Policy Briefing Summary
City Council

Regarding:	**Vinegar Hill Group Presentation**
Staff Contact(s):	Mayor Juandiego Wade
Presenter:	**Vinegar Hill Group**
Date of Proposed Action:	November 16, 2026

Issue
An update on the Vinegar Hill Legacy Memorial Council's work to honor the neighborhood and its history, presented on the fifteenth anniversary of the City's formal apology for its role in Vinegar Hill's destruction.

Background / Rule
Vinegar Hill was a center of African American community life in Charlottesville. Its destruction through Urban Renewal displaced residents, businesses, and a church that had been built over generations. On Nov. 7, 2011, City Council formally apologized for the City government's role in the destruction of the neighborhood and acknowledged that those impacted had not been included in the decision-making process.

Every month since April, 2025 — for the last 18 months — the Vinegar Hill Legacy Memorial Council has met to develop community priorities for preserving and sharing the history of the Vinegar Hill neighborhood. With research and logistical support from the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center's Center for Local Knowledge, the group is advancing a set of proposals for future interpretation that are crafted and guided by former Vinegar Hill residents, their families, and members of Charlottesville's Black community.

The presentation will share the group's work to date and its developing vision for memorialization and ongoing future recognition.

Analysis
n/a

Financial Impact
No appropriation is requested as part of this informational briefing. Any future request for City funding will be presented separately.

Recommendation
Receive the presentation and discuss next steps for continued collaboration with the Vinegar Hill Legacy Memorial Council.

Recommended Motion (if Applicable)
n/a

Attachments
None