AGENDA  
Rivanna River Corridor Planning  
Steering Committee  

Friday, March 2nd, 3:00-4:00  
Water Street Center, 407 E. Water Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902  

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Item</th>
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| 1    | 3:00-3:10 | **Welcome & Updates**  
Staff will provide updates on the Rivanna River Corridor Planning. There will be an overview of the process and purpose, for those new to the effort. |  
*Click here for the staff report*
*Click here for the project webpage*

| 2    | 3:10-3:15 | **Overview of Technical Committee Meetings**  
There will be an overview of what the Technical Committee discussed and how they provided guidance on existing deliverables. |  
*Click here for the February 12th meeting notes*
*Click here for the February 23rd meeting notes*

| 3    | 3:15-3:30 | **Overview of Corridor Mapping**  
Staff will provide an overview of the corridor maps, as well as an update on recent changes. |  

| 4    | 3:30-3:50 | **Phase II: Master Rivanna River Corridor Master Plan**  
The group will discuss Phase II, as the Steering Committee provides guidance for what the River Master Plan will include and how it could serve the region. |  

| 5    | 3:50-4:00 | **Next Steps**  
The Committee will discuss next steps for completing Phase I and moving forward with Phase II. |  

Other Attachments:  
*Click here for the Phase I Scope of Work*
*Click here for the Final Report Outline*
Memorandum

To: Steering Committee, Rivanna River Corridor Planning
From: Will Cockrell, Director of Planning
Date: February 27, 2018
Reference: Rivanna River Corridor Planning Effort, Phase I Update

Purpose: The Steering Committee for the Rivanna River Corridor Planning Effort will meet on March 2nd, to review project deliverables and discuss the Phase II: River Corridor Master Plan. This memo provides an overview of this effort, for anyone new to the process, and outlines what is completed.

Background: In recent years, local officials and stakeholders began to refocus on the Rivanna River, as a natural and community asset. In 2013, the TJPDC managed the One Community effort, to create a more livable region through regional coordination. In 2014, Charlottesville and Albemarle held a joint Strategic Planning Meeting, where officials identified the Rivanna River as a top priority for inter-governmental coordination. The localities requested that the TJPDC convene an appointed group of elected officials, planning commissioners, staff and non-profits to begin joint planning discussions around common sections of the Rivanna River. There were nine subsequent meetings with these stakeholders, to discuss a variety of topics and recommendations for how to move forward. In 2015, The TJPDC presented these recommendations at a City-County joint planning session. In 2016, the City and County decided to move forward with Phase I of the planning effort.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project Timeline</th>
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<tr>
<td>2016 - 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Various Coordination Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Development of River Planning Concept</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Finalized Scope of Work</td>
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<td>• Signed Contract with TJPDC for Phase I</td>
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<td>August 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Preliminary Mapping of the River Corridor</td>
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<td>• Identification of Steering and Technical Committee Members</td>
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<td>September 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Technical Advisory Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Finalized Study Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Meetings with Local Staff and Stakeholders</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Meetings with Local Staff and Stakeholders</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Identification of Mapping Themes</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Data Collection for Mapping Series</td>
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<td>January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Launch of Webpage/Online Portal</td>
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<td>• Drafting of the Mapping Series</td>
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<td>February 2018</td>
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<td>• Technical Advisory Committee Meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Completion of the Mapping Series</td>
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<td>March 2018</td>
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<td>• Final Report for Phase I</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Written Proposal for Phase II Master Plan</td>
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<td>• River Steering Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>• Technical Advisory Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>• River Steering Committee Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Consideration of Phase II Work by Stakeholders</td>
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<td>Spring 2018</td>
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<td>• Local Budget Review for Phase II Master Plan</td>
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Summary: The Technical Committee, made up of staff members on the Steering Committee roster, held three meetings and is planning a fourth in March. This group provided guidance on project deliverables for Phase I, especially the maps. With help from the Technical Committee, TJPDC staff has completed several elements of this effort. Staff has completed: 1) digitizing all mapping data; 2) an initial webpage for Phase I of the Corridor Planning (http://tjpdc.org/rivannacorridor/); 3) thematic maps of the corridor; and, 4) an initial outline of the final report.

Action Items: Staff asks that the Steering Committee provide additional guidance on: the Phase I deliverables and proposals for the Phase II Master Plan. Please contact Nick Morrison nmorrison@tjpdc.org or Will Cockrell wcockrell@tjpdc.org for more information or questions.
Meeting Notes
Rivanna River Corridor Planning, Phase I
Technical Committee

Monday, February 12th, 11:00-12:30
TJPDC – Conference Room 1

Attendees
Elaine Echols, Albermarle County
David Fox, Albermarle County
Chris Gensic, City of Charlottesville
David Hanna, Albermarle County
Kristel Riddervold, City of Charlottesville
Daphne Spain, Albemarle County
Andrea Terry, Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority

TJPDC Staff
Chip Boyles
Will Cockrell
Nick Morrison

Timeline
Nick Morrison went over the project timeline.

Elaine Echols wanted to make sure that the plan is more prominent and easy to find for those not purely focused on environmental issues. The effort includes much more than environmental considerations.

Review of Maps
Nick reviewed the different themed maps with the group.

Infrastructure Map:
Andrea Terry mentioned that the map should include the water and sewer lines. She said that she would provide some data.

Elaine mentioned the inclusion of the County’s water and sewer lines. David Fox said he would need to check on whether that and gas lines were able to be shared.

Chris Gensic mentioned the inclusion of overhead powerlines and the railroad. If staff couldn’t get those, then they could trace them off of the aerials.

Land Cover Map:
Chris asked that staff review item “91” on the legend.

Elaine asked that staff remove colors that are not used on the map.

Chris mentioned that the scale should be standardized.

Land Use Map:
Elaine said to add “existing” to the land use title.

Chris mentioned that Monticello is not publicly owned, as was indicated on the map. He also said to redefine the water and sewer facilities, as they are not open space.

Elaine asked for fewer categories and more simplified land use definitions.

Chris said to relook at the land use categories at the old Martha Jefferson Site. He said to also relook at the Riverside Village area.
Environmental:
Chris asked staff to reexamine the boundaries of the study area.

David Hannah suggested the include of the north fork into the study area.

Elaine asked staff to add landmarks to the maps. She also said that a map should include the floodplain.

David Hannah mentioned that Albemarle County is working on a biodiversity action plan, identifying special habitat zones. It will not be completed until early April, but he thought there could be some overlap. Will mentioned that Phase I will be completed in March, but the biodiversity plan could integrate into Phase II.

Chris highlighted conservation easement areas along the river.

Elaine asked for a layer that shows private versus public lands.

Chris suggested adding the location of public access to the river.

Chris said that the proposed park layer could be controversial and suggested removing it. He said that he would provide a new layer for existing trails.

Elaine said to be careful with the archeological resources layer. She asked to conduct a quality check on the historic resources layers. Nick said she could take the map from this meeting to take back to the County.

David Fox said to highlight the main recreational trails. Including all the spurs could be confusing. Will said that the online maps could turn on and off layers as the review zooms in and out.

Overall:
Chris mentioned the addition of sub-watersheds. Kristel thought that could be an option and could provide information on the City side of the River.

David Hannah asked whether it would be wise to add water quality or health.

Elaine mentioned that the study area should be a half mile from the river, on both sides.

Kristel mentioned that there would be a layer that shows all recreational facilities.

Andrea mentioned that the scope of work, where it defines the study area, references the wrong damn.

River Webpage
Nick provided an overview of the project website.

Elaine said that the River Plan should be under Community, rather than Environmental. She also mentioned that the page should include a link to the Pantops Area Mast Plan.

Kristel mentioned that staff should rethink the list of river stakeholders, by changing the heading or adding more organizations. She said there are many organizations that might consider themselves to be stakeholders.
Kristel mentioned that UVA is working on a Rivanna River Stormwater Education Partnership that is creating an online story map of the Rivanna. Will said this is similar to what staff is doing. Kristel said she would provide contact information for the UVA effort.

David Fox said that Google Surveys seem to work better than SurveyMonkey for community outreach.

**Final Report Outline**
Nick reviewed the document outline.

David Fox suggested a trends section, including development, population and other trends.

Elaine suggested an evaluation of existing plans, to be summarized in the document.

David Hannah recommended a timeline of significant events for the River.

Andrea recommended a section on how the dam and reservoir are managed, including flow data.

Kristel mentioned that there is plenty of data associated with TDMLs.

Chris mentioned possible data on how many people kayak or float down the River. He also recommended information that identified who is in control of what within the corridor.

Andrea mentioned the possibility of data for drinking water and waste water.

Kristel recommended trends on forestation.

**Next Steps**
Will reviewed the project schedule. The group appeared to be in agreement with the schedule.

**Further Discussion**
Chris said there was discussion of moving the river event from the fall to May.
Nick gave an overview of how he updated the maps. He also mentioned that staff updated the webpage, based on the group’s comments.

Robbi said to include a link to the project page under the TJPDC’s environmental page.

Chris discussed how the Ivy Creek Nature Preserve is shown on the maps and said there may need to be tweaks. He also recommended changes to the City Boundary layer. The existing line width and color made it look like a creek.

Dan talked about easements along the River and said he could follow up with more information.

David Fox said the “public” land category should be divided into public access and public land. The single “public land” term could be misleading.

There was discussion on including unofficial boat launches.

David Fox said that aspirational items, such as proposed trails and boat launches, would be for the Phase II Master Planning effort.

Chris said to label Route 20 North. He also said to label the North and South Forks of the Rivanna. He said to label Key West, as well.

Dan noted new park space on one of the maps.

Robbi said to map historic kiosks that are in the study area. She said that she could provide information on these.

David Hanna said that colors on the land cover map could use more contrast. He also mentioned identifying subcategories of the wetlands areas.

Chris mentioned to include spotted salamander crossings.

Dan said to show the Milton boat launch. He also recommended a cultural and heritage map, showing the general location of cultural and historic resources in the study area.
David Hanna mentioned inclusion of bio-diversity areas. The bio-diversity report is not complete, but the maps could include general areas.

Robbi and Dan discussed how the Rivanna is the first or second scenic river in Virginia, so it should not be treated like the San Antonio River Walk or the urban context of Richmond and the James River.

Chris mentioned inclusion of the easements along Meadow Creek.

David Hanna mentioned other County easements within and around the study area.

Chris said to add City parks.

Robbi said to have a separate parks map, for just parks. She also asked about having all this mapping data downloadable on the project page. Nick said that he could do that.

Chris asked about including aerial or drone footage of the River. Robbi has several photos of the River.

Robbi talked about a rain garden demonstration at RSC’s new location.

The group agreed to send additional information to Nick.
I. Overview

The purpose of this project is to complete Phase I of the Rivanna River Corridor Planning effort. Phase I focuses on developing the necessary foundation, structure, and information to lay the groundwork for completing an eventual joint master plan of the Rivanna River areas shared jointly between Charlottesville and Albemarle county. The scope of work detailed below is has been developed directly from the MOA dated 7/20/17.

The study area consists generally of the areas within approximately half a mile of the Rivanna River from the North Fork Reservoir dam downstream to the Milton Road bridge near Shadwell. The study area is located within the jurisdiction of Charlottesville and Albemarle. The final project boundary will be defined by the Steering Committee.

II. Timeline

Phase I will begin July 1, 2017 and end no later than June 30, 2018. It is estimated that substantial completion of the deliverables for Phase I will be complete by January 1, 2018.

III. Budget

The CITY and the COUNTY will provide the PDC with seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500) each for a total project amount of fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000). For Fiscal Year 2018. The table below provided a detailed breakdown of the budget by task and sub-task.
IV. Tasks
   A. Committees
      1. Form the steering committee and host meetings as necessary. Committee membership is outlined in section IV.
      2. Create a Technical Committee of Steering Committee staff members and other local government and agency staff to meet, guide and coordinate technical and data driven tasks to develop the deliverables. Phase I will be predominately a Technical Committee activity.
   B. Final Report
      1. Produce a final report on existing conditions.
      2. Develop Recommendations and next steps including finalizing a proposal for Phase II
   C. Plans Review
      1. Review existing land use plans and prepare a map of adopted Comprehensive Plan recommendations. Review existing parks, transportation, and recreational plans and studies and merge those recommendations with land use recommendations.
   D. Joint Corridor Mapping
      1. Collect and review existing spatial datasets to develop a corridor specific natural resources inventory by supplementing locally available data with resources from area non-profits, UVA, State agencies and other resource centers.
      2. Produce corridor maps highlighting the location and extent of resources

V. Deliverables
   1. Set of corridor maps highlighting green, grey, cultural, recreational and planning related resources
   2. Project website with corridor maps, information about the committees, and a public engagement portal.
   3. Organize technical and steering committees
   4. Final Phase I Report on mapping and data gathering
   5. Complete Phase II application
RIVANNA RIVER CORRIDOR PLANNING EFFORT

Phase I: Final Report_Draft Outline

The Rivanna River Corridor Plan, Phase I Final Report, will be a concise document that will function to:

- Identify the need for a River Master Plan;
- Identify existing conditions along the River;
- Highlight critical topics and locations that require further study;
- Feed into the Phase II work; and,
- Influence decision-makers to invest in Phase II.

The audience will be local staff and decision-makers, as well as other stakeholders.

Executive Summary

The Rivanna River Corridor Plan is a joint effort between the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County, along with other stakeholders, to develop a vision and action plan for the Rivanna River. This effort will help to refocus attention on the Rivanna. The planning process and subsequent Master Plan will help localities and stakeholders coordinate on making a cleaner, safer and more livable waterway that serves as a catalyst for community investment. The Thomas Jefferson Planning District is facilitating this process through its initial phase.

Phase I focuses on developing the necessary data and groundwork for beginning a joint Master Plan for the Rivanna River, between the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County. The study area consists generally of the areas within a half mile from the Rivanna River, at the North Fork Reservoir dam to the Milton Road bridge, near Shadwell. Phase I deliverables include:

- A comprehensive series of thematic maps that illustrate existing conditions and critical issues along the River,
- This webpage, to share information and serve as a public engagement portal,
- Coordination between local officials and stakeholders,
- A Final Report on mapping and data gathering from Phase I, and
- A written proposal and budget for the Phase II Master Plan.

In recent years, local officials and stakeholders began to refocus on the Rivanna River, as a natural and community asset. In 2013, the TJPDC managed the One Community effort, to create a more livable region through regional coordination. In 2014, Charlottesville and Albemarle held a joint Strategic Planning Meeting, where officials identified the Rivanna River as a top priority for inter-governmental coordination. The localities requested that the TJPDC convene an appointed group of elected officials, planning commissioners, staff and non-profits to begin joint planning discussions around common sections of the Rivanna River. There were nine subsequent meetings with these stakeholders, to discuss a variety of topics and recommendations for how to move forward. In 2015, The TJPDC presented these recommendations at a City-County joint planning session. In 2016, the City and County decided to move forward with phase I of the planning effort.

Conclusions

Recommendations for Phase II
Introduction

Background

Process: Phase I

The Technical Committee

The Steering Committee

Phase II

Existing Conditions

Existing Data Summary

Summary of Thematic Maps

Critical Locations and Topics

Conclusions

Next Steps

Recommendations for Phase II

Lessons Learned from Phase I

Appendix

Phase II Scope of Work

Phase II Budget