Transit Center to Anchor All Downtown Transportation

In late February, more than a hundred residents, business owners, City representatives, property owners, and elected officials attended a series of presentations to learn more about Omnitrans’s proposal for a new Intermodal Transit Center and Village that will link all that Downtown San Bernardino. Highlighting the need for a more ‘walkable’ Downtown and providing an increased opportunity for visitors to use mass transit were on the minds of attendees as they shared their thoughts on the project.

What's more, people asked tough questions of Omnitrans officials including how different modes of transportation will impact the current bus system running through San Bernardino and how prices will be affected by the new Intermodal Transit Center. In addition to a question and answer session, attendees also had an opportunity to meet one-on-one with project managers and planners and view renderings of the proposed Intermodal Transit Center and Village. To learn more about the project, visit http://areyouin.omnitrans.org.

Community Meeting to be Held for High Groundwater Mitigation Project

The Inland Valley Development Agency (IVDA) is working on a design and engineering effort to mitigate high groundwater and liquefaction hazards associated with development in Downtown San Bernardino. With the design and engineering process in full swing, the IVDA is seeking public input during this process. On Wednesday, April 20, the IVDA will host two presentations at the Norman F. Feldthym Central Library located at 555 West 6th Street in San Bernardino. The first presentation begins at 1 p.m. while the second starts at 6:30 p.m.

This project is being led by a team of engineering and planning professionals fromPACE Advanced Water Engineering. For more information, contact Alex Estrada, Project Manager, IVDA, at (909) 382-4100.

Upcoming Events

San Bernardino Symphony Concert
Celebrate America: A Musical Tribute to San Bernardino’s Bicentennial Saturday, May 1: 3:00 p.m. California Theatre

Downtown Harvest Market
Every Wednesday starting May 5: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Court Street Square

Downtown San Bernardino – Corner of E and Court Streets
Mayor’s Run on Route 66
Sunday, May 16: Registration – 7:00 a.m.; Race Start: 5K – 8:00 a.m., 10K – 8:30 a.m. Arrowhead Credit Union Park

For more information call (909) 384-5233

Court Street Square Community Concert Series
Downtown San Bernardino – Corner of E and Court Streets Friday:
May 14: Oozie Blues Band
May 15: Matt & Char Society
May 22: Blue Machine
May 28: Crash
All performances start at 6:30 p.m. For more information visit www.courtsquaresquare.com

Questions or Comments?
The Downtown Core Vision & Action Plan Newsletter is prepared as part of the public outreach effort. If you have any questions or comments, please contact the Project Manager:
Jeffrey Smith, AICP
Economic Development Agency
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Strategic Plan, from P1
“Having a strategy and management plan for downtown is absolutely imperative,” states Leinberger. The good news is that the City of San Bernardino has taken the right steps toward developing and implementing a strategic plan for revitalization.

Leinberger suggests that strategic planning is a comprehensive approach that takes into account a number of strategies, which fit into the following categories: Character, Housing, Retail, Culture, Public Infrastructure, Employment, Community, Participation of Non-Profit Organizations, Marketing and Social Values.

Through the Downtown Core Vision & Action Plan efforts, strategies and the above categories were considered. Whether it’s a refurbished movie theater, a freeway widening project or a development addressing specific housing needs, great strides are already being made. In the next two years, construction will begin on a number of downtown projects that will further fuel revitalization efforts and address employment and infrastructure. In the next issue, we will review Step 3: Forge a Healthy Private/Public Partnership.

The San Bernardino community voiced they wanted a revitalization plan with action. Unlike plans of the past, the Downtown Core Vision & Action Plan is coming to life less than a year following its approval. City officials have worked tirelessly with investors, agencies, and stakeholders to make this $2 billion road to revitalization a reality.

If We Build It, They Will Come…

The key to any revitalization starts with transportation – giving people an easy way to access new hotspots in Downtown. Like successful revitalizations in Pasadena, Riverside, and San Diego downtown accessibility will make San Bernardino a regional destination.

In the next few years, the new and improved Interstate 215 will improve accessibility throughout the City, giving life to all communities in San Bernardino and the region. What’s more, public transit like the sbX Bus Rapid Transit System, the proposed Metrolink Expansion and Redlands Light Rail System will all lead to a common transit hub – the Intermodal Transit Center and Village - helping guide the thousands of people who visit Downtown daily.

And that number is about to expand. With San Bernardino’s new Superior Courthouse, which centralizes government operations with more than 30 courtrooms and two hearing rooms, more people will come to Downtown each day.
1. Interstate 215 Widening Project

Improvements through the corridor between Orange Show Road and University Parkway include the addition of one carpool lane and one general-use lane in each direction on I-215 and connector ramps between the I-215 and SR-210. This effort is being led by the San Bernardino Associated Governments and California Department of Transportation. Construction will be completed in Fall 2013.

2. Redlands Light Rail First Mile

Linking the cities of San Bernardino and Redlands, the first mile of the proposed Redlands Light Rail Project will provide for a Metrolink extension to improve commuter travel to and from home, work, school, shopping, and entertainment. Led by San Bernardino Associated Governments, this project is scheduled to start sometime in 2015.

3. TELACU Senior Housing Development

Located on the corner of 4th Street and G Street, this residential development in Downtown will provide affordable housing to downtown area Senior residents. This 75 unit housing development is being developed by The East Los Angeles Community Union (TELACU) and will be completed in Summer 2010.

4. Theatre Square

A hotspot of Downtown, Theatre Square will encompass the historic California Theatre, a renovated movie theater with a new IMAX theater, boutique shops, retail and restaurants. This effort is being led by the City of San Bernardino Economic Development Agency. Anticipated start date is Fall 2010.

5. sbX Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Line

sbX is a rapid speed, innovative bus transit service to link communities throughout the San Bernardino Valley and provide an efficient and cost-effective rapid transit option for travelers. Two transit stations along this route are planned for Downtown San Bernardino. Led by Omnitrans, this project will start in 2011 and be completed sometime in 2013.

6. Intermodal Transit Center and Village

Omnitrans is now working on plans for an Intermodal Transit Center and Village. The proposed five acre site is located just south of Rialto Avenue, between E and F Streets. The Transit Center will serve as a transfer point for bus routes serving the Downtown area, with future connections to the sbX Bus Rapid Transit system, proposed Metrolink extension, and proposed Redlands Light Rail System. Anticipated construction start in early 2012 and completion in late 2013.

7. Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino

With 35 courtrooms and two hearing rooms, the new 362,000 square foot courthouse will consolidate court operations and offer more than 380 parking spaces. Led by County of San Bernardino and the State of California, construction of the courthouse is scheduled to begin in early 2011 and be completed by early 2013.

8. Water Mitigation Project

Associated with development in downtown San Bernardino, the Inland Valley Development Agency (IVDA) is working on preliminary design and engineering plans to mitigate high ground water and liquefaction hazards. The study area is bounded by Third Street, Waterman Avenue, Rialto Avenue and Arrowhead Avenue. The planning effort is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2010.