

INTRODUCED: November 10, 2025

AN ORDINANCE No. 2025-248

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 from AARP, to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Public Works called the “AARP Community Challenge Special Fund,” and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Public Works’ “AARP Community Challenge Special Fund” by \$25,000.00, for the purpose of funding the planning, design, construction, and implementation of a bus boarding platform.

Patron – Mayor Avula

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: DEC 8 2025 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That the Chief Administrative Officer is authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 from AARP for the purpose of funding the planning, design, construction, and implementation of a bus boarding platform.

§ 2. That Article I, Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2025-057, adopted May 12, 2025, which adopted a Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and ending June 30,

AYES: _____ NOES: _____ ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: _____ REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

2026, and made appropriations pursuant thereto, be and is hereby amended by creating a new special fund for the Department of Public Works called the “AARP Community Challenge Special Fund” for the purpose of funding the planning, design, construction, and implementation of a bus boarding platform.

§ 3. That the funds received from AARP are hereby appropriated to the Special Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, by increasing estimated revenues by \$25,000.00, increasing the amount appropriated for expenditures by \$25,000.00, and allocating to the Department of Public Works’ “AARP Community Challenge Special Fund” the sum of \$25,000.00 for the purpose of funding the planning, design, construction, and implementation of a bus boarding platform.

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

City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R Transmittal

DATE: August 15, 2025

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Danny Avula, Mayor

THROUGH: Odie Donald, II Chief Administrative Officer,

THROUGH: Letitia Shelton, Director of Finance

THROUGH: Meghan Brown, Director of Budget & Strategic Planning

THROUGH: Bobby Vincent Jr., Director of Public Works

THROUGH: M.S. Khara, P.E., City Engineer

FROM: Dironna Moore Clarke, Deputy Director, Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility

RE: TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER TO ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS (AARP) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000, TO AMEND THE ADOPTED FY2026 SPECIAL FUND PROGRAM BUDGET, TO CREATE A NEW SPECIAL FUND FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS CALLED “AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE SPECIAL FUND AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000 FOR THE AARP COMMUNITY CHALLENGE SPECIAL FUND ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.”

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: To authorize Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds from the American Association of Retired Persons “AARP” in the amount of \$25,000, to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Special Fund Budget, to create a new special fund for the Department of Public Works called the “AARP Community Challenge Special Fund,” and to appropriate the increase to the Department of Public Works’ “AARP Community Challenge Special Fund” for the purposes of funding the planning, design, construction, and implementation of a bus boarding platform on 2nd Street.

BACKGROUND: AARP Community Challenge Demonstration Grants provide up to \$25,000 for local efforts that benefit residents, especially those age 50 and older. The grant awarded to the City of Richmond will fund the installation of a bus boarding platform on 2nd Street and incorporate placemaking initiatives with community members. Projects were scored on its alignment with AARP's mission to serve people aged 50-plus, innovation, and the ability to effect long-term change.

This project impacts the Greater Richmond Transit Company and the City of Richmond.

AARP has funded the project for \$25,000.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Staff from the Department of Public Works' Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility and staff from GRTC attended a Historic Jackson Ward Association meeting to speak with leaders and attendees about the bus platform. Community engagement will continue throughout the grant term.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL: This project conforms to Goal 8-Equitable Transportation in the Richmond 300 master plan by expanding and improving transit, walking, and biking infrastructure. No other governmental agency approval is required for the Ordinance.

FISCAL IMPACT: None. No match is required.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Adoption.

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: October 14, 2025

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: November 10, 2025

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent Agenda.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Land Use, Housing, and Transportation Standing Committee.

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Public Works; Law Department; Planning and Development; Economic and Community Development; Department of Public Utilities; Finance Department; Budget and Strategic Planning; Copies also sent to: City Mayor (Danny Avula); Odie Donald, II, Chief Administrative Officer; and City Attorney.

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Ord. No. 2025-057.

ATTACHMENTS: AARP Community Challenge Grant Agreement

STAFF: Dironna Moore Clarke, Deputy Director, Office of Equitable Transit & Mobility x3074
Lamont L. Benjamin, P.E.; Capital Projects Administrator 804-646-6339.

M.S. Khara, P.E. City Engineer, 804-646-5413.



July 24, 2025

City of Richmond
900 E. Broad Street Suite 201
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Re: Amendment of AARP-City of Richmond, VA Grant Agreement

To: Odie Donald II, Kathleen Murphy and City of Richmond Administrative Team:

This letter serves as an **Amendment to our Grant Agreement** where AARP agreed to provide the City of Richmond, Virginia ("**Organization**"), with grant funding of **\$25,000.00**.

The goal of the grant is for the City to increase ways older adults and all residents safely move around the community. The original Grant Agreement is hereby amended adding the following provision:

- a. AARP and the City of Richmond recognize Odie Donald II, Chief Administrative Officer, as the official signatory representing the Organization and responsible for the oversight of the AARP grant execution.**

All other terms and conditions of the original Grant Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. The parties agree that electronic and/or digital signatures are valid and enforceable.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Amendment to be executed by their duly authorized representatives effective as of the date of the second signature below.

For **AARP**

For: **CITY OF RICHMOND**

Signed By: 

Signed By: _____

Name: Mike Watson

Name: Odie Donald II

Title: Director, Livable Communities

Title: Chief Administrative Officer

Date: 7/24/2025

Date: _____

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AARP Commits Thousands of Dollars to Strengthen Eight Communities Across Virginia



Richmond, Virginia—AARP today announced eight organizations throughout Virginia will receive 2025 [Community Challenge](#) grants. The grants are part of AARP's \$4.2 million commitment to fund 383 quick-action projects aimed at making communities more livable for people of all ages, with a focus on the needs of older adults. The funds will support efforts to improve public places, transportation, housing, digital connections, and other key areas.

Now in its ninth year, the Challenge has awarded \$472,915 through 44 grants in Virginia since 2017 to nonprofit organizations and local government entities across the state. Grant projects will be funded in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

“AARP Virginia is proud to partner with communities across the state to make them more livable for people of all ages,” said Jim Dau, AARP Virginia State Director. “These projects bring smart local ideas to life and create real on-the-ground improvements that make everyday life easier and safer, especially for older Virginians.”

Here in Virginia, projects funded include:

· **City of Lynchburg - Dunbar Schoolyard Wayfinding (Lynchburg):**

Adding clear signage to help residents navigate a shared schoolyard, making it easier for older adults to walk safely, find gathering areas and stay engaged in community events.

· **City of Richmond - 2nd Street Transit Upgrades (Richmond):**

Installing level boarding bus platforms and curb extensions to make public transit safer and easier for older riders, especially those with walkers, canes or balance challenges.

· **Friends of Ferrum Park - ADA Trail at Ferrum Park (Ferrum):**

Building the first section of an accessible walking trail so older residents can enjoy safe outdoor activity, reduce isolation and maintain physical health on stable, level paths.

· **Friends of the Chesapeake Public Library - Hurricane Preparedness Outreach (Chesapeake):**

Hosting storm-readiness sessions and creating bilingual emergency displays at public libraries to help older adults understand how to shelter in place, stay informed and protect themselves during severe weather.

· **Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County - Home Modifications for Safer Living (Rocky Mount):**

Completing essential safety upgrades in homes of older residents, including ramps and grab bars, so they can age comfortably and independently without risk of injury.

· **OmniRide - Fellowship House Bus Stop Improvements (Woodbridge):**

Moving a bus stop closer to a senior apartment complex and adding a new shelter with seating, giving older adults safer, more comfortable access to transit for errands and appointments.

· **Shenandoah County - ADU Design Competition (Woodstock):**

Launching a competition to develop ready-to-use backyard cottage designs that provide affordable, age-friendly housing for older residents who want to stay close to loved ones or downsize in their own community.

· **White House Farm Foundation - Leopold's Preserve Trail Enhancements (Haymarket):**

Adding benches and native plantings along trails to create calm, restful spaces where older adults can pause, socialize or enjoy nature at their own pace.

Some pedestrian safety initiatives will be funded with support from Toyota Motor North America.

“AARP Community Challenge projects may be quick to launch, but their impact is long-lasting,” said Nancy A. LeMond, AARP Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy & Engagement Officer. “We’re proud to support communities nationwide to advance solutions that make neighborhoods and towns of all sizes better places to live where everyone can thrive. And this year, we’re particularly proud to invest in projects benefiting often overlooked rural areas.”

View the full list of grantees and their projects at aarp.org/communitychallenge. Learn more about AARP’s work to support livable communities at aarp.org/livable.

About AARP

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With a nationwide presence, AARP strengthens communities and advocates for what matters most to the more than 100 million Americans 50-plus and their families: health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also works for individuals in the marketplace by sparking new solutions and allowing carefully chosen, high-quality products and services to carry the AARP name. As a trusted source for news and information, AARP produces the nation's largest circulation publications, AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org/about-aarp/, www.aarp.org/español or follow @AARP, @AARPenEspañol and @AARPadvocates on social media.

TOPICS

grants	grant applications	community grant	Challenge Grant	government	Community Challenge	
pedestrian safety	accessibility	accessory dwelling units	transit	Emergency Preparedness	housing solutions	

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