

**KK River Corridor Neighborhood Plan
Stakeholder Interviews
Meeting Notes Summary by Topic**

Theme	Comment
Commercial/Economic Development	
Perception	Business – good programs exist; retention needed (less turnover of small business)
	Lincoln Avenue Main Street Business District has been good for the neighborhood
	Need good investors to buy up vacant lots
	Banks not lending (i.e., economic crisis) could affect business growth
	Too many negative businesses present (adult book stores on S. 13 th Street)
Commercial Space	Commercial strips improving / growing / good entrepreneurs
	Encourage more business ownership along S. 13 th Street
	Need more national franchises, cyber cafes
Economic Dev. Factors	Worried about investment coming in from outside of the neighborhood
	Thoughtful community developments needed
Future Development	Developers should be interested in area; the neighborhood has a lot of potential
Retail	Retail is improving, but still has a long way to go
Graffiti	A problem and business owners need to address as soon as it happens
Mixed Use	In favor of Good/authentic mixed uses
	Smart idea to promote mixed use within the commercial districts
Historic preservation	Preserve/rehabilitate old architectural buildings
Crime	Quality of life issues, break ins, stolen vehicles, loud music, prostitution, public drunkenness
	Perception of crime is hurting area businesses
	If crime rates were lower, then they could attract more shoppers because they would feel more comfortable shopping
Surveillance	Find a way to help finance outdoor security cameras for businesses
	Perception of crime and panhandling appears to have increased
	Security cameras are a good idea. Private sector can contribute to assist in safety
Lighting	More lighting needed, should be improved
	Business owners should provide rear lights, sensor lights.
Community	
Diversity/Culture	Growing African-American population on the north side of the neighborhood map
	Strong Polish/German heritage still evident in area, should preserve and enhance
	Hispanic population with strong family values
	Generational differences (elderly, young immigrants) make it difficult to encourage pride in neighborhood
	Need to use culture as common ground to work with community
	Need to bridge language barrier
Immigration	Can live in neighborhood whole life w/o speaking English; encourage more community/comfort
	Cultures need to blend to foster understanding; respect
Population/Density	Density appears to be increasing

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Involvement	Low participation in community meetings; changing demographics: Hmong and African American have different values
	Need to build on uniqueness of neighborhood
	Lack of community is impacting health of population
	Need more cooperation with the MPD, need to report crimes
Block watchers	Block watchers have helped improve the neighborhood.
	Trash - Caused by corner stores, garbage removal, need for trash cans
Poverty	Breeds crime
	Lack of transit options affects residents' access to jobs
Environmental	Older homes in the area have lead paint – 8-9% of children in the area impacted from lead poisoning
	Lead paint removal
Gang Activity	Gang/drug dealers congregating in pockets near the river is a problem
	Inhumane living conditions
	Youth gang activity is a challenge
Prostitution	Problem areas along Lincoln Ave
Green Space	
Biking	Need more biking amenities
Pedestrian	Pedestrian safety is not good near river
	Wider sidewalks would be good – having people from the outside activates a neighborhood
	Need more trails, bikeways, walkways
Recreation	Hispanics have strong connection to parks
	Green space, especially active recreation – soccer, baseball, softball
	Children need safe areas to play, maintain public health
	Need more programs for youth
Plaza	Should create plaza as mixed use for green space, small business development, community involvement with youth
Aesthetics	Poorly maintained tot lots and parks breeds crime
	Need better amenities at Baran Park
	Lack of water fountains, flowers
Pulaski Park	Not programmatically used properly
	Needs to be a neighborhood center
River/residential co-existence	Use examples like San Antonio as example to improve quality of life, environment, public health, recreation (passive/active)
Residential/Neighborhood	
Character	Develop more private sector/government/non-profit collaborations to get things done
	Housing stock +100 years old, need to improve
	Prefer rehabilitation versus tear down
	Revitalization should be done without damaging fabric of the neighborhoods
	Any improvements should maintain character of the housing
	This is a rapidly growing and developing neighborhood
Historic Preservation	A lot of concern to preserve the historic housing on or near Lincoln Ave

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Homeownership	People in the neighborhood sometimes have a hard time understanding the responsibilities of homeownership. Could use a training program on homeownership to understand the true costs of owning a home, such as maintenance (roofing, siding, landscaping, etc.).
	Increasing foreclosures could be serious threat to public safety; increase petty crime
	Need another TIN neighborhood program in the area (like Lincoln Ave)
	Need a major service provider dealing with physical environment (housing agency, economic development corp.)
Senior Citizens	Programs to help maintain senior home ownership
Development	Do not build condos along the river!
	Make amiable to the working-class neighborhood
	Affordable housing doesn't need to be ugly housing
Bus Safety	Needs improvement
Auto traffic	A lot of people drive cars in the neighborhood – old cars
	Extreme over reliance on auto vehicles
	Arthur & Harrison traffic heavy; South of Lincoln ~ avoiding Lincoln
	Improve traffic patterns in neighborhood
	53204 & 53215 have more registered vehicles than any other zip codes in the state
Road Conditions	City needs to fix the roadways
	Oklahoma Ave, Lincoln Ave, need improvement
	Construction along 16 th street is a problem for riverside residents
Decline in Crime	Street vendors have not been mugged over the last year
	Southern part of neighborhood map - violent crime is low
River	
Greening of river	Needs to be more natural, like it was many years ago without concrete
	Should invite walking, biking, trail access
	Would like to see river restored to original beauty
Education	Need to educate the population about environment, how litter affects the river
	Disposal (teach about recycling); residential priorities caught up in survival – not worrying about recycling; owner responsibility of property (maintain cleanliness); advertisement of cleaning
	Need more funding to improve use and perception of river
	Use river as opportunity for green tech jobs, activities
Clean up efforts	Need to encourage pride in river
	SSCHC very helpful in recruiting school groups, clean ups have made difference, but needs to be more regular to be effective
	No dumping in river!!
	Need more regular clean up efforts
	Dead fish, yuk!
	Solve flood control issue
Perception	Residents think of river as sewage canal
	Confident that when river appearance improves, neighborhood will improve
Graffiti	A problem in concrete river channels