

2nd

Avenue Listening Session

2/17 Session Notes

Moderator: Nora Yoo

Note Taker: Remi Lynch

Group: 1?

Introductions of each participant and what brings them to the meeting (5mins.)

Lisa Donahue: planning department

Lynn Maddox: vanderbilt, historic preservation

Freddie o'connell: councilmen

David Ewing: historian, native, writer

Ronald Yearwood: designer

Chris Davis: Hastings architect

Kevin Hicks: ?

Do you have a favorite memory/experience from the 2nd Avenue area? (10mins.)

Nora: 2nd ave area felt familiar compared to NY, walkability, pedestrian traffic, the river

David: wildhorse saloon party for the titans. Party/parade for the team. Full of life

What makes the 2nd Avenue area unique? What are key characteristics to keep in mind as we move forward (12 mins.)

David: Revitalization of the downtown, 1994 was an important year to create an urban center (stop the skid of downtown) batman building opened, ryman auditorium opened, wildhorse saloon opened. 2nd ave was the place for tourists to go (part of the plan) goodies emporium art building/community space (1984)

Lynn: market street festival, blocked off the street. Transformative event

Why did the market stop?

Break up the busy life of day to day and have people come together to enjoy the street as public space

Chris: doesn't feel like nashville anymore, it feels like just the rest of the US

It used to feel like a destination, not for tourists but for those who live there

Lynn: I want to make sure in the notes that the Downtown Rotary met at The Wild Horse Saloon - so there were a lot of people who did not work downtown but weekly came downtown (3rd largest in the world)

What changes could make the 2nd Avenue area a better place? (12 mins.)

Ronald: one of the most walkable streets, expanding pedestrian zones, outdoor dining, retail space taking over more buildings/nice mix of uses

The modification of the parking lot on the intersection and the whole block

Nora: full on pedestrian way

Kevin: block off the whole street at certain times to make it an entertainment district (referencing orlando) creates an environment for both people that live there and visitors. Expand the type of businesses

David: scared that some buildings will come down and become parking lots. We don't want to lose any more facades to parking lots. The lot right next to the hard rock cafe

What would you like to be able to experience in the 2nd Avenue area? Do you have any thoughts on opportunities or aspirations to consider? (12mins.)

Lynn/David: A museum within the area. A popup space that allows for multiple types of exhibits
Everyone: more use of the public space

What do you think are the biggest obstacles to overcome? (12 mins.)

David: 2nd ave is not lower Broadway
Chirs: I share that sentiment. I'd love to see Market st be for a diverse group of users
Lynn: will the at&t building be relocated? (ron said this is a historic spot for phones, and moving this building would not be as easy as people would like to think)
The continuity of the street where it is broken by the parking lots

How should this area feel in relation to the river? (10 mins.)

Lynn: the buildings and the riverfront, we don't do anything with it at all. Take advantage of that area
Focus on the history of Nashville, children activities in the area
David: the backs were the unloading docks for supplies, and there were railroad tracks to the buildings.
Widened the street and chopped part of the buildings on the west side of 2nd.
Rebrand the street back to Market Street

What did we not ask you that you would like to discuss more or learn more about? (8 mins.)

David: largest distilleries were on 2nd ave, first office for Jack Daniels outside of Lynchburg
The length of time for buildings to be rebuilt? Insurance issues? What is going to be happening in between time?