

## I-70 Shift – Communication Workgroup

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December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting

### Those present:

Stewart Steers  
Michael Sapp  
Max Weyker

Kirk Webb  
Karen Good  
Cynthia Gallegos

This was the first meeting of the communication workgroup. Our goal was to discuss issues and concerns from a big-picture perspective. Below is a brief summary of the conversation.

- I. Challenges we're facing when it comes to effective communication within the neighborhood:
  - a. Considerable inaccurate information is being disseminated or passed along.
  - b. There is confusion regarding what decision is being made, what the options are and potential impacts, opportunities, etc.
  - c. We're not able to provide the definitive answers people want, so it appears we're either unprepared or not telling the truth.
  - d. Lack of empowerment sometimes impacts neighbor's ability to engage in the process in a meaningful way.
  - e. On the other hand, a sense of entitlement sometimes gets in the way of dealing with reality issues.
  - f. Email and Internet access is limited.
  
- II. Possibilities for communication
  - a. Focus Points *Family Resource Center* is willing to be a strong partner in communicating in the three neighborhoods. We initially identified a number of ways they are willing to help with the communication.
    - i. Focus Points has a strong early childhood care / daycare program. We can get information out to the parents involved in this program.
    - ii. They have a strong English as a Second Language (ESL) program. We can get information out to those involved in their ESL program.
    - iii. Focus Points *Family Resource Center* is using "Learning Circles" and we can communicate in this way.
    - iv. Focus Points *Family Resource Center* is having an informational dinner for the "Learning Circle Group" on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Kirk, Karen and Kendra will attend this meeting at the invitation of Focus Points. Focus Point Community
    - v. Are we still planning an informal meeting the week of January 16<sup>th</sup>, or does the above meeting take the place of the informal?
    - vi. Focus Points *Family Resource Center* will help with the Spanish translation, both verbal and written.
  - b. Schools are key to communication.
    - i. Swansea Elementary School principal – Gilberto Muñoz
    - ii. Other schools?
  - c. Parish's / Churches are also key to communication
    - i. Our Lady of Grace – Father Noe Carreon
    - ii. Others?

- III. Area gathering places. We discussed the possibility of identify key gathering places within the three neighborhood where we could establish a predictable informational presence. We would have a flyer or FYI sheet in both English and Spanish posted, which we'd update regularly. We initially identified the following possibilities;
  - a. Elyria and Swansea Recreation Centers
  - b. Colorado Miner's
  - c. Parish(s) (In Elyria, Pastor Robert? Max knows)
  - d. Focus Points *Family Resource Center*
  - e. Schools
  - f. Jim Mercado's place
  - g. Leo's (garage on Brighton & 47<sup>th</sup>)
  - h. 24 Hour Auto (between York and Josephine . . .)
  - i. Mini Market
  - j. Ice Cream Store
  - k. Others?
  
- IV. We also discussed an Information Call Number
  - a. Councilwoman Montero has mentioned that she would help get a phone number set up which neighbors could call for the latest neighborhood information. We'll need to check into this possibility.
  
- V. Next steps
  - a. Look into utilize Focus Points *Family Resource Center's* Learning Circles
  - b. Next meeting, January 3<sup>rd</sup>