

# GROUP 3 NOTES

**Moderator (Planning): Anna Grider**

**Note Taker (Design Center): Eric Hoke**

**Introductions of each participant; how was where you live or work affected by the explosion? (10 mins.)**

- Logan Anderson- Historical Perspective
- Johnathan Clark - Mid american marking - plumbing wholesale - interested in rebuilding process
- Pam Carris TFO
  - It says it can't detect my microphone. Working to fix the problem. I work for the James Stephen Turner Family Foundation and we were located in Butler's Run on 2nd Avenue. We had a planned move to the Gulch in January.
- Betsy Willams - 166 2nd ave north - brother owns building
  - Lost all windows
  - Apartment blown apart
  - Structure is still deteriorating (mult stress fractures in the brick)
  - Had no insurance -
  - No power and elevator makes clean up difficult
  - Rebuild Dependent on 170 Building
  - Materials
  - Work through the junk to get to the fun part
  - District Board Member
    - Raising \$ to cover things that won't be covered by insurance
- Kathy Anderson - live and works on 2nd ave live on 2nd for 6 years
  - District Board Member
  - Bring the beautiful trees back
- Robin Zeigler
  - Metro Historic
  - Helping ppl with permitting
- Michelle Scopel
  - GHP - Assisting with rebuild

**What did you love about 2nd Ave. area before the pandemic and the explosion? (15 mins.)**

- The people and activity up and down the st
- Connection of the tourists
- Walkable
- "2nd Ave Feels like a big small town"

- People are here to have fun
- Lighting - excitement and enthusiasm
- STR (11 apts) (betsy) - in the Ray Building
  - First pressed bricks
  - Built in the 1870s
  - Laser Quest - Closed due to pandemic
  - Melting pot
  - Rodizio Grill
  - 66,000 sq ft
  - 212' Deep
  - Many evolutions and changes
- Robin - Second Ave provided a balance to Broadway, which is primarily bars. Second Ave had residential, shops and restaurants that might be of interest to residents as much as to tourist.
- Weekend Parades
- Transportainment
- Love the trees
  - When we replace the trees they must be more mature
  - Want to mantiant the shade
- One way
- Restaurants
  - Melting pot, rodizio grill
- Iron that is holding up facades (interesting architecture)
  - May not be able to be saved

**What challenges were you facing before COVID and/or explosion? With respect to 2nd Ave.?  
(15 mins.)**

- Scooters on the sides walk
- Working on things with Curbside management
  - Need to respect the needs of people who live and work here
  - Needs to be permitted
    - Parking permits for workers and residents will be issued
- Brick Sidewalks are issues
  - Bricks are coming up
  - Wet bricks are dangerous (Other people reiterate this)
  - Different material is needed
  - Don't just pull up bricks and put concrete
  - Special treatment is needed
- People experiencing homelessness Camp on the street (ft nashboro)
- Do not want bike lanes on 2nd
  - Fear of scooters and dangerous to heavy pedestrian traffic

**What other concerns do you have? (15 mins.)**

- Bulb Outs for Sidewalk Dining
- AT&T building
  - Has blocked a big section of the street
  - Don't get to rule because they are big
  - Dark and gloomy section needs to be addressed
  - What are they going to do?
  - If they move that will open up a big opportunity
  - Project storefront windows
    - Security issues
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- Do not want a pedestrian only st
  - Too important to vehicular traffic
- Tying 2nd ave to 1st ave
- Use the Gehl and Bloomberg studies
- No more studies time for implementation
  - Tie other studies together
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**What opportunities and aspirations would you like us to consider? If you could make one change to the built environment on 2nd what would it be? (15 mins.)**

- Food trucks on the street
- Cafe dining
- Lighting
- New special sidewalk material
- Homeless Management
  - 1st and 2nd
- Trash
  - Commercial trash pick up
  - 1st ave is not ideal for trash pick up
  - Not worked out well with back of house
  - 1st and 2nd should be active street front
- The Fort
  - Waste of \$
  - Could be something that would be good and properly managed
- There is no **relief** on property taxes for people who have been bombed
  - \$120 - 165,000 with tax increase
    - There is a grant program that remains unfunded. We have tried to start a tax abatement program--prior to COVID--but state will not allow.
      - Chattanooga did it but not possible in Nashville
      - Grant fund was created then taken away
      - The District is working on fundraising
      - Georgia had great success with the tax abatement program

- West Virginia has some interesting programs
- Metro Historic Is looking for solutions
- Someone is working to fund a year long grant writing position goal is \$5-10M
  - Could be private or public infrastructure
- Stakeholders are suffering
- Pre pandemic they were seeing increases every year
- Second Ave provided a balance to Broadway, which is primarily bars. Second Ave had residential, shops and restaurants that might be of interest to residents as much as to tourists.
- Bring Back the energy and make it better
  - Lit trees
  - Outdoor dining
  - Focus on people not cars
  - Too much space for cars and not enough for people
- OKC after bombing
  - Revolving loan fund
  - New things sprung out of that
- We need to make a seamless process for inspecting and process
  - Not to go through red tape and