

ATTACHMENT 2

Working Group Input

Opportunities

- Diverse area to work with
- Research projects
- Recycled water
- Create a river linking downtown to:
 - Hallmark parks, golf course(s), Innovation District, etc.
- Linking hole lake to the SAR
- Celebrate and preserve natural area
 - Development Diversification: certain sections for commercial, certain sections for entertainment, certain sections for preservation, etc.
- Recreational opportunities
 - Have an integrated system to build off of in order to promote healthy lifestyles (wellness)
 - River tours!
 - Bird watching
- Regional connectivity and partnerships
 - Work with surrounding cities that have SAR in their jurisdiction

Challenges

- **What have you been hearing why folks don't visit the river?**
 - Homeless Encampments
 - People just don't know; are not aware
 - "What river?"
 - Lack of restrooms/amenities
 - Access points; don't know where to access the river safely
 - Some don't even know the river IS accessible; just drive by it
 - Lack of water in river
 - Negative connotation to river bottom
 - No relationship to the built environment
- Environmental regulatory challenges
- Minimal infrastructure in place to support development
 - No existing development that facilitates our ideas
- Insufficient funding for operating and maintaining
- NIMBYs
- No destinations/things on the river that invite recreation and engagement
- Nothing that shouts, "THE RIVER IS HERE" near major highways; not having a place or thing that directs people to the river
- Intergovernmental affairs/jurisdictional boundaries

- Elevation difference
- Missing regulatory driver
- Lack of vision for development by some
- Some want tangible visuals, not just data and numbers

What would you like to see?

- The ability to access the river at different points, depending on what it is you want to do (eat, drink, recreational activities. Etc.)
- Large/visible amount of water to arouse the curiosity or interest of passerby's
- Groups of people enjoying recreational activities on the river – we want to see the energy
- A healthy ecosystem that is trash free
- Unique touch points along the river that help tell Riverside's story
- A gondola from downtown to the river
- Educational signage along with wayfinding
- Active and passive learning experiences
- A hospitality destination filled with economic drivers for the region (food, drinks, entertainment, etc.)
- Tourist attraction(s) (open-space, concerts, etc.)
- SAR Reach 3 branding associated with built environment and City branding
- Environmental benefit (engineered storm water collection)
- Research components to educate children about environment and indigenous history

Imagine no boundaries: What would a vibrant river/waterfront destination in Riverside look like?

- A clean environment with no homelessness in sight
- Open water feature to be connected to downtown
- There is an obvious flow that attracts visitors from downtown to the river and vice versa
- A high degree of programming so that there is always something to do for all ages and interests
- Some commercial development (hotel, conference center, retreat center, visitors center)
- Entertainment venue(s) with lights along the river that allow visitors to visit at night
- Agri tourism focused element for community to enjoy and connect to the natural environment (demonstrations, community garden, edible tourist trail, etc.)
- Economically viable ecosystem that doesn't cost a lot to maintain - sustainable tourism concepts
- Create an ecosystem for market-based decisions (destinations, experiences, easy access)

- Innovative – take waterfront notion to another level (local art installations, bike tours, other)
- Authenticity is key – experience needs to be authentic and native to the land
- A visitor/cultural center like the National Parks Visitor Center
- A safe environment for families to visit – safe location, well patrolled, well lit, etc.
- A focus on supporting homegrown, local businesses, that hire local which will bring opportunities to buy local/something true to Riverside
- Element of cooling – Climate Resilient – Water Features
- Better utilization of undeveloped area of Ryan Bonaminio Park