

Richmond Participatory Budgeting Commission

Meeting 14 - 5/3/2023

Attendance

Commission - Here

Aaron Linus
Jeff Walker
Jerome Legions
Erin Kelley
Mary Gresham
Erica Sklar

Commission - Online

Erica Sklar
Shannon Gonzales

Commission - Away

Scott Castro

Mary Gresham
Quawneisha Peoples
Oludare Ogunde

Consultants

Matthew Slaats - MSC
Shawn Balon – Storefront for Community Design

Others

VCU Wilder School – Brittany Keegan

Welcome/Updates

1. Government Operations Presentation
 1. Spoke before meeting Council members Lynch, Jordan, and Lambert
 2. General feedback was good
 3. City Budget office was in attendance
2. Website Updates
 1. We are completed and are posting interviews with Ebony Walden and Flor Lopez Trejo in the coming weeks.

3. Community Survey – Rhudy and Co

1. Just a reminder to complete this survey to help us refine the communications.
2. General Thoughts
 1. Pig is the favorite
 2. Concerns about how this communicates that we aren't asking for money, but giving people access to their tax dollars
 3. Shifting from Your to Our in the tag line
 4. Also suggesting tagline read – "Your Voice, Our City, Our Money"

Evaluation Presentation

1. Presentation by Brittany Keegan about Participatory Budgeting Recommendation
 1. Why Evaluate – Success, Identify Problems, Transparency, Continuation
 2. Stakeholder Engagement – Who and how to engage
 3. SMART Goals – Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound
 4. Evaluating Questions
 1. Public Agenda focuses on Civic/Political Life, Equity, and Government
 2. Each site added to this
 5. Self Evaluation – Is the steering committee achieving its goals
2. Comments
 1. Need to get specific data points
 2. We need to think specifically about who is doing the eval. It might need outside support
 3. See Durham as the gold standard – They were clear about what didn't work.
 1. How do we learn from this?
 2. Can we reach out to them?
 4. Goal of this Eval plan was to think about eval from the start
 1. Set a tone for the process
 2. Eval process legitimizes and bring brings transparency
 5. Possibly working with VCU in the future to continue evaluation procesS

Rulebook wrap up

1. How do we deciding where to fund
 1. Social Vulnerability
 1. Data used by RVAGreen 2050
 2. Looks at the ability of people, institutions, and organizations to withstand catastrophes – NIH
 2. CIP Review
 1. Matthew did an abbreviated mapping of CIP projects 2023/2018
 1. <https://goo.gl/maps/17xQHx9oBYiAcYDL6>
 2. General thoughts
 1. Vague Descriptions – Not specific

1. Might City Council member know more details
2. CIP works across five year plans
3. Funding is coming from different sources – Federal, State, Local
4. Alienation of Infrastructure
 1. PB brings the reality of projects to the public – making them tangible
3. Commission Comments
 1. How is investment defined – Needs further clarification
 2. The City is creating a portal to show CIP spending and projects. Won't be done for few months.
 3. Should we be looking beyond CIP? Discretionary budgets?
 4. Richmond 300 is a plan for city investment, but it doesn't cover everyone
 5. Maybe we shouldn't be looking at past funding if it still shows high vulnerability
 1. Instead need to focus on mismanagement
 2. We shouldn't make CIP defensive
 6. We need sure to build support from Budget office
 1. How do we align with their goals/job demands
 2. Balancing projects that are frivolous with building trust/platform for community voice
 7. We need to be specific in needs – stick to the basics
 8. Maybe the way to do this is to recommend the funding align with both Social Vulnerability Index and upon assessment of CIP portal data. Then a more specific decision can be made about allocating funding more specifically.
 9. Stick to the 60/40 split with this data

Future Commission Work

- Complete Rule Book draft by end of May
- Complete Phase 1 planning by June 30th
- Design Rulebook
- Meeting Changes
 - One per month
 - Take a month off in the summer
 - Change the time
 - Move locations
- Doing a evaluation of commission
- Deciding if commission members will stay on for another year.

Next Steps

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday – May 17rd 2023 4:30 – 6pm

Location: Annex Room – Downtown Library - 101 E Franklin St, Richmond, VA 23219

<https://virginia.zoom.us/j/95054755159?pwd=ZU94aUtoc2hYlYVKSDNRRWx5MWtZdz09>

Meeting ID: 950 5475 5159

Passcode: 279689

One tap mobile

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+12678310333,,95054755159# US (Philadelphia)

Agenda:

Rulebook Working Session

 Table exercise to consider funding allocation process

 Consider more specific metrics

Finalize Rulebook

Action Items

Commission -

 Come up with 5 examples of projects (3 general and 2 for under served)