

#### Networking for I.D.entity

A Drainage Improvement Plan for the International District



UNM Advanced Planning Studio Fall 2014



### <sup>+</sup>Introduction

## Teaming Up for Better Places

The Stories of Route 66 Project received an Our Town Grant through the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) to make Story Plazas along Route 66 Corridor.

AMAFCA, Stories of Route 66, UNM, and many other partners (Albuquerque Cultural Services, Littleglobe, International District Healthy Communities Coalition, and Bernalillo County) are working together to create solutions that solve problems like flooding and water quality, while providing creative gathering and social spaces for the peoples of the International District.







5A PUNM SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

### Phasing Timeline





### \*Existing Conditions

#### \* Major Historical Developments in the I.D.



## Demographics = Diversity



### What are the Planning Problems & Opportunities?

 Deficient Storm Water Infrastructure  Low Walkability & Amenity Disjointed
Community Realm







## Stormwater Run-Off

Several contaminants continue to plague Albuquerque's stormwater. These include:

- Metals
- E.Coli
- Nitrogen and Phosphorous
- Chemical Pollutants

There are many sources from which these contamination come. Cars, farming efforts, parks and homes just to name a few.

The lack of porous surfaces in the international district essentially creates a channel that carries storm water runoff directly to the river, which creates a great concentration of contamination at the North Diversion Channel.



75%-100% Impervious Surface

35%-50% Impervious Surface

## \* Stormwater Infrastructure









Insufficient infrastructure = 100 acre-ft. stormwater capacity deficit

## + How Much is 100 acre-feet?

An acre is about the size of a football field between the 5-yard lines. So, 100 acre-ft. of water would be about the size of that football field filled 100 feet high ( about the height of a 10-story building) with water.

A Route 66 Story Plaza might be able to handle 40 acre-ft, or as much as a football field filled 40 feet high with water.













# + Opportunities

- Use stormwater run-off in a dry climate for plantings & art
- Use streets: pedestrian / bicycle paths and transit corridors
- Use Publicly-owned properties and facilities
- Use Vacant lots
- Strengthen community identity & safety





### <sup>+</sup>Community Engagement Summary

# Community Engagement - Why?

•Social Impact Design believes that physical design can help create positive social change.

•Communities and not just "experts" <u>should be</u> <u>included</u> in design partnerships to better guide what improvements will benefit the community.

•The International District has unique cultural identities that should **all** have a **voice** in the design process.

#### + Methodology

- •One-on-one and group discussions
- Education
- Opportunities for feedback
- Meaning of water
- •Community strengths and challenges
- •Present and discuss design concepts or precedents







- •Emerson Elementary (parents)
- Afghan refugee community
- •La Mesa Elementary (4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- East Central Ministries
- •NM Asian Family Center
- •Albuquerque Indian Center
- •Casa de las Comunidades
- •Elder Homestead Neighborhood Association









	Afghan Community	East Centra Ministries	Elder Homestead	Casas de las Communities	American Indian Center	La Mesa Elementary	Asian family Center	
Theme	4	<u> </u>	ā	as ties	nter	2	Ϊγ	
Health & Safety	1	3	1			3	1	<u>9</u>
Connectivity	1							<u>1</u>
Street Improvement	2		1	1				<u>4</u>
Pedestrian Improvement	1	1			1			<u>3</u>
Public/Green Space	1		1	1		3	3	<u>9</u>
Aesthetic Improvement s		1			1			2
Programmatic Improvement s				2		1	2	<u>5</u>
Community Engagement					1			1
Interagency Coordination					2			2
Public Art					2	1		<u>3</u>
Education						1		1
Way Finding		1						1
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	4	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>41</u>

After public input was received the main point of each comment was categorized into a "theme" that we could use to generate recommendations.

## What do these Numbers Tell Us?





## + Green Space



• "Walking to and from the bus stop is troublesome. Better streetscapes including trees and lighting would be helpful."

•"Create public space(s) that not only retain water and provide fun activities for youth, but also have a drainage system for allows for re-use by the community."

•There was consensus among the group that small scale street scape improvements and green space, as opposed to larger interventions, would most benefit their day to day lives.







•"Create public space(s) that not only retain water and provide fun activities for youth, but also have a drainage system for allows for re-use by the community."

•"Several participants expressed concerns over standing water - either in a detention pond, or puddles in streets for lack of drainage."

## Pedestrian Improvements



•"Consider a Central 'street diet' which could include landscaped medians, widened sidewalks, crosswalks, and lighting."

•"Walking to and from the bus stop is troublesome. Better streetscapes including trees and lighting would be helpful."

## Programmatic Improvements





•"Shelter or safe places for the homeless, including job opportunities – such as litter removal in the arroyos."

## Integration of Public Art



•"I would like to see more flowers and decorations. Also a little more art. Work it so it makes the place pop out more and brings comfort to see it nice, beautiful and creative. I would like to see more landscape around and trees. I would want it to be a little more outstanding. "



- •Each meeting was <u>documented</u> and <u>discussed</u> to find common themes between groups
- •A graph was created in order to rank importance.
- •These were used to inform recommendations that will be reported to AMAFCA



### <sup>+</sup>UNM Studio Recommendations

### CRP 521 envisions a networked, green stormwater infrastructure system that responds to the needs of AMAFCA and the International District Community with increased community space and streetscape.

#### **GREENWEAVING:**

Vision

### Connecting Water to Place in the International District



Green Weaving uses green roadway design to provide neighborhood connectivity as well as treating stormwater. It links a variety of scales of stormwater management sites creating a system that sustainably manages stormwater, provides a safe pedestrian environment and enhanced civic realm.

International trail addresses lack of pedestrian amenities and Links community assets, parks, schools, and community centers.

International district has high number of vacant lots and lacks civic space.

International district currently has flooding. Problems caused by inadequate storm-drain system







#### Large Civic Space: Caravan East



#### **Caravan East**





### Caravan East

Agencies: AMAFCA, CABQ, DMD

**Responsibilities:** AMAFCA develops, maintenance is negotiated with CABQ

Funding: AMAFCA & CABQ

Capacity: roughly 17 acre feet



### Streets: Central Streetscape

Before





#### After
## **Central Streetscape**

Agencies: CABQ/ Route 66

**Responsibilities:** Design, construction & maintenance

Funding: CIP



## Streets: Zuni Streetscape



## Zuni Streetscape



## Zuni Streetscape

Agencies: CABQ

**Responsibilities:** Design, construction & maintenance **Funding:** CIP



## Commercial Retrofit: Private Property



#### Private Property: Fair and Square Parking Lot Retrofit



## **Private Property:**

## Fair and Square Parking Lot Retrofit Agencies: Private property owner, AMAFCA & city

**Responsibilities:** Lot owner responsible for construction & maintenance

Funding: AMAFCA & CABQ give incentive



## Residential Retrofit: Private Property



## Residential Retrofit: Private Property



### Private Property: Residential Rain Gardens

Agencies: Private property owner, AMAFCA & CABQ

**Responsibilities:** Lot owner responsible for construction and maintenance

**Funding:** AMAFCA & CABQ provide incentives



## Jurisdiction Map



# Networking for IDentity

Utilizing Stormwater Infrastructure to create a multi-dimensional public realm in the International District















#### CRP 521 - ADVANCED PLANNING STUDIO FALL 2014

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