
From: Justin Doyle <jdoyle@jrava.org>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 9:27 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Cc: Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Public Hearing

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Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing to you as a resident of the City of Richmond and employee of the James River Association to express my support for projects funded in the City of Richmond, Virginia Proposed Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2021 - 2025. The James River is the lifeblood of Richmond, providing residents with a source of drinking water and opportunities for recreation. The proposed Capital Improvement Plan funds projects that will contribute to a healthier James River for all Richmonders to enjoy. The proposed Capital Improvement Plan includes:

- \$49,502,000 for Combined Sewer Overflows
- \$11,976,000 for Stormwater Facilities Improvements
- \$7,681,500 for Wastewater Treatment

I urge Richmond's City Council to maintain funding proposed for Stormwater Facilities Improvements, Wastewater Treatment, and Combined Sewer Overflows in the Capital Improvement Plan. Combined sewer overflows of untreated wastewater and stormwater into the James River and its tributaries typically occur when the capacity of Richmond's combined sewer system is overwhelmed during heavy rainfall. Senate Bill 1064, passed by the General Assembly this year, establishes a timeline for improving Richmond's combined sewer system by July 1, 2035, and this critical funding puts Richmond on the right track to meet the July 1, 2035 deadline.

The proposed Capital Improvement Plan does not include funding to advance implementation of the Richmond Riverfront Plan or the recently adopted James River Park System Master Plan. Both plans include recommendations to make the James River and public spaces on its banks more accessible to Richmonders. Planned projects like a new park at East Riverfront (Lehigh) and the Missing Link project need funding to support design and construction. I encourage City Council to fund implementation of the Richmond Riverfront Plan and James River Park System Master Plan by introducing a budget amendment.

If you or any councilmembers have any questions regarding my support of funding for capital projects or a budget amendment supporting implementation of the Richmond Riverfront Plan and James River Park System Master Plan, I can be reached at (804) 572-4667.

Sincerely,

Justin Doyle
630 N. 29th Street

Richmond, VA 23223