



Richland County
 Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee
 October 5, 2021 – 2:30 PM
 Council Chambers
 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

Yvonne McBride District 3	Jessica Mackey District 9	Chakisse Newton District 11
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Committee Members Present: Jessica Mackey, Chair; Yvonne McBride, and Chakisse Newton

Others Present: Bill Malinowski, Derrek Pugh, Allison Terracio, Gretchen Barron, Michelle Onley, Tamar Black, Leonardo Brown, Lori Thomas, Ashiya Myers, Kyle Holsclaw, Angela Weathersby, Justin Landy, Jennifer Wladischkin, Stacey Hamm, Dwight Hanna, Chris Keefer

1. **Call to Order** – Ms. McBride called the meeting to order at approximately 2:30 PM.
2. **Election of the Chair** – Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. McBride, to nominate Ms. Mackey, as Chair
 In Favor: McBride, Mackey, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **Adoption of Agenda** – Ms. Newton noted the agenda numeration needed to be corrected.
 Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. McBride, to adopt the agenda as amended.
 In Favor: McBride, Mackey, and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **Item for Discussion**
 - a. **Introduction of Baker Tilly** – Mr. Brown stated Baker Tilly has a history with helping local governments with their strategic planning processes. He noted the purpose of the ad hoc committee is to send information through committee to Council in order to put together a living strategic plan that can be utilized to facilitate discussions and decisions about county services and business. There will be interviews with department heads and Councilmembers to form the foundation of information going into the next fiscal year to make budgetary and operational decisions. The estimated timeline in the packet would enable us to finish prior to the 2022 Council Retreat.

Ms. Mackey noted they need to update their schedule if step one is “mobilizing strategic planning team” was the creation of the committee.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Ms. Mackey inquired if there is an update on any of the remaining items.

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Mr. Brown responded the strategic planning team met before the creation of the ad hoc committee. He noted Baker Tilly requested background information and any previous plans that Richland County had. He stated they also developed stakeholder outreach and engagement plan. In a previous Council meeting, he notified Council they would be hearing from Baker Tilly and be prepared to be a part of that process.

Ms. Newton inquired if the items happening in December would require Council or was it just Baker Tilly since December has a more compressed meeting schedule due to the holidays.

Mr. Brown responded it would be helpful to have the ad hoc committee. One of the first things to figure out is the scheduling, as it relates to what requires Council and what does not.

Ms. Newton inquired if there were any plans to integrate the community survey and the strategic planning process.

Mr. Brown responded they worked with Government and Community Services to try to run them together as a part of the strategic planning process.

Ms. Thomas stated the vendor doing the community survey is in the process of question development. Their process is a relative quick one. Once they have finalized the questions, the Government and Community Services will be pushing it out. It should be approximately a 4-week turnaround. Once we get to the strategy planning session in November, you will have the information so you can share your thoughts and vision.

Ms. McBride inquired if the goal was to use the priorities in the budget setting and development.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

b. Strategic Planning Overview – Mr. Eisenlohr presented an overview of Baker Tilly.

Ms. Newton inquired the December calendar and collaboration with Baker Tilly.

Ms. Varghese responded after the initial interviews and focus groups in November, they will finalize the strategic plan in December. She noted they would work with the committee to ensure they could present the final deliverables in a time that would be reasonable.

Ms. Mackey inquired about the next steps of the committee and Council.

Ms. Varghese responded the next steps would be follow-up interviews with Councilmembers and department heads. She noted they would be willing to supply any progress updates.

Mr. Malinowski inquired what they are planning to achieve.

Mr. Brown responded the staff is working on developing a strategic plan utilizing the process that will incorporate input from Council, which will ultimately result in a document used to make decisions. He noted the Council Chair established this ad hoc committee for the strategic planning process to include Councilmembers in helping facilitate the process. The strategic plan is to help the County, as a whole, to make decisions and conduct business and focus its resources.

5. **Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:02 PM.