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Venters Landing work expected to end before Heritage Festival

SHAMIRA McCRAY

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Matthew Robertson/Morning News

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JOHNSONVILLE, S.C. – Johnsonville’s downtown development director David Mace presented the council with an update Tuesday evening about projects to Odell Venters Landing and an old IGA Building.

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The city contracted with R.L. Morrison and Sons Inc. for the renovations, and the project will be reimbursed through state and federal grants.

The project is running a couple of weeks behind, but Mace said he expects renovations to the landing to be complete by mid to late April, just before the annual Heritage Festival.

“The main thing that they’ve been working on so far is getting grating done for the ramp,” Mace said. “They started with the riverbed first and working their way up.”

Grating for the ramp should be complete within the next two weeks. Once the ramp is in place, Mace said contractors will start with the boating dock.

One concern raised about the renovations was whether there would be a sandy area to put kayaks in.

“I know a lot of the kayakers don’t like doing that on the concrete,” Mace said.

There will be a launch area for kayaks located to the right of the floating dock. The launch area will be approximately 15 to 20 feet wide, Mace said.

The city hopes to have a ribbon cutting for the landing’s renovations as part of the Heritage Festival.

The city is also in the process of having asbestos removed from the former IGA building on Broadway Street in Johnsonville. Approximately 800 square feet of floor tiles have to be removed because of asbestos. The removal should be done within a week to 10 days, Mace said.