**MLK Subarea Plan/EIS Working Group
Meeting Notes
People’s Community Center, 1602 South Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA
Thursday, May 10, 2012 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

* **Eric Alozie(Black Collective)**
* **Justin Leighton(Central Neighborhood Council)**
* **Rick Olson(Franciscan Health System)**
* **Dawn Rodin(Hilltop Action Coalition)**
* **Eric Crittendon(Hilltop Business District)**
* **Mike Denney(MultiCare)**
* **Dalton Gittens(Central Neighborhood Council)**
* **Connie Brown(Affordable Housing Consortium)**
* **Maria Salado(Centro Latino)**
* **Richard Petrich(Franciscan Health System)**

**Welcome and Introductions: Justin Leighton**

1)Meeting opened at 5:30 with introductions of Working Group members, City Staff, Beckwith consulting team members, Richard Petrich and Rick Olson from The Franciscan Health System as well as Mike Denney representing The Multicare Health System.

 2) Brian Boudet opened by thanking the Medical facilities representatives for joining the group and answering questions pertaining to the hospitals roles in the community.

 **Franciscan**- stressed that the industry is too expensive and does need to shrink yet remain economically viable. Current systems are not sustainable. The focus of the campus is now on information systems and they do not plan to step outside of the current footprint except to build a garage near the new construction site for the medical offices. Their mission focus is on helping people to stay healthy and reduce costs. This eases the pressure to save and reinvest.

 **Multicare**- Centered on inpatient care and the very ill on the Tacoma campus. They have several satellites throughout the region to deal with primary care and mental health issues. They have recently invested 100 million on medical records system and 1000 million on a new auburn facility. They also have no intention of moving outside of the current blueprint and prefer to remain focused solely on major care.

Both groups would like to have employees living locally and eating at local establishments. There are factors that make local patronage difficult for hospital staff however especially the short lunch break and need to be immediately available to assist patients.

The group wanted to clarify once again the “Medical Mile” as an area of activity and growth with medical “villages” on either end and in the middle as opposed to a continuous medically dominated street. There was question as to if the buying up of properties by the hospitals is destabilizing the neighborhood and discouraging investment.

The group had several suggestions for increasing the hospitals’ contribution to the neighborhood.

 Live/work areas were suggested as one means by which to get staff more involved in the area and help boost local economy.

Helping make streets desirable and safe. Walking /bike paths

Continue renting parking for overflow and stop developing lots

Encourage local food purchases of dinner and breakfast

Incorporate local labor into current and future construction. Community Benefit Agreement

Public spaces “through” not “to” campuses

Downsizing J and emphasizing MLK as arterial.

Group would also like to see an employee survey at both campuses in order to determine better what this group is looking for / what it would take for them to live in this area.

**Survey Results: Tom Beckwith**

The meeting concluded with Tom Beckwith of Beckwith consulting discussing results of the surveys which can be found in the meeting handouts and the format for the May 24th Open House at Evergreen College. The Open House will be set up as a self-guided tour. The purpose is to bring words into plans. There will be easels with maps of the areas, conceptual sketches, and survey results. There will also be a table with surveys where participants will be encouraged to fill them out on the spot. Tom also shared some of his early conceptual sketches. They showed innovative ideas for developing some key locations along MLK Way including the Brown Star block and 11th and MLK properties. Finally Tom suggested that the group should play a significant role in the Open House as informed representatives of the community.

**Next meeting June 14th**