



Community Working Group Meeting #7 - Summary

Meetings Schedule

CWG meetings will be held at the Upper Merion Township Building and will begin at 7 p.m. Below is the schedule through September 2017 and will be held on the third Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, July 19th – Valley Forge Room

Wednesday, August 16th – Valley Forge Room

Wednesday, September 20th – Valley Forge Room

Meeting #7 Summary

Location: Upper Merion Township Building, Valley Forge Room

Date: Wednesday, May 17th

Time: 7 – 9:00 p.m.

Attendees:

KOP Rail project team members

Fritz Ohrenschall, SEPTA

Fran O'Brien, McCormick Taylor

Emily Watts, McCormick Taylor

Presenters

Andrew Svekla, DVRPC

Christina Arlt, DVRPC

Amy Bernknopf, DVRPC

Adija Manley, DVRPC

Greg Krykewycz, DVRPC

Other

Bill Jenaway, UMT Supervisor

Eric Jarrell, MCPC

Matt Popek, MCPC

Joe Brophy, UMT

Kyle Brown, UMT

M Louis van de Beek

CWG members

Martin Trumpler

Mark Vondra

Ron Ginnona

Vivian Peikin

Joan Grunwald

Sue Groff

Craig Greenwood

Pamela Hale

Eric Huhn

Jacque Camp

Gary Russel

The CWG held its seventh meeting in May 2017. The meeting began with an introduction to Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) and the station area planning project they are working on for KOP Rail. DVRPC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Philadelphia Region. DVRPC facilitated a workshop on station area planning around the five proposed station areas. Activity 1: Guiding Principles asked participants which principles should guide the planning and design of their station area. The highest-rated principle was making it easier to walk and bike within



the Township. Activity 2: Making Connections asked participants to consider a series of issues related to transit station access. Participants identified critical routes that would connect key destinations within the study area to the station. Participants were asked to draw these critical routes on maps. Activity 3: Growth & Development asked participants to identify areas/locations they feel should be preserved, enhanced, or transformed by assessing their susceptibility to change.

Below are summaries of the feedback from the workshop attendees:

1st Ave Station Areas

- Areas around the stations were considered highly susceptible to change, especially near 1st Ave & Moore Rd.
- A need for additional access – sidewalks, trails – was seen within the business park and to surrounding neighborhoods.

KOP Mall Station Areas

- The existing mall was not considered susceptible to change, but areas on its fringe and along U.S. 202 were.
- The group thought the back of the mall should be more walkable through the parking lot area to connect to other commercial and residential areas.
- Keeping open space green and the trails was important.

Henderson Road Station Area

- The light industrial areas south of the alignment were considered highly susceptible to change. The shopping centers were seen as moderately susceptible to change while the neighborhoods, cemetery, and quarry were not seen as susceptible to change.
- Making the area multi-modal with sidewalk and trail connections to 251 De Kalb, and to nearby neighborhoods was seen as important. Intersection improvements along Henderson Road were also called out.

A full summary of station area planning from all stakeholder groups will be released by DVRPC with their final report.

Other items for discussion:

- None