

## 1700 Monument Avenue Traffic Circle

### Temporary Landscape Plan - Location, Character & Extent

#### Property

Address: 1700 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23220

Historic District: Monument Avenue

Parcel ID: W0001252001

#### Project Description:

The site is an existing traffic circle and is located on Monument Avenue at its intersection with Allen Avenue. The site formerly served as the location of the Robert E. Lee statue and pedestal owned by the Commonwealth of Virginia. The statue and pedestal were erected and unveiled in 1888. The statue was removed by the Commonwealth of Virginia in September 2021 followed by the pedestal's removal in December 2021. The property (1700 Monument Avenue) was acquired by the City of Richmond from the Commonwealth of Virginia via adopted ordinance [ORD 2021-351](#) on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2022. This proposed plan is in character with the temporary landscape plans recently installed in the locations of other former confederate monuments along Monument Avenue and elsewhere in the City. The City desires to provide a temporary planting of the open space circle to achieve the following goals:

The landscape design includes plantings with year-round interest and/or color and will include native and pollinator species. The planting design is designed to be low maintenance and the plantings will be maintained by the City of Richmond Department of Public Works, Urban Forestry Division. The planting design is developed to meet the established project budget for construction. The proposed plan incorporates measures towards the conservation of natural resources incorporating an ecologically responsible native landscape that infiltrates storm water on site. This plan increases the square footage of absorptive soil beyond the traffic circle's former condition.

The proposed landscape plan is a **temporary landscape plan** until the circle along with others on Monument Avenue are re-imagined.

#### Traffic and Pedestrian Safety:

Traffic safety improvements were installed around this traffic circle in 2015, slowing down vehicular traffic and making the intersection safer for pedestrians. These traffic improvements made in 2015 will not be impacted by this proposed traffic circle Temporary Landscape Plan. The existing sidewalk, surrounding 1700 Monument Avenue, will remain and is incorporated into the conceptual design. The proposed plan does not have an impact on the traffic and safety improvements made in 2015.

**Tentative Schedule:**

The installation of the landscape plantings is tentatively scheduled to begin in Fall 2022 following required city approvals. This work will be installed by an independent city contractor.

**Landscape Maintenance:**

The Department of Public Works, Urban Forestry Division, will provide maintenance services for the circle including: weeding, mulching, necessary pruning and debris and trash removal. This Division will provide seasonal inspections and inspections. During the summer season, weed removal and inspections will be tailored to the needs and the impacts caused by the annual summer weather and rain cycle.

**Watering and Irrigation:**

Due to the large scale of this traffic circle, irrigation will continue to be utilized to provide water for the landscaping. The Urban Forestry Division will maintain the irrigation system and winterized the system as appropriate.

**Cost for installation:**

Proposed cost for installation is \$100,000.

**Applicant Information**

Name: Mark Lewis, Special Capital Projects Group, DPW

Presenter at the UDC Meeting: Jeannie Welliver, Special Capital Projects Group, DPW

Company: City of Richmond, Department of Public Works

Mailing Address: 900 East Broad Street, Suite 602, Richmond VA, 23219

Phone: (804) 646-6614


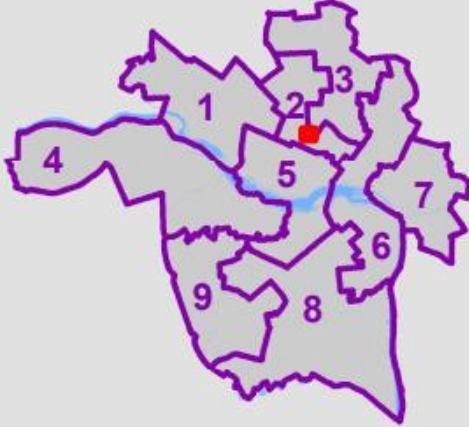
Email: [mark.lewis@rva.gov](mailto:mark.lewis@rva.gov)

Applicant Type: Owner's Agent

**Attachments:**

- Attachment 1 Property Transfer
- Attachment 2 Prior existing conditions.
- Attachment 3 1700 Monument Avenue Landscape Plan pdf (5 slides) prepared by VHB
- Attachment 4 1700 Monument Avenue Plan PowerPoint (5 slides in PowerPoint format) prepared by VHB *duplicative information as Attachment 3 but in PowerPoint format*

# ATTACHMENT 1

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|  <p><b>City of Richmond<br/>Department of Planning<br/>&amp; Development Review</b></p>  | <p><b>Property Transfer</b></p>  |
| <p><b>LOCATION:</b> 1700 Monument Avenue</p> <p><b>APPLICANT:</b> Matthew A. Welch,<br/>Senior Policy Advisor<br/>Planning &amp; Economic Development Portfolio</p> <p><b>COUNCIL DISTRICT:</b> 2</p> <p><b>PROPOSAL:</b> To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to, on behalf of the City, accept a donation of fee simple title to that certain real estate located at 1700 Monument Avenue, identified as Tax Parcel No. W0001252001 in the records of the City Assessor, and commonly referred to as "Lee Circle" from the Commonwealth of Virginia, for use of the property for the benefit of the public in accordance with the Richmond 300 Master Plan, which real estate is more particularly described within the document attached to this O&amp;R Request entitled "Lee Circle Legal Description".</p> <p><i>For questions, please contact Matthew Ebinger at 804-646-6308 or <a href="mailto:matthew.ebinger@richmondgov.com">matthew.ebinger@richmondgov.com</a></i></p> |  <p style="text-align: right;">DIT</p> |

