

RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL: RECOMMENDED BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020



21st CENTURY RICHMOND

Improving the interactions between the private and civic sectors with the ultimate goal of fostering a more productive, sustainable and prosperous city

- **Land Use Planning:** Funding objectives based on the Richmond's Master Plan-Richmond 300: A Guide for Growth.
- **Commercial Corridors:** Support revitalization of the City's commercial corridors.
- **Multimodal Transportation:** Evaluate the mix of transportation alternatives to determine if they meet community needs now and in the future (such as pedestrian and bicycle route improvements between homes, job centers, schools, and other destinations).
- **Parks and Recreation:** Provide funding for strategic objectives based on a Park Facility Plan, emphasizing adequate management and staffing at all recreational centers; sufficient green space, urban forestry and park preservation.
- **Housing:** Protect and expand the supply of equitable workforce/affordable housing and the development of a city-wide housing plan
- **Business Retention and Creation:** Enhanced business retention initiatives for both small and larger businesses.
- **Small Business Development:** Prioritize technical support for small business services such as online business portals for ease of access to the City's business resources.



SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

Develop and implement strategies and activities in the areas of police, fire, emergency management and code enforcement

- **Crime Prevention:** Support activities to address the causes and remediation of crime including wrap-around services.
- **Criminal Investigations:** Support activities to enhance criminal investigations.
- **Emergency Management:** Furnish adequate staffing and equipment for emergency medical, rescue and ambulance services.
- **Disaster Management:** Furnish adequate staffing and equipment for the disaster readiness, execution and debris removal caused by natural and man-made disasters.
- **Fire Protection:** Support activities to enhance fire protection to ensure safe buildings and structures.
- **Zoning Enforcement and Review:** Identify activities to reduce developer and resident issues aimed to reduce appeals.
- **Code Enforcement/Blight Abatement:** Funding for consolidation and cross-training of code enforcement agents.
- **Salary Adjustments:** Full funding for Phase II for Police & Fire.

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STRONG FUTURES FOR CHILDREN, ADULTS & FAMILIES

Assess the needs and opportunities to enhance the development of strong families, neighborhoods and schools

- **Seasonal Programs:** Prioritize funding for seasonal programs such as swimming and other indoor/outdoor activities. Assess the City's Park System and bring park structures into compliance with best practice standards.
- **After School & Recreation Center Programming:** Continue funding initiatives for effective activities offered through after school programs and through recreational centers.
- **School Construction/Maintenance:** Continue to provide funding for the City's contribution to school facility construction and maintenance.
- **School Technology:** Continue to provide funding for the City's contribution for school technology.
- **Care for the Homeless:** Address the various needs of homeless and disadvantaged citizens through regionally-coordinated services such as cold weather shelters.
- **Social Services:** Continue to support/fund Child, Family & Adult Services.
- **Job Creation/Anti-Poverty:** Continue to fund initiatives and programs aimed at providing means to increase wealth.
- **Workforce Development:** Identify and address the needs of low-skilled workers to equip them to adapt to the global economy.



STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Assess the current condition of the City's aging infrastructure and develop a plan for addressing future needs

- **City-wide Facilities Maintenance:** Continue to provide funding for maintenance of all City facilities.
- **Urban Design:** Support acceptable design standards for new or redeveloped residential, commercial and industrial projects.
- **IT Infrastructure:** Provide adequate funding to improve network infrastructure, mobile technology and cyber security.
- **Business Applications:** Prioritize funding for critical business applications that support core services such as the issuance of permits and inspections.
- **Street Maintenance:** Continue to fund the repaving, resurfacing and overall needed restoration of City streets.
- **Sidewalks & Alleys:** Continue to prioritize funding for the maintenance of sidewalks and alleys.
- **Traffic Transportation:** Continue to tie the City's roadway network into the Master Plan; assess the impact of traffic on zoning regulations.
- **Public Utilities:** Continue to fund maintenance of water, wastewater treatment, and storm drain systems to identify improvements necessary to meet future demand.
- **Historic Preservation:** Prioritize funding to maintain and revitalize historic buildings based on a strategic facilities plan.

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RESPONSIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INNOVATIVE GOVERNMENT

Improving departments,
programs, and services to
enhance service delivery
efficiency and effectiveness

- **Budgeting for Performance Based Outcomes:** Structure department budgets based on empirical analysis of relevant output and outcome measures.
- **Human Resource Management:** Develop methods to streamline the City's hiring process to three months or less to employ the best talent and maintain adequate staffing levels via salary stabilization (teachers and city employees); Funding for competitive market-based pay and benefit packages; Prioritize effective training programs needed to sustain a knowledgeable workforce.
- **Procurement:** Streamline the process for purchasing and contract negotiation.
- **Service Delivery Improvement:** Discover effective and efficient methods and alternatives to improve the delivery of core services such as Bulk & Brush and Leaf Collection Programs.
- **Permits, Inspections & Enforcement:** Provide funding to support sufficient staffing for permitting, inspections and code enforcement.
- **City Tax Sale Program:** Provide sufficient resources for the sale of tax delinquent properties which helps reduce blight.
- **Department Structure:** Review the current structure of departments, and evaluate the need to restructure, to achieve greater efficiency effectiveness.