Regional Partnerships & Collaboration with Adjacent Communities Committee Meeting

attendees
Lisa Kelly
Bob Heil
Greg Tulley
Karen Montgomery
Ann Winkler
Chris Manning

discussion items:

• Lisa Kelly and Chris Manning welcomed everyone to the meeting.

• The group reflected on the site tours of Sargeant Park and the City-owned riverfront site that has received some grant money for soft surface trails. They were both very inspiring and have a lot of potential. It was agreed that the riverfront site should be included in the Parks & Open Space Committee’s plans and open for community input and exploration in the next phases of the planning process. It was agreed that the recommendation of the committee regarding Sargeant Park should be as follows:

> The City of Fort Thomas should partner with the City of Dayton and Campbell County to produce a master plan and shared vision for the park that is mutually beneficial, and then work together to fund, implement and manage the park.

> While producing the master plan, a potential partnership with SD1 should be explored in an effort to manage stormwater, reduce erosion, improve water quality, and provide passive recreational opportunities.

> The Parks & Open Space Committee should graphically illustrate Sargeant Park as a collaborative opportunity on their plan and include it in their strategy.

• The committee spent the remainder of time refining a draft version of a Vision Statement, Goals & Objectives that Chris Manning had sent out via email. The following reflects a final version to be shared with the community in the summary of findings early in 2018:

Vision

To work proactively and collaboratively with our neighboring communities, the County, the State, and other regional partners on areas of shared interest and mutual benefit that improve the quality of life, health, economy, environment and governance of Fort Thomas and the region.

Goals & Objectives

> Work with each neighboring community that shares a boundary with Fort Thomas to preserve and enhance our border areas in ways that benefit each other.
Collaborate with the County and all of our neighboring communities on gateways, parks, greenspace preservation and trails.

Collaborate with the County on unincorporated areas around the perimeter of the City, such as the end of Crowell.

Collaborate with the State and the regional Visitors & Convention Bureau on issues related to history and cultural tourism.

Collaborate with KYTC, Southbank, Dayton, Silver Grove, Corps of Engineers, State Division of Water, CSX Railroad, and Northern Kentucky Water District on our riverfront connectivity and River Road/Rt. 8. Celebrate the corridor as part of Northern Kentucky Riverfront Commons, a Scenic Byway, and a destination for boaters, cyclists and park/trail users.

Collaborate with KYTC, Silver Grove, Coney Island and private interests to support the rebirth of the Coney Island Ferry and an improved River Road linkage to the Tower Park/Midway Historic District. Communicate this opportunity with the Transportation Committee.

Collaborate with KYTC, Newport and St. Elizabeth on I-471 & the Grand Avenue corridor.

Collaborate with KYTC, Newport and Bellevue on I-471 & the Memorial Parkway corridor.

Collaborate with KYTC, Southgate, Highland Heights and NKU on I-471 & the US 27 corridor, with an emphasis on economic development opportunities.

Collaborate with public and private sector partners (federal, state and local) on our business districts.

Collaborate with the Northern Kentucky Water District on re-opening trail loops around the reservoirs.

Collaborate with KYTC and potential private recreation partners on exploring the feasibility of an extreme sports park (zip lines, climbing areas, pump tracks, water obstacles, skateboards, etc.) in the residual interstate right-of-way property between I-275 and River Road.

Collaborate with the local schools and possible private partners on upgrades to recreational/sports facilities.

Collaborate with the Hillside Trust, the Fort Thomas Forest Conservancy and private property owners to preserve, enhance and properly manage our forested hillside greenbelt.

Next meeting was not scheduled due to the upcoming holidays.