



AGENDA ITEM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Active River Project Update –Information Only

Presenter: Chris Adesso

Please check appropriate box:

	Government Operations	X	Government Services – 11.23.2015
	Planning & Development		City Council
	Public Hearing		

Estimated Cost:	\$0.00	Budgeted:	YES		NO	
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Executive Summary:

In April of 2014 the Active River Task Force was formed of Park District, Forest Preserve District, City staff and invested community members and has been meeting and working toward updating the 2002 River Corridor Master Plan (RCMP). A consulting team headed by Hitchcock Design Group (HDG) was hired by the Task Force and successfully completed the updated Mater Plan, which was subsequently approved by the City Council in September of 2015.

Since September 2015, the Active River Task Force has continued to meet every other Monday morning to discuss projects, funding and other topics pertaining to the Active River Concept. The Task Force wishes to provide the Council Committee updates on the status of topics pertaining to the Active River Project/Concept. The Task Force will submit the Task Force meeting agendas, minutes, selected documents and a detailed memo, if needed, as part of this update. This package of information will be provided in each of the members Government Services Committee meeting packet, and an item for Information Only will be placed on the agenda for each GSC meeting. 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)*

- November 2, 2015 - Task Force Meeting Agenda
- November 16, 2015 - Task Force Meeting Agenda
- Active River Memo to Government Service Committee
- Active River “Specific Project” Spreadsheet

Recommendation / Suggested Action *(briefly explain):*

None – For information only

<i>For office use only:</i>	<i>Agenda Item Number: 3.b</i>
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ACTIVE RIVER PROJECT MEMORANDUM



TO: ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE

FROM: JOHN RABCHUK

SUBJECT: ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING AGENDA FOR 8:00 AM ON 11/2/15 @ BAKER COMMUNITY CENTER, ST. CHARLES 8:00 AM

DATE: OCTOBER 28, 2015

CC: MARK KOENEN, JOHN HOSCHEIT

- I. Call meeting to order
- II. Task Force Updates
 - a. River Corridor Foundation
 - i. Riverboat fund application deadline mid-January 2015
 - ii. Potential for providing funding for matching river boat funds and for community marketing program
 - iii. Request for bubble design proposals from Hitchcock for completion of Bob Leonard Walk and for east side of river south of Prairie
 - b. 8/21/15 Kickoff meeting with representatives from City and Park District
 - i. Tentatively plan for monthly agenda item updates at Government Services Committee to be conducted by Pete Suhr
 - ii. Specific project list
 - c. Meetings with City Aldermen
 - i. Gaugel – 4th Ward
 - ii. Payleitner – 2nd Ward
 - iii. Bancroft – 3rd Ward
 - d. Fox River Study Group – annual meeting
 - e. CMAP – tentative meeting in December 2015
- III. Community communications and marketing - Rick Brems & Tony Zehnder
 - a. Use of Scott Shipley
 - b. Update
- IV. Other and new business
- V. Adjourn



ACTIVE RIVER PROJECT MEMORANDUM



TO: ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE

FROM: JOHN RABCHUK

SUBJECT: ACTIVE RIVER TASK FORCE MEETING AGENDA FOR 8:00 AM ON 11/16/15 @ BAKER COMMUNITY CENTER, ST. CHARLES 8:00 AM

DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2015

CC: MARK KOENEN, JOHN HOSCHEIT, JAMES COOKE

- I. Call meeting to order – chaired by Chris Adesso (Rabchuk absent)
- II. Approve minutes from 11/2/15 meeting
- III. Task Force Updates
 - a. River Corridor Foundation
 - i. Status of bubble design proposal requests Hitchcock
 1. Completion of Bob Leonard Walkway
 2. East shore of river from Prairie south to Devereaux Drive
 - ii. Use of Park District grant writer for riverboat fund application?
 - b. Review and update specific project list
 - c. Meetings with City Aldermen
 - i. Turner – 4th Ward
 - ii. Besner – 5nd Ward
 - iii. Stellato – 1st Ward
 - d. Update on meeting with CMAP – tentative meeting for early December 2015
- IV. Community communications and marketing - Rick Brems & Tony Zehnder
 - a. How do we keep ARP in the public eye
 - i. Press releases
 - ii. River events
 1. Kayak and paddling club involvement
 2. Cycle clubs
 3. High Schools
- V. Other and new business
- VI. Review update information to be presented to city Government Services Committee

VII. Adjourn

Public Works

Safety begins with
TEAMWORK



Memo

Date: November 23, 2015
To: Government Services Committee
Cc: Mayor Raymond Rogina, Mark Koenen, Peter Suhr
From: Active River Task Force, by: Chris Adesso, Asst. Director of PW
Re: **Active River Project Update – November Government Services Committee Meeting**

The following is an update memo of key Active River Task Force agenda and action items for the Council Committee's information and comment:

1. The River Corridor Foundation (RCF) has requested a proposal from Hitchcock Design Group (HDG) to provide a "bubble plan" schematic of the Bob Leonard Walkway Phase II (Prairie St. to Illinois St.). This plan will provide enough detail that the plan could be used to submit a Kane County Riverboat Grant application. Furthermore, the RCF has requested the assistance of the St. Charles Park District staff grant writer to work on an application for funding that is due mid-January, 2015. This project would include improvements to the existing walkway such as; walkway lighting, site furnishings, pedestrian amenities and the addition of cultural components, as is recommended on Page 35 of the 2015 River Corridor Master Plan (RCMP), (See attached, underlined in green).

The RCF has also solicited a proposal from HDG to provide a similar "bubble plan" for the improvement of the riverfront and adjacent bike path area on the east side of the river from Prairie St. south to Devereaux Way. This plan is to function as a master planning document for future improvements along this section of the river and potentially be used as a preliminary design for grant funding applications.

2. John Rabchuk scheduled and held "Kick-Off" meetings with representatives from both the City Public Works Department and Park District to discuss the attached Specific Project list and options for planning future Capital Improvement Projects. The Specific Project list was requested by Jim Cooke, Park District board member and is an attempt to quantify and prioritize projects associated with the Active River Concept.
3. John Rabchuk has also been meeting with several key stakeholders throughout the city to gather input and feedback for the Task Force. Meetings have included City and Park District elected officials, school groups and civic organizations.
4. **Funding Update** – IDNR Dam Removal, Public Works Staff conference call on November 5, *IDNR Water Resources*. Peter Suhr, Karen Young and Chris Adesso participated in a conference call with Loren Wobig and Rick Gosch of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Division of Resource Management to discuss any potential funding/grant opportunities that may be applicable for the Active River Project. Mr. Wobig and Mr. Gosch indicated that the agency had been allocated approximately \$40MM dollars in 2013 and were instructed to use the dollars to remove 16 low head dams on several different waterways throughout Illinois. At this point in time, all of the \$40MM has been allocated to projects

throughout the state and future allocations of dollars from the State of Illinois to the Department of Natural Resources is unknown.

Staff was able to gain an understanding of the IDNR's process for distribution of funding for dam removal and identify some constraints that may arise as we move forward with the Active River project. Specifically, the concept plan that is currently included in the River Corridor Master Plan is significantly lacking in engineering and technical information. A hydrologic study of this section of the Fox River and a more detailed engineering analysis would be required to be completed prior to the IDNR being able to utilize any general reserve funds in a partnership with the City to remove the IDNR's dam.

Currently, there are no funds allocated, or plans to allocate funds, to the City of St. Charles or to fund an engineering study to modify or remove the low head dam located in the City of St. Charles. Further, with the uncertainty surrounding the State of Illinois' budget, there is hesitancy to identify when or if new funding will become available from IDNR for dam removal projects.

5. **Funding Update** - A meeting has been tentatively scheduled with representatives from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, commonly known as CMAP, for December 2015. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss options and potential funding sources for projects that are consistent with the updated Master Plan and identify a strategy for possibly moving the "Active River Concept" forward with CMAP.

The Active River Task Force will continue to update the Council Committee through monthly information provided in each of the Aldermanic Packets and through a standing Information Only agenda item on the Government Services Committee meeting agenda, much like the Electric Reliability Report.

St. Charles Active River Project

Specific Project Components

Oct-15

Description	Phase	Location	Est. Cost Range	Dependencies	Priority	Potential Funding	Comments
RiverPark	Funding		\$ -		A		
	Engineering/Hydrology	Main Street north to railroad trestle.	\$ 1,500,000	decision on police station, stability of Freedom trail		CMAP, TIF, City, private funding	Includes dam modification, water level and flow control mechanism under railroad trestle, cycle and walking paths, play stream w/handicap access, new overpass pedestrian bridge, public performance venues, landscaping, sediment removal, path under Main Street bridge
	Design		\$ 500,000	Hydrology studies/modeling		CMAP, TIF, City, private funding	
	Construction		\$ 15,000,000			Corps of Engineers, state and federal EPA, Fish & Wildlife, CMAP, DOT, TIF, private foundations	
Bike trail connection - north of Main Street along river	Design Concepts	Connecting new path under Main Street bridge to Fox River Trail on east side of river. Through or around Pot. Park to reduce current slope on State Street and to simplify route		Partially dependent on design of north end of RiverPark as it meets Pot Park. Railroad permission?	A	Park District capital budget, US Rivertrails System	Consider switchback design along either north or south side of railroad berm and then construct path at far east end of Pot Park that will then connect to N. Second Ave north of North Avenue.
	Engineering						
	Construction			Completion of RiverPark			
Boy Scout Island - boat ramp & parking	Design	Expand existing facility add more ramps and parking for trailers and vehicles		Boy Scout Island channel diversion design	A	Park District capital budget, DOT/DNR grants	
	Engineering						
	Construction						
Boy Scout Island - channel diversion	Design	Create new channel for river to flow between shore and BSI. Pedestrian bridge to access BSI. Consider floating gardens in new channel		Boy Scout Island boat ramp & parking design	A	Park District capital budget, DOT/DNR grants, CMAP, EPA, Corps of Engineers	May be best to consider engineering, permitting and construction in conjunction with RiverPark as there may be interrelated issues (compensatory land areas and dredging).
	Engineering						
	Construction						
Rowing Training Center		Q Center - along river				private funding	City to serve as active facilitator to engage Q Center and Row America to consider design and build of training facility and skull storage facility on Q Center property.
Bike trail connection - Illinois Street to RiverPark	Design	Cycle and pedestrian pathway from north side of Illinois Street along river edge to connect to new path under Main Street bridge		Design of RiverPark pathway under Main Street bridge. Potentially move intersection of Illinois Street and Riverside Drive further east.		DOT grants, City capital budget, CMAP, US Rivertrails System	Consider pedestrian activated warning lights at crossing at Illinois Street which will be at grade level. Consider inclusion of some structure to cover/hide current gabion basket shoreline erosion system. A living wall location?
	Engineering						

	Construction						
Family play areas	Design	2 - 4 small children play attractions in the heart of downtown. Potential for splash parks, play fountains, other unique play features. 1000 - 2000 square feet each. Serve as attractions to draw family shoppers	\$10 - 25,000 for each site	First Street Development construction site design and construction for some locations, but site dependent for all listed possibilities		private funding, riverboat grant, private foundations, crowd funding (RCF managed effort)	Sites to consider: east extension of First Street Plaza, SW corner of First Street & Illinois, NW corner of Illinois & Riverside Drive, north end of parking lot along river and just south of State Street Creek, Century Corners area, area surrounding Beith House, Hazeltine Park, drive thru/parking area of Fox Valley Cleaners, other?
	Engineering		\$ 20-50,000 for each site				
	Construction		\$200,000 for each site				
Bob Leonard Walk	Design	From Mt. St. Mary Park to Illinois Street. Complete BLW with furnishings, landscape, sculpture pads, lighting	\$5-10,000	None	A	private funding, riverboat grant, private foundation, crowd funding (RCF managed effort)	Design proposal requested from Hitchcock Group. RCF intends to apply for 2016 riverboat grant
	Engineering	lighting	?	None	A	private funding, riverboat grant, private foundation, crowd funding (RCF managed effort)	Engineering potentially handled by city staff
	Construction	lighting, furnishings, concrete pads	\$25 - 50,000	None	A	private funding, riverboat grant, private foundation, crowd funding (RCF managed effort)	Lighting component may have to be considered separately due to cost considerations
Charlemagne/Johannsen's Island - art sculpture	Design	Circular island just south of Piano Factory Footbridge	\$ 50,000	None	A	local private foundation has indicated financial support	Kinetic art sculpture design has been commissioned. Preliminary designs available late 2015. Sculpture may include multiple kinetic pieces working synchronously. Installation, permitting and foundation work may require city assistance
Bike/pedestrian path - Illinois Street south to Prairie	Design	Illinois Street south to new underpass of east end of Prairie Street bridge	?	Design of intersection of Illinois Street and Riverside Drive		DOT, DNR, CMAP, US Rivertrails System	
	Engineering						
	Construction						
Bike pedestrian path - east side of river - Prairie Street south to treatment plant discharge	Design	East side of river from Prairie Street to Devereaux Drive. Separate cycle and pedestrian traffic, bioswales to handle street water run-off, landscaping, lighting, fishing access points, underpass of Prairie Street bridge	?	None		DOT, CMAP, US Rivertrails System, riverboat grant, Kane County bike trails	Current design provides enough land in most areas, but may have to consider cantilevering path over river shoreline. RCF has solicited design proposal from Hitchcock.
	Engineering						
	Construction						

Pottawattomie Park Marina	Design	Southwest corner of Pot. Park on the river.	?	Design of RiverPark and new, wider entry into Pot. Park from the south.		DNR, DOT, riverboat grant, Park District capital funding	Marina for power boats to park and then walk to downtown restaurants and other amenities. No overnight use. Fee driven?
	Engineering						
	Construction						