CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

JOINT CITY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

TUESDAY, August 16, 2011 -- 6:00 P.M.

County Office Building, Room 241

The Joint County/City Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Calvin Morris, Vice Chair– County and Genevieve Keller, Chair– City.

· Other County Commissioners present were Mr. Smith, Ms. Porterfield, Mr. Lafferty, Mr. Loach, Mr. Franco and Ms. Monteith (UVA Architect – Ex-officio). Mr. Zobrist was absent.

· Other City Commissioners present were Jon Santoski, Dan Rosensweig, Natasha Sienitsky, Lisa Green, and David Neuman (UVA Architect – Ex-officio). Kurt Keesecker and Michael Osteen were absent.

· City staff present were Missy Creasy, Richard Harris, Michael Smith and Willy Thompson.

· Summer Frederick and Matthew Weaver with Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission were present.

· County staff present were Wayne Cilimberg, Elaine Echols, Andy Sorrell, Greg Kamptner, and Sharon Taylor.

A review of the March 2011 Joint Work Session took place along with activities which have occurred since that time. The citizen participation workshop schedule for the fall was reviewed and staff presented the greenways portion of the meeting in order to obtain input on the materials to date. The following sections indicate comments from Commission members during the meeting.

Comments following staff presentation for City/County included the following:

1. Look at City and County goals side-by-side to see how they line up or don't. Do this first.

2. Have City and County define and agree to the goals and objectives as early as possible in the project.

3. Make sure you have the right performance indicators to measure success of existing goals. Add performance measures as you can.

4. Identify trails that would likely never be built so that decision-makers can decide whether those trails should be included in the plan.

5. Provide for prioritization of projects.

6. Show where the land use plan comes into conflict with existing zoning that may prohibit trails and such uses from being realized.

For the Workshop

1. Show County Development Area boundaries on maps and include the Village of Rivanna.

2. Add landmarks and some street names to the map to help people better orient themselves.

3. Have a "context map" – one at a different scale than the up-close ones.

4. Differentiate between existing and proposed trails.

5. If you are showing side-by-side goals at the workshop, don't put the entire list of goals on the page. Provide a manageable number or "uber" goals for comparison. The public can't effectively provide feedback on long lists.

6. Have series of maps where similar items are clustered together to illustrate a topic, such as steep slopes with streams and parks with greenways, etc.

7. Goals and objectives should be reflected on the maps. For example, if the goal is to "promote significant natural or man-made corridors" identify the significant natural or man-made corridors on the map.

8. De-emphasize the roads.

9. Show conservation easements.

10. Provide a laptop computer for people to type in comments.

11. Have maps illustrate how well goals and objectives are currently met. For example, if linking the parks with greenways is done or already planned, show it.

12. Help ensure that the public knows that they did not need to stay for the entire length of the 3 hour workshops, just 1 hour.

13. Comment from Commissioner after the meeting: enlarge the "up-close" map even more to help people better orient themselves.

14. Comment from Commissioner after the meeting: when you are getting input from the public, make sure you have them write down enough information to understand what they are saying. Post-it notes don't always convey what a person is really trying to say. Usually more clarifying language is needed to understand what was intended.

For the on-line version of maps and information

1. Put the maps on the county's online GIS website and continue to provide on-line opportunities for comment.

2. Provide longitude and latitude for use with Google Earth. See if you can get the Google Earth function to work on the City/County maps that are put on-line.

The following public comment was received

Neil Williamson, with Free Enterprise Forum, agreed with some of the points brought up with regard to goals and data being critically important. It is a question of chicken and egg and the need to have the data to go towards the goals. As he sees the process moving forward, it seems they are coming to meetings that seem to be planning meetings. He was concerned that he did not hear the discussion of the goals. There should be a substantive discussion because they have 67 pages of goals in Albemarle County. There are probably about 35 to 45 pages of goals in the Charlottesville. The community needs to have that high level discussion early rather than later to be able to understand both the Sustainability Grant and what they are trying to achieve.

The discussion adjourned at 7:30pm.