

Memorandum

To: Planning Commission

From: Niall Connolly, Principal Planner

Date: Sep 12, 2025

Re: Virgin River Management Plan Implementation - update

Overview

The Planning Commission appointed Commissioners Kruschke and Bhatti to form a subcommittee to work on the Virgin River Management Plan Implementation Project. This staff report gives a brief update on work to date.

The subcommittee convened their first meeting on September 4th. During this meeting, the subcommittee discussed general principles of good river and riparian zone management. They also reviewed the recommendations of the Virgin River Management Plan, and an overview of all of the work that has been done to date on the plan's implementation. The subcommittee established a link with the Town's Parks and Recreation Department, who will be carrying out a revegetation project on the Virgin River over the next while. It is likely that there could be some synergy between these two projects.

The subcommittee has made contact with experts on the Virgin River, including National Park colleagues and Steve Meismer, from the Virgin River Program. A field trip to the river corridor also took place on Friday 12th.

These preliminary activities are helping the subcommittee to refine its focus and identify next steps. Staff will continue to keep the Commission updated on the subcommittee's work.

There is no action or discussion required at the meeting as part of this agenda item. This item is primarily an update for the Commission's information. Of course, staff is able to answer any questions from the Commission at the meeting should there be any.