

**York Road Partnership
General Meeting March 3, 2021
Via Zoom
Minutes**

1. President Chris Forrest called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
2. **York Road Corridor Study:** YRP is working with the City Dept of Transportation (DOT) to do a study of York Road. It is being funded by Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds that YRP requested. There is a diverse advisory group to confer with DOT and the contractors. Study is expected to be completed in July. It will look at York Road to study street safety, speed, transit, pedestrian and landscape features, parking, bike lanes, etc from Northern Parkway to 43rd Street and will be looking to create a plan that synchs with the York Road Commercial Corridor Vision Plan. RK&K and Floura Teeter Landscape architects are the contractors. There is no implementation funding, so the intention is to request implementation funds from the City (CIP) and the state. Implementation would not happen until 2025 at the earliest.

Patrick McMahon from MTA shared that MDOT and MTA will be studying the corridor for longer term transit amenities.

3. **GEDCO Recognition:** Dan Pontious shared a recognition of GEDCO for the organization's amazing work over decades to provide services for vulnerable people, develop dilapidated properties to good use and operate the CARES Food Pantry that helps so many people with critical services. Rachael Neill, director of CARES thanked YRP for its partnership.
4. **Crematorium Update:** Sandi McFadden and Karen DeCamp reported that a meeting was held with neighbors living close to the funeral home site. Signs are going up in the neighborhood to oppose the crematorium and the growing core group will be meeting soon. Karen and Sandi will send out more information soon. Contact Karen at kmdecamp@gmail.com if you want a sign.
5. **Committee Updates:**
To see how to contact each committee and the meeting times, please visit the YRP Website: <https://yorkroadpartnership.org/committees>
 - a. Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization: Donna Blackwell shared that the committee welcomes new members.
 - b. Public Safety - Cedric Crump and Chris Forrest gave an update: the committee is working on improving lighting along the corridor. The committee met with a firm that produces surveillance cameras that could be put on York Road (funded by the Abell Foundation) for one year and then an evaluation would be made of the system.

- c. Business Engagement Committee - Lisa O'Reilly reported that the committee would like to start more actively engaging businesses to create relationships. The committee is also seeking people to train others in financial education - it is stipended.
 - d. Youth Development - Andy McNeely reported that the committee connects with the schools and youth development organizations.
 - e. Public Spaces and Greening - Marie Anderson reported that there will be spring volunteer days - for cleaning and greening along the corridor. Dates:
The committee is working with a Loyola class to increase the tree canopy on the east side of York as well as with Dewees Park to implement the \$700,000 in improvements. Dates for volunteer Cleaning & Greening on the Corridor: March 20, April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15.
6. **Election and Membership Update:** Because of COVID we moved our May 2020 election to September 2020. Chris Forrest shared that the leadership board will meet soon to prepare a proposal for the general meeting regarding the next election. It is likely that we will ask for a motion to ask the current board to remain in place until May 2022. If there are board members who cannot serve, nominations can be accepted for elections to those positions as necessary.

****YRP is asking every member organization to update its Membership form so we have up to date contact information for organization leaders and know who each member organization has designated as its voting representative and alternate representative. Please fill out the online member form at bit.ly/YRPMemberForm**

Next Meeting Wed April 7, 2021 via Zoom. All are welcome.