



Note from Staff Regarding the Working Group's Discussion of Arts and/or Recreation Costs (and Revenues):

Working Group members discussed the letter from the Commissions at their 12/5 meeting, and agreed that more information was desired. It was agreed that a subsequent Working Group discussion would be scheduled in January.

The following are some of the requests for information that were made by the Park and Recreation and Sports Commissions; which were central to the discussion:

- The County's ongoing financial support for arts groups in the 3700 S. Four Mile Run building
- Operating and maintenance costs related to that building and other County holdings (the Old Signature Building and the Oakland Street warehouses) within the 2-block area
- Potential rehabilitation or redevelopment costs for arts facilities on those sites.

Staff is currently developing a Policy Framework document that will be presented to the Working Group in February. This document will identify key policy guidance for County Board consideration in the Spring. The Policy Framework will incorporate the ideas that have been shared about the 2-block area, and a range of other options, with the goal of presenting a vision policy guidance that balances competing goals. Since staff is still preparing this document, it may be premature to engage in a full discussion concerning costs and related improvements without being able to attribute them to an approved vision/plan - which will not be finalized until this summer. At that time, additional study, research and analysis of these items may be performed based on the recommendations in the approved Area and Park Master Plans.

During February, the Working Group and the general public will be able to discuss and comment on the Policy Framework prior to a County Board Work Session that will be scheduled in February/March. At that time there will be discussion on any conflicting items or issues in order to obtain clarification and further guidance. That meeting with the County Board will be similar in format and purpose to the Work Session that was held last May.

At the Working Group Leadership Meeting on January 4th, staff agreed to provide additional information to the Working Group about:

- Current County support for groups located in the building at 3700 S. Four Mile Run, along with any public usage/utilization data (and revenue derived from those groups' events)
- Current operating and maintenance costs for the 3 County buildings in the 2-block area
- Current operating and maintenance costs and usage/utilization data for the dog park and sports facilities at Jennie Dean (and revenue derived from users)

It may take several weeks for staff to compile this information. We will post data to 4MRV.com as it becomes available. It is Staff's position that we will be unable to provide accurate rehabilitation or redevelopment costs for the County's buildings without understanding what the development program for these buildings/sites might be. Any recommendations for these items will likely be noted in the Policy Framework as areas that need further study or evaluation; which may include a more in-depth analysis of capital and ongoing maintenance costs, potential revenues and avenues of support, etc. Therefore, it is staff's recommendation that any discussion along these lines be tabled and resurrected at a later date, if needed.