



Grand Rapids - South Division Corridor Plan

Community Meeting #1 - Early Action Projects

8/14/2018

Participants at Community Meeting 1 worked together at small tables to identify community assets and challenges. Following this exercise, groups brainstormed early action ideas that could build off assets and address challenges.

RESPONSES BY CATEGORY:

EVENTS

1. Create an event that highlights South Division restaurants like a "bar hop" where you go to different spots and promote other businesses in the area at the same time.
2. Pick up trash, community cleanup
3. Taste of Division
4. Business Open House:
 - a. Coupons
 - b. Passport (stamps for free meal, etc.)
 - c. Business directory
 - d. Survey for interest in participation
 - e. Food
5. Weekly free market (farmers market)
6. "Difference" or "Make a difference" day Community groups Volunteer to clean up litter once a month or so.

POP-UP LOCATION

1. No-fee neighborhood-based job fair:
 - a. Pop-up location
 - b. Invite small business owners from the area
2. Call in Food Trucks and create a pop-up weekend restaurant to test the food for the community.
"A win, win opportunity"
3. Garfield Park Center (community center) more youth activities (poetry readings, neighborhood talents)

PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS

1. Add speed cameras + more speed limit signs throughout Division
2. Flower planting
3. Community mural/art project
4. Lights

5. Crossing light timing
6. Crossing path
7. South Division Corridor banners
8. Wayfinding Signs
9. Beautification Projects - Trees, flower planting, grass cutting.
10. Community Clean-up:
 - a. Landscaping
 - b. Facade improvement
 - c. Trees and greenery
 - d. New mural (maybe on Western Wear?)
 - e. Dumpster Day
11. Neighborhood clean ups - Power Wash Silver Line bus stops

ACTIVITIES

1. "After-5" activities for adults (poetry reading jazz, etc.)
2. More Community involvement Through Pack Activities
 - a. Community Gardens
 - b. Elderly Assistance programs
3. Adopt a section of the corridor to clean up
4. Exercise Series: emphasize parks
5. Senior activities

PROGRAM

1. Increase public safety by designating police officers and/or public safety officers. Increase eyes on the street work together with residents /business owners.
2. Local Businesses and organizations celebrate diversity and inclusion. (Advertising)
3. Invite banks to survey community on mortgage needs to buy houses, or loans to fix their homes.
"Banks win, neighbors win."
4. Add another dumpster day
5. Planning/Zoning - Easier Zoning Variance (retail opportunities)
6. Business Mixers, Restart Business Owner Association

OTHER

1. "Banks"
2. "Library"
3. "Technology"
4. "More new stores"