

RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES FOR OPEN SPACE IN THE PLANS FOR CONNECTING WILLIAM STREET

Whereas, the DDA has been charged by City Council to make recommendations regarding five City-owned lots through its Connecting William Street initiative;

Whereas, the PROS plan recommends that PAC work with the DDA to consider plans for downtown open space, including, but not limited to the Library Lane lot;

Whereas, the PROS plan reflects PAC's commitment to, "assure citizens a voice in the decision-making process of the park, recreation, and open space system, including acquisition, planning, and development";

Whereas, many community members have expressed a preference for a downtown park in this area;

Whereas, PAC recognizes the potential benefits of downtown density, the value of mixed-use interface with downtown open space, and the importance of creating a safe, attractive programmable space in the downtown;

Whereas, PAC is in agreement that the amount of open space currently proposed in the DDA's plans for Connecting William Street is insufficient;

Whereas, PAC is in agreement that there is more than one potential site for open space within the City-owned properties under consideration;

Resolved, that PAC recommends additional evaluation of locations for a downtown park, the best mix of amenities for the population expected to utilize a downtown park, and the costs of developing and maintaining a new addition to the Parks system.

Resolved, that PAC recommends that City Council refrain from adopting plans for the five City-owned lots prior to resolving the question of open space within the Connecting William Street area.