Statement of Issue:

The following informational items are being provided to the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board of Directors and have been posted to the Blueprint website.

- Items posted for May 19, 2022
  - Blueprint Infrastructure Community Engagement Update
  - History and Culture Trail Update
  - Draft EVLC May 4, 2022 Minutes
  - Draft CAC May 4, 2022 Minutes
This document provides the IA Board information regarding upcoming public engagement activities for the Blueprint projects.

**UPCOMING PROJECT ENGAGEMENT**

Active projects apply a variety of engagement techniques focused on the residents, businesses, homeowner and neighborhood associations, and project working groups. Intentional, timely and project-focused community engagement remains the most effective way to cultivate positive relationships with community members directly affected by or who have an affiliation with or special interest in the project. This is achieved by connecting with the stakeholders in small group or individual settings to share information and have conversations related to ideas or concerns associated with the project. The Blueprint team maintains an open door for the community to connect with any staff member.

Planned, project-related engagement activities scheduled to occur between the May 19 and July 14, 2022 meetings include continued stakeholder outreach (i.e. business door-to-door, attending homeowner/neighborhood association meetings, etc.) for the following projects:

- **Northeast Park**
  - The Northeast Park Project is in the initial planning phase. The project team has reached out to over forty local recreation organizations to solicit feedback on their current and future needs. This information combined with a level of service analysis and interviews with stakeholders will form the basis of a conceptual plan for the park. Community engagement through a survey and open house is planned take place in summer 2022. Opportunities to provide comments to the team will be ongoing throughout the project.

The status of all active projects is updated regularly and appears on their respective web pages.

- [Airport Gateway](#)
- [Bike Route System](#)
- [Capital Cascades Trail](#)
- [Capital Circle SW](#)
- [Capital Cascades Trail Amenities](#) (Coal Chute Pond, Skateable Art, FAMU Restroom, and Van Buren Street)
• Debbie Lightsey Nature Park
• Fairgrounds Beautification and Improvement
• Greenways Master Plan Implementation
• History and Culture Trail (Capital Cascades Trail Segment 3)
• Lake Jackson Greenway
• Magnolia Drive Trail
• Market District Placemaking
• Monroe Adams Placemaking
• Northeast Corridor Connector: Bannerman Road
• Northeast Gateway: Welaunee Boulevard
• Orange Meridian Placemaking

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Staff attends and provides updates to a variety of special interest and civic organizations via their meetings and informs the community about the Agency and related projects. Planned community level engagement activities are outlined below:

• May 19-21, Soul of Southside Festival
• May 23, Commercial Realtors, TBR
• June 25, Allen Subdivision Historical Marker Unveiling

WEB-BASED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
The number of followers on all accounts – Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn – has increased by 30% since the last reporting period. The best performing posts featured the Market District Park Final Design and 2022 Project of the Year Award for Capital Cascades Trail Segment 3.
The Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board approved the History and Culture Trail (HCT) project and budget at the September 20, 2018 IA Board meeting. At the meeting, staff received authorization to issue a Request for Qualifications for planning and design services, and was directed to enter into an agreement with the Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) for the public artwork component of the project. The project budget includes $150,000 for the public art installations. The entire project includes three components: 1) Interpretive History Stations, 2) Public Art Installations, and 3) a new Community Gathering Space (approved at the September 5, 2019 IA Board meeting). The HCT will span 1.5 miles along the existing FAMU Way and Capital Cascades Trail corridor, and will celebrate the rich African American history and culture of some of the neighborhoods, businesses, and people who exist within the corridor.

COCA and Blueprint developed a web-based prospectus and application for the public art solicitation concurrent to the content and concept development of the Interpretive History Stations (Attachment #1). The prospectus and application opened on October 4, 2021 and closed on January 31, 2022. In addition to the Blueprint and COCA websites, the opportunity was posted to websites that promote calls to artists including the State of Florida's Division of Art and Culture and the Florida Association of Public Art Professionals, as well as Americans for the Arts, The Art Guide, and Artist Opportunity Monthly, all three of which have an international reach. Invitations to apply were sent directly to local, regional, national, and international artists, arts organizations, and media groups, including 120 BIPOC arts groups and individual artists. COCA and Blueprint distributed press releases to local media contacts, conducted a virtual information session via Zoom, and conducted interviews with local newspapers promoting the open call.

At close, over 60 individual artwork proposals from 36 local, state, national, and international artists were received. After an eligibility review, 54 eligible applications by 32 artists were prepared for the jury’s review. Arielle Raff, John Raulerson, Shauna Smith, Christopher Daniels, and Autumn Calder served as jurors. The jury was responsible for reviewing, scoring, and selecting a slate of artworks for evaluation by project staff for incorporation into the project. Prior to receiving evaluation materials, all jurors participated in a training on February 14 and a site visit on February 17, 2022. After jury review, six (6) artists were to have their artwork proposal permanently included in the History and Culture Trail project. Blueprint will contract with each artist and provide a lump sum award for the materials, design, fabrication, and installation of selected artworks. In addition to the six selected artists, the new Community Gathering Space at the Segment 3D-B stormwater facility will feature functional wood sculptures. At the September 5, 2019 Intergovernmental Agency Board meeting, staff was directed to repurpose the trees removed and identify ways to incorporate them into the overall project. Blueprint has contracted with John Birch - a local chainsaw artist - to design, fabricate, and install wood sculptures from the live oak wood reclaimed from the site. A centerpiece will display three scenes – the partial front of “Shingles Chicken House”, a
checkerboard game, and multigenerational community hands. There will be a functional bench and chair carved in the form of enveloping hands. Mr. Birch’s publically displayed local works include the tree sculptures at LeRoy Collins Library, Montford Middle School, School of Arts and Sciences, Hilaman Golf Course, R.A. Gray Building – Museum of Florida History, and Tom Brown Park. In total, Blueprint will work with seven (7) artists to install murals at two locations, and sculptures at five locations along the FAMU Way and Capital Cascades Trail corridor between South Adams Street and North Lake Bradford Road.

Location 1 - Bronough-Duval Overpass Piers

Selected Artist: Yasaman Mehrsa, Toronto, Canada

Proposed Artwork Concept “We Are All One”
Location 2 - Near FAMU Way and S. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Roundabout

Selected Artist: Alisha Lewis, Tallahassee, FL

Proposed Artwork Concept “FAMU Woman Activist”
Location 3 – FAMU Way Market Area

Selected Artist: Joseph Cowdrey, Haskell, NJ (originally from Tallahassee, FL)

Proposed Artwork Concept “A Stroll Through Seaboard Street”
Location 3 – FAMU Way Market Area

Selected Artist: Brad Cooley Jr., Tallahassee, FL

Proposed Artwork Concept “Tallahassee Jazz Tribute”
Location 5 – FAMU Way and Eugenia Street

Selected Artist: Julia Sinelnikova, Ridgewood, New York

Proposed Artwork Concept “Dream Waves”
Location 6 – New St. Mark’s Trailhead

Selected Artist: Mark Dickson, Tallahassee, FL

Proposed Artwork Concept “In Honor of the Worker”
Location 7 – New Community Gathering Space at Segment 3D-B Stormwater Facility

Selected Artist: John Birch, Tallahassee, FL

Proposed Artwork Concept “Wood Art Sculptures”
History & Culture Trail Concept Plan

October 5, 2021
Table of Contents

1. Project Overview
2. Station Locations
3. Station Design
4. Panel designs and narratives
5. Next Steps
Project goals

1. Share and celebrate the rich history and culture of the neighborhoods, businesses, and people living in the areas surrounding the Capital Cascades Trail/FAMU Way Extension

2. Highlight the history of the Tallahassee African-American community who has historically called the Project area home, as well as the significant history of FAMU and the local civil rights movement

3. Improve civic engagement, enhance civil discourse, and encourage thoughtful and meaningful dialogue among people regarding the story of the surrounding communities

4. Enhance the tolerance, diversity, and understanding of our communal history

5. Add cultural value by communicating Tallahassee’s unique identity, social value by engaging opportunities for interaction and self-reflection

6. Conduct extensive community engagement with members of the neighborhoods located along the project corridor
Sign location overview

- Allen Community
- FAMU & Civil Rights
- FAMU History
- Railroad Depot
- Villa Mitchell Hill
- Elberta Crate
- Boynton Still and Shingles Chicken
Station design
Color & materials

Wood texture: sublimation print

Granite (match site)

Paint and panel colors

Laser cut painted/powdercoated aluminum - pattern inspired by pecan trees
Fonts

Freight Micro

for headers and quotes

Freight Sans—a highly legible information font—for paragraph text

Both fonts were designed by Joshua Darden, a critically-acclaimed African American typeface designer.

Udamus. Elessit volupta simus aliquiam qui blab ipitio. Doliuptae lab ipiet atem natin cum que omnissi tiandi voloris nim faciasp elent, si te nossimporro temqui inullanis imus am sequi incit, sequiate pore plicimus, quiaeria consequunt maxim etusamus autestioned quasipit isquiatem volorero maximagnimi, corerat iamus. Giti con cone nis dolectur sapicab orepro desciaEvellaut quamusam fuga. Qui optatas re ex eossedis eossunt odipsum et la cusa que in prem fugitatatiis dolum ute conseque pla.

Xerroris peratis dolum ad quiat esti ut incima acil iniment escium vendirehent aliquiam endaesFic tecea sint omnist, con elescium, volorit eatibere aut accum re volorepelest maximus. Volum quis ditium haris abo. Ri officide offic te eum fugiasp elitaque oditi de officab il eaquam acea dolorrump apiditatoriet tet harunt acit, qui dolupta nempori veliat vel essedis vidunti andebite quo voluptiori am quia porem. Itature provit labores cilliquam, quam rehendaectur am aut quati volut volupta tibusti omnis.
Station design

Front Elevation
scale: 1"=1'-0"

8'-8 3/4"
1'-2"
6 1/2"
1'-3 1/4"
6'-7 1/4"
Panel design
1. What it means to be an "Allenite"

What it means to be an "Allenite"

1. What it means to be an "Allenite"

Divisions that make a whole

When Florida A&M University moved to its current location in 1908, the prospect of good jobs and nearby affordable housing for African Americans spurred the first of six subdivisions.

University expansion stimulated more home construction. By the 1940s, houses filled the remaining subdivisions, interspersed with Black-owned businesses. Together, the parcels became known as “Allen Subdivision.”

Allen's geography helped define it: bounded by local neighborhood plus all the community, a distinctive neighborhood of "Allenites."

Segregation fostered a tightly knit community. Residents overcame economic challenges and relied on each other. Community spirit thrived in the informal social and recreational life. Allenites feel tremendous pride in the individuals from this humble environment who have gone on to make valuable contributions to society.

"How people, my neighbors, my friends in Allen, how we supported one another, how we came up, it was just something that I haven't forgotten as a child growing up." — Betty Pittman, 2015
Allen’s Black-owned Businesses: Booming Day and Night

Buying local and meeting community needs

During the height of Jim Crow, Allen Subdivision’s Black residents relied heavily on local businesses to meet their needs. To ensure comfort and safety, they shopped and felt secure in neighborhood commercial buildings and private homes. The local businesses provided a range of goods and services, addressing the community’s needs. Heavy rains created an opportunity for local processing companies, like Hyman Myers, to thrive. As the economy expanded, Otis Mobley trained workers on the cash register at Campus Cleaners, and Charles performed there when he was starting out musically.

Businesses thrived from the mid-1930s to 1982. Allen’s local businesses offered a sense of community and convenience, with businesses that were within walking distance of Allenites and FAMU students. They could find what they needed, such as clothing alterations, construction services, and repair services, all within the Allen community. For leisure, hot spots like the Ship Ahoy, Savoy Club, and Peppermint Patio provided services for area Tallahassee residents, as well as other Tallahasseeians and FAMU college students, who hung out with a jukebox and an ice cream and soda. During that time, students didn’t have dormitories. In 1933, FAMU Hospital provided services for area Tallahassee residents, as well as other Tallahasseeians.

Other youth helped out at local businesses, providing services like hauling, car maintenance, upholstery, and repairs of most kinds. Allen businesses provided clothing alterations, construction, services, and repair. During Jim Crow, Allen Subdivision hummed with activity as businesses provided goods and services for the Allen community. In this panel, we showcase a map of Allen’s Black-owned businesses, highlighting their locations, the services they provided, and the contributions they made to the Allen community. Thank you to the Allen residents and family members, and local archivists whose research, patience, and participation in this project have made this panel possible.
3. FAMU and the Community

Close Ties: FAMU and the Community

Feeling at home, on or off campus

Over the years, Allen residents have identified strongly with Florida A&M University and taken pride in their connection to the HBCU. Allen is a community that has welcomed FAMU students, faculty, and staff as neighbors, and the university has reciprocated by sharing its artists, performers, lecturers, and athletes with the community since the University’s early beginnings. And it has welcomed all neighbors in the campus vicinity to its picnics, parades, and parks. Children from Allen and other nearby African American neighborhoods have attended FAMU-run schools and played at Gibbs Park. Families have joined FAMU spectators at athletic games and marching band performances.

Likewise, FAMU students, faculty, and staff have spent time in Allen, dining, dancing, and shopping in its businesses, worshiping in its churches, and boarding in its homes.

Capital Cascades Trail – History & Culture Trail

Close Ties: FAMU and the Community

The Only Black Hospital in the Region

In 1911, FAMU opened a 19-bed hospital to treat patients, later expanding to 48 beds. The hospital played a crucial role in training nurses; a modern 105-bed hospital replaced it in 1950. FAMU Hospital, 1965. The complex subsequently has hosted in Gibbs Park, 1956. The Theater in 1955 and 1964. Their 16-piece orchestra played church services; and boarding in its homes.

Community Leader

Dr. Charles U. Smith

“He was a dynamic scholar, a dynamic public servant, and definitely committed to racial equality. He was a person willing to say what needed to be said.”

— Mr. Grant, member of FAMU’s Department of History and Political Science, at Tallahassee’s, April 23, 1995

FAMU has shared its artists, performers, lecturers, and athletes with the community since the University’s early beginnings. And it has welcomed all neighbors in the campus vicinity to its picnics, parades, and parks. Children from Allen and other nearby African American neighborhoods have attended FAMU-run schools and played at Gibbs Park. Families have joined FAMU spectators at athletic games and marching band performances.

Likewise, FAMU students, faculty, and staff have spent time in Allen, dining, dancing, and shopping in its businesses, worshiping in its churches, and boarding in its homes.
4. FAMU: Gateway to Opportunity

The Marching 100

“As proud as the alumni are of the college and its academic accomplishments, they’re even more proud of the band. It just is the thing that seems to say “FAMU,’ more than anything else.”
—Fred Thompson, adviser, United Negro College Fund, Tallahassee Democrat, Sept. 27, 1997

FAMU always had bands, but it was Dr. William P. Foster who, in 1946, organized what would become world-renowned for tooting its horns, crashing its cymbals, and strutting its stuff. When band membership topped 100, it became the “Marching 100.”

The Marching 100 has entertained football fans from the field and from the stands, and paraded in Tallahassee’s civic events. The band’s reputation reached France, which invited the Rattlers to participate in its 1996 Bicentennial Bastille Day parade. The Marching 100 has enlivened Superbowl halftime shows, Summer Olympics festivities, and inaugural celebrations for Presidents Clinton and Obama.

“"The Marchingest, Playingest Band in the Land."”
—The Miami News, Nov. 29, 1993

Dr. William P. Foster, FAMU band director from 1946-1998, who revolutionized marching band technique.
5. Pathway to Civil Rights

Milestones of Protest and Progress

1956
FAMU students Wilhelmina Jakes and Carrie Patterson sit in the “Whites only” section of a segregated bus. They get arrested and, the next morning, a cross burns on the front lawn of their Allen boarding home. In response, classmates—soon joined by the Black community—start the Tallahassee Bus Boycott, sparking Tallahassee’s Civil Rights Movement.

“It wasn’t my first time sitting on that seat. You know, the long seat behind the driver. But it must have been the first time sitting next to a White lady.”
—Wilhelmina Jakes, Street, Tallahassee Democrat, March 31, 1966

1958
Four white men rape a Black female FAMU student. The student body boycotts classes, closing down the University, which brings national and international attention to the case and the activism of FAMU students. The four men each receive life sentences.

1960-64
In a series of lunch counter protests at Neisner’s, McCroy’s, F.W. Woolworth’s, Walgreen’s, and Sear’s stores, FAMU student activists, including Patricia and Priscilla Stephens, are arrested for sitting in a “Whites only” section and choose to serve jail time rather than pay a fine. The Stephens sisters organize the Tallahassee chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

“We feel honored that we are able to sit in jail for sixty days for such a worthy cause. And we are willing to do it again and again as long as it is necessary.”
—Draft letter from Patricia and Priscilla Stephens to the Pittsburgh Courier, April 18, 1964

Milestones of Protest and Progress

1956
FAMU students Wilhelmina Jakes and Carrie Patterson sit in the “Whites only” section of a segregated bus. They get arrested and, the next morning, a cross burns on the front lawn of their Allen boarding home. In response, classmates—soon joined by the Black community—start the Tallahassee Bus Boycott, sparking Tallahassee’s Civil Rights Movement.

“It wasn’t my first time sitting on that seat. You know, the long seat behind the driver. But it must have been the first time sitting next to a White lady.”
—Wilhelmina Jakes, Street, Tallahassee Democrat, March 31, 1966

1958
Four white men rape a Black female FAMU student. The student body boycotts classes, closing down the University, which brings national and international attention to the case and the activism of FAMU students. The four men each receive life sentences.

1960-64
In a series of lunch counter protests at Neisner’s, McCroy’s, F.W. Woolworth’s, Walgreen’s, and Sear’s stores, FAMU student activists, including Patricia and Priscilla Stephens, are arrested for sitting in a “Whites only” section and choose to serve jail time rather than pay a fine. The Stephens sisters organize the Tallahassee chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

“We feel honored that we are able to sit in jail for sixty days for such a worthy cause. And we are willing to do it again and again as long as it is necessary.”
—Draft letter from Patricia and Priscilla Stephens to the Pittsburgh Courier, April 18, 1964

Milestones of Protest and Progress

1956
FAMU students Wilhelmina Jakes and Carrie Patterson sit in the “Whites only” section of a segregated bus. They get arrested and, the next morning, a cross burns on the front lawn of their Allen boarding home. In response, classmates—soon joined by the Black community—start the Tallahassee Bus Boycott, sparking Tallahassee’s Civil Rights Movement.

“It wasn’t my first time sitting on that seat. You know, the long seat behind the driver. But it must have been the first time sitting next to a White lady.”
—Wilhelmina Jakes, Street, Tallahassee Democrat, March 31, 1966

1958
Four white men rape a Black female FAMU student. The student body boycotts classes, closing down the University, which brings national and international attention to the case and the activism of FAMU students. The four men each receive life sentences.

1960-64
In a series of lunch counter protests at Neisner’s, McCroy’s, F.W. Woolworth’s, Walgreen’s, and Sear’s stores, FAMU student activists, including Patricia and Priscilla Stephens, are arrested for sitting in a “Whites only” section and choose to serve jail time rather than pay a fine. The Stephens sisters organize the Tallahassee chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

“We feel honored that we are able to sit in jail for sixty days for such a worthy cause. And we are willing to do it again and again as long as it is necessary.”
—Draft letter from Patricia and Priscilla Stephens to the Pittsburgh Courier, April 18, 1964
6. Railroad Depot

Rails brought growth and development to Tallahassee

Railroad Depot

Life near the railroad

Coal Chute Park

The Seaboard Air Line Railway station connected Tallahassee to markets across the U.S., spurring economic growth and residential development in the area.

The railroad brought people to the state capital, including legislators and college students, who rode trains to summer jobs in northern cities. It provided a way for residents to travel. Employees—white or black—got passes that allowed their families to go wherever the Seaboard Railway went.

Lions, tigers, and mail—oh my!

News and entertainment came to Tallahassee on trains. Trains delivered mail and newspapers from northern cities, keeping Tallahassee's Black community informed about national and world events. Circuses arrived by train. African Americans, denied access to "The Big Top," visited the animals held near the tracks.

Working and living near the railroad

African Americans found employment with the railroad and other businesses near the tracks, and built homes close to where they worked. The rails drew lines between neighborhoods, fostering community identities like Seaboard and Stearns-Mosley northwest of the tracks. Its depots stand as reminders of everything the railroad has brought.
Few Villa Mitchell residents had cars, so the community needed businesses and services that were within walking distance—and that welcomed Black customers.

In the 1940s and 1950s, restaurants, lounges, grocery stores, and hair salons thrived. Many stores centered on or near Floral Street, overlapping the Bond Subdivision. Juke joints, including Twilight Zone, offered evening entertainment. Neighbors exchanged news and gossip at Laundromats. Nearby White-owned businesses like the Royal Sandwich Company and Speed's Grocery employed Villa Mitchell residents.

“In my great-grandfather purchased land one block from Florida A&M University, which was at that time the State Normal College. He wanted his grandchildren to go to college.”
—Rob Daniel, 2021

“With people in the community out there helping each other... that was our single wage.”
—Robert Nathaniel Jones, 2021

“Why they would make our brakes just before we would go to the store and buy the week supply of groceries... we needed to get there.”
—Roy Rolle, 2021

“Why the ‘South’ had a name like Blue Ridge....”
—Willie Pearl Smallwood, 2021
Elberta Crate & Box Company

Packaging made here, shipped near and far

The factory's dusty din

Sawdust, below the mixing table, was turned into sawdust dust and carried away by the ceiling fans. The factory's floor contained the remains of the previous day's work, including the dust and debris generated by the machinery. The air was thick with the smell of wood and dust.

From factory to lake

Artifacts from the factory were found on the lake's bottom, including machinery, equipment, and parts. The factory's location near the lake created a unique ecosystem, with the factory's machinery and equipment providing a habitat for various aquatic species.

The 1969 Strike

In 1969, Black employees went on strike, protesting the $1.60 hourly wage, discrimination, and unsafe and unfair working conditions. The strike lasted for several weeks, and the community supported the workers by organizing protests and rallies.

Packaging made here, shipped near and far

"Chances are, when you receive a crate of Florida oranges, a washing machine from New York, glassware from Ohio, or any variety of products from along the eastern section of the U.S., the wooden container was made right here in Tallahassee."

—Tallahassee Democrat, May 2, 1938

Lake Elberta

Buildings were unheated and poorly lit, and workers were at risk for long-term injuries. The highly flammable materials and goods made the factory prone to fires, which happened periodically.

The 1969 Strike

In 1969, Black employees went on strike, protesting the $1.60 hourly wage, discrimination, and unsafe and unfair working conditions. The strike lasted for several weeks, and the community supported the workers by organizing protests and rallies.

Packaging made here, shipped near and far

Saw, machinery, and manpower cranked out crates where Lake Elberta now sits.

In 1922, Elberta Crate & Box Company—founded in Georgia for packing the state’s peach crop—opened its Tallahassee factory with a workforce of 500. The 700 people on its payroll in 1955 made it the city’s largest private employer until closing in 1977.

The factory in 1977, the site sat idle for many years. After Elberta Crate & Box Company closed, the factory was transformed into a lake called Lake Elberta.

9. Boynton Still and Shingles Chicken House

**A community landmark**

“Shingles was an icon and people of all races came from all across the community for its hot fresh fried fish and pork chops sandwiches, french fries, and strawberry soda and beer.” — Althemese Barnes, 2021

Shingles Chicken House advertised “Chicken you can crow about.” The family-owned restaurant in the Boynton Still neighborhood was the place to go for good food and hospitality.

Henry Shingles started each day cutting up about six dozen chickens. His secret recipe drew a wide range of customers: community residents, blue-collar workers, legislators, and State Supreme Court justices. FAMU students gathered here after football games and other events.

Patrons sat on vinyl-covered seats and ordered from a wood-carved menu hanging on a strong. Two dollars bought two chicken parts, fries, salad, and a roll. Other Southern cuisine included shrimp, oysters, and potato pie. Beer only came in 32-ounce bottles. Customers could count on the familiar sounds of conversation, laughter, food frying, Mr. Pac Man machine, jukebox songs, TV soap operas, and the corner fan blowing.

**Before Shingles Chicken**

Henry Shingles started each day cutting up about six dozen chickens. His secret recipe drew a wide range of customers: community residents, blue-collar workers, legislators, and State Supreme Court justices. FAMU students gathered here after football games and other events.

Patrons sat on vinyl-covered seats and ordered from a wood-carved menu hanging on a strong. Two dollars bought two chicken parts, fries, salad, and a roll. Other Southern cuisine included shrimp, oysters, and potato pie. Beer only came in 32-ounce bottles. Customers could count on the familiar sounds of conversation, laughter, food frying, Mr. Pac Man machine, jukebox songs, TV soap operas, and the corner fan blowing.

“Shingles was an icon and people of all races came from all across the community for its hot fresh fried fish and pork chops sandwiches, french fries, and strawberry soda and beer.” — Althemese Barnes, 2021

Shingles Chicken House advertised “Chicken you can crow about.” The family-owned restaurant in the Boynton Still neighborhood was the place to go for good food and hospitality.

Henry Shingles started each day cutting up about six dozen chickens. His secret recipe drew a wide range of customers: community residents, blue-collar workers, legislators, and State Supreme Court justices. FAMU students gathered here after football games and other events.

Patrons sat on vinyl-covered seats and ordered from a wood-carved menu hanging on a strong. Two dollars bought two chicken parts, fries, salad, and a roll. Other Southern cuisine included shrimp, oysters, and potato pie. Beer only came in 32-ounce bottles. Customers could count on the familiar sounds of conversation, laughter, food frying, Mr. Pac Man machine, jukebox songs, TV soap operas, and the corner fan blowing.
Next steps and partner updates
Next steps

1. Finalize the written narratives and photo collection
2. Obtain material samples and select finishes
3. Coordinate with Visit Tallahassee for QR code/online integration
4. Complete station & trailhead sign design, including pecan pattern and icon design
5. Create construction documents and production artwork
6. Select precise sign locations and prepare site for install
7. Fabricate and install signage
Public Art - COCA update

The Council on Culture & Arts (COCA) has been contracted to manage the artist solicitation process and selection of the public art components. Public art installations will complement the interpretive stations.

Timeline

**October 2021:** Release Call for Artist Prospectus.

**January 2022:** Selection jury for public art components convenes to evaluate applications.

**March 2022:** Prioritized submissions presented to the IA Board for approval.

**April 2022:** Artists notified of their selection status.

**May 2022:** Artists begin fabrication process.

**July–September 2022:** Installation begins.

Public Art Themes

- Allen Subdivision
- FAMU History
- Civil Rights
- Villa Mitchell
- Railroad Depot
- Jazz
- African American Economic Engines
I. WELCOME

Mr. Ricardo Schneider called the meeting to order at 11:45 am.

Ms. Cristina Paredes, Office of Economic Vitality (OEV) Director, covered the meeting protocols and briefly summarized the meeting agenda.

II. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Approval of February 2022 EVLC Minutes

   Mr. Steve Evans moved to accept the minutes from the February 2022 meeting, and Mr. Mark O’Bryant seconded that motion. It carried unanimously.

2. Presentation by LaunchTally - Rescheduled

   Director Paredes stated that the presentation from LaunchTally would occur during the June meeting. In addition, she noted that the committee should also expect a presentation on the draft Office of Economic Vitality budget at the June meeting after the IA Board’s May budget workshop.

3. International Economic Development Week

   Ms. Cristina Paredes mentioned that this week marks the International Economic Development Week celebration. Director Paredes provided a brief overview of the Office of Economic Vitality’s vision, mission, actions, and accomplishments over the last five years; she included data points on multiple recruitment projects; the total economic impact of OEV’s initiatives, and the awards OEV has received.
4. Discussion with Planning, City of Tallahassee Growth Management, and Leon County Development Services and Environmental Management

Director Paredes then introduced Artie White, Barry Wilcox, and Keith Burnsed from the Planning Department, Leon County Development Services and Environmental Management, and City of Tallahassee Growth Management. Director Paredes mentioned that the purpose of the discussion was to answer questions that the Council had during the strategic planning process.

Artie White, Director of the Planning Department, provided a presentation and overview of the role and responsibilities of the Planning Department. He discussed the DesignWorks Studio and its services to businesses looking to develop or improve parcels or properties in Tallahassee. Lastly, Mr. White gave a brief overview of upcoming revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and the opportunities to get involved.

Barry Wilcox, Director of Development Support and Environmental Management, provided a presentation and overview of the role and responsibilities of the Department of Development Support and Environmental Management. He discussed the benefits of having the County and City permitting services all located in one building and transitioning to online/virtual submission and packet evaluation services. Mr. Wilcox also discussed permitting trends for Leon County, the development, environmental, and code compliance services provided by the Department, and the recently approved projects. Mr. Ricardo Schneider asked whether the Department had any plans or goals to address energy consumption and sustainable energy sources. Mr. Wilcox responded the energy ratings are incorporated into the permitting of projects. Dr. Temple Robinson asked about the upcoming changes to contractor licensing in Leon County and the State of Florida. Mr. Wilcox responded that the State is preempting local governments from providing contractor licenses to ensure uniformity across Florida.

Keith Burnsed, Administrator for the City of Tallahassee Growth Management Department, provided a presentation and overview of the role and responsibilities of the City of Tallahassee Growth Management Department. He emphasized that the Department is aware of the perception of the permitting and development process and that his team is dedicated to addressing those concerns and improving the customer experience. The presentation covered review timeframes, the customer services goals of the Department, and the economic growth in Tallahassee.

Mr. Jake Kiker suggested that the departments represented before the committee host a roundtable-style event for local stakeholders within the business and development community to provide feedback and input on the permitting process.

Mr. Mitch Nelson inquired about how Tallahassee compares to other cities regarding the permitting timeframes, fee schedules, and customer service experiences. The panel explained that information related to other comparable cities is hard to find and that local governments tend to retain that data internally. In addition, the panel members stated that while information about other cities was hard to find, each Department hit its performance measures and worked to ensure a favorable customer experience.

Mr. Jake Kiker asked about incentive programs and fee reduction options for incremental development for smaller developers. Mr. Artie White responded that incremental development is covered in the Comprehensive Plan but recognized that larger developers have made incremental and “in fill” development difficult. Dr. Temple Robinson asked whether a liaison or team was dedicated specifically for projects and permits for federally regulated developments.
Mr. Keith Burnsed, stated that permits for federal projects were not handled separately or differently from other permits.

5. Business Development Update
Ms. Cristina Paredes provided a brief update on Project Alpha, stating that it would bring 200-300 jobs to Tallahassee in the manufacturing sector. Key partners in the project are the Tallahassee International Airport and Space Florida. Since the last meeting, Mr. Drew Dietrich provided an update on the project activity. He discussed Project Morgan, Project Guard, and Project Lightning. Project Morgan is a target project that will work with the MagLab. Project Lightning could create an estimated 60-70 jobs and is a direct result of the interest generated in the area because of the recruitment of Amazon. Project Guard is a European manufacturing organization that anticipates bringing 6 to 7 employees to Tallahassee and ultimately expanding it operation to include 40 employees. Lastly, Director Paredes discussed the economic indicators, stating that employment numbers are trending upwards, unemployment is down, and single-family home construction is trending upward.

Domi Education, Inc. Funding Request
As directed by the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency (IA) Board at the February 24, 2022, OEV presented an analysis of a request by Domi Education, Inc. for renovations at 914 Railroad Avenue (Domi Station) and provided an overview of the scope of the request. Domi’s funding request is for renovations totaling $100,000 for the addition of six micro offices to accommodate an estimated 28 additional member tenants and generate $66,000 in additional revenue per year. This funding request is a non-competitive project and was evaluated in accordance with the Non-Competitive Project Policy. In addition, a criterion under Blueprint IA Policy No. 114 requests a Favorable programmatic review and recommendation by the Economic Vitality Leadership Council (EVLC).

Before discussion, Susan Dawson, Blueprint Attorney, covered the Florida rules on voting conflicts and conflict disclosure obligations. Mr. Ricardo Schneider and Mr. Jake Kiker each recused themselves from the vote on whether to provide a favorable programmatic review and recommendation for the DOMI Station Project for funding due to voting conflicts. The EVLC provides programmatic recommendations only and does not make recommendations on funding.

Members of the EVLC discussed the proposal and highlighted that this was one of the best return-on-investments for economic development funds and that Domi was the right kind of organization and project to support. The EVLC agreed that organizations such as Domi were providing tremendous value to our local entrepreneurial ecosystem and that helping them to grow and incubate more companies would benefit the entirety of Tallahassee-Leon County’s economy.

Mr. Steve Evans moved to recommend supporting the DOMI Station funding request to the Intergovernmental Agency Board of Directors. Dr. Temple Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Mark O’Bryant and Mr. Bill Smith out of the room.

Mr. Darryl Young, Deputy Director of the Minority Women and Small Business Enterprise Division, provided a brief update on the MWSBE Participation in the SOMO walls Project. The project currently has a 35% participation rate, which is well above the project’s goals.

Lastly, he stated that OEV was awarded a grant from the Nation League of Cities to further OEV’s MWSBE initiatives and economic inclusion efforts.
CLOSING / ADJOURN

Mr. Ricardo Schneider thanked staff for the informative meeting and adjourned the meeting.
The meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Next Economic Vitality Leadership Council Meeting:

Wednesday, June 22, 2022, at 11:30 am
I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no agenda modifications to the meeting outline.

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS

The Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency offered three alternatives for citizen comment, by email, through virtual participation, or in person. There were no comments received by email and no in-person or virtual speakers.

III. PRESENTATION / INFORMATION ITEMS

Welcome New CAC Member:

Vice Chair, Rod McQueen, stated that a formal welcome to new CAC members would occur at the next CAC meeting when the Chair and the new members were present. Vice Chair McQueen thanked Blueprint staff for the walking tour during the last CAC meeting and stated that he enjoyed see the projects at their different stages.

Update on the Downtown-University Protected Bike Lane Network and Build the Bike Route System Feasibility Studies:

Mike Alfano provided an update on the Build the Bike Route System project, including three feasibility studies currently underway, and answered questions from CAC members Kathy Bell, Mary Glowacki, and Jim McShane on the Build the Bike Route System project. Eric Mason provided a brief update on the Downtown University Protected Bike Lane Project. Phase 1 of the Project included the installation of
temporary protected bike lane facilities along Pensacola Street and St. Augustine Street between Macomb Street and Adams Street. Phase 2 of the Project will replace the temporary facilities with a permanent installations and add new protections north and southbound on South Adams Street, Macomb Street, and along Pensacola Street and St. Augustine Street. Project team members Inovia Consulting Group gave an overview presentation of design options for the bike lane protections. Sean McGlynn suggested sharing these bike infrastructure updates and projects with the Bicycle House organization.

Office of Economic Vitality Update Presentation:

Darryl Jones provided a brief update on the Office of Economic Vitality. He stated that OEV and the MWSBE Division were working to implement programs that further the goals of the updated Strategic Plan and Disparity Study.

IV. CONSENT

1. Approval of the November 17, 2021 Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Jim McShane moved to accept the November 17, 2021 Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes. It was seconded by Adner Marcelin. Motion passed unanimously.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Recommendation of Approval of a Joint Project Agreement with the City of Tallahassee for Underground Utilities and Authorization to Procure Design-Build Services for the Monroe-Adams Corridor Placemaking Project

Eric Mason and project team member Shawn Kalbli of Kimley Horn & Associates provided a presentation on the Monroe-Adams Corridor Placemaking Project. After the presentation, CAC members had questions about the various streetscaping improvements and on the origins of the project.

Adner Marcelin moved to accept option #1 to “recommend the IA Board authorize Blueprint to advertise, negotiate, and award, in accordance with Blueprint Procurement Policy 101, a contract for design-build professional services for design and construction of the Monroe-Adams Corridor Placemaking project and approve the Joint Project Agreement with the City of Tallahassee for Undergrounding Electric Utilities.” Jim McShane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mary Glowacki, Elva Peppers, and Kathy Bell each provided updates on their projects as liaisons stating that the NE Gateway Project, Debbie Lightsey Nature Park, and Airport Gateway, respectively, were progressing forward.

Autumn Calder, Blueprint Director, announced that there will be a grand opening ceremony for the Skateable Art project on FAMU way and invited the CAC members to attend in late June.
VI. **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm.