

**Aetna Viaduct Strategy Meeting  
Finance Department Conference Room  
City Hall**

**November 20, 2007  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**

In attendance: Joe Barber, Jennifer Cassidy, Toni Gold, Jackie McKinney, Roger O'Brien, Bob Painter, Gary Toth

Based on last night's meeting, how do we move forward? The big picture is that ConnDOT has some work to do to figure out the safety issues, and so we need to use this time to figure out the community-planning piece. Areas that we need to consider

◆ Stakeholders

- What about additional stakeholders? We need to expand group and then figure out a way to continue to make it workable. Some other potential stakeholders:
  - Greater Hartford Transit District
  - The Hartford: Roger O'Brien may be able to help with getting them to the table because Planning is helping them out with their campus master plan.
  - Hartford Courant
  - West Hartford
  - Bus companies (e.g., Peter Pan, Greyhound, Connecticut Limo, etc.)
  - Merchants (e.g., Hot Tomato's, Artspace owners, etc. Hartford Downtown BID/Mike Zaleski and the Farmington Avenue Business District were also mentioned, but we already have them at the table).
  - Connecticut Department of Public Works: oversees all State employee parking lots.
  - Capitol View Apartments (still owned by Morgan Reid?)
  - Others?
- We should interview as many stakeholders as possible and then begin having facilitated discussions about their concerns.

◆ ConnDOT issues

- We need to get ConnDOT to present their needs and figure out a way to merge these issues into our document.
- ConnDOT will probably approach this issue as a structural problem rather than a planning process (although Carmen Trotta did say the latter when asked by Gary Toth at the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting).
- No one at ConnDOT is in charge of overall planning. Perhaps we should ask Al Martin to convene an in-house meeting to start process of getting everyone talking to each other.

◆ City issues

- City has a dog in this fight depending upon what we decide to do.
- We need some clarity on the City's take on the highway being a barrier.

- Mayor probably wants to integrate with Hartford 2010 as part of this process.
- One thing the City has total control over is its own streets, and therefore, this is an area in which the City can have an impact.
  
- ◆ Our own planning issues
  - Need to get another source of money or else ConnDOT owns the process. Therefore, we need to define better what we are after. ConnDOT does not do public process well, partly because they don't know how.
  - Reconnect with David McCluskey and perhaps have him and Bob Painter meet with Bob Genuario about some of this money. If Genuario gets on board and goes to the Governor, we are in good shape. We may also think about getting the Mayor and Deputy Commissioner Martin involved.
  - Need to agree on a problem statement first. This will probably take a lot of negotiation and time, but if done right, the resulting problem statement should indicate priorities and then we can get into developing a vision. By the time we get into alternatives, we are already on the same page and things become much easier. Perhaps Norman Garrick's transportation institute at UConn could be helpful in this area.
  - Develop criteria to evaluate all alternatives (everything needs to be on the table). Such alternatives are required by law to be in the process but are usually brought in too late.
  - One thing we probably want to do is come up with a scope of what we want (Carmen Trotta said that would be fine in response to a question by Toni Gold on November 19th).
  
- ◆ Assignments
  - Continue to think of stakeholders
  - What types of subcommittees do we need?
  - Toni will flesh out an RFP and a timeline of what we're looking for in this process.
  - Gary Toth may have a few more days to give, so we will want to figure out how best to use his time.