Charlottesville’s Fifeville Neighborhood is working with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) to create positive change in their community. By December of 2018, the City and Neighborhood will have a detailed plan for bringing about that change. The process to get there will be as important as the results, as the community comes together to create a plan for the future of this historic neighborhood.

PROJECT TIMELINE

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS WORKING ON THE PLAN

THE CHERRY AVENUE EFFORT

BACKGROUND

Late in the summer of 2016, City Planning Commissioners designated the Cherry Avenue Corridor for the next small area planning initiative. The commissioners cited several factors that influenced their decision to focus efforts on this area:

- Stresses on the neighborhood and corridor from commuter traffic
- Large approved development under construction, anchoring the east and west ends of the corridor
- The ability to utilize the groundwork laid by the neighborhood in developing a Visioning document dated May 12, 2016

Please visit www.TJPDC.ORG/CHERRYAVENUE/ to stay up to date on the process, upcoming events, and how to get and stay involved.
Located in the central part of Charlottesville, directly south of the West Main Street Corridor, the Fifeville neighborhood is steeped in rich culture and history. The area of the City that would eventually become Fifeville started as a large tract of agricultural land, much of which was known as Oak Lawn. The neighborhood primarily developed between the late 19th and early 20th centuries, as Oak Lawn was subdivided and increasing development occurred to accommodate the increasing numbers of middle-class and blue-collar workers.

The Fifeville neighborhood has been primarily occupied by African-American residents and holds places of deep significance to both African-American residents in Fifeville and across the city. Many long-term residents of Fifeville have noted the significance by recounting stories of how Fifeville was one of the few safe havens in the City for African-American residents in the not so distant past.

In recent decades, Fifeville has seen demographic shifts that have further diversified the neighborhood, with new white, Latino, and African residents moving in.