



ST. CHARLES
SINCE 1834

AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Active River Project Update –Information Only

Presenter: Chris Adesso

Please check appropriate box:

	Government Operations	X	Government Services – 07.25.16
	Planning & Development		City Council

Estimated Cost:	\$0.00	Budgeted:	YES		NO	
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If NO, please explain how item will be funded:

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)*

June 13, 2016 - Task Force Meeting Minutes
June 27, 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
JUNE 13, 2016**

Members Present: Chair John Rabchuk, Chris Adesso, Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Jim Enck

Members Absent: Trish Beckjord, Holly Cabel, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

Others Present: Tom Anderson, Dorene Tieche, Ed Werneke, Tony Zehnder, Isabel Soderlind

Visitors Present:

1. Call to Order

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

John Rabchuk welcomed Dorene Tieche, 4th grade teacher at Munhall School, a river and environmental advocate who has been educating her students on the importance of the environment and the river.

2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the May 16, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting as revised.

Chris Adesso requested the minutes on page 2, Item #4C be revised as from, "Chris Adesso stated the concept vetting study will or will not be possible; the question is will it sustain the upper pool." to "Chris Adesso stated the concept vetting study will determine what will or will not be possible while maintaining the upper pool."

Motion by Chris Adesso, second by Rick Brems to accept and place the minutes on file as revised.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Trish Beckjord, Holly Cabel, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

Motion carried at 8:07 a.m.

3. Task Force Updates

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

Park District representatives were not present at the meeting. No comments.

B. Forest Preserve/Park District

None.

C. Grant Applications Update

i. Bob Leonard Walk Update

This River Corridor Project received a grant for \$12,500 from the Community Foundation. In addition, another \$10,000 was received from Tom Anderson for the kinetic sculpture. There is a total of \$22,500 towards this project with an additional \$20,000 from the River Corridor, which has been allocated.

At the moment, there is a total \$42,500 available for this project which incorporates both the landscape plan completed by Jim Enck, and approved by this Task Force, and the furnishings along the Bob Leonard Walk in front of the Brownstones. John Rabchuk is trying to set up a meeting with Peter Suhr to discuss the implementation process for the landscape and furnishings phase of this project. John included the landscape plans and a list of all the materials necessary for the project in an email to Peter. John Rabchuk believes there will be sufficient monies for the landscaping and furnishings for this project and the remainder of the allocations can be directed to the kinetic sculpture and other related costs for the sculptures.

ii. Charlemagne Island Sculpture Project

Additional contributions for the sculptures are yet to be defined by the Anderson family, but there may be additional grant monies coming forth from the Riverboat Grant submitted by the River Corridor Committee. John Rabchuk is still waiting to see if the committee will be receiving any funds.

John Rabchuk is also aware that the City has allocated some funds in this year's fiscal budget to conduct an engineering study on the structural integrity of Charlemagne Island. Chris Adesso mentioned that the City budgeted approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000 for this phase of the study, but he will need to confirm the figure.

John Rabchuk prefers kicking off both the landscaping/furnishings and the island engineering phases of this project at the same time, if at all possible.

Determining who is in charge of the project (City versus River Corridor), who will purchase the materials, and who will be doing what can be determined at the meeting with Peter Suhr. The agenda for the meeting can include: (1) creating a checklist, (2) developing an implementation plan and options to the plan can be developed depending on the outcome of the monies available and the final costs of the sculptures. Jim Enck recommended that John Wessel be included in this meeting and appointed as the project manager.

John Rabchuk will email to Holly Cabel to see if John Wessel can act as project manager.

Chris Adesso will set up a meeting with John Rabchuk, Jim Enck, John Wessel, Chris Bong and Peter Suhr to discuss this phase of the project. Chris recommended the Task Force consider the following in preparation for the meeting:

- i. Identify and the scope of the project in terms of to the site furnishings and landscape.
- ii. Identify that on the plan.
- iii. Have a cost breakdown on the materials and cost.
- iv. Notate all the information in writing to present to Peter.
- v. Complete and submit a permit to Building and Code Enforcement.

The process for the landscaping and site furnishing project will include:

1. Determining a contractor and securing a COI
2. Ordering the materials
3. Applying for the permit
4. Coordinating inspections and installations.

The island & sculpture phase of the project will include an engineering analysis and permitting which is a totally different project. This can be discussed further with Peter at this meeting; he may have some recommendations for this phase of the project.

The removal of the tree from the island has been discussed with the Honeyman family and they have agreed to the relocation of the tree. Relocating the tree will be a challenge to move, but an attempt will be made.

D. Engineering

John Rabchuk mentioned that the City met with Greg Chismark (WBK) regarding the feasibility study. Chris Bong and Chris Adesso met with Greg and reviewed a “draft” of the study and scope of work. Both, Mr. Adesso & Mr. Bong, agreed the scope is very comprehensive and will give the Council members enough information to determine if the concept of the project is viable. Greg will formalize the document and some modification to the summary; it will read similar to an engineering proposal or executive summary. The cost of the study is estimated at \$112,900.

John Rabchuk will be making a presentation at the Park District Board meeting tomorrow night, June 14. The presentation will be the same as the one made at the Government Services Committee (GSC) on May 23. He will include the comments made by City Council at the GSC meeting that evening (1) the Park District’s financial contribution toward the project, and (2) the delegation trip down to Greenville South Carolina.

The purpose of the Greenville, South Carolina visit is to view the impact this urban renovation has made in this community. It will also be an opportunity to study the following: (1) who was the leading force behind this project; (2) how did they find the monies to fund this project; (3) how has the city benefited from the project; and (4) how did they encourage the community to endorse this project.

A meeting has been scheduled for June 29, with Mark Koenen, John Rabchuk and Holly Cabel to discuss the financial contributions being made by the park district and the delegation trip to Greenville, South Carolina in more detail.

Per Chris Adesso, the May meeting minutes stated the, “The Government Services Committee has approved funding for the feasibility study with respect to the Park District

financial assistance.” Chris Adesso stated that this information may not have been interpreted accurately. Chris Adesso reviewed a draft of the GSC meeting minutes (Item D2) and the motion made by Council was to: “Send the analysis to the staff and request their feedback on the scope of work while Mark and John, Park District and Forest Preserve discuss who will be paying for the what, when, where and why.”

E. Meetings and Presentations

- i. High School Environmental Class - Water Quality Testing: Dale Luecht of the River Corridor Foundation has contacted Dorene Tieche and they will be meeting this afternoon. Dale is a new member on the River Corridor Foundation board. He has 30 years’ experience working and managing projects for the IEPA. He also knows all the members of the “Friends of the Fox”. He is very interested and enthusiastic about this program. He has contacted Mrs. Tieche and the instructors of the Environmental Sciences programs at both high schools. He is now developing the curriculum and will have the entire program up and running by this fall. He will be giving a report on his progress at the River Corridor meeting this coming Wednesday.
- ii. Park District Presentation on June 14. (Already discussed. See above.)

F. Other Outreach Efforts

Private Fund Raising: No update this at this meeting. No status update available at this time; still awaiting City commitment.

V. Other and New Business:

Ed Werneke suggested the committee consider endorsing an independent community leader, an “independent voice” with no political representation and a recognizable name, to endorse and be a representative of this project. Rick Brems recommended coming up with a list of influential community leaders that they could contact and see if anyone would be interested advocating this effort to the public.

Dorene Tieche also recommended contacting businesses in the community that can advocate this project. Clarke Environmental and Aquascape were two companies mentioned in the discussion.

VI. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for June 27 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Chris Adesso to adjourn the meeting, second by Jim Enck.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Trish Beckjord, Holly Cabel, Monica Meyers, John Wessel

-Motion carried at 9:08 a.m.

MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
BAKER COMMUNITY CENTER, ST. CHARLES, ILLINOIS
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
JUNE 27, 2016

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

Members Absent: Monica Meyers

Others Present: Tony Zehnder, Candy Boulay

Visitors Present: none

Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:04 a.m.

Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the June 13, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting with two minor typographical changes suggested by Trish Beckjord. Motion by John Rabchuk, second by Jim Enck to accept and place the minutes on file.

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

Motion carried at 8:04 a.m.

Communication and Marketing Update

Task Force Updates

Park District

The district hopes to have a concept plan for Boy Scout Island by the end of the summer. A meeting will take place with the City Public Works Department on July 19, 2016 to discuss how to proceed with enhanced landscaping & furnishings for Bob Leonard Walk between Prairie and Indiana as well as to discuss process for potential approval of kinetic sculpture for Johansen's Island. Discussion will include permitting, council approval steps required and project management. At this meeting, determination will take place on who is doing what item. Chris Adesso stated items should be approved separately; funds from grants are matching; grants are listed on the County website and the Active River Project is listed. John Rabchuk stated the Anderson family will contribute funds for the purchase of sculptures.

Notification for KC Grand Victoria Riverboat Grant is not anticipated until fall 2016.

Engineering

Greg Chismark of WBK reviewed proposal for feasibility study with City Public Works and ED staff. Chris Adesso stated this is just a feasibility study, not for phase 1; package is being put together to show IDNR; study will show what regulatory agencies will want to know and is a baseline for design based on regulatory factors and safety factors. Trish Beckjord expressed concerns related to the future of the river. Chris stated that much of what happens to the river is what is happening in tributary areas. Rick Brems stated major groups look at these issues as part of their planning process.

The Government Services Committee has approved funding feasibility study, but with request for Park District financial assistance. Holly Cabel, Mark Koenen and John Rabchuk will meet on June 29, 2016 to discuss funding and potential delegation to Greenville, SC. John stated the presentation to the Park Board went well. Holly Cabel stated the Board is open to discussion on the project and will decide if a contingency will go to Greenville.

Kayak and Floating Garden Proposal for Chicago River

John Rabchuk stated there is a conceptual plan for a kayaking course on the north branch of the Chicago River.

Marketing

John Rabchuk asked if the City Council could endorse the project with a formal vote and stated: if the City Council formally endorsed the project then perhaps the Chamber of Commerce and other downtown businesses endorse the project. John stated he would speak with Mark Koenen. A funding request may go before the City Council after the meeting with Mark Koenen. Chris Adesso stated: each agenda item should be presented separately; wording should be “endorsement for concept”. Trish Beckjord suggested a presentation be made to the Downtown St. Charles Partnership and may ask Matt O’Rourke to attend. Chris Adesso suggested a community group be organized to informally show support for the project. John Wessel suggested a petition be signed by businesses to show solidarity. Rick Zehnder suggested holding a community event which would be connected to the river; have sign in sheets available at the event. Rick Brems will update the visual posters. Holly Cabel asked for more paper copies of the revised Master Plan to reference. Rick Brems will check on this request.

Meetings and Presentations

Metro West Council – Fox River Valley subgroup meeting will be scheduled.

Dale Luecht of RCF is coordinating High School Environmental Class water quality testing efforts and working with D303 as well as Friends of the Fox.

A presentation will be scheduled with the Pottawatomie Garden Club.

Other Outreach Efforts

There is no status update available at this time, will wait for City commitment.

Other and New Business

None

Adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. at Baker Community Center.

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

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Monica Meyers - Motion carried at 9:19 a.m.