

**Seaholm Intake Structure and Park  
Hispanic Community Focus Group  
Tuesday, September 12, 2017**

Attendees: Karlie Ramirez, Priscilla Mackin, Melissa Ayala

**Guiding Questions**

1. If the structure is developed in the future with the help of a public-private partnership - how could the new "civic asset" best serve the local Hispanic community? What type of activities would be best to incorporate?

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.

Workout classes could be appealing - and might serve as a draw from folks who live closer to the Trail on the east side of town.

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.

Perhaps a program could be done in conjunction with UT students.

It will be important to actively pursue cultural groups to come down and use the space for different programming opportunities.

The intentionality is critical. At Waller they don't yet have a park space - but they're working with potential partners now in order to see how the park could be used in the future. (Waterloo will open in 2019.) You have to start *very* early in the process to really tee things up for opening day.

2. As the consultant team walks through potential ideas for how the structure could become a civic asset for the broader public - what issues do they need to be sensitive to for Austin's Asian American communities?

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.

It's important to make sure that the future space can be used by professional organizations as well. And that they can then in turn help to organize their own community events in the space.

At the Hispanic Chamber we're always looking for meeting spaces that are accessible *and* appealing to members.

The community really has to be a part of the process - they consultant will have to really geographically and demographically include all the community in the next phase of the development. Wtih out that there won't be the public buy-in.

One idea is to go to Metz and start the conversation of the next phase down there with those community members..

One question to the future consultants would also be if they are looking at other civic assets and understanding what might be potentially missing from what Austin has to offer.

We've been talking to other peer projects about removing barriers for someone to feel they have to leave the site - making sure that there are restrooms, food etc. If they have to commute in, what can keep them there?

It would be great to see a local food or beverage vendor in the space.