

# Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 9, 2013      **Location:** Southwest Neighborhood Service Center - 923 Genesee Street

**Project Name:** Thurston Road Revitalization      **Project No.:** 19425.00

**Subject:** Steering Committee Meeting #1      **Scribe:** McCormick

| <b>Attendees:</b>     | <b>Representing:</b>                       | <b>E-mail Address:</b>   |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Jason Nabeaniec       | City of Rochester                          | Nabewanj@CityofRochester.gov   |
| Al Giglio             | City of Rochester                          | <a href="mailto:AGiglio@CityofRochester.gov">AGiglio@CityofRochester.gov</a>           |
| David Hawkes          | City of Rochester                          | <a href="mailto:hawkesd@cityofrochester.gov">hawkesd@cityofrochester.gov</a>           |
| Don Hanks             | Thurston Road Street Manager               | <a href="mailto:sector4cdc@yahoo.com">sector4cdc@yahoo.com</a>                         |
| Jimmy Crowley         | Crowley Plumbing                           | <a href="mailto:jcrowleyplumbing@frontiernet.net">jcrowleyplumbing@frontiernet.net</a> |
| John DeMott           | Sector 4 Community Development Corporation | jnj_demott@juno.com  |
| Colleen Gordon        | Dr .Colleen Gordon DDS                     | <a href="mailto:cmgordon@rochester.rr.com">cmgordon@rochester.rr.com</a>               |
| Henrene Brown         | Urban League of Rochester                  | <a href="mailto:hbrown@ulr.org">hbrown@ulr.org</a>                                     |
| Annette Marchesseault | Trowbridge Wolf Michaels                   | <a href="mailto:arm@twm.la">arm@twm.la</a>   |
| Matt Ingalls          | Ingalls Planning                           | <a href="mailto:mingalls@ingallsplanning.com">mingalls@ingallsplanning.com</a>         |
| Paul Presutti         | Erdman Anthony                             | <a href="mailto:presutti@erdmananthony.com">presutti@erdmananthony.com</a>             |
| Bill McCormick        | Erdman Anthony                             | <a href="mailto:mccormickwp@erdmananthony.com">mccormickwp@erdmananthony.com</a>       |

This is the first meeting with the neighborhood group for the City of Rochester’s Thurston Road Revitalization project. The meeting opened with a brief discussion of the project history, including discussion about the 4-step process that concluded with the Thurston Village Revitalization Plan dated May 2009.

Since that time, the City of Rochester has selected the team of Erdman Anthony, Trowbridge Wolf Michaels Landscape Architects and Ingalls Planning & Design for the project. Project schedule was summarized. The project is slightly behind schedule at this point. Design plans for contractor bid will be finalized by February 2014 with construction starting in April 2014 thru October / November 2014. Construction must be complete by 2014.

Base mapping for the corridor was presented for discussion. Potential features to be considered for the project include High Visibility Crosswalks, Curb Bump-outs, Traffic Improvements, Turning Lanes, Signage & Striping, Additional Streetscape, Sidewalks, Landscaping, Lighting and Bus Shelters.

Specific comments / notes transcribed at the meeting include:

1. The hub of the neighborhood changes throughout the day and night.
2. Lighting for the street and pedestrian is the number one concern along the corridor.
3. Speed humps along this type of corridor cannot be used.
4. Convenient parking is an issue. Use of diagonal parking was suggested. This is not an option due to width of the street.
5. The US Post Office and YMCA are popular pedestrian crossing locations of Thurston Road.
6. The neighborhood is seeking better looking trash receptacles.
7. Would like some type of signage to create identity for the corridor.
8. The 'Village' thought is more community than commercial – YMCA, Post Office, churches, school close by – self-sustaining.
9. Missing trees along the corridor need to be replaced. Larger trees (2"-3" caliper) are requested.
10. A left turn at Brooks Avenue is a good idea.
11. There are no additional areaways except the 3 identified. These are currently used by the property owners mainly for deliveries.
12. Use of raised planters along the corridor is a good idea. They should be as maintenance free as possible and shouldn't be placed near corner stores, bars or barber shops. The design should be made high or low enough to not be a bench to sit on flowers. Location from the curbline should be a consideration so they do not hinder opening of doors for parked vehicles.
13. If there is something that requires maintenance, look to get a signed agreement with community group prior to installing it.
14. Annette will look to gather information about corridor heritage. It was discussed that there was a trolley in the 60's that used Thurston, with a turn-around in the Rite Aid parking lot.
15. Street starting to see a reverse migration from the suburbs. The businesses that are present have roots in the community. This needs to be preserved.
16. The 7-11 convenient store at Flanders is missed by the community.
17. There are several issues with the bus shelters. The shelter at Ravenwood has an advertisement board that hinders sight distance. Consideration should be made to move this shelter from Ravenwood to Flanders. The Margaret Street shelter serves no purpose other than for seating of patrons of the nearby Laundromat.
18. See additional notes prepared by Matt Ingalls (attached).

This is the writer's interpretation of the above meeting. If there are any issues that need to be revised or discussed, please inform the author within five days of receiving the minutes.

**Next Meeting:** November 6, 2013 @ 1:00 pm  
Southwest Neighborhood  
Service Center  
923 Genesee Street

**Copies:** attendees



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William P. McCormick, PE

## City of Rochester

### Thurston Road Revitalization Project

Steering Committee Meeting #1  
October 9, 2013 - 1:00 PM  
Southeast Neighborhood Service Center

- **Pedestrian Crossings**
  - The Ravenwood intersection has been approved for a midblock pedestrian crossing
    - Consider a pedestrian refuge/island
  - A crossing is needed near the Post Office and maybe near the Y
  - Pedestrian lights do not appear to be effective
    - People do not obey them
- **Lighting**
  - Is the highest priority
  - Perception is reality!
  - Pedestrian level lighting is needed
    - Style should be part of public input process
  - City will likely consider a lighting district if wattage is too high
- **Traffic Calming**
  - Speeds are too high
  - Must develop safe pedestrian crossings
  - Bump-outs should be considered but not at the expense of parking
- **Parking**
  - Available parking is an issue, especially after 4:00 PM
  - Bars generate a lot of demand for parking but have very few off-street spaces
  - John DeMott has parking counts
  - Potential public lot at the corner of Midvale (City vacant lot)
  - RGRTA owns the Rite Aid lot near Brooks
- **Other**
  - Neighborhood has an “integrated population”
  - Use to have a trolley on Thurston

- Need street trees
- Need furniture
- A community kiosk would be useful
- The Y is a great community asset
- Bus shelter at Ravenwood is an issue
  - Undesirable activity at night
  - Poor site lines from adjacent properties
  - Advertising panels block views
  - Flanders Street would be better location
- Bus shelter at Margaret Street does not appear to be used much
  - More of a bench for smokers