

**MOU for Collaboration between
the City of Charlottesville and the County of Albemarle Regarding Redevelopment and
Affordable Housing**

Background: The City and County have a history of collaboration on topics regarding redevelopment and affordable housing; a collaboration that reflects mutual interests crossing jurisdictional boundaries. In some cases the collaborations are a result of efficient and effective strategies to meet regulatory requirements. In other cases, these are the result of proactive, voluntary efforts to tackle local goals and interests. While there are numerous efforts that are led by the City and/or the County, both localities also function as key partners with other agencies and community organizations.

Staffing: Staff from both localities is involved with various initiatives depending on the focus area. The City and County staff members designated to promote success are Mike Murphy, Assistant City Manager, and Bill Letteri, Deputy County Executive.

Update: The table below provides a summary of collaboration on programs and initiatives (completed, ongoing, and opportunities) across broad topic areas addressed in the MOU.

The Use of Federal Housing Vouchers to Support Tenants at The Crossings	Ongoing	<p>County and City provide Project Based Voucher(PBV) rental assistance for 30 households.</p> <p>City provides PBV support for an additional five units of permanently supportive housing for vulnerable women.</p> <p>The joint provision of PBV rental assistance at the Crossings integral to the owner’s ability to access low-income housing tax credits for construction and permanent financing.</p>
Regional Agreement for Use of Housing Choice Vouchers	Ongoing	Currently, all administrators of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) view entire Planning District as eligible for use of HCVs in any of Planning District’s localities; which provides greater housing choice for HCV households, as well as minimizes administrative tasks involved with portability.
	Opportunity	<p>Creation of a Regional HCV consortium, could allow CRHA to focus on public housing site improvements/redevelopment.</p> <p>This would allow for common administration which could make working with landlords more efficient.</p>

<p>Multiple Organizations receiving funding support from both the City and County</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p><i>Albemarle Housing Improvement Partnership (AHIP)</i> Provide emergency repair, home rehabilitation and energy efficiency upgrade services for low-income homeowners.</p> <p><i>Albemarle County Service Authority</i> County provided CDBG funding for project benefitting low- and moderate income households.</p> <p><i>Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA)</i> CAHF grants supported several market/program studies, as well as help with the acquisition of the Timberlake.</p> <p><i>Habitat for Humanity</i> Develops affordable homeownership opportunities for qualifying low-income families.</p> <p><i>Piedmont Housing Association</i> Develops and preserves affordable rental housing, as well as providing down payment assistance to qualifying homebuyers.</p> <p><i>Virginia Organizing</i> CAHF funding supported the creation of 10 affordable units at the Carlton House site.</p>
	<p>Opportunity</p>	<p>Pursue new non-profit collaborators such as: Virginia Supportive Housing, Thomas Jefferson Community Land Trust Southwood Mobile Home Park.</p> <p>Creation of a regional housing fund-expansion of the current City Housing Fund.</p> <p>Explore a collaborative funding model for the non-profits in this sector.</p>
<p><u>Thomas Jefferson Area Coalition for the Homeless (TJACH)</u></p>	<p>Completed</p>	<p>Dedicated funding from the City and County helped renovate the existing board of directors in 2013 and significantly revise the Community Plan to End Homelessness in 2015.</p>
	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The City and County have supported regional efforts of the Thomas Jefferson Area Coalition for the Homeless.</p>

		<p>(TJACH) which aims to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring in our community.</p> <p>Further, the City and the County hold seats on the TJACH Governance Board. Representatives serve on the Governance Board, Service Provider Council, Data & Evaluation Committee and Community Case Review.</p>
Comprehensive Planning	Completed	The Livability Project , City and County Planning Commissions discussed housing extensively and identified strategic areas for collaboration.
	Ongoing	<p>Both the City and County have established in their Comprehensive Plans that they are committed to working in cooperation with local governments and regional agencies to promote a regional fair share approach to providing affordable housing at a variety of income levels; and supporting housing programs at the local and regional level that encourage mixed-income neighborhoods and discourage the isolation of very low and low income households.</p> <p>The City and County have mutually expressed the goal to work on community issues which reach across shared jurisdiction boundaries.</p>
	Opportunity	<p>Agree that future housing studies will be formally proposed to both bodies with a City & County scope.</p> <p>Identify a specific number of supported affordable housing units to be developed with joint support.</p>
Small Area Planning- Hydraulic Road and Route 29	Ongoing	<p>On September 28, 2016, the MPO Policy Board adopted a resolution asking the Secretary of Transportation to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Combining the two Planning and Preliminary Engineering projects of Hillsdale South and Hydraulic & 29 into one planning and preliminary engineering project including associated funding. 2. Move the funding stream to begin in Fiscal Year 2017. 3. Include funding for a small area planning process including land use and transportation planning for the area to be defined. 4. Continue the facilitated collaborative process for transparency, community engagement and advisory.

	Opportunity	<p>These requests will be forwarded to the Secretary and Commonwealth Transportation Board for consideration.</p> <p>If these requests are approved, funding and process implementation will likely begin in summer of 2017.</p>
Housing Advisory Committee (HAC)	Ongoing	<p>HAC members are appointed by Charlottesville City Council and are tasked with providing feedback on and/or recommendations for affordable housing related policy and programs.</p> <p>Albemarle County is a non-voting member of the HAC, as is the University of Virginia.</p> <p>Committee provides opportunities for City-County collaboration on regional housing studies and/or program development.</p>
Thomas Jefferson Regional HOME Consortium	Ongoing	<p>The City of Charlottesville is a member of the Thomas Jefferson Regional HOME Consortium, acting as the lead local government agency for the Consortium.</p> <p>Each year, through the Consortium, \$500,000 - \$1 million is made available for rental rehab or new housing construction for low-income families throughout the region.</p>
Resident –Involved Redevelopment	Ongoing	<p>The Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority (CRHA) the Public Housing Association of Residents (PHAR), and the City of Charlottesville applied for and received a grant of \$283,000 from the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation (CACF) to jump-start resident-involved redevelopment of Charlottesville’s Public Housing.</p> <p>Over the next three years, this grant specifically funds the design and implementation of a comprehensive resident involvement process to identify current residents’ needs, resources, and hopes for their future. In addition, the grant will fund training and technical assistance to improve board governance and provide research on redevelopment models from other localities that could be adopted here.</p>

	Opportunity	The results of this effort could clearly transfer lessons to collaborative efforts on redevelopment between the City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County.
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