

WHEREAS, the City's Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility has prepared Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond for adoption and implementation as the City's official comprehensive transportation plan for promoting improvements in surface transportation performance and safety; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond provides a holistic list of equity-centered projects and programs to accomplish the adopted vision for equitable transportation including projects and programs for priority investment for the Council and the Department of Public Works to act upon from now through the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, the priorities in Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond (1) provide investment direction for a new Lighter/Quicker/Cheaper program, (2) update the bicycle master plan, and (3) provide projects that may be eligible for grant application and funding from various local, regional, and national funding programs; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond includes projects eligible for all types of funding programs and is easily sorted by investment need category to align funding programs with a grant-specific type of project; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond is an equity-centered, community-based, climate resilience plan that is based on data that defines equity-centered transportation needs for the purpose of creating equitable solutions that redress past injustices and remove remaining barriers, all in alignment with

the goals of the City of Richmond’s Equity Agenda, the City’s Master Plan entitled “Richmond 300: A Guide for Growth,” and other City initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the Council adopt the Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond as the official comprehensive transportation plan for the City of Richmond in accordance with Resolution No. 2019-R065, adopted December 9, 2019, and Resolution No. 2021-R032, adopted June 14, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE,

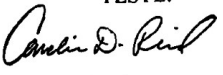
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the Richmond Connects, Strategic Plan: A Multimodal Plan for Improving Transportation Equity in Richmond, a copy of which is attached to this resolution, is hereby adopted in accordance with Resolution No. 2019-R065, adopted December 9, 2019, and Resolution No. 2021-R032, adopted June 14, 2021, as the official comprehensive transportation plan for the City of Richmond.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



City Attorney’s Office

A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:

City Clerk



City of Richmond

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Richmond, VA 23219
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Master

File Number: Admin-2024-0046

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Status: Regular Agenda

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Agenda Date: 02/26/2024

Patron(s):

Enactment Date:

Contact:

Introduction Date:

Drafter: Dironna.Clarke@rva.gov

Effective Date:

Related Files:

Approval History

Version	Seq #	Action Date	Approver	Action	Due Date
2	1	1/18/2024	Bobby Vincent	Approve	1/19/2024
2	2	1/19/2024	Robert Steidel	Approve	1/22/2024
2	3	1/26/2024	Jeff Gray	Approve	1/23/2024
Notes: Files currently with Jeff Gray that need to be moved to Lincoln for approval: IR11152924 done by hagensj					
2	4	1/26/2024	Caitlin Sedano - FYI	Notified - FYI	
2	5	1/26/2024	Cordell Hayes - FYI	Notified - FYI	
2	6	1/26/2024	Lincoln Saunders	Approve	2/2/2024
2	7	2/23/2024	Mayor Stoney	Approve	2/6/2024

History of Legislative File

Version:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:

Text of Legislative File Admin-2024-0046

City of Richmond

Intracity Correspondence

O&R REQUEST

DATE: December 18, 2023 **EDITION:** 1

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

THROUGH: J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Robert Steidel, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Bobby Vincent Jr., Director of Public Works

RE: **ADOPTION OF RICHMOND CONNECTS, STRATEGIC & ACTION PLAN: A MULTIMODAL PLAN FOR IMPROVING TRANSPORTATION EQUITY IN RICHMOND AS THE OFFICIAL COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND**

ORD. OR RES. No.

PURPOSE: To adopt the Richmond Connects Multimodal Strategic Transportation Plan and Action Plan as the multimodal transportation plan for the City of Richmond.

REASON: Res. No. 2019-R065 calls for the update of Richmond Connects; and Res. No. 2021-R032 calls for the creation and adoption of a Mobility Action Plan that prioritizes pedestrians' mobility choices and their safety, using an equity lens.

RECOMMENDATION: Adoption is recommended by City Administration

BACKGROUND: The current Richmond Connects plan was completed in 2013, while in 2020 the council adopted Richmond 300: *A Guide for Growth* master plan was completed in 2020. Richmond 300 directed OETM to "Update the Richmond Connects Plan, in collaboration with PDR, DED, HCD, DPW, GRTC, the Virginia Department of Transportation, PlanRVA, the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization, and the general public; to include a specific project list to develop more multi-modal transportation options in a safe network tied to the Future Land Use Plan. Beginning in May of 2022, after City Council's adoption of the "Path to Equity: Policy Guide, the Richmond

Connects update began.

The Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility in the City of Richmond was tasked to complete an update to Richmond Connects. The Richmond Connects Strategic and Action Plans presented for adoption are the result of a two-year long data analysis and public outreach process. The content of the Richmond Connects plans emerged from an inclusive process that amplified community voices often overlooked in decision-making and makes strides towards accomplishing adopted equity agenda. The process identifies past transportation injustices, maps current access barriers, and emphasizes an inclusive, data-driven approach to create an equitable transportation network.

Richmond Connects provides a holistic list of equity-centered projects and programs to accomplish the adopted vision for equitable transportation, and the *Action Plan* documents a subset of those projects and programs as priority investments for City Council and DPW to act upon in the next 0-10 years. The priorities in the Action Plan (1) provide investment direction for a new LQC (Lighter/Quicker/Cheaper) program, (2) update the bike master plan, and (3) and provide projects to feed into future years' CIP, SMARTSCALE, CVTA, and other granting program applications at local, regional and national levels- for both competitive and block grant programs. The Action Plan includes projects eligible for all types of funding programs and is easily sorted by Investment Need Category to align funding programs with a grant-specific type of project. In summary, the strategic plan updates an outdated transportation plan with robust public feedback, new policy focus, and provides prioritized projects for which the City will seek funding for over the coming years.

The team talked to over 20,000 Richmonders through telephone town halls, street canvassing, online surveys, emails, community events, and community pop-ups. In every stage of plan development, continuous community engagement focused on meeting people where they were, listening to traditionally underrepresented communities, and compensating people for their time and knowledge. Public support, especially among Communities of Concern, was the highest weighted criterion for selecting both high priority projects and strategies.

Plan development was also rooted in a data-driven process that sought to define equity-centered transportation needs. It identified transportation system needs and people needs separately and combined them to identify equitable outcomes that redress past injustices and remove barriers today. The data analysis was centered around 11 Investment Need Categories and the 10 Equity Factors defined in the Path to Equity. This process is documented in the full Richmond Connects Strategic Transportation Plan.

The Action Plan lays out two sets of actions:

- High Priority Projects: these are infrastructure projects and transit service improvements to physically change Richmond's transportation system to be safer and more equitable; and,
- High Priority Strategies: these are programmatic and policy changes to address issues that infrastructure projects alone cannot solve.

As the City of Richmond DPW works through these immediate actions, the Richmond Connects Action

Plan will be updated periodically, pulling from the larger Strategic Plan, so that it continues to serve as the City's guiding action plan for equitable transportation. As projects are completed and priorities shift, OETM anticipates the Action Plan being a living document that can be updated every 2-3 years under the guidance of City Council and the Mayor.

FISCAL IMPACT / COST: N/A

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: N/A

BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY: None

REVENUE TO CITY: None

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediate upon adoption

REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE: 2/12/2024

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 2/26/24

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent Agenda

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee Meeting on 2/20/24

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: N/A

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Department of Public Works.

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: N/A

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): None

ATTACHMENTS: (1) Final Richmond Connects Strategic Plan and (2) Final Richmond Connects Action Plan.

STAFF: Dironna Moore Clarke, DPW Deputy Director, Office of Equitable Transit and Mobility
804-646-3074

