Riverfront Feedback from PC members (5/20/2021)

Betsey Buckheit:

Consider sustainable park funding strategy.

Hopes that the plan also looks at not only grants and upfront support but also sustainable park funding. Very little community engagement from what people want from the river. Still thinks we can get this. Land use and transportation problem, we need to look at how people will get to the river. (esp. Hwy 3). Ensure consider equity and creating spaces for all that are accessible to all.

Will Schroeer:

Make it the most beautiful destination we can.

Community input – target specific communities that use the river.

Access and connectivity – Hwy 3 is a barrier but not the only one. Improve access first then improve amenities. How people get to the River matters.

If there is a way to get something started even if its temporary, we should!

Tracy Heisler:

Reiterate the importance of infrastructure for riverfront trails/sidewalks. Regional Trail designation/ Mill Town trails connection.

Bridge Square may not need as much re-visiting of options to select a design to move forward. Thought Council had discussed a preference but did not have funding.

Joe Gasior:

Need to make sure there are milestones for funding the project.

Look for quick wins; loops might be good; consider temporary access to the River downstream of the dam.

General consensus to pursue creating pedestrian and bicycle loops; anchored to the downtown and Bridge Square.