

Downtown Area Citizens Advisory Council Meeting – July 10, 2018

Members Present: Ray Detter, John Chamberlin, Hugh Sonk, Peter Honeyman, Carolyn Arcure

Members Absent: Chaz Stucken, Joan French, Don Duquette, Kathleen Nolan,

Guests Present: Joe Arcure, Charles Bultman, Ty Buffington, Doug Kelbaugh, Peter Nagourney Susan Pollay, Amber Miller, Bob Doyle, Neal Billedeaux

During recent years the CAC has been pleased to be a part of the re-creation of the S.U. and Kerrytown Streetscapes. Most recently, some of us have participated in the many opportunities to provide input in the “Safe Streets” workshop effort to recreate Ashley and First into two-way streets, William Street into a bicycle route from State to Third, and the redesign of Huron from Third to Division.

Last night, CAC members and guests were very pleased to have DDA Director Susan Pollay and Capital Projects Manager Amber Miller, as well as representatives from Smith Group, JJ&R., provide a visual presentation on these “Safe Street” proposed changes for downtown.

In an hour and a half there was plenty of time for questions, input, and discussion, everyone present was convinced that we should strongly support the DDA resolution in favor of these changes. On First and Ashley, restore two-way traffic, add protected bike lanes, and improve pedestrian amenities, On William Street, from State to Third, develop an east-west protected bike lane. All of this with the intension of eventually connecting to the Treeline. And, on Huron Street from Division to Chapin, improve pedestrian amenities-- including lighting, landscape (trees), enhanced crosswalks, improved and safer traffic organization, and—non-rush hour on-street parking.

We had unanimous agreement that these changes are going to be of transformative benefit to our downtown. The CAC champions projects that prioritize pedestrian safety and comfort and advance the City of Ann Arbor and DDA’s commitment to Vision Zero-- particularly in the downtown. We are prepared to support these carefully considered changes when City Council votes on them on August 9.