

Financing Greenways in Shenandoah Valley

A financing charrette presented by the
Environmental Finance Center, University of Maryland

Rockingham Government Center
20 East Gay Street
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22802

January 18, 2007
9:30a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The goal of this charrette is to provide Shenandoah Valley officials with a strategy for financing their local Greenway efforts. The day will focus on financing “next steps” and developing additional community support for effective greenway implementation.

9:30 – 9:45

Introductions

The Environmental Finance Center will provide an overview of the charrette process and briefly explain the goals for the day.

9:45 – 10:20

Setting the Local Stage: Status of Local Greenways Efforts – *Participants, moderated by John Eckman*

This session will give panelists and attendees a sense of the status of greenway efforts within the Shenandoah Valley, including goals, stage of development, and needs for further progress.

10:20 – 11:00

State and Federal Programs to Help Finance Local Greenways – *Synthia Waymack, Ursula Lemanski, Jakob Helmboldt – moderated by Joanne Throwe*

Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia DCR, and National Park Service staff will discuss various state and federal programs available to communities.

11:00 – 11:15

Break

11:15 – 12:30

What Can We Learn About Financing from Case Studies Nationwide? *Dan Dodd, Shane Sawyer, Jim Lawrence –moderated by Joanne Throwe*

Alternative financing strategies including endowments, private sector partnerships, fundraising used around the nation will be reviewed by EFC, Land Design, and a Roanoke Senior Planner. Unique examples of using funds to incorporate LID and other environmental designs into Greenways will be discussed as well as issues related to personnel and grants management.

- 12:30 – 1:15** **Lunch (provided)**
- 1:15 – 1:40** **Group Break Out Session**
What did we learn from the session? Does it change our local direction in any way? Is there more we need to know about particular topics?
- 1:40 – 2:10** **Evaluation of Breakout Session and Recommendations – *With input from entire Panel – moderated by Dan Nees***
Panel experts will recommend ways to effectively deal with political will, gain public support and build capacity for greenways.
- 2:10 – 2:25** **Lynchburg Greenways -Building Alliances and Regional Strategic Planning -*Kelly Hitchcock***
The Lynchburg Regional Community Specialist will discuss how they were able to gain political and community support; start an alliance and the next steps for their greenway system.
- 2:25 – 2:45** **Community Support and Political Involvement – *Paul Tubach***
The Greenway Planner for James City County, VA will discuss the history and successful measures they have used over the last ten years.
- 2:45– 3:00** **Discussions of Next Steps and Summary**
Facilitator Dan Nees will sum up the afternoon's accomplishments and what type of continued engagement the group can anticipate.