Minutes from October 21, 2019 Livability Committee meeting

Agenda
7:00 Greetings agenda review
7:05 Kyle Brasser of the East Calhoun Pkwy development will present their proposed construction plans for next year. The development team is in the process of Park Board review, Kyle has agreed to present to us what they are proposing, both to inform us and get our feedback.

7:50 Announcements

8:00 Activity updates
Development activity
Safety and Transportation subcommittee update
Sons of Norway traffic planning discussion

Summary

East Calhoun Pkwy development —

Kyle Brasser of Reuter Walton presented the current construction schedule/plan. This is contingent on a) approval by the park board and b) establishing a start date which is TBD (most likely early 2020). There was a lively dialogue largely focused on elements which directly impact the neighbors to the property site on East Calhoun Parkway but extend to all ECCO neighbors and beyond. The proposed development is 3 stories and will be configured with rental units on the first two floors, 3 condominiums on the top floor and parking below with an entrance on the alley. In terms of construction impacts
1. The parking spots directly in front of the properties will be closed for the length of construction (roughly 10 months). The sidewalk will be routed into the parking lane to permit a continuous pedestrian thoroughfare.
2. There will be a 2 week period during which the northbound lane of the parkway will be closed during working hours to permit unloading of concrete and materials. Basically this means 10 days of closure from 7am-5PM in a continuous 2 week period.
3. For the following 10 week period they estimate that the northbound lane will be closed for unloading once a day for a period of 1-2 hours.

We requested that several matters be looked into.
First is to work out a clear communication plan which will ensure that neighbors are fully informed of the detailed schedule and any changes to it throughout the construction period. Part of this plan is to identify a single point of contact on the developer side for questions and concerns. Kyle agreed to work with us to get this set up to everyone’s satisfaction.
Second is a plan for where the workers will be parking their vehicles. We asked Kyle to explore with the Park Board the possibility of parking on nearby Park Board property temporarily vacant due to the Lola fire.
Third we are obviously very interested in the Park Board review and conclusions and asked to be kept in that loop.

The rest of the meeting covered items relating to pedestrian safety and traffic issues which will arise once the Sons of Norway development begins renting this coming winter.
We also discussed the property on the 3400 block of Holmes which neighbors had complained is abandoned.

The meeting concluded with the following actions
Lee - contact the Property owner of the East Calhoun Pkwy development to assess how the rental property and ownership of the condos will be managed once permits have been approved and construction begins.
David - Contact the park Board Permit person for details and their perspective
Linda - find a contact to work with us on Sons of Norway traffic and safety issues
Mark - assess the situation at the Holmes property to see if we need to lodge a complaint with the city

Thanks to all who attended the meeting. As always your questions, perspectives and willingness to get involved is vital to defining and defending livability in our neighborhood.