

## MEMO

TO: Planning and Economic Development Committee  
DATE: January 20, 2015  
FROM: Stephanie Monson, Riverfront Office Director  
SUBJECT: Riverfront Update

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Summary:  
Progress report on River Arts Innovation District work plan items

Detail:

- 1) *Land acquisition for TIGER VI projects-*
  - Current: The City's Real Estate Management team is in the process of hiring an NCDOT pre-approved appraiser who will perform the land acquisition functions associated with TIGER VI greenways (French Broad River west bank, Clingman Forest and Town Branch). Hiring should be complete within two weeks and work will commence immediately.
  - Upcoming Milestones: Real Estate will release a comprehensive RFP for appraisals, title work, and acquisition services for the RADTIP in the first half of February. Team expects NCDOT authorization to begin
  - Future Council consideration: Approval of a contract for acquisition services, tentatively in March 2015.
  
- 2) *Form based code for the greater River Arts District-*
  - Current: The City's Planning and Urban Design staff released an RFP to develop a form based code for the greater River Arts District last week. \$100,000 is dedicated to this item in the FY 14/15 budget.
  - Upcoming Milestones: Selection of consultant by March 13; work to commence in April 2015. Public engagement starts early summer 2015.
  - Future Council consideration: Approval of a contract for planning services, tentatively in late March 2015.
  
- 3) *River Arts Innovation District Project financing-*
  - Current: The City's Finance staff is leading the management of, and providing oversight for the projects' financing.
  - Upcoming Milestones: City budget process for FY 15/16 and 5 year CIP adoption.
  - Future Council considerations: Consideration to authorize City Manager to sign a grant award agreement in the amount of \$1.8 Million from the Buncombe County Tourism Development Authority for the Riverfront Destination Development Project, proposed for February 10 Council meeting;  
Consideration to authorize signing of grant award agreement in the amount of \$14.6 Million for the TIGER VI East of the Riverway Multimodal Transportation Network, tentative in March 2015.

Staff Recommendation:  
Request PED feedback on any of the above items.

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