

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE
"A World Class City"

Department of Neighborhood Development Services

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November 19, 2012

**TO: Charlottesville Planning Commission, Neighborhood Associations &
News Media**

Please Take Notice

A Joint Work Session of the Charlottesville City and Albemarle County Planning Commissions will be held on **Tuesday December 4, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at City Space on the Downtown Mall (100 5th Street NE)**

AGENDA

1. Introductions/Welcome
2. Planning Commission Subcommittee Reports
3. Public Comment
4. Joint Planning Goals Discussion
5. Next Steps

cc: City Council
Maurice Jones
Aubrey Watts
Jim Tolbert
Neighborhood Planners
Melissa Thackston, Kathy McHugh
Mary Joy Scala
Craig Brown, Rich Harris



MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Planning Commissions
FROM: Summer Frederick, Project Manager
SUBJECT: Joint Goals Meeting on December 4, 2012
DATE: November 27, 2012

Context and Meeting Purpose

After facilitating conversations focused on identified issue topics with City and County Planning Commissions, and taking into consideration public input gathered via the Public Outreach Workshop Series and Community Priorities Questionnaire, and the One Community Conversation outreach effort Project staff (Staff) wrote and presented proposed joint vision statements and goals at the Joint Planning Commission meeting held September 18, 2012.

After lengthy discussion at this meeting, Commissioners suggested a final review of the joint vision statement and goals be done by sub-committees. Attached are the resulting proposed changes received from sub-committees after final review. Staff asks that the Commissions review and discuss the attached vision statements and goals, provide feedback as to the appropriateness and completeness of the proposal, and reach consensus on proposed joint vision statement and goal language, as well as appropriate next steps for Staff.

Agenda

1. Introductions/Welcome
2. Planning Commission Subcommittee Reports
3. Public Comment
4. Joint Planning Goals Discussion
5. Next Steps

Attachments

1. Joint Vision Statements and Goals from September 18, 2012
2. Housing Sub-Committee Document
3. Historic Preservation Sub-Committee Document
4. Entrance Corridor Sub-Committee Document
5. Environment Sub-Committee Document
6. Parks and Recreation Sub-Committee Document

Charlottesville & Albemarle County Joint Vision and Goal Language
September 18, 2012

The following language pertains to areas where the Charlottesville and Albemarle County Planning Commissions have expressed interest in working together. Each area begins with a vision statement, followed by goals and objectives that have been identified by both Planning Commissions. The language below is in draft form and will be finalized after gathering feedback from the public through the One Community Conversations.

Economic Development

Charlottesville and Albemarle County recognize the importance of regional economic relationships; creating a strong, diversified economy; supporting a range of businesses in identified target industry areas (bioscience & medical, business & financial, information technology & defense, and agribusiness); and promoting the upward mobility of the workforce.

- Continue to coordinate staff efforts to support regional economic development.
- Identify additional opportunities for small business development and entrepreneurship.

Entrance Corridors

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will maintain the visual integrity of roadways that serve as primary regional corridors.

- Maintain a compatible appearance between City and County entrance corridors within the urban area, while retaining the rural appearance in designated Rural Areas.

Environment

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will continue to create a community of green neighborhoods, healthy waterways, clean air, and sustainable natural resources.

- Improve water quality of City and County waterways.
 - Continue to coordinate in addressing all TMDL standards.
- Safeguard drinking water quality.

Historic Preservation

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will build upon the historic character of the region by protecting and promoting existing historic and cultural resources.

- Make historic preservation information readily available to the public.
 - Create & maintain a single map of designated City and County historic resources.
 - Provide comprehensive information on available resources and programs for historic preservation.
 - Collaborate on tourism outreach related to historic resources.
 - Promote reuse of historic structures.

Housing

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will each have a range of housing types that support various incomes, ages, and levels of mobility and are connected to facilities, parks, trails, and services in the City and County's Development Areas.

- Develop regional housing goals.
- Facilitate collaboration and coordination among various housing staff, committees, and organizations to ensure an appropriate range of housing choices for all community members.
- Increase access to workforce and affordable housing

Land Use

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will support neighborhoods and places that allow residents to live, work, and play in close proximity and where attention to the character of new development and redevelopment enhances quality of life.

- Coordinate land use and infrastructure in City-County boundary neighborhoods.
- Create a unified vision for land uses adjacent to the Rivanna River that support the river corridor as a destination.
- Promote land use patterns that encourage multi-modal transportation opportunities.
- Limit Rural Area development.

Parks and Recreation

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will provide a system of high quality public parks and recreation facilities to meet the needs of current and future residents.

- Coordinate shared parks and recreation resources.
 - Pursue joint partnerships for regional resources (i.e. Ivy Creek Natural Area and Darden-Towe Park)
 - Create multi-modal connections to and between parks and recreation areas.

Transportation

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will promote regional multi-modal transportation options.

- Provide community education regarding transportation options.
- Coordinate sidewalk network across City-County boundaries.
- Expand transit network.
- Coordinate transportation planning between Charlottesville, Albemarle County, and the University of Virginia through the Metropolitan Planning Organization.
 - Store transportation data in same format.
 - Coordinate collection of transportation data to facilitate sharing of information between Charlottesville, Albemarle County, the University of Virginia, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- Create dedicated bike-pedestrian connections across physical barriers within community.
 - Rivanna River
 - Route 250 – East and West
 - Interstate 64
 - Railroad network
 - City and VDOT system connection
 - Route 29

Entrance Corridors

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will enhance the pedestrian and automotive experiences along primary regional corridors.

- Enhance common threads along City and County entrance corridors as they transition between urban and rural character.
- Promote scale and massing which respects the individual character of each corridor.
- Establish a consistent approach to signage.
- Focus implementation on context with an emphasis on landscaping and walkability.

Joint Environmental Goals *

Air quality

Encourage clean and environmentally responsible industries instead of “smokestack industries” that degrade our environment.

Encourage multi-modal transportation, transit, and programs that facilitate a transition away from one-person/one car transportation patterns and reduce emissions that affect air quality.

Discourage and reduce outdoor burning.

Water Quality

Improve water quality of all of our waterways.

Coordinate actions intended to address all TMDL standards.

Promote, protect, and restore riparian and stream ecosystems to protect water quality for people and animals.

Safeguard drinking water quality.

Stormwater

Improve public and private stormwater infrastructure to protect natural systems from stormwater volumes and velocities that result in flooding.

Protect public health by reducing contaminated stormwater runoff.

Integrate stormwater management and pollution control into land development regulations.

Disposal Practices

Encourage development and use of responsible disposal practices that rely on re-use and recycling as alternatives to traditional landfill disposal methods.

Encourage programs to eliminate roadside litter.

Vegetation and Biodiversity

Recognize the benefits of biological diversity in natural resource protection.

Encourage the retention and use of native plants.

Encourage establishment, maintenance, and replenishment of urban tree canopy in developed areas.

Trails

Establish an interconnected city/county network of greenway trails for conservation, recreation, transportation, and outdoor education.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation

Develop resource and energy conservation strategies and practices for public facilities.

Encourage private sector conservation and energy efficiency initiatives.

Encourage low-impact techniques and practices that reduce the effects of development on natural and environmental resources.

Explore and support green building practices.

Encourage reuse and adaptive use of existing buildings.

Develop policies that encourage expansion and redevelopment for sites with existing infrastructure that are accessible to multi-modal transportation.

Explore techniques that provide incentives for urban development that coordinates with the availability of infrastructure and services.

Ensure the viability of local agriculture through cooperative techniques and incentives that provide incentives for urban development and that promote agricultural and rural resource protection.

Local Foods

Recognize the growing importance of a productive agrarian environment to the local food economy and tourism.

** Cal and I approached this task with a fairly strict definition of environmental that largely excludes any goals relating to visual and scenic—we thought that those would be more properly addressed in entrance corridors or possibly historic preservation. That does leave some gaps perhaps that may need to be addressed somewhere in our collective planning. We also did not address agriculture in any major way—assuming it would be included in land use. We many need to tweak the environmental goals to coordinate with these other overlapping goals.*

Historic Preservation

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will build upon the historic character of the region by raising awareness of our historic and cultural resources and protecting designated structures.

- Foster community awareness
 - Prepare and maintain information detailing requirements, responsibilities and support programs for eligible, significant and designated resources.
 - Prepare and maintain a single map of designated City and County historic resources.
- Promote preservation
 - Collaborate on tourism outreach related to historic resources.
 - Encourage preservation of historic structures through state and federal registration and, where appropriate, adaptive reuse.

Housing

Charlottesville and Albemarle County will each have a range of housing types that support various incomes, ages, and levels of mobility. These housing types should be connected to facilities, parks, trails and services in the City and in the County's Development Areas.

- Develop City-County housing goals, both for market-priced and affordable units.
- Maximize open space in the County by promoting optimal density in the City.
- Facilitate collaboration and coordination among various housing staff, committees, builders and organizations to ensure an appropriate range of housing choices for all community members.
- Promote housing located near employment centers in the City and optimize multi-modal transportation links between Development Areas and major employment centers in the County.
- Increase the number of workforce and affordable housing units in the City and the County.
- Promote housing stock suitable for the elderly, located in close proximity to recreational resources and adjacent to multi-modal transportation corridors.

Goal: Charlottesville and Albemarle County will provide a system of high quality public parks, recreation facilities and programming to meet the needs of all residents of the community.

Objective: Coordinate shared parks and recreation resources.

- Create a common city/county park, recreation and programming "amenity matrix" to identify the existing resources available to the community.
- Utilize this matrix to assess needs and opportunities in each jurisdiction and to initiate a dialogue about how each jurisdiction might best meet its own needs while also helping to meet some of the needs of its neighboring jurisdiction.
- Evaluate existing user fees associated with all parks, facilities and programs with the intent of providing a reciprocal arrangement between the two jurisdictions.
- Coordinate with UVA to identify both active and passive recreation opportunities that the University community may share with the larger community and community resources that may benefit the University.

Objective: Encourage healthy choices among all of our residents.

- Create multi-modal connections to and between parks and recreation areas and work to expand the network of linked facilities that don't require a car.

Objective: Share community visions.

- Explore the possibility of a Regional Park Authority to manage shared resources including Ivy Creek Natural Area and Darden Towe Park.
- Develop and implement a shared vision for parks, trails and recreation opportunities associated with the Rivanna River by building partnerships to enhance access to, use of, preservation and improvement of the waterway and adjacent lands.
- Develop a shared vision for recreation opportunities associated with Biscuit Run State Park.
- Explore shared use facilities as a first option when contemplating new or replacement recreation facilities within either jurisdiction.