



CITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Planning & Development Review *Staff Report*

Ord. No. 2014-262: To declare a public necessity for and to authorize the acquisition of the parcel of real property owned by the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority and known as 5001 Williamsburg Avenue for the purpose of establishing a new public park to be named Historic Fulton Memorial Park.

To: City Planning Commission
From: Land Use Administration
Date: January 5, 2015

PETITIONER

Barry Russell
City of Richmond Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities

LOCATION

5001 Williamsburg Avenue

PURPOSE

To authorize the Acting Chief Administrative Officer, on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept the transfer of RRHA property at 5001 Williamsburg Avenue and to incorporate the green space into the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities (DPRCF) property inventory to create the Fulton Memorial Park.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

On April 22, 2013, City Council approved Ordinance No. 2013-78-68 that accepted the transfer of RRHA property, located at 611 Goddin Street. At that time the property at 5001 Williamsburg was to have been included in the transfer request. It was not although it was identified with the second property in the original Extract from the June 28, 2012 regular meeting of the Commissioners of the RRHA. As a result, Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities staff is required to request that the omission be rectified.

Both Parcels are to be integral parts of Fulton Memorial Park. Design work has been completed and although full funding is not currently available, the project has been phased and Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities staff is prepared to move forward with Phase 1. The project is contingent upon the vacating of Williamsburg Avenue that bisects both properties and dead ends within their parameters. The vacation of this portion of Williamsburg Avenue cannot be accomplished unless both parcels are in the property inventory of the DPRCF.

City Administration recommends approval of this proposal.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Site Description

The subject property consists of 0.172 acres of unimproved land located at the southeast quadrant of the intersection of Williamsburg Avenue and Goddin Street, in the city's Fulton neighborhood of the East planning district.

Proposed Use of the Property

Develop the property into a passive park in commemoration of the Fulton neighborhood.

Master Plan

The Land Use Plan of the City of Richmond's Master Plan designates the subject property for Public & Open Space land use. Primary uses in this land use category include "publicly owned and operated parks, recreation areas, open spaces, schools, libraries, cemeteries and other government and public service facilities (p. 135).

Zoning

The subject property is located within the B-2 – Community Business zoning district.

Surrounding Area

The subject property is bordered to the north by a residential neighborhood, to the south and west by industrial uses, and to the east by unimproved land owned by the City of Richmond.

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