



 **RECONNECT
JACKSON WARD**

FEASIBILITY STUDY STEERING COMMITTEE

Virtual Kickoff Meeting

January 27, 2022

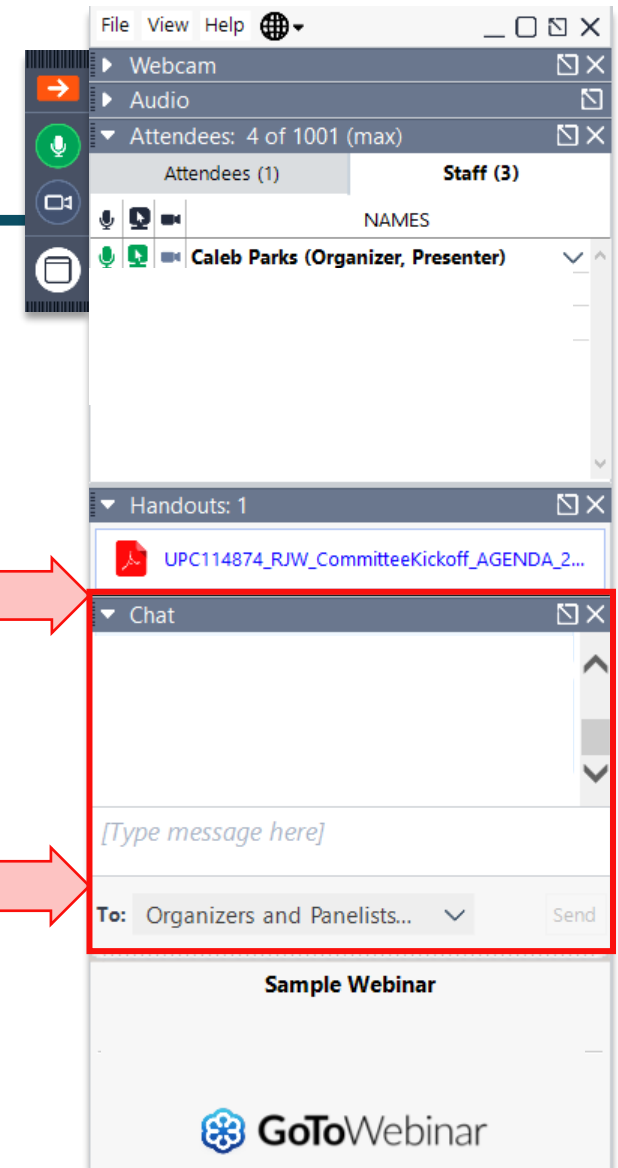
4:00 – 5:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Outline Study Scope, Goals, and Schedule
3. Review Roles/Commitment of Committee
4. Questions and Answers
5. Open Discussion: Focus Groups/Community Visioning Meeting
6. Next Meeting and Next Steps

MEETING ORIENTATION

- Virtual meeting open to all interested in attending
- Steering Committee and Study Team (**Staff**)
 - Requested to participate in polling questions
 - Encouraged to speak during questions and answers
 - Invited to provide input through chat
 - Asked to turn off webcam and mute mic unless actively participating in meeting
- Additional Attendees (**Attendees**)
 - Invited to provide input through chat/questions
 - Requested to raise hand to speak
 - Asked to mute mic unless called upon to speak



1. INTRODUCTIONS – STUDY TEAM

PROJECT PARTNERS



Maritza Pechin
Deputy Director

Dironna Clarke
Administrator

Yessenia Revilla
Planner



Ronique Day
Deputy Director



Ben Mannell, AICP
Assistant Division Administrator

CONSULTANT TEAM



Ebony Walden
Principal



Shawn Balon
Executive Director



Caleb Parks
Project Manager



Mike Carosi
President

1. INTRODUCTIONS – STEERING COMMITTEE

Please introduce yourself:

- a) Name
- b) Neighborhood
- c) Organization / business / community that you represent

1. DIGITAL POLL QUESTIONS PART 1

How aware are you of the Reconnect Jackson Ward Feasibility Study?

- a) I am highly aware of the study
- b) I know a little about the study
- c) I do not know much about the study

2. STUDY BACKGROUND

Overview of neighborhood and history



1793

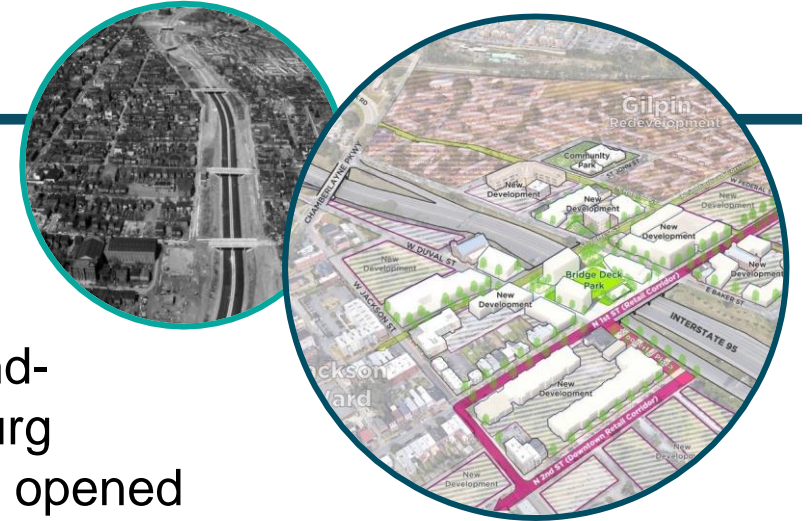
City of Richmond begins annexing subdivided parcels originally owned by William Byrd III

1871

Jackson Ward created as an official political subdivision in the City (ward); becomes 'city within a city' referred to as the 'Black Wall Street' and the 'Harlem of the South'

1958

Richmond-Petersburg Turnpike opened July (redesignated to I-95); divides the northern and southern sections of Jackson Ward into two separate communities



2020

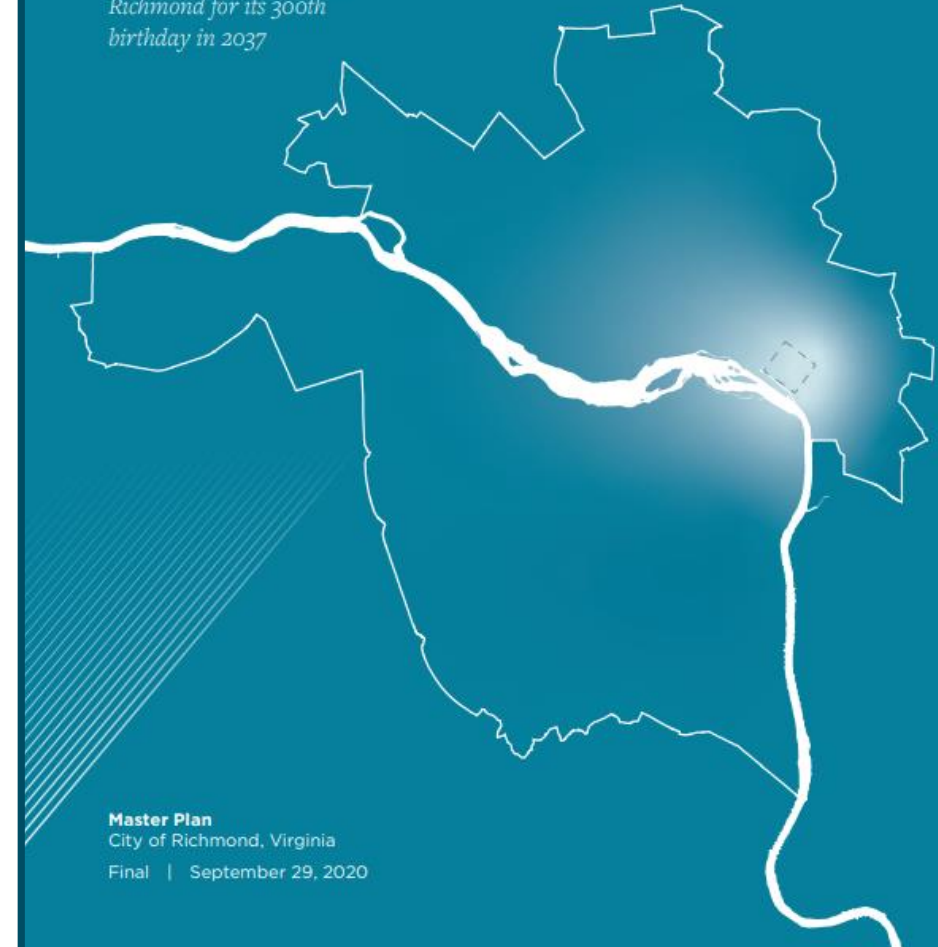
Richmond 300 Master Plan adopted as a guide for growth to 2037; includes vision for reconnecting Jackson Ward

2. R300 BIG MOVE

- **Reconnect the City:** Cap highways to reknit neighborhoods destroyed by interstates, build/improve bridges, introduce street grids, and make the city easier to access by foot, bike, and transit
- **Action Step:** Develop a feasibility study with community input to create a schematic design for the bridge park, roadways, and buildings of top of the capped highway

RICHMOND 300 A Guide for Growth

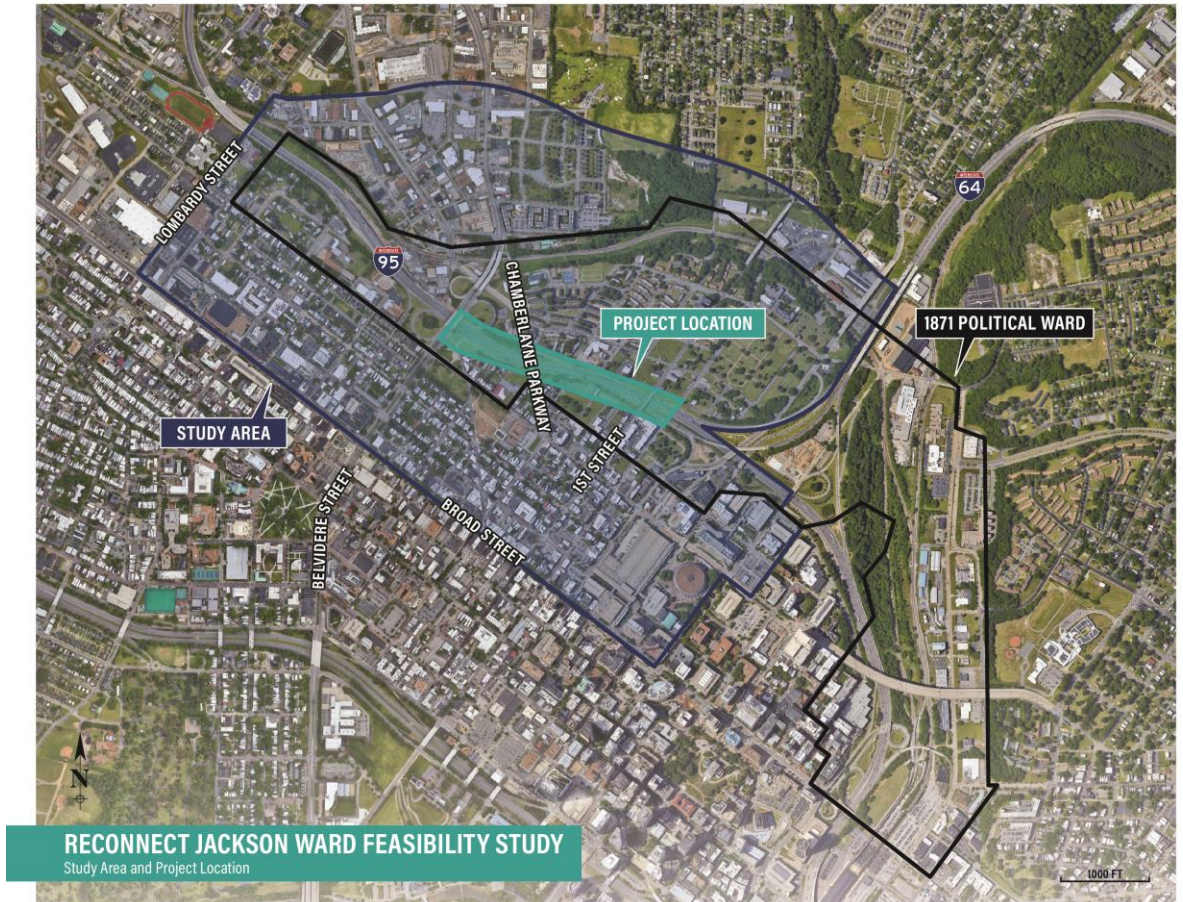
*Designing an equitable,
sustainable, and beautiful
Richmond for its 300th
birthday in 2037*



Master Plan
City of Richmond, Virginia
Final | September 29, 2020

2. STUDY SCOPE

- Evaluate reconnection of Jackson Ward, Gilpin Court, and surrounding neighborhoods, separated by I-95, through the creation of new development, transportation connections, and public spaces
 - Opportunity to repair, rebuild, and reknit



2. STUDY GOALS

- Engage and empower the community during the feasibility study
- Planned community outreach and public involvement activities
 - Focus group meetings and interviews
 - Community information meetings and pop-up tent events
 - Public survey
 - Subscriber email updates and social media
- Study guided by project partners, study team, and technical staff

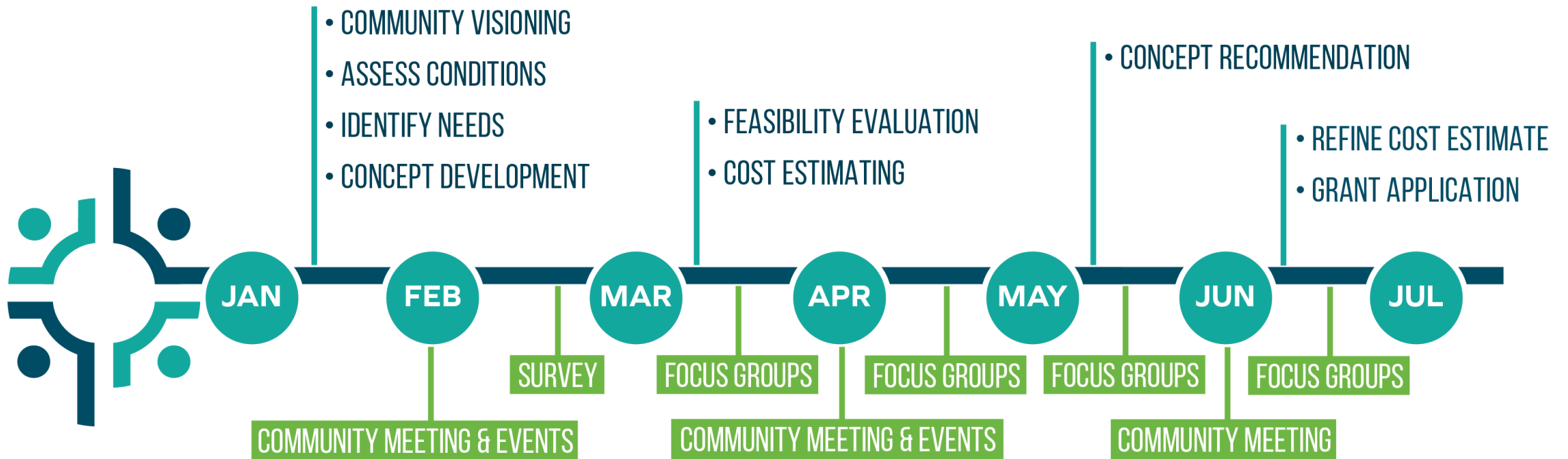
2. STUDY GOALS, CONT.

- Ensure the feasibility study will position the City of Richmond to meet requirements for future funding opportunities
 - *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program*
 - Planning Grants: \$30M for FY2022 – FY2026 (\$150M total nationwide)
 - Capital Construction Grants: \$65M – \$75M for FY2022 – FY2026 (\$350M total nationwide)
 - *Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grants Program*
 - Other funding opportunities

Funding is currently available for feasibility study only



2. STUDY PROCESS AND SCHEDULE



2. EXAMPLES AND CASE STUDIES



I-670, The Cap at Union Station
Columbus, Ohio

Year Completed	2004
Approx. Cost	\$10M (2004 CY)*
Approx. Size	1 AC (44,000 SF)

**Note: Approximate cost includes structures and utilities; private developers funded retail buildings on top of cap*



I-195, Kanawha Plaza
Richmond, Virginia

Year Completed	1980
Approx. Cost	N/A
Approx. Size	3 AC (130,000 SF)

2. EXAMPLES AND CASE STUDIES



I-5, Freeway Park
Seattle, Washington

Year Completed	1976
Approx. Cost	\$24M (1976 CY)
Approx. Size	5 AC (220,000 SF)



SR 366, Klyde Warren Park
Dallas, Texas

Year Completed	2012
Approx. Cost	\$110M (2021 CY)
Approx. Size	5 AC (220,000 SF)

2. DIGITAL POLL QUESTIONS PART 2

What benefits do you think reconnecting Jackson Ward could provide (choose multiple)?

- a) Improve ease of multimodal movement and quality of travel
- b) Increase connectivity to destinations of interest
- c) Support economic vitality and development
- d) Other (suggest others using the chat function)

2. DIGITAL POLL QUESTIONS PART 2

What are your top two recommendations for reaching out to the community with information and to get feedback?

- a) News outlets online
- b) News outlets on television
- c) Social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter)
- d) Email newsletters
- e) Hardcopy mailers or door hangers

3. REVIEW STEERING COMMITTEE ROLES/COMMITMENT

Serve as Project Ambassadors to share information and support the project and process in their networks and on their platforms.

Review and refine the proposed community engagement strategy, approach and schedule to ensure it aligns with project outcomes and community needs.

Assist in identifying and connecting with stakeholders, residents, descendants of displaced residents, faith-based and community organizations, businesses and property owners that should be informed, involved, engaged and partnered with during the study process.

Attend monthly steering committee meetings.

4. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

5. FOCUS GROUPS/INTERVIEWS/ COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- Focus groups and interviews planned throughout the study
 - Who to invite?
 - Who are partners? Innovative ideas to consider?
- Community meetings and events planned for February, April, and June 2022
 - Location(s)?
 - How does the Reconnect Jackson Ward Steering Committee want to be involved?



6. NEXT MEETING AND NEXT STEPS

1. Contacts for Potential Focus Groups and Descendants
2. Meeting Dates for Next Meetings



6. DIGITAL POLL QUESTIONS PART 3

Please select all dates/times that work for you for the next Reconnect Jackson Ward Steering Committee meeting (choose multiple).

- a) Fourth Tuesday of each month from 3:00pm - 4:30pm
- b) Fourth Tuesday of each month from 4:00pm - 5:30pm
- c) Fourth Wednesday of each month from 3:00pm - 4:30pm
- d) Fourth Wednesday of each month from 4:00pm - 5:30pm
- e) Fourth Thursday of each month from 5:00pm - 6:30pm

7. ADJOURN