

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSESSION

TUESDAY March 27, 2007 -- 5:00 P.M.

BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

City Council Present

Mr. Kevin Lynch

Planning Commissioners present

Mr. Bill Lucy (Vice-Chairman)

Ms. Cheri Lewis

Mr. Hosea Mitchell

Mr. Michael Osteen

Staff Present:

Mr. Jim Tolbert, AICP, Director NDS

Ms. Amy Kilroy, Grants Coordinator

Ms. Missy Creasy, AICP, Planning Manager

Ms. Ashley Cooper, Neighborhood Planner

Mr. Brian Haluska, Neighborhood Planner

Ms. Ebony Walden, Neighborhood Planner

Ms. Mary Joy Scala, Design and Preservation Planner

Ms Jeanie Alexander, PE, Traffic Engineer

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.

The meeting began by addressing comments pertaining to the Transportation chapter. There was a discussion on creating a percentage goal to reduce single occupancy vehicles in the City. There was discussion on whether it was appropriate to set a percentage and what that percentage would be and in what time frame. There was also question about how that would be measured, noting that the Census numbers only reflect commuter trips. The current data is also limited in that it does not distinguish county and city traffic. Discussion continued with the question of what actions and tools were in place to achieve any set goal. It was mentioned that parking is a tool which lead to a discussion about parking in the City and at the University. The final determination was to draft an objective, goal, and actions that focus on balancing the economic vitality of the city (especially Downtown) while decreasing the drive alone traffic. There was a desire for staff to look at the wording of this information and present back to Planning Commission.

Discussion moved forward to the remainder of Mr. Lucy's comments on the Transportation Chapter. It was agreed that his suggestions would be incorporated in the draft with the requested changes except for an objective to provide tax for commercial parking. It was additionally requested that a goal be added to encourage the City to purchase and use more vehicles that use alternative fuel sources to encourage a community wide goal.

It was noted that the streetcar paragraph submitted by Mr. Osteen will be used to replace the paragraph in the current draft.

Discussion moved to the Implementation chapter. There was concern about the relationship of this chapter and the Council Vision. Mr. Tolbert noted that he was reworking this chapter and will forward it for review in the near future

Ms Lewis noted that the Demographics chapter should be updated on a regular basis. It was noted that it was currently undergoing another revision and will be forwarded once complete.

Mr. Mitchell was concerned about utilities and infrastructure and requested an action item that included creating and maintaining sufficient infrastructure to support the density being promoted in the community.

Planning Commission reviewed each chapter and determined that they would like to see red-lined versions of the chapters that are complete but have small corrections. The Land Use chapter will be the topic of the April 10th pre-meeting work session. Staff will work on a plan of action for carrying the comprehensive plan forward.

The meeting ended at 7:00pm.