



Dear City of Columbus Management,

Historic Westville has temporarily closed due to the lack of operational funding resulting from low visitation and insufficient development. Given these circumstances, continuing to operate under the current business plan made it impossible. Westville's board felt it would be more responsible to close in order to save the remaining resources which included furloughing staff and reducing expenses to a minimum. The board has reached out to various organizations in order to develop a new plan going forward to determine the future of Westville with the intent to reopen as soon as it is feasible.

Historic Westville and Historic Columbus Foundation have partnered to create a new vision for the village. Collaborative meetings were held to present information and discuss current situational positions. From this, a stakeholder meeting was proposed to create a viable strategic plan that would be beneficial to the future of Historic Westville, the stakeholders, and the Chattahoochee Valley.

The initial discussions with leaders from the community was held on April 27th. This included SWOT analysis. Engaged discussions regarding Westville's internal sources as well as external forces that may have uncontrollable impacts on decisions were identified. In addition, alternative models and ideas were considered.

The main action point from these discussions is reapplying for a grant with Bradley Turner Foundation to engage a consultant to conduct a new feasibility study. The grant was previously approved but never conducted.

Westville is also in discussion with CFCV in regards to funds remaining in the foundation and how those funds can be best utilized for Westville in the future.

In addition, Westville is collaborating with Oxbow Meadows to market an experience that could occur this summer. In essence, Westville would be an extension of Oxbow Meadows. Westville would receive the difference in a higher admission fee.

With the city's permission, Westville requests time to conduct studies and discover effective solutions that allow Westville to face the future with confidence.

Regular updates regarding progress will certainly be provided to the city.