



## CITY OF RICHMOND

### Department of Planning & Development Review *Staff Report*

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**To:** City Planning Commission  
**From:** Public Art Commission  
**Date:** June 27, 2016

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#### **PETITIONER**

Ellyn Parker, Secretary to the Public Art Commission, 804-646-1110

#### **LOCATION**

Tredegar Street (map attached)

#### **PURPOSE**

Section 17.05 Review to approve a temporary public art installation in the form of drain art murals to promote awareness of storm water drains that feed directly to the James River along Tredegar Street.

#### **SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION**

**Background:** The city of Richmond's Storm water Utility MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) program is responsible for the public education of its citizens about storm water and the harmful effects of pollution, bacteria and unwanted nutrients in the rainwater runoff. Each year the city's outreach program performs a variety of activities to help increase public awareness of all of the different habits people can adopt to help keeps storm water clean. We have a rain barrel painting competition with RPS, drain marking program, "pick up the poop" campaign, "only rain in the drain" campaign, "It's your River" billboards, as well as hosting stream and tire clean ups, and attending civic meetings in local neighborhoods through the year.

**Purpose:** The drain art project is a way to bring fun creative storm water awareness to those river users along the Tredegar Street/Browns Island area. This area is heavily trafficked area. We hope to have the art seen by as many as 50,000 people during large festivals and events. Submissions will be placed on display in City hall for citizens to see. People will be able to vote electronically for their favorite drain.

Artists will be given a small stipend for the art work. More information can be found on the city's website [RVAH20.org](http://RVAH20.org)

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends approval of this project. The art will raise awareness of dumping litter and trash during high use months of the area near Brown's Island and the James River. DPU will be responsible for the maintenance and installation of the murals with Public Art Staff making recommendations for best practices on the materials and upkeep. The Public Art Commission recommended approval of this project at the June 21, 2016 PAC meeting.