



MEMO

TO: Marietta Road Community Initiative Team
CC: Billy Peppers, City Manager

FROM: Brittany Anderson, Planner 

SUBJECT: Marietta Road Community Initiative Meeting w/ GPC Members

DATE: March 17, 2020

City of Canton Members Present: Mayor Bill Grant, Councilor Sandy McGrew, Billy Peppers, Scott Hooper, Pacer Cordry, Sherri Cloud, and Brittany Anderson

GPC Members Present: Stephanie Aylworth, Nick Johnson, Chris Higdon, and Katherine Moore

The Marietta Road Community Initiative team met with members from the Georgia Placemaking Collaborative team on February 24, 2020 at 2:00pm to present what the committee has been working on since the Fall 2019 retreat. Staff presented the following information, some of the information below has been updated as needed:

1. Organize and engage the community in layers: property owners, business owners, residents, and the Hispanic community.
2. Involved the schools in the engagement/planning process - Billy will contact the Board of Education to ask for suggestions for a representative.
3. Create a survey to engage the business owners by asking the following questions:
 - a. Do you think the outlook of your business is better than it was last year? Please explain.
 - b. How many employees do you have?

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- c. Do any of your employees both work and reside in the district? (Attach map)
- d. What is your biggest concern related to the Marietta Road corridor?
- e. If the City could make a public improvement within the Marietta Road corridor, what improvement would be the most impactful?
- f. If you would like to participate in this initiative, please provide your contact information.

- Contact information for business owners in the corridor was collected and confirmed. - - Staff contacted business owners to ask for their participation in completing the survey.
- The survey was published on February 25, 2020 and was set to close on March 15, 2020. At this time, ten responses were received with one being a hard copy.
- A meeting to discuss the feedback from the survey and the information from the property owners will be scheduled.

5. Collaborate with PD (Pacer Cordry/Tiffany Comer) to come up with an activity that will engage the residents in the district during the spring.

6. Consider hosting an impromptu soccer tournament with pop-up food trucks at Harmon Field in June. Provide translators and ask for thoughts on whether the residents would like to see a permanent soccer field at Harmon Field, etc.

7. Set up an informational booth during the fair hosted by the American Legion. Provide goodies and prizes.

8. Consider either a new logo or revitalizing current logo to brand "Sunnyside" and involve the community in the decision-making.

9. Create a webpage to keep the community informed. Should be connected to community development webpage. Use "cantonga.gov/sunnyside" as the webpage address.

10. Cynthia Cifuentes will join the committee. Luis Luna will also join the committee and will as attend the GPC retreats.

Additionally, staff provided a brief overview of, recreation projects, code enforcement projects (protective treatment initiative), and potential CDBG projects that have been and will be carried out in the district. Staff also presented the findings from the SWOT analysis conducted at the meeting with the property owners. The GPC members were really fascinated by the SWOT analysis and the amount of work that has been done since our last



group meeting. The members shared their excitement for the plans presented and stated that the committee was right on track with their expectations. Additionally, Ms. Aylworth stated that there may be grants to assist in funding specific components of our efforts. Ms. Aylworth will follow up with more information as the team continues to plan.

Ms. Aylworth discussed the concept for the upcoming spring retreat in Jekyll Island on April 30th and May 1st. The freshman class will focus on visioning and planning at the retreat. Each team will be asked to provide a brief presentation on their homework and updates before the others at the retreat. The retreat will wrap up around noon on the last day.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.