



Richmond Participatory Budgeting Commission

Agenda - 3/6/2024

Attendees

Commission Members in Attendance

Aaron Linas
Jerome Legions
Erin Sutton
Abigail Delaney

Commission Members Missing

Mary Gresham
Oludare Ogunde
Quawnesha Peoples
Shannon Wilson-Gonzalez

City Staff

Matthew Slaats - Senior Civic Innovation Manager
Sam Patterson - City Council Liaison
Roxana Talavera-Denson - Interpretation
Karla Almendarez-Ramos - Interpretation

Community Partner

Chuck D'Aprix - Fulton Innovation Center
Breanne Armbrust - Neighborhood Resource Center

Agenda

- Welcome and Check-ins
- Review and Acceptance of previous meeting notes - 2min
- Online meeting inclusion - 2min
- Discussion of the Fulton needs and community efforts - 50 minutes
- Updates on next steps – hiring, platform, marketing, and media - 15 min
- Steering Commission Governing Agreements - 10min
- Presentation of Rulebook and one pager - 2min
- Planning for upcoming events, meeting, and workshops - 5

Discussion themes

- Questions about how to integrate deeper outreach into non white communities.
- Sam has lived in the neighborhood for 10 years, facing housing issues.

Community needs Conversation

- Home owners control costs of living within neighborhoods
- Only in power to KYS holdings.
- Government Road spots have collapsed, making it very difficult to leave the district.
- Tree canopies, too narrow of sidewalks.
- Suggestion to open and expand the parks and recs program with PB to.
- Old Residents want better bus access, new residents want more bike lines.
- Hearing a lot about public transportation and safety.
- The bus stops aren't the problem, it's the frequency of the routes. Sidewalk projects should be "last resort".
- Poor smelling water, potential gas leaks.
- Identifying that fulton is not the district with families that it once was, is largely composed of young, single adults.

RVAPB notes

- Matthew reiterates the chronological line for PB to orient the meeting once more. Question about accessibility programs and ADA compliance.
- City is responsible for the project itself.
- Undocumented Folks should be able to participate in RVAPB as well to give agency to folks who are otherwise excluded from Richmond Politics.
- Reiteration of this process as a "pilot".
- How to manage expectations?
- Most of our clients read at a third grade level, ascertain the limits of the program.
- Do voting on weekends when less people are likely to be voting.
- More clarity on how commission members are decided.
- Be realistic about timelines when it comes to longer term projects such as infra.
- Find a way to make residents the center of spending.

- The goal is to pull as much data as possible to prepare for this process to function in a steady fashion.
- Appeasing potential concerns.
- The scope of some larger infra problems will be hard to work into the initial budget.

Opportunities for Future Collaboration and Engagement

Share more information earlier

Attend listening sessions

Go canvassing

Attend community events