The Ohio Creek Project
March 2018 Newsletter

1. Project Update
   Letter from Program Manager, Christine Morris, Chief Resilience Officer

2. Environmental Review
   How we will ensure the Ohio Creek project protects our environment

3. Creating Jobs
   Interested in working on the Ohio Creek project? We’ll tell you how!

Community Meeting to Review Project Amenities
Project Update

Play, recreate and educate

The Ohio Creek Project design continues to evolve. Thank you for participating in the two public meetings held at the Grandy Village Learning Center on January 24th and February 21st. We had a great turnout! You gave us wonderful feedback on the design and environmental impact of the project.

The latest designs show the recreational spaces in Grandy Village. Community stakeholders, including students, staff and faculty from Chesterfield Academy, residents from Grandy Village and Chesterfield Heights, nonprofits/university partners, Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority and City staff, met with designers from SCAPE. SCAPE is a world-class landscape architect firm that collected the group’s feedback on how the park spaces should look and feel. Above is the conceptual design that includes five distinct park areas:

- Center Field
- Hillside Play Area
- Academy Grounds
- Community Terrace
- Wild Wetland Walk

If you have questions about the project, feel free to contact me directly at christine.morris@norfolk.gov or (757) 441-2602 ext. 233.

Christine Morris
Chief Resilience Officer
Creating Community Jobs

The City Council and City Manager are committed to inclusive economic development. What does that mean to you? It means our residents should benefit from the City’s economic development policies. As part of the project, the City must work to ensure that low-income residents have an opportunity to get a job during project construction. This requirement is detailed under Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

We are committed not only to meeting but exceeding those requirements. Within the next month, we will roll out programs to ensure Section 3 qualified businesses and residents of Grandy Village and Chesterfield Heights have an opportunity to work on this project.

We look forward to working together to reduce flooding and create economic opportunities that benefit you!

Project Timeline

- Grant Award to the Commonwealth – January 2017
- Subrecipient Agreement with the City of Norfolk – March 2017
- Permittable Drawings – Winter 2018
- Bid Packages for Construction – Fall 2019
- Construction Completed – Summer 2022

Property Easements/Purchases

To implement the Ohio Creek project, the City needs to acquire a number of easements and will seek to purchase a small number of properties. We are contacting property owners directly via US Mail to discuss impacts to their property. If you received a letter or have questions, contact Christine Morris, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Norfolk.

christine.morris@norfolk.gov

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Environmental Review Update

To ensure we protect the important environmental assets in the neighborhoods, every component of this project will be evaluated as part of the environmental review. Neville Reynolds, Kim Blossom and Chris Frye from VHB are preparing the project impact statement.

We will make sure this project improves the natural environment in the community!