

Downtown Strategic Initiative
Movin' Around Committee
July 22, 2008
Meeting I Minutes

I. Introduction.....Chair, Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson called the first *Movin' Around Committee* meeting to order at 10:02 am. Tom introduced himself and asked attendees to introduce themselves. Tom briefly went over the *Movin' Around Agenda*.

II. Presentation of Downtown Strategic Plan.....Autumn Radle

Autumn Radle introduced herself as the project manager for DSI with the City of the Oklahoma City Planning Department. Autumn explained the important role each committee member plays in the Downtown Plan. Autumn conducted a power point presentation on DSI. Autumn also explained the breakdown of the five committees; *Doin' Business* and *Movin' Around* held July through December of 2008, *Stayin' Around* and *Dressin' It Up* held January through June 2009 and *Playin' Around* July through December 2009.

III. Review Process & Goals for Subcommittees.....Tom Wilson

Tom Wilson explained the protocol for all the subcommittees. Tom asked each committee to use this time to think big and not get bogged down in where the resources are coming from and focus on providing vision, set the stage and be creative. Tom also explained the physical location of downtown from 13th to the River and Western to Lottie and how initiatives can apply to the whole of downtown or to particular districts. Initiatives can also be phased, starting in the core and moving outward, for example. The Subcommittee Chairs are as follows; Jim Cowan-*Parking*, Todd Butler-*Transportation/Transit*, Dick Coyle-*Walk and Bike* and Terry Taylor-*Connectivity*.

V. Reconvene as Full Committee.....Tom Wilson

Tom asked each Subcommittee Chair to speak on behalf of their group.

1) *Todd Butler-Transportation/Transit*

Todd Butler expressed that a time-line for transportation and transit is key because we must coordinate efforts into the future and ensure additional parking, adequate crosswalks for pedestrians, bike routes in order to come full circle with this plan for successful completion. Some of the problems the group found were; lack of funding and unfriendly pedestrian/bike crossing on E.K. Gaylord Avenue.

- a. The committee will meet before each meeting for prep
- b. Need to consider other options for getting downtown
- c. Street planning should be forward thinking
- d. When will light-rail be viable
- e. See separate attachment for additional information.

2) Dick Coyle-Walk and Bike Ability

- a. The subcommittee discussed the matrix of recommendations
 - Members agreed to review the Bicycle Transportation Master Plan by the next meeting - Lance will provide copies
- b. The remainder of the discussion addressed bike facilities and education
 - The facilities discussion focused on the need for bike stations downtown. Bike stations are a multi-purpose facility that provides bike parking (lockers, for ex), showers for commuters, tune-ups, etc. Some bike stations are on transit lines (e.g. you could take the trolley, Brickshaw, or the bus from the bike station to another location in/around downtown).
 - Education is required for both bicyclists and motorists.
 - Police could play a role in education and enforcement
 - PSAs could show 'what if' scenarios to help drivers and bicyclists understand safety and other issues
 - Consider creating an education portal on the internet
 - Address the value of commuting by bike (health, economic, environmental),
 - Tackle peoples' excuses for not commuting by bike and offer solutions (many excuses could be handled by the bike station concept).
 - Subcommittee members will bring bike station research to next meeting

3) Tom Anderson (on behalf on Jim Cowan)-Parking

- a. Need a marketing plan to address perception of parking needs/demands/supply
- b. Look into new meter technology (add money/time via cell phone, get reminders of meter expiration thru phones).
- c. Discuss whether the City should be in the business of managing parking/garages?
 - d. Address safety issues in garages – and surface lots
- e. Need controlled uniform signage for parking lots and garages

4) Terry Taylor-Connectivity

- a. Discussed whether way-finding signs have to comply with ASHTO (share the road signs are not attractive)
- b. Location and aesthetics of signs/way-finding need to be addressed
 - a. Avoid clutter - Signs should be put on existing arms of stoplights for example
 - b. Quality signage is more important than quantity

- c. Subcommittee members will look for good and bad signage and way-finding examples (photos)
- c. Find out status of sign ordinance review by Planning Commission
- d. Consider signage as it relates to traffic speed and safety
- e. The sign on 44 for I-40 east does not say Downtown (Ft. Sill) – work with ODOT to add “Downtown”
- f. Put the emphasis on getting people out on the streets – above ground activity.
 - a. Need to address comfort – shade – canopies, misters, trees
- g. Traffic lights are not ped friendly – should not need to push button for walk signal
 - a. Jaywalking – education
- h. People are more willing to walk when they have a focal point (can see their destination) – public art can be a good focal points.
 - a. Create a series of destination points/open spaces/resting points
 - i. Incorporate into walking tour of downtown
- i. Need to ‘dress up’ city garages - vegetation, banners, etc.

VII. Closing Remarks.....Tom Wilson

Tom explained the Movin’ Around Committee will meet every second Wednesday of the month from 1:30pm to 3:00pm. The location for the next meeting will be e-mailed along with the today’s meeting minutes. Tom mentioned that everyone has thirty days to think of ideas identifying the committee’s next steps. Autumn Radle said she would like to know about any additional research needs and to please let her know if subcommittees meet before the next regularly scheduled Movin’ Around Committee Meeting.

With no further business, Tom Wilson adjourned the meeting at 11:14 am.

Submitted by,

Tina Page
 Downtown OKC, Inc.
(with additions by Autumn Radle, DSI Project Manager)