

AN ORDINANCE No. 2024-183

To amend Ord. No. 2024-099, adopted May 13, 2024, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, to (i) transfer \$1,000,000.00 from the Non-Departmental agency Eviction Diversion Program, (ii) create a new line item entitled “Non-Departmental Eviction Diversion Program – Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation” in the Non-Departmental agency, and (iii) appropriate such \$1,000,000.00 to such new line item in the Non-Departmental agency for the purpose of providing funding to the Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation for the implementation of the City’s Eviction Diversion Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron – Mayor Stoney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and  
Legality by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: JULY 22 2024 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That Article I, Section 1 of Ordinance No. 2024-099, adopted May 13, 2024, which adopted a General Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, is hereby amended by:

(a) Transferring \$1,000,000.00 from the Non-Departmental agency Eviction Diversion Program line item for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025;

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_ NOES: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_ REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Creating a new line item in the Non-Departmental agency entitled “Non-Departmental – Eviction Diversion Program – Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation;” and

(c) Appropriating the funds in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 transferred by subsection (a) of this section to the new line item in the Non-Departmental agency created by subsection (b) of this section entitled “Non-Departmental – Eviction Diversion Program – Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation” for the purpose of providing funding to the Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation for the implementation of the City’s Eviction Diversion Program.

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

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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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-2024-0451**

**File ID:** Admin-2024-0451

**Type:** Request for Ordinance or Resolution

**Status:** Regular Agenda

**Version:** 1

**Reference:**

**In Control:** City Clerk Waiting Room

**Department:**

**Cost:**

**File Created:** 05/10/2024

**Subject:** Eviction Diversion Program Budget Amendment

**Final Action:**

**Title:** To amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund budget by transferring \$1,000,000.00 from the Non-Departmental agency, Eviction Diversion Program, to a new line item in the Non-Departmental agency entitled "Non-Depart - Eviction Diversion Program - Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation for the purpose of providing funds to Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation to administer the City of Richmond's Eviction Diversion Program.

**Internal Notes:**

**Code Sections:**

**Agenda Date:** 06/24/2024

**Indexes:**

**Agenda Number:**

**Patron(s):**

**Enactment Date:**

**Attachments:** Admin-2024-0451\_FY25 Call for Applications - Eviction Diversion Program, Admin-2024-0451\_WD - Eviction Diversion Budget Amendment - Ordinance AATF

**Enactment Number:**

**Contact:**

**Introduction Date:** 06/24/2024

**Drafter:** Cordell Hayes

**Effective Date:**

**Related Files:**

### Approval History

Version	Seq #	Action Date	Approver	Action	Due Date
1	1	6/14/2024	Michelle Peters - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	2	6/14/2024	Alecia Blackwell - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	3	6/14/2024	Sharon Ebert	Approve	6/18/2024
1	4	6/17/2024	Meghan Brown	Approve	6/18/2024
1	5	6/17/2024	Cynthia Osborne - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	6	6/17/2024	Sabrina Joy-Hogg	Approve	6/19/2024
1	7	6/17/2024	Caitlin Sedano - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	8	6/18/2024	Jeff Gray	Approve	6/19/2024
1	9	6/18/2024	Caitlin Sedano - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	10	6/18/2024	Lincoln Saunders	Approve	6/20/2024
1	11	6/18/2024	Cordell Hayes - FYI	Notified - FYI	
1	12	6/18/2024	Mayor Stoney	Approve	6/20/2024

### 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-2024-0451**

**Title**

To amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund budget by transferring \$1,000,000.00 from the Non-Departmental agency, Eviction Diversion Program, to a new line item in the Non-Departmental agency entitled “Non-Depart - Eviction Diversion Program - Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation for the purpose of providing funds to Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation to administer the City of Richmond’s Eviction Diversion Program.

**Body**

**O & R Request**

**DATE:** May 28, 2024 **EDITION:** 1

**TO:** The Honorable Members of City Council

**THROUGH:** The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

**THROUGH:** Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

**THROUGH:** Sabrina Joy-Hogg, DCAO - Finance and Administration

**THROUGH:** Meghan Brown, Acting Director - Budget and Strategic Planning

**THROUGH:** Sharon Ebert, DCAO - Planning and Economic Development

**FROM:** Merrick Malone, Acting Director - Housing and Community Development

**RE:** **Eviction Diversion Program**

**ORD. OR RES. No.**

**PURPOSE:** To amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget by transferring \$1,000,000.00 from a Non-Departmental agency reserve to a new line item to support providing funds to the Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation to administer the City of Richmond’s Eviction Diversion Program.

Non-Departmental Reserve Transfer:

- **Current line item:** Eviction Diversion Program
  - Total = \$1,000,000.000
- **New line item:** Non-Depart - Eviction Diversion Program - Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation
  - Total = \$1,000,000.00

The new line item is to provide clarity on the intended recipient of the Non-Departmental funds.

**BACKGROUND:** Between 2016 and 2019, Richmond, VA, had the second-highest eviction rate in the United States, at 11.44%. To combat this phenomenon, the City of Richmond collaborated with a local nonprofit to create its Eviction Diversion Program (EDP). However, while Federal and State moratoriums and emergency rental assistance provided during the pandemic assisted in keeping many low and moderate-income persons housed, this demographic has not fared well since COVID-19 as the mandated moratoriums have ended. Many low-income households face eviction every day, and the number of evictions has steadily climbed.

In March 2024, the City’s original EDP administrator ceased operations as they returned to their original charge and practice of fair housing support and advocacy. While the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) sought out a new administrator for the EDP, the City’s Family Crisis Fund collaborated with several Richmond-based partner organizations to provide wraparound services to individuals in crisis and, when needed, financial assistance. This stop-gap measure was implemented to support those experiencing housing instability during the EDP administrative transition period and budget cycle.

On March 27, 2024, Mayor Stoney proposed \$1,000,000.00 to support the continuation of the EDP. On May 13, 2024, City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund budget, which authorized the dedicated funding for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation was selected through a call for applications process that commenced in April 2024.

The call for applications sought out approved housing counseling agencies in Richmond, Virginia, as identified on the US Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) website, as well as other applicable entities that received Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding that supported emergency rental assistance during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Only one application was received out of the entities notified and engaged. Through a rating and ranking evaluation process, the applicant, Southside Community Development and Housing Corporation, was deemed an excellent fit for administering the Eviction Diversion Program.

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL:** City of Richmond Strategic Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2030, One Richmond: An Equitable Affordable Housing Plan

**FISCAL IMPACT / COST:** N/A. Funds were allocated through the FY25 budget proposal and adoption process.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon adoption

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** June 24, 2024

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** July 22, 2024

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** Land Use, Housing, and Transportation  
Standing Committee (July 16, 2024)

**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** The Department of Housing and Community Development, The  
Department of Budget & Strategic Planning

**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** Ord. No. 2024-099

**ATTACHMENTS:** FY25 Call for Applications - Eviction Diversion Program

**STAFF:** Michelle Peters, Deputy Director - Housing and Community Development