**Planning Staff update 2.12.2010**

**Oak Street Discontinuance**

Following the Planning board workshop on Jan 12, 2010 where the Planning Board asked the applicant to investigate other alternatives to discontinuance, a meeting was arranged with the applicant and Legal and Planning. This note summarizes that meeting:

**Participants:**

Applicant (Petitioner): (Lafayette Portland LLC) : Gus Tillman, Director of Operations, Lafayette Hotels (Holiday Inn); Jim Katsiaficus, Attorney for applicant ; John Leasure, Architect

City: Danielle West-Chuhta, Associate Corporation Counsel; Barbara Barhydt, Dev Review Services Manager; Jean Fraser, Planner; David Margolis-Pineo, DPS

**Notes** (full note on Planning file):

* Jim and Gus outlined the Holiday Inn need for connection between the newly acquired garage and the HI garage; want to expand into conferencing market; HI designed to be expanded and want to do so now that they have the garage
* That section of Oak Street is their service access; they own sidewalk on one side; need link including an elevator in the sidewalk; problem of parking in street ( M\_P said city could give these rather than discontinue the street)
* Gus and Jim exploring pedestrian easement; maybe 20 ft wide section in the street
* Elevator considered by city an issue as located in pedestrian route; HI need it there because of design of the garage
* City doesn’t’ see compelling need for discontinuance at this time (maybe in future when new construction over garage but in that case pedestrian route could be re-located properly
* BB confirmed that canopy and elevator proposals would require site plan review at staff level; asked how elevator relates to long term plans
* Jim K confirmed that they would hold a meeting with neighbors before going back to the board;
* Meeting agreed that if HI want to propose a pedestrian easement will take to PB Hearing; staff would send examples of any similar that have been done in Portland (if any); agreed easement would need to be substantially agreed before going back to the Board.