

# Dix Edge Area Study August Community Leader Group Meeting

Thursday, August 24 12pm – 1pm via zoom

## Attendees:

City of Raleigh Staff: Sara Ellis, JP Mansolf, Hannah Reckhow, Christian Burns

Community Leaders: Mel Wright, Eric Braun, Terri Edwards, John Hinshaw, Sim McIver, Bonner Gaylord, Hayes Permar

1. Introductions – What’s one thing the City can do to help build trust with the community?
  - Listen to concerns. Don’t just yes people. You can either do something or you can’t. If you can’t be honest about not being able to do something. If you say you’re going to do something show that you will do it.
  - We can’t isolate ourselves from what is happening in outside of the group or area. There are a lot of negative currents out there. There is so much going on in the city that it is difficult for people to make sense of everything. Maybe not distrust but lack of knowledge.
  - These are hard times to connect with people due to the virtual nature. These are tough issues to work through. There are some people that don’t understand the constraints the city has or the dynamics of some of these issues. People can sometimes form opinions without having that knowledge. There are often examples of things being done in other states that are not legally possible in North Carolina. People understand if you are straightforward with limitations and focus on things you can do. The city can’t require affordable housing and we should focus on what we can do. Its hard also because we often get the same people coming to the meetings.
  - Important to be transparent about what is in the City’s control. Reframe these studies as acknowledging past systems that have resulted in disenfranchisement and disinvestment and how this change to a new system can alleviate that. Change means change which isn’t always easy and can be uncomfortable. We are planning for 20 years from now. We are trying to create a better future together.
  - We didn’t get to where we are overnight and its not going to changes overnight.
  - We have to learn to meet people where they are at. Making that extra effort might help change their mindset.
  - Its hard because often folks don’t want to come out unless changes are directly impacting them.
  - Pop ups at other places like a grocery store. Food Lion would be a good location.
  - People believe what they want to be believe in the most part. There are a lot of macro forces against trust in institutions in general. Thousands of years of history of municipal government show that we haven’t figured it out.
2. Summary of Preferred land use option
  - Urban Center – most intense use with 10-12 with the potential of going to 20 stories with public benefits.
  - Would not use the term “public benefits” to not confuse this with a public benefit agreement. Development agreement is a tool that could be used.
  - Development agreements can be a complicated mechanism for getting public benefits.
  - Its important for the Comp Plan to state what the community desire is.
3. Summary of transportation recommendations
  - Hammel Dr
    - This is great and should be everywhere
    - Street Parking and bulb-outs are an additional consideration for street cross-sections.

- Lake Wheeler Rd and Centennial Intersection proposal from NCDOT is not being recommended by the City.
- Roundabouts along lake wheeler rd is an option that is being proposed that hasn't been introduced.
  - Additional engagement is needed.
- Livable Raleigh has planned a recall the mayor event at the same location and time as our event.
- May be a typo on the Hammell Dr slide