



Breakers Avenue Streetscape

Open House #1, Meeting Summary

Location: 600 Breaker Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Date and Time: 03/20/2019, 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Lightning Round:

- We need to better manage the traffic from East/West streets
- What about a movable barrier to screen the E/W wind tunnel effect?
- Would prefer to see all the parking moved off of Breakers Avenue – it could potentially go to Birch Road, instead.
- Concern that this is just another vacant exercise. Is this really going to happen?
- Intersections are uncomfortable to cross because you never know if the E/W traffic is going to stop.
- There a new free transportation service (FreeBee) that could help alleviate any car congestion, but no one knows about it. They can bring people from hotels, parking garages or other nearby areas.
- E-W cross street traffic is a problem
- How many blocks of Breakers Avenue are being considered?
- There are too many design options for the neighbors to provide their opinion. Wouldn't it just be better for the experts to do something that works?
 - Victor Dover, Consultant. Response: We are the experts and yes, we know what will technically work but the citizens know the culture of the neighborhood and how things need to be done together.
- Bury the electrical lines
- Can we keep at least some of the palm trees?
- The neighbor lives in the Isles. They walk a lot but rarely come down Breakers because it's not comfortable to walk down. They do like the breezes.
- Hopeful that it will become a real destination
- We should close the whole street
 - Victor Dover, Consultant. Response: We need to grow the street so that it is worth closing. It is a process of growth not switching a switch.
- The neighbor likes the center median 'Rambla' idea
- Would like it to be like Las Olas (lush) with the center walkway
- The neighbor likes the center walkway one but concerned that it may not be used enough
- The neighbor likes slowing the traffic because when you are in the City at a café the cars are a part of the experience.
 - Victor Dover Response: you can include cars without letting them dominate. Use the Disney example, even Main Street has cars
- Likes option 1B with wide sidewalks and shade trees

- The neighbor agrees that keeping car access helps to activate the street
- Can't eliminate parking totally
- Pavers help move water
- What are the plans for the lot near the Bonnet House?
 - Christine Fanchi, City. Response: The City has no long term plans for the City-owned, empty lot S-E corner of Bonnet house. During the construction of the fire station on Sunrise Boulevard the empty lot will be used to park firetrucks.
- Is there enough of a market to sustain all these new restaurants & retail?
- How does the economics of this work?
 - The neighbor mentioned that the City did an economic study a few years ago. She will send the Consultants a copy.
- What about the Tractor Trailers?
- Need to have the appropriate Retail, no more tattoo parlors. Who will do the retail mix?
- Landscaping needs to incorporate Palm Trees with Shade trees

Attendees: List of attendees is available upon request.