

Focused Conversations Summary

Austin's Asian, African American and Hispanic/Latino Communities

Conversation about African American Community Needs:

- Have something at the future waterfront site that could draw in young African American professionals would be a tremendous benefit to the city at large.
- It is also recommended that those shepherding the future site development proactively seek cultural programming and ensure that the fees associated with that programming are not prohibitive to local cultural groups.
- Any future Public Art for this particular site should try and address the broader topic of Austin's history rather than being a more abstract and formal piece of contemporary art.

Conversation about Hispanic Community Needs:

- Some hispanic families have more than one job so it's important to keep in mind family friendly programs for when they can go out together. Also something educational programs for kids would also be helpful.
- It would be nice to have something that could help the local Hispanic community get more engaged with the downtown area - something that would pull them to come down this way.
- For the future organization it's important that they do more than just say community outreach is important. They actually need to have a staff position for that. It needs to be part of their budget and part of their guiding principles.

Conversation about Asian Community Needs:

- Diversity of events will be key. Once people know that their type of event was held there (Hispanic, Asian) then they'll feel more welcome there.
- It needs to be inclusive for all and that is not just a consideration for Asian Americans. - And it shouldn't be too much of one culture. Don't put anything that makes it feel like it is only for one group.
- In the daytime it could be seen as a family friendly place. That will help more cultures feel comfortable going there if they feel like they can bring their kids there. Can be a great place for mixing and mingling of cultures. Correlation of places that are safe for children are welcoming to elderly.
- Austin is known for hi-tech. Could be great to work together with the arts community to create a unique space. Would help with affordability if artists could show there.