

**Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2018
City Council Workroom / City Hall, 301 E. Huron St. 7:00 pm**

Members Present: Ray Detter, Don Duquette, Joan French, Peter Honeyman,
Chaz Stucken

Members Absent: Nate Stevens, Hugh Sonk, John Chamberlin, Kathleen
Nolan

Guests Present: Susan Pollay, Jess Letaw, Amber Miller, Bob Doyle, Oliver
Kiley, Ilene Tyler, Chris Crockett, Jeff Crockett, Chuck
Bultman, Carolyn Arcure, Joe Arcure, Steve Kaplan, Asher
Kaplan

Last night, 12 members of the Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council and downtown and near-downtown neighbors, spent an hour and a half with Amber Miller, Susan Pollay, and the JJR team of Bob Doyle and Oliver Kiley viewing and discussing possible DDA plans for East and West Huron, First Street, Ashley and William Street projects. The purpose, of the meeting, as stated, was to present the DDA's latest efforts to support people-friendly streets in the downtown. It was fun.! This will shape not only the future of the downtown but the entire Central Area of Ann Arbor.

The Citizens Advisory Council strongly supports this DDA initiative--as well as the South University and Fifth and Detroit improvements that preceded it. The transformation of Ashley as well a First Street from one- way to two -way streets, from Kingsley to Madison, simply makes good sense—as does William Street redesigned as an auto and protected bikeway from State to Third Street. We support major improvements to East and West Huron from Division to Chapin including improved pedestrian amenities-- planters trees, new and varied lighting, safer and more efficient traffic and parking patterns and encouragement of retail activities.

As a group the Downtown Area CAC is a strong advocate of connectivity—whether with a concept of the place of the Library Block, the Blake Transit Center, the Treeline, a revitalized North Main entrance to the City, the pedestrian berm under the railroad, the Border to Border Trail and, yes, the eventual connection to the railroad depot (or depots). It all must fit together in a cohesive plan for a future revitalized vision of the Central Area of Ann Arbor.

We intend to join others in the publicized schedule of presentations, design studios, and open houses planned with the design team next Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the DDA office and the multi-purpose room the Downtown Library.

And also, even though the DDA does not now have the money to fully develop that portion of East Huron from Division to State, concepts for that area should also be developed and publicized as soon as possible.