



# Application for SPECIAL USE PERMIT

Department of Planning and Development Review  
Land Use Administration Division  
900 E. Broad Street, Room 511  
Richmond, Virginia 23219  
(804) 646-6304  
<http://www.richmondgov.com/>

Application is hereby submitted for: (check one)

- special use permit, new
- special use permit, plan amendment
- special use permit, text only amendment

### Project Name/Location

Project Name: THE CAMEL RESTAURANT Date: 1/3/14

Property Address: 1621 W. BROAD ST Tax Map #: W000-0736/023

Fee: 1200 Total area of affected site in acres: \_\_\_\_\_  
(See page 3 for fee schedule, please make check payable to the "City of Richmond")

### Zoning

Current Zoning: A-2 IN U.B. ZONE

### Proposed Use

(Please include a detailed description of the proposed use in the required applicant's report)

Existing Use: RESTAURANT AND EVENTSPACE

Is this property subject to any previous land use cases? NO CHANGE

Yes  No  
If Yes, please list the Ordinance Number:  
2004-325-304  
2006-105-183

Applicant/Contact Person: RAND BURGESS - OWNER/OPERATOR

Company: THE CAMEL INC.

Mailing Address: 1621 W BROAD ST

City: RICHMOND State: VA Zip Code: 23220

Telephone: (804) 353-4901 Fax: (804) 353-4777

Email: RAND@THECAMEL.ORG

Property Owner: RICHMOND FINANCE COMPANY

If Business Entity, name and title of authorized signee: ROBERT B RICHMOND JR President

(The person or persons executing or attesting the execution of this Application on behalf of the Company certifies that he or she has or have been duly authorized and empowered to so execute or attest.)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 29657

City: RICHMOND State: VA Zip Code: 23242

Telephone: (804) 288-7777 Fax: (804) 784-9042

Email: BROOKVEST@AOL.COM

Property Owner Signature: [Signature] Pres

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of all owners of the property are required. Please attach additional sheets as needed. If a legal representative signs for a property owner, please attach an executed power of attorney. Faxed or photocopied signatures will not be accepted.

NOTE: Please attach the required plans, checklist, and a check for the application fee (see Filing Procedures for special use permits)



1621 W. Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23220

January 1, 2014

City of Richmond- Department of Planning and Development Review  
Land Use Administration Division  
City Hall, 900 E. Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

To the interested parties:

The Camel Restaurant has been a fixture on the 1600 block of West Broad Street for more than eight years. In that time, business has developed and the Richmond music scene has enjoyed a quality venue that showcases regional and national entertainment acts. In order to continue providing exceptional service and facilitate the growth of our business in the years to come, we are asking for an amendment to our existing special use permit.

The primary issue represented within the amendment is a change to the presently allowed hours of operation. The original owners initially asked for live entertainment to be permitted until eleven pm Sunday through Thursday, and one am on Fridays and Saturdays. As the popularity of the venue and its reputation have grown, competition for shows has increased, meaning that in order to accommodate demand and most fully support the Richmond arts and music community, there needs to be more than just two extended nights each week. The proposed amendment would allow for us to host live music acts any night of the week, with performances ceasing before 2 am.

The Camel has evolved to become a valuable part of the neighborhood, treasured by the community, and accommodates a diverse range of music and art performances that appeal to a multiplicity of cultures, age ranges, and interests. We take pride in promoting the community that supports us. We have the support of the West Grace Street Association, and will be submitting a letter that elaborates their position. As a local employer, the Camel has been providing quality work experience while supporting a staff of nearly twenty individuals.

We look forward starting another great year working in and for the city of Richmond. It is our hope that we can move swiftly through the amendment process, and resume providing the quality entertainment that we have become known for. Our recent infractions and the legal ramifications of enforcing the existing special use permit have interrupted a rapidly growing business that is

generating positive notoriety for Richmond arts and culture across the nation. The conditions of the original special use permit have been insufficient for at least the past four years, meaning that in order to function profitably we have been forced to do business outside of those original stipulations. There have been no serious complaints until recently, and as such we aim to comply as quickly as possible. This is a matter that we take very seriously and look forward to resolving so we can continue to serve the Richmond community.

The Camel is committed to providing quality food and entertainment for the Richmond community. We look forward to working with you through this process, and anticipate many more years of evolving to better serve the neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RB' with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Rand Burgess**  
**Owner/ Operator**  
**The Camel**  
**(804) 914-1297**