



# Steering Committee

- ◆ 11 members appointed by Mayor / Council and Albemarle County
  - Neighborhood Representatives
  - City / County Planning Commissions
  - City Council
  - Planning District Commission
  - Local Trails Organization
  - Chamber of Commerce
  - City Parks Advisory Board
  - Citizens City-County Group





# Steering Committee Listening Tour

## ◆ ISSUES: Park/Creek

- Pen Park was purchased by City to replace land taken by McIntire Road
- Great opportunity to clean up and improve the creek
- Skate park can be relocated
- Tie McIntire Park to City
- Trail (pedestrian and bicycle) access important





# Steering Committee Listening Tour

## ◆ ISSUES: Neighborhoods

- Impacts to Rescue Squad
- Impact due to revised traffic patterns
- "Cut-through" and "avoidance" traffic during construction
- Design should not lead to neighborhood traffic problems

## ◆ ISSUES: Traffic

- Account for pedestrians
- Removal of signal at McIntire impacts Fire Station
- Plan for future: traffic projections based on planned growth
- Minimize impacts during construction
- Integrate or eliminate Park Street ramps





# Steering Committee Listening Tour

- ◆ ISSUES: Political / Other
  - We're beyond this issue
  - Need City / County Cooperation
  - Eastern Connector / Future Traffic
  - Rescue Squad
  
- ◆ Project Goals and Objectives
  - Grade separated interchange
  - Improve park access
  - Minimize land disturbance
  - Accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists
  - Connect neighborhoods to park
  - Create effective interchange
  - Create a city/park gateway





# Steering Committee Listening Tour

## ◆ Important Design Considerations

- Traffic flow during / after construction
- Scale and size
- Parkway aesthetics
- Multi-modal
- Ease of use / doesn't create traffic problems

## ◆ Message Conveyed by Design

- Functional yet aesthetically "correct"
- Entrance in both directions: City and Park
- Variety of aesthetic thoughts:
  - Historic
  - No fake historicism
  - Greek Revival / Contemporary
  - Parkway-like (Henry Hudson, GW, Colonial, Merritt)





# Steering Committee Listening Tour

## ◆ Project Benefits

- Another route from US 29 to downtown – reduces traffic on Park St.
- Opportunity to create something beautiful – a focal point
- Improve Schenks Branch
- Improve access to park
- Safety

## ◆ Downside of the Project

- Cost
- Impacts to park / land / trees
- Brings more traffic downtown
- None – if done correctly

