



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Minutes

Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee

Thursday, June 24, 2021

12:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall
(Virtual Meeting)

Committee Members and Others in Attendance

The Honorable Andreas Addison – Chair
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Vice Chair
The Honorable Michael Jones – Committee member (late arrival)
The Honorable Katherine Jordan – Alternate Committee member (late arrival)
Bonnie Ashley, Deputy City Attorney
Samson Anderson, Council Budget Analyst
Pamela Nichols, Senior Assistant City Clerk
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Andreas Addison called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m., and presided.

Electronic Meeting Announcement

Senior Assistant City Clerk Pamela Nichols, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 2020-232, adopted December 14, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. Senior Assistant City Clerk Nichols stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on June 15, 2021, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated members of the public were encouraged to provide comments in writing prior to the meeting and all comments received prior to 10:00 a.m., on Tuesday, June 15, 2021, were provided to committee members. Ms. Nichols indicated that members of the public who signed up to speak and provide comment would be called to speak at the appropriate time.

Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Senior Assistant City Clerk Pamela Nichols provided citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comment speakers.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections or amendments to the meeting minutes of Tuesday, May 18, 2021, and the committee approved the minutes as presented. Ayes 2, Robertson, Addison. Jones had not yet arrived.

Presentation(s)

Proposed Community Benefits

Sharon Ebert, deputy chief administrative officer for Planning, Economic and Community Development provided an overview of proposed community benefits. Ms. Ebert explained the seven types of community benefits which included community outreach and engagement, job creation, construction jobs and workforce development, well-paying jobs, emerging small and minority business development, integrated affordable housing units and sustainable building and site development provisions. Ms. Ebert reported community benefits were incorporated in development agreements for the Public Safety Building and the proposed casino. She further reported that city administration is looking to include community benefits in projects including renovation of city-owned and/or newly developed facilities, when the city issue a solicitation for the sale and redevelopment of city-owned land and when the city provides economic development incentives for developments.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Michael Jones joined the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson suggested that committee members provide city administration with their questions. Vice Chair Robertson requested city administration to meet with development community to discuss the proposed community benefits, and remarked that the city needs to take a holistic approach on affordable housing requirements to ensure standards are evenly required.

Chair Andreas Addison agreed to work with city administration to coordinate a meeting with the development community. Chair Addison stated that community benefits would be a great tool in moving forward with the city's vision and goals for economic development.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, council policy analyst, and Samson Anderson, council budget analyst, provided the committee with the June staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-162

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Parking License Agreement between Parkway Parking of Virginia, Inc, as lessor and the City of Richmond as lessee for the purpose of providing 42 parking spaces for the Department of Social Services at 608 North 4th Street and 628 North 4th Street. (6th District)

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Shunda Giles, Social Services director, introduced ORD. 2021-162.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2021-162 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-163

To provide for the granting by the City of Richmond to the person, firm or corporation to be ascertained in the manner prescribed by law of the easement, franchise, right and privilege to use a portion of certain property located at 201 Hioaks Road for the construction, operation, and maintenance of certain access and utility facilities in accordance with a certain Deed of Easements; and to declare that a public necessity exists for and authorize the acquisition of a public access easement over and across a portion of certain property located at 6850 Atmore Drive in accordance with such Deed of Easements. (9th District)

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Rosemary Green, Department of Public Utilities deputy director, introduced ORD 2021-163.

Jennifer Muller, attorney with Roth Jackson and the applicant's representative, explained the proposed development will be a multi-family, affordable housing residential community which will serve individual at 60% of the area median income.

Member Michael Jones asked to be added as a co-patron.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Michael Jones moved to forward ORD. 2021-163 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-164

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Richmond and the Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority Regarding a Joint Application for a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant for the purpose of seeking funding for the development of a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy that includes the Gilpin Court public housing complex located at 102 West Charity Street. (3rd District)

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Sherrill Hampton, Housing and Community Development director, introduced ORD. 2021-164 and explained the grant would be used for the development of a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy for the Gilpin Court Public Housing Complex and the reconnection of the Jackson Ward neighborhood.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson expressed concern that other neighborhood revitalization projects, led by the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) were not finalized which resulted in the displacement of many public housing families. Vice Chair Robertson questioned the readiness of the city and RRHA to embark on the planning phase for the Gilpin Court Public Housing, which is the largest public housing community in the city. She stated that she would like assurances that the proposed project will not have the same unintended consequences.

Chair Andreas Addison echoed remarks by Vice Chair Robertson and noted that a one for one unit replacement was imperative. Chair Addison stated that the propose project presents an opportunity for the city to decentralize poverty.

Vice Chair Robertson asked city administration to provide more details about the revitalization plan prior to Council's consideration of the proposed request at its June 28, 2021 Formal Meeting.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2021-164 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2021-161

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 design and construction of a replacement to the CSX abandoned spur line bridge from Interstate 95 to North 16th Street. (7th District)

Patron: Mayor Stoney

M. Khara, Department of Public Works deputy director/city engineer, introduce ORD. 2021-161.

Member Michael Jones inquired whether the city was eligible to receive federal infrastructure funds to assist with the cost of similar projects.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2021-161 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.** Ayes 2, Robertson, Addison. Jones was excused.

The following ordinances were considered:

ORD. 2021-165

To designate the first block at the intersection of West Clay Street and East Clay Street in honor of the late Rosa Dixon Bowser. (2nd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-166

To designate the first block at the intersection of West Charity Street and St. John Street in honor of the late Lucy Goode Brooks. (3rd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-167

To designate the intersection of Chamberlayne Parkway and Jackson Street in honor of the late William Washington Browne. (2nd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-168

To designate the 500 block of North 2nd Street in honor of the late Neverett Eggleston. (6th District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-169

To designate the first block of East Charity Street in honor of the late Lillie Ann Estes. (3rd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-170

To designate the 1000, 1100, and 1200 blocks of St. James Street in honor of the late Charles Sidney Gilpin. (3rd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-171

To designate the 200 block of East Marshall Street in honor of the late Oliver Hill, Sr. (6th District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-172

To designate the 200 block of East Clay Street in honor of the late Giles B. Jackson. (6th District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-173

To designate the 500 block of North 3rd Street in honor of the late John Mitchell, Jr. (6th District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-174

To designate the 300 block of North 2nd Street in honor of the late Lorna Pinckney. (2nd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-176

To designate that portion of Leigh Street from its intersection with North 3rd Street to its intersection with North Belvedere Street in honor of the late Bill "Bojangles" Robinson. (6th District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-177

To designate the 600 block of Judah Street in honor of the late Abraham Peyton Skipwith. (2nd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

ORD. 2021-178

To designate the 00, 100, and 200 blocks of the south side of West Broad Street, from its intersection with North Adams Street to the intersection of East Broad Street and North 3rd Street, in honor of the late Maggie L. Walker. (2nd District)

Patrons: Ms. Jordan, Vice President Robertson

Steve Taylor, council policy analyst, explained the streets designations were a part of the JXN Project, led by Enjoli Moon and Dr. Sessa Joi Moon.

Alternate member Katherine Jordan joined the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Alternate member Katherine Jordan stated that as a part of the Richmond 300 Master Plan, focus is on celebrating more of the history of the city, especially in neighborhoods that has not had its history told. Alternate member Jordan expressed appreciation to the Moon sister, Enjoli Moon and Dr. Sessa Joi Moon, for their endeavors to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Jackson Ward. Ms. Jordan stated that the goal of the street designation is to honor some notable black Richmonders for their contributions.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson expressed appreciation to the Moon sisters for the quality of work they have performed. Vice Chair Robertson asked the Moon sister make a full presentation to City Council.

Member Michael Jones asked to be added as co-patron and stated he supported a full presentation by the Moon sisters to City Council. Member Jones remarked he would like the city to consider doing more than street designation to honor the contributions of notable black Richmonders, and that he would like a unique design for the honorary signs that differs from other honorary street signs.

Chair Andreas Addison echoed remarks by Member Jones and asked to be added as a co-patron. Chair Addison asked Vice Chair Robertson to coordinate a presentation by the Moon sisters at the June 28, 2021 Formal Council Meeting.

Member Jones stated that he would like the significance of the street designation to be highlighted during the Formal Council Meeting and requested the proposed ordinances be place on the Regular Agenda.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2021-165, ORD. 2021-166, ORD. 2021-167, ORD. 2021-168, ORD. 2021-169, ORD. 2021-170, ORD. 2021-171, ORD. 2021-172, ORD. 2021-173, ORD. 2021-174, ORD. 2021-176, ORD. 2021-177 and ORD. 2021-178 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2021-R026

To direct the City Planning Commission to prepare, submit to public hearing, and consider an amendment making certain changes to the Master Plan.

Patrons: President Newbille, Vice President Robertson, Ms. Jordan, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Lynch and Ms. Trammell

Martiza Pechin, Office of Equitable Development deputy director, asked that RES. 2021-R026 be continued to the next committee meeting to allow time for city administration to complete its review of the proposed amendments with the patrons.

Chair Andreas Addison commended city administration for being awarded the American Planning Association Daniel Burnham Award, and asked for an update on the proposed amendments to the Richmond 300 Master Plan at the upcoming Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to continue RES. 2021-R026 to the July 20, 2021, Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2021-R036

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the City Administration to continue its efforts to take such actions and to recommend such legislation as may be necessary to implement the Master Plan, including the plan entitled "Hull Street Corridor Revitalization Plan," and effectuate a rezoning of the Hull Street corridor within South Richmond in accordance with such plans.

Patron: Ms. Lynch

Samson Anderson, council budget analyst, introduced RES. 2021-R036 and explained that the patron believes progress toward the rezoning the Hull Street corridor has stalled and would like to process to be renewed with vigor.

Kevin Vonck, Planning and Development Review acting director, stated that the proposed request was appropriate and supported by city administration.

Vice Chair Ellen Robertson asked for clarification on the objection of the proposed legislation.

Member Michael Jones inquired about the intent of the proposed request and expressed concern that Council members representing the targeted area were not contacted.

Vice Chair Robertson requested city administration to provide a status report on the implementation of the Hull Street Corridor Revitalization Plan at the next committee meeting.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Ellen Robertson moved to continue RES. 2021-R036 to the July 20, 2021, Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Member Jones reiterated his desire for Council members be contacted on matters pertaining to its districts.

Vice Chair Robertson echoed remarks by Member Jones.

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items.

Board Vacancies

There were no board vacancies for review.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.