**TULSA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING**

**STAFF REPORT**

**MEETING DATE:** September 7, 2017  
**TO:** Chairman and Board Members  
**FROM:** Office of Tulsa Development Authority  
**SUBJECT:** University of Notre Dame Graduate Urban Design Studio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background:</th>
<th>Owner: N/A</th>
<th>Developer: N/A</th>
<th>Engineer: N/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Study Area Bounded by I-244 to the South, East Pine Street to the North, the L.L. Tisdale Parkway to the West, and U.S. Route 75 to the East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Size of Tract:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Number of Lots: N/A</td>
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<td>Development Area:</td>
<td>Heritage Hills/Greenwood Neighborhood Plan</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Notre Dame Urban Design Studio:</td>
<td>Jennifer Griffin</td>
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**Relevant Info:**

The University of Notre Dame Graduate Urban Design Studio works with local communities to provide positive visions and strategies for future development. The work of the studio is rooted in the principles of traditional architecture and urbanism, which understands the connection between the built environment and human flourishing and which promotes the benefits of healthy, walkable, mixed-use neighborhoods and well-made local architecture.

The studio has worked with cities and towns all over the U.S. – from Skaneateles, NY, to Lafayette, LA, to Ventura, CA – positively contributing to various local communities and receiving both national and international awards for their design work. Samples of the studio’s work can be found in the attached pdf document and at http://architecture.nd.edu/research-publications/studio-publications.

For the upcoming fall 2017 semester, the studio has a unique opportunity to travel to Tulsa to serve our local community. As an extension of the recently adopted Unity Heritage Neighborhoods Plan, the studio has been invited to study the area bounded by I-244 to the south, Pine Street to the north, the L.L. Tisdale Parkway to the west, and U.S. Route 75 to the east. By working with the local community to develop various place-based visual designs for potential future development at a range of scales (macro, micro, near-term, and long-term), the studio will study and illustrate how to provide for a vibrant, walkable, mixed-use, and socially and economically diverse series of neighborhoods that connect North Tulsa to downtown.
The studio’s work will begin with a week-long on-site design workshop (“the charrette”). During the charrette, the studio will tour and document this area of Tulsa on foot; meet with various community members and City of Tulsa representatives to gain an understanding of the local issues, assets, and challenges; and formulate a series of potential design strategies and options to respond to the issues, to overcome local challenges, and to build upon local assets. Ultimately, the charrette process is an effective tool because it marries local knowledge, concerns, and values with outside expertise, while at the same time building community consensus and providing potential design solutions.

After the charrette, the studio will return to Notre Dame to continue fleshing out these initial design strategies. At the mid-point of the semester, local representatives from the community are invited to Notre Dame to participate in a mid-term review of the work and provide feedback. Finally, at the end of the semester, the studio will return to Tulsa to give a final presentation of their semester-long work. Additionally, at this time, the final studio product – typically a booklet documenting the studio’s design work as well as recommendations for actions that would help to enable the implementation of the community’s vision – is given to the community to use as an ongoing resource.

Attachments: Notre Dame Studio Sample Work

Recommendations: This is for information only

Reviewed By: O.C. Walker
The Graduate Urban Design Studio at the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture