

## GREENWAY COMMISSION

### WORK SESSION

March 14, 2013

12:00pm-5:00 pm

6th Floor HR Conference Room-City Hall



## GREENWAY COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Asheville's Greenway Commission is to advise City Council on implementation of a system of greenways within Asheville by integrating City and County Parks and Transportation plans while educating and engaging the public and advocating for funding.

**Members Present:** Jim Grode, Chairman, Marcia Bromberg, Vice-Chairman, Bryan Mitchell, Mary Weber, Sue Barlow, Ally Donlan Wilson, Stephen Jones; and Chris Pelly, Council Liaison

**Staff Present:** Cathy Ball, Executive Director of PW and Multi-Modal Transportation Department, Mariate Echeverry, Transportation Planning Manager, Roderick Simmons, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, Al Kopf, Superintendent of Planning and Development, Blake Esselstyn, Planning & Development, Barb Mee, Transportation Planner, Janet GeorgeMurr, Transportation Department.

**Community Present:** Dave Nutter and Glen Locascio (formerly member of Greenway Commission)

- Chairman Grode called the meeting to order at 12:24pm.
- Introduction by Greenway Commission Members and Staff
- **Review and approval of 2-14-13 minutes:** Marcia moved to approve the minutes, Sue seconded and carried unanimously.
- **Goals of Work Session and Overview of Multi-Modal Vision and Commission:**

1. Cathy Ball presented to the commission a power point presentation on the reasons for a Multi-Modal Transportation which is the "Triple Bottom Line" for the People, Planet and Profit
  - a. Efficient use of land and money;
  - b. Meet the diverse demands of various economic groups;
  - c. Healthy community;
  - d. More dense development with less congestion;
  - e. Reduce air pollution

An internal City re-organization that matches the triple bottom line should be achieved by creating infrastructures to be denser such as the Riverway development and how to live in the same space. The creation of the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission and the subcommittees would help to streamline the work load. Cathy presented a methodology in creating the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission (MMTC):

- ▶ 1st Year - The sub-committees of Transit, Greenway, Neighborhood Advisory, Planning and Zoning Commissions; Bike and Pedestrian Task Force would choose the respective members to the MMTC.
- ▶ By adding SACEE (Sustainability Advisory Committee on Energy and the Environment) for balance.
- ▶ Planning and Zoning will review the corridors and their knowledge base of ways for transportation.
- ▶ 2nd Year - Chairman and Vice-Chair of each respective sub-committee to recommend members to be on the MMTC to apply; and MMTC would appoint sub-committee member in each respective areas.
- ▶ Chair and Vice Chair of each group would recommend to be on the MMTC and to apply. The MMTC would appoint the sub-committee.
- ▶ Sub-committee would represent MMTC.
- ▶ Work plan for first year would be to work on a 10 year plan.
- ▶ MPO as consultants will be able to assist.

### **Overview of MMTC discussion:**

- ▶ Sue stated that per the GC mission statement it would be best that a representative of the Parks and Recreation Department of the Greenway Sub-Committee. This would be worth trying which will sort out of the concerns that are missing when GC goes to MMTC in order to keep other important aspects of the greenway not just the multi-modal.
- ▶ Roderick stated that P&R has the same model with the Urban Trail Committee.
  - ◆ The Urban Trail Committee built the trail and stayed around for years.
  - ◆ The Urban Trail not appointed by Council.  
They are now under the Cultural Arts Board to have a voice and stayed connected to discuss maintenance issues, the development of the trail, etc.
  - ◆ The Urban Trail continues to remain connected by organizing tours and working closely with the Public Art Board by having a liaison and has regularly scheduled meetings.
  - ◆ The Urban Trail which is model who are still engaged and anyone can serve and make recommendations to the Public Art Board.
- ▶ Cathy asked if there is a position that is vacated and talking about filling that position we had the model of applications would be for people who are interested would be submitted to this board. If you had the other one what are GC on thoughts on how appointments should be made to the sub-committee.
- ▶ Marcia feels that both groups need to review it that both commissions that report to Council (P&R Commission and MMTC) to review to give a clearance.
- ▶ Blake stated an idea if there were 3 members on the sub-committee reporting to MMTC and P&R Board if those are designated allocated spots to make sense to have the relative commission to appoint.
- ▶ Cathy stated that it does make sense to have 3 appointments would be made by the MMTC and 3 by the P&R Board.

### **Overview of Existing and Planned Greenway Development**

▶ Roderick stated that he is open for how we want to have this discussion with GC. Before there were concerns about going ahead with the planning process with knowing that you have a new board in place and far down the road do we go so that we are not in "silos." But, do we stop the progress we made to wait for the 18 month to go into the 10 year plan. How does GC feel about moving forward - do we go forward to talk about future areas that we need to take under consideration and identify connections or do we set the priority list. If we do identify the next corridors here are some of the concepts or the matrix that we want to use to identify what is the high use. As Cathy pointed as we making these transition routes and capacity - do we want to set criteria for the determining what they are or do we want to wait the process of going thru the 10 year plan and then set the criteria.

After a lengthy discussion, the following greenways were named to have a probable cause for feasibility study to determine which will be prioritized:

- Azalea
- Beaverdam Rd.
- 251 N towards the County Weaverville area
- Patton Avenue - Smith Mill Creek Area going west.
- West Asheville towards Sulphur Spring connecting to Hominy Creek

- ▶ Glen stated that the Foundation is looking for some money to fund a greenway user map and would include bike information with a fold out in a rack size that could be available at the Chamber. Visitors would be able to get to the greenway. Glen will be working on the map portion with a blow up of the Carrier Park area since that is the core of it at this time and Glen is looking into graphic designers and hopefully to obtain money to pay for the graphic designer and printing. The idea is that this map would be useful for 1 to 2 years because of the work that will be completed.
- ▶ Roderick offered to help Glen.
- ▶ Al stated that Jim suggested having a digital format as the changes are happening so quickly he suggested having it online but also can be amended easily.
- ▶ Jim suggested a smart phone app.

Adjourned at 3:30pm