
LETTER FROM JOYCE ELLIOTT

For the past year I have had the privilege of chairing the University District Partnership Steering Committee. It has been a wonderful opportunity to make new friends who have a vested interest in improving the community. The fruits of that labor include the completion of this strategic plan, Partners for Progress: Shaping the Future of the University District and completion of the companion master plan, University District Revitalization Plan. While the revitalization plan focuses on real estate and the built environment, Partners for Progress focuses on improving social and economic conditions in the area.



During its planning sessions, the Steering Committee recognized that any meaningful progress in the University District depends upon the substantive engagement of several major partners. First and foremost, we must engage the people who live and work in the area. We have had good representation of residents and businesses in the community workshops during the planning process and we must encourage an even higher level of participation. Rest assured the University District Partnership will accomplish this by communicating directly with families and businesses in the area.

Our focus is to improve affordable housing, especially for homeowners, improve public education and academic achievement, and improve public safety so that families are safe and feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods. We must achieve results in housing, education and public safety to bring new families into the area. Even though the University District is a small portion of the metropolitan area economy, we must attract new businesses to the area and expand the job base. We want to encourage families to live, work, learn and play within the area.

With this plan our community will continue to determine what we must do today to shape our future. I am looking forward to working with our University District partners to help bring about that future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joyce Elliott