



City of Corpus Christi



Uptown Corridors

REVITALIZATION STRATEGY - STAPLES & LEOPARD

BUSINESS WORKING GROUP MEETING #2

October 18, 2021



Meeting Summary



Meeting Details

The second Business Working Group Meeting for the Uptown Corridors Revitalization strategy took place on October 18, 2021. Asakura Robinson and the City of Corpus Christi Planning Department led the meeting and facilitated the discussions. A total of 11 members attended the meeting.

Mayor Paulette Guajardo welcomed the meeting attendees and shared her vision and expectations of the project. Following that, members of the working group introduced themselves. The consultant team then presented the project overview, a summary of the previous Business Working Group meeting, and the key areas for public-realm design for the corridors. The digital platform Jamboard was then used to facilitate and discuss the following questions:

- How can the City help your business/businesses stay stronger?
- How can the City be a partner in attracting new businesses?
- What barriers do people face to opening new businesses? (With relationship to working with the City especially)?
- What are the goals the project should be seeking to achieve?

The meeting closed with mayor’s appreciation for the discussion and the helpful comments received. The next steps were presented to the group as follows:

Technical Advisory Group Meeting #2: Fall

Refine Draft Concepts for Projects, Programs, and Policies: Fall/Winter

Public Draft and Engagement: January 2022

This meeting summary document provides the information presented during the meeting and the discussion that followed. A PDF of the presentation is available on the project website at www.cctexas.com/uptown and can be viewed using the following links:

Presentation - [Second Business Working Group meeting](#) (October 18, 2021)

Meeting Attendees

Attendee Name	Organization
Trey Summers	Hogan Homes
Judy Telge	CBCIL
Darlene Gregory	EMW/UNI
Andrea Gardner	Assistant City Manager
Nikki Riojas	Made in Corpus Christi
Nathan Kolenovsky	Boarri

Attendee Name	Organization
Paulette Guajardo	Mayor, City of Corpus Christi
Mario Mungia	Stripes
Andy Norton	Property owner
Jason Page	Property owner
Christi Berry	Bernard's Catering

Session feedback

How can the City help your business/businesses stay stronger?

- The city can help reinvest tax money spent or created within the district for management of the district.
- Low-interest business loans and financial incentives for renovations and building revitalization.
- Education program and low rent co-working spaces for new entrepreneurs in the city.
- Streamline the permit process and create leniency in enforcing code when the problem lies outside the control of the owners.
- Safety is a major concern and getting police patrols and better lighting will help in enforcing current laws.

How can the City be a partner in attracting new businesses?

- Rethinking of roadways and proper landscaping to make the corridor more walkable and attractive.
- Cleanliness can be ensured by regular picking up of trash and mowing the lots.
- Attractive cornerstone retail can invite customers to the entire corridor.
- Celebrating the existing attributes of the corridor by creating a cohesive brand. Also, promoting the impact of small businesses on the community.
- Grant funding for art installations to create interactive spaces for all, especially the kids. (like art crosswalks)
- Visibly engage and facilitate peer to peer cooperation to promote plans and share resources/information.

What barriers do people face when opening new businesses? (With relationship to working with the City especially)

- There are concerns about the safety of the public and general lack of enforcement to stop bad behavior.
- Lack of funding and incentives.
- Lack of landscaped medians, turning lanes, curb cuts and universally accessible /ADA compliant spaces.
- Parking requirements hinder new development while existing excess parking on street is not convenient.

What programs would help the corridor thrive?

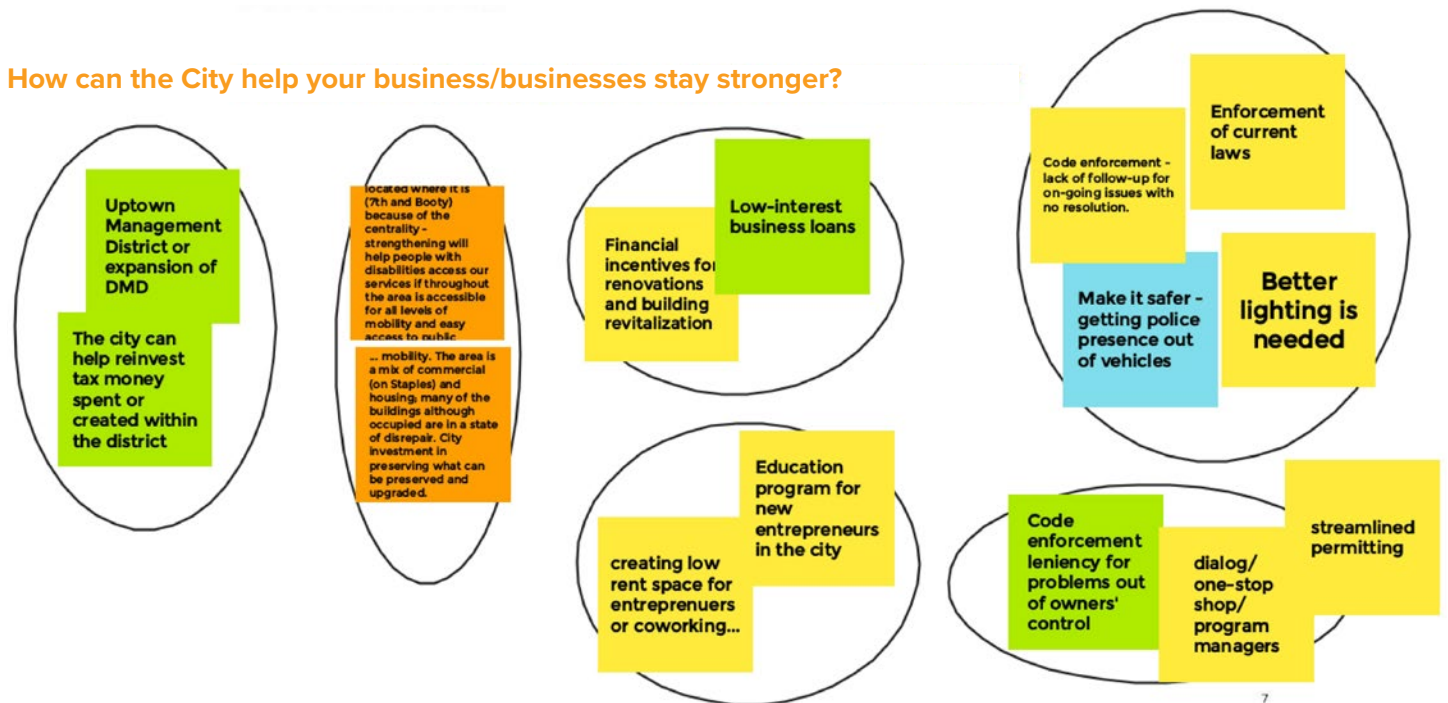
- Outdoor public space where people can spend time.
- Street festivals, Sunday markets, monthly fairs, food truck park.
- Can build on existing “Buck days parade” and “shop crawl on Small Business Saturday”.
- Reduce vehicular traffic and promote safe walking by having safety initiatives.

What are the goals the project should be seeking to achieve?

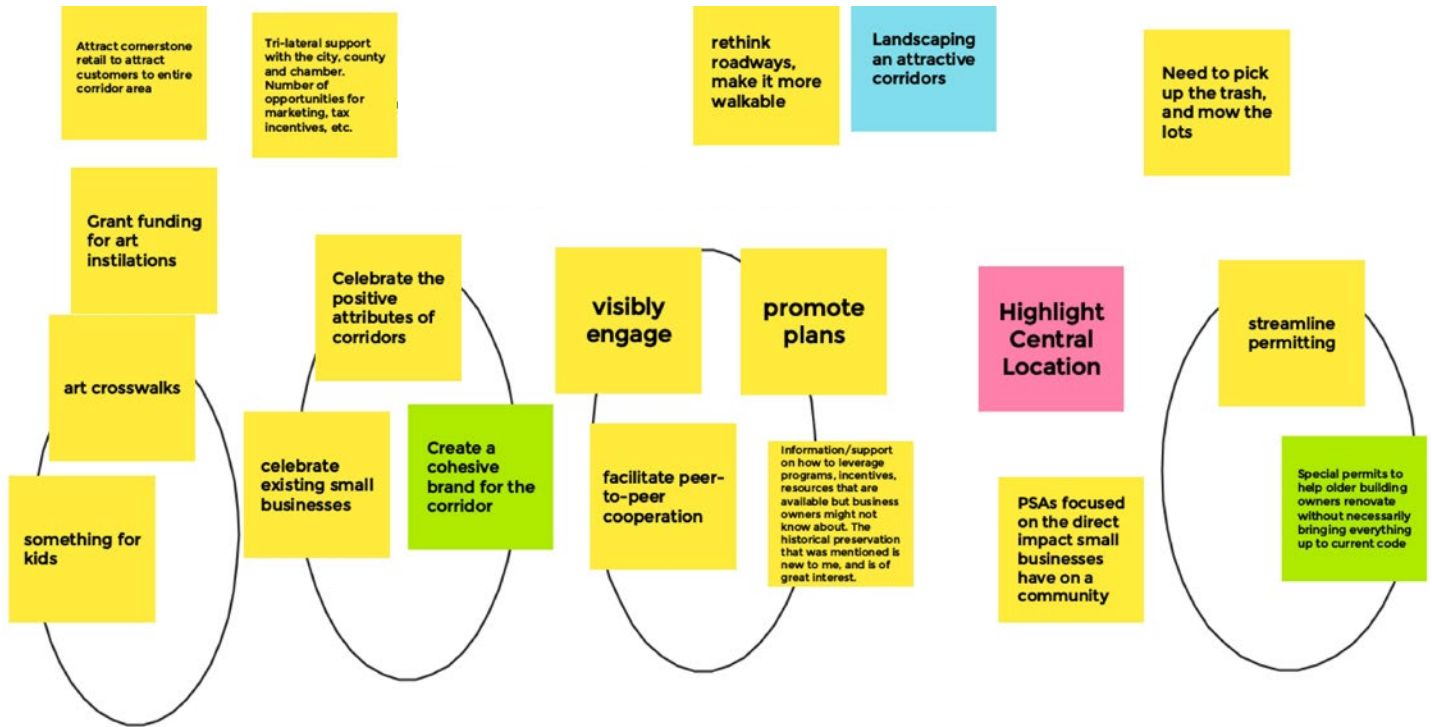
- A vibrant area that allows small businesses to thrive and gives the community a place to enjoy, shop, and live.
- Have a thriving destination the encompasses shops, restaurants, outdoor music, a place you want to go on a Friday night and meet friends.
- Want to see Staples rival South Congress in Austin.

Jamboard Session full comments:

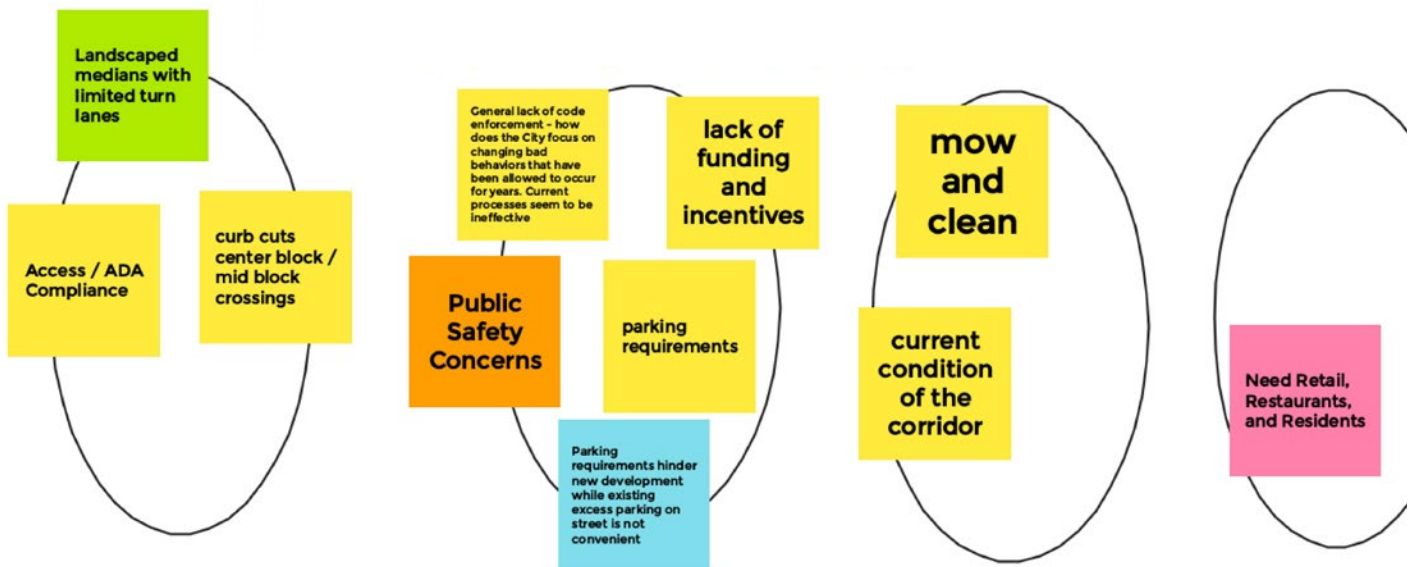
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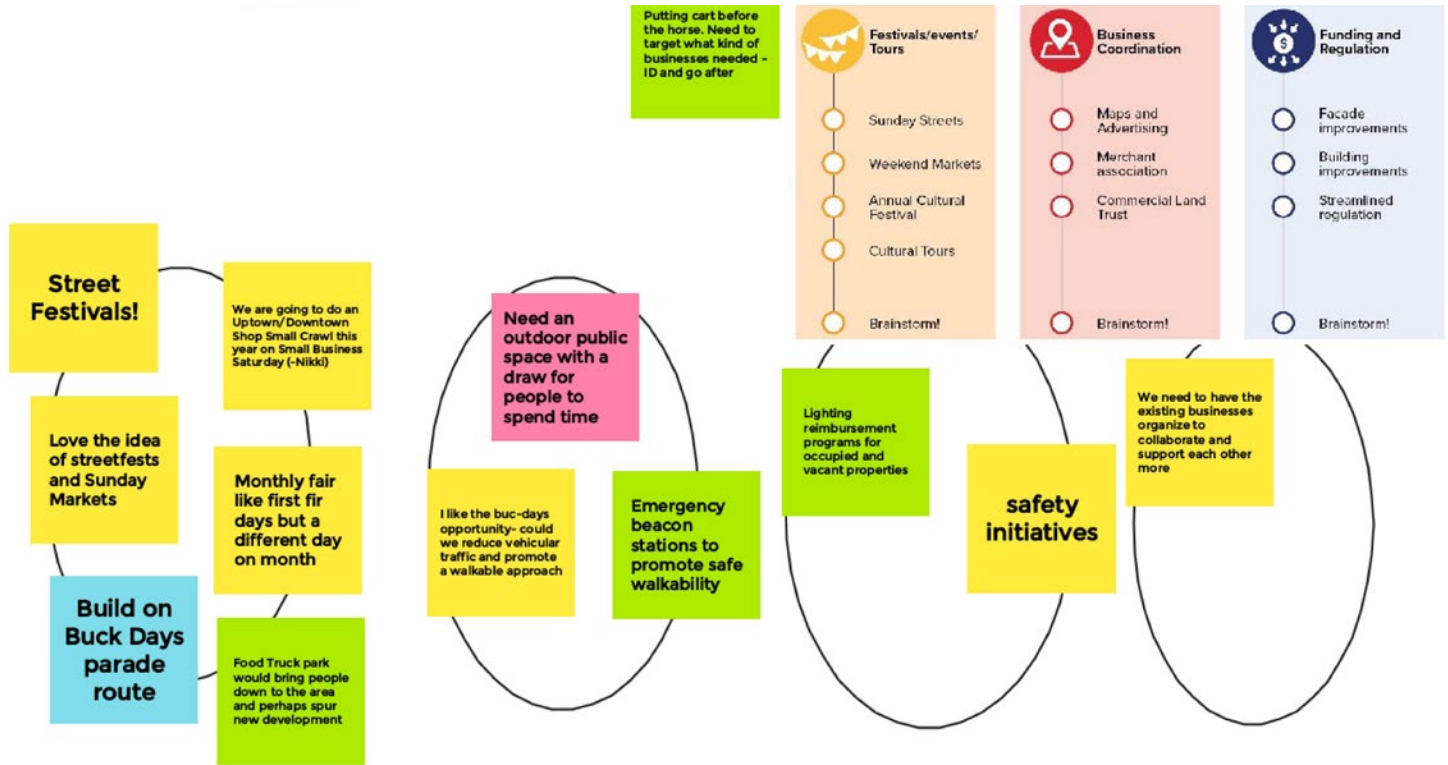
How can the City be a partner in attracting new businesses?



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