City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County Planning Commissions Joint Work Session
Albemarle Office Building - McIntire
Room 241, Second Floor,
401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia.
January 15, 2013

Charlottesville Commissioners Present:
Ms. Genevieve Keller (Chairperson)
Mr. Kurt Keesecker
Ms. Lisa Green
Mr. Dan Rosensweig
Ms. Natasha Sienitsky
Mr. Michael Osteen
Mr. John Santoski
Mr. David Neuman (UVA Architect – Ex-officio).

Albemarle Commissioners Present:
Mr. Calvin Morris (Chairperson)
Mr. Ed Smith
Mr. Richard Randolph
Mr. Bruce Dotson (Arrived at 5:41 p.m.)
Mr. Mac Lafferty
Mr. Tom Loach
Mr. Don Franco
Ms. Julia Monteith (UVA Architect – Ex-officio).

Charlottesville Staff Present:
Missy Creasy, Planning Director
Richard Harris, City Attorney

Albemarle Staff Present:
David Benish, Chief of Zoning
Andy Sorrell, Senior Planner
Sharon Taylor, Clerk to PC
Greg Kamptner, Deputy County Attorney

TJPDC Staff:
Summer Frederick, Project Manager

Call to Order

Joint County/City Planning Commissions meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Calvin Morris, Chair– County and Genevieve Keller, Chairperson – City in the Albemarle County Office Building - McIntire, Room 241, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, VA.

Work Session - Joint City-County Goals for One-Community/Livability Project

The Planning Commissions held a work session to set general direction and obtain feedback on the following issues: Joint City County Goals.

Joint Goals Discussion

Summer Fredrick gave a presentation about the work leading to the creation of the joint vision and goals statements. The edited versions of the sections were provided for review with the final language from prior meetings and comments provided to TJPDC staff via email. Ms. Frederick requested that the Commissions come to consensus on final language.

Ms. Frederick reminded the Commissions that because this document will go into the individual Comprehensive Plans, it is possible that each of the localities may receive some public input which might lead to a slight alteration of the language. The Commissions have talked about this possibility from the beginning. Ms. Frederick said that the public will continue to have opportunity to comment in the future. She said that confirmation has been received on how the information will appear in the Comprehensive Plans for the City and the County.

The meeting was opened for discussion and a discussion was held on each section topic by topic:

Economic Development

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- Bullet (# 4) was added at the request of the City PC – previously there was concern that barriers exist that could affect innovation. Some members of the Albemarle PC did not endorse this language and suggested that this bullet be rephrased to be positive.
- Could the 3rd, 5th and 8th bullets be merged?
- Maybe language from bullet # 6 could be used for #4.
- Make # 1 clearer – use different words than "plan for"
- There should be a reference to CATEC and PVCC in #6. Also add words "entrance and re-entry" in front of "workforce training"
- Agreed with John Lowery's comments (see public comment).

Entrance Corridors

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- Bullets 4& 5 seem similar – could they be merged?
- Can UNESCO World Heritage sites be recognized here?
- 4th bullet – is there different guidance for the RA and DA corridors?(Staff: not currently)
- Bullet 5 gets to the idea of placemaking in corridors
- Bullet # 1 – wording should be different than "promote" and "respect." This is an important point and the wording should be stronger like "respect and enhance" or "enhance and improve"
- Would consistent signage between localities take away from the individuality of each locality?
- Felt bullet # 2 on signage was important to keep as is.
- Should a bullet be added to address the existing and historic character of corridors?

Environment

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- In bullet # 2 the word "address" doesn't mean "meet"
- Need to address watershed protection area as a new 3rd bullet under water quality
- In air quality bullet # 1 add wording that says "encourage and attract environmentally clean and environmental responsible industries."
- Don't forget water quantity is important too
- In Air quality, Bullet # 2 - What locations does it mean?
- What about financial incentives for LID?
- In agriculture, Bullet # 1 - add a phrase which says that in the county, this would be in Development Areas.

Historic Preservation

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- Bullets # 2 and # 3 seem like they could be combined.
- Bullet # 2 – note that map should be kept current
- Provide more specific language on what "designated" means
- Add Ashlawn to bullet # 6.

Housing

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- Bullet # 4 - strike last several words because they can be in the city and county
- Bullet # 5 - add deeply affordable (0-25% AMI)
- Bullet # 6 - connectivity is better than adjacency
- Bullet # 3 - create new separate bullet for mixed income communities

Land Use

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- Bullet # 6 - more about cross city/county boundaries
- Bullet # 7 - could be stated more positively; also stronger wording needed rather than "relieve pressure" – "preserve" may be too strong - "plan for" is better
- Need to address sustainability – these goals all promote sustainability – they all seem to relate to the sustainability accords – maybe we need more specific thoughts on how we got to this point? - performance measurement system – many of the indicators are from Comp Plans

Parks and Recreation

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- 1st bullet – could a map be created too?
- Move the last bullet in "coordinate shared parks…" to be under "encourage healthy choices…" add wording to state "create a regional plan…"
- 3rd bullet under "coordinate shared parks…"needs more teeth – create vs. creating need to normalize the syntax

Transportation

Commissioners made the following comments or asked the following questions:

- Add a bullet on expanding the multimodal network
- Bullets may need to be ordered differently – maybe more basic ideas to more innovative ones? In bullet # 6 note intra and interstate rail and air transportation

Public Comment – Cal Morris, Chair of the Albemarle County Planning Commission opened the floor for public comment. Comments were received from the following individuals:

1. **Tom Olivier** –said he spoke as an individual and stated that sustainability needed to be better addressed. He referenced ASAP's population report and noted that information on having a sustainable population should be addressed.

2. **Bill Emory** – said he liked # 3 on the list of possible projects for the Commissions to work on together because it reflects the desire for a unified vision.

3. **Travis Pielta** – from the Southern Environmental Law Center said he liked the environmental section with some suggestions such as how TDM is working to reduce air pollution and that water quality and quantity systems are interconnected.

4. **Leslie Middleton** – from the Rivanna River Basin Commission said she also liked # 3 on the list of possible projects for the Commissions to work on together because it reflects the desire for a unified vision. She said that this item should call out water quality and that adjacent land uses need at least 100 ft buffer from the Rivanna River. Ms. Middleton indicated that the item should also reference water quality and well as quantity

5. **John Lowry** - Charlottesville Economic Development Commission – said that the economic development bullets should be kept separate. He asked for a new bullet on schools working better with economic development to have a better line of communication.

Conclusion/Next Steps

The Commission discussed four proposed joint implementation strategies and was asked to choose two of the four for the next steps with the joint Commissions. It was the consensus of the Commissions that items #3 and #4 as outlined in the joint memorandum be the priority projects for future joint commission work.

3. Create a plan that incorporates a unified vision for land uses adjacent to the Rivanna River that support the river corridor as a destination; and develops a shared vision for parks, trails, and recreational opportunities associated with the river.
4. Create a plan that coordinates building the sidewalk network across City-County boundaries, and creates dedicated bike-pedestrian connections across physical barriers within the community.

The joint meeting of the City and County Planning Commissions was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

New Business

There being no new business, the meeting moved to the next item.

Old Business

There being no old business, the meeting moved to the next item.

Adjournment

The Albemarle County Planning Commission adjourned at 7:45 p.m. to Tuesday, January 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the County Office Building, Auditorium, Second Floor, 401 McIntire Road, Charlottesville, Virginia.

V. Wayne Cilimberg, Secretary

(Submitted by Sharon C. Taylor, Clerk to Planning Commission & Planning Boards)