



Changing Lives • Growing Community

APPENDIX A

E4C Programs:

Child & Youth Nutrition
Edmonton's School Lunch
Nutrition Snack
Snack in the Shack

Child & Family Success
ArtStart
Clareview Head Start
Early Head Start

Community Mental Health
Macdonald Place
McCauley Apartments
Meadow's Place
Our Place
Sorensen Place

Places to Call Home
G-C Place
Gold Nugget Suites
Home 4 Healing
Stollery Place

Youth Services, Housing
& Job Training
Crossroads House
Kids in the Hall Bistro
North East Teen Centre

Emergency & Transitional
Services
Crossroads Downtown
Crossroads House Too
Crossroads Outreach
Elizabeth House
Homes Place
Our Other Place
WEAC
Women's Reintegration

Partnerships
Breakfast for Learning
Inner City Youth Housing Project
M.A.P.S. Edmonton & Area
Partners for Kids

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Mayor Stephen Mandel
City of Edmonton
2nd Floor, City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square NW
Edmonton, AB T5J 2R7

June 2006

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Dear Mayor Mandel:

RE: Downtown East Redevelopment Plan; "Community Action Plan"

As "Co-Chair" with Bob Caldwell of the City, of this element of the Redevelopment Plan, I am writing to you on behalf of the community participants engaged in the process to seek clarification, comment and direction on several points.

The participants in this process represent the leadership of several human services agencies and/or affordable housing providers, developers and funding partners who are active in the area affected by the plan. We have met as a group twice to date and we have two additional meetings scheduled prior to mid-August.

Among the invited participants in this process are senior personnel representing:

Boyle Street Community Services; Bissell Centre: Boyle McCauley Health Centre; CMHC; Communitas; E4C, Edmonton Joint Planning Committee on Housing; Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers; Edmonton People In Need Society; Edmonton Social Planning Council; Kindred House; Métis Child and Family Services; Native Counseling Services of Alberta; Operation Friendship Society; Salvation Army

The points on which we ask your consideration are:

1. That the product/outcome of the work undertaken by this body will receive full consideration of the City as other aspects of the

redevelopment plan process. The participants are committing to significant effort and time to this component and would appreciate confirmation of this consideration.

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2. The current publications of the City referencing the “Community Action Plan” speak clearly to “crime prevention” concerns and actions. We see this as a modestly important point and one that is clearly secondary to our perception of what is the primary purpose of “community action planning”. This is three fold: One, that the impact of area redevelopment on current residents be considered from a broad spectrum and that any form of transition for current residence is experienced by them as planned and positive, rather than a market driven expulsion. (We are hopeful of establishing a cooperative approach to this issue through multiple organizations – including the City – collaboration.) Second, we are forming an initial position that speaks to redevelopment within a model that integrates a variety of housing, including a range of affordable housing options, with commercial and intensive land usages; resulting in “neighborhoods” where residents can interact with one another, shop and enjoy the amenities of the neighborhood. Third, our initial position is characterized by a determination to incorporate ready access to attractive public areas, enhanced access to the river valley, biased attention to walkways and public transit as opposed to heavy vehicle traffic, and other considerations that create “human” spaces.

3. We have an early perception that the consideration of a “community action plan” is somewhat of a late inclusion into the redevelopment planning and is, therefore, placed in a secondary position on a hurried timeline. Although we are cognizant of a need to produce a timely product, we would hope that the City will be aware both of our intent to give this subject the attention it warrants and to offer a product of merit.

4. Lastly, we request the consideration of a possible (and modest) budget, whereby we might undertake activities that would lead to a timely and resident inclusive consultation. If there is a willingness to consider a supporting budget, we will submit a request for your consideration.

Please accept my appreciation for your willingness to consider these items and to provide guidance in our approach to the task.

Sincerely,


Michael Farris, MSc
Executive Director, E4C

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Cc: Bob Caldwell
Community Action Plan participants