



Landscape Architecture

Urban Design

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## PDQ Neighborhood Meeting – September 8, 2005

The meeting was held at East High School at 6:00 PM. It was attended by approximately a dozen people. The East High School Principal attended the first 30 minutes of the meeting. Alder Brian Bedford organized and moderated the meeting. The participants were both in support and opposed to the project, but all shared some concerns of traffic, loitering, litter and safety.

The meeting began, focused on the high school issues, to take best advantage of the Principal's time. Neighbors had concerns about the current activities in Kelligher Field, citing prostitution, drugs and violence as the main issues. One resident felt that a PDQ located that close to the high school would promote truancy and more drugs.

### Principal Comments:

- o The principal weighed in, and said there were positives and negatives.
- o The store would be convenient for sporting events at Demetral and Kelligher Fields, but had a concern if the proposed pedestrian trail would interfere with athletic team practices at Kelligher Field.
- o He thought it could be a negative if students were allowed to congregate at PDQ.
- o He also explained the new administration's hard line stance against truancy.
- o He felt it was a positive to have PDQ present on-site, because they could request police can enforcement. As a vacant lot, the school has no jurisdiction of the site.
- o PDQ had also discussed putting a camera on light poles to monitor the park, he said that having "another set of eyes" in the neighborhood would be an advantage.

### Proposed Pedestrian Path:

- o Some neighbors were in support of the trail to keep pedestrian traffic off of East Johnson Street, others against the trail because it force pedestrian traffic (and litter) to East Johnson.
- o Some neighbors favored lighting for security, others thought lighting would encourage use of the trail in the late night/early morning hours, and/or be a nuisance for the homes adjacent to the park.
- o Trash collection along the path raised the question of how often PDQ would collect trash?
- o PDQ felt they were offering the community an amenity when they proposed the path.

### Traffic on Third and Pennsylvania:

- o There was concern that the PDQ will bring additional traffic to the neighborhood on Third Street. There was concern that "cruising" from East Washington Ave. will use Third St.
- o Some residents feel the speed bumps and traffic circles added to Third Street help with traffic calming; others don't believe they help.
- o It was stated that as a condition by the city, that PDQ would put in traffic islands at the intersection of Third and East Johnson.
- o The City has also made provisions for a potential future traffic light at the intersection of Pennsylvania and Third Street.
- o There was concern that on football Saturdays (8 days a year) the traffic on Pennsylvania would be worse, with tailgaters making stops PDQ.

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- PDQ's position is that most drive-by traffic would be east bound traffic, not people crossing traffic to get to the store. Mineral Point Rd. and Fish Hatchery Rd. were cited as examples where PDQ has stores on both sides of the street to support this position.

Brian asked the neighbors what things they would want from PDQ:

- Reduced hours of operation. They proposed hours of 5:00 AM to 10:00 PM, or 5:00 AM to 12:00 AM.
- The neighborhood likes the idea of PDQ "sponsoring" a high school club in exchange for trash clean-up in the neighborhood.
- The neighborhood likes the idea of vapor recovery systems to be used on all gas pumps.

General Comments:

- Some residents said that they didn't see the people in the neighborhood using PDQ to get "milk"; other residents said they would rather walk to PDQ for "milk" than get in their cars and drive to a grocery store.
- One resident stated that she spoke with about 6 neighbors the previous evening on a neighborhood walk. She said they all supported the project, and it was primarily the people who opposed the project who were the vocal ones. She stated that many of the neighbors thought it would be a good addition, better than what is there now, and better than the used car lot across the street.

These notes were prepared as the author's interpretation of meeting. These notes were prepared by Christopher Thiel of Schreiber/Anderson Associates.