



*Disclaimer: I hope you will find these notes helpful. They are not a complete representation of the meeting, but rather the highlights of topics discussed. Feel free to contact Erin Verplank or Zachary Burton at Westfield City Services Center: [communications@westfield.in.gov](mailto:communications@westfield.in.gov) or (317) 804-3001 if you have any questions.*

## MEETING SUMMARY

June 24, 2014

Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

### Grand Junction Concept – David Rubin, Matthias Hollwich

David Rubin, Principal for Land Collective, presented Grand Junction concepts to the group. Explained they were still in the process of conceptual designs. Sees Grand Junction as an identifier that singles the town out as substantially different. Showed design called The Circuit – confluence that brings people to the center of town. The nature of the park is symbolized by four nodes, as if four sections of a stone were torn apart. Jersey Street would become a plaza that receives cars on occasion – markets, fairs, car shows, skating etc. happen there now. Skating loop in the winter, great lawn that could accommodate summer concerts. Also would include room for a smaller, second stage. Sections are cut throughout the park. Park will be accessible for disabled people. Three or four houses would be located in this current area. Council President Ake said project would be phased, beginning with Mill Street to create the perimeter.

### Q and A with Mayor Cook

Mayor Cook gave updates on events in the city. Discussed indoor facility at Grand Park – 300K sq ft. 3 fields indoors. Food service operator will be Jonathan Byrd's. Will be a scatter type cafeteria with food stations. Is an answer for hotels and restaurants who are uncertain of business in the winter. Will likely be a hotel just west of Wellbrooke facility. Noted that there is a growing industry in Indiana, and the Greenwood facility is just one example.

### Cultural Collaborative Information – Peggy Monson

Peggy Monson gave an update on the Cultural Collaborative, including participants and goals.

### Westfield Towers – Ken Kingshill

Ken Kingshill and Jim Ake presented information on the towers project. Jim noted that 31 is getting to a point where they need a decision on the towers. Ken is chairman of the Grand Junction Task Group, which is a citizen committee that has been meeting for the last seven years. The committee decided long ago that the 31/32 intersection was necessary to attract people downtown. The mayor asked them to recommend something to the city for the interchange, asked them to plan something iconic. The group sees this as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to do something iconic.

INDOT contributes \$300K on either side. This is money coming back to us. Cost estimates are between \$2.5M - \$2.8M, includes construction, lighting. Will not be a huge dispersion of light, will illuminate the structures. Color is reminiscent of the soils in Indiana. The other question is: do we wait to build these? INDOT costs have gone up 15% this year alone.

*Q: Is the lighting programmable?*

Yes, you can program lights for different colors, events, seasons.

*Q: Would it be better to give the money to the Cultural Collaborative? Enhance the quality of life that way?*

Money has to be spent for capital infrastructure projects. You can have an expense item that doesn't generate anything, or you can have an investment. This is an investment that gives us momentum to move forward with other projects. It's a sense of place-making, a special identity. It's a threshold for our city. And it's as much about the future as anything else. The investment in the downtown, the investment in the Cultural Collaborative group will take place whether the towers are up or not.

*Q: What other locations/structures did you look at that would be comparable to this?*

Columbus served as a model. Also the Pyramids in Indianapolis.

One resident mentioned: *I spent five years on the northeast united states. This just screams left turn, right turn off the highway. It certainly is difficult to quantify ROI, but this is a way to put more people into the new homes.*

*Q: How tall are these towers?*

Just under 100 ft. Airport has no problem with them. We are in compliance with FAA regulations.

Jim Ake closed the meeting at 8:30 p.m.