

Jack Wofford

- Pattern that was created is easy to forget
 - Both about outcome and process
 - Assembling people with differences
 - Commitment to developing alternatives
 - Decision about the scope of the re-study
 - 10% of budget for support and community liaison (technical assistance)
 - 3rd Harbor crossing based on community interactions
- Combination of input from experts and community, translated into viable alternatives
- Had array of positive alternatives vs “no build”
- Place for community to come together to agree on outcomes – not present at the beginning of the study

Can we accomplish the same transformation today ?

- MassDOT transformed from the war
 - MassDOT still in formative stages
 - Benefits from collaborations manifested from collaborations between departments
 - Must continue with project of intermodal transportation
 - “Promises really matter”
 - Decisions made have enormous impact on the landscape and environment

Same or Different Process in today's setting?

- Elements of the program that were necessary
- Big piece – how to make transportation planning compatible with community development?
 - Campaigning on promises of highways
 - King's views changed after discussions with community members
 - Framework for community interaction is missing today
 - Mission and accomplishments today are missing
 - Must be substantive in outcome – desirable place to come to, work in, live in
 - Dealing with different demographics, culture, community
 - Differences in living and working in community are blurry

Fred Salvucci

- Importance of elections, leadership
 - Pressure from colleagues
- Historical significant and relevance to current-day planning
- Influence of lobby groups
 - Construction lobbying for Red Line
 - Even those who had initially felt had ‘lost’ by decision to cut highways ultimately were also beneficiaries of BTPR
- Process to make decisions and base to implement them
- Local leadership
 - Just say “no” may begin conversation, but does not lead to “yes”
 - Once inner belt proposal removed, community organized against the Red Line – Porter Sq community rallied in favor
 - Insistence on being at the table, part of the progression
 - People (visionaries) willing to invest time and energy to keep it moving
 - Have to get leadership where you can find it, keep momentum moving
- At the end of the planning, funding was present for the project implementation
 - If we could agree on the “yes”, funding would be available to move ahead
- Importance of Press
 - Supporting movements, informing public,
 - Not “reform before revenue”
- Moving forward..
 - Reinforcing local leadership, elections of great importance

Leadership – role of citizens?

- Southwest Corridor Land Development Coalition
 - Development of alternatives for BTPR by the community
 - Proactive involvement vs passive
 - Use of media, diversity, protests and gatherings
- Often times, community smarter than the planners
- Sound diminishing issue
 - Gave examples in public meetings of what dB levels would be like to live in

Ann Hershfang

- Role of Citizens – “Shoes on the Ground”
 - Big help to have an ‘enemy’ as organizing function
 - Organizing that went on due to highways drew unique and diversified coalitions
 - Groups gathered and stayed together
 - Do we still have this unifying capacity and motivation?
 - No coordination on light rail on Washington St led to lack of motivation for moving forward
- Importance of the role of women in the movement
 - At the time had more time to put forward in these movements
 - Inflation for transportation funding (as is with highway funding)
- Chuck Turner
 - Organized and held together the diverse coalition

- “had it easy 40 years ago”
 - With availability of women and crisis that garnered community activism
 - Physical activity as important to health as physical inactivity
- If anywhere, Boston is ideal due to high density of medical, higher ed
 - Example of China accommodations for cyclists
 - Integration into mass transit, bike facilities and health benefits of it

Difficulties in JP 46 years ago

- Awareness of other local support induced support from surrounding communities
 - Cambridge as encouragement
- JP still lost large sections of neighborhoods with demolitions
 - Continuation of demolition during the process
 - (all demolition occurred prior to 1970 speech)

Mel King

- JP – what had happened to that land?
 - Legislation to give back land to community
 - Community gardens
 - Roxbury Community College
- Ensuring that benefits of the land would accrue to the community
- People with resources can take advantage of those without
 - Copley Place – those with money take advantage of openings – income discrimination
- Impact of decisions over time
 - Land costs along the corridor creates difficulties in affordable housing construction
- Organizing efforts around facts that the schools are not working
 - “place where people want to move” vs “place where people are getting forced out”
 - Access to good education - “all those children are our children”
 - Must make sure that people are not pushed out