

Westbury DRI
Local Planning Committee #3
Wednesday, December 14th, 2016; 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Veterans of Foreign Wars
403 Maple Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590
Meeting Notes

Attendees

Local Planning Committee (LPC) Voting Members

- Mayor Peter Cavallaro, Village of Westbury (LPC Co-Chair)
- Dave Kapell, LIREDC (LPC Co-Chair)
- Vincent Abbatiello, Westbury Water District/Westbury BID
- Yanira Chacon-Lopez, St. Brigid's Church
- Steven Corte, Village of Westbury
- Marianne Garvin, Community Development Corporation of Long Island/LIREDC
- Connie Locascio, Resident
- Julie Lyon, Westbury Arts Council
- Wilbur Mason, Village of Westbury
- Chester McCibbon, Resident
- Steven G Rudolph, Westbury BID
- Thomas Verni, Resident

LPC Non-Voting Members/ Village of Westbury

- Joan Boes, Village of Westbury
- Gail Slotnick, Special Assistant to the Mayor for Special Projects
- Anna Vikse, Village Attorney

New York State

- David Ashton, NYS Department of State
- Nancy Rucks, NYS Department of State

Consulting Team

- Kei Hayashi, BJH Advisors
- Katie Lyon, BJH Advisors
- Sarah DeFalco, BJH Advisors
- Eric Galipo, FXFOWLE
- Daniel Rojo, James Lima Planning + Development

Others

- John Petras, Property Owner
- Maureen Baranov, Westbury Arts Council

Welcome

Mayor Peter Cavallaro (PC) opened the meeting and welcomed the Local Planning Committee (LPC) at approximately 7:05pm.

DRI Status

Kei Hayashi (KH) of BJH Advisors (BJH) presented the DRI status to date. The consultant team is approximately half way through the six-month planning process. At the previous LPC meeting, the consultants presented the existing conditions analysis and opportunities for revitalization that emerged, on which the LPC provided feedback. The consultants have met with community stakeholders both individually and in small groups to develop a vision and goals for the DRI and identify specific projects to address those goals. The vision, goals, objectives, and preliminary projects will be presented in the meeting. The primary goal of the meeting will be to select the highest priority projects for DRI funding in order to catalyze economic growth, meet community needs, and attract additional investment.

Vision and Goals

PC read the Westbury DRI vision statement: “Westbury will be Long Island’s model diverse, transit-oriented, walkable, arts-centric downtown.” The LPC approved of the vision statement.

Katie Lyon (KL) explained that this vision is both supported by four main goals: diversity, transit-oriented, walkability, and arts-centric. Under each goal, there are three or four key objectives. Preliminary projects were selected in order to address the outlined goals and objectives.

KL presented goals and objectives as follows:

1. Diversity – retain existing diverse population and attract new residents
 - A. Encourage the development of diverse housing options
 - B. Establish a retail mix that supports the diversity in the community
 - C. Ensure parking capacity meets the needs of residents and visitors
 - D. Facilitate improvements to key community assets
2. Transit-Oriented – create a downtown that supports a vibrant mix of uses within proximity to the train station
 - A. Foster TOD that allows for higher density, mixed use development in the Maple/Union area
 - B. Improve pedestrian and visual connection between the train station and downtown
 - C. Establish a southern anchor that creates jobs and/or attracts visitors
 - D. Attract new job-generating uses and residential near the train station
3. Walkability – increase pedestrian activity throughout the downtown
 - A. Enhance the pedestrian experience through streetscape improvements

- B. Ensure the pedestrian environment is safe and easy to navigate
- C. Attract new amenities that encourage visitors downtown
- 4. Arts-Centric – enhance the cultural profile of Westbury
 - A. Support the sustainability and growth of existing cultural assets
 - B. Introduce visible symbols of the cultural activity in Westbury
 - C. Increase opportunities for the community to participate in culture

Preliminary Projects Discussion

KL then directed the committee’s attention to the chart outlining the preliminary projects and how they have been evaluated. Projects were ranked using 18 evaluation criteria based on DRI goals, Village of Westbury goals, and feedback from the LPC co-chairs. Projects fall under the four main goals, highlighted above. KL read through each project, pausing at the end of each of the four categories for feedback and to take a vote on which projects the LPC would like to see prioritized.

The list of preliminary projects and the number of LPC committee members that voted for each project is below. Projects highlighted in grey are priorities of Mayor Cavallaro.

# of LPC Votes	Project #	Preliminary Project
Diversity		
0	1.1	Issue an RFP to redevelop 1+ muni parking lot on Post Ave to add parking and include new residential and/or retail space
3	1.2	Make upgrades to the Rec/Senior Center
0	1.3	Contribute to roof repairs for the Neighborhood House
9	1.4	Create a commercial attraction and/or incentive program focused on attracting food and beverage, boutiques, and youth-focused retail
7	1.5	Improve the Piazza
0	1.6	Launch a Farmers Market
N/A	1.7	Design decked parking in the southern LIRR lot
6	1.8	Renew and expand façade improvement program to include rear of buildings
4	1.9	Collaborate with a nearby university to attract graduate student or faculty housing
2	1.10	Support local groups with services for new Americans
0	1.11	Acquire Neighborhood House
Transit Oriented		
9	2.1	Rezone the downtown core, including Post, Union, and Maple Aves, to encourage TOD and allow moderate density closer to train station
0	2.2	Design parking garage wrapped with residential to replace commuter lot

9	2.3	Issue an RFP for a master developer to construct multi-family and mixed use buildings in the Maple/ Union triangle
2	2.4	Establish a southern anchor - TBD (Nassau BOCES facility, arts entity)
8	2.5/2.6	Create a left turn lane for southbound Post traffic at intersection with Union/Expand the sidewalk on the east side of Post at intersection with Union
0	2.7	Install bicycle lanes
3	2.8	Develop + issue an RFP for a developer for the south LIRR lot along Post Avenue
Walkability		
9	3.1	Replace lights with LED
0	3.2	Install benches
0	3.3	Install bike racks
0	3.4	Install pavers
4	3.5	Install bus shelters
9	3.6	Replace meters with consolidated pay locations
2	3.7	Install sidewalk bump out at Maple/Post intersection
6	3.8	Increase vegetation throughout downtown (trees/planters)
3	3.9	Establish public Wi-Fi downtown
2	3.10/3.11	Install new trash cans/Install recycling cans
3	3.12	Install an electronic information kiosk
1	3.13	Adhere signs to light poles
4	3.14	Improve pedestrian crosswalks through signage
1	3.15	Implement wayfinding signage
0	3.16	Create walking paths
3	3.17	Create a new recreation/open space in the Maple/Union Triangle (bocce, skate, garden, etc.)
2	3.18	Add a security booth at southern end of Post Ave
Arts-Centric		
0	4.1	Collaborate with Art Space or a similar entity to develop a plan for arts infrastructure
1	4.2	Possible PPP with arts entity
9	4.3	Establish a permanent presence for WAC
5	4.4	Install public art - murals/sculpture
7	4.5	Increase programming and events in public spaces
4	4.6	Establish promotional partnership with The Space, Arts Council and BID
2	4.7	Develop VFW museum build out

Next Steps

KH closed the meeting and explained that the next step for the consulting team will be to further build out the projects that have emerged as priorities by identifying an implementation plan, funding sources (DRI and other), and exploring potential partners.

The next LPC meeting will be on Wednesday, January 25th, 2017 at 5pm at the VFW Hall, which will be followed the same night by the next public meeting at 7pm at the Community Center.

Dave Ashton (DA) with the Department of State commented that the LPC's votes tonight were helpful in identifying key projects. He added that the voting should not be considered the only process to identify priority projects.

Adjournment

PC thanked the LPC and adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.