

EASTGATE REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
City Centre One Building – 100 East Federal Street, Suite 1000
Youngstown, Ohio 44503
(234) 254-1508

MINUTES

BUILD Partners Meeting, December 14, 2018
at 9:00 a.m. in Eastgate's office, City Centre
One Building, 100 East Federal Street, Suite
1000, Youngstown.

Present:

Kedar Bhide, City of Youngstown
Joann Esenwein, Eastgate
Dean Harris, WRTA
Paul Homick, Mercy Health
Mike Hripko, YSU
Jim Kinnick, Eastgate
Dominic Marchionda, YSU
Justin Mondok, Eastgate
Charlie Nelson, Nelson Development
Lisa Pompeo, Eastgate
Charles Shasho, City of Youngstown
Chris Surma, ODOT D4
Stephen Zubyk, Eastgate

Welcome and Introductions

Jim Kinnick opened the first meeting of the BUILD Partners and recapped the group's efforts and initiated discussion on the process of moving forward including the post ward announcement.

Fifth Avenue Update

The group discussed the Fifth Avenue project that is already in development with the City of Youngstown. This will kick off the BUILD initiative from a public relations standpoint because it shows activity along the SMART2 Corridor. The team discussed having a continual engagement with USDOT.

Project Development Strategies

Project teams, subcommittees and spokesperson activities were discussed. Creating a subcommittee for public utilities was requested as well. Initial subcommittees are Complete Streets, Project Management, and Autonomous Vehicles. The Complete Streets subcommittee will be Dominic Marchionda, Justin Mondok and the City of Youngstown with Dominic Marchionda at the contact. The Project Management subcommittee will be Eastgate and ODOT with Jim Kinnick being the contact. Eastgate will engage other BUILD communities and is planning a trip to the City of Akron to tour their project area. Lastly, the Autonomous Shuttle subcommittee lead contacts will be Eastgate and WRTA with Stephen Zubyk as the main contact. Jim Kinnick and Lisa Pompeo will take the lead on spokesperson for the initial phase of the project.

Vision

The group began initial discussion on what the vision of the project is and focusing on what it brings to the area.

Timeline

The group also discussed the vision for project development and the timeline. The subcommittee will look to meet again in the second week of January, and Eastgate will look to have Drive Ohio here in the second week of January also. In early January, letters of interest will go out, with a consultant on board mid-February 2019. Mid-June was discussed as the kickoff for the project.

Discussion

There is a need to keep the property and business owners along the Corridor involved and engaged early on in the process, and to get an updated inventory of the development along the Corridor. The group discussed considering the need for a public relations firm.