

MINUTES
CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE
PLANNING COMMISSION and CITY COUNCIL JOINT WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, August 27, 2013 -- 5:00 P.M.
CITYSPACE

Councilors Present:

Mr. S. Huja
Ms. Kristin Szakos
Ms. Kathy Galvin
Ms. Dede Smith

Commissioners Present:

Ms. Genevieve Keller (Chairperson)
Ms. Natasha Sienitsky
Mr. Dan Rosensweig
Mr. Michael Osteen
Ms. Lisa Green
Mr. Kurt Keesecker
Mr. John Santoski

Staff Present:

Mr. Maurice Jones, City Manager
Mr. Jim Tolbert, AICP, Director
Ms. Paige Barfield, Clerk
Ms. Miriam Dickler, Communication Director
Ms. Missy Creasy, AICP, Planning Manager
Mr. Brian Haluska, AICP, Neighborhood Planner
Mr. Mike Smith, Neighborhood Planner
Mr. Richard Harris, Deputy City Attorney

Mr. Huja and Ms. Keller called the meeting to order and turned the time to Ms. Creasy. She provided an overview of the agenda and outlined the questions for consideration.

Which areas do you think the City should focus on first, and why?

Mr. Huja stated the common interests between the City and County including the River.

Ms. Smith noted any implementation objectives relating to stormwater

Ms. Green highlighted biking/pedestrian transportation objectives and Mr. Huja and Mr. Osteen agreed.

Mr. Rosensweig noted update of the standards and design manual.

Ms. Galvin stated updating design tools and guidelines

Ms. Sienitsky was concerned about Economic Development related items in the plan. Where will new residents work?

Ms. Szakos noted that implementation of Strategic Action Team report should be addressed.

General consensus was provided that mapping and other associated visuals of projects was a priority.

There was a brief discussion about the work being done to represent CIP projects visually.

Mr. Huja expressed concerned about the utility needs of the City and how this issue fits into the Comprehensive Plan. All agreed about the importance of utilities in future discussions.

The meeting was then turned to Mr. Tolbert who provided an overview of the small area plan materials. He noted that Council is embarking on a strategic planning process and the input from this session will assist Council in making decisions about prioritization. Mr. Tolbert confirmed for Ms. Galvin that all studies underway include a market analysis. He then discussed the list of ten areas targeted for detailed study in the "small area plans" called for in the Comprehensive Plan.

Council and Planning Commissioners discussed the best way to handle developing the small area plans.

Mr. Rosensweig asked if we can achieve a better result by combining some small area sections with one another.

Council and Planning Commission participated in a prioritization exercise with the following results:

Small Area Plans – total counts:

Cherry/Roosevelt Brown: 7,

Emmet Street/Hydraulic N of 250 Bypass: 7,

Fifth Street Extended: 5,

Fountain Neighborhood Commercial: 4,

High Street/MJ Area: 6,

McIntire/Harris/Allied: 6,

Preston Ave (Ridge/McIntire to 10th): 7,

River Road / Rivanna River Area: 7,

Rose Hill: 2,

Woolen Mills: 6.

Mr. Tolbert noted that a clear consensus did not result from this exercise and prioritization will need to be addressed again in the future.

It was noted that for a future discussion, the following information will be provided:

1. Staff will review the proposed small areas and provide information on the pros and cons of combining areas into larger plans.
2. Economic development will assist in providing information on the estimated income to be generated by plan investment in the small areas to help with prioritization.

Ms. Galvin noted that implementation and big picture context is critical. We must discuss this next time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06.