

3/16/08 Development Meeting Summary

Wednesday, March 5, 2008 Meeting Recap

Thank you to all of those who attended the Lansing City Market meeting that was held on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at the Lansing Center. There was great participation from all stakeholders, and the meeting included a moderator, Mr. John Beck. The expectations of the meeting were discussed; this was an opportunity for open and clear communication. It was determined that it was a necessity that Market Vendors and Friends of the Market should be active participants in the redevelopment process. A primary focus of the meeting was to set goodness criteria for the future market. Many views were relayed; some highlights include:

- Continued ease for vendors
- Year-round unique market serving as a downtown resident food source
- Be a "Go To" place for healthy living education
- Market should reflect the culture and diversity of the community
- Economically sustainable - "Success" of the market - "Success" for vendors - "Success" for patrons - Plan for maintenance long term
- Environmentally sustainable - Green-built - Modeling recycling/sustainability in how we operate - Organic
- Market should be perceived as fair to all vendors, current and future
- Patronize Michigan products
- Serve as a business incubator/kitchen incubator
- Use best marketing techniques
- Motto for the Lansing City Market: "We aim to be the most recognized, utilized and respected market in the region"

The final evaluation was that the meeting was very positive overall because of the following contributing factors: kept on task, open to all to come, everybody was at the table, small group work, shared sense of values and having a facilitator. Suggested changes for were as follows: greater information sharing in future, more information on process and time frame and a stronger emphasis on "We".

There was much more conversation filled with ideas regarding the development during the meeting. For more detailed notes regarding the meeting, feel free to contact John Hooper by phone at (517) 483-7460 or by e-mail at johnh@lepfa.com.

Wednesday, March 19 2008 Meeting Notice (By Invitation Only)

During the meeting on March 5th, significant progress was made toward identifying the needs of the new market by all of the stakeholders. LEPFA has been working to get assistance from the USDA with this project. After our recent conversations with the USDA, they have agreed to visit Lansing and provide that assistance.

A meeting with the lead USDA architect has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 19th. At this meeting, the USDA architect has agreed to do a design charette activity with the goal of creating a design concept with input from all the stakeholders. A local architect will also be in attendance to ensure that once the concept is identified, it can be used for the development of a final design.

For the best results to be accomplished the USDA architect has requested that the size of the group for the design charette activity be limited to no more than fourteen (14) people. To ensure all the stakeholders have input in the development of the new market, a limited number of people from each group will be asked to attend. The following is a breakdown of the stakeholders and the number of representatives that are permitted:

- LEPFA – 3 Representatives
- Lansing City Market Vendors Association – 3 Representatives
- Friends of the Lansing City Market – 3 Representatives
- City of Lansing – 3 Representatives
- MSU – 1 Representative
- Gillespie Group – 1 Representative

Because the meeting will have limited attendees, as a stakeholder you are encouraged to communicate your ideas to your representative prior to this meeting.

A development update will be forwarded via e-mail and posted on the Lansing City Market website following the USDA meeting.