

Heather Reed

From: JacobsOly@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 10:22 PM
To: Michelle Swanson
Cc: mblangjime@aol.com
Subject: Comments for BPAC Meeting

Michelle -- Sorry to say I'll be out of town on the Ides of March and will have to miss this meeting.

However, I want to share my thoughts in the hope that it might be helpful to the group and to the future of the program.

What went well?

The whole process went quite smoothly, considering how complex it became. Staff were all good to work with. It was very important to involve the most affected parties early in the process; in fact, we started talking with the most affected parties two years before making our application to the city. It was also important to have neighborhood coordinators who had plenty of experience with public projects and public policy. Overall, a very good experience and everyone loves the path.

What was challenging?

The growing complexity of the project as new twists occurred. Also, the multi-meeting haggling over signage (which turned out very well).

What would you change about the program?

As I have already said to BPAC, I would hope that future projects would focus more on new trails than upgrades. We need new neighborhood connections. Also, I'd hope that more economical means could be found to complete these projects. We all were shocked at the final cost (though we understood why it was high, especially with unanticipated costs like paving)

Finally, I hope BPAC members will all have a chance to see the path.

I would also be glad to give them tours of our super-connected neighborhoods -- three walking paths connect GSNA and WNA.

Best,

Bob Jacobs
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