



CITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Planning & Development Review *Staff Report*

Ord. No. 2017-164: To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the acquisition by gift, purchase, condemnation, or otherwise of a fee simple interest at the intersection of Forest Hill Avenue and the Powhite Parkway for the purpose of constructing multimodal transportation and drainage improvements along Forest Hill Avenue between its intersection with Hathaway Road and its intersection with the Powhite Parkway.

To: City Planning Commission
From: Land Use Administration
Date: September 18, 2017

PETITIONER

Lamont L. Benjamin, P.E., Capital Projects Administrator, Department of Public Works

LOCATION

Intersection of Forest Hill Avenue and the Powhite Parkway

PURPOSE

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the acquisition by gift, purchase, condemnation, or otherwise of a fee simple interest at the intersection of Forest Hill Avenue and the Powhite Parkway for the purpose of constructing multimodal transportation and drainage improvements along Forest Hill Avenue between its intersection with Hathaway Road and its intersection with the Powhite Parkway.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

Forest Hill Avenue between Hathaway Road and Powhite Parkway is a multimodal improvement project that is funded with RSTP (Regional Surface Transportation Program) funds. During negotiations with the property owner, the amount of right of way to be transferred to the City was increased from 16,471.4 sf to 17,763.8 sf (or by 1,292.4 sf).

Forest Hill Avenue is an urban minor arterial road serving regional traffic and the surrounding neighborhoods and the surrounding businesses. It connects two major limited access highways, the Powhite Parkway and Chippenham Parkway and includes a significant business corridor. This project will provide a safe, multi-modal corridor for all users and improves livability.

The project is funded through coordination with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) using primarily Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds. These improvements were designed by Stantec Consulting Engineers and construction plans so noted as DPW Dwg. No. 0-28520.

Forest Hill Avenue within the project limits will be improved to include 2 – 11' foot travel lanes in each direction, a 12' foot raised landscaped median including left turn lanes, designated 5' bike lanes (continuation of the US 1 bike route from Fairlee Road to Hathaway Road on both sides), curbs, 4' sidewalks (both sides), pedestrian crosswalks, and a closed storm sewer system that will improve drainage along Forest Hill Avenue as well as adjacent neighborhoods. The City Planning Commission granted final approval of the project on May 21, 2013. The total project

cost is estimated at \$12,700,000.00. The project design is 100% complete. Right of way acquisition is 98% complete.

The Department of Public Works recommends approval of this ordinance.

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