

**Planning Commission Work session  
October 23, 2012  
Notes**

**Commissioners Present:**

Ms. Genevieve Keller (Chairperson)  
Mr. Kurt Keesecker  
Mr. Dan Rosensweig  
Mr. Michael Osteen

**Council member Present**

Kathy Galvin

**Staff Present:**

Missy Creasy  
Richard Harris  
Willy Thompson  
Brian Haluska  
Ebony Walden  
Mike Smith

Ms. Keller convened the meeting at 5:10 pm and turned it over to Ms. Creasy.

Ms. Creasy reminded the Planning Commission that they should have received an email from Summer at the PDC letting them know who they have been partnered with from the county planning commission. The first City community meeting on Oct 17, 2012 was a success. The turnout was not high, but the participation from the community discussion was wonderful. The next meeting will be at Venable Elementary on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Creasy also confirmed that the next Joint Planning Commission meeting will be December 4<sup>th</sup>. A meeting place has not been set at this time. She also suggested that the Commission set aside dates on the calendar to be used for comprehensive plan review. She also suggested that they could add an extra hour to existing work sessions.

The Commission feels that they need additional time to review the material. They feel this will help them regroup and have a better time frame in reviewing the material given to them. The Commission has struggled with editing the chapters. They feel they need a more outlined structure as well as additional consistency with the goals and strategies. There was a request for a table of contents to assist in the review. They also agreed that a three tiered approach to the chapters should occur containing a vision statement, goals and objectives. Maybe a diagram that shows relationship that the vision, goals and strategies could also be created.

Ms. Creasy wanted to know what areas the commission wanted to start with and put the effort towards those first.

Ms. Galvin stated that Roanoke had done a great job with a diagram which could be helpful in the review.

Ms. Creasy wanted to know what would be helpful to the commission. Staff requested that the commission outline elements for inclusion “above the yellow line” on the draft and staff would provide draft language.

Ms. Keller feels that the information is positive, but the format may need some work.

Mr. Rosensweig feels that transportation is a big issue. He wanted to make sure that we discuss the many different ways one can move from one place to another. He feels that they should go through the chapters and highlight “words of excellence” for staff to include in the next draft.

Mr. Keesecker likes the idea of the statements being really simple. He would like the strategies to be underneath the goals and highlight single ideas.

Mr. Osteen would like to see a general concept above the line which is inclusive of all in our community.

Ms. Creasy noted that the commission should take a few moments to read each statement and highlight words or phrases that they are interested in having included in the draft language.

### **Transportation**

The Commission feels that the wording is excellent, but some things are missing. The vision should be about the connection of people and places. Shared streets and getting people to places in the city and county could be added to the vision. They feel that a parking goal is not needed.

### **Urban Design**

There should be a focus on the current character of neighborhoods. It should be more about the character of the space and not what the space will be used for.

### **Environment**

The first sentence of the chapter is a good start. The Rivanna River should be mentioned.

### **Housing**

The Commission feels that the sentence relating to the zoning impact should be taken out. Some additional language should be added to highlight transit oriented impact. They feel that a park doesn't have to be right in front of houses, but there should be an easy way to access a park close

to the neighborhoods. They also feel that there should not be any zoning in the vision, it should only be in the strategy.

A strong housing vision is important.

### **Economic Sustainability**

There was interest in outlining the target industries more fully in the vision as well as discussion about the connected nature of the City and County economies.

### **Public Comment**

Bill Emory, 1604 E Market St, is supportive of the changes to the chapters. He stated that Charlottesville only has one River, the Rivanna, and that should be mentioned by name.

Mr. Keesecker noted that he will be drafting diagrams for review of design concepts for the comprehensive plan and will consult with any parties which will be helpful in his work.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm