



Meeting Notes

Meeting: Goler and Crystal Towers Neighborhood Meeting
Date/Time: March 4th, 2008
Location: Winston-Salem Urban League
Attendees: 4 attendees
Marion Combs – Facilitators
Keith Raulston – NCDOT Presenter

Agenda Items:

Welcome/Introduction

- Ms. Combs welcomed attendees to the Crystal Towers and Goler Winston neighborhood meeting for the Business 40 Improvement Project.
- The facilitator introduced Drew Joyner and other NCDOT representatives.

Because of the low attendance the formal presentation was replaced by an informal discussion.

The Crystal Towers survey results were presented to the meeting attendees.

- Question – How long have you lived at your current address?
 - ~33% - Have lived at their current address for 0-1 year
 - ~26% - Have lived at their current address for 2-4 years
 - ~20% - Have lived at their current address for 10+ years
 - ~17% - Have lived at their current address for 5-9 years
 - ~2% - Did not answer
- Question – Do you plan to be living in Crystal Towers in 5-7 years?
 - ~63% - Will be living in Crystal Towers in 5-7 years
 - ~33% - Will not be living in Crystal Towers in 5-7 years
 - ~4% - Undecided
- *Question – What bridges do you typically use?
 - ~50% - Use Broad Street Bridge
 - ~30% - Did not answer
 - ~26% - Use all bridges crossing Business 40
 - ~18% - Use Cherry Street Bridge
 - ~18% - Use Marshall Street Bridge
 - ~18% - Use Peter's Creek Parkway Bridge
 - ~8% - Use Liberty Street Bridge
 - ~7% - Use Fourth Street Bridge
 - ~6% - Use Silas Creek Parkway Bridge
 - ~5% - Use Main Street Bridge
 - ~4% - Use Cloverdale Avenue Bridge
 - ~4% - Use Stratford Road Bridge
 - ~2% - Use Knollwood Street Bridge
 - ~1% - Use Third Street Bridge

~1% - Use Hawthorne Road Bridge

~1% - Use Martin Luther King Bridge

*Some Residents answered this question more than once.

- Question – How can transportation be improved in your neighborhood?

~29% - Said that no improvements need to be made

~17% - Requested better bus service

~12% - Did not answer

~10% - Requested wider lanes

~7% - Requested street lights

~5% - Requested sidewalk repairs

~5% - Requested more stop signs

~4% - Requested lower speed limits

~2% - Requested bike lanes

- Question – What is your preference during construction?

~64% - Completely close Business 40 for up to two years

~32% - Partially close Business 40 for up to six years

~2% - Had no preference

- Question – Are there any additional transportation issues in your neighborhood?

~57% - Had no issues

~12% - Requested bike routes

~10% - Requested better sidewalks

~8% - Did not answer

~4% - Requested better bus routes

~4% - Requested more stop signs

~2% - Requested lower congestion

The Goler survey results were presented to the meeting attendees.

- Question – How long have you lived at your current address?

~100% - Have lived at their current address for 0-1 year

~0% - Have lived at their current address for 2-4 years

~0% - Have lived at their current address for 5-9 years

~0% - Have lived at their current address for 10+ years

~0% - Did not answer

- Question – Do you plan to be living in Goler in 5-7 years?

~81% - Will be living in Goler in 5-7 years

~6% - Will not be living in Goler in 5-7 years

~6% - Undecided

- *Question – What bridges do you typically use?

~31% - Use Peter's Creek Parkway Bridge

~31% - Use Broad Street Bridge

~25% - Use Cherry Street Bridge

~25% - Use all bridges crossing Business 40

- ~13% - Did not answer
- ~13% - Use Fourth Street Bridge
- ~13% - Use Martin Luther King Bridge
- ~13% - Use Silas Creek Parkway Bridge
- ~6% - Use Fifth Street Bridge
- ~6% - Use Liberty Street Bridge
- ~6% - Use Marshall Street Bridge
- ~6% - Use Third Street Bridge
- ~6% - Use Vargrave Bridge

*Some Residents answered this question more than once.

- Question – How can transportation be improved in your neighborhood?
 - ~44% - Did Not Answer
 - ~13% - Requested better bus service
 - ~6% - Said that no improvements need to be made
 - ~6% - Requested Street Repair
 - ~4% - Requested sidewalk repairs
 - ~6% - Requested lower speed limits
 - ~6% - Requested safer streets
- Question – What is your preference during construction?
 - ~75% - Completely close Business 40 for up to two years
 - ~19% - Partially close Business 40 for up to six years
 - ~6% - Had no preference
- Question – Are there any additional transportation issues in your neighborhood?
 - ~38% - Did not answer
 - ~31% - Had no issues
 - ~25% - Requested better bus routes
 - ~6% - Requested better sidewalks

ASKED QUESTIONS:

QUESTION: How many surveys were completed?

ANSWER: The Business 40 Improvement Project has completed over 16,380 surveys. This includes the downtown and neighborhood businesses in addition to the door-to-door process.

Q: How many of the people who were surveyed preferred the two year option against the six year option?

A: We have not calculated that number yet. However, that figure will be available at this corridor-wide meeting in June.

Q: Why can't Business 40 stay open during construction?

A: Business 40 can stay open during construction under the six year plan. We have not committed to either the two year plan or the six year plan this early in the project. At this point, we are just asking commuters for their input and opinions.

Q: How will NCDOT notify commuters of road closures and detour routes?

A: We will post information regarding alternative routes, road closures and bridge construction on the website. We also have scrolling information on the electronic message boards that are above Business 40. This information will also be available in local news stations and newspapers.

Q: What are the details of the two year plan versus the six year plan?

A: Under the two year plan, the entire corridor will be closed with the exception 2 bridges connecting the northern and southern half of the city. Under the six year plan, two lanes on one side of Business 40 will be kept open heading east and west while the other side of Business 40 is closed for construction.

Q: Will speed regulation occur during construction?

A: Speed regulations are always present, additional efforts to enforce these regulations to enhance safety during construction will be coordinated with the local police.

Q: When will the details of detour and alternate routes be provided?

A: As the project progresses through design detour routes will be developed. They will be presented to the public after they are finalized and prior to the start of construction.

Q: How are detours and alternate routes decided?

A: There are questions on the survey that ask, 'what bridges do you typically use,' we ask those questions to see which bridges should be removed/replaced first and aid planners with the decision of detour routes. Planners also look at which roads can handle large amounts of traffic, which ones keep the impact of neighborhoods at a minimum, etc.

Q: Who will receive the public's comments?

A: Once the community outreach process of the Business 40 Improvement Project is completed, the comments, surveys and questions will be handed over to NCDOT for review.

Q: Does the city of Winston-Salem have any input?

A: Yes. NCDOT and Winston-Salem DOT are collaborating on this project. NCDOT is overseeing the movement of traffic on major arteries and freeways, whereas Winston-Salem DOT controls the moving of traffic on local streets around town.

Q: How will construction affect directly surrounding neighborhoods?

A: That is what the Business 40 Improvement Project is here to find out. We want to see how residents in surrounding neighborhoods are going to deal with these changes to Business 40 and what they will do once Business 40 is under construction.