

INTRODUCED: September 14, 2020

A RESOLUTION No. 2020-R053

To request that the Mayor propose, for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and for every fiscal year thereafter, a budget that includes funding in the amount of at least \$10,000,000.00 for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

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Patrons – Ms. Robertson and Ms. Lynch, President Newbille, Vice President Hilbert  
Mr. Jones, Ms. Trammell and Mr. Addison

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Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney

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PUBLIC HEARING: SEP 28 2020 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund currently receives funding of a maximum of \$1,000,000.00 per year from expiring partial exemptions from real estate taxes and proceeds from the sale of tax delinquent properties; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief of the Council, the Affordable Housing Trust Fund exists to assist the City in rectifying the disparity between the average housing cost and average income in the Richmond metropolitan area where individuals and families suffering under such disparity are constrained to spend more than 30 percent of their monthly income on housing, making it less likely they are able to afford other necessities, such as clothing and food; and

AYES: 8 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED: SEP 28 2020 REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Council that, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Richmond families were confronted by evictions and housing affordability and, during the pandemic, these families are at an even more severe disadvantage in their ability to weather the economic recession, unemployment, decreased wages, lack of paid sick leave, lack of sufficient housing assistance, and mounting evictions resulting from the pandemic.

WHEREAS, the Council believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the Council request that the Mayor propose, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, and for every fiscal year thereafter, a budget that includes funding in the amount of at least \$10,000,000.00 for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund;

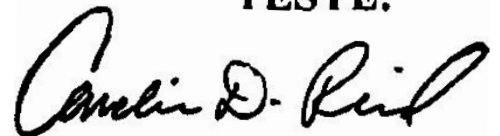
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the Council requests that the Mayor propose, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022, and for every fiscal year thereafter, a budget that includes funding in the amount of at least \$10,000,000.00 for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

**A TRUE COPY:**

**TESTE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Camille D. Reil". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

**City Clerk**



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

RECEIVED  
By Barbara Fom at 8:11 am, Aug 28, 2020

## Office of the Council Chief of Staff

### Ordinance/Resolution Request

**TO** Haskell Brown, Interim Richmond City Attorney  
Richmond Office of the City Attorney

**THROUGH** Lawrence R. Anderson  
Council Chief of Staff

**FROM** Samson Anderson, Council Budget Analyst

**COPY** Ellen Robertson, 6<sup>th</sup> District Representative  
Tavares Floyd, 6<sup>th</sup> District Liaison  
Meghan K. Brown, Deputy Chief of Staff  
Tabrica Rentz, Interim Deputy Richmond City Attorney

**DATE** August 25, 2020

**PAGE/s** 1 of 2

**TITLE** Request to Increase Affordable Housing Trust Fund Funding to \$10m Annually

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance**  **Resolution**

#### REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Ellen Robertson, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Representative

#### SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Finance and Economic Development  
Committee

#### ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The Patron is requesting that the Administration fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund \$10 million annually. The Patron requests that this funding begin in FY 2022.

#### BACKGROUND

##### Summary:

The Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) currently has dedicated funding from expiring partial exemptions from real estate taxes and proceeds from the sale of tax delinquent properties. Due to limited funding available from these 2 sources, the maximum annual funding they provide to the AHTF is \$1 million annually.

The AHTF exists to assist the City in rectifying the disparity between the average housing cost and average income in the Richmond metropolitan area. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) states that individuals and families spending more than 30% of their monthly income on housing are cost burdened and less likely to be able to afford life's necessities such as clothing and food.

Prior to the Pandemic, Richmond families that were cost burdened struggled with evictions and housing affordability. These families are at a severe disadvantage in their ability to weather the

economic recession, unemployment, lack of paid sick leave, and mounting evictions resulting from the pandemic. Additionally, as a result of the pandemic more families are in need of housing assistance due to a decrease or loss of wages.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Fiscal Impact	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Amendment Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact: This is a resolution and therefore not enforceable, but if the Administration were to implement this policy it would result in an increase in revenue for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.		

**Attachment/s**      Yes     No