



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

City of Richmond Governmental Operations Committee

November 15, 2023

Legislative Summary

Previous Meeting: September 27, 2023

Next Meeting: December 20, 2023

Presentations, Discussions and Papers for Consideration

Presentations

1. Sustainable Design Standards – Laura Thomas, Director of Office of Sustainability

Discussion Items

1. City Charter Next Steps

Ordinances and Resolutions

1. Ord. No. 2023-331

Patrons: Ms. Jordan and Ms. Lynch

Key Points:

- To amend and re-ordain City Code §8-544, concerning the Urban Forestry Commission, for the purpose of revising the composition, appointment process, and scope and timeline for preparation and submission of reports to Council.
 - This O&R recommends amendments to City Code §8-544 concerning the Urban Forestry Commission.
 - The proposed amendments are to change language in the body of the report as follows:
 - The composition of membership.
 - Requires submission of a report within the first six months that includes the mission, scope and duties will be carried out for future success.
 - Recommends gender neutral language.
 - Requests that the commission hold a minimum of four meetings per calendar year.
 - Adds the requirement for staff support.

Fiscal Impact: None Yes, and with comments as follows:

The Fiscal Impact is unknown at this time since this legislation has not been adopted and a plan has not been presented for acquisition. It is anticipated that the cultivated



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plan would include the feasibility of the proposed acquisition, the fiscal impact and all associated costs.

2. Res. No. 2023-R011

Patrons: Ms. Newbille and Ms. Lambert

Key Points:

- To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities to consult with the Office of the City Attorney concerning the development of a plan and the preparation of necessary documents to acquire, preferably by gift, the properties known as Evergreen Cemetery and East End Cemetery and to present such a plan and documents to City Council.
 - This Resolution is requesting development of a plan and the preparation of necessary documents to acquire, preferably by gift, the Evergreen and East End Cemeteries and to present a plan and documents to City Council.
 - Since the Enrichmond Foundation has ended, but is not formally dissolved at this point, the current financial status of the Evergreen and East End cemeteries are in question.
 - This legislation is for the development of a plan for acquisition of the cemeteries to ensure restoration, maintenance and preservation of the cemeteries. Currently, volunteers laboriously work to maintain the cemetery to preserve the graves of those interred in the two cemeteries.
 - Currently, meetings have been conducted with officials of the city and the city's parks and recreation department with community members to develop a plan for Richmond's historic Evergreen and East End cemeteries.

Fiscal Impact: None Yes, and with comments as follows:

There will be fiscal costs to staff the Commission with the contributions of staff from the Council Chief of Staff Office as well as staff of the City of Richmond Administration.