




CONNECTBV

PLANNING FOR A VIBRANT BUENA VISTA




A unifying
movement to
revitalize Buena
Vista!

The energy to form
a vision of the
future and step
past our fears!

Connecting the
dots of amazing
people and groups
already in motion!

How to become the
great community
we actually are!



What is Connect BV?

A grant-funded planning initiative:

Business District Revitalization - economic development strategy for downtown

Opportunity Zone Marketing - maximizing our designation as a federal Opportunity Zone

Why?

- We do not have a clear vision of who Buena Vista is or what success will look like
- Downtown has many vacant buildings, how do we fix this?
- We need help developing strategies to become vibrant
- This planning process will provide clear next steps, and opportunities for further grants

What is this grant?

Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

CDBG program goals are

- To aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight
- Benefit low- and moderate-income families

Meet the grant management team!

Elizabeth Braddy

Tyson Cooper

Deidra Dryden

Jamie Goodin

Bryon LePere

Greg Madsen

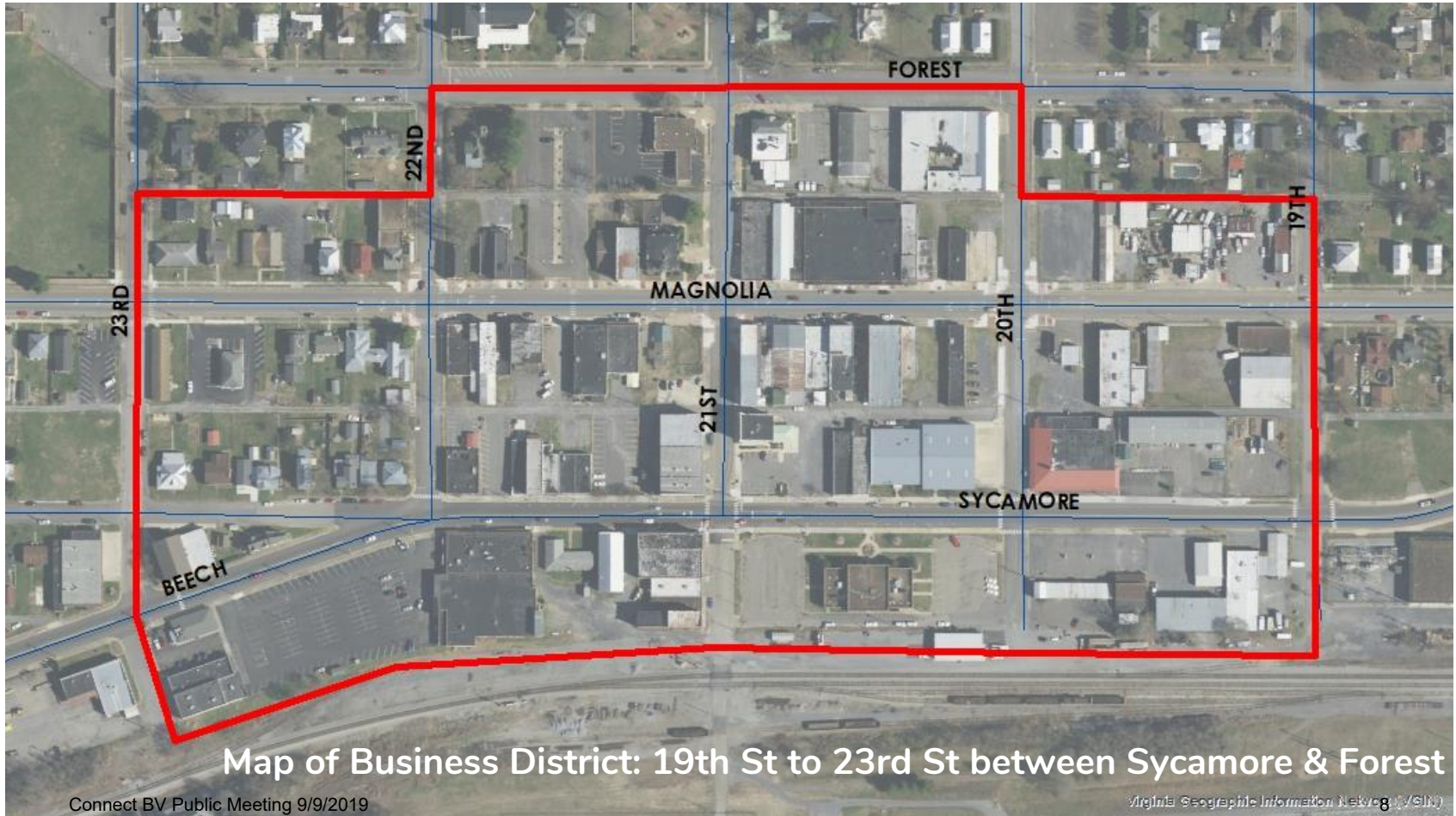
Elizabeth McCarty

Tom Roberts

Jon Swinson

What we are working on now

- Physical inventory of all properties within the business district
- Physical inventory of properties with redevelopment potential through Opportunity Zone funds
- Request for Proposals (RFP) for firms to develop marketing tools for Opportunity Zone projects



Map of Business District: 19th St to 23rd St between Sycamore & Forest

What we will do

Staff & management team will meet with DHCD

Possible activities:

- Community meetings for visioning
- Focus groups
- Technical economic & business development analysis
- Marketing initiatives for candidate properties for investment & redevelopment with Opportunity Zone funds

What are Opportunity Zones (OZs)?

- New incentive program created by 2017 tax law
- Significant tax benefits for certain real estate and business investments within designated economically disadvantaged places
- Allows investors to defer or eliminate capital gains tax

Stay tuned for more meetings and community engagement

Planning grant activities will last 12-18 months

Opportunities for CDBG implementation grants for executing recommendations

Connect BV Movement

The core of Connect BV is the grant, but there is so much more: this is a movement!

- ❑ GoBV is in the action phase
- ❑ Regional plans underway for a business launch competition
- ❑ Arts center in concept planning
- ❑ Entrepreneurship and co-working space in concept planning
- ❑ New public library location in planning phase
- ❑ Healthy BV coalition

How can I get involved?



Follow Connect BV Facebook page and
Instagram account

Put your email on sign-up sheet for email
updates

Step up and serve! Be part of a committee