

City of Richmond
2017 Legislative Package Development

- 1) Overview of Upcoming General Assembly session
 - a) Short session
 - b) McAuliffe last session
 - c) 2017 election positioning
 - d) Budget outlook
- 2) Lessons Learned from Previous Electoral Changes
 - a) Old v. New
 - b) Change
 - c) Focus on Essentials (nuts and bolts)

3) Ranking Issues for Priority

Priority #1. Issues unique to the City of Richmond. This would include Richmond specific budget requests.

Examples - City charter changes, CSO funding, jail funding, PILOT, Slave Heritage project funding.

Priority #2. Regional or statewide issues critical to the City's *immediate* interests.

Examples - Funding for PULSE, issues related to RMTA, urban street maintenance funding.

Priority #3. Regional or statewide issues substantially affecting the City of Richmond - would also include statewide funding issues with a substantial impact on the City of Richmond.

Examples - Affordable housing, food deserts, high speed rail, red light cameras, 599 funding, k-12 funding, machinery and tools tax.

Priority #4. Constituent Requested Issues - issues brought to Council members that affect a neighborhood or group of constituents.

Example - regulation of motorized skateboards.

- 4) Package Structure
 - a) Specific Legislative "Asks"
 - b) Statements of Policy Positions
 - i) City Specific
 - ii) VML - October 7-9
 - iii) Virginia First Cities - October 7
- 5) Issues from 2016 General Assembly session
 - a) Urban Street Maintenance Funding Formula
 - b) Council salary cap increase
 - c) AirBnB

- 6) Administration Issues for 2017
 - a) Process underway

- 7) New Issues Provided to Staff for 2017 Consideration
 - a) Review of public nuisance statutes to determine how it can be expanded to deal with problem motels
 - b) Firearms – *These were in the 2016 policy position section.*
 - i) Close the gun show loophole
 - ii) Ban on purchase of assault weapons
 - iii) Limit size of ammunition magazines
 - iv) Study of school funding and best funding practices
 - c) Council Salary Review
 - d) Study of school funding and school funding best practices

- 8) Suggested Focus for 2017

- 9) Schedule
 - a) October 3 - November 15
 - b) November 16 – Legislative Delegation Lunch meeting
 - c) December 5 – Pre-filed bill drafting request deadline
 - d) December 15, 2016 – Governor budget announcement
 - e) January 11, 2017 – General Assembly convenes

Suggested Issues for 2017 Legislative Package

Specific Legislative “Asks”

Urban Street Maintenance Funding Formula

Council salary cap increase

AirBnB

Study of school funding and best funding practices

Statements of Policy Positions

City Specific positions:

Firearms

- i) Close the gun show loophole
- ii) Ban on purchase of assault weapons
- iii) Limit size of ammunition magazines

Food Deserts

Medicaid Expansion

Support for VML positions

Support for Virginia First Cities positions

City of Richmond
Outcome of Items in the 2016 Legislative Package

City Requests for Appropriations:

SOQ Re-benchmarking - The General Assembly approved full funding for this item.

Restore SOQ Basic Aid Funding – The General Assembly approved a substantial increase for public education.

Community Wealth Building – The General Assembly did not include funding for this initiative in its approved budget.

Carillon funding – \$1.5 million to support renovations along with language directing the state Department of General Services (DGS) to resume custody, control and supervision of the Virginia War Memorial Carillon, including responsibility for all maintenance and repairs. Existing Code of Virginia language requiring the City and DGS enter into an agreement governing access and use of the facility is not changed. Funding for the WW I commemoration has been folded into a new group charged with commemorating both world wars.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund – \$5.5 million in funding for the Virginia Housing Trust Fund each year; an increase of \$1.5 million each year.

Mental health services - The approved budget included:

- \$14.2 million GF in FY 2017 and \$31.8 million GF in FY 2018 and an equal amount of federal Medicaid matching funds to add 855 new Intellectually Disabled (ID) and Developmentally Disabled (DD) waiver slots over the biennium.
- Budget language to add the following services through the existing Medicaid State Plan or through a demonstration waiver: inpatient detoxification and substance abuse treatment, residential detoxification and substance abuse treatment, and peer support services.
- \$4.3 million GF the first year and \$5.3 million GF the second year to improve crisis programs to comply with requirements of the DOJ settlement agreement. This funding will support two eight- bed therapeutic homes, mobile crisis services, respite services for children, and regional crisis coordinators.
- Budget language to require the Department of Behavioral Health Disability Services (DBHDS) to develop a plan for a performance based contracting system for Community Services Boards. Such a system would include funding incentives and disincentives based on achievement of outcomes.

- Funding to expand eligibility to 80% for waiver services for the seriously mentally ill, 315 more DD waiver slots, 40 reserve emergency waiver slots and additional funding for child psychiatry and children's crisis services.

Food deserts – The General Assembly rejected proposed funding for this initiative except for an organic grown markets position.

Prisoner re-entry – \$1.2 million each year to maintain the level of contracted community residential placement beds available, on a short-term basis, for offenders on community supervision who do not have a place to live.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes – *No patron was available for a budget amendment.*

City Requests for Legislation:

Redevelopment or conservation areas or rehabilitation districts – HB 777-McQuinn- Failed to report in subcommittee on a 5-6 vote.

Assessment of real property; affordable housing – Status: Unable to accomplish due to constitutional issues.

Involuntary mental health commitments – HB 483-McClellan- Stricken from the docket by voice vote in subcommittee.

First Offender Assault and Battery - Status: HB 485-McClellan- Enacted into law.

High-speed rail/Main Street Station – No action. Must be addressed as part of the environmental review processes for Washington to Raleigh and Richmond to Norfolk.

Urban streets maintenance formula 'Total Pavement Width' based on an 11' lane. – HB 692- Carr - Left in House Transportation with letter from the Chair asking VDOT to examine the issue and report back in the Fall. A copy of the letter is attached.

License plate readers and body worn cameras record retention – HB 839 - McClellan- Continued to 2017 in House General Laws Committee while the State Crime Commission examines the issue.

School funding formulas review – A joint subcommittee to study the need for revisions to the standards of quality passed the General Assembly and funding is integral to the SOQ. However, it is unlikely this study will include a review of the Local Composite Index.

Voting machines – HB 104 - O'Bannon and SB 315 – Dance – Enacted into law.

Contested elections – HB 105 - O'Bannon and SB 316- Dance – Enacted into law.

Permitted Salaries/Salary Cap – HB 460 – McQuinn - Left in House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns with letter from the Chair asking the Commission on Local Government to review the issue, make recommendations and report back this Fall. A copy of that letter is attached.



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND

RONALD JOHN A. "RON" VILLANUEVA
POST OFFICE BOX 61005
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23466

March 8, 2016

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
TRANSPORTATION (CHAIRMAN)
COMMERCE AND LABOR
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT

Charles A. Kilpatrick, P.E.
Commissioner
Virginia Department of Transportation
1401 E. Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Commissioner Kilpatrick,

During the recent General Assembly session, the House Transportation Committee considered HB 692 dealing with street maintenance payments made to eligible cities and towns. The bill would have revised the payment formula from one based on number of moving-lane-miles of highways or portions thereof available to peak-hour traffic in that locality, to one using total pavement width based on an 11-foot lane.

The Committee has seen an increasing number of bills dealing with the Urban Street Maintenance formula over the past two years and I believe a review of the program is needed. Accordingly, I would request that the Department of Transportation review the program and provide the Committee with information regarding whether the formula should be modified or revised to: 1) recognize the various types of design and construction present in urban streets; 2) include a component that recognizes traffic counts on urban streets; 3) include a component to prioritize need using either criteria similar to that used for the state maintained primary and secondary highway systems or other professionally accepted criteria for urban street systems; and 4) ensure urban streets are being maintained in a "state of good repair."

Finally, I would appreciate cost estimates for any recommendations associated with the items above, using an approach that assumes any changes would be applied to increased or new funding rather than redistributing existing funds unless, in the Departments professional judgment, such redistribution would be warranted.

I would appreciate receiving this report not later than November 15, 2016. I also respectfully request that you provide the report to the Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee and the Co-Chairmen of the Senate Finance Committee as well.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ron Villanueva
Chairman

Cc: The Honorable Betsy B. Carr



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND

CHARLES D. POINDEXTER
POST OFFICE BOX 117
GLADE HILL, VIRGINIA 24092

NINTH DISTRICT

March 9, 2016

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
APPROPRIATIONS
COUNTIES, CITIES AND TOWNS
AGRICULTURE, CHESAPEAKE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. William C. Shelton
Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mr. Shelton,

Bill

During the recent General Assembly session, the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns Subcommittee #1 considered HB 460 that would raise the maximum salary of city council members by \$10,000 for cities with a population of 175,000 or more.

While the Subcommittee understands the concerns raised by the bill's patron, we thought additional information would be helpful before taking further action. Accordingly, I would request that the Commission on Local Government review the issue with particular regard to the following: 1) a comparison of the various statutes, special acts and charter provisions governing city and county council/board member salaries; 2) a comparison of salaries, health, retirement and related employee benefits provided to council/board members, the most recent date of a salary increase and the statute, special act or charter provision under which those salaries and benefits were established; and 3) whether, in the Commission's judgment, and after consulting with a sampling of current council/board office holders, the current salary and fringe benefit levels are sufficient to attract and retain qualified office holders.

Finally, I would appreciate any recommendations the Commission might offer in regard to this issue, including whether or not the various statutes, special acts and charter provisions governing the pay and fringe benefits for local governing body members should be standardized.

I would appreciate receiving this report not later than November 1, 2016. I also respectfully request that you provide the report to the Chairman of the House Committee on Counties, Cities and Towns and the Senate Local Government Committee as well.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Poindexter

Charles D. Poindexter
9th District, Virginia House of Delegates

Cc: The Honorable Riley E. Ingram and the Honorable Delores L. McQuinn

City of Richmond

Legislative Policy Positions in 2016

Support:

Taxation

State Earned Income Credits - Change the State income tax credit for low- income taxpayers from a credit against income tax owed to a refund credit.

Income Tax Standard Deduction – Index for inflation the standard deduction of \$3,000 for single and \$6,000 for married tax filers.

Housing and Community Development

Land banks – Authorize local governments to establish land banks. The Virginia Housing Commission is currently studying this issue and recommendations are expected prior to the 2016 session.

Public housing transformation - Provide state funding to assist in the planning, construction and development of affordable and mixed- income housing to replace existing, concentrated public housing.

“Go Virginia” Initiative – Support funding for the “Go Virginia “ initiative which would provide state financial incentives for localities to collaborate on specific issues.

Park funding - Provide state funding to develop fund park and recreation facilities in localities where there are no state park facilities.

Health and Human Services

Affordable Care Act - Implement the U.S. Affordable Care Act by expanding Medicaid coverage to all individuals who earn less than 133% poverty (or \$14,404 for an individual/\$29,327 for a family of four); are under the age of 65; are not enrolled or eligible for Medicare benefits; and, are not qualified for another mandatory Medicaid category.

Healthy lifestyles - Efforts by the First Lady to promote healthier lifestyles policies and activities by urging communities to include healthy diet and exercise in their strategic planning principles with the goal of creating safer and healthier communities.

Public Safety/Criminal Justice

Community diversion/day reporting funding – Restore funding for non-violent adult and juvenile offender community diversion sentencing programs that were eliminated during the recession.

Study of public education impact on reducing inmate populations – Provide funding for a study of the impact of public education on reducing the offender population and the establishment of incentives for local governments to reduce inmate populations by improving public education. This study would include a cost benefit analysis of any such incentives, a cost benefit policy analysis of potential cost saving supports for public education, and draft legislation.

October 3, 2016

Firearms

Background checks - Require background checks on all firearms purchase. This includes, closing the gun show loophole and requiring that mental health status be checked.

Military assault weapons - Institute a ban on military assault weapons and a limit on the size of ammunition magazines.

Firearms in government buildings – Authorize local governments to ban firearms in local government buildings to ensure public safety and reduce risk to citizens. The Governor has issued an executive order banning firearms in certain State government buildings.

Gun violence prevention - Make state funds available for conflict resolution programs for communities and schools.

Local Government Authority

Insurance to Other Qualified Adults - Give localities the authority to extend employee health insurance and related benefits coverage to include other qualified adults.

Sexual Orientation - Include sexual orientation as a protected class with regard to employment discrimination.

Ban the Box - Amend the procurement laws of the state to allow local governments to prohibit private businesses that engage in contracts for work with the local government from asking questions about criminal convictions on initial employment applications.

Ban the Box - Direct the Virginia State Crime Commission to study the routine use of criminal history information in employee hiring, including the need for such information in relation to job requirements, and its impact on offenders. – The Governor issued an executive order to “Ban the Box” in state employment. City has done the same for its employment.

Election Law

Redistricting reform – Enact redistricting reforms that include the use of a non-partisan independent commission to draw state legislative and congressional districts that promote compactness by preserving the integrity of existing local government political boundaries and precincts.

Oppose:

We oppose any legislative action that would:

- Reduce or eliminate local taxing authority without a comparable means of revenue replacement;
- Reduce funding for public education;
- Reduce or diminish local autonomy;
- Reduce state financial assistance to localities.