

January 24, 2023

Michael J. Jones
9th District City Council
900 East Broad Street, #200
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Councilperson Jones:

What can be done about all the litter and trash I see along the roads in Richmond? I like to bike downtown from Lakeside on the Richmond-Henrico Turnpike. I enjoy my rides, but I also see bottles, cans, plastic bags, papers, and other refuse along the bike route. A lot of it. Piles of it in places.

It's not just Northside—it's underneath the overpass at the bottom of the Richmond-Henrico Turnpike, it's at Arthur Ashe Boulevard by the Squirrels stadium and around Bowtie Cinema and the Greyhound station, along Chamberlayne Avenue, and in so many other places. I'm sure you could find lots of litter in many parts of the city.

I don't expect Richmond to be spotless, but the problem seems to have gotten worse in the last three years. Since people won't take responsibility to do the right thing, I think the city needs to be more proactive.

I occasionally spend time picking up trash in my own neighborhood. And I sometimes see other regular people—and sometimes city workers—doing the same. But more needs to be done. It is clear that picking up litter and refuse could be a fulltime job.

Hopefully people will take more pride in their city and things will get cleaner. I'm not sure what resources Richmond has to combat litter, but I would be happy to know how we can move forward as a city and improve this problem.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin Woodward", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Colin Woodward
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