Places29-Hydraulic Community Advisory Committee/Community Town Hall and Open House Meeting

Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2024, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Journey Middle School
210 Lambs Ln
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

<u>CAC Members Present:</u> Vito Cetta, Jane Fogelman, Denny King, James Clemenko, Rosemary Miller, Jane Foy, Kendra Walston, Kate Acuff, Bill Love

CAC Members Absent: Christopher Rembold, Cynthia Neff, Kate Lambert

<u>Liaisons Present:</u> Supervisor Diantha McKeel, Planning Commissioner Julian Bivins, Staff Liaison Serena Gruia

Liaisons Absent:

Albemarle County Staff Present: Logan Bogert, Ann Wall, Randy Jamerson, Jason Marden, Kevin McDermott, Jacob Sumner, Joe Clark, Jim Barbour, Kristy Shifflett

Open House/Project Showcase

CAC members and community members viewed poster boards and met with County staff about projects.

Call to Order

Chair called the meeting to order.

Town Hall

Supervisor Diantha McKeel welcomed the committee members and community members to the meeting and introduced Albemarle County Staff Present.

Deputy County Executive Ann Wall presented on the Fiscal Year 25 Budget.

Assistant Chief of Police Major Randy Jamerson presented on traffic and safety.

Deputy Director of Planning Kevin McDermott presented on transportation projects in the area.

Question and Answer Session

Q: I am concerned about how people living on Georgetown Road and Barracks Road are going to be able to get in and out of their homes with the construction of the roundabouts. And what are they to do about the air and noise pollution – is it possible to install a sound barrier wall?

A (Kevin, CDD): We are currently in a funding phase, not a construction phase. If those projects are funded, there will be an additional planning phase to make sure that the construction does not impact those homeowners. (Air and noise pollution) is bigger than one specific project. The County

Commented [LB1]: Joe Clark was there and I think Jim Barbour from parks and rec.

Matt Hass from schools and a school board rep were there.

ELB and Kristy Shifflett attended but were in the

has made an investment in air quality as a whole in the Street Sweeper. We do look at if sound barriers are needed in each project, but I can't say for sure that with these projects there would be one.

Q: How many counselors are there in the county schools and how are they allocated per school?

A (Schools): We have 24 currently and are requesting 30. The state has requirements for counselors and student ratios, and we are below that ratio. They are disbursed between schools based on number of students and school need.

Q: The large truck traffic on Georgetown Road and Barracks Road shakes my house. How can that be controlled?

A (Randy, ACPD): That is not the first complaint about the noise in that area I have heard. I think we would be hard pressed to enforce a noise violation, but we can enforce traffic violations.

Q: What is the population of the county and what is the annual growth rate?

A (Diantha): About 116,000. 1.5-2% a year.

Q: What will happen if there's a budget shortfall for the schools?

 $\hbox{A (Schools): Projects will not be funded, hiring freezes, larger class sizes and less teachers.}$

Q: Is the police department actively enforcing noise ordinances on cars?

A (Randy, ACPD): A noise violation is a secondary offense – you must commit a primary offense in order to be ticketed for it. From a noise ordinance standpoint, there's a statewide ordinance that we utilize. There's not a local enforcement effort happening at this time but we will note it for review.

Q: With tourism revenue, was Albemarle and Charlottesville the same rate? Do they take in the same amount of revenue from it?

A (Ann): Currently they are the same. We are both proposing a 1% increase. The amount of revenue would be dependent on the amount of hotel rooms, Airbnbs, etc., in the city versus the county. Q: Where are we in the schools budgeting in terms of other states? A: In terms of state per pupil funding, we are in the bottom half. We are below Maryland, Kentucky, West Virginia, but a little bit better than North Carolina and Tennessee. We are also very low in entering teacher's salary, but one of the top 10 wealthiest states.