

PLACE Design Task Force Minutes
February 11, 2016 - 12:00 p.m.
Neighborhood Development Services Conference Room

Members Present:

Chairman Mark Watson, Rachel Lloyd, Ginny Keller, Fred Wolf, Gallon Byrd, Grant, Scott Paisley, Kathy Galvin, Tim Mohr, Paul Josey, Andrew Mondschein

Visitors Present: Bill Emory,

Staff Present: Carrie Rainey, Carolyn McCray (Clerk)

Call to Order

Mark Watson called the PLACE Design Task Force Meeting to order at 12:10 pm

Agenda

1. Public Comments

Bill Emory asked about the lighting study. He had not received any feedback on that.

2. Kathy Galvin said no one has brought that up in a while

She said to send study to NDS First, Mayor Signor and Maurice Jones.

3. Value by Advantage Presentation (45 minutes)

Urban design matrix – identified the Comp Plan Goals.

Try this out on West Main, and SIA

Alex said the housing authority has confidence, that the SIA recommendations own properties a led role to play implementation. PHA CRHA, IKS, we are taking into consideration moving forward submitted a grant for Lexington and High 4.6 million. From Council directions look at this for this year, coming to the end of Wes Main SIA implementation, last year no coordination outlining specific and program we need to change that, team to meet every quarter the team needs to meet 4 times a year, have enough information to provide a comprehensive report to City Council.

This idea would require major refinement, but we can discuss that at next month's meeting. The intent of the metrics was to see how we could measure progress towards our Comp Plan goals. In the current iteration of the metrics list, each Comp Plan goal is associated with a handful of measurable urban design features and resources. So, for example, progress towards achieving our "Green City" goals could be measured by factors such as acres of urban forest or number of street trees, and "Quality Housing Opportunities for All" could be measured by affordable housing units, etc. We could apply this measurement process at a city scale, but I think it would work best at the scale of the small area plan. In fact, we discussed using West Main as a test scenario for this process, but that effort didn't get off the ground. It's not too late, though!

As Ms. Keller mentioned when we last discussed using metrics to chart our planning progress, we must avoid the "design by numbers" pitfall when we create small area plans. In other words, improving a small area plan's metrics does not necessarily mean that the new plan achieves good place-making. We would still need the discretion of a review/stakeholder group to validate any new design.

Ms. Rainey asked do you think we could get the West Main data from Rhodeside & Harwell or ask them to provide us with their base drawings so we could do the metric counts? I ask because I think we'll need to test this system out a few times on different small area plans before we understand what all the problems and pitfalls are for this process. Maybe SIA would work as a test case, too.

All, if you are tempted to fiddle around with the spreadsheet, please note that I designated some metrics as positive--such as LF of walking trails--and others as negative--such as LF of overhead utilities in the ROW. Different small area plans may not have the same set of positive and negative metrics. In fact, an opportunity for public engagement at the start of every project might be working with the neighborhood and stakeholders to identify what the particular metrics for success might be...

4. 3-D Modeling Presentation (45 minutes)

Charlottesville Tomorrow wants you to help us build our community in Google Earth. We can utilize 3-dimensional models to bring into focus our community infrastructure and the built environment.

It is often difficult to visually understand current and proposed land use conditions. A complete 3-D model will document our community's history and growth in a visual way, helping the public fully comprehend the built environment of our area.

However, modeling an entire city can be extremely time consuming process, which is why community participation in this project is essential. Our goal is to model all of the urban areas of Charlottesville and Albemarle County in Google Earth.

To get the process started, as part of Charlottesville Tomorrow's Visualizing our Community Initiative we have begun some modeling efforts on the Charlottesville Downtown Mall and related to the community water supply. Your venture into the modeling world can begin anywhere.

We are asking you to model a building in the community which is significant to you. It can be your home, business, or school. Help us accomplish the task of modeling Charlottesville! Getting started is fairly simple and the tools are free.

