



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
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Minutes

Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Chair
The Honorable Kim Gray – Vice Chair (*Late arrival*)
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Committee member
The Honorable Andreas Addison
Lou Brown, Ali, Council Chief of Staff
Bonnie Ashley, Deputy City Attorney
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Meghan Brown, Deputy Council Chief of Staff
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk
Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

Call to Order

Chair Ellen Robertson called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Vice Chair Kim Gray arrived and was seated.

Pamela Nichols, assistant city clerk, provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to approve the meeting minutes of Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 1:00 p.m., which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

Board Vacancies

There were no board vacancies.

Presentations

Update from Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC)

David Green, GRTC chief executive officer, provided an update on various components of GRTC, to include public awareness of new programs, the replacement of bus shelters on the Southside of the city, efforts to update technology, long-term regional expansion plans, implementation of a new fare system, ADA upgrades at existing bus stops, the student pass program, and consideration of a permanent transfer station. Mr. Green reported on newly implemented changes to CARE services, GRTC Pulse: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) progress, GRTC fleet, staffing upgrades and an apprenticeship program. He further reported that, one major challenge for the transit system was securing break locations for the bus operators during after hours and weekend schedules.

Member Kristen Larson asked about future plans for GRTC to partner with the city's schools on apprenticeship opportunities.

Chair Robertson expressed interest in having routine updates from GRTC regarding its initiatives, implementations and apprenticeships. Chair Robertson stated that she would like to further discuss possible break locations for GRTC bus operator.

Eldridge Coles and Benjamin Campbell, Richmond members of GRTC Board of Directors, updated the committee on future plans for GRTC, progress of the BRT project, and the expansion of public transportation in Henrico County. Mr. Campbell stated that the city's GRTC representatives would like to provide routine updates to Council to ensure that the board's goals and policies align with the city.

Vice Chair Kim Gray inquired about the completion schedule for the BRT project, and requested an updated report on GRTC's CARE and CARE On-Demand services.

Carrie Rose Page, director of communications – GRTC, was present to respond to questions.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R024

To declare a public necessity to amend the zoning ordinance and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to make such changes as may be necessary to reduce or eliminate requirements concerning the minimum number of off-street parking spaces for business zoning districts within the city of Richmond.

Patron: Mr. Addison

Councilor Andreas Addison provided an overview of RES. 2018-R024 and noted that the proposed legislation requires city administration to conduct a study of existing parking requirements and provide the results to Council and the City Planning Commission within ninety days after the adoption of the resolution.

Mark Olinger, director – Planning and Development Review, stated that city administration is willing to explore ways to restructure parking requirements which could be included in the development of the city's Master Plan. Mr. Olinger remarked that city administration is concerned about the ninety day deadline for the completion of the study.

Councilor Addison stated that he is amicable to extending the due by date to December 31, 2018.

Vice Chair Gray expressed concern regarding the impact the proposed legislation would have on parking requirements citywide, and that she was not comfortable supporting an across-the-board parking requirement for the entire city.

Member Larson stated that, she supports a citywide study for parking requirements; however, she needs to know how parking areas in the 4th Council District would be impacted by the proposed zoning change. Member Larson asked Mr. Addison if he was willing to further amend RES. 2018-R024 to allow for the addition of parking spaces in specific areas, if applicable.

Councilor Addison stated that he will work with the city attorney on proposed amendments to RES. 2018-R024.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Larson moved to continue RES. 2018-R024 to the April 17, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2017-R086

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer establish and implement a policy and methodology to require that any residential development agreement to which the City is a party or involving City financial incentives mandate that a minimum percentage of the new residential development's total units be designated as affordable housing.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

Chair Robertson advised the committee that she would like to continue RES. 2017-R086 to the April committee meeting.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to continue RES. 2017-R086 to the April 17, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-053

To amend City Code § 29-189, concerning fares for mass transit services, for the purpose of authorizing the appointment of fare enforcement inspectors by certain transit companies and establishing fines for patrons failing to produce proof of payment of fares pursuant to Va. Code § 18.2-160.3.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Amy Inman, senior administrator of multimodal transportation – Economic and Community Development, introduced ORD. 2018-053 and explained that the proposed legislation will amend the City Code to modifications to the Code of Virginia.

Support

Ross Gatra stated that he supports ORD. 2018-053, but thinks the civil penalty fine should be reduced.

David Green, GRTC chief executive officer, reported that GRTC was in full support of ORD. 2018-053. He stated that the BRT payment system will be based on the honor system and the enforcement officers will be instrumental in reducing the number of patrons who may fail to pay for service.

The committee questioned whether the proposed civil penalty fine rate was in alignment with other jurisdictions.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Larson moved to forward ORD. 2018-053 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-102

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Standard Project Administration Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Virginia Department of Transportation to provide funding for the rehabilitation of the Mayo Bridge.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Lamont Benjamin, capital improvement project administrator – Department of Public Works, introduced ORD. 2018-102.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward ORD. 2018-102 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinances were considered:

ORD. 2018-103

To designate the portion of County Road located between its intersection with North 23rd Street and its intersection with North 24th Street in honor of Willie M. Andrews.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

ORD. 2018-104

To designate the 1500 block of Williamsburg Road in honor of Mary Lou Decossaux.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

ORD. 2018-105

To designate the portion of Williamsburg Avenue located between its intersection with Goddin Street and its intersection with Williamsburg Road in honor of Spencer E. Jones, III.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

ORD. 2018-106

To designate the portion of Stony Run Road located between its intersection with Williamsburg Avenue and its intersection with Government Road in honor of Carl H. Otto.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

ORD. 2018-107

To designate the 700 block of Goddin Street in honor of Earl A. Robinson.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

ORD. 2018-108

To designate the portion of N Street located between its intersection with North 30th Street and its intersection with North 31st Street in honor of Percy and Angie Strickland.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

ORD. 2018-109

To designate the 1100 block of North 22nd Street in honor of Mary W. Thompson.

Patron: Vice President Newbille

Chair Robertson introduced ORD. 2018-103, ORD. 2018-104, ORD. 2018-105, ORD. 2018-106, ORD. 2018-107, ORD. 2018-108 and ORD. 2018-109, on behalf of the patron.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward ORD. 2018-103, ORD. 2018-104, ORD. 2018-105, ORD. 2018-106, ORD. 2018-107, ORD. 2018-108 and ORD. 2018-109 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R022

To name Trafford Road located between its intersection with Blanton Avenue and its intersection with Swan Lake Drive as "Police Memorial Way."

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

Brian Copple, chief of construction and permits inspections – Department of Public Works, introduced RES. 2018-R022.

Support

Glenwood Burley, chair of the Police Memorial Research and Relocation Site Committee, spoke in support of RES. 2018-R022 stating that, there were no residences on Trafford Road; therefore, city residents will not be impacted. Mr. Burley further stated that renaming the road will honor those police officers who lost their lives in the line-of-duty.

The committee expressed its appreciation to Mr. Burley for his work and dedication regarding the police memorial.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Larson moved to forward RES. 2018-R022 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinances were considered:

ORD. 2018-054

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept a donation of services and materials in the form of site construction, hardscape, and landscaping improvements and future maintenance thereof in connection with the installation of the Emancipation Proclamation and Freedom Monument on City-owned real estate identified as Brown's Island valued at approximately \$103,800.00 from Venture Richmond, Inc.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

ORD. 2018-055

To grant to the Commonwealth of Virginia a non-exclusive, permanent easement over and across an approximately 20,053.61-square-foot portion of City-owned real estate located on Brown's Island for the purposes of installing, accessing, and maintaining the Virginia Emancipation Proclamation and Freedom Monument.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

ORD. 2018-056

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Fourth Amendment to Controlled Public Access Lease Agreement between the City of Richmond and Venture Richmond, Inc. for the purpose of excluding from the "Demised Premises" certain real property.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Mark Olinger, director – Planning and Development Review, introduced ORD. 2018-054, ORD. 2018-055 and ORD. 2018-056.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward ORD. 2018-054, ORD. 2018-055 and ORD. 2018-056 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Discussion Item(s)

There were no discussion items.

Chair Robertson advised the committee that, due to a prior engagement, she will not be able to attend the April committee meeting.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, council policy analyst, provided the committee with the March staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.