

Historic Mitchell Street Business Improvement District Outreach efforts with respect to the Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone (NC)

Following is a synopsis of outreach efforts to date:

- October 2010 – BID Board met with DCD staff to discuss potential overlay.
- Jan-Feb 2011 – Information regarding the overlay was included in the BID's Winter Newsletter, which was mailed to 300+ people, including property and business owners and merchants.
- March – April 2011 – Information was added to newsletter.
- May – June 2011 – Information was added to newsletter.
- May 2011 – DCD staff attended BID's public meeting to discuss overlay.
- July 2011 – BID mailed letter to all property owners in BID #4 with reply form included in the letter. 10 responded in support of the plan.
- December 2011 – Another letter went out to property owners who did not reply to the previous letter from former Alderman Witkowiak. 9 responded in support of the plan. Additionally, the Board president mailed a letter to property owners.
- February 2012 – BID mailed a final letter with reply form to 59 property owners in the district. 2 additional responses in support were received.
- May of 2012, 2013 and 2014 – Information was available to attendees of the BID's annual Open Houses.
- January 2015 – BID mailed letters in conjunction with Ald. Perez announcing the January 26, 2015 public meeting.
- January 26, 2015 – BID and Alderman Perez hosted an informational meeting for property owners and tenants within the proposed overlay boundary at Salas Restaurant. Several BID board members attended, as well as approximately a dozen property owners and tenants. DCD staff reviewed the proposed use list and intent of the overlay, and a few property owners expressed concern regarding whether this would impact their ability to attract tenants. Board members explained to the owners that this overlay would help to continue the momentum for the BID as a thriving commercial area, and that other factors such as rundown rental spaces that don't activate the street would contribute to not being able to attract tenants. Overall, most attendees expressed support or a neutral stance on the overlay.