

**MOU for Collaboration between
the City of Charlottesville and the County of Albemarle Regarding the Environment**

Background: The City and County have a history of collaboration on environmental topics, a collaboration that reflects that natural resources and sustainability interests cross 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 the Environmental Offices of both localities, along with staff from the Parks Departments and the Development Departments is involved with various initiatives depending on the focus area. The City and County staff members designated to promote success are Leslie Beauregard, 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.

<i>Solid Waste</i>		
Rivanna Solid Waste Authority (RSWA)	Ongoing	Programs include Ivy MUC Operations, McIntire Recycling Center, Household and Small Commercial Hazardous Waste Collection, Bulky Waste Collection, Compostables Collection, Paint Collection. BOS and City Council as well as staff representation on RSWA Board.
	Opportunity	County recently established a County-appointed Solid Waste Alternatives Advisory Committee (SWAAC); City staff representative will attend.
Joint Solid Waste Management Plan	Ongoing	Effort led by the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC). Involves Fluvanna and Greene Counties. Currently updating the 2011 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan
	Opportunity	Use this team as mechanism to better coordinate solid waste-related initiatives.

<i>Water Resources</i>		
<u>Thomas Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District (TJSWCD)</u>	Ongoing	TJSWCD receives annual funding from the City and County for basic services. Both City and County receive specific additional services related to their <u>Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4)</u> permit under contracts since 2004; City also contracts for Stormwater Utility related services (<u>Charlottesville Conservation Assistance Program</u> administration).
<u>Rivanna Stormwater Education Partnership</u>	Ongoing	Staff-initiated partnership established in 2003 with others for public education initiatives and local MS4 support; share reporting information; \$500 annual dues for marketing/production costs. TJSWCD-facilitated.
<u>Rivanna Conservation Alliance</u>	Ongoing	RCA (recent merger of Rivanna Conservation Society and StreamWatch) receives annual funding from the City and County for services related to water quality monitoring and community engagement. RCA also receives funding from RWSA. Both City and County have been routine grant partners.
	Opportunity	Future projects in shared watersheds, expanded monitoring.
<u>Rivanna River Basin Commission (RRBC)</u>	Ongoing	Authorized via the General Assembly and established in 2007, this regional organization is tasked with recommending Rivanna River watershed enhancement strategies. Initially a very active body; RRBC is now housed at the TJPDC and has prioritized hosting an annual educational and advocacy conference on the Rivanna River.
	Opportunity	Current goal is to keep the state sanctioned Commission in good standing until permanent resources are identified to grow the organization within its mission limits. FY17 funding requests made through the TJPDC were not approved by City and County (Fluvanna and Greene approved). RRBC will submit FY18 funding requests at the same level (\$10,500 for all four local governments - Charlottesville \$1,337, Albemarle \$6,210, Fluvanna \$1,897, Greene \$1,056).
Water Quality Compliance (aka TMDLs)	Ongoing	City and County have collaborated on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) development and action plans for local streams. Recent coordination on preparation of Chesapeake

		Bay TMDL action plan strategies with respect to pollutant accounting principles.
	Opportunity	Establish a mechanism for jointly pursuing cost effective capital projects that generate pollutant reduction credits needed by each to meet compliance requirements.
Drinking Water Program	Ongoing	Coordinated efforts between local utilities (City, ACSA, and RWSA) on water conservation, water quality, water infrastructure.
<i>Climate Protection</i>		
Local Climate Action Planning Process (LCAPP)	Completed	Final Report published in 2011; UVA involved; each entity to implement as appropriate. 5-Part Framework addressed Energy & the Built Environment, Energy & Mobility, Energy Sourcing, Energy & Materials, Energy & the Landscape.
	Opportunity	Review LCAPP Framework for collaboration opportunities
	Opportunity	SolSmart Designation – both localities seeking to obtain free technical advisor to assist in obtaining certification as solar-friendly communities
Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP)	Ongoing	NGO established with support from a grant awarded to City and County in 2009. BOS and City Council representation on Board; LEAP engages residents, businesses, employees on energy improvement strategies.
Better Business Challenge	Completed	NGO-led initiative (2 completed rounds). City & County were co-sponsors, along with others.
	Opportunity	Funding and technical assistance needed for future programming.
<i>General Sustainability</i>		
The Livability Project	Completed	2011 grant-support effort through the TJPDC Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that supported 2013 Comprehensive Plan updates.
1998 Sustainability Accords	Opportunity	Review the Accords and the accompanying document published by the members of the Thomas Jefferson Sustainability Council (6 localities). Identify collaboration opportunities. Process was led by the TJPDC.

<i>Other</i>		
Rivanna Environmental Management System (EMS) Association	Ongoing	Staff-initiated partnership established in 2005 with others; quarterly meetings for sharing of environmental information and best practices as well as cross-organizational EMS support
Green Infrastructure Planning	Completed	2009 Regional Green Infrastructure Plan developed by TJPDC (City/County involvement along with 4 other planning district localities).
	Ongoing	City and County receiving free technical assistance from Green Infrastructure Center. City focus on work to inventory, assess, and establish assets and strategies regarding the use of natural systems to support, protect, and enhance the quality of water, air and habitat; County focus on identifying core ecological habitats and connectivity, risks to these areas, and opportunities for protection through planning/zoning. County developed online Green Resource map ; City recently launched online CityGreen mapping tool .
	Opportunity	Continue pursuing topics such as parks, greenways, and trail connections and communication on those efforts.
Rivanna River Corridor Plan (aka Rivanna River Renaissance Committee)	Ongoing	TJPDC-facilitated committee involving County, City and others convened in 2015; Conference held in summer 2015.
	Opportunity	Committee made a staged set of recommendations to City and County for cooperatively planning uses and preservation of the Rivanna River. County's Community Development Department currently working with Board to determine priority of effort; TJPDC presenting to the Charlottesville Planning Commission in October.
Hazardous Spill Cleanup Coordination - Fire/Rescue	Ongoing	In 2005, Charlottesville Fire Department (CFD) and Albemarle County Fire and Rescue (ACFR) engaged in a joint hazardous materials training and response initiative. To date there is a response matrix in place through the regional Emergency Communications Center that dictates the call types and which hazmat response assets will respond. Virginia Department of Emergency Management's regional teams are also available for response to an incident of complexity or magnitude exceeding local

		capacities. Presently both localities train together off and on throughout the year for continuing education and familiarity purposes. Coordination of equipment, funding, and training efforts are on-going at this time.
	Opportunity	ACFR has drafted a 5 year plan for their hazmat training and capabilities; hope is to further refine the response model to include a hazmat task force where a dedicated City and County asset is minimum staffed each day/in each locality and both respond on designated hazmat calls for service.