



City of Arvada
ARVADA GOLD LINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
October 26, 2005
6:00 – 7:30
Council Conference Room

Members Present

Kip Davis
Georg Ek
Bernard Kionka
Mike Maus
Anthony McEahern
Mark Schaefer
Jane Schnabel
Greg Thomason
Bob Wilson

Staff Present

Edward Stafford

Guest Present

Judith Denham

I. Introductions

Members present introduced themselves to the group and welcomed guest Judith Denham from Historic Old Town Arvada (HOTA)

II. Comments on minutes from August 31, 2005

The minutes were not available for review

III. Report on Gold Line Tour by Committee Members

Georg Ek, Jane Schnabel and Bernie Kionka attended a tour of the Gold Line corridor in September with Dave Hollis (RTD). The following were items of interest or concern that they noticed on the tour and reported to the committee:

- The loss of vegetation and habitat that have already occurred near the Arvada Ridge Station was discussed. This station may also have some opportunities to include access to the residential development that could occur north of the station and the commercial development that is on the south side of the station.
- The area of the former Jolly Rancher plant may offer opportunities for the Ward Road station. The committee also discussed the possible future extension of the Gold Line across Ward Road, and the importance of the design accommodating this.
- The Sheridan station may be impacted by the current rail operations and the crossover track. The location could be on the east or west side of Sheridan Boulevard. This area will require more work and study to determine the best solution.
- The Olde Town Arvada station area has some opportunities to change the configuration so that Olde Town will be more visible from the station. There is

concern on the impact to the bank building, which is historic and contributes to the historic district, and to the flour mill site.

- The Ralston Road bridge is also an issue. The current bridge is not wide enough to accommodate all future tracks. It was suggested that rather than reconstruct the bridge now, RTD could escrow money for the future and the railroad could widen the bridge if they added another track after light rail was constructed.

IV. Status of the Gold Line (EIS Status)

The current RTD schedule for the Gold Line EIS is for the “Request for Proposals” to be released to the consultants by the end of November and for a consultant to be hired and start the EIS in early 2006.

V. Arvada Station Area Master Plan

The City received 16 responses to the “Request for Qualifications” for a consultant to complete station area master plans for the three Arvada light rail stations. A team of Arvada staff and representatives from Historic Old Town Arvada and the Arvada Economic Development Association are reviewing the qualifications and will conduct interviews in November. The project is expected to start in early 2006.

The GLAC will have a role in the process, but it has not been defined. One proposal is for the GLAC to have a representative on the stakeholders group, who would then be responsible to report to the GLAC.

VI. Future Tour / Speakers / Meeting Topics

A tour of the Gold Line corridor will be conducted on Saturday, November 5 for the committee. Interested committee members should meet at the Ward Road Park-n-Ride at 8:30. City staff will make arrangements for a vehicle to be used for the tour.

Future meeting topics were discussed by the committee. Suggested topics included: Jeanne Shreeve (Adams County) Pecos Street project, the EIS process, Kevin Nichols (City of Arvada) station area master planning, Bob Brigs - Front Range Commuter Rail Project, TOD planning and investment, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad - train operations.

VII. Other Items

Staff provided and updated on the Wadsworth / Grandview underpass project.

The committee discussed the Adams County Pecos Street Grade Separation project and the potential effect on the Gold Line. A neighborhood meeting is scheduled for November 3 for this project, and committee members were encouraged to attend.

The committee discussed the importance of staying in contact with city council and suggested that if Councilmember Malito was unable to attend the next meeting then Councilwoman Anderson should be invited.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 2005 at 6:00 PM in the Council Conference Room at City Hall. The topic will be the NEPA process.