

## McCoy Site Tour

Thursday, May 5, 2011

5:30 – 7:30pm

13+ Attendees

### **BREAKOUT SESSION (SB, FB)**

#### **Site significance**

- Went to kindergarten here
- Neighborhood fought hard to keep open
- School staff active/coordinated with neighborhood association
- Dental clinic was great. Sorry to see service go away for kids and community
- Center of community activity
  - Monthly neighborhood association meetings held at school when it was open. Had to relocate to police station since closure
  - Night out against crime
  - Community clean ups used the grounds
  - Political forum for city council came to speak to community
  - Cinco de mayo activities\back to school rallies held at school site
- Symbiotic relationship between schools and community
- School was very communal
- More graffiti since closing
- Streets don't get cleared during winter now that school is closed
- Very happy with a school use
- Curse – several people in neighborhood have gotten ill and passed away since school closed

#### **Strengths**

- Gym
- Cafeteria
- Building has diverse features
- Appears to be in good shape
- Kids are able to use playground
- Rooms large with high ceilings and well lit
- Location good
- Parking good and available
- Close to bus stop
- Vietnamese Buddhist temple down street in neighborhood
- Possibilities exist to tear down and build habitat houses

### Challenges (Interim solutions in blue)

- Building is closed and causes problems – fewer eyes on the property
- Graffiti (Former Principal used to paint over graffiti herself): [More patrolling by district/police 1 x week, old principal used to paint over graffiti, Resolution: legally the owner has to clean up. Truman Corridor has group who removes graffiti](#)
- Streets don't get cleared during winter: [community partnerships/communication with city](#)
- School used as dumping ground and not being cleared (White and 15<sup>th</sup>): [partnership between neighborhood association and district to improve communications, owner legally has to clean up](#)
- Community would like to know what is going on with buildings: [partnership between district and neighborhood association to improve communications](#)
- Moisture on gym floor
- Improvements to elevator: [help adults who may not be able to get up and down stairs, need larger elevator](#)
- Unsecured parking: [gates to lock up parking lot](#)
- Maybe too large for community center
- Interior layout could be restricting to some reuses
- Don't feel connected to city, neglected
- Local multi-family housing is an issue: 300 units with only 23% filled
- Harder to take care of neighborhood without school occupied

### Community Needs

- Safety/security
- Community partnerships
- Partnership between neighborhood assn and district to improve communications
- Bringing community together
- After school programs
- Activities for teens
- Social services
- More neighborhood safety
- Stability of neighborhood population
- Adult education/ESL services
- Neighborhood values to rise
- Activities for seniors
- Single family housing (home ownership)
- Information center
- Means to remove cultural barriers
- Improved transportation (bus doesn't run after 7 and on weekends)
- Food sources
- Lack of many services in area (stores, restaurants, even the bars are closing)

- Parents leaving the community due to crime and safety
- Access to medical care
- Need new , modern housing that is bigger to attract/retain new families

**Reuse Options (that could address community needs)**

- Community center for children and adults
- Police academy
- Arts center/music center: live entertainment
- Daycare center
- Training center for youth and adults
- Charter school (heard that there was interest from Boys & Girls Club)
- No prisons or half way houses
- Nothing that would create more potential for crime
- Level site and repurpose for new housing: ownership, single family housing, habitat for humanity, senior housing, development that would inspire growth around it
- Senior housing/community uses ( concern if no market, than the site will be used for other rental markets)
- Food pantry for low income families ( clothes pantry)
- Citizen academy
- Don't care what the reuse is, as long as its productive
- Want reassurance that organization that acquires the site will have resources to make building work long term

**Parking Lot**

- Who is responsible for taking care of graffiti now school is closed?
- Who can neighborhood alliance contact to get streets clean in winter?
- What is causing moisture on gym floor?
- What are the restrictions affiliated with daycare center?