Wall Street-West Avenue Redevelopment Area Plan → Neighborhood Plan

Working Group Meeting #5
October 17, 2017
Today’s Agenda

1. Welcome & introductions
2. Stakeholder engagement update
3. Plan Vision review
4. Draft plan policy discussion
5. Next steps
Stakeholder engagement update

- Business Owner Survey
- Neighborhood resident meeting: Oct. 18th
- 1st Taxing District: Oct. 31st
- Norwalk Hospital: TBD
- Wall Street Theater: TBD
Plan Vision / Neighborhood Identity

- Authentic
- Innovative
- Lively
- Accessible
- Affordable
Getting from the vision to an action plan...

- **Vision**: The Big Picture
- **Policies**: What it will take to achieve the vision
- **Recommendations**: How we will implement our policies
Attracting new types of industries, jobs, retail & entrepreneurs, recognizing that the way we live and work is changing and capitalizing on physical, economic and networking opportunities.
Innovative: Policies

• **Incentivize & promote innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship**
  o Live/work spaces, co-working spaces, maker spaces, start ups
• **Foster collaboration with anchor institutions and area companies & businesses**
  o Health, science, design & arts, and tech
• **Enhance partnerships between artists, residents & businesses**
• **Support local commercial & industrial business**
With preserved historic character, growing arts organizations, local businesses and restaurants, connections to the waterfront and established industrial uses
Authentic: Policies

• **Capitalize on neighborhood assets**
  - People: Residents, businesses owners, religious institutions
  - Places: Library, Wall Street Theater, Garden Cinema, Lockwood Mathews, Stepping Stones, Jefferson School
  - Open spaces: Freese Park, Union Park, Mathews Park, Harbor Loop Trail, Norwalk River Valley Trail, waterfront, Waypointe Plaza

• **Identify and protect historically significant buildings**

• **Identify appropriate scale and types of uses for redevelopment sites**
Accessible

With adequate parking, easy connections to transit, better streets and sidewalks for walking, better wayfinding, bicycle infrastructure, designated truck routes and waterfront access compatible with industrial uses.
Accessible: Policies

- Create more reliable, faster and safer transit connections
- Improve aesthetics and operations of Pulse Point transit hub
- Improve sidewalks and streetscapes
- Create bike paths that link neighborhood to jobs and transit
- Make on-street parking business friendly
- Make Yankee Doodle garage attractive and easy to use
- Designate truck route connecting industrial waterfront to I-95
- Improve connections between the neighborhood and it’s waterfront
Affordable

For residents to rent and buy homes, for commercial businesses to thrive, for industrial businesses to operate and utilize the river, and for government to maintain infrastructure and public spaces
Affordable: Policies

- Protect existing neighborhood residents and businesses from displacement
- Make it easier and more affordable to maintain and upgrade buildings, infrastructure and public spaces
- Make it easier for people to do business in the neighborhood
- Make sure that local residents and businesses benefit from neighborhood improvements
Lively

With more people, more shops, fewer vacant storefronts and stalled developments, more activities, active sidewalks, well-maintained and programmed public spaces, nightlife, daytime uses, and arts & cultural opportunities
Lively: Policies

- Activate ground floor and sidewalk spaces
- Enhance and maintain streetscapes and open spaces → placemaking
- Encourage walking & biking in the neighborhood
- Incentivize investment in buildings, infrastructure and open/public space
- Brand and promote the neighborhood as an innovation district
- Create opportunities for pop-up events and installations
Next Steps

• Neighborhood residents meeting: Oct. 18th
• 1st Taxing District meeting: Oct. 31st
• Citywide POCD workshop: Nov. 18th
  o Test neighborhood plan policies
• Next working group meeting: November (date TBD)
  o Discuss Plan recommendations & concept map