

Riverwalk Expansion Special Committee
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Occoquan Town Hall
Meeting Summary

Attendees: Theo Daubresse, Adam Linn, Jenn Loges, Bob Love, Eliot Perkins, Earnie Porta, Nick Roper, and Matt Whitmoyer.

Chair Earnie Porta called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., briefly recapped the prior meeting, and reviewed the committee's imminent next steps. The latter consists of agreeing upon the primary reasons for expanding the riverwalk (i.e., the value proposition) and listing the attributes that should be considered to satisfy that value proposition.

After discussion, the committee agreed that the primary reasons/objectives for expanding the riverwalk include: (1) resident and community access (both viewshed and physical access), (2) economic vitality (sustain current businesses and attract diverse new businesses), (3) education and events, and (4) placemaking and riverscaping.

After discussion, the committee identified the following attributes to consider in successfully achieving the four objectives above:

- Seating
- Lighting
- Social Spaces (bump outs, programmable spaces, imaginative spaces like amphitheaters and pocket parks, intimate spaces)
- Physical and visual differentiation and articulation (linearity and materials)
- Access controls (e.g., fencing)
- Public art
- Interpretive signage
- Child-specific spaces
- Waste receptacles
- Railing
- Water access (fishing areas, boating – hand carry launches and boat tie-up locations)
- Pedestrian/Bicycle/Pet Access

The group was encouraged to contact the chair with any additional attributes they might subsequently identify.

Nick Roper provided an overview of the TAP program and a preliminary analysis of basic potential costs using prior boardwalk construction activities, appropriate escalations factors, and basic boardwalk configurations, noting that differences in the geology of the shoreline could result in significant variation.

The primary focus of the next meeting will be to identify the relative importance of the attributes above for achieving the objectives for expanding the riverwalk.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.