

INTRODUCED: July 22, 2024

AN ORDINANCE No. 2024-206

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the amount of \$1,350,000.00 from the United States Department of Transportation, and to amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Planning and Development Review called the Reconnect Jackson Ward Special Fund, and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Planning and Development Review’s Reconnect Jackson Ward Special Fund by \$1,350,000.00, for the purpose of funding the implementation of the Reconnect Jackson Ward project.

Patrons – Mayor Stoney and Vice President Lambert

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEP 23 2024 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, is authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$1,350,000.00 from the United States Department of Transportation for the purpose of funding the implementation of the Reconnect Jackson Ward project.

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

§ 2. That Article I, Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2024-099, adopted May 13, 2024, which adopted a Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by creating a new special fund for the Department of Planning and Development Review called the Reconnect Jackson Ward Special Fund for the purpose of funding the implementation of the Reconnect Jackson Ward project.

§ 3. That the funds received from the United States Department of Transportation are hereby appropriated to the Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, by increasing estimated revenues by \$1,350,000.00, increasing the amount appropriated for expenditures by \$1,350,000.00, and allotting to the Department of Planning and Development Review's Reconnect Jackson Special Fund the sum of \$1,350,000.00, for the purpose of funding the implementation of the Reconnect Jackson Ward project

§ 4. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
2nd Floor of City Hall
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov

Master

File Number: Admin-2024-0732

File ID: Admin-2024-0732	Type: Request for Ordinance or Resolution	Status: Regular Agenda
Version: 1	Reference:	In Control: City Clerk Waiting Room
Department:	Cost:	File Created: 07/01/2024
Subject:	Final Action:	
Title:		

Internal Notes:

Code Sections:

Agenda Date: 07/22/2024

Indexes:

Agenda Number:

Patron(s):

Enactment Date:

Attachments: WD-Budget-Accept \$1350000 Reconnect Jackson Ward - AATF, WD-Agmt-USDOT Reconnect Jackson Ward - AATF, RCP FY22 - 693JJ32440347 - Reconnecting Jackson Ward - Richmond VA

Enactment Number:

Contact:

Introduction Date:

Drafter:

Effective Date:

Related Files:

Approval History

Version	Seq #	Action Date	Approver	Action	Due Date
1	1	7/1/2024	Marianne Pitts	Approve	7/3/2024
1	2	7/1/2024	Kris Daniel-Thiem - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	3	7/1/2024	Kevin Vonck	Approve	7/8/2024
1	4	7/1/2024	Alecia Blackwell - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	5	7/2/2024	Sharon Ebert	Approve	7/3/2024
1	6	7/2/2024	Meghan Brown	Approve	7/4/2024
1	7	7/3/2024	Sheila White	Approve	7/4/2024
1	8	7/8/2024	Sabrina Joy-Hogg	Disapprove	7/5/2024

Notes: Need more on the fiscal impact.

Please include how the match funds will be achieved and cite the sources. Also, indicate if there is match, fiscal or otherwise, following the grant period.

1	9	7/11/2024	Marianne Pitts	Approve	7/15/2024
1	10	7/11/2024	Kris Daniel-Thiem - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	11	7/11/2024	Kevin Vonck	Approve	7/18/2024
1	12	7/11/2024	Alecia Blackwell - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	13	7/12/2024	Sharon Ebert	Approve	7/15/2024
1	14	7/12/2024	Meghan Brown	Approve	7/16/2024
1	15	7/15/2024	Sheila White	Approve	7/16/2024
1	16	7/15/2024	Sabrina Joy-Hogg	Approve	7/17/2024
1	17	7/15/2024	Caitlin Sedano - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	18	7/15/2024	Jeff Gray	Approve	7/17/2024
1	19	7/15/2024	Lincoln Saunders	Approve	7/17/2024
1	20	7/15/2024	Mayor Stoney	Approve	7/17/2024

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
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Text of Legislative File Admin-2024-0732

City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: July 1, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Sabrina B. Joy-Hogg, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Finance and Administration

THROUGH: Sheila D. White, Director, Department of Finance

THROUGH: Meghan K. Brown, Interim Director, Department of Budget and Strategic Planning

THROUGH: Sharon L. Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Economic Development and Planning

FROM: Kevin J. Vonck, Director of Planning & Development Review

RE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to enter into an agreement with the US Department of Transportation to participate in the Reconnecting Communities Discretionary Grant Pilot program and to create a special fund called "Reconnect Jackson Ward Special Fund" to which the funds will be appropriated for the purpose of funding the implementation of the Reconnect Jackson Ward project.

ORD. OR RES. No.

PURPOSE: To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the amount of \$1,350,000.00 from the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) through execution of a standard City/Federal project administration agreement, and to amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Special Fund Budget by (i) creating a new special fund for the Department of Planning and Development Review called the "Reconnect Jackson Ward Special Fund" and (ii) appropriating the increase to the 2024-2025 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and

the amount appropriated to the Department of Planning and Development Review's Reconnect Jackson Ward Special Fund by \$1,350,000.00 for the purpose of providing funding to support the Reconnect Jackson Ward project.

BACKGROUND: The USDOT awarded the City of Richmond a grant through the RCP program through a competitive process. The Reconnect Jackson Ward project will support planning activities to improve access and reconnect Jackson Ward through the creation of a new bridge or freeway lid that would incorporate transportation connections, public spaces, and opportunities for future development. The primary mechanism for payment of goods and services to complete the project is through reimbursement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: A feasibility study for the Reconnect Jackson Ward project was completed in October 2022 that included several in person meetings, surveys, and pop-ups that saw several hundred residents of Jackson Ward and the City at large engage with this project.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL: The Reconnect Jackson Ward project is an objective of the Richmond 300 Master Plan (Objective 9.2(c))

FISCAL IMPACT: Local match of \$340,000 is a requirement of the program. PDR and DPW will split the match in cash which will be absorbed by the department's budgets. There is no match required following the grant program.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: July 22, 2024

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: September 9, 2024

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Planning Commission

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, The Department of Finance, Budget and Strategic Planning, Department of Public Works, Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility, Department of Planning and Development Review.

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Resolution of support for the Reconnect Jackson Ward Reconnecting Communities Grant application from Council, Res 2022-R059.

ATTACHMENTS: USDOT Grant award agreement.

STAFF: Marianne Pitts, Deputy Director, Office of Planning and Policy, Marianne.pitts3@rva.gov <mailto:Marianne.pitts3@rva.gov>, Samantha Lewis, Planner, samantha.lewis@rva.gov <mailto:samantha.lewis@rva.gov>

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Award No.
693JJ32440347</p> <p>4. Award To

City of Richmond
900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Unique Entity Id.: EG4LF5GYLK81
TIN No.: 546001556</p> <p>6. Period of Performance
Effective Date of Award –
March 31, 2026</p> <p>8. Type of Agreement
Grant</p> <p>10. Procurement Request No.
HEPP240020PR</p> <p>12. Submit Payment Requests To
See Article 13 of the General Terms and
Conditions.</p> <p>14. Accounting and Appropriations Data
15X0566B50.0000.060V391500.6601000000.41010.61006600</p> <p>15. Description of Project
The project will support planning activities to improve access and reconnect Jackson Ward through the creation of a new bridge or freeway lid that would incorporate transportation connections, public spaces, and opportunities for future development. Jackson Ward is a historic African American community that was physically and economically separated by the construction of Interstates 95 and 64 (I-95/64) in the 1950s.</p> | <p>2. Effective Date
See No. 17 Below</p> <p>5. Sponsoring Office
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration
Office of Acquisition & Grants Management
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
HCFA-32, Mail Drop E62-204
Washington, DC 20590</p> <p>7. Total Amount
Federal Share: \$1,350,000
Recipient Share: \$340,000
Total: \$1,690,000</p> <p>9. Authority
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. No. 117-58, div. A § 11509 & div. J, tit. VIII, “Department of Transportation—Federal Highway Administration—Highway Infrastructure Programs” ¶ 7, Nov. 15, 2021)</p> <p>11. Federal Funds Obligated
\$1,350,000</p> <p>13. Payment Office
See Article 13 of the General Terms and
Conditions.</p> |
| <p>3. Assistance Listings No.
20.940</p> | |


RECIPIENT
16. Signature of Person Authorized to Sign

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
17. Signature of Agreement Officer

Signature Date
Name: J. E. Lincoln Saunders
Title: City of Richmond Chief Administrative Officer

Signature Date
Name:
Title: Agreement Officer

Approved as to form:



Senior Assistant City Attorney

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**GRANT AGREEMENT UNDER THE
FISCAL YEAR 2022 RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PILOT PROGRAM**

This agreement is between the United States Department of Transportation (the “USDOT”) and the **City of Richmond, Virginia** (the “**Recipient**”).

This agreement reflects the selection of the Recipient to receive an RCP Grant for the **Reconnect Jackson Ward project**.

If schedule A to this agreement identifies a Designated Subrecipient, that Designated Subrecipient is also a party to this agreement, and the parties want the Designated Subrecipient to carry out the project with the Recipient’s assistance and oversight.

The parties therefore agree to the following:

**ARTICLE 1
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

1.1 General Terms and Conditions.

- (a) In this agreement, “**General Terms and Conditions**” means the content of the document titled “General Terms and Conditions Under the Fiscal Year 2022 Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program: FHWA Projects,” dated April 24, 2023, which is available at <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/reconnecting-communities/reconnecting-communities-grant-agreements>. The General Terms and Conditions reference the information contained in the schedules to this agreement. The General Terms and Conditions are part of this agreement.
- (b) The Recipient states that it has knowledge of the General Terms and Conditions.
- (c) The Recipient acknowledges that the General Terms and Conditions impose obligations on the Recipient and that the Recipient’s non-compliance with the General Terms and Conditions may result in remedial action, terminating of the RCP Grant, disallowing costs incurred for the Project, requiring the Recipient to refund to the USDOT the RCP Grant, and reporting the non-compliance in the Federal-government-wide integrity and performance system.

**ARTICLE 2
SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

There are no special terms for this award.

**SCHEDULE A
ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

1. Application.

Application Title: **Reconnect Jackson Ward**

Application Date: 10/11/22

2. Recipient's Unique Entity Identifier.

EG4LF5GYLK81

3. Recipient Contact(s).

Dironna Moore Clarke
Administrator, Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility
Department of Public Works
City of Richmond
1500 E. Franklin St., Richmond VA 23219
(804) 646-3074
dironna.clarke@rva.gov

4. Recipient Key Personnel.

Name	Title or Position
Samantha Lewis	Urban Planner II

5. USDOT Project Contact(s).

Ryan Buck
Agreement Officer (AO)
Federal Highway Administration
Office of Acquisition and Grants Management
HCFA-32, Mail Stop E62-310
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590
202-366-4229
Ryan.Buck@dot.gov

and

Kathryn Benedict
Agreement Officer Representative (AOR)
Community Planner
Virginia Division Office
400 N 8th Street, Suite 750
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 775-3376

kathryn.benedict@dot.gov

and

Kenneth Petty
Federal Highway Administration
Office of Planning, Environment, and Realty
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Room E72-330
Washington, DC 20590
(202)366-6654
Kenneth.Petty@dot.gov

6. Payment System.

USDOT Payment System: DELPHI eInvoicing

7. Office for Subaward and Contract Authorization.

USDOT Office for Subaward and Contract Authorization: FHWA Office of Acquisition and Grants Management

8. Federal Award Identification Number.

See section 24.2 of the General Terms and Conditions.

9. Designated Subrecipient.

Designated Subrecipient: None

SCHEDULE B PROJECT ACTIVITIES

1. General Project Description.

The project will support planning activities to improve access and reconnect Jackson Ward through the creation of a new bridge or freeway lid that would incorporate transportation connections, public spaces, and opportunities for future development. Jackson Ward is a historic African American community that was physically and economically separated by the construction of Interstates 95 and 64 (I-95/64) in the 1950s.

2. Statement of Work.

The Reconnect Jackson Ward project provides a unique opportunity to rebuild and reknit the history and culture of Jackson Ward, while physically reconnecting both sides of the interstate, through the creation of a new bridge or freeway lid that would incorporate transportation connections, public spaces, and opportunities for future development in the City of Richmond, Virginia. In January 2022, in collaborative partnership with the Virginia Secretary of Transportation's Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment (OIPI) and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the City of Richmond embarked on the *Reconnect Jackson Ward Feasibility Study*, a community-driven process to identify solutions for restoring community connectivity between Jackson Ward and the surrounding neighborhoods north and south of the interstate. The study identified where it would be technically possible to implement a new bridge or freeway lid and included recommendations for intentional community engagement and additional studies and analyses that will be needed to advance a successful project. The RCP planning grant will be used to support the following recommended activities:

- Preliminary engineering and design utilizing designers with experience designing Black spaces;
- Environmental assessment and traffic impact analysis;
- Local history and culture archival research to inform community sensitive design as well as impact analyses;
- Philanthropic coordination; and
- Continued community engagement and related activities.

**SCHEDULE C
AWARD DATES AND PROJECT SCHEDULE**

1. Award Dates.

Budget Period End Date: March 31, 2026

Period of Performance End Date: March 31, 2026

Estimated Project Schedule.

Milestone	Schedule Date
Planned Project Completion Date:	October 30, 2025

2. Special Milestone Deadlines.

None.

3. Mandatory Prerequisite Dates.

Milestone	Date
Added to Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)	December 31, 2023

**SCHEDULE D
AWARD AND PROJECT FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

1. Award Amount.

RCP Grant Amount: \$1,350,000

2. Federal Obligation Information.

Federal Obligation Type: Single

3. Approved Project Budget.

Eligible Project Costs	
	Total
RCP Funds:	\$1,350,000
Non-Federal Funds:	\$340,000
Total:	\$1,690,000

4. Cost Classification Table

Cost Classification	Total Costs	Non-RCP Previously Incurred Costs	Eligible Costs
Architectural and engineering fees	\$1,690,000		\$1,690,000
Project Total	1,690,000		\$1,690,000

5. Approved Pre-award Costs

None. The USDOT has not approved under this award any pre-award costs under 2 C.F.R. 200.458.

SCHEDULE E CHANGES FROM APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING SCHEDULE E: Describe all material differences between the scope, schedule, and budget described in the application and the scope, schedule, budget described in schedules B–D. The purpose of this schedule E is to clearly and accurately document the differences in scope, schedule, and budget to establish the parties’ knowledge and acceptance of those differences. If there are notable changes in aspects of the Project other than scope, schedule, and budget (*e.g.*, recipient changes), those changes should also be described. See section 3.1 of the General Terms and Conditions.

Scope: No Changes from Application

Schedule: No Changes from Application

Budget: No Changes from Application

**SCHEDULE F
RCP PROGRAM DESIGNATIONS**

1. Capital Construction or Planning Designation.

Capital-Planning Designation: Planning

2. Economically Disadvantaged Community Designation.

Economically Disadvantaged Community Designation: Yes

3. Funding Source.

Funding Source: General Fund

4. Security Risk Designation.

Security Risk Designation: Low

SCHEDULE G
RCP PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT INFORMATION

Reserved.

SCHEDULE H
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACTS

1. Consideration of Climate Change and Environmental Justice Impacts.

The Recipient states that rows marked with “X” in the following table are accurate:

X	The Project directly supports a Local/Regional/State Climate Action Plan that results in lower greenhouse gas emissions. <i>(Identify the plan in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
X	The Project directly supports a Local/Regional/State Equitable Development Plan that results in lower greenhouse gas emissions. <i>(Identify the plan in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project directly supports a Local/Regional/State Energy Baseline Study that results in lower greenhouse gas emissions. <i>(Identify the plan in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
X	The Recipient or a project partner used environmental justice tools, such as the EJSCREEN, to minimize adverse impacts of the Project on environmental justice communities. <i>(Identify the tool(s) in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project supports a modal shift in freight or passenger movement to reduce emissions or reduce induced travel demand. <i>(Describe that shift in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project utilizes demand management strategies to reduce congestion, induced travel demand, and greenhouse gas emissions. <i>(Describe those strategies in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project incorporates electrification infrastructure, zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, or both. <i>(Describe the incorporated infrastructure in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project supports the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. <i>(Describe that support in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project promotes energy efficiency. <i>(Describe how in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project serves the renewable energy supply chain. <i>(Describe how in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project improves disaster preparedness and resiliency <i>(Describe how in the supporting narrative below.)</i>

	The Project avoids adverse environmental impacts to air or water quality, wetlands, and endangered species, such as through reduction in Clean Air Act criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases, improved stormwater management, or improved habitat connectivity. <i>(Describe how in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project repairs existing dilapidated or idle infrastructure that is currently causing environmental harm. <i>(Describe that infrastructure in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project supports or incorporates the construction of energy- and location-efficient buildings. <i>(Describe how in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project includes recycling of materials, use of materials known to reduce or reverse carbon emissions, or both. <i>(Describe the materials in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient has taken other actions to consider climate change and environmental justice impacts of the Project. <i>(Describe those actions in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient has not yet taken actions to consider climate change and environmental justice impacts of the Project but, before beginning construction of the Project, will take relevant actions described in schedule B. <i>(Identify the relevant actions from schedule B in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient has not taken actions to consider climate change and environmental justice impacts of the Project and will not take those actions under this award.

2. Supporting Narrative.

The socio-economic disparities resulting from the physical separation of the Jackson Ward community are also illustrated by an analysis of the US EPA’s EJSCREEN, which identifies the census block groups comprising Jackson Ward among the 90-95th percentile due to the neighborhood’s location adjacent to the highway, compared to state indicators for low-income populations. The City of Richmond’s equity-centered climate action and resilience planning initiative, RVAgreen 2050, focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions 45 percent by 2030 and achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Through the implementation of walking, cycling, and other active transportation connections, in addition to the incorporation of green areas and community gathering spaces, the Reconnect Jackson Ward project would support this initiative and help the community adapt to Richmond’s climate impacts of extreme heat, precipitation, and flooding.

**SCHEDULE I
RACIAL EQUITY AND BARRIERS TO OPPORTUNITY**

1. Efforts to Improve Racial Equity and Reduce Barriers to Opportunity.

The Recipient states that rows marked with “X” in the following table are accurate:

	A racial equity impact analysis has been completed for the Project. <i>(Identify a report on that analysis or, if no report was produced, describe the analysis and its results in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner has adopted an equity and inclusion program/plan or has otherwise instituted equity-focused policies related to project procurement, material sourcing, construction, inspection, hiring, or other activities designed to ensure racial equity in the overall delivery and implementation of the Project. <i>(Identify the relevant programs, plans, or policies in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
X	The Project includes physical-barrier-mitigating land bridges, caps, lids, linear parks, and multimodal mobility investments that either redress past barriers to opportunity or that proactively create new connections and opportunities for underserved communities that are underserved by transportation. <i>(Identify the relevant investments in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
X	The Project includes new or improved walking, biking, and rolling access for individuals with disabilities, especially access that reverses the disproportional impacts of crashes on people of color and mitigates neighborhood bifurcation. <i>(Identify the new or improved access in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Project includes new or improved freight access to underserved communities to increase access to goods and job opportunities for those underserved communities. <i>(Identify the new or improved access in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
X	The Recipient has taken other actions related to the Project to improve racial equity and reduce barriers to opportunity. <i>(Describe those actions in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient has not yet taken actions related to the Project to improve racial equity and reduce barriers to opportunity but, before beginning construction of the Project, will take relevant actions described in schedule B. <i>(Identify the relevant actions from schedule B in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient has not taken actions related to the Project to improve racial equity and reduce barriers to opportunity and will not take those actions under this award.

Supporting Narrative.

Constructing a bridge structure or freeway lid in this area would equitably distribute benefits by allowing disadvantaged persons better access to both sides of the neighborhood, while also allowing all Richmond residents increased access to new mixed-income businesses and community gathering spaces. There are over 500 businesses, schools, universities, police and fire stations, medical facilities, religious institutions, and recreational and historical facilities within a half-mile walkshed from the project location; however, goods and services are limited in the northern portion of Jackson Ward and non-vehicular access to these amenities are inhibited by the barrier created by I-95/64. A walkability analysis conducted as part of the Jackson Ward Community Plan reveals that the southern portion of Jackson Ward has a walk score of 95-97, where goods, services and amenities are highly accessible by foot. In contrast, the northern portion of Jackson Ward has a moderate walk score of 56-69 based on nearby schools and cultural centers; however, better connections to and from this area are needed to leverage downtown growth, expand market opportunities for this portion of Jackson Ward, and improve access to businesses and essential services. These new connections would improve accessibility throughout the Jackson Ward community and would be implemented in a manner that aligns with the City of Richmond's Complete Streets program, *Better Streets*, which has given significant attention to recent pedestrian safety improvements at over 450 signalized intersections, including high visibility crosswalks, and accessible ramps in the City since its implementation in 2018. The Jackson Ward Community Plan, which calls for the redevelopment of the 781-unit Gilpin Court public housing site (which is north of I-95/64), includes numerous strategies to improve racial equity by increasing Black ownership of businesses, land, and homes throughout the Jackson Ward community.

Community Engagement Activities.

The community outreach effort associated with the Reconnect Jackson Ward Feasibility Study resulted in engagement with over 300 community members over a six-month period that helped identify the need for future improvements to address past harms against the African American community that were displaced by the highway project that bifurcated the Jackson Ward neighborhood.

The City and the Richmond Redevelop and Housing Authority (RRHA) have been running a community engagement process to plan for the redevelopment of the 781-unit Gilpin Court public housing site (which is north of I-95/64). The planning process is partially funded by a HUD Choice Neighborhood Initiative Planning grant. Through that planning process, the City and RRHA have engaged over 500 community members to plan for the infrastructure, housing, and people strategies that will need to occur as Gilpin Court is completely transformed into a mixed-income, mixed-use community. The Reconnect Jackson Ward project has been part of the strategies to better connect Gilpin Court to the rest of Jackson Ward and Downtown. Gilpin Court is cut off from Downtown by I-95/64

The City will develop a Community Participation Plan that builds upon the engagement that was performed for the feasibility study and the community plan. The engagement efforts will continue through planning, design, construction, and operations. This plan will also identify how to coordinate with other studies making other related land use decisions. Through previous community engagement efforts, pop-up events were identified as particularly effective in reaching local residents. Similar events, as well as public open houses and focus groups, with the addition of childcare components, will be included in future community engagement efforts to encourage more participation. Additionally, the plan will include community surveys, continuance of the ambassador program where local residents are

compensated to attend events and encourage participation in the study, in-person and virtual events, and identification of the need for outreach material or engagement in different languages, for those with limited English proficiency. A focus of community outreach will continue to be through mailings, door hangers, pop-up events – where the information comes to the residents – and attendance at existing community events – when the community is already there. The plan will also establish goals and measures of effectiveness, which may include the number and types of community institutions, organizations and stakeholders consulted; number of communication methods used to distribute messaging; number of social media shares, likes and comments for each post; number of unique visits to project website; and number of people attending workshops/meetings and/or participating online. All the activities listed above will be funded by the Reconnecting Communities grant award and will meet the eligibility criteria presented in 2 CFR Part 200.

Activities to Safeguard Affordability.

Strategies recommended to address gentrification and displacement include renters' assistance, construction of mixed-income housing, senior's assistance, and support for low-income and mixed-income homeownership. The Reconnect Jackson Ward Feasibility Study includes research and recommendations that the City of Richmond is actively exploring to help guide potential policy and regulations to address anti-displacement, gentrification, and reparations as the Reconnect Jackson Ward project and other redevelopment initiatives in Jackson Ward and the surrounding neighborhoods advance. The Feasibility Study recommendations are being incorporated into the Jackson Ward Community Plan which includes strategies to expand Black ownership throughout the Jackson Ward Community. The Community Plan also includes a strategy for the replacement of the 781 public housing units within a new mixed-income community. The Community Plan identifies locations for affordable rental and home-ownership opportunities and developing programs to assist low- and moderate-income households to become first-time homeowners. Furthermore, the Community Plan outlines strategies to expand Black businesses and entrepreneurship in Jackson Ward.

**SCHEDULE J
LABOR AND WORK**

1. Efforts to Support Good-Paying Jobs and Strong Labor Standards

The Recipient states that rows marked with “X” in the following table are accurate:

	The Recipient or a project partner has adopted the use of project labor agreements in the overall delivery and implementation of the Project. <i>(Identify the relevant agreements and describe the scope of activities they cover in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner has adopted the use of local and economic hiring preferences in the overall delivery and implementation of the Project, subject to all applicable State and local laws, policies, and procedures. <i>(Describe the relevant provisions in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner has adopted the use of registered apprenticeships in the overall delivery and implementation of the Project. <i>(Describe the use of registered apprenticeship in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner will provide training and placement programs for underrepresented workers in the overall delivery and implementation of the Project. <i>(Describe the training programs in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner will support free and fair choice to join a union in the overall delivery and implementation of the Project by investing in workforce development services offered by labor-management training partnerships or setting expectations for contractors to develop labor-management training programs. <i>(Describe the workforce development services offered by labor-management training partnerships in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner will provide supportive services and cash assistance to address systemic barriers to employment to be able to participate and thrive in training and employment, including childcare, emergency cash assistance for items such as tools, work clothing, application fees and other costs of apprenticeship or required pre-employment training, transportation and travel to training and work sites, and services aimed at helping to retain underrepresented groups like mentoring, support groups, and peer networking. <i>(Describe the supportive services and/or cash assistance provided to trainees and employees in the supporting narrative below.)</i>
	The Recipient or a project partner has documented agreements or ordinances in place to hire from certain workforce programs that serve underrepresented groups. <i>(Identify the relevant agreements and describe the scope of activities they cover in the supporting narrative below.)</i>

	<p>The Recipient or a project partner participates in a State/Regional/Local comprehensive plan to promote equal opportunity, including removing barriers to hire and preventing harassment on work sites, and that plan demonstrates action to create an inclusive environment with a commitment to equal opportunity, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. affirmative efforts to remove barriers to equal employment opportunity above and beyond complying with Federal law; b. proactive partnerships with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs to promote compliance with EO 11246 Equal Employment Opportunity requirements; c. no discriminatory use of criminal background screens and affirmative steps to recruit and include those with former justice involvement, in accordance with the Fair Chance Act and equal opportunity requirements; d. efforts to prevent harassment based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and national origin; e. training on anti-harassment and third-party reporting procedures covering employees and contractors; and f. maintaining robust anti-retaliation measures covering employees and contractors. <p><i>(Describe the equal opportunity plan in the supporting narrative below.)</i></p>
	<p>The Recipient has taken other actions related to the Project to create good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union and incorporate strong labor standards. <i>(Describe those actions in the supporting narrative below.)</i></p>
X	<p>The Recipient has not yet taken actions related to the Project to create good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union and incorporate strong labor standards but, before beginning construction of the Project, will take relevant actions described in schedule B. <i>(Identify the relevant actions from schedule B in the supporting narrative below.)</i></p>
	<p>The Recipient has not taken actions related to the Project to improving good-paying jobs and strong labor standards and will not take those actions under this award.</p>

2. Supporting Narrative.

The City of Richmond is committed to labor practices and employment that supports equal opportunities for all employees. The City has a specific policy to provide equal employment opportunities and prohibit discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in all aspects of employment. ([Administrative Regulations Manual as of Jul 01, 2023.pdf \(rva.gov\)](#))

The City has an Office of Equity and Inclusion. The office works alongside city leadership and staff to advance equity and inclusion within the City’s internal and external policies, practices, and operations.