

**Community Engagement Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
October 23, 2019**

The Community Engagement Subcommittee was held on Wednesday, October 23, 2019, in the LRA Building located at 1794 Walker Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30310.

**ATTENDEES**

Subcommittee Members:

Councilmember Joyce Sheperd – Committee Chair  
James Harris, CVNA  
Ricardo Jacobs, NPU-R  
Ruben Burney, Perkerson Community  
Judy Walker, OCCO  
Michael Hopkins, NPU-X  
Roslyn Baughn, CANO

Alternates: Allean Brown, NPU S  
Sagirah Jones, CVNA

Ex-Officio: Senator Nan Orrock, District 36

Fort MAC LRA Board: Young Hughley  
Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr.

Staff:

Jocelyn Bivins, Councilmember Sheperd Office  
CeCe Ross, LRA  
Robert Mosby LRA  
David Burt, LRA  
Marshall Thomas, CM Winslow D5  
Michael Reese, Realtor  
Sandra Tennyson, LRA  
Tracey Upshaw, LRA  
Pete Hayley, LRA

TPS: Jessica Hardaway, Director Communications & Engagement

Guests: 17

Councilmember Joyce Sheperd welcomed the members, partners and guests to the CES Meeting on October 23, 2019. Chair Sheperd continued the meeting with updates and non-voting items until a quorum was established to approve the agenda and minutes. CeCe Ross conducted the required safety briefing.

**Approval of Minutes:**

September 25, 2019 meeting minutes unanimously approved with correction.

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Minutes will be posted on the Fort MAC LRA website.

Partners and Board members in attendance were acknowledged:

- Jannis Shannon, Director Compliance, Invest Atlanta
- Tracey Mosley, Senior Director, Urban League Greater Atlanta
- Andrew Kohr, Project Manager-POND
- Torri Hill, Director Marketing & Communications- TCF
- Nichelle Wilson TCF

**Briefing and Update on POND Connectivity & Access Study**

Andrew Kohr provided a review of the Connectivity and Access Study. The study involved coordination with MARTA and other agencies. The study area includes Campbellton Road frontage of master development, Oakland and Lakewood-Fort McPherson MARTA stations, the Lee Street Trail project, and others identified during the presentation. Recommendations were discussed on improving connectivity, the infrastructure upgrades, and generating redevelopment. Study outcomes will provide the LRA Board with direction for future development plans.

Prior to the CES meeting, residents were invited to attend the open house to review the displays, comments, and recommendations from the walk audit.

CES members' suggestions:

- Consistent bus stops with shelters along Campbellton Road
- Oakland MARTA station needs connection from MARTA direct to Ft. MAC
- Consider connection of homes on Van Buren to Ft. MAC
- Consider 4 major crossing on Lee Street to Ft. MAC
- Expand Campbellton Road to create a boulevard
- Concern that 166/Arthur Langford Freeway not included

Chair Sheperd announced an important MARTA meeting on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> which discusses the Campbellton Road and Corridor, the coordination of entities, and funding, i.e. TSPLOST funds to pave streets, possible light rail transit solutions and more.

**LRA Board Updates:**

Alan Ferguson shared the following information:

- The Board convened a Special Called Board Meeting Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> prior. Routine actions were taken on real estate, legal and personnel matters. The MDA agreement for master developer Macauley's services has been terminated.

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The LRA Staff will provide updates in the Dec 4<sup>th</sup> CES meeting regarding development RFPs and next steps.

Additional projects updates:

- The Downtown Fort MAC project is not funded in the budget and a vote was taken to table discussions.
- A2D Fiber Project which will connect fiber from 55 Marietta Street to Fort McPherson work was delayed due bond required by the City of Atlanta. Updates will be provided in next CES meeting.
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**Committee Reports**

- **PAAC:** Nothing to report. The next meeting is November 20<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be a listening session with the new chair Young Hughley.
- **Tyler Perry Studios,** Ms. Jessica Hardaway provided the following hiring information:
  1. Current openings for Grounds/Roads, Housekeeping, HVAC, Carpenters, certified Electricians, and Accounting.CES members expressed their appreciation for the Car Show tickets and acknowledged the success of the recent grand opening of the studio.
- **Jobs Creation Task Force,** Jannis Shannon with Invest Atlanta shared the New Market Tax Credit performance report. Hiring data is reported for seven years as per the MOU. In the agreement, TPS is required to make their “best efforts” to meet the goals. The Urban League, Invest Atlanta and Fort MAC LRA meet regularly to review the data. Recent hiring data will include years 2017 and 2018 for minority hiring, jobs created, and zip codes impacted.

CES members had concerns about the data reported and definition of terms, such as FTE and Operations jobs. A meeting will be scheduled to establish benchmarks and make recommendations to improve the report. Data should reflect separately TPS hiring only from hiring by studios or soundstages leased by third parties since third party/clients are not required by IGA to report hiring data.

**Unfinished Business**

N/A

**New Business**

N/A

**Public Comments:**

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- *Although three guests signed, guests that wanted to make comments were permitted to speak. Accordingly some comments are listed below:*
  - *What were the benchmarks for hiring initially and what's in agreement*
  - *Add the agreement language to handout and assign a dedicated person to track the results. Alan Ferguson will identify with legal what information can be share or disclosed.*
  - *Suggestion that Work Source Atlanta should be the keeper and tracker of hiring data*
  - *There is a misconception that there is an "agreement" that exist with TPS*
  - *Although the Georgia Film Academy trains "well", there is no assistance or funding to assist with union dues. A person has to pay monthly dues while waiting on a job.*
  - *Out sourced jobs are given priority.*
  - *Suggestion to start training at the high school level in order to get them career ready in the community*
  - *Interested small businesses should sign up as an available vendor with TPS*
  - *Mr. Chioke Perry spoke by saying "I have two cards in my wallet, MARTA and a Union card". He continued by expressing his appreciation for the TV and Film Symposiums and his positive experience in gaining employment in the industry. His family has benefitted well and he recently participated with the grand opening of the Tyler Perry Studios*

**Announcements and Adjournment:**

**Next CES meeting December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30P, Fort MAC LRA**

Meeting adjourned after motion at approximately 7:55p.m.

*Minutes Recorded by: Jocelyn Bivins, Councilmember Sheperd's Staff*