

INTRODUCED: October 14, 2025

A RESOLUTION No. 2025-R045

To declare a public necessity to amend ch. 30 of the City Code and to initiate an amendment to the City’s zoning ordinance to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to establish a civil penalty for the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure that is located in a City old and historic district in violation of the City’s zoning ordinance, as authorized by Va. Code § 15.2-2306(F).

Patrons – Vice President Jordan, Mayor Avula, President Newbille, Ms. Lynch and
Ms. Abubaker

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: NOV 10 2025 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, section 15.2-2286 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, provides that a zoning ordinance may include, among other things, reasonable regulations and provisions for the amendment of regulations or district maps from time to time; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 15.2-2286 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, such amendment may be initiated by resolution of the governing body, provided that any such resolution by the governing body proposing an amendment to the regulations or district maps shall state the public purposes therefor; and

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

WHEREAS, the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure located in an old and historic district without approval of the Commission of Architectural Review or as otherwise permitted under the City's zoning ordinance is a serious offense and something that cannot be undone after the fact; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Richmond therefore believes that the City's zoning ordinance, codified as Chapter 30 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, should be amended to establish a civil penalty for the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure that is located in an old and historic district in violation of such zoning ordinance in accordance with section 15.2-2306(F) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the City amend its zoning ordinance, codified as Chapter 30 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to establish a civil penalty for the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure that is located in an old and historic district in violation of such zoning ordinance in accordance with section 15.2-2306(F) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the City Council hereby declares that the public necessity, convenience, general welfare and good zoning practices of the City require the initiation of an amendment to the zoning ordinance set forth in Chapter 30 of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, hereinafter referred to as the "Zoning Ordinance," to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to establish a civil penalty for the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure that is located in an

old and historic district in violation of the Zoning Ordinance in accordance with section 15.2-2306(F) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to section 15.2-2286 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the City Council hereby initiates an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to establish, to the extent permitted by law, a civil penalty for the razing, demolition, or moving of a building or structure that is located in an old and historic district in violation of the Zoning Ordinance in accordance with section 15.2-2306(F) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Planning Commission is hereby directed to hold a public hearing on any such proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance and submit its recommendation and any explanatory materials to the City Council as soon as practicable.