

Friendship Heights Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 6pm

- **Location:** Friendship Heights Village Center
- **Attendees:** Tyra Walker, Bill Corey, Santanu Basu, Wendy Wei Chang, Cameron Moody, David Churchill, Kathleen McGuinness, Al Muller, Chantal Roubachewsky, Akriti Asthana, Jacob Lewis
- **Key topics:**
 - **Intros and Building Updates:** Members provided building level updates and prevalent concerns. There is relatively new management at Willoughby who has been pretty responsive thus far. Some issues highlighted with certain buildings included rodent issues. Additionally, at 4615 N Park Ave, where Blackrock now manages the property, fees have been initiated where there had been none (to pay for parking, EV charging station) or increased fees and other unimproved services. There are many more or increased fees, for no improved services.
 - **Survey Results Discussion:** Topics highlighted by majority of respondents included public and pedestrian safety as well as the need to engage younger demographics in village center events.
 - 1) **Pedestrian (to include Street Crossings) Safety/Public Safety -**
CAC members reiterated that many of these issues expressed are being addressed by the Village Council. There is also a traffic study underway which will likely address the pedestrian safety questions and recommendations. Street crossing safety continues to be a primary concern and focus of Council and other VFH meetings.
 - 2) **Engaging Younger Demographic (esp young adults, 21-39)**
Challenges around how to keep young adult events going were highlighted as well as previous efforts made to do so. Members discussed ideas and suggestions for different communication

strategies that might appeal to a younger demographic. Members recommended the following ideas:

- **a) Diverse Comms:** Leverage a broader range of communication outlets when communicating with a younger audience (i.e. QR codes, apps etc.)
- **b) Building-Level Engagement:** integrate engagement at the building level to ensure awareness/participation (and perhaps even host some events at different buildings)
- **c) Young Adult Involvement in Planning and Comms:** The strategy may benefit from young adults being directly involved and engaged in the planning process.

3) Proposals for New Initiative: The Village is seeking ideas for improving the quality of life for residents. These proposals are due by **January 16, 2026**.

Proposals are submitted at the individual level and the CAC will score the proposals. Since those who suggest ideas cannot vote on an idea, there is now a sheet where you can indicate if you are working on an idea (to avoid unduly penalizing an idea that multiple members may want to propose.)

4) Online Tools for Coordination: A need for online collaboration tools and a distro list for CAC communications was expressed. There was also a need expressed for CAC members to keep moving forward and collaborate on efforts in between CAC meetings.

Action Items

1) C. Roubachewsky will create a CAC distro list and shared doc for New Initiative Proposal ideas.

a) Distro Names are listed here:  **Friendship Heights CAC**

(So far I have not been able to create a list I can share directly with the group through google. If anyone is able to do so, please share and let me know if anyone was inadvertently left off the list.)

- b) Shared Doc for your New Initiative Proposal Ideas (to avoid duplication) is located here - there is no need to indicate your name, only the ideas:
 - ✚ CAC Friendship Heights New Initiative - CAC Proposal Ideas
 - c) The group will continue to try to identify a collaboration online workspace for the CAC.
- 2) CAC young adults will follow up and arrange to speak with Alex Benson from the Village Center so they can be directly involved in the planning strategy, which will help ensure a successful engagement and events planning strategy. *(An email intro to Ms. Benson has been provided to the CAC young adults.)*