW). The purpose was to ensure that they and the City of Sacramento knew that the SLPNA had formed this committee and wanted to work with the owner(s) to develop a plan for future development that does not include use of the rail line. The Committee prepared in advance a list of questions to discuss with the RT Board members and key RT staff distributed on June 12th.
- Several members of the committee met on June 18th to walk the ROW from just south of Sutterville Road to 14th Street/South Land Park Drive and to look at the further points out by car to visualize the variations in the width along the ROW, the elevation and distance of the rail line in relation to the houses, and photograph the growth of trees and vegetation that has naturally grown in the space over the years.
- A meeting with RT Board members and a representative from Senator Steinberg's office on June 25th. Jay Schenirer, RT Vice Chair and Vice Mayor, also invited several representatives from Sacramento City Parks and Recreation and the City Transportation Department. The meeting was informative and brought awareness to City representatives of interest from our Committee to partner in developing a plan for future use of the ROW.

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- Key findings from the meeting include:
 - RT does not wish to retain the property and has already voted the property as surplus. Public agencies have first rights to purchase the property.
 - RT is prepared to obtain an appraisal of the property and interested in establishing an account with credits with the City of Sacramento.
 - RT believes the title is clear and agreed to research and provide the status of the rail line (abandoned versus active). RT was certain the line is not rail banked.
 - Southern Pacific retained mineral rights to the property.
 - The City indicated that grant funding is offered every two years with the next round expected in 2015.
 - The representative from the Transportation Department, Ed Cox, shared that some preliminary work has already been done and this parcel and project is #5 on the list as the Del Rio Trail. The Transportation Development Act is used to fund maintenance of trails.
 - Mr. Cox proposed preparation of a Master Plan for the ROW. This would enable a project planning process for the City.
 - The City of Sacramento is looking to our Committee to engage with the residents of impacted neighborhoods and assist with the communication plan as the project progresses.

PROJECT RISKS & MITIGATION

- Risk: The City of Sacramento may not approve taking ownership of the ROW.
 - ✓ Mitigation: The committee may want to consider approaching another public entity that would be good to partner with before the bidding process is opened.
- Risk: The project may not be approved for grant funding or the maintenance costs may not be approved by the City of Sacramento.
 - ✓ Mitigation: The committee may want to research other funding and consider volunteer resources to adopt sections of the ROW to assist with maintenance costs.

NEXT STEPS

- The Committee will decide next steps to work with the City of Sacramento to develop a ROW Conversion Master Plan.