

# RiverRenew Workgroup Meeting Notes

Meeting No. 4 / November 14, 2018 6:45 p.m.



## Meeting Attendees:

RiverRenew Workgroup	City of Alexandria	Alexandria Renew Enterprises
Councilman John Chapman	Lalit Sharma	Karen Pallansch
Councilman Paul Smedberg	Tafesse Gyes	Liliana Maldonado
John Hill, AlexRenew Board	LaToya Barbour	Bill Dickinson, AlexRenew Board
Patti Turner, AlexRenew Board		Caitlin Feehan
		Justin Carl
		Susan Mitchell
		Kasey Kraft

The meeting convened at 6:45 p.m. Ms. Karen Pallansch, General Manager of Alexandria Renew Enterprises (AlexRenew), welcomed attendees and presented updates on RiverRenew.

## The highlights of the presentation included:

- A status update on the Environmental Assessment (EA) process, including an overview of common themes in community comments received during the public scoping comment period, which took place from September 10 to October 25, 2018.
- An update on the RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) formation, including the status of applications and names of nominees received as of November 14, 2018.
- A presentation of expected next steps and the lookahead for RiverRenew’s outreach over the course of the program.
- A recap of the RiverRenew Industry Outreach Event which took place on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 to provide contractors and engineering firms with the opportunity to learn more about the program and procurement process.
- A status update on the November 1, 2018 submittal of the Virginia General Assembly Report to the General Assembly to report on the implementation status of the approved 2018 Long Term Control Plan Update (LTCPU).

The following is a summary of the questions asked by the Workgroup and the answers provided by City and AlexRenew staff.

- ***Councilman Smedberg asked about the next significant program deadline.***

Ms. Pallansch stated that AlexRenew and the National Park Service (NPS) are continuing to work on the development of the EA, which will incorporate comments and feedback from the public scoping period. Following the completion of the EA, expected in Spring 2019, AlexRenew and NPS will host another series of community listening sessions to discuss findings in the EA, the preferred alignment, and gather additional community feedback.

- ***Councilman Smedberg asked if Virginia’s Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) plays in the EA process.***

Ms. Pallansch noted that NPS is the lead agency for the EA process because permits are required from NPS. DEQ is and will continue to review RiverRenew’s progress in implementing the Long Term

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Control Plan Update, which includes reviewing the technical evaluation of potential alternatives in the Preliminary Engineering Report, submitted to DEQ in October 2018.

- **Councilman Smedberg asked if the EA considers all potential alternatives or an “early preferred” alternative.**

Ms. Pallansch confirmed that impacts to the community and any natural/historic/cultural resources will be evaluated for all alternatives.

- **Councilman Smedberg asked about the involvement of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network and similar groups in the SAG.**

Ms. Pallansch noted that AlexRenew will continue to engage these groups in larger stakeholder outreach efforts, but the SAG will be made up solely of Alexandria residents.

- **Councilman Smedberg suggested that the City and AlexRenew create a process to ensure RiverRenew-related communications sent directly to the City by community members are shared with AlexRenew.**
- **Councilman Smedberg asked for clarification on the development and evaluation process for how the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposal (RFP).**

Ms. Pallansch explained that RiverRenew team will develop the RFQ which will specify requirements for design-build teams to submit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs). Following an evaluation of the SOQs, AlexRenew expects to shortlist up to three design-build teams. Shortlisted teams will be issued the RFP documents and will submit proposals that include both their technical/management approach and price to perform the work. A design-build team will be selected through a best-value evaluation of each team’s technical/management approach and price.

- **Councilman Smedberg stressed the importance of conveying the time commitment and other role expectations to residents applying to and nominated for the SAG.**

Ms. Pallansch confirmed that both the application and the call for nominations communicated expectations for potential applicants/nominees to be committed to attendance at monthly meetings and to serve as spokespeople on program progress to greater networks.

- **Councilman Smedberg asked if AlexRenew has a dedicated point of contact at NPS.**

Mr. Carl confirmed that AlexRenew has a main point of contact at NPS for the EA process.

## Other discussion points:

The next Workgroup meeting date and time is to be determined, but will take place in January or February 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.