

Braxton, Lisa - Clerk's Office

From: Megan Rollins [mgreyrollins@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 25, 2016 5:12 PM
To: City Clerk's Office; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member
Subject: Fwd: Reedy Creek 'restoration'

I have not received a reply from councilwoman Graziano, and do not see my letter of opposition for Ord.2016-217. Please include my letter for the upcoming city council meeting Mon Sep 26th.

sincerely
Megan Rollins
2040 Cedarhurst Drive
Richmond, VA 23225

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Megan Rollins** <mgreyrollins@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 6:03 PM
Subject: Reedy Creek 'restoration'
To: Kathy.Graziano@richmondgov.com

Ms. Graziano;

I'm writing to strongly urge you to oppose Ord. No. 2016-217 to be voted on Monday, September 26th at the City Council Meeting. This project is a foolish spend of 1.27 million dollars with no appreciable benefit to the citizens of Richmond. Clear-cutting 7 acres of woodland just downstream of an already channeled, hardened stream course, in a watershed with 40% impervious surface is asking for trouble. There is no plan to fix a catastrophic failure during or after construction and no estimates of routine maintenance costs (watering of trees for two years, removal of invasive plants across 7+ acres, repair of minor erosion damage). The City already struggles with providing basic services to its citizens and the proposed project will bleed money for years.

This is not a 'restoration' project, just a channelization. The underlying cause of the problem of eroded streambanks is the huge volume of polluted runoff from impervious surfaces that picks up pollutants from throughout the watershed. Destroying a vegetated stream course will not help this, but exacerbate the problem. Additionally, Crooked Branch Ravine Park, a valuable oasis for residents and wildlife will be severely impacted by the loss of 400+ mature trees, for years to come. Replacement seedlings will take 50+ years to reach the same maturity that currently exists.

Upstream watershed pollution controls should be investigated and pursued. This is a project of convenience, since the City owns the property and doesn't have to deal with getting easements. Many logical alternatives exist across the entire watershed that would benefit Reedy Creek, the Chesapeake Bay, and the residents of Richmond: routine dredging of Forest Hill Lake, green infrastructure at schools, bioretention on several other city-owned properties, cost-share programs for installation of best management practices on private property.

Finally, additional considerations:

* A recent FOIA request revealed that the City had no information concerning site selection for the proposed stream relocation.

* The project was selected based on convenience and not on science.

* The Army Corp of Engineers has not granted a permit for a comparable project in Virginia

* the 2012 City Master plan has no calls for a stream restoration project for Reedy Creek.

* Seven of the current mayoral candidates for Richmond have voiced their opposition to the project.

For all these reasons, this project should not be funded, and you should vote to oppose Ord. 2016-217. Sadly, I cannot attend the meeting on Monday as I will be out of town for a work conference. If I was in town I would certainly be there to express my opposition to this project.

Thank you for your consideration
Megan Rollins

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: pta0001@aol.com
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 12:26 PM
Subject: Proposed Reedy Creek Relocation

Good Morning, My name is Denise Payne.

I live at 52 east 32nd street Richmond Va. 23224. I have lived there for almost 3 years. I moved there specifically to be closer to the James River Park System. I love reedy creek and visit it at least once a day with my beloved dogs. We love the river, the people, the wildlife, the atmosphere, the foliage and so on. It looks completely different based on the weather or season. We just love it there. It pains me to think that trees will lose their life and wildlife will lose its habitat for nothing. The proposed improvement to reedy creek will not treat the causes of the eroding banks. There are many reasons to not move forward with this proposal. Please **DO NOT SUPPORT** the proposed reedy creek relocation.

Sincerely Denise Payne
804-754-5400

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: David Ridderhof [dridderhof1@verizon.net]
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 11:19 AM
To: Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office;
Subject: MOLLY.WARD@GOVERNOR.VIRGINIA.GOV
Reedy Creek Stream "Restoration" ordinance 2016-217 before Council

When it rains in South Richmond along the Midlothian Turnpike corridor, much of the water, unable to penetrate the impervious concrete and asphalt surfaces, picks up pollutants and is diverted to adjacent Reedy Creek, where through a series of engineered alterations such as drainage ditches, rechanneling and worst of all, long concrete sluices, it makes its journey to the James River and eventually the Chesapeake Bay.

During a big storm, the amount of water rushing down stream reaches incredible force and volume and all along the stream the visible damage can be seen in the form of garbage, eroded banks and sediment buildup. Eventually, the water empties into Forest Hill Lake, a true jewel in the City of Richmond park system, where the polluted sediment has been collecting since the lakes restoration in 2009. Water then makes its final brief trip into the James River.

The cities proposed "restoration" is to take possibly the last truly natural section of Reedy Creek, a nature reserve, and clear cut the mature native forest along its banks and replant a "new" forest after widening the banks into a terraced form. The theory is that the water gushing from the concrete channel above it will expand to fill the banks, thereby reducing pollutants going further downstream.

Beyond the high risk, low benefit of this engineering, how will it be maintained? Is any money budgeted for maintenance? Who is going to keep these fragile new plantings alive while they struggle to take root? What happens should a big storm wash it all away before it can sustain itself? How and who will keep out the invasive species that will flourish in such an environment? Will the city dredge the sediment buildup that will occur? They sure haven't done so in Forest Hill Lake, something promised when the lake was restored. The lake is filling in with sediment, and despite continuing volunteer trash pickups, the garbage is still an ongoing eyesore. A recent lake cleanup removed most of what had become a virtual island of trash from the middle of the lake, but its already building up again.

My guess is, should this project go forward, once complete and money is exchanged, maintenance will take a low to no priority, with nothing in the budget going forward. Reedy Creek is in a forest that is not like a building you can tear down and replace with something better and I urge council to defeat this extremely flawed project.

Thanks for taking the time to read,
David Ridderhof, a concerned citizen of the City of Richmond

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Jack Jackson [jackj3b@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2016 9:58 PM
To: Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office; rpooleadop@aol.com; lawmanchem@yahoo.com; murthyvg@gmail.com; vmurthy@luckcompanies.com; Max.hepp.buchanan@gmail.com; max@sportsbackers.org; dave@johannasdesign.com; egreenfield@rarealtors.com; Jackthompson1@verizon.net; jthompson@richmondhabitat.org
Subject: Reedy Creek Restoration Opposition

To all concerned,

I fervently oppose the proposed "restoration" of Reedy Creek and urge you to vote NO on this ordinance. The creek is a precious natural resource that should not be tampered with. Rather than seeking to manage an unnatural volume of storm water, why not pursue plans that aim to reduce the amount of storm water volume itself, which seems to be the real problem? Thank you for your careful attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jack Jackson, city resident

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Raymond Tighe [tigherp@mymail.vcu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 9:08 PM
To: Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member; Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office
Subject: Save Reedy Creek

Dear Local Officials,

I write to you as a life long resident of Richmond, college student, and concerned citizen. I urge you to listen to scientists, ecologists, and your constituents before you make a decision to remove over 7 acres of land around Reedy Creek. These trees take hundreds of years to grow and can not easily be replaced without extensive and expensive management. Old growth trees are priceless when it comes to removing pollutants. Beyond the environmental effects, the plan to replace the 7 acres may be far more expensive long term than finding an alternative to reducing sediment pollution.

Before you vote, if possible, drive by Reedy Creek and take a long look at the largest trees in the area. You will surely be impressed and may think twice about destroying them.

Thanks,

Ray Tighe

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Joshua Rogers [joshuabrogers@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 11:17 AM
To: Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member
Cc: Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member; Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office
Subject: Reedy Creek Restoration

Dear Kathy, I just want to drop you a line regarding the proposed Reedy Creek Restoration project. Having walked that entire section of Creek, it's obvious that a beautiful landscape is going to be destroyed to make room for a "better" one. This new landscape will be devoid of any mature trees and plants to hold the disturbed earth in place making it ripe for massive erosion during heavy rains. The issue lies not with the current stream bed but the massive amounts of storm water that comes from the concrete sluiceway above it.

To actually make a difference will require mitigation of the storm water at the various sources. This is obviously a much more difficult situation requiring city and private landowners cooperation. We should not waste precious tax payer money on a project that will do nothing to address the problem and only introduce more erosion and sediment into the creek, river and then bay.

Finally, given the city can. It find the funds to collect leaves until April in some areas, I find it very difficult to believe that there will be any meaningful maintenance to keep erosion in check and invasive species from taking over a clear cut area.

I sincerely hope you will vote no on this project.

Respectfully,

Josh

Joshua Rogers
5005 Riverside Dr.
Richmond, VA 23225

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: richard [richardleebland@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 1:31 PM
To: Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member
Cc: Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office; rpooleadop@aol.com; lawmanchem@yahoo.com; murthyvg@gmail.com; vmurthy@luckcompanies.com; Max.hepp.buchanan@gmail.com; max@sportsbackers.org; dave@johannasdesign.com; egreenfield@rarealtors.com; Jackthompson1@verizon.net; Cuffee-Glenn, Selena - CAO; Markham, Lory P. - PDR; Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; parker.angelasto@richmondgov.com; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; jthompson@richmondhabitat.org
Subject: "No" Ordinance 2016-217 Reedy Creek Stream

Support a this Forest Hills Community that loves its woodlands.
Stop Reedy Creek Relocation
vote "No" Ordinance 2016-217 Reedy Creek Stream Restoration
Stop destruction of our 424 trees over 7.4 acres removing
natural habitat for birds, animals, plants etc.

Local residents are solid against this insensitive environmental destruction
of a neighborhood planned around these natural features 100 years ago.

Support the residents and their homes and sense of place.

The proposal involves digging completely **new** channels for Reedy Creek and Crooked Branch, a tributary located in the middle of Crooked Branch Ravine Park. The plan calls for the **complete deforestation of 7.4 acres** of some of the best stream-side habitat in Richmond which would literally tear the heart out of a neighborhood treasure. 424 large trees would be destroyed as well as thousands of smaller trees and shrubs that have grown up naturally over the last several decades. This is a highly diverse forest that supports an array of wildlife and provides a remarkable, peaceful greenspace.

Protect our families from this harsh mechanical disconnected scheme.

Do not ignore the wonderful woodlands here. These are the upper portion
continuous with Beautiful Forest Hill Park. loved in this community and all Richmond.

“This intrusive proposal is NOT a stream “restoration” it is RELOCATION.”

Richard Lee Bland
113 North Lombardy Street
Richmond Va, 23220

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 9:29 AM
To: Alex Ritter
Cc: Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office
Subject: RE: Reedy Creek Stream Relocation

Hi Alex,

I thank you for taking the time to share your message of opposition to the plan for Reedy Creek and the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund grant that is covered in Ordinance No. 2016-217. As you are aware, the ordinance is scheduled to be on the Planning Commission agenda TODAY, September 19, at 1:30 pm. You can track the ordinance through the public hearing process via the below link. As a City Council hearing becomes scheduled that includes public comment period, I will let folks know how and when to participate.

In the meantime, I have walked the area on numerous occasions. I have listened to residents and specialists knowledgeable about effective stream restoration work and their concerns about the Reedy Creek project. I plan to seek information pertaining to the lake in Forest Hill Park and how any improvements to Reedy Creek would not reach the James River without passing through this facility that was already designed to address sediment from upstream. Furthermore, I believe volume and velocity of stormwater making its way through the concrete channelized portion must be addressed first. I am therefore investigating if the SLAF grant could be used on other stream restoration target area and whether the grants are following a comprehensive plan to address stormwater throughout the City.

Sincerely,
Parker C. Agelasto
Richmond City Council, 5th District

<https://richmondva.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2834265&GUID=9950602F-BB4A-4FC5-BD1C-EAAE85493399&Options=ID%7CText%7C&Search=reedy#.V9mDChjmArM.email>

-----Original Message-----

From: Alex Ritter [<mailto:alexritter65@gmail.com>]
Sent: Mon 9/19/2016 8:01 AM
To: Pat Wood
Cc: Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; rpolleadop@aol.com; lawmanchem@yahoo.com; murthyvg@gmail.com; Max.hepp.buchanan@gmail.com; dave@johannasdesign.com; egreenfield@rarealtors.com; Jackthompson1@verizon.net; Cuffee-Glenn, Selena - CAO; Markham, Lory P. - PDR
Subject: Re: Reedy Creek Stream Relocation

As a voter, I agree with voting against this measure. Use the grant money wisely. This attempt is sheer folly that will result in excessive erosion, destruction of natural forest area, and no over all benefit to the James River. A culvert does not filter the storm water pollutants or address the excessive trash entering the creek, lake, and river.

Alexandra Ritter
3700 Brookside Road 23225

On Sep 18, 2016, at 3:58 PM, Pat Wood <pathwood@hotmail.com> wrote:

Please vote against DPU's request for funds to relocate the flow of Reedy Creek.

DPU has publicized that their plan to remove a swath of mature trees (more than 400) from the banks of Reedy Creek, relocate the creek through an area larger than 7 acres and fill in the former creek bed will reduce the amounts of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment that flow into Forest Hill Park Lake, the James River and, finally, the Chesapeake Bay. The August 2016 issue of Bay Journal (publication is made possible through grants from the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Office <<http://www.chesapeakebay.net>> , the Campbell Foundation for the Environment, the Town Creek Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Chesapeake Bay Office, the Chesapeake Bay Trust) contains an article that touches on tree removal:

climate-altering "Forests are widely recognized as the best land use for sequestering
sediment carbon dioxide and for preventing polluted runoff of nutrients and
into waterways."

In addition, removal of the healthy tree canopy will negatively impact oxygen levels in the water and allow growth of invasive plants, not to mention destroy an unspoiled wildlife habitat in the heart of the city.

There is a fore bay where Reedy Creek empties into Forest Hill Park Lake and it was designed to allow the water flow to slow enough before entering the lake to allow sediment and unwanted chemicals to settle before entering the lake. However, the city has failed to maintain (dredge) the fore bay and the lake in seven years (dredging should take place every two years) and this failure has allowed the fore bay and lake to fill with trash and unwanted chemicals from upstream. It would be more expedient to maintain what is already in place to reduce sediment and chemical levels in our waterways.

Please vote against any monetary appropriation for Reedy Creek Stream "restoration."

Thank you for your consideration,

Patricia H. Wood

3712 Brookside Rd

Richmond, VA 23225-4730

804-230-0264

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 9:27 AM
To: Robert S Argabright II
Cc: Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Markham, Lory P. - PDR; Olinger, Mark A. - PDR
Subject: RE: Reedy Creek

Hi Bob,

I thank you for taking the time to share your message of opposition to the plan for Reedy Creek and the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund grant that is covered in Ordinance No. 2016-217. The ordinance is scheduled to be on the Planning Commission agenda TODAY, September 19. You can track the ordinance through the public hearing process and provide written comments to the Planning Commission. I have copied Lory Markham, Secretary to the Planning Commission, so she has your comments. As a City Council hearing becomes scheduled that includes public comment period, I will let folks know how and when to participate.

In the meantime, I have walked the area on numerous occasions. I have listened to residents and specialists knowledgeable about effective stream restoration work and their concerns about the Reedy Creek project. I plan to seek information pertaining to the lake in Forest Hill Park and how any improvements to Reedy Creek would not reach the James River without passing through this facility that was already designed to address sediment from upstream. Furthermore, I believe volume and velocity of stormwater making its way through the concrete channelized portion must be addressed first. I am therefore investigating if the SLAF grant could be used on other stream restoration target area and whether the grants are following a comprehensive plan to address stormwater throughout the City.

Also, your experience with Albro Creek is self-evident of the challenges such projects have for DPU. I have written to staff to inquire about maintenance of Albro Creek.

Sincerely,
Parker C. Agelasto
Richmond City Council, 5th District

<https://richmondva.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2834265&GUID=9950602F-BB4A-4FC5-BD1C-EAAE85493399&Options=ID%7CText%7C&Search=reedy#.V9mDChjmArM.email>

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert S Argabright II [<mailto:rargabright@me.com>]
Sent: Mon 9/19/2016 7:55 AM
To: Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member
Subject: Reedy Creek

I ask you to vote NO on the proposed Reedy Creek stream restoration project , City Ordinance 2016-217. This is an ill conceived plan that will do more harm than good to our watershed. It will not improve our stream quality but degrade the quality. In 2103 the City was involved in a stream restoration project at Albro Creek which is in the Bellemeade Park. After investing \$175,000.00 the project has been a complete failure and there seems to be plan to correct the situation. This was a simple and straight forward problem with our creek . The Reedy Creek

project is far more complex . My concern is that if the Bellemedae project can nat be used as an illustration of how the City can successfully complete a project that has actually improved the stream quality ,Then why should anyone feel confident of their ability to successfully complete the Reedy Creek project???

Listen to the knowledgeable voices that oppose this project. VOTE NO !!!!

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Merenda Woodward [merendagk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 1:07 AM
To: Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member; Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office
Cc: Mary Kranz; Lobo Marino; Parker
Subject: Reedy Creek

Dear Council Members,

I am writing in regards to the proposed Reedy Creek restoration project. I am concerned that the plan will have a long lasting negative impact on the neighborhood and mostly the children who play and learn in the park. I take my son fishing in the pond at Forest Hill Park every week. We walk down the creek at the site where the proposed project would take place. It is a refuge and a green space near and dear to us. If the trees are cut down and the stream re-routed he would be in college before the re-growth became evident.

Please take us and the other families who depend on this green space into consideration and seek an alternative solution.

Thank you for your time,

Merenda Cecelia

Merenda Cecelia Woodward

804-714-8198

merendagk@yahoo.com

merendacw.wordpress.com

bloodrootpoetry.wordpress.com

bloodrootyoga.wordpress.com

<http://stuffredux.org/>

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Debbie Hedberg [debbie_hedberg@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 5:49 AM
To: Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member
Cc: Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office; Baliles, Jonathan T. - Council Member
Subject: Reedy Creek "Restoration"

Ms. Graziano,

I'm writing to request that you vote against the proposed project. A Forest Hill resident of 14 years, I believe that there are serious issues with this plan as the Reedy Creek Coalition and others have already pointed out.

Best,

Debbie Hedberg

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Bill Shanabruch [billanddi@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 8:12 AM
To: Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member
Cc: Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office; MOLLY.WARD@GOVERNOR.VIRGINIA.GOV; DAVID.PAYLOR@DEQ.VIRGINIA.GOV; Silvia.B.Gazzera@usace.army.mil; Lynette.R.Rhodes@usace.army.mil; William.T.Walker@usace.army.mil; jason.e.kelly@usace.army.mil; news@timesdispatch.com; vkenney@foxrichmond.com; news@wric.com; newstips@wtvr.com; newsroom@nbc12.com; rdepompa@nbc12.com; ssquire@nbc12.com; dwalker@nbc12.com; amonfort@nbc12.com; sbloom@nbc12.com; cautry@nbc12.com
Subject: Ordinance 2016-217

Dear Councilor Graziano,

My name is Bill Shanabruch and I have lived in the 4th City Council District for more than 15 years in the Forest Hill Neighborhood. Before that I lived near the Reedy Creek watershed on Semmes Avenue for 10 years.

I worked at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for approximately 15 years. More than 12 years of that time was spent as a Regional Biologist specializing in the assessment of Virginia streams. I have waded in hundreds of streams and rivers and have pretty much “seen it all” with regard to Piedmont and Coastal Plain streams (watersheds that are urban, suburban, agricultural, forested, etc.)

In addition, I started monitoring Reedy Creek in the late 1990's with students from Thompson Middle School as part of an after-school science program. Subsequently, as a member of Friends of Forest Hill Park, I joined my neighbors in monitoring the level of fecal bacteria at 8 locations in Reedy Creek and Crooked Branch. The latter effort discovered a “hotspot” for high levels of fecal bacteria that led DEQ to perform much needed monitoring in our local stream. Over the last 6 years, I have been involved with the Reedy Creek Coalition's water monitoring program as well as “streamwalks”. Our monitoring data detected high levels of fecal bacteria in Crooked Branch that led to the detection and elimination of a sanitary sewer leak by Richmond DPU. Likewise, our streamwalks discovered a stormwater pipe leaking fecal bacteria and nutrients into the concrete channel. Once again, DPU discovered a leaky sanitary sewer pipe and fixed it.

Based on my professional experience and detailed knowledge of Reedy Creek, Crooked Branch, Crooked Branch Ravine Park, and the entire Reedy Creek watershed, I am strongly opposed to the proposed stream restoration project that is the subject of Ordinance 2016-217. The many reasons for this opposition are documented in the packet of information you will receive from the Reedy Creek Coalition so I will not reiterate those points here.

I thank you for the time you spent learning about the site with us on September 23rd and I know you will carefully read the packet presenting detailed reasoning for opposition to the proposed project.

Thank you for your attention.

Bill Shanabruch, Ph.D.

4020 Dunston Ave.

Richmond VA 23225

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Carol Ridderhof [cridderhof1@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 8:11 PM
To: Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member
Cc: Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uzziah A. - City Council Office; MOLLY.WARD@GOVERNOR.VIRGINIA.GOV; DAVID.PAYLOR@DEQ.VIRGINIA.GOV; Silvia.B.Gazzera@usace.army.mil; Lynette.R.Rhodes@usace.army.mil; William.T.Walker@usace.army.mil; jason.e.kelly@usace.army.mil; news@timesdispatch.com; vkenney@foxrichmond.com; news@wric.com; newstips@wtvr.com; newsroom@nbc12.com; rdepompa@nbc12.com; ssquire@nbc12.com; dwalker@nbc12.com; amonfort@nbc12.com; sbloom@nbc12.com; cautry@nbc12.com
Subject: Vote No! Reedy Creek Ordinance 2016- 217

Members Richmond City Counsel,

I am writing to you to voice my opposition to the Reedy Creek Stream Restoration Project, Ordinance 2016-217. Before a decision is made, please take time to visit the Reedy Creek Coalition website.

I believe opposition to the project is based on scientific fact, whereas the City's proposal is the "easy way out" and does nothing to address the problems with Reedy Creek. The current proposal is a "band-aid" and as most "band-aids" go, more costly in the long run. Despite DPU's prediction of dire consequences and tax increases for the public, opposition to the project is growing as the facts come out. The city has actually meet TMDL requirements through 2023. So, we should all be questioning the city's insistence on a project that is bad for the neighborhood, the city, the tax payer, the James River and the Chesapeake Bay.

As stated by so many of mayoral candidates at the forum on Tuesday the 20th, I love this city. The diversity, cultural attractions, and outdoor experiences draw people to the city. Please, don't let the battle with nature and Neighborhood Vs City keep people away. Vote NO! NO to deforestation, NO to stream relocation, NO to stream degradation! NO to a waste of taxpayer's dollars!

Thank-you for all of the time you give to the city and the time you have spent looking into the Reedy Creek project.

Many thanks to those in support of the Reedy Creek Coalition.

Carol Ridderhof, Resident of the City of Richmond

Sent from my iPad

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: CYNTHIA MASHBURN [cmashburn@icloud.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 25, 2016 6:57 PM
To: Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uziah A. - City Council Office; MOLLY.WARD@GOVERNOR.VIRGINIA.GOV; DAVID.PAYLOR@DEQ.VIRGINIA.GOV; Silvia.B.Gazzera@usace.army.mil; Lynette.R.Rhodes@usace.army.mil; William.T.Walker@usace.army.mil; jason.e.kelly@usace.army.mil; news@timesdispatch.com
Subject: Opposition to Ordinance 2016-217

Good evening. Thank you taking the time out of your busy schedule and time with family to read this email. I look forward to seeing you Monday evening

I am a relative newcomer to Richmond. I grew up in Hampton and Newport News and spent most of my life there. Richmond was a chance to start over. Starting over is not easy so you need to find a place with good work, good people and the things that are important to you. Environmental stewardship is important to me.

I love our city with the river, the parks, and the unique neighborhoods. Living in an integrated area is important to me too and I found what I was looking for and could afford in the Forest View neighborhood. On a my 1/4 acre around my 70 year old brick cape, I planted to bring in birds and insects. The more I studied of landscape design, the more determined I was to deter the oncoming generic-fication of Richmond.

I learned of Reedy Creek Coalition at a seminar at Lewis Ginter some years ago. A landscape architect was explaining how to develop communities in a way that works with the land and water. I mentioned our concreted creek bed and asked his opinion for returning the stream to the land. He suggested starting at the home and business level to reduce the source of stormwater runoff. After a time, there would be no need for a concrete culvert. Two people in the audience pointed me to Suzette Lyon and the Reedy Creek Coalition and I have been active with the group ever since.

We in Reedy Creek Coalition have worked with residents and businesses in the watershed to educate people about this wonderful resource and how to preserve it. We worked with Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay to obtain grant money for residents and businesses who had completed the Stormwater Audit (designed by our own Bill Shanabruch, Ph.D). DPU even worked with us for a while, testing our water samples and attending our meetings.

I am not a scientist or engineer or stormwater specialist, so I can't speak to the technical objections of this project, as others in our group of supporters can and will. I can speak as one, among many, who are here because of this resource that will be destroyed. Please vote against this proposal to accept funds from the Commonwealth of Virginia for this unwise project. It is needless and wasteful. It will destroy a beautiful, productive area and will result in more costs to the city.

Thank you for your attention and concern and for all you do for our city.

Cynthia (Cindi) Mashburn
801 W 49th Street
Richmond VA 23225

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Anne Shelton [anne.shelton36@comcast.net]
Sent: Sunday, September 25, 2016 8:02 PM
To: Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member; Harris, Uziah A. - City Council Office; MOLLY.WARD@GOVERNOR.VIRGINIA.GOV; DAVID.PAYLOR@DEQ.VIRGINIA.GOV; Silvia.B.Gazzera@usace.army.mil; Lynette.R.Rhodes@usace.army.mil; William.T.Walker@usace.army.mil; jason.e.kelly@usace.army.mil; news@timesdispatch.com
Subject: RE: Opposition to Ordinance 2016-217

Good evening to each of you.

I am a life resident of the City of Richmond: 42 years at 824 West 47th Street, one block from Reedy Creek and 38 years at 1917 Southcliff Road, one block from the James River. There was a beautiful lake in Forest Hill Park when I was young, then it filled with sediment and became quite a mess, In 2009, the lake was dredged (\$1.7M I think) and was to be maintained after that dredging. To this day, it has not been dredged and is again filling with sediment. Perhaps dredging and enlarging the forebays would qualify for the TMDL credits needed to meet the Chesapeake Bay Act requirements.

As a stakeholder at the Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts, I joined the Reedy Creek Coalition because they had many environmental programs and I was sure these would enhance what we were doing at PHSSA. And to say the least, there were many, many things learned. Reedy Creek is a learning classroom for our students and they are there often taking water samples, studying the aquatic life etc. Four years ago, through a grant from the Alliance of the Chesapeake Bay, we installed a large rain garden. Water samples were gathered by the VCU Biology Department for three years and the findings were amazing ...
"So that everyone knows, the garden is 100% effective at eliminating the runoff from the rear parking lot. So effective that we have yet to be able to collect a runoff sample from it!!! Messes up the research component, but sure is great from Reedy Creek!"
Dr. Bonnie Brown, VICE Biology Department

I respectfully ask you to vote NO for the Ordinance 2016-217. As mentioned above, there are other ways to get TIDAL credits without deforesting Crooked Branch Ravine Park and Reedy Creek.

Thanks to each of you.
Anne Moss Shelton
1917 South cliff Road
Richmond, VA 23225
804-690-5023 cell
804-233-7179 home

Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office

From: Stephanie Saccone [ssaccone@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, September 25, 2016 7:01 PM
To: Agelasto, Parker C. - Council Member
Cc: Wong, Yueh (Eli) H. - City Council Liaison; Samuels, Charles R. - Council Member; Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Liaison; Hilbert, Chris A. - Council Member; Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Liaison; Graziano, Kathy C. - Council Member; Grimes, Timothy E. - City Council Liaison; Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office; Robertson, Ellen F. - Council Member; Stokes, Kiya A. - City Council Liaison; Newbille, Cynthia I. - Council Member; Patterson, Samuel - City Council Liaison; Trammell, Reva M. - Council Member; Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Liaison; Mosby, Michelle R. - Council Member
Subject: opposed to reedy creek project

Dear Mr. Agelasto,

Thank you for your support in opposing ORD. 2016-217, the so-called Reedy Creek remediation project that would be so damaging and expensive for the city.

I have not spoken to a single Richmond resident who supports this, and concerned scientists and environmentalists oppose it as well.

The city's lack of transparency and honesty in handling the project has also caused a great deal of concern to all of us.

We will continue to oppose it and trust you to do so as well.

Thank you,

Stephanie Saccone

