

DRAFT Minutes, Housing Affordability & Accessibility Committee
February 7th, 2019

Present:

- Toi Dennis
- Richard Murphy
- Mike Auerbach
- Matt Dunwoodie
- Heidi Jugenitz
- Amber Fellows
- Ashley Fox
- Nathanael Romero
- Cheranissa Roach

KEY DATES (Now through April):

- Monday, February 18 @ 7pm: Public engagement sub-group meeting (RAC)
- Monday, February 25 @ 6pm: Strategies & solutions sub-group meeting (Ypsi district library)
- Monday, February 25: Public input promo materials go-live
- Saturday, March 2 or Sunday, March 3 (TBC), 11am-3pm: Working session, public input events @ RAC (date & venue TBC)
- Thursday, March 7 @ 7pm: Monthly committee meeting
- Tuesday, March 12 @ 6pm: Public input event #1 (RAC or EMU, TBC)
- Monday, March 18 @ 6pm: Public input event #2 (RAC or EMU, TBC)
- Thursday, April 4 @ 7pm: Monthly committee meeting
- Saturday, April 13, 11:30am - 1:30pm: Public input event #3 (Messias)

1. Data synthesis update:

One-pagers on each problem statement are coming along & open for comment/feedback.

Action: Interested committee members to review one-pagers (links below) and provide written feedback (via Google Docs commenting feature) on clarity, conciseness & relevance of information presented.

1. [Housing prices are increasing quickly and are pricing people out of their homes while the community still perceives Ypsilanti as fully affordable due to extreme changes over the past 3-5 years.](#)
2. [The current measures for affordability don't fully address the need in Ypsilanti because the information is not being collected nor properly calibrated to our demographics](#)

3. [Our housing stock is old so they are not built to be accessible and typically need costly maintenance or mold remediation to improve quality](#)
4. [We have limited land to grow into for the current population and any influx due to zoning and community pressure to maintain current density](#)
5. [Existing policies and approaches exacerbate our affordability and accessibility challenges](#)

The online survey closed January 31, and all completed paper surveys have been collected. Analysis of survey responses is underway. Remaining paper-based survey responses will be added to the electronic database next week.

Action: Data synthesis group to share top-line results with committee via email and/or Share Drive link by end of next week (February 15).

Amber shared that she is working with YCS to have the survey distributed to its listerv. Given the continuing under-representation of certain groups (black/African-American, male, and renter respondents), committee members agreed to reopen the survey for YCS in an effort to obtain a more representative set of responses.

Action: Amber to update committee members if/when survey link is circulated to YCS listserv (survey will remain open for at least 3-4 days after link circulation).

2. Public engagement update:

Committee members settled on target dates for public input events. They also agreed to change the format of the third public engagement event (from presentation + World Café to presentation + open forum) to facilitate exchange and group dialogue. The dates retained for the public input events are as follows (venues subject to change pending availability):

Session #1 (presentation + World Café): Tuesday, March 12, 6-8:30pm @ RAC or EMU
Session #2 (presentation + World Café): Thursday, March 21, 6-8:30pm @ RAC or EMU
Session #3 (presentation + open forum): Saturday, April 13, 11:30-1:30pm @ Messiah

Action: Heidi to follow up with RAC, Toi to follow up with EMU & Messiah re: room availability for public engagement events. Venues will be finalized by February 18th.

Nathanael raised the need for advance promotion of public input events and proposed that all promotional materials be finalized and posted by February 25th.

Action: Heidi to draft a promotional flyer and circulate to the full committee for comment & feedback by next week.

Action: Amber and/or Nathanael to create FB group for the committee to help circulate event info.

Action: Public engagement sub-group to develop and finalize a promotional plan & materials for public input events. The sub-group will meet **Monday, February 18th @ 7pm** at the RAC (all are welcome to attend).

Committee members discussed preparatory work for the public input events, which will involve:

- *Developing an overview presentation structured around the five problem statements and their impact on Ypsi residents*
- *Identifying person(s) to deliver presentation (March 12, March 21, April 13)*
- *Grouping identified affordability & accessibility solutions by problem statement/World Café station*
- *Designing & developing communications materials, including visual aids and handouts, for each World Café station (problem statement + potential solutions)*
- *Identifying person(s) to staff World Café stations (March 12, March 21)*

Action: The full committee will hold a half-day working session at the RAC March 2nd or 3rd (11am - 3pm) to prepare for the public input events. Heidi to confirm date & room by February 18th.

Strategies & solutions sub-group update:

Matt provided an update on behalf of the strategies & solutions sub-group. The group has developed working definitions and has conducted a preliminary review to rule out some strategies that don't seem like a good match for Ypsi. Medium/high-priority strategies have been organized into categories (policies, interventions, etc). The spreadsheet containing a list of potential solutions is available on the Share Drive [here](#).

Action: Interested committee members should make edits and additions [to the spreadsheet](#) between now and February 25th.

Action: Strategies & solutions sub-group to meet Feb 25th from 6 to 8pm at the Ypsi District Library.

**Housing Affordability & Accessibility Committee
Meeting Minutes
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1. Review of presentation outline

Revisions added to presentation outline shared by Dez, available [here](#).

2. Review of potential solutions

Revised solutions list available [here](#).

3. Next work session will be held on Sunday, March 10 from 1-4pm in the RAC Gallery.

4. Upcoming tasks:

- Revise one-pagers (reduce length, make sure content is clear and approachable)
- Finalize wording of strategies & solutions
- Assign people to presentation slides AND world café stations
- Select dates for public input events (World Cafe 1 the week of April 8, World Cafe 2 the week of April 15, Open forum the week of April 29)
- Finalize promotional materials
- Map survey questions to potential strategies/solutions
- Develop statement of analysis for each strategy/solution (as applicable)
- Incorporate analysis of survey results into public input materials
- Identify a real-world example for each strategy/solution
- Design display boards
- Purchase display boards, colored stickers (for voting) & other materials
- Assemble display boards
- Assemble comment boxes for each theme (with pre-printed comment sheets that list potential strategies & solutions)