



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agenda Item number: 3.b

Title: Active River Project Update – Information Only

Presenter: Chris Adesso

Meeting: Government Services Committee

Date: September 26, 2016

Proposed Cost: \$ N/A

Budgeted Amount: \$ N/A

Not Budgeted:

Executive Summary *(if not budgeted please explain):*

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):*

* August 8, 2016 - Task Force Meeting Minutes

Recommendation/Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only.

**MINUTES
ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. CHARLES
JOHN RABCHUK, CHAIRMAN
AUGUST 8, 2016**

Members Present: Chair. John Rabchuk, Chris Adesso, Trish Beckjord, Holly Cabel, Jim Enck, John Wessel

Members Absent: Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Monica Meyers

Others Present: Isabel Soderlind

Visitors Present: Ed Werneke

1. Call to Order

The meeting was convened by John Rabchuk at 8:08 a.m.

2. Minutes Review and Approval

Motion to accept and place on file the minutes of the July 25, 2016 Active River Task Force meeting as revised.

Chris Adesso requested the following line on page 3, "Item IV Other and New Business" be revised from, "Chris Adesso stated the City's Tree Commission may be taking a new direction. *The commission would like to work more on urban forest management.*" to "Chris Adesso stated the City's Tree Commission may be taking a new direction. *The commission is seeking to expand from urban forestry to other environmental issues within the City.*"

Motion by Trish Beckjord, second by Jim Enck to accept and place the minutes on file as revised.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None; Absent: Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Monica Meyers

Motion carried at 8:09 a.m.

3. Task Force Updates

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

The St. Charles Park District is developing the concept plans for Boy Scout Island boat ramp and parking expansion as well as the enhanced river flow through lagoon. This concept plan will be presented to the Park District Board sometime this fall.

B. Forest Preserve/Park District Update

None

C. Grant Applications Update

i. Intergovernmental Working Agreement

The City of St. Charles, St. Charles Park District and River Corridor Foundation will be entering a new intergovernmental agreement for funding the Active River engineering feasibility study. The Park District's legal counsel is currently reviewing the agreement and it will be ready for approval the end of August. The Intergovernmental Agreement is scheduled for City Council, Park District and River Corridor Foundation approval for September of 2016.

ii. Bob Leonard Walk Update

On August 1, City Council approved the utilization of City property to the River Corridor Foundation to install landscaping and furnishings along the Bob Leonard Walkaway. John Rabchuk has already received an order from a private citizen for a bench and may have a second order coming. Holly Cabel will provide an example of the Park District charges for memorial benches and plaques that they provide.

Chris Adesso confirmed that the benches will need to sit back 3 feet back from the trail for clearance.

The River Corridor Foundation will manage this phase of the project, subject to plan approval and oversight by Public Works. The work should be completed by this fall.

- John Wessel requested the latest landscaping plans from Jim Enck.
- John Wessel will put the bid forms and specs together for the landscaping and concrete work.
- The contractors will need to apply for landscaping installation and concrete bench pad permits from the Building & Code Enforcement Office; inspections of the concrete pads will be required. Chris Adesso recommended John Rabchuk make contact with Bob Vann as soon as possible to discuss the process.
- The City will require a Certificate of Insurance from the contractor as will the Brownstone Homeowners Association.
- The River Corridor Foundation will order the benches specified in the drawings and have the materials delivered to Public Works until they are ready to install.
- The River Corridor Foundation will work with the St. Charles Park District creating a process for private individuals making dedication contributions towards the purchase of benches and trees. Dedication plaques will be ordered from "St. Charles Memorial Works" consistent with all the other plaques around town.
- Monies for the "Memorial Trees" will need to be worked out between the City of St. Charles and the Park District since the trees will be planted on City property. Holly Cabel will speak to the Park Foundation this week.

iii. Kinetic Sculpture Project

The kinetic sculpture(s) are being donated by the River Corridor Foundation and the Anderson family. In turn, the River Corridor Foundation and the Anderson family will donate the sculpture(s) to the City who will maintain it. Mr. Anderson is ready to order the sculpture; John Rabchuk will check the lead time with Tom Anderson.

The west bank of the river where State Street dead ends has been selected as the new site for the kinetic sculptures. This site was presented at the July Government Services

Committee meeting and approved by Council on August 1, 2016. Public Works will manage this project, utilizing the funds previously budgeted for design, engineering and installation at Johansen's Island. Chris Adesso will work on the property issue; it is a Right-of-Way and the City may need a licensing agreement. He will speak with the City attorney on how to proceed.

Chris Adesso met with the engineers last week regarding the new site. They discussed the scope of services which will include a survey, landscape architecture work but the focus will be on structural opinion of the existing stairs and river wall structure. He will be receiving a proposal on the scope or services before the end of the week. He anticipates the engineering work will be completed this fall depending on the cost. In addition, Chris will meet with the Electric division to discuss the tie-in connection options for the lighting of the sculpture(s). The City is required to follow the electrical code for the lighting since it will be located in the floodplain.

iv. Engineering – Feasibility Study

The proposed funding for the RiverPark engineering feasibility study was approved by the St. Charles Park District. The St. Charles Park District is currently working on the agreement. Once finalized, Chris Adesso will present it to the Government Services Committee this fall.

The feasibility study will take approximately six to eight months to complete, but it should provide the necessary information to begin discussions regarding the concept plan with the Department of Natural Resources and the Army Corps of Engineers. John Rabchuk also anticipates the study will serve as a basis for philanthropic funding discussions.

John Rabchuk reminded everyone that the trip to Greenville, South Carolina will be postponed until after the engineering feasibility study is completed.

v. Marketing

John Rabchuk mentioned that signage will need to be posted along the for Bob Leonard Walkway and sculpture area to acknowledge grant awards, e.g., River Corridor Foundation, City, Park District and any other private donations that made these projects possible.

The Community Foundation and the Grand Victoria Riverboat grants require the grants be publicized. John Rabchuk distributed a rough draft of a press release he created and requested feedback on the article. The members reviewed the release and made recommendations and modifications to the existing draft.

John Rabchuk will make the recommended changes to the press release and will hold the draft until the final approval is received on the project. Once finalized, Chris Adesso requested the "draft" be reviewed by Lisa Garhan, the City's Communications Division Manager, before being released.

D. Meetings and Presentations

Mr. Rabchuk stated he and Trish Beckjord will be conducting a presentation to the St. Charles Downtown Partnership Board on Wednesday, August 10 at 10:30 a.m. at the State Bank. This Board includes members from the Chamber of Commerce, Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Historical Commission. They are hopeful this project may eventually be taken over by a “community” base board that has ties with the philanthropist community and can raise monies for the future design and engineering feasibility study, as well as construction.

The St. Charles Chamber of Commerce has also requested a brief update on the Active River Project at their August 15 Executive Board meeting.

Also in the works is a presentation to the Fox Valley Board of Realtors at an upcoming executive board meeting. John Rabchuk mentioned they have Community Development grant monies available through the National Association of Realtors.

E. Other Outreach Efforts

Private Fund Raising: No updates available at this time; still awaiting City commitment.

4. Other and New Business

Chris Adesso also mentioned Karen Young, Assistant Director of Public Works-Engineering, will be meeting with the Conservation Foundation Advisory Committee on the 7th Avenue Creek Project. The presentation will be held on Thursday, August 11 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Hickory Knolls.

5. Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for August 22 at 8:00 a.m. at the Baker Community Center.

Motion by Holly Cabel to adjourn the meeting, second by John Wessel.

Voice vote: unanimous; Nays – None Absent: Chris Bong, Rick Brems, Monica Meyers

-Motion carried at 9:14 a.m.