

Neighborhood Plan Update Phase II Workshop with Members of the Tigrinya-Speaking (Eritrean and Ethiopian) Community

July 11, 2009

**Part I: Places and Connections**

Exercise to discuss gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian, bike and transit connectivity. (Where do you live/work/shop and mode of travel)

- People mentioned they walk a couple of blocks from home to get bus 42 & 48 to go to church and community center.
- Some drive half mile to Medhanie Alem Church.
- We need more parks, park benches where people can chat and rest.
- More light rail stations.

**Part II: Building a Great Town Center**

Exercise to explore relationships between number of households, retail destinations, parks and walkability. (Creating a town center, housing density, building heights, etc)

- Building should be higher than 6 buildings.
- People can live on the top and business on the ground level such as \$.99 store, beauty salon food stores. Accessible units in the ground level.
- Small businesses on ground level with meeting place for elderly, fitness and recreation center.
- Building should be on open space by Othello and close to the station.
- Single family homes to run home business such as day care to make people self sufficient.

**Part III: Emerging Priorities and Opportunities**

Capturing new ideas or major concepts (new themes and remaining issues)

- Transit needs to be easy to use
- More stops on light rail station
- Neighborhood safety more street lights
- Side walk maintenance
- Need business for East Africans, such as restaurants, meeting center, etc.
- Mall
- Jobs close to home
- clinics.