

INTRODUCED: September 12, 2016

AN ORDINANCE No. 2016-222

To designate the City-owned property located within the area bounded by Dock Street to the north, Great Shiplock Park to the east, the Kanawha Canal to the south, and South 17th Street to the west as open-space land named the “Low Line.”

Patrons – Mayor Jones, Mr. Agelasto and
Ms. Newbille

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEPT 26 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the City owns certain property located within the area bounded by Dock Street to the north, Great Shiplock Park to the east, the Kanawha Canal to the south, and South 17th Street to the west; and

WHEREAS, section 8-12 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, provides for the designation of the use of City-owned real estate by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Richmond that the City Council officially designate such property as open-space land for its protection and preservation;

NOW, THEREFORE,

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: SEPT 26 2016 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That all City-owned property located within the area bounded by Dock Street to the north, Great Shiplock Park to the east, the Kanawha Canal to the south, and South 17th Street to the west is hereby designated as open-space land.

§ 2. That, notwithstanding the provisions of sections 8-7 through 8-10 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, to the contrary, the open-space land designated pursuant to section 1 of this ordinance shall be named the “Low Line.”

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



CITY OF RICHMOND
INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

O & R REQUEST

AUG 16 2016

4-5535

Chief Administration Office
City of Richmond

RECEIVED

AUG 24 2016

O&R REQUEST

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

EDITION: 1

DATE: August 11, 2016

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: Dwight C. Jones, Mayor

THROUGH: Selena Cuffee-Glenn, Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Peter L. Downey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development and Planning

THROUGH: Mark A. Olinger, Director, Department of Planning & Development Review

FROM: Keith Rogers Jr., Senior Assistant to the Chief Administrative Officer

RE: To designate the City property located within the area bounded by Dock Street to the north, Great Shiplock Park to the east, the Kanawha Canal to the south and 17th Street to the west as "the Low Line."

ORD. OR RES. No. _____

PURPOSE: To designate the City property located within the area bounded by Dock Street to the north, Great Shiplock Park to the east, the Kanawha Canal to the south and 17th Street to the west as "the Low Line."

REASON: As a nod to New York City's "High Line", the term Low Line is inspired by the linear railway park in New York City. The Low Line connects the recently enhanced Great Shiplock Park (GSP) with Richmond's much-loved Canal Walk along the recently completed Virginia Capital Trail.

RECOMMENDATION: City Administration recommends approval.

BACKGROUND: In partnership with CSX and the City, Capital Trees, and other civic and philanthropic organizations, have supported the development of the property as a linear green space attraction. Located within the area bounded by Dock Street to the north, Great Shiplock Park to the east, the Kanawha Canal to the south and 17th Street to the west Phase 1 of "the Low

Line” has completed the removal of invasive species, planting drifts of low-growing native grasses, perennials and ornamental plantings, improved lighting and tree canopy along the Virginia Capital Trail. Future phases include site furnishings, canal overlooks and boardwalk, gathering areas and a dynamic green space to be located under the I-95 overpass at the Virginia Capital Trail’s western terminus. Educational signage and interpretive public art is to be displayed throughout the Low Line, detailing its significance in the slave trade, the industrial development of Richmond, area trade and transportation, as well as its environmental attributes and functionality.

In FY15 the City donated \$200,000 to Capital Trees to support Phase 1 plantings and other capital improvements. Improvements made by Capital Trees, accepted by the City are valued at approximately \$1,275,000. Earlier this year Governor McAuliffe named both the Low Line and Great Shiplock Park Virginia Treasures.

FISCAL IMPACT / COST: N/A

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: N/A

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: No

REVENUE TO CITY: N/A

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon adoption.

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: September 12, 2016.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: September 26, 2016

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Land Use, Housing & Transportation

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: N/A

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Planning & Development Review, Economic & Community Development

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: Ord. No. 2014-247-223; Ord No. 2014-248-224

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): N/A

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

STAFF: Keith Rogers Jr., Senior Assistant to the Chief Administrative Officer, 646-7597