



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

DRAFT Special Meeting Minutes Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

3:00 PM

2nd Floor Large Conference Room – City Hall

Committee Members Present

The Honorable Nicole Jones – Chair
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Vice Chair
The Honorable Andrew Breton – Member (late arrival)

Others in Attendance

Bonnie Ashley, Deputy City Attorney
Sharon Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) for Planning and Economic Development
Cordell Hayes, Senior Policy Advisor for Chief Administrative Office (CAO)
Merrick Malone, Director of Department of Housing and Community Development
Katie McConnell, Deputy Director of the Department of Economic Development
Nahdiah Muhammad, Assistant City Clerk
Michelle Brown Peters, Deputy Director for Housing and Community Development
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst
Bobby Vincent, Director of Department of Public Works
RJ Warren, Council Chief of Staff

Call to Order

Chair Nicole Jones called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. and presided.

Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement

Upon the Chair's request, Assistant City Clerk Nahdiah Muhammad provided information on the appropriate way to evacuate the room in an emergency.

Discussion Items

Citywide Goals Around Land Use, Housing and Transportation

Chair Nicole Jones provided a summary of the work session agenda and an overview of the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee. Chair Jones asked about the goals of the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Merrick Malone, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), explained that HCD closely monitors all of its projects. He emphasized that all initiatives funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) must be completed by December 2026. Mr. Malone also shared information with the committee regarding HCD's current projects, departmental goals, and the updates he can provide during scheduled meetings of the Land Use, Housing, and Transportation Standing Committee.

Chair Jones requested additional information on how the administration plans to ensure timely project delivery and maintain clear communication with residents about these initiatives.

Member Andrew Breton arrived at 3:37 p.m., and was seated.

The committee and city administration continued their discussion on the citywide objectives for housing and community development.

Chair Jones inquired about the city's goals related to transportation.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson asked how transportation planning can be coordinated with housing development efforts.

Bobby Vincent, Director of the Department of Public Works, updated the committee on transportation infrastructure projects. He noted that transportation initiatives often face delays in securing funding due to land development challenges. Mr. Vincent also shared additional details about project funding with the committee.

Mr. Vincent continued to discuss funding for transportation infrastructure improvements with the committee.

Sharon Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) for Planning and Economic Development, provided the committee with further insights into funding gaps and challenges related to infrastructure improvements.

The committee and city administration continued to discuss funding for transportation improvements in the city.

Clarify Support Staff Responsible for Fulfilling Goals and Revised Committee Presentation Schedule

Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst, clarified the proposed 2025 committee schedule and gave a brief overview of the service areas covered by the Land Use, Housing, and Transportation Standing Committee, which include housing, land use, infrastructure, and transportation.

[CD.2025.256](#) July 29, 2025 - Land Use Housing and Transportation Planning Meeting
Handout

Attachments: [Land Use Housing and Transportation Planning Session Proposed
Schedule](#)

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

The committee discussed clarifying support staff roles and the revised presentation schedule, agreeing to provide all staff with additional information on scheduling presentations and expectations.

The committee and council staff discussed rescheduling committee presentations as well as reassigning presentations to other committees.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.