



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Active River Project Update –Information Only

Presenter: Chris Adesso

Please check appropriate box:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government Operations	X	Government Services – 05.23.16
<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning & Development		City Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing		

Estimated Cost:	\$0.00	Budgeted:	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Executive Summary:

The Active River Task Force wishes to provide the Council Committee updates on the status of topics pertaining to the Active River Project/Concept. The Task Force offers the attached information to the Committee. A member of the Task Force will be available at each of the Government Services Committee meetings to respond to any questions or comments that the Council Committee may have.

Attachments: *(please list)*

April 4, 2016 - Task Force Meeting Minutes
 April 18, 2016 – Task Force Meeting Minutes

Recommendation / Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only

For office use only: Agenda Item Number: 3.b

MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
APRIL 4, 2016

Members Present: Chair John Rabchuk, Trish Beckjord, Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Holly Cabel, Jim Enck, John Wessel

Members Absent: Chris Adesso, Monica Meyers

Others Present: Tom Anderson, Isabel Soderlind

Visitors Present:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:05 a.m.

2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the March 21, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting. Motion by Trish Beckjord, second by Jim Enck to accept and place the minutes on file.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Chris Adesso, Monica Meyers

Motion carried at 8:06 a.m.

3. Update on St Charles Park District Related Active River Projects

John Rabchuk would like to include an update on the related St. Charles Park District Active River projects at these meetings. City Council is currently reading the minutes and it would be beneficial for the aldermen to read the progress the St. Charles Park District (hereinafter referred to as the Park District) is making on these projects.

Holly Cabel informed the Task Force that the Boy Scout Island and the Bike Trail Project along Pottawattamie Park were currently on the agenda. John Wessel is currently applying for grants to reduce the overall cost of the project for the Park District.

Trish Beckjord suggested the Task Force should inquire on the silt deposition at Boy Scout Island. Holly Cabel mentioned the project was still at the concept stage and that information would be included in the Design Engineering stage of the project.

4. Communications and Marketing Update

A. Update on Logo and Design

Rick Brems shared three different logos with the Task Force. The members discussed alternatives to the word “Destination” on the logo. Other alternatives discussed were “Experience” or “Discover”. Rick Brems mentioned all three “buzzwords” are incorporated in many of the Chamber’s handouts.

Most of the Task Force members favored the first logo on the list which included the river, trees and icons of the city buildings. It was decided that each member would share the three

logos with others outside this group and request feedback. A formal approval vote of the logo will be taken at the April 18 meeting.

The Task Force will present the logos to City Council at an upcoming Government Services Committee (GSC) meeting. John Rabchuk will be unavailable throughout the month of April; he will request to be placed on the May 23 GSC agenda.

B. Discuss Alternative Approach

John mentioned Mrs. Tieche and her 4th grade students from Munhall School will be present at one of the Government Services Committee meetings to promote the Active River Project.

5. Task Force Updates

A. Grant Applications Update

Bob Leonard Walk Update:

The Kane County Riverboat Grant application was submitted on February 29, 2016, but the Task Force will not receive any confirmation of the funds until this coming fall.

Charlemagne Island Sculpture Project

The Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley conducted their site tour and preliminary evaluation back in February. The Community Foundation encouraged the Task Force members to increase the grant application to \$25,000 with part of the funds possibly subsidizing the installation of the sculptures. John Rabchuk is still waiting for the tax document before submitting the grant. Mr. Rabchuk already has a draft prepared and he hopes to submit the application soon.

The City also has set some monies aside in this year's budget for the preliminary engineering plans for this portion of the project.

B. Engineering Information Update

Greg Chismark (WBK) has supplied an outline of work required for the feasibility study. He has already reviewed the information with Scott Shipley. John Rabchuk anticipates that WBK will have a cost estimate by the end of this week.

Looking ahead, John Rabchuk would like to present the following information to Council at the May 23 Government Services Committee meeting:

- the WBK cost estimates
- a cost-funding comparative analysis from a number of similar river projects
- the Active River logo

C. Meetings and Presentations

Metro West Council – Fox River Subgroup

A meeting with the Metro West Council-Fox Valley subgroup has yet to be determined.

St. Charles East High School- Environmental Science Classes and ECO-Club

The high school environmental science students will assume responsibility for the water quality testing. This group is getting organized and will begin the program in the fall of 2016. The water testing sites have not been formalized by Gary Swick, but once those safe sites are determined, creating a diagram of those sites will be beneficial.

An email was sent to Pam Otto (St. Charles Park District) requesting the assistance of her summer program to conduct the water testing during June and July of 2017. Holly Cabel mentioned Ms. Otto is looking to see if this project would be appropriate for this age group and if it would fulfill the objectives of this particular summer program. Utilizing Eagle Scouts or Life/Star Scouts to take the water samples is also an option next summer.

Pottawatomie Garden Club

The Pottawatomie Garden Club has requested a presentation of the entire Active River Project concept plan. A presentation has not been scheduled yet. John Rabchuk had no further information at this time.

Stormwater Presentation at Munhall School

Jim Enck, John Rabchuk, Pam Otto conducted the Stormwater presentation to the 4th graders at Munhall School. Jim Richter, the Assistant Principal at St. Charles East High School, was present. The program went well and they had a great meeting. All the information regarding the program was provided to Jim Richter. District 303 high school students will assume responsibility for this district-wide educational effort starting this fall.

D. Other Outreach Efforts

John Rabchuk was informed of the Dunham Foundation. This foundation provides grants to organizations that work with children. John mentioned this could be a potential funding source for the children's stream – pools portion of the project. Moving forward, John hopes to get the sculptures finalized, present to the Government Services Committee and then consider other outreach efforts.

6. Other and New Business

Trish Beckjord mentioned she would be at the showing of "DamNation" at 7:00 p.m. on April 22 at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva, located at 102 S 2nd Street. To promote the Active River Project, she would like hand out cards or flyers from the Active River Project at the event. Rick Brems mentioned that he could create approximately 50 copies for her.

7. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for April 17 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Hollie Cabel to adjourn the meeting, second by Trish Beckjord.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Chris Adesso, Monica Meyers
-Motion carried at 9:05 a.m.

**MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
CHRIS ADESSO, CHAIRMAN
APRIL 18, 2016**

Members Present: Chris Adesso, Trish Beckjord, Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Holly Cabel, Jim Enck,

Members Absent: Monica Meyers, John Rabchuk

Others Present: Candy Boulay

Visitors Present:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was convened by Chris Adesso at 8:06 a.m.

2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the April 4, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting. Motion by Trish Beckjord, second by Rick Brems to accept and place the minutes on file.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Monica Meyers

Motion carried at 8:06 a.m.

3. Communications and Marketing Update

a. Update on Logo and Branding Efforts

Discussion took place regarding the logo and branding. Rick Brems stated: every word was thought out and it had been determined that the words “active river project” would be the main words for the logo and everything which encompasses the project would use these three words; the public is aware of this name. Input was given by other committee members. Trish stated the word “project” seems like it is a project, does not convey looking to the future; Downtown St. Charles Partnership likes the word “destination STC”. Holly Cabel stated the words “active and river” should be part of the name but was not set on the word “project”. Chris Adesso stated the logo should be recognizable without words as well; words can be built on as needed, they may change over time.

It was decided more discussion was needed before approval. The vote was deferred to the next meeting.

4. Task Force Updates

a. Park District

As related to Boy Scout Island, Holly stated: some items are being done in house by John Wessel and other items will be outsourced. Parking, improvements to ramp and the lagoon

area are being reviewed. There will be no deliverables this month. The concept should be done by the end of the year.

b. Forest Preserve/Park District

Holly Cabel reported there has been no movement on the railroad. A recent meeting took place between interested parties; for more information read the Strategic Plan on the City's website.

Chris Adesso stated: Riverside Drive from State Avenue to Illinois Avenue will be repaved before Memorial Day. Repairs will take place on State Street Creek near Carroll Towers.

c. Grant Applications

Bob Leonard Walk – application was submitted on 2/29/16

Charlemagne Island – application was submitted on 4/7/16

Trish asked if there were any other grants to submit. Holly stated: if anyone finds a grant opportunity they should bring it to the committee; the Park District shouldn't compete with the Active River Project. Chris Adesso stated: the City also cognizant of completion between projects and agency and is always working to limit any potential negative impact due to competition during the granting process. Chris also stated that most grants are matching and that the City must budget ahead of time to set aside any matching funds. Trish asked if this group should be looking at projects and recommending them to different groups to seek grants and help other agencies to prioritize projects as related to the River Corridor Master Plan. Rick Brems stated a list was made about a year ago; the committee is working on smaller projects and still focusing on the larger projects.

Trish asked if there is a bigger piece we should be looking at and going after larger grant funds. Jim Enck stated: we are looking at other projects and reviewing steps which are being taken. Little projects keep the momentum going, which in turn keeps the larger projects in the works; smaller projects demonstrate the committee can take on projects from beginning to end.

A discussion took place related to go to the next level; possibly bring new members in with higher level expertise; perhaps a philanthropist.

d. Engineering

Greg Chismark of WBK has supplied an outline of work required for feasibility study and has been reviewed with Scott Shipley. Cost estimate and time line have not yet been received. After this information is received, the committee may move forward. Chris Bong stated this takes time.

Holly stated: sometimes projects need to be tied together; education is needed on conveying the bigger picture.

Chris Adesso stated: traction is needed to move forward; the big picture needs to be at the forefront.

It was agreed this discussion should take place with Chair John Rabchuck at the next meeting.

e. Cost Comparisons From Similar Projects in Other Communities

Trish Beckjord will prepare an analysis of costs and funding from a number of similar projects.

f. Meetings and Presentations

- i. Munhall School 4th Grade Classes - Munhall 4th graders will not be attending the Government Services Committee of City Council on Monday, April 25, 2016 to voice their support of the Active River Project
- ii. Metro West Council – Fox River Valley subgroup – to be scheduled
- iii. High School Environmental Class Water Quality Testing – they are getting organized for starting the program in the fall of 2016
- iv. Pottawatomie Garden Club presentation will be scheduled

g. Other Outreach Efforts

No status update at this time – awaiting City commitments

5. Other and New Business

None

6. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for May 2nd at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Trish Beckjord to adjourn the meeting, second by Rick Brems.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Monica Meyers, John Rabchuk - Motion carried at 9:21 a.m.