

## MEETING RECORD

<b>NAME OF GROUP:</b>	URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE
<b>DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:</b>	Wednesday, October 3, 2007, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, 555 South 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
<b>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Mike Eckert, JoAnne Kissel, Gordon Scholz, Scott Sullivan and Mary Anne Wells. Thomas Saddler and Kim Todd absent.
<b>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Rick Noyes (Downtown Neighborhood Association); Carl Eskridge and Richard Quinn (University Towers); Andy Boyle (UNL Journalism student); Ken Smith (Public Works); Ed Zimmer and Michele Abendroth (Planning Department.)
<b>STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:</b>	Regular Meeting of the Urban Design Committee

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

### **Accept meeting notes of September 5, 2007**

Eckert moved to accept the September 5, 2007 meeting notes, seconded by Scholz. Motion carried 5-0. Eckert, Kissel, Scholz, Sullivan and Wells voting 'yes'; Saddler and Todd absent.

### **Discuss and adopt urban design goals for the Catalyst Redevelopment Project in the vicinity of P & Q Streets, 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Street**

Zimmer provided a copy of the revised design goals for the Catalyst Redevelopment Project. He noted there were some changes to the proposed design goals from the Committee's prior review of the goals, offered by Mary Ann Wells, and that Gordon Scholz has offered suggestions relating to Capitol environs and Capitol vistas. Zimmer noted that two additional Capitol view corridors have been identified in the Comprehensive Plan since the 1977 Study referenced by Scholz and suggested the Committee also include those in any language describing view corridors.

In response to a question about the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission (NCEC) review of this project, Zimmer stated that the Commission is discussing the project from the perspective of the overall height downtown. They have not reached a conclusion yet. They will also consider the capitol views, but the Urban Design Committee will be the primary body with respect to the urban design impact of public/private projects.

Sullivan asked about giving consideration of views from adjacent buildings, particularly University Towers. Zimmer stated that it is relevant to consider the views from the private property, but he feels the Committee's primary responsibility is to consider the broad public impacts. The Committee's role is to advise if a proposed building is positively impacting the skyline with good architectural design.

The Committee felt it is important to protect the capitol view corridors and to state such in the design goals.

Kissel moved approval of the design goals including the revisions offered by Wells and Scholz and the additional Capitol view corridors mentioned by Zimmer. Seconded by Eckert. Motion carried 5-0. Eckert, Kissel, Scholz, Sullivan and Wells voting 'yes'; Saddler and Todd absent.

### **Misc.**

Noyes stated that the Downtown Neighborhood Association is conducting a workshop in the next month

to discuss design standards so there is a better understanding of the goals.

Quinn stated that the larger issue for him on this project is how the proposed building impacts the City, downtown Lincoln, and the capital. He then asked about the review process. Zimmer stated the review process begins with the adoption of design goals by the Urban Design Committee. They would then go to the Urban Development Department for discussions with the developer to share what the goals are. Projects should come back to the Urban Design Committee early on when the project is taking shape. He also noted that there are market studies currently being done.

Eskridge expressed his appreciation to the Committee for their work. He stated that the more important issue is the views being changed in the City. His concern is that the building is dominated by entry for vehicles, and does not seem to be pedestrian friendly. Ken Smith of Public Works commented that they are trying to balance retail on the first floor with getting the vehicle exits and entrances properly arranged for a functional parking structure.

Scholz stated that it is important to see visual representation of key vistas from around the City during the review process.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

*\*\*Please note that these minutes will not be formally approved until the next meeting of the Urban Design Committee. \*\**