

**University District Community Development Association
& Roxanne Kise Consulting**

Technical Assistance Informational Meeting

September 16th @ 6PM

Assets

- Busy street
- Dedicated business owners
- Diverse population
- Lots of good people
- Wide sidewalks – could be very walkable
- On a bus route – transit access
- On-street parking
- Good architecture
- UB and VA as anchor institutions
- Highway access with the 33 – easy access to downtown and airport
- Centrally located
- Affordable housing
- Presence of Buffalo Promise Neighborhood

Obstacles

- No parking
- Crime
- Traffic issues (LaSalle and Bailey)
- More diversified businesses
- Need for more police walking the beat
- Abandoned storefronts
- Need to change the image of Bailey – especially to suburbanites
- News only covers the negative in the neighborhood, not the positive
- Life expectancy of buildings? – Many buildings in dire need of reinvestment

Issue with streetscape improvements being vandalized

- Use more durable materials
- People are trying but it's discouraging when other people sabotage that work

Police needs to be more visible – safety needs to be part of the plan

Politicians don't like to be embarrassed, hold them accountable to their promises

Business owners should be attending the Business Association meetings – Chief Mensa is normally there and accessible

E District also holds community meetings where constituencies can share their concerns

Byrne Criminal Justice grant helped improve safety, but funding is running out – how can we sustain that momentum with local resources?

Partners in the community are powerful when they push in the same direction

Example of community meetings from the Old First Ward – lots of awareness raising, holding people accountable, collaborative community meetings

- See how other communities have been successful – no need to reinvent the wheel

Not everything can fall on the same few people – need to engage more individuals