



City of Richmond

Formal Meeting Minutes

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Monday, December 14, 2020

6:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall
Virtual Meeting

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President
The Honorable Chris Hilbert, Vice President
The Honorable Andreas Addison
The Honorable Kim Gray
The Honorable Michael Jones
The Honorable Kristen Larson (late arrival and early departure)
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch (early departure)
The Honorable Ellen Robertson
The Honorable Reva Trammell (early departure)

President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m., and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

City Clerk Candice Reid, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as amended by Ordinance No. 2020-183, adopted August 20, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. City Clerk Reid stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on November 13, 2020, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated members of the public were encouraged to provide comments in writing prior to the meeting and all comments received prior to 10:00 a.m., on Monday, December 14, 2020, were provided to Council members. Ms. Reid indicated that members of the public who signed up to speak and provide comment would be called to speak at the appropriate time.

Invocation was offered by Reverend Christopher Carr of First English Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1603 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA.

Members of Council and the audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Kristen Larson joined the meeting.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

President Cynthia Newbille, on behalf of Richmond City Council, honored and recognized Vice President Chris Hilbert on his sixteen years of service as a Council representative. President Newbille presented Vice President Hilbert with the Richmond Distinguished Service award for his dedication and extraordinary service as an elected member of Richmond City Council.

President Cynthia Newbille, on behalf of Richmond City Council, honored and recognized Member Kim Gray on her four years of service as a Council representative and her eight years of service as a Richmond Public Schools Board member. President Newbille presented Member Gray

with the Richmond Distinguished Service award for her dedication and extraordinary service as an elected member of Richmond City Council.

CITIZEN SPEAKER GUIDELINES

Upon the President's request, Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren provided citizen speaker guidelines.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing prior to the Formal City Council meeting. All written citizen comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the Council prior to the meeting, and are included as an appendix to the December 14, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

Yesmine Bethea addressed Council and stated she was speaking on behalf of her granddaughter, Aajah Rosemond, who died as a result of being a pedestrian struck by a vehicle at the intersection of Jahnke Road and German School Road. Ms. Bethea requested Council take action to make the location of the accident safer for both drivers and pedestrians.

Councilor Michael Jones stated he requested a traffic study of the area of the accident. Councilor Jones also stated he and Councilwoman Reva Trammell would seek legislation to establish a tree memorial in honor of Aajah Rosemond at Thomas C. Boushall Middle School.

Crystal Bethea-Artis addressed Council and shared her appreciation for the opportunity to recognize her daughter, Aajah Rosemond, and discuss traffic safety in the city. Ms. Bethea-Artis stated she wanted traffic safety improved in the area of the accident to prevent other families from experiencing the same pain she experienced.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated she planned to work with Councilor Michael Jones to increase traffic safety in the area of the accident.

Dwayne Parker addressed Council and provided statistics related to the number of deaths in Virginia as a result of traffic accidents. Mr. Parker requested Council take action to increase traffic safety in school zones throughout the city.

As-Saddique Muhammad Abdul-Rahman, Richmond Transparency and Accountability Project (RTAP) member, addressed Council and stated that civilian oversight of police would increase public safety. Mr. Abdul-Rahman also stated that civilian oversight, separate from the Richmond Police Department (RPD), would provide the necessary recommendations to change RPD policies. Mr. Abdul-Rahman informed Council of RTAP's work regarding civilian oversight, and requested Council not appoint individuals with law enforcement experience to the Task Force for the Establishment of a Civilian Review Board.

Tiffany D. Coleman, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Zeta Chapter president, addressed Council and provided information regarding Zeta Phi Beta Sorority's civic engagement in the city. Ms. Coleman stated the Alpha Phi Zeta Chapter would look to establish a partnership with city administration and Council to provide increased services.

Maisie Osteen, Legal Aid Justice Center attorney, RTAP member, addressed Council and requested the Task Force for the Establishment of a Civilian Review Board not consist of members with prior law enforcement experience. Ms. Osteen noted that members with law enforcement experience may hinder the task force's ability to obtain true accounts from the victims of police abuse.

APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

Councilor Michael Jones moved that the following appointments be approved:

<u>Board Name</u>	<u>Criteria for Appointment</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>	<u>Terms</u>
J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Board (5 members)	Must be residents of the region that is served by the community college and should include residents from various businesses, industries, and professions being served by the Community college	Joshua Lee Mathews-Ailsworth	12/14/2020 – 07/01/2024 <i>Succeeding Stephen Baril</i>
Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (15 members)	*	Malesia Taylor	01/01/2021 – 12/31/2023
		Dr. Andrew Ramsey	01/01/2021 – 12/31/2023 <i>Succeeding Michelle Whitehurst-Cook</i>

* Applicants must either reside or work in the city.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Member Ellen Robertson moved to refer appointment applications for the Task Force on the Establishment of a Civilian Review Board to the December 16, 2020 Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting, and to continue Council's consideration of appointments to the January 11, 2021 Formal Council meeting, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Lynch, Trammell, Addison, Newbille. Noes 2, Gray, Hilbert.

AGENDA REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

Councilor Michael Jones moved to amend the agenda as follows:

ORD. 2019-275

To amend ch. 6 of the City Code by adding therein a new art. XII (§§ 6-596-6-602) to establish a technology zone program in accordance with Va. Code § 58.1-3850, for the purpose of facilitating the development and location of technology businesses in the city of Richmond, capital investment, and job creation.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2019-276

To amend City Code §§ 26-872, concerning definitions related to license taxes, and 26-989, concerning licenses taxes for personal services businesses, and to amend ch. 26, art. XV, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein a new section numbered 26-1003.1, concerning the license tax for technology businesses, for the purpose of creating a new business, profession, and occupation license category called "technology business" and imposing a new license tax on such businesses.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2020-227

To authorize the special use of the property known as 320 Hunt Avenue for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2020-228

To authorize the special use of the property known as 414 Milton Street for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2020-239

To amend and reordain City Code § 26-874, concerning a business license incentive program for qualifying businesses, for the purpose of revising the definition of a qualifying business, adding the incentive of a refund, and requiring a business to apply to qualify for the program within two years from the date the business located in the city.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2020-241

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute certain Deeds of Easement between the City of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of General Services, for the purpose of granting to the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of General Services, certain perpetual, irrevocable easements on, over, under, and across certain rights-of-way located along North 9th Street, East Franklin Street, East Grace Street, and East Broad Street for the construction or installation of certain improvements and safety and security enhancements as part of the Capitol Complex Infrastructure and Security construction projects.

To be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2020-249

To rezone the properties known as 900 North 1st Street, 914 North 1st Street, 916 North 1st Street, 920 North 1st Street, 20 East Baker Street, 24 East Baker Street, and 11 East Charity Street from the B-2 Community Business District to the B-6 Mixed-Use Business District, and 2 East Baker Street, 4 ½ East Baker Street, 6 East Baker Street, 8 East Baker Street, 10 East Baker Street, 1 East Charity Street, 3 East Charity Street, 907 St. James Street, 909 St. James Street, 911 St. James Street, 913 St. James Street, 915 St. James Street, and 917 St. James Street from the R-53 Multifamily Residential District to the B-6 Mixed-Use Business District.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

RES. 2020-R056

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the Department of Finance and the Department of Human Resources to conduct a study of the City's telecommuting workforce to determine if cost savings and other benefits have been derived from the telecommuting policies adopted by the City in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for the purpose of potentially continuing or expanding upon such policies after the pandemic.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

RES. 2020-R060

To endorse, for the City of Richmond, legislative proposals set forth within the document entitled "City of Richmond Legislative Proposals for the Virginia General Assembly 2021 Regular Session;" to request the Richmond delegation to the General Assembly of Virginia to take legislative action consistent with and in vigorous support of such recommendations; to support other legislative action recommendations; and to encourage other organizations and individuals to support such recommendations.

To be amended and considered

RES. 2020-R062

To express the City Council's support for the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond, Virginia and the City of Richmond's Department of Economic Development proposed plan to provide short-term financial relief during the COVID-19 pandemic in the form of deferred payments to borrowers of loan programs administered by the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond, Virginia and the City of Richmond's Department of Economic Development.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

RES. 2020-R063

To express support for the request by the County of Henrico that the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development approve its application to amend its portion of Zone III (formerly known as the North Enterprise Zone); and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the Joint Amendment Agreement indicating the City's support for the County's application.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2018-236

To amend ch. 26, art. V, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein new sections 26-370-26-374, concerning a real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling, for the purpose of establishing a new real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling.

To be continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

ORD. 2020-217

To close to public travel certain medians located in Monument Avenue and North Allen Avenue at or near General Robert E. Lee Circle, to retain the City's legal interests in such medians, and to designate such medians as official City Parks, upon certain terms and conditions.

To be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2021

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding pending legislation prior to the Formal City Council meeting. All written comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the Council prior to the meeting and are included as an appendix to the December 14, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

The motion to amend the agenda was seconded and unanimously approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following ordinances and resolution were considered:

ORD. 2020-232

To extend the expiration date of Ord. No. 2020-093, adopted Apr. 9, 2020, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2020-183, adopted Aug. 20, 2020, which assures the continuity of government during the disaster resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic by modifying the practices and procedures of public bodies to permit electronic meetings as authorized by Va. Code § 15.2-1413, from Dec. 31, 2020, to Jun. 30, 2021.

ORD. 2020-233

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$19,581.00 from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Richmond Sheriff's Office called the CESF (COVID-19): DCJS special fund; and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the

Richmond Sheriff's Office's CESH (COVID-19): DCJS special fund by \$19,581.00 for the purpose of funding the Richmond Sheriff's Office purchase of personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies and equipment, thermometers, and fit tests in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ORD. 2020-234

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$20,000.00 from the National League of Cities; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Office of Community Wealth Building called the National League of Cities + Civic Engagement special fund; and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Office of Community Wealth Building's National League of Cities + Civic Engagement special fund by \$20,000.00 for the purpose of supporting local census outreach and civic engagement initiatives.

ORD. 2020-235

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$250,000.00 from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Richmond Sheriff's Office called the PREA Standards special fund; and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Richmond Sheriff's Office's PREA Standards special fund by \$250,000.00 for the purpose of supporting the Richmond Sheriff's Office compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards by preventing, identifying, and responding to sexual harassment and abuse at the Richmond Justice Center.

ORD. 2020-237

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Grant Contract between the City of Richmond and the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority for the purpose of funding consultant services for outreach and planning for the redevelopment of Creighton Court in the city of Richmond.

ORD. 2020-240

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 1305 North 5th Street and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof to accept title to such property for the purpose of preserving the property as a historic burial ground.

ORD. 2020-242

To amend Ord. No. 99-324-304, adopted Oct. 11, 1999, which authorized the special use of the property known as 1601 Park Avenue for the purpose of a restaurant use, to authorize outdoor dining facilities and an increased interior seating capacity, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-243

To authorize the special use of the property known as 410 Hunt Avenue for the purpose of three single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-244

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1110 ½ North 30th Street for the purpose of a two-family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-245

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1401 North 32nd Street for the purpose of a two-family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-246

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2611 West Cary Street for the purpose of permitting a sign with an aggregate area exceeding that permitted by the underlying zoning regulations, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-247

To authorize the special use of the property known as 3206 Blithewood Drive for the purpose of a dwelling unit within an accessory building to an existing single-family dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-248

To authorize the special use of the property known as 3310 East Broad Street for the purpose of a dwelling unit within an existing accessory building, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-250

To rezone the properties known as 7000 Jahnke Road, 6927 Old Jahnke Road, 6937 Old Jahnke Road, and 7005 Old Jahnke Road from the R-1 Single-Family Residential District to the RO-2 Residential-Office District, and 6814 Jahnke Road and 6907 Old Jahnke Road from the R-2 Single-Family Residential District to the RO-2 Residential-Office District.

RES. 2020-R064

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the presentation of a report identifying a location for an inclement weather shelter for homeless persons in the city of Richmond when the outdoor or wind chill temperature falls to 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below, when the outdoor temperature rises to 92 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, or when the forecast includes an accumulation of precipitation of one inch or more in a 24-hour period, a hurricane, a tornado, or high winds.

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding Consent Agenda items prior to the Formal City Council meeting. All written comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the Council prior to the meeting and are included as an appendix to the December 14, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

Public Hearing

Ryan K. Smith, Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), History Department faculty member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-240, and informed Council of his work regarding historic burial grounds in Richmond City. Dr. Smith stated it was essential that the city preserve the burial ground referenced in ORD. 2020-240. Mr. Smith requested Council refrain from transferring the property to private ownership, as he believed the city would have the necessary resources to properly honor the cemetery and those buried there.

Lenora McQueen spoke in support of ORD. 2020-240, and thanked Council for its adoption of ORD. 2020-213 at a previous Council meeting. Ms. McQueen stated ORD. 2020-240 was a companion ordinance to ORD. 2020-213, and that it would help complete the acquisition of necessary land to honor those laid to rest at the burial ground referenced in the proposed ordinance.

Cyane Crump, Historic Richmond executive director, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-240, and stated the ordinance was necessary to prevent the destruction of the burial ground from potential development in the area.

Councilor Ellen Robertson stated her support for ORD. 2020-240 and for Lenora McQueen's efforts to preserve the burial ground referenced in ORD. 2020-240.

Councilor Kim Gray stated her appreciation of the work Lenora McQueen and other advocates who worked to secure the preservation of the burial ground referenced in ORD. 2020-

240. Councilor Gray stated additional work would be required to completely understand the boundaries of the burial ground.

Vice President Chris Hilbert stated his support for ORD. 2020-240, and addressed the need to properly honor those buried in the referenced burial ground.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Lincoln Saunders shared the mayor's appreciation for Council's consideration of ORD. 2020-240 and the work of Lenora McQueen.

President Cynthia Newbille stated her support for ORD. 2020-240, and expressed her appreciation of the work Lenora McQueen and other advocates put forward in preserving and memorializing a sacred piece of Richmond history.

There were no further comments or discussions and the **Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted.**

REGULAR AGENDA

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2020-153

To rename that portion of U.S. Route 1, known as Jefferson Davis Highway and located within the corporate boundaries of the City, from its northerly terminus at its intersection with Hull Street to its southerly terminus at the corporate limits of the City near its intersection with Walmsley Boulevard, as "Richmond Highway."

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding ORD. 2020-153 prior to the Formal City Council meeting. All written comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the Council prior to the meeting and are included as an appendix to the December 14, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

Public Hearing

Jim Goodin spoke in support of ORD. 2020-153, and stated his appreciation for Council's action to rename Jefferson Davis Highway. Mr. Goodin expressed his belief that other streets named after Confederate officers should also be renamed.

Vice President Chris Hilbert stated his support for ORD. 2020-153.

Councilor Kristen Larson stated her support for ORD. 2020-153, and requested to be added as a co-patron.

President Cynthia Newbille and Councilors Andreas Addison, Stephanie Lynch and Michael Jones requested to be added as co-patrons.

There were no further comments or discussions and **ORD. 2020-153 was unanimously adopted.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2020-177

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 618 North 32nd Street and 620 North 32nd Street for the purpose of permitting the expansion of an existing adult care residence from 27 residents to 40 residents, upon certain terms and conditions.

Mathew Ebinger, Principal Planner and City Planning Commission secretary, provided additional information regarding ORD. 2020-177. Mr. Ebinger informed Council that the City Planning Commission recommended the request be denied and that the proposed ordinance be rejected.

There were no further comments or discussions and **ORD. 2020-177 was rejected:** Ayes None. Noes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Abstentions 1, Lynch.

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2020-226

To amend Ord. No. 2013-156-154, adopted Sept. 9, 2013, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2013-208-197, adopted Oct. 28, 2013, which authorized the special use of the property known as 2501 Monument Avenue for the purpose of a museum for architecture and design and a lodging unit and imposed as a condition on the special use of such property a 150-person attendance limit for all reception events, to permit a dwelling unit and retail space and to impose as a condition on the special use of such property a 300-person attendance limit for all reception events instead of a 150-person attendance limit for all reception events.

Public Hearing

Susan Delgado stated she was a homeowner near the Branch Museum of Architecture and Design located at 2501 Monument Avenue. Ms. Delgado expressed her concerns with the proposed changes to the special use permit referenced in ORD. 2020-226, and requested consideration of the ordinance be continued to allow for additional discussion between the Branch Museum and neighbors.

Eric Holzwarth informed Council he was an owner of a condo near the Branch Museum, and stated he and additional condo owners in his building objected to the changes proposed for the special use permit referenced in ORD. 2020-226. Mr. Holzwarth expressed his concerns with the potential increase of outdoor events. Mr. Holzwarth also stated he believed the increased outdoor events would lead to much more noise and disorderly conduct in the surrounding neighborhood. Mr. Holzwarth requested consideration be continued to allow more time to discuss potential solutions.

Laura Friese stated she lived near the Branch Museum and requested Council continue consideration of ORD. 2020-226 to allow additional time for parties to discuss potential solutions. Ms. Friese informed Council she was concerned about the additional noise that would result from an increase to the number of allowable events.

David Porter spoke in opposition to ORD. 2020-226, and stated he would be negatively impacted by the increase in allowable events at the Branch Museum.

Walter Dotts, Branch Museum of Architecture and Design Board of Trustees member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226, and stated it would allow the Branch Museum to increase revenue while recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Laura Cameron, Branch Museum of Architecture and Design Advisory Council member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226. Ms. Cameron stated the increase in allowable events at the Branch Museum was necessary to create enough revenue for the museum to remain active.

Julie Weissend, Branch Museum of Architecture and Design Advisory Council member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226, and stated the Branch Museum took great efforts to address issues raised by surrounding residents. Ms. Weissend also stated adoption of the ordinance was necessary to ensure the Branch Museum's survival.

Jennifer Mullen, Roth Jackson member, on behalf of the Branch Museum of Architecture and Design, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226, and stated the ordinance was necessary to ensure the sustainability of the Branch Museum. Ms. Mullen provided a list of surrounding neighborhood associations that supported the change to the special use permit.

Penny Fletcher, Branch Museum of Architecture and Design Board of Trustees executive director, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226, and stated the proposed request was amended to accommodate neighboring residents and their concerns. Ms. Fletcher also stated neighbors had the ability to call the Branch Museum on a designated telephone line to alert staff about any issues as a result of an event.

Reverend Kenny Callaghan, Metropolitan Community Church pastor, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226, and stated the Branch Museum staff goes to great lengths to accommodate neighboring residents and their concerns.

Bill Gallasch, Monument Preservation Society (MAPS) president, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-226, and stated MAPS was in favor of the change to the special use permit for the Branch Museum.

Cyane Crump, Historic Richmond executive director, spoke in support for ORD. 2020-226, and stated the changes to the special use permit for the Branch Museum were appropriate and reasonable.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch stated her support for ORD. 2020-226, and noted the Branch Museum's efforts to accommodate surrounding neighbors.

Councilor Kim Gray stated her support for ORD. 2020-226, and noted a delay in approving the changes to the special use permit would negatively impact the Branch Museum's ability to schedule future events such as weddings.

There were no further comments or discussions and **ORD. 2020-226 was unanimously adopted.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2020-236

To approve the action of the City Planning Commission adopting "Richmond 300: A Guide for Growth" as the Master Plan of the City of Richmond, and to repeal Ord. No. 2000-371-2001-11, adopted Jan. 8, 2001, and all amendments thereto, with the exception of the Riverfront Plan as contained in Ord. No. 2012-202-190, adopted Nov. 26, 2012, the VUU/Chamberlayne Neighborhood Plan as contained in Ord. No. 2016-002, adopted Feb. 8, 2016, the Pulse Corridor Plan as contained in Ord. No. 2017-127, adopted Jul. 24, 2017, the Riverfront Plan as contained in Ord. No. 2017-148, adopted Sept. 25, 2017, the Public Art Master Plan as contained in Ord. No. 2018-205, adopted Sept. 24, 2018, and the James River Park Systems Master Plan as contained in Ord. No. 2019-337, adopted Jan. 27, 2020.

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding ORD. 2020-236 prior to the Formal City Council meeting. All written comments received by the Office of the City Clerk were provided to members of the Council prior to the meeting and are included as an appendix to the December 14, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

Public Hearing

Rob Jones spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the Richmond 300 Plan would help provide more affordable housing options in the city.

Gray O'Dwyer, Richmond 300 Advisory Council member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, but stated she was concerned the Richmond 300 Plan did not go far enough to protect Richmond's historic resources.

Max Hepp-Buchanan, Richmond 300 Advisory Council vice chair, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the Richmond 300 Plan was designed to provide guidance on how to best address issues as the city grows.

Louise Lockett Gordon, Richmond 300 Advisory Council member, Bike Walk RVA director, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the Richmond 300 Plan would promote better transit in the city. Ms. Gordon also stated the Richmond 300 Plan was a guide towards a connected and healthy city.

Dr. Damian Pitt, Ph.D., Richmond 300 Advisory Council member, Virginia Commonwealth University associate professor, Urban and Regional Studies and Planning Program chair, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the development of the Richmond 300 Plan was an inclusive process. Dr. Pitt also stated that the plan provided a blueprint for smart growth in the city and could be amended in the future as needed.

Ansley Perkins spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated she attended several meetings regarding the development of the Richmond 300 Plan. Ms. Perkins also stated the plan was not perfect, but requested Council still adopt ORD. 2020-236.

Jonathan Bibbs, Richmond 300 Advisory Council member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the plan was the result of years of hard work by several individuals who care about the future of the city. Mr. Bibbs also stated the plan represented a triumph for transparency and collaboration.

Stewart Schwartz, Partnership for Smarter Growth vice president and policy chair, stated the Richmond 300 Plan was a huge step forward for the city, but noted the plan did not adequately address affordable housing issues in the city. Mr. Schwartz also stated the city should look to utilize the plan to promote affordable housing options through necessary legislation.

Jonathan Marcus, on behalf of the RVA Coalition of Concerned Civic Associations, stated the coalition did not believe the Richmond 300 Plan was prepared enough for a final vote by Council. Mr. Marcus also stated that the Richmond 300 Plan encountered many land use category changes during development in 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public participation was greatly hindered in that process.

Stephen Wade, Partnership for Smarter Growth board member, stated the Richmond 300 Plan had many strengths, but expressed his concerns about equity related to the public participation process during the development of the plan. Mr. Wade also expressed his concerns that the plan did not sufficiently address affordable housing in the city.

Elisabeth Price, Historic Richmond preservation specialist, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, but noted the Richmond 300 Plan could be improved. Ms. Price requested Council look to increase public participation opportunities in the planning process and also delay changes to the land use categories for Shockoe Bottom and Rocketts Landing.

Philip Hart, Westhampton Citizens Association (WCA) president, stated he and the WCA were concerned with the change of the residential land use category for certain neighborhoods to a mixed-use category. Mr. Hart also stated his concerns with increased density within single-family home neighborhoods and the potential development of excessively high buildings in the city.

Sabastian Shetty Partnership for Smarter Growth coordinator for policy and administration, requested Council amend the Richmond 300 Plan to promote more affordable

housing in the city and to protect residents of Richmond Redevelopment Housing Authority properties from displacement.

LaToya Gray Sparks, Richmond 300 Advisory Council member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the plan would help elevate marginalized and isolated communities in the city.

Charles Pool stated his concerns with the Richmond 300 Plan changing the land use category for the Oregon Hill neighborhood from a residential category to a mixed-use category. Mr. Pool requested Council not rush the process for approving the plan.

Monica Lozano, Richmond 300 Advisory Council member, spoke in support of ORD. 2020-236, and stated the Advisory Council took great efforts to promote and provide public participation opportunities regarding the development of the plan.

Rodney Poole, City Planning Commission chair, Richmond 300 Advisory Council chair, spoke in support ORD. 2020-236, and stated the Advisory Council consisted of a diverse group of people that represented several areas of the city. Mr. Poole informed Council that the City Planning Commission and Richmond 300 Advisory Council both supported the Richmond 300 Plan.

Trip Pollard, on behalf of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), stated the SPLC supported most components of the Richmond 300 Plan, but noted more work was needed to address affordable housing. Mr. Pollard also stated his concerns with how the change of the Shockoe Bottom land use category would impact future plans for the area. Mr. Pollard requested Council move quickly to adopt potential amendments to address the concerns raised.

Kerthy Hearn requested that Council pause on adopting the Richmond 300 Plan and to review possible amendments that would address affordable housing, growth balance, and preservation of historical neighborhoods.

Allan-Charles Chipman spoke in support ORD. 2020-236, and stated the Richmond 300 Plan would help address discriminatory city planning put forth by prior plans of the city. Mr. Chipman however expressed his concerns that the plan would allow for the demolition of Richmond Redevelopment Housing Authority properties, which could lead to displaced citizens who utilize public housing.

Councilor Ellen Robertson stated she believed the Richmond 300 Plan would help address many issues facing the city. Ms. Robertson also stated she informed city staff of her concerns for certain components of the plan, such as the designation of priority zones for development in certain parts of the city. Ms. Robertson requested that Council move quickly to review and implement possible amendments to the plan if it is adopted in its current form.

Councilor Andreas Addison stated he believed the Richmond 300 Plan promoted the idea of equity and inclusivity. Mr. Addison also stated the plan was not perfect, but that the plan was at the right stage to be adopted and then amended by Council as needed.

Councilor Kim Gray addressed the mistrust many neighborhood communities have with city planning, and stated she hoped that more diverse input would be allowed in the urban planning process in the future. Ms. Gray also stated she would support the Richmond 300 Plan, but hoped possible amendments could be implemented to address her concerns regarding affordable housing.

Vice President Chris Hilbert stated he supported the Richmond 300 plan, but noted he was concerned that the plan did not address affordable housing enough. Vice President Hilbert also stated he hoped Council moving forward would better provide for communities that are isolated from opportunities in the city.

Councilor Kristen Larson stated she was in favor of the Richmond 300 Plan, and requested Council move forward quickly with potential amendments needed to address certain components of the plan.

Councilor Michael Jones stated he supported the Richmond 300 Plan, and noted potential amendments that would improve the plan and address affordable housing.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell shared her appreciation that the Richmond 300 Plan included recommendations from the Task Force on the Economic Revitalization of South Richmond. Councilwoman Trammell expressed her concerns with the lack of grocery stores and affordable housing options in certain areas of the city.

President Cynthia Newbille expressed her appreciation for city staff and citizens for their efforts put toward drafting and developing the Richmond 300 Plan. President Newbille stated more work was required to improve the plan, and that legislation would be introduced in January to capture potential amendments submitted by Council members that would address concerns with the plan.

There were no further comments or discussions and **ORD. 2020-236 was unanimously adopted.**

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2020-238

To adopt a new Code of the City of Richmond, Virginia; to repeal the Code of the City of Richmond, Virginia, 2015; to prescribe the effect of such repeal; and to provide for the manner of amending the new City Code.

Vice President Chris Hilbert provided additional information regarding the proposed ordinance, and informed Council the ordinance would align Richmond City Code with the Code of Virginia.

Interim City Attorney Haskell Brown confirmed Vice President Hilbert's statements regarding the updates necessary to the Richmond City Code.

Member Kim Gray stated she believed the city should utilize its membership in the Virginia Municipal League to better stay informed with changes to the Code of Virginia.

There were no further comments or discussions and **ORD. 2020-238 was unanimously adopted.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2020-R061

To request the Richmond delegation to the General Assembly of Virginia to introduce and support the enactment of legislation to amend section 5.05(a) of the Charter of the City of Richmond to provide that the Mayor or the designee thereof may attend any closed meeting of the Council only if permitted by the Council pursuant to § 2.2-3712(F) of the Code of Virginia.

President Cynthia Newbille provided additional information regarding the Virginia General Assembly Richmond delegation's preference for consensus between Council and the mayor regarding changes to the City Charter. President Newbille noted that Council could take the opportunity for a more comprehensive review of the City Charter to identify additional potential amendments.

Councilor Kristen Larson stated the mayor would never approve of the request submitted in the proposed resolution and requested that all of Council show unity in the request to amend the City

Charter. Councilor Larson also stated her concerns with delaying the request to allow for a more comprehensive review of other potential City Charter amendments.

Councilor Kim Gray stated she supported the request, and suggested Council also move for an additional change to the City Charter to allow for separate legal counsel to represent the mayor and Council.

Vice President Chris Hilbert stated his support for the proposed request, and expressed his concerns regarding certain items within the City Charter. Vice President Hilbert suggested Council look to hire an outside consultant to examine potential changes to the City Charter.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell stated her concerns with potential changes the mayor could request from members of the Virginia General Assembly if the City Charter was allowed to be amended.

Councilor Ellen Robertson stated she agreed with Councilwoman Trammell regarding the potential of unknown changes being made to the City Charter if amendments were allowed to proceed. Councilor Robertson also stated she agreed with the suggestion that Council hire an outside consultant to review potential changes to the City Charter.

Councilor Michael Jones also stated he agreed with Councilwoman Trammell regarding the potential of unknown changes being made to the City Charter if amendments were allowed to proceed. Councilor Jones requested to be removed as a co-patron of RES. 2020-R061.

Acting Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Lincoln Saunders stated he believed city administration's inclusion in closed sessions of Council regarding Council appointees was helpful due to the working relationship between appointees and city departments. CAO Saunders informed Council that the mayor preferred a comprehensive review of the City Charter for additional amendments that might be beneficial for the city.

Vice President Chris Hilbert stated he believed the City Charter provided city administration with additional oversight advantages that were not available to Council.

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2020-R061 was rejected:** Ayes 3, Larson, Gray, Hilbert. Noes 6, Jones, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Addison, Newbille.

MOTIONS

Councilor Kim Gray moved that the ordinance entitled:

ORD. 2020-241

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute certain Deeds of Easement between the City of Richmond and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of General Services, for the purpose of granting to the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of General Services, certain perpetual, irrevocable easements on, over, under, and across certain rights-of-way located along North 9th Street, East Franklin Street, East Grace Street, and East Broad Street for the construction or installation of certain improvements and safety and security enhancements as part of the Capitol Complex Infrastructure and Security construction projects.

be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2021, as follows:

Page 1, Line 8

After the first occurrence of the word "Street", strike the comma, the text "East Franklin Street, East Grace Street" and the following comma

Page 2, Line 2

After the first occurrence of the word "Street", strike the comma, the text "East Franklin Street, East Grace Street" and the following comma

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Lynch, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes None. Larson was excused.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch moved that the resolution entitled:

RES. 2020-R060

To endorse, for the City of Richmond, legislative proposals set forth within the document entitled "City of Richmond Legislative Proposals for the Virginia General Assembly 2021 Regular Session;" to request the Richmond delegation to the General Assembly of Virginia to take legislative action consistent with and in vigorous support of such recommendations; to support other legislative action recommendations; and to encourage other organizations and individuals to support such recommendations.

be amended and considered as follows:

Page 1, Line 6

After the word "Session", insert a comma followed by the word "Revised"

Page 1, Line 17

After the word "Session", insert a comma followed by the word "Revised"

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

President Cynthia Newbille provided additional information regarding the amendment to Council's legislative proposals for the Virginia General Assembly 2021 Regular Session.

Interim City Attorney provided additional information regarding language that was amended related to gray machines used for gaming.

Councilor Kim Gray inquired about the legislative request that cities and towns be authorized to permit bicyclists to treat stop signs as yield signs.

Councilor Andreas Addison stated the request would increase the ability of bicyclists to avoid car accidents and to navigate through the city safely.

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2020-R060 was unanimously adopted.**

Councilor Ellen Robertson moved that the ordinance entitled:

ORD. 2020-217

To close to public travel certain medians located in Monument Avenue and North Allen Avenue at or near General Robert E. Lee Circle, to retain the City's legal interests in such medians, and to designate such medians as official City Parks, upon certain terms and conditions.

be amended and continued to Monday, January 11, 2021, as follows:

Page 1, Line 19

After the romanette “(i)”, strike the text “a portion of the median, beginning one foot behind the paved crosswalk, located in Monument Avenue west of the property known as General Robert E. Lee Circle at the intersection of Monument Avenue and North Allen Avenue, labeled as “Parcel A,” and consisting of approximately 27,000 square feet; (ii) a portion of the median, beginning one foot behind the paved crosswalk, located in North Allen Avenue south of the property known as General Robert E. Lee Circle at the intersection of North Allen Avenue and Monument Avenue, labeled as “Parcel B,” and consisting of approximately 13,500 square feet; (iii) a portion of the median, beginning one foot behind the paved crosswalk, located in Monument Avenue east of the property known as General Robert E. Lee Circle at the intersection of Monument Avenue and North Allen Avenue, labeled as “Parcel C,” and consisting of approximately 28,000 square feet; (iv)”

Page 2, Line 13

After the second occurrence of the word “and”, strike the romanette “(v)” and insert a romanette “(ii)”

Page 4, Line 13

After the word “Parks”, insert the parenthetical text “(Revised December 14, 2020)”

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes None. Lynch was excused.

Councilor Michael Jones moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Lynch, Gray, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes None. Trammell was excused.

RES. 2020-R066

To express support for the request by the County of Henrico that the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development approve its application to amend its portion of Zone III (formerly known as the North Enterprise Zone); and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the Joint Amendment Agreement indicating the City’s support for the County’s application.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Leonard Sledge, Department of Economic Development director, provided an introduction of RES. 2020-R066.

There were no comments or discussions and **RES. 2020-R065 was adopted:** Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Lynch, Gray, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes None. Trammell was excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Kim Gray moved to approve the minutes of the following Richmond City Council meetings: Informal and Formal Council Sessions held on Monday, November 9, 2020, at 4:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m., respectively; Special Meeting held on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolutions on Monday, January 11, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2020-251

To amend Ord. No. 2020-049, adopted May 11, 2020, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by re-appropriating a \$5,780,000.00 portion of the calculated general fund surplus for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 to the Non-Departmental agency "OPEB Trust" line item for the purpose of funding a contribution to the trust established by § 1 of Ord. No. 2018-196, adopted Jul. 23, 2018.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

ORD. 2020-252

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$2,256.60 from the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services, and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' Four for Life Program Special Fund by \$2,256.60 for the purpose of supporting emergency medical services.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

ORD. 2020-253

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$5,000.00 from The Hartford; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services called The Hartford Special Fund; and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' The Hartford Special Fund by \$5,000.00 for the purpose of supporting fire safety education programs.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

ORD. 2020-254

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$60,165.09 from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services called the Assistance to Firefighter Grant-Supplemental (EMPG-S) Special Fund; and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' Assistance to Firefighter Grant-Supplemental (EMPG-S) Special Fund by \$60,165.09 for the purpose of funding necessary expenditures for personal protective equipment and supplies due to the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

ORD. 2020-255

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$74,804.00 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Emergency Management; to amend the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by creating a new special fund for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services called the 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant-Supplemental (EMPG-S) Special Fund; and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services' 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant-Supplemental (EMPG-S) Special Fund by \$74,804.00 for the purpose of funding expenditures for personal protective equipment and supplies needed to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(3)(c).

ORD. 2020-256

To amend ch. 2, art. V of the City Code by adding therein a new div. 11 (§§ 2-1035—2-1039) for the purpose of establishing a Participatory Budgeting Steering Commission.

Patrons: Mr. Addison and Ms. Larson

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-257

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute appropriate documents releasing the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority and its successors in interest from the reversionary right of the City contained in a certain special warranty deed concerning the property known as 30 West Jackson Street for the purpose of allowing the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority to sell the property for the development of a rental housing project for low-income residents.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-258

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Access Easement between the City of Richmond and AT Artisan LLC and American Tobacco Holdings LLC, for the purpose of granting an access easement to a portion of City-owned real property located at 400 Jefferson Davis Highway to AT Artisan LLC and American Tobacco Holdings LLC.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-259

To declare a public necessity for and to authorize the acquisition from Westmoreland Place Association of an easement of right-of-way over, upon, across, and through the streets located in the Westmoreland Place subdivision and known as Westmoreland Place, Virginia Avenue, Bolling Avenue, Powhatan Avenue, Rolfe Road, a portion of Pocahontas Avenue, and a portion of Charmian Road for public right-of-way purposes, and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on

behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Agreement between the City and Westmoreland Place Association in connection therewith.

Patron: Mr. Addison

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-260

To designate the 1200 and 1300 blocks of Idlewood Avenue in honor of Larry Jerome Bland.

Patron: Ms. Lynch

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-261

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 30-420.1, 30-420.1:1, and 30-420.2, concerning permitted uses in the R-73 Multifamily Residential District; 30-426.1, 30-426.1:1, and 30-426.2, concerning permitted uses in the RO-2 Residential-Office District; 30-432.1, concerning permitted uses in the I Institutional District; 30-434.1 concerning permitted uses in the B-1 Neighborhood Business District; 30-436.1, concerning permitted uses in the B-2 Community Business District; 30-438.1 and 30-438.2, concerning permitted uses in the B-3 General Business District; 30-440.1 and 30-440.2, concerning permitted uses in the B-4 Central Business District; 30-450.1, concerning permitted uses in the OS Office-Service District; 30-452.1, concerning permitted principal and accessory uses in the M-1 Light Industrial District; 30-1045.6, concerning specific conditions applicable to particular uses, and 30-1220, concerning certain definitions; to amend ch. 30. art. VI of the City Code by adding therein a new div. 15 (§§ 30-698—30.698.3), concerning specific conditions applicable to particular uses; and to amend ch. 30, art. XII of the City Code by adding therein new sections 30-1220.32:1, 30-1220.84:1, 30-1220.84:2, 30-1220.95:1, 30-1220.95:2, 30-1220.120:1, and 30-1220.122:1.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-262

To declare a public necessity for and to authorize the acquisition of the parcels of real property owned by Harry and Betty Loving, LLC and Loving's Produce, LLC and known as 200 North 17th Street, 208 North 17th Street, 212 North 17th Street, 214 North 17th Street, 220 North 17th Street, 222 North 17th Street, 103 Ambler Street, 1600 East Franklin Street, 1604 East Franklin Street, 1606 East Franklin Street, 1610 East Franklin Street, and 1601 East Grace Street for the purpose of the planned Enslaved African Heritage Campus in Shockoe Bottom in the city of Richmond.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-263

To amend Ord. No. 2019-203, adopted Sept. 9, 2019, which authorized the special use of the property known as 3111 Q Street for the purpose of a two-family detached dwelling, to authorize two single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-264

To authorize the special use of the property known as 111 Spring Street for the purpose of a parking deck, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-265

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2515 Rear Hanover Avenue for the purpose of a single-family detached dwelling, storage, a parking area, and a community garden, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-266

To authorize the special use of the property known as 3419 2nd Avenue for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-267

To authorize the special use of the property known as 4016 Newport Drive for the purpose of an existing detached storage shed accessory to an existing single-family dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-268

To authorize the special use of the property known as 406 Rear West Franklin Street for the purpose of a two-unit tourist home within an existing structure, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-269

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 502, 504, 506, 508, 512, and 514 Westview Avenue for the purpose of up to 12 single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-270

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 509 Libbie Avenue and 511 Libbie Avenue for the purpose of up to 14 single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-271

To authorize the special use of the property known as 7048 Forest Hill Avenue for the purpose of a freestanding sign, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1:30 p.m.

RES. 2020-R067

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer consult with the Office of the City Attorney concerning the preparation of an amendment to a conservation and open-space easement on the property generally known as Bandy Field Park to the Friends of Bandy Field, Inc., for the purpose of adding the Capital Region Land Conservancy as a grantee to the Bandy Field conservation and open-space easement, and requesting that the Chief Administrative Officer to cause the planned, but not constructed streets that are currently excluded from the conservation easement to be extinguished, and incorporate these vacated rights-of-way into Bandy Field Park.

Patron: Mr. Addison

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 12:00 p.m.

RES. 2020-R068

To reiterate the request made in Res. No. 2020-R053, adopted Sept. 28, 2020, 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.

Patron: Mr. Jones

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

RES. 2020-R069

To approve the issuance by the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds in an amount up to \$15,215,000.00 for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of an approximately 121-unit multifamily residential rental housing project to be known as Holly Springs Apartments located at 801 Holly Springs Avenue in the city of Richmond.

Patron: Ms. Trammell

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

RES. 2020-R070

To approve the issuance by the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds in an amount up to \$9,300,000.00 for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of an approximately 62-unit multifamily residential rental housing project to be known as Swansboro Apartments located at 3600 East Broad Rock Road and 3601 East Broad Rock Road in the City of Richmond.

Patron: Ms. Trammell

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

RES. 2020-R071

To designate the property known as 3100 Nine Mile Road as a revitalization area pursuant to Va. Code § 36-55.30:2.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

RES. 2020-R072

To express support for stronger protections and inclusive policies at local shelters for the care and protection of LGBTQ+ people experiencing homelessness in compliance with the Virginia Values Act.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney and Ms. Lynch

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Education and Human Services Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, January 7, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances on Monday, February 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2020-272

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Agreement for Mutual Aid Fire and Rescue Services Among Designated Localities in Central Virginia between the City of Richmond, Virginia, and certain localities within the Commonwealth of Virginia and certain entities for the purpose of establishing cooperation between the City's Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the fire and rescue departments and agencies of certain localities and certain entities in the furnishing of certain fire and rescue services.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Public Safety Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-273

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, and the City of Richmond, on Behalf of the Richmond Department of Fire and Emergency Services Water Rescue Team Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Richmond, Virginia, and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Emergency Management, for the purpose of establishing cooperation between the City's Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Emergency Management in the furnishing of certain swiftwater rescue services.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Public Safety Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-274

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Virginia Port Authority Maritime Incident Response Team Operating Agreement between the City of Richmond, Virginia, and the Virginia Port Authority, for the purpose of establishing cooperation between the City's Department of Fire and Emergency Services and the Virginia Port Authority in the furnishing of certain maritime incident response services.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Public Safety Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinance on Monday, February 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2020-275

To erect all-way stop signs at the intersection of Lamont Street and Wilmington Avenue.

Patron: Vice President Hilbert

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

REPORTS OR ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Members of Council provided reports and announcements regarding respective district meetings and activities.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch left the meeting.

Councilor Kristen Larson left the meeting.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell left the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

CITY CLERK

From: [Yohance Whitaker](#)
To: [Reid, Candice D. - Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Written Comment
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:58:39 AM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Ms. Reid,

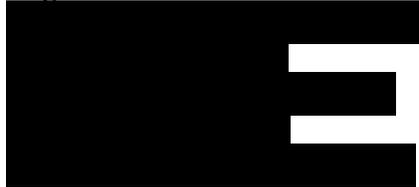
I hope you are in good health. I would like to submit written comment to the members of Council. The comment is attached. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you so much for your assistance.

Take care,
Yohance

--

Yohance Whitaker (he/him)
Organizer, Civil Rights & Racial Justice Program
Legal Aid Justice Center



The content of this email is confidential and intended only for the recipient specified in the message. Please do not share any part of this message with anyone else without written consent of the sender. If you received this message by mistake, please reply to this message so that we can ensure such a mistake does not occur in the future, and then delete it.

Richmond Transparency and Accountability Project

Policy Position on the Independence of CRBs

Background

Civilian oversight remains of paramount importance in Richmond, without which RPD will continue to police itself without any meaningful accountability. Although there is no one-size-fits-all type of civilian oversight, RTAP advocates for a system which helps to enhance public safety, broadly understood; provides meaningful responses to civilian complaints; includes access to and analysis of policing data; the ability to recommend changes to police department policies; authority to access financial information and make budgetary recommendations; promotes trust through continued transparency and open communication between RPD and the Richmond community; and other systemic proactive activities.

Partners

The Richmond Transparency & Accountability Project has worked with numerous community organizations, including New Virginia Majority, Southerners on New Ground, Justice & Reformation for Marcus-David Peters, Legal Aid Justice Center, and many others. We have knocked on hundreds of doors and spoken to countless community members in our most over-policed neighborhoods. As City Council developed Ordinance No. 2020-155, we provided consultation to Councilmembers Stephanie Lynch, Mike Jones, Andreas Addison, Kim Gray, and Kristen Larson. Additionally, we provided two public comments to outline our position at the City Council meeting on June 22, 2020.

Policy Position

The Public Safety Committee recommended that two former law enforcement officers be members of the task force toward the establishment of civilian oversight. This neither reflects RTAP's commitments to building community agency nor best practices of civilian oversight. By definition, civilian oversight is external from the police department. The task force and subsequent civilian review board must be completely independent of law enforcement in order to independently analyze police data and policies; give community members a sense of agency in regard to how they are being policed; mitigate against bias and build trust in our public institutions; and would violate new state law (SB 5035 and HB 5055).

Recommendation

RTAP recommends that the City Council maintain the independence of this process and subsequent Civilian Review Board by voting against law enforcement officers on this task force. We recommend that Eli Coston, Edward Miller, Keith Turner, and Roger Hunt be appointed as members of this task force.

From: [Tyler Wiseman](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Public comment on ORD. 2020-217
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 11:12:16 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I'd like to submit comment on ORD. 2020-217 regarding the restriction of access to the Robert E. Lee circle.

Designating this area a park is a thinly veiled attempt to restrict access to an area that has become incredibly important to this city's community. In fairness, for all intensive purposes, this area *has* acted like a park all summer to the folks who have reclaimed it as their own. However, to designate the area as a park legally, without any attempts to include the community in that process, is shameful and cowardly. And VERY reminiscent of Jim Crow era sundown town laws.

I'm appalled that Council would consider this ordinance, given the racist history of curfews and sundown towns which were often enacted to keep black folks away from white areas after a certain time of day (or at any time of day in some cases). Considering the covenants in place historically on Monument Avenue that prohibited black people from owning homes in the area, you really have to wonder why this ordinance is on the table...

Even more pertinent, enacting curfews in response to unrest has proven time and again to only cause more tension and more unrest. And a greater incarceration rate for black folks, as they are disproportionately targeted. Curfews simply don't work.

Please see the quote below from an article by Linda Poon from Bloomberg, written in June of this year

One of the earliest uses of curfews to quell unrest was during the Harlem riots of 1943 in New York City, which were sparked by the police shooting of a Black soldier. But more generally, the restrictions became a popular riot-control tool beginning in the 1960s, including during uprisings in Philadelphia and Rochester in 1964, and the 1965 Watts riots in Los Angeles. They were used in L.A. riots of 1992, ignited by the police beating of Rodney King. And more recently, Ferguson, Missouri, was placed under curfew following protests over the police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in 2014.

"When authorities come after the riots, they want order, and one of the ways is to impose curfews," said Anderson. In doing so, though, they create tension and resistance instead. The deployment of local police and military troops that often accompanied the curfews injected more chaos — the kind that cities claimed to be preventing. Meanwhile, images and stories of chaos and violence often became the rationale for imposing blanket curfews, even if perpetrators made up only a small proportion of protesters. These curfews give police officers a new justification for arrests, and have often resulted in mass incarceration of Black citizens.

Have we learned nothing?

I really hope council will think long and hard on this matter, and strike this ordinance down. Doom it to history where it belongs.

Sincerely,

A very considered citizen and public historian

From: [Susan Vial](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Fwd: 2020-242 1601 Park Ave Special Use Permit Amendment
Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 1:46:30 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Susan Vial [REDACTED]
Date: November 24, 2020 at 1:39:18 PM EST
Subject: 2020-242 -1601 Park Ave Special Use Permit Amendment

As an owner of property, very near to 1601 Park Ave, I object strongly to the approval of the Special Use Permit. My concerns are as follows:

1. Outdoor dining blocks the sidewalk which is often used by families on their way to the children's park immediately across Lombardy from 1601 Park. To accommodate outdoor dining, pedestrians would be forced much closer to the busy and dangerous street including the corner of Lombardy and Park.
2. Outdoor dining also adds significantly to noise in a residential neighborhood.
3. Increased interior (and outdoor) seating will inevitably result in increased traffic and the need for additional parking, which is already in very limited supply in the neighborhood. Many of the homes, in the immediate area, do not have access to off street parking and residents often have to park a block or more away from their homes.
Parking is already very "competitive".

In conclusion, adding to the need for more parking, blocking safe sidewalk passage and increasing noise levels with no apparent provision to accommodate it, is irresponsible and unfair to residents as well as to would be diners.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edward Swibold / private](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Ordinance #2020-242:Special Use Permit Amendment for 1601 Park Avenue
Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 2:22:24 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Candice Reid, City Clerk and City Council

I am a property owner and live a half block away from 1601 Park Avenue. I strenuously object to the proposed Special Use Permit Amendment for the property at issue. The present exterior seating crowds a narrow sidewalk requiring pedestrians to legally socially distance by passing in the street between parked cars or dodging traffic often with dogs or small children in tow. Prior to the "Covid" fear and social distancing restrictions the sidewalk was too narrow for cafe use. Even without seating the subject properties sidewalk is often crowded with garbage/recycling bins and undetermined runoff from the back of the building. The place is an eyesore now with over grown planters and strategically placed bathtubs. I can only imagine how well it will be appointed when they have more space. Additional seating inside and out will reduce the available parking in an already congested area. When the students return from their Covid time off, the noise on Thursday - Sunday evenings will be exponentially worse, and the smell of fried food and burnt toast will be even more pervasive.

I think it's a bad idea that will continue to be poorly executed without provision for additional parking, noise and smell mitigation as well as actively maintaining their surroundings in accordance with the law and decency commiserate with the neighborhood.

Respectfully,

From: [CATHERINE WELSH](#)
To: [PDR Land Use Admin](#); [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Comments on Ord.No. 2020-250
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:56:50 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the Richmond City Planning Committee and Richmond City Council,
I would like to voice my opposition to Ordinance No. 2020-250: the rezoning of Old Jahnke Rd. from R-1 Single Family Residential to RO-2 Residential and Office.

The properties in question provide a sight and sound barrier between Jahnke Rd. and the Westover Gardens Community. Jahnke Rd. serves as one of the major corridors for traffic flow from and to Chesterfield County and I am sure there are traffic studies to verify this intense traffic flow especially during peak rush hours. A change in zoning and subsequent building of offices and parking lots would change this community forever.

Westover Gardens is a quiet wooded neighborhood and the only single family residential community in that area and should be protected from encroachment. There are apartment complexes, townhouses and condominiums but this is the only single family community.

Medical offices aplenty exist on Hioaks Rd. and vacant land is begging for development on Carnation Rd. for the inevitable growth around land-locked Chippenham Hospital.

Please do not change the zoning but allow these properties on Old Jahnke Rd. to remain R-1 Single Family Residential.

Thank you for your kind attention to my request.

Catherine Welsh
[REDACTED]

From: [VIOLA BASKERVILLE](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Councilmembers](#)
Subject: Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:38:08 PM

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Dear Clerk and Members of City Council:

I am writing in support of Ordinance 2020-240 which would allow the City to accept title of the property located at 1305 North 5th Street to be preserved as a historic burial ground. This sacred space must be preserved as a significance piece of Richmond's history and in honor and remembrance of those souls who were laid to rest there. This item is on your docket for December 14, 2020.

Sincerely,

Viola O. Baskerville

Resident: Second District

From: [Elaine Phillips](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Passing Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 1:12:29 PM

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Hello,

I am writing to encourage the Richmond City Council to support ordinance 2020-240, the companion to ordinance 2020-213 to purchase the site of the 2nd African Burying Ground. This site is of paramount importance to our city's individual history, and indeed the history of our nation. It's not what lies there now for us to see, but what was once there in that space and has since been mostly destroyed over time. This ground is sacred. It is perhaps the largest burying ground of African Americans during enslavement that existed in our country. Please join with me and countless others in honoring the history of this site by supporting its acknowledgement and preservation. This action is a step forward in reconciling our past with our present.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Elaine Davis Phillips, M.Eds.

From: [Jeffry Burden](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#); [Councilmembers](#)
Subject: Ordinance 2020-24 -- Second African Burial Ground
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:30:06 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Members of the City Council:

I write to urge your vote in favor of Ordinance 2020-240:

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 1305 North 5th Street and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof to accept title to such property for the purpose of preserving the property as a historic burial ground.

The City of Richmond is blessed with an opportunity to expand on the important work now being done to reclaim parts of its history long ignored or suppressed. This parcel, the initial core of a burial ground that expanded to cover almost thirty surrounding acres, is ripe for conservation and interpretation. I trust the proposed Ordinance will meet with your wholehearted support.

Very truly yours,

Jeffry C. Burden
Member, Friends of Shockoe Hill Cemetery
Member, Shockoe Alliance



From: [Haki Shakur](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 6:18:40 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Greetings to those of Richmond City Council my name is Haki Shakur writing this letter dated December 11 2020 I'm writing to you all today to ask those of Richmond city council to please support Ordinance 2020-240 this is a crucial important ordinance for the start to rebuild some important history that has been damaged for me and our African American citizens of Richmond Virginia and others effected by this damaged history! This land is important to the history of African Americans and our ancestry (Ancestors) who are buried on this land with no identification or record of them buried on this land which is called The Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground! There's no historical marker or memorial that represents their memory here. I believe this is start to correct this part of our history which will help with the process of healing and repair for our people! Richmond history is apart of broader history which begins with the beginning of this country's origins and part of that history is the enslavement of African American Ancestors! So I'm asking you all honorably could you support ordinance 2020-240 cause it's the right thing to do so we can start to move forward this is definitely Reparatory justice as well. This land will contribute to that process thank you.

Sincerely Haki Kweli Shakur New Afrikan Independence Movement

Ordinance 2020-240

To declare that a public necessity exists and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 1305 North 5th Street and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof to accept title to such property for the purpose of preserving the property as a historic burial ground.

Patron: Mayor Stoney



From: [REDACTED]
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Support ordinance 2020-240
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:26:31 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Please support ordinance 2020-240. As a Richmond city resident for over 10 years, I have always considered myself lucky to live in such a history rich city. Ensuring that this property is preserved as a historical site is a necessity.

Thank you for your time.
Brett Shiflett

From: [katie mayberry](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Comment on Cold Weather Shelters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:14:20 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you as a long time member of the Richmond community. I have concerns about the availability of shelters for our unhoused community members. Richmond city's treatment of unhoused people is absolutely unacceptable. This gross incompetence is especially prevalent in the winter months. Richmond city must allocate their \$19 million surplus to aid these members of our community. We need a 24 hour hotline for emergency shelter as well as multiple shelters in which ALL individuals in need of a place can stay for EXTENDED periods of time. And, in a more long term goal, Richmond city needs to take responsibility for it's unhoused members and provide resources and housing for those in need. It is appalling how often the Richmond community shoulders the aid and housing of our unhoused community members instead of the government officials of Richmond city properly representing us and taking that role.

I urge you to do better.

We do not want new fancy tourist attractions and we certainly do not want out police outfitted like the military. We do not want our tax money in your pockets. Serve our community like you should. Provide better care and resources for our unhoused community.

Do your job.

Sincerely,
A concerned community member,
Katie Mayberry, 23221

From: [Alexandra Fabrizio](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#); [Councilmembers](#)
Subject: Support Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:43:02 AM

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To whom it may concern,
I am a resident of Richmond and I urge you to support Ordinance 2020-240. This is a vital step to recontextualize Richmond (and Virginia) history that must be taken.

Thank you,
Alexandra Fabrizio



From: [Sarah Freiseis](#)
To: [Councilmembers](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Sarah Freiseis](#)
Subject: Please support Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:13:27 PM

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Hello,

I'm writing to ask you to please support Ordinance 2020-240.

Thank you,
Sarah

From: [Liz Earnest](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office; Councilmembers](#)
Subject: Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 4:02:57 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon,

My name is Elizabeth Earnest and I'm a resident of the 5th district in Richmond. I'm writing today to urge you to support Ordinance 2020-240 tomorrow. Our city needs to recontextualize, protect, and preserve the burial ground on N. 5th Street.

Thank you,
Elizabeth

From: [Mary Lib Morgan](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Fwd: Please support Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 8:58:09 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Richmond City Council Members and Richmond City Clerk,

Although not a city resident, I have lived in the surrounding area for more than fifty years. Recently, I've become much more aware of the longstanding injustices our black brothers and sisters have faced and am advocating along with them in this request to have the property at 1305 North 5th Street be designated a historical burial ground.

Please support Ordinance 2020-240 which declares "that a public necessity exists to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 1305 North 5th Street. The Chief Administrative Officer or the designee is authorized to accept the title to such property for the purpose of preserving the property as a historical burial ground."

Thank you,

Mary Lib Morgan



From: [Erin Hollaway Palmer](#)
To: [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Councilmembers](#)
Cc: [LENORA MCQUEEN](#); [Brian Palmer](#)
Subject: Letter of support for Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:00:25 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Dr. Newbille:

We are writing to support the passage of Ordinance 2020-240, which would allow the City of Richmond to acquire 1305 N. 5th St, a portion of the Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground, for the purposes of preserving it in perpetuity.

As members of the Friends of East End Cemetery, the all-volunteer organization that reclaimed that historic African American cemetery from nature and neglect, we have seen firsthand what happens when sacred ground falls into the hands of an unqualified, nongovernmental owner. It is a tragedy — and an entirely preventable one.

We urge of the City of Richmond to acquire and protect this sacred ground while it has the chance.

Respectfully,
Erin Hollaway Palmer & Brian Palmer

From: [Shannon O'Neill](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Resolution 2020-R064
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:00:05 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

As a city resident and business owner in the city, I have watched people line up weekly down the street from my house at a church for food and/or information on where to go throughout the summer and fall. I've provided phone numbers and money when I can, but when the city has a \$19 million surplus I have to wonder if this is even truly a priority especially when I hear calls are not to the hotline are not always answered. I have been saddened and disappointed to see the reality of a cold weather shelter get batted from the city to other charitable organizations with very little headway made. I truly don't understand how it is December, in the middle of a pandemic, and this is still the case. We cannot rely solely on volunteer run organizations and mutual aid as a stop gap. With the eviction moratorium ending in a few weeks we are going to be facing an unprecedented surge of housing instability.

What is the City is doing to make certain the GRCOC "safety net" cold weather shelter system is working and that those who are seeking shelter are not turned away? Is there an expedited plan in place? I have read too many stories from this past week, one of the coldest this season so far, of people STILL sleeping out on the street in the rain or arriving in time for check-in at the Days Inn only to be turned away due to some loophole of approval or registration. I've volunteered with various organizations and worked with the homeless in the past, so I understand it's not always a linear process finding shelter and support, but it can be from the organizations who claim to help. I urge the city administration to work to streamline policies with the GRCOC and Homeward and/or increase staffing (via volunteers or city staff or other support organizations) to make the "safety net" shelter a guaranteed place people can go.

I understand the need to make sure appropriate information is gathered, but when the reality is a warm bed or a cold street I think an expedited option is in order. Or, at the very least make certain whomever GRCOC orgs Homeward or Commonwealth Catholic Charities have working is actually there until the designated check-in time has expired? Maybe utilize other organizations like Blessing Warriors or Hands On Greater Richmond to get volunteers to help register people earlier in the day, and/or hand out items to help keep them warm?

The work organizations like Blessing Warriors does in the community as boots-on-the-ground, getting people from point A to B, making sure they have food and shelter, is very much needed now more than ever, but I hope our city government can bolster their efforts, not hinder them with red tape and multiple organizations

playing hot potato.

Regards,
Shannon O'Neill

From: [Kimberly Nario](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Councilmembers](#)
Subject: [spam] Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 7:31:09 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I've lived in the City of Richmond since 2006. Please support Ordinance 2020-240! It's the right thing to do.

Thank you!
Kimberly R. Nario

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Timshel Purdum](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office; Councilmembers](#)
Subject: ordinance 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:08:28 AM

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Good morning

I am writing to support ordinance 2020-240 in relation to the city purchase of 1305 North 5th street and authorization of preserving the property as a historic burial ground. It's an important piece of Richmond history that we shouldn't lose. Thank you!

Ms. Timshel Purdum

Resident, Richmond, VA 23223

Timshel

From: [Rebecca Deeds](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#); [Councilmembers](#); [Council Chief of Staff Office](#)
Subject: Support for 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:19:19 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Richmond City Council,

I'm writing to offer my support for Ordinance 2020-240, granting permission for the city to acquire 1305N 5th St. through a tax sale for the purpose of honoring the dead buried there. I am not a resident of Richmond, but a lifelong Virginian; I will begin my term as President of Preservation Piedmont in 2021. I believe a crucial medium for reconciliation in our state includes illuminating, preserving, and protecting the graves of the enslaved Africans, as well as Free People of Colour, so they can be remembered and honored by their descendants and by the public. This would be one step of the healing needed in this nation. We must recognize the oppression of African Americans through systemic racism in the US, which includes the degradation of burial grounds that should have been preserved long ago. Preserving this cemetery and honoring the dead there is the ethical and necessary way forward, so I wanted to communicate my personal support for the City acquiring the parcel.

Best,

Rebecca L. Deeds

From: [Hannah Ayers](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Office](#)
Subject: Letter of support for Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:25:27 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

To the members of City Council:

I'm writing to express my strong support of Ordinance 2020-240 and to urge Council to preserve the property located at 1305 North 5th Street as a historic burial ground.

This property represents the stories and legacies of dozens of families. Buried here are men and women, enslaved and free, each with their own experiences of adversity and resilience. As Richmond works to reckon with the fullness of its history and to recognize the contributions of Black individuals, it is critically important that the City acquire and preserve this property.

I appreciate the City taking initial steps to protect the Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground and hope you will continue your efforts. As Confederate monuments come down, we must also work to preserve and lift up sites like the Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground that memorialize Black Richmonders.

Thank you,
Hannah Ayers
Richmond, Virginia

From: [Ellen Chapman](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#); [Stoney, Levar M. - Mayor](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#)
Cc: [LENORA MCOQUEEN](#); [Dan Mouer](#); [Ryan K Smith](#); [Ana Edwards](#); [Cyane Crump](#); [Elizabeth Kostelny](#); [Chen, Kimberly M. - DED](#); [Iroegbu, Osita - Mayor's Office](#)
Subject: Please support Ordinance 2020-240, 1305 N 5th St
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:51:26 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of City Council,

First, thank you for your previous support of Ordinance 2020-213 to reacquire a portion of the Shockoe Hill Burying Ground. I am writing now to ask that you complete this important effort to recognize and reacquire the burying ground by voting to approve Ordinance 2020-240. I am a member of the Shockoe Alliance, a resident of the 6th district half a mile from the burial ground, one of the authors of the Shockoe Hill Burying Ground PIF, and a scholar who studies Richmond's archaeology and its community importance. I deeply appreciate the commitment to the site shown by the City of Richmond in proposing this ordinance, and I ask you to vote in support of it.

The "Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground," originally named the Burying Ground for Free People of Colors and Slaves, was established in 1816 as the second municipal burial ground open to people of African descent in Richmond. Parts of the burial ground were damaged during the Civil War by the explosion of a powder magazine, and after the war the site became a potters field for burial of impoverished persons buried at the expense of the city. The city closed the cemetery in 1879, dug an extension of 5th Street through it in 1883, damaged it through construction of the 5th Street Viaduct in 1891, and in 1960 sold what remained of it as a vacant lot into private ownership, where it became a body shop and later a billboard site. This burial ground is larger than the parcel at 1305 N. 5th Street, but securing this parcel is essential to saving the burial ground.

The rehabilitation of this site, whose damage and desecration was substantially caused by a past white supremacist Richmond city government, is an essential element of Richmond's current reckoning with its past racist policies. In addition, it is a choice that enjoys widespread support. Over sixty individuals and organizations (including all the current candidates for Richmond mayor) endorsed the Preliminary Information Form submitted to the Department of Historic Resources. Member of the Planning Commission Councilwoman Ellen Robertson, in whose district the burial ground is located, has also endorsed the PIF and has been very responsive to concerns about the site starting when it went up for tax sale. As a result of the PIF, the site was recently found to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the Department of Historic Resources [REDACTED]

Preservation groups and organizations across the city, such as Historic Richmond Foundation, the Sacred Ground Historical Reclamation Project, and James River Hikers also support action.

Saving this sacred ground and moving towards sensitive commemoration at the site is essential for Richmond's progress towards being a place where the lives of its citizens are valued, celebrated, and mourned in an equitable fashion. Not only is this essential for the over 22,000 people buried at the burying ground, it is essential to their descendants, and it is deeply important for Richmond's children to grow up in a place where historical Black burial grounds are recognized and reclaimed. Nowhere is the continued importance of sacred spaces more visible than in the tireless work of descendant Lenora McQueen, whose extensive research is the basis of the PIF and the current growth of awareness about the site.

I urge you to vote yes on this ordinance and to make sure the momentum stays high when it comes to the next stage in this process - the collaboration, brainstorming, determination, and hard work needed to equitably and deliberately transform the space and reconsecrate it. I also ask that for any future projects conducted in this area (including the DC2RVA high speed rail project, and changes to 5th Street, Hospital Street, the north bank of the almshouse, Jewish cemetery, and Talley property, I-64, and the railroad easement to the north and east of this property) that the Planning Commission and City Council require an archaeological assessment before proceeding. Too often, burial grounds especially in urban areas are presumed destroyed without an adequate examination of the site conditions. A Daily Dispatch article from September 11, 1883 clearly illustrates that bodies and bones were graded under 5th Street during its extension towards Shockoe Valley (see column 4 here:  We do not yet have a clear understanding of where in the burial ground burials may be intact or where human bone might be found, so any project in this area should proceed with caution and with community and researcher engagement.

I appreciate the work that this process required from city staff, especially Kim Chen in the Planning Department and Osita Iroegbu in the Mayor's office, and elected officials such as Councilwoman Robertson and Mayor Stoney. I also thank Lenora for her tremendous research and advocacy, without which none of this would be happening. I would also like to thank Councilmembers Ellen Robertson, Kim Gray, Stephanie Lynch, Kirsten Larson, as well as Viola Baskerville for all of their help and support for the Shockoe Hill African Burying Ground, Ana Edwards for her long advocacy on behalf of Black burial grounds in Richmond, and Dan Mouer, Ryan Smith, and Steve Thompson for their work writing and research.

Sincerely,
Ellen Chapman, PhD

From: [HJWA Association](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Support for Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:54:42 AM

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Dear Members of City Council

This letter is written in support of Ordinance 2020-240 which allows the City of Richmond to acquire the property located at 1305 N. 5th St for the purpose of restoring and preserving this historic burial ground. The Historic Jackson Ward Association (HJWA) joins Lenora McQueen, Sacred Ground Historical Reclamation Project, Historic Richmond Foundation, Preservation Virginia and others in advocating for this effort.

As RVA continues to grow and restore, preserve and include the history of all Richmonders, these types of efforts are of utmost importance. HJWA supports the recognition of our rich history - especially with regards to the African American experience in and around Jackson Ward and/or Black RVA,

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Janis Allen
President
HJWA
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Gibbons, Anne](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office; Councilmembers](#)
Subject: Support Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:55:05 AM

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Recently a group of parishioners from St. Elizabeth Catholic church spent 3 months studying the issue of racial healing. We visited the burial grounds near Lumpkins Jail and Shockhoe Bottom. We are grateful to know improvements can be made to this sacred space. Also, as a resident of the Lakeside neighborhood, I urge your support of Ordinance 2020-240 which states that a public necessity exists. I hope you will authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to acquire, at a tax delinquent judicial sale, the property located at 1305 North 5th Street and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer or the designee thereof to accept title to such property for the purpose of preserving the property as a historic burial ground."

Anne Gibbons



From: [Ashley Johnson](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#); [Councilmembers](#)
Subject: Supporting Ordinance 2020-240
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:57:23 AM

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Good Morning to Whom it may concern,

Hope this email finds you well. My name is Ashley Johnson and I am a resident of Richmond Va. I am writing to ask for your support for the Ordinance 2020-240. The community has been reaching out, our needs must be met. Recontextualizing the Richmond area for the betterment of future generations, ensuring safety, and peace to our city should be supported.

Have a wonderful day,
Ashley Johnson



From: [Mike Sarahan](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Ord. 2020-153 (renaming Jeff Davis Highway): Comments from Mike Sarahan
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:12:27 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

In a sense, I submitted my comments on this subject 20 years ago. I am attaching a copy of a Richmond Times-Dispatch article, dated Sept. 12, 2000, reporting on comments I made during the citizen comment period at the City Council meeting the previous evening. As noted, I urged that the name "Jefferson Davis Highway" be changed for the reasons I expressed. The Sons of Confederate Veterans then turned out in full regalia to oppose my suggestion!

I was disappointed that the Council members did not take action at that time. But now is the time. We have come so far as a city and it is great to see.

Contact info:

Mike Sarahan

[REDACTED]



Archive Search Result

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Richmond Times-Dispatch

RENAME HIGHWAY, COUNCIL IS ASKED CONFEDERATE HERO CALLED INAPPROPRIATE

Carrie Johnson

Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Contact Carrie Johnson at (804) 649-6452 or cjohnson@timesdispatch.com

Published: September 12, 2000

Can Richmond move into the 21st century on a road named for a 19th-century Confederate hero?

That's the question local attorney **Mike Sarahan** posed to the Richmond City Council last night when he asked them to consider dropping the name "**Jefferson Davis Highway**" from South Richmond's portion of U.S. 1. During the citizens' comment period of the City Council meeting last night, **Sarahan** urged council members to shed the moniker, arguing that honoring **Davis** "holds Richmond back and ties it down with the burden of a less than glorious past."

He said **Davis** is not the kind of leader that Richmond should be honoring, noting that **Davis** still referred to blacks as property late in his life.

U.S. 1 is not **Jefferson Davis Highway** throughout Richmond. It is Chamberlayne Avenue in the northern part of the city. **Sarahan** said he believed it was within the council's power to rename the 16 miles of the road that run south of the James River.

Members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans flocked to the council chamber. Some were upset they weren't given equal time to address the issue because they didn't sign up in time to participate in the comment period.

Henry Kidd, SCV state commander, said he plans to speak at the next council meeting, Sept. 25. He said changing the name of **Jefferson Davis Highway** means burying Richmond's history, which brings in thousands of tourist dollars every year.

Kidd recalled the recent renaming of the **Stonewall Jackson** and **J.E.B. Stuart** bridges, which were changed to honor civil rights heroes **Samuel Tucker** and **Curtis Holt**. "They keep chipping and chipping at the stone, and if they keep on going, there's going to be nothing left to chip."

Sarahan said he's not trying to deny Richmond's history - he just thinks it's better suited to a museum. But he said that asking the council to consider his proposal is as far as he's going. "I'm not launching a crusade," he said. "I'm just asking a question."

Council members didn't show much enthusiasm for the idea last night. In order for the proposal to go forward, a member of council would have to sponsor an ordinance proposal.

From: [Joh Gehlbach](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#)
Subject: RAR Letter of Support - Ord. 2020-236
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 2:59:35 PM
Attachments: 

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Ms. Reid,

I'm writing to submit comments in support of Ordinance 2020-236, Richmond 300 on behalf of the Richmond Association of REALTORS®. You'll find the letter attached. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,
Joh

Joh Gehlbach

Pronouns: They/Them

Government Affairs Manager

Richmond Association of REALTORS® | CVR MLS
8975 Three Chopt Rd
Richmond, Virginia 23229

[804.422.5029](tel:804.422.5029)

RARealtors.com



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December 7, 2020

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Council President Newbille:

On behalf of the Richmond Association of REALTORS®, I would like to voice our support for the Richmond 300 Master Plan. After three years of deep listening and collaboration with residents and stakeholders, the plan reflects a shared vision for the future development of our community where everyone can flourish. We ask that Council approve Richmond 300: A Guide for Growth.

While the housing market in the City of Richmond has been and continues to be strong, the reality is that there simply is not enough supply to meet demand in both the short and long term. Residents who have lived in their neighborhoods for generations are being pushed out by escalating housing costs and first-time homebuyers who want to be a part of the Richmond renaissance cannot compete in this hyper competitive market. The city desperately needs more inventory to meet surging demand. To that end, we support the density measures outlined in the Inclusive Housing Chapter of Richmond 300, including allowing accessory dwelling units by right, middle housing by right near high frequency transit stops, and the zoning code rewrite.

In addition, we also applaud policy changes that support housing choice at all income levels. We have advocated for years for a dedicated funding stream for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We are encouraged by the proposals to incentivize affordable housing with density bonuses and development review prioritization.

Overall, we feel that the Richmond 300 Master Plan and its Implementation Chapter provide the City of Richmond with a thorough outline to continue the city's resurgence and ensure that Richmond provides all residents a place to thrive. We appreciate the work that City Council, the Planning Commission, and planning staff have put into its creation and look forward to seeing it enacted. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Laura Lafayette", written in a cursive style.

Laura Lafayette
Chief Executive Officer

CC: Vice President Chris Hilbert
Councilperson Andreas Addison
Councilperson Kim Gray
Councilperson Michael Jones
Councilperson Kristen Larson
Councilperson Stephanie Lynch
Councilperson Ellen Robertson
Councilperson Reva Trammell

From: [Conor Driscoll](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Requested amendments to Richmond 300 master plan
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:05:41 AM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to

make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Conor Driscoll

From: [Roger Gildersleeve](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 Priority Amendments
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:14:57 AM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council:

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is of vital importance to our city.

However, I also support the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom.

Specifically:

1. That the Richmond 300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

I think it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, it will be worth the effort to make final, necessary adjustments.

Regards,
Roger Gildersleeve

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Master Plan
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:33:41 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

For five decades we have lived in Church Hill and been involved in moving the East End of Richmond forward (helping renters become owners and the city, as its tax base increases)— working specifically and successfully to stop the planned demolitions in Church Hill and other old neighborhoods while supporting longtime residents and educating others about the communities.

As members of the Church Hill Association, we have been participating in and following the progress of the latest Master Plan— aka the Richmond300 planning process. The draft plan is a much-needed update, especially after the previous plan was ignored in too many cases. The important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability are sorely needed. However, we want to express our strong support for the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between [21st Street](#) and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: “Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed.”

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon and is a 20-year plan, the city must take the time to make final, necessary adjustments. It is critically important that the plan leave absolutely no doubt about the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds.

We count on you to not only build for the future but to also protect and preserve the soul and beauty that make people want to live in this area. Thank you,

Melinda & Ernest Skinner, RIC 23223

From: [Joanne Savage](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: CHA Request
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:43:44 AM

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I live in Church Hill and as a concerned citizen I have followed and participated in the Richmond 300 planning process. I believe the plan will make significant progress for walking, biking, and affordable housing. However, the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association must be included. These will ensure economic development but **also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom.** Our three requested amendments are:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," **it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds.** Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,
Joanne Savage

From: [George Soltis](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Amendments to Richmond300 Plan
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:49:04 AM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to

make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

George M. Soltis AIA

From: [Dave and Jean](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Master Plan issues.
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:52:02 AM

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Below is a "form" letter that I'm sure you have already seen in other emails. I strongly agree with it. To finalize this plan without such assurances is to open the door to potential abuses and resultant damage to areas that have flourished to the benefit of the city. Please don't be in a hurry to get it finished but committed to getting it right

Thank you, David Holman, [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned

parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed.”

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

From: [johnsieg S Sieg Jr](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: PLEASE READ - 3 SIMPLE RICHMOND 300 Upgrades needed before plan approval!!!
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:04:53 AM
Importance: High

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

Please read this message and take action!!! As a home owner in Church Hill, and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, **I CONCUR with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association (listed below but not yet part of the plan) that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom.** Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to

make final, necessary adjustments.

There may be some who say it is too late to modify the plan. My answer to them is that these three simple changes can be made quickly and that they have been requested repeatedly (and ignored without meaningful and cogent response). **Please do not let those voices cause you to approve something that, as it stands, is significantly flawed!**

Thank you for your representation, John and Nelle Sieg

From: [Tess Dixon](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#)
Subject: Amendments to Richmond 300 Master Plan
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:14:15 AM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is

critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Tess Dixon

From: [Alexandra Velia G.](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Please adopt the CHA requests for Richmond 300
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:45:39 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a home owner, city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

- 1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.**
- 2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.**
- 3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: “Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed.”**

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” **it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds.** This historic neighbourhood, its beautiful views and its parks are a treasure within this city that I am sure you can appreciate and hope you will protect. Church Hill has rapidly evolved over the years and the neighbourhood has invested heavily into becoming a highly

sought after area of the city. Residents pour their livelihoods into maintaining their historic properties and we have all worked hard to make this a special and appealing area. One of the things that has always made this area so unique are the views that have been the backdrop for more weddings, graduations and family photos than anywhere else in the city. We have seen how appreciated this area is especially during the pandemic with so many people coming to sit in our parks to look out over the river and read or share a socially distanced meal, it is a calm and beautiful place within a bustling urban environment, such a rare thing to have!

There must be a balance between urban development and beautification and sustainability. This is a small compromise from our original desires in an area that is already overly dense for its infrastructure. Our home would potentially be directly impacted by aggressive developers capitalizing on the plan if our requests are not adopted and as such we could be forced to move out of the neighbourhood. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Grossman

From: [John Bohm](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:49:22 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

John F. Bohm



From: [Matthew Klimas](#)
Subject: [spam]
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:58:54 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,



Matt Klimas
Graphic Designer / Art Director / Illustrator



From: [Shayne Cole](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Richmond 300
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 1:53:57 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond 300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond 300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Regards

Shayne Cole, [REDACTED]

From: [Nan Johnson](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: RICHMOND 300 MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT REQUESTS (3)
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:15:53 PM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. The draft plan is a much-needed update of the out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability.

However, there are three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also **protect key viewsheds**, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom.

Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan **explicitly state** that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. **Include specific reference** to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened **by stating explicitly**: “Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill Park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed.”

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan **be explicit in the intention to protect historic**

resources and viewsheds.

As this is a 20-year plan, the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Nan Johnson

From: [224Design*](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Proposed City Master Plan Concerns
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 5:14:19 PM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident, and resident of Church Hill, I have concerns regarding the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability.

However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit, leaving no doubt as to the intentions to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Karen Chase

.....


Delete
From: [REDACTED]
More
Subject: Richmond 300
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 5:35:44 PM
[City Clerk's Office](#)

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Ms Candice Reid

I'm responding to the invitation to comment on the upcoming vote on "Richmond 300"

I live in Church Hill, and am a property owner. Having witnessed the unpleasant explosion of development (aka "Progress") in the area, and been affronted by CAR-approved buildings that look like escapees from a Mondrian painting, I share the concerns of the Church Hill Association (of which I am a member) listed below which had been submitted in prior meetings. Our government has not provided enough sensitivity to the stewardship required by this historic, scenic area, and we request these amendments to codify commitment to that stewardship in future.

Our three requested amendments:

1. **Shockoe Bottom:** That the pending Shockoe Bottom plan be explicitly cited in Richmond300 not just as an "element of Richmond 300" but as "the plan that will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom." Otherwise, in the delay before the Shockoe plan is adopted, developers could submit rezoning proposals under Richmond300 which allows for unlimited heights in Shockoe Bottom under a late amendment by staff.
2. **Tobacco Row:** That the 1989 easement between Tobacco Row and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources be explicitly cited in the plan as contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing. The easement committed to protect the context and views to/from Tobacco Row and the St John's Church Old and Historic District as well as protect the views to/from Tobacco Row and the James River.
3. **Viewsheds:** That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed." CHA has worked with partner groups for years to protect "The View that Named Richmond" at Libby Hill Park and for recognition of the economic and social value of our park viewsheds.

Our concern is that without these amendments, development proposals could move forward under the proposed maximum heights allowed by the plan (unlimited in Shockoe Bottom, up to 10 stories between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing along Main and Dock), even though particular parcels may negatively impact the historic parts of Shockoe Bottom and Tobacco Row and valued viewsheds. Preemptive developer applications could also compromise the proposed Shockoe Bottom Memorial Park if the plan doesn't more explicitly incorporate the Shockoe Bottom plan.

Thank you for your service to the city, notably the Richmond 300 project itself, and your consideration of these amendments.

Tom Moffatt
Reply Reply All Forward

From: [Thomas Layman](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Cc: [Thomas Layman](#)
Subject: The Richmond300 Plan
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 5:44:26 PM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

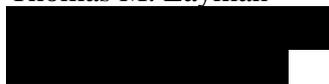
1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to

make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Thomas M. Layman



From: [Anna Clemens](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Support for Approval of Richmond 300
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 6:02:27 PM

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Good evening,

I would like the following comments to be given to City Council members and included in the record of the meeting. My full name is Anna Nicole Clemens. Additionally, would you mind telling me more about speaking during the Council meeting?

Comments -

I live in the Sixth District and encourage you to support the approval of Richmond 300 this Monday, December 14th. I have participated in the Richmond 300 process the last three years. I personally know some of the Advisory Committee members and trust their steering of the plan and process. They are Richmonders, some lifelong, and all committed to building a better Richmond. I am proud of our planning department and our city for embarking on something so ambitious, equitable, and determined. Inclusive planning processes are not easy, and yet Richmond persevered.

This process was not slowed by the pandemic and has reached over 9,000 Richmonders with over 300 meetings. Our city staff have responded to over 2,000 written comments, recorded nearly 5,000 survey responses, and read nearly 100 individual letters. I have attended these meetings, taken surveys, engaged online, and submitted written comments on the draft plan. I have moved twice during this process and have lived in three different neighborhoods and council districts since the beginning of Richmond 300. I have always felt that our planners were able to reach me and that my thoughts as a member of these different communities were taken under advisement. I feel all the communities and council districts I have lived in have been served well by staff and the final plan.

Richmond is growing and Richmond 300 is a good blueprint for that growth. No plan is ever perfect - they are, after all, living documents. City Council can, and should, amend the plan over time. If we get hung up on every tiny detail at the 11th hour and fail to approve the plan then, by law, we must deny it. Thus, returning the plan and our staff to the drawing board. The city would be embarrassed and its people moreso. If denied, we are telling those 9,000 Richmonders who engaged that their time and energy does not matter. Worse, we are telling them to get back on the merry-go-round.

Instead, City Council should approve the plan and address these small details through policies, ordinances, and other pieces of legislation, all of which will receive a public process. We have an excellent plan and it deserves approval. I am transit dependent, have worked for a transit company, and am currently employed by a local housing nonprofit. I am particularly impressed by the Inclusive Housing and Equitable Transportation visions and chapters. I have my master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning, I've written plans, and engaged the

public. At some point, you have to accept the public is tired and wants a completed plan. There is a point where you have to stop writing and asking for input. This, for Richmond 300, is that point.

Please approve Richmond 300 on Monday the 14th. I'll be tuning in and hope to hear your voice your support on behalf of this city's residents.

Best,
Anna Clemens

From: [Bob Austin](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 Master Plan input
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:55:23 AM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Bob Austin



From: [Hunter Hewlett](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Richmond300](#)
Subject: December 14th City Council - In Support of Ord. 2020-236
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:47:59 AM

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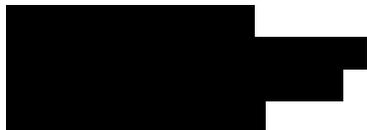
City Council,

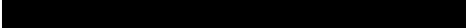
I am writing today to **express my strong support of the Richmond 300 plan, ORD. [2020-236](#)**. Richmond 300 is the culmination of years of effective outreach and planning, leading to our most progressive, people-oriented master plan yet. I would be ashamed if the Richmond City Council did not adopt this plan after so many years of development and community engagement.

I believe Richmond deserves a master plan that emphasizes equity, access, and growth, and that's exactly what the Richmond 300 does. This plan will allow us to set shared priorities and move forward as a community to meet these. Without this plan, we risk spending our precious few resources in a way that does not reflect the real needs of our city. We cannot afford to miss this opportunity to adopt a well-formed master plan at such a pivotal time in our city's history. **I expect that the City Council will vote yes to adopt the Richmond 300 plan, ORD. [2020-236](#)**.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

William **Hunter** Hewlett



From: [Jovan Burton](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#)
Subject: PHA Letter of Support - Ord. 2020-236
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:29:32 PM
Attachments: 

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Ms. Reid,

I'm writing to submit comments that are in support of Ordinance 2020-236, Richmond 300 on behalf of the Partnership for Housing Affordability. The letter is attached.

Thanks,

Jovan Burton

Director of Implementation

Partnership for Housing Affordability

8975 Three Chopt Rd.

Richmond, VA 23229

[804.422.5057](tel:804.422.5057)

PHARVA.com

Disclaimer: The content of this email is intended solely for the use of the Individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you have received this communication in error, be aware that forwarding it, copying it, or in any way disclosing its content to any other person, is strictly prohibited.

December 8th, 2020

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille
900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Council President Newbille:

On behalf of the Partnership for Housing Affordability (PHA), I would like to express my support for the Richmond 300 Master Plan. Richmond 300 is a strong first step towards setting a collective vision for a city committed to equity, adequate housing supply, and a quality of life that supports every resident.

The need to increase the supply of affordable housing is evidenced by many factors. With land prices at a premium, the land use recommendations in Richmond 300 are critical to ensuring the city is able to meet the future demand for housing. For example, there are roughly 496 total acres of vacant parcels currently zoned for multifamily development—which accounts for around one-tenth of all the vacant land in the city. As a result, PHA supports the measures outlined in Richmond 300's Inclusive Housing chapter, which encourages density through allowing accessory dwelling units by right.

Additionally, Richmond 300 recognizes the complexity of housing challenges by addressing public housing, mobile homes, aging neighborhoods, and homelessness. Such a comprehensive approach is no easy undertaking and is a testament to the city's adherence to inclusivity.

Lastly, PHA supports the Richmond 300 Master Plan because it aligns with the Richmond Regional Housing Framework and regional efforts to address housing affordability. Continued coordination on housing efforts is a recognition that the issues of housing do not stop at jurisdictional lines. We ask that council approve Richmond 300: A Guide for Growth in order to maintain progress on tackling the toughest needs of our communities. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Laura Lafayette', written in a cursive style.

Laura Lafayette
Executive Director

CC: Vice President Chris Hilbert

Councilperson Andreas Addison

Councilperson Kim Gray

Councilperson Michael Jones

Councilperson Kristen Larson

Councilperson Stephanie Lynch

Councilperson Ellen Robertson

Councilperson Reva Trammell

From: [Patricia Loyde](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [McEachin, Colette W. - Commonwealth Attorney](#); [Sheriff](#); [Ask Public Works](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Showalter, Kirk - General Registrar](#); [Bikeped -DPW](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Wagner, Daniel M. - City Council Office](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Office](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Office](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Bond, Aaron A. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Floyd, Tavares M. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Office](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Morris, Summer A. - City Council](#)
Subject: Support for Richmond 300
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:59:32 PM

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All,

I am writing to let you know that I fully support Richmond 300. I live in the Fan, work in Scotts Addition, and "play" all over the city, which is why I'm addressing this to more than just my 2nd District Council Representative Kim Gray. I believe the goals that Richmond 300 is striving for will help make our city a better place to live, while addressing our weaknesses with climate change, housing and zoning, walkability, and green spaces, among others.

I attending the meeting at the Science Museum a while back re. Scotts Addition and was really excited about the long term plan for that area of town. While I understand that Richmond 300 is not a law being passed that will change things immediately, and that it will still require future ordinance changes to things like zoning, we have to start somewhere!

Please vote in support of Richmond 300.

Thanks for your time,
Patty Loyde
[Redacted]

Patty Loyde
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Wagner, Daniel M. - City Council Office](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Office](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Office](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Bond, Aaron A. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Floyd, Tavares M. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia L. - City Council](#); [Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Office](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Morris, Summer A. - City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Please Vote Yes on ORD. 2020-236
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:24:18 PM

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Councilmembers,

Please vote YES on ORD 2020-236 to approve the Richmond 300 master plan.

Richmond 300 provides a good, equitable path for growth in the city and was built from the ground-up over the course of 3+ years by the work of hundreds of volunteers and with the input of over 9,000 Richmonders – not consultants: Richmonders. It is not an end point but rather a starting point for decisions that will be made for the next several years. Amendments to improve very specific parts of the plan can (and should!) be made after its passage, and as you know this is a Future Land Use Plan – any zoning changes would be subject to council approval individually.

There are several reasons to approve Richmond 300 but the single most important reason to me is that this is truly a plan built by and for the community. This plan was not created in a vacuum but rather around the table of the Gilpin Court Tenants Council, in the basement of Fan churches, and – once the pandemic hit – in the homes of thousands of Southsiders, Northsiders, East and West Enders. Most importantly among those participants were those folks who felt like this was their first real chance to opt-in and have a say in what happens in the city. As Sherrell Thompson, one of the Engagement Team members and a Community Health worker in RRHA communities, stated during a recent presentation (emphasis mine):

“I applied for the Richmond 300 Engagement Team because I felt like the voices of the people in the communities that I worked in were never heard, and that they never received information to fully understand what was happening in the city. Richmond 300 was the perfect plan to join to get them to understand and for me to be able to help the people in my community understand what was happening in the city. A lot of our residents in those communities that I work in, they don’t participate in things like this because they don’t understand: they don’t understand how it benefits them, they don’t understand what’s the purpose, and **they often feel like their feelings and what they want are never heard from our city leaders**[...]They feel like the meetings are not for them. They feel like no change is going to take place. **We wanted to let them know that we definitely wanted their input.**”

You will receive dozens of comments on Richmond 300 in the days leading up to your vote on 14 December, all of which are important. But please remember that over 9,000 Richmonders have already commented and provided input over 3+ years, and those comments and suggestions helped shape the plan that is before you now. Most importantly, please remember the folks described by

Ms. Thompson who – before the Richmond 300 process – felt like engaging was pointless. Vote yes and tell those people that their input is not pointless, and that they have been heard.

Thank you,

Doug Allen, AICP, PMP

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Stephanie Stockslager](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 Plan
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:14:21 PM

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Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process through both our neighborhood association meetings as well as watching city council meetings regularly remotely. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I STRONGLY concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

- 1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.**
- 2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.**
- 3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."**

As we know in today's society, without specific wording protecting the historic and valuable assets the city has, it can be left open to interpretation, and only CLEAR, strong, and direct wording can assist in future attempts at overgrowth and

overbuilding. Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments, and listen to and actively engage with their community partners.

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to working on making our city truly a great place for everyone,

Stephanie Stockslager

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Mayda Colón](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: December 14th City Council - Ord. 2020-236
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 7:31:31 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Richmond City Council Members,

“In 2037, Richmond is a welcoming, inclusive, diverse, innovative, and equitable city of thriving neighborhoods; ensuring a high quality of life for all.” - Richmond 300 Vision

Please adopt the new Master Plan Richmond 300. I am a fellow constituent and neighbor, I live, work and play in Richmond. The Richmond 300 Master Plan provides a guide, a lens which we can use to evaluate development decisions within the City. By using this plan we can promote smart, equitable, and sustainable development opportunities.

The goals outlined in the new Master Plan provide a roadmap to reach and benefit all our neighbors of Richmond. These goals were developed by Richmond citizens for our City, our home. A home we can be proud of and enjoy sharing with each other, our families and visitors.

I am counting on you to support and approve our vision and our collaborative hard work in developing this vision. I encourage you to approve the Richmond 300 Master Plan.

Respectfully,

Mayda V. Colón
Architect, Richmond 300 Advisory Council Member

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

December 10, 2020

--

Mayda V. Colón
Architect

[REDACTED]

From: [Phaedra Hise](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 vote Oregon Hill concerns
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 9:32:28 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

As a resident of Oregon Hill, I ask that you amend the Richmond 300 master plan to reflect the aspirations and current conditions of our historic Oregon Hill neighborhood. Please designate the future land use of Oregon Hill as Residential with a 3 story height limit.

The Oregon Hill community and civic association made clear from the very beginning of this process that Oregon Hill wished to remain with its current R-7 zoning, which includes a 35-foot height limitation. We specifically request two simple amendments to preserve the current R-7 zoning, which the neighborhood fought hard to secure in the early 2000s:

1. Indicate a residential future land use designation for Oregon Hill with a three-story height limit, just as is proposed for the adjacent Randolph neighborhood.
2. Commit to working with the neighborhood to develop a Small Area Plan for historic Oregon Hill that reflects the wishes of its residents.

We agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability.

But Oregon Hill is densely packed with attached homes, and has been a source of affordable housing for families for 150 years. The incorrectly proposed Mixed Use designation with building heights of 4 stories would be a green light for developers to demolish our neighborhood in order to construct dorms for VCU students. It is also inconsistent with the 3-story restriction proposed by the City for the immediately adjacent Randolph neighborhood, leaving Oregon Hill that much more vulnerable to inappropriate infill and new construction.

- The proposed Neighborhood Mixed Use land use designation raises the height limit in Oregon Hill to four stories, a height not currently found in the neighborhood.
- It also allows buildings taller than four stories along "major streets," which include Belvidere, West Cary, Idlewood, and South Laurel Street, from VCU to Idlewood.

This is a major change to the heart of Oregon Hill.

- Buildings of four stories are not a characteristic of any historic residential neighborhood in the City of Richmond (including Church Hill, Union Hill, Jackson Ward, Carver, West Grace, the Fan, Monument Avenue, Randolph, and Oregon Hill).
- OHNA supports the use of Special Use Permits. Whenever an owner has requested via SUP to return a former corner store used as residential back to commercial use, OHNA has supported this. The most recent example was on October 27, 2020, and the owner proposed to return a former corner store to commercial use on the ground floor, without any conditions. The SUP process is an important way for neighborhoods to shape and guide development when it exceeds existing zoning.
- Since the Richmond 300 Plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds.
- Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

A city master plan should not ignore the needs and input of the affected communities. These amendments can be made quickly, but have been requested repeatedly ignored by the City so far. Please do not approve something that, as it stands, is significantly flawed!

Phaedra Hise

[REDACTED]

Sent from the microchip implanted in my forearm.

Phaedra Hise

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 Plan - City Council Vote
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:49:35 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Richmond City Council Members,

As residents of Oregon Hill, we ask that you amend the Richmond 300 master plan to reflect the aspirations and current conditions of our historic Oregon Hill neighborhood. Please designate the future land use of Oregon Hill as Residential with a two-story height limit.

The Oregon Hill community and civic association made clear from the very beginning of this process that Oregon Hill wished to remain with its current R-7 zoning, which includes a 35-foot height limitation. We specifically request two simple amendments to preserve the current R-7 zoning, which the neighborhood fought hard to secure in the early 2000s:

1. Indicate a residential future land use designation for Oregon Hill with a two-story height limit, just as is proposed for the adjacent Randolph neighborhood.
2. Commit to working with the neighborhood to develop a Small Area Plan for historic Oregon Hill that reflects the wishes of its residents.

We agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability.

But Oregon Hill is densely packed with attached homes, almost all of them two stories tall, and has been a source of affordable housing for families for 150 years. The incorrectly proposed Mixed Use designation with building heights of four stories would be a green light for developers to demolish our neighborhood in order to construct dorms for VCU students. The proposed four story height is also inconsistent with the 3-story restriction proposed by the City for the immediately adjacent Randolph neighborhood, leaving Oregon Hill that much more vulnerable to inappropriate infill and new construction.

- The proposed Neighborhood Mixed Use land use designation raises the height limit in Oregon Hill to four stories, a height not currently found in the neighborhood.
- It also allows buildings taller than the proposed four stories along "major streets," which include Belvidere, West Cary, Idlewood, and South Laurel Street, from VCU to Idlewood. The proposed change to Idlewood and South Laurel is a major change to the heart of Oregon Hill.
- Buildings of four stories are not a characteristic of any historic residential neighborhood in the City of Richmond.
- OHNA supports the use of Special Use Permits. Whenever an owner has requested via SUP to return a former corner store used as residential back to commercial use, OHNA has supported this. The most recent example was on October 27, 2020, and the owner proposed to return a former corner store to commercial use on the ground floor, without any conditions. The SUP process is an important way for neighborhoods to shape and guide development when it

exceeds existing zoning.

- Since the Richmond 300 Plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds.
- Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

A city master plan should not ignore the needs and input of the affected communities. These amendments can be made quickly, but have been requested repeatedly ignored by the City so far. Please do not approve something that, as it stands, is significantly flawed!

Sincerely,
Jane D Newell

Jane Newell



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

From: [Andy Savage](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: City Planning Requests
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 11:11:33 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Andy Savage

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Quinton Robbins](#)
To: [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Mayor Levar Stoney](#)
Cc: [Wagner, Daniel M. - City Council Office](#); [Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Office](#); [Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Office](#); [Bond, Aaron A. - City Council](#); [Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office](#); [Floyd, Tavares M. - City Council](#); [Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office](#); [Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Office](#); [Morris, Summer A. - City Council](#); [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Joint Recommendations for Improving Affordable Housing Commitments in the Richmond 300 Master Plan
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 1:44:06 PM
Attachments: 

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, Council President Newbille, and members of City Council,

I hope this email finds you well.

On December 14th, City Council is scheduled to hold a public hearing and vote on ORD. 2020-236, which would adopt the Richmond 300 Master Plan. We commend the work that the Planning Department and other city agencies have put into crafting this plan and are excited to see most aspects of the plan guide the city for the next several years.

However, The Partnership for Smarter Growth, Legal Aid Justice Center, and Richmond For All recommend revisions before adoption to ensure that housing is affordable for working families moving forward. Richmond was already facing an affordable housing crisis before the pandemic and subsequent economic downturn, and this crisis will likely get worse. Attached, you will find our joint recommendations to improve the plan.

Thank you for your consideration,

Quinton Robbins
Director of Operations
Richmond for All



 LEGAL AID
JUSTICE CENTER



Dear President Newbille and members of the City Council:

You are scheduled to hold a public hearing and vote December 14th on ORD. 2020-236, which would adopt the Richmond 300 Master Plan. We believe that most elements of the Master Plan are solid policy recommendations for the city's future; however, we are writing to offer joint recommendations for amendments. We believe that affordable housing issues have not been adequately addressed in the plan, as Councilmember Robertson noted in her comments during the Planning Commission meeting on October 10, 2019. We specifically call for the following to be included in the plan:

1. As currently drafted, Plan Objective 14.6 endorses RRHA's intention to demolish all of the existing public housing stock in our city. The people of Richmond oppose the mass demolition of public housing and forcible transfer of residents to a short term voucher system. The Richmond 300 plan should explicitly include the intention to build one-for-one, brick-and-mortar replacements of like kind within the City limits for any public housing units that are lost in the process of redevelopment. This maintains consistency with the City's commitment as expressed in both the Draft Equitable Affordable Housing Strategy (i.e. "no loss in the number of 'public housing units' as reported in RRHA's 2019-2020 Annual Agency Plan.") and the City of Richmond's 2013 Antipoverty Commission report (i.e. "[R]edevlopment should not lead to a net loss of public housing units. Offering Section VIII vouchers to displaced residents while reducing the net number of housing units is not acceptable, because it decreases the supply of affordable housing in the city.)
2. We support the drafted Plan Objective 11.2 and 11.3 and the intention to equitably expand Richmond's diverse economy. Cost of living increases continue to drastically outpace wage growth in Richmond, therefore increased job access does little to protect residents from displacement due to rising housing costs. The Master Plan must support true community wealth building by building upon existing neglected frameworks that were created to do this very thing. The Office of Community Wealth Building's Social Enterprise Feasibility Analysis report explored ways to raise the living standards of residents so that they benefit from redevelopment "rather than being priced out and displaced as property values rise." The report states that "social enterprise has a critically important role to play" in addressing poverty and "provides further value to the City, *in addition to the direct economic benefits that the businesses provide.*"

Within its support for small business startup and growth, Goal 11 should include the intention to develop and support efforts that increase business contracting opportunities

for Section 3 resident owned businesses.

3. The Richmond 300 Plan should include the development of an affordable housing ordinance pursuant to the provisions of Code of Virginia, § 15.2-2305.1, so that any developer who seeks to upzone private property negotiates community benefits that support residents with incomes below 50% AMI as part of the rezoning or special use permit process. City Council should still lobby the general assembly to be given powers under 15.2-2304 while also creating a stronger affordable housing ordinance in the interim. In addition, the Richmond 300 plan should specify that for proposed city-initiated rezoning of large areas, the city will reserve some height and density as a benefit in return for contributions to affordable housing, whether through on-site units, adjacent units, or contributions to a local supplemental rental assistance program.

The current intention of the plan as expressed by the city's Director of Planning and Development Review is to "rezone to the plan," which will create tens of millions of dollars of value for landowners, many of whom have long held vacant land in our city at a very low basis. Yet, as noted in the plan, "two-thirds of households earning less than 80 percent of the HUD area median family income (HAMFI) were housing cost-burdened." Therefore, we need to address this affordability crisis with every tool in the toolbox, including negotiation of contribution to community benefits, particularly affordable housing, given the value being created.

4. The plan should also provide even stronger affordability requirements and community benefits for developers who wish to purchase and redevelop city owned land with a significant share of units at 30% of the AMI.
5. Programs and incentives for the development of new affordable units alone, however, is not enough to preserve and increase stable, affordable housing for all income levels, and in particular for low and very low income levels. The preservation and expansion of the city's affordable housing stock through affordable housing zoning ordinances, LIHTC programs, and inclusionary zoning must be coupled with other strategies, such as reforming the Affordable Housing Trust fund to target projects that create housing for households earning less than 30% of the AMI and the preservation of existing federally assisted housing.
6. The plan should commit council to developing an ordinance for a *permanent* inclement weather shelter for houseless people in the city of Richmond and commit to the construction of transitional housing.

The Richmond 300 plan promises a city that is equitable and affordable, but this cannot be achieved without stronger commitments to affordable housing and to resident involvement in planning for the future of public housing without displacement. Every Richmonder deserves a safe and affordable place to live. We deserve to age in place, and we deserve the right to stay in the communities that we call home. We therefore urge you to consider these amendments.

Thank you for your consideration,

**Partnership for Smarter Growth
Richmond for All
Legal Aid Justice Center**

From: [Deborah Costello](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [McEachin, Colette W. - Commonwealth Attorney](#); [Sheriff](#); [Ask Public Works](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Showalter, Kirk - General Registrar](#); [Bikeped -DPW](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Wagner, Daniel M. - City Council Office](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Office](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Office](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Bond, Aaron A. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Floyd, Tavares M. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Office](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Morris, Summer A. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:52:32 PM

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I am writing to let you know that I fully support Richmond 300. I was literally born and raised in Richmond. I have lived in the Fan 30 years, own a business in the Fan, and "play" all over the city, which is why I'm addressing this to more than just my 2nd District Council Representative Kim Gray. I believe the goals that Richmond 300 is striving for will help make our city a better place to live, while addressing our weaknesses with climate change, housing and zoning, walkability, and green spaces, among others.

Please vote in support of Richmond 300.

Thanks for your time,

Deborah M. Costello, Esquire, PC



Electronic Mail is not secure, may not be read every day, and should not be used for urgent, sensitive or lengthy issues. Thank you.



From: [David Herring](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond300 - Do not adopt as presented - yet...
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 5:01:59 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Last, on a separate but concurrent timeline in Shockoe Bottom is the Shockoe Valley Streets Improvement Project, which would introduce oversize, suburban scale roundabouts into an already extremely tight area - and heavily pedestrian area - in favor of increased traffic flow. This proposal will erode the historic street grid in Richmond's original downtown, jeopardize identified archaeological sites related to Richmond's slave trade, and create an unnavigable streetscape for the hundreds of pedestrians that walk this area daily.

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds.

Everyone says they care about protecting Shockoe Bottom and the "View that named Richmond" but as presented, Richmond300 plan *does not provide the explicit language to do this.*

Since this is a 20-year plan that will make all the difference in protecting Richmond's nationally significant historic resources. I ask all council members to take the time to make final, necessary adjustments to ensure protection of these historic resources while promoting appropriate growth.

Thank you,

David Herring



From: [Pattie Bland](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 Master Plan comments
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:17:04 AM

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Dear City Council members,

The Richmond 300 citywide Master Plan needs more work to make it truly a plan that serves the needs and values of all Richmond residents.

Specifically, the plan needs more intentionality to preserve and expand affordable housing stock. An ordinance, perhaps, that provides for and encourages tax credit programs and aggregates other economic incentive programs would undergird this goal. It can be done.

Additionally, a couple of land use features and goals need greater attention. More specificity needs to be added to govern heights, density and design in Shockoe Bottom. Also, a downriver bridge through Tree Hill Farm should be removed from the plan. Viewshed, open space and historic features need to be maximized and vouchsafed from obliteration.

Though I reside in Hanover County, I appreciate the motherlode of history, beauty and culture that distinguishes Richmond. Good land use planning that includes citizen input ensures a better community for all, not just some.

I respectfully ask that Council take more time and thought to bring a Richmond 300 plan to fruition.

Thank you,

Pattie P. Bland
Hanover County

From: [doug stiles](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#)
Cc: [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond300 Plan - Church Hill amendments
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:40:39 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, **I concur with the three priority amendments** requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Doug Stiles

From: [The Woodward](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Public Comment re: Ordinance 2020-236, City Council meeting Monday, Dec. 14
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:55:04 PM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Candice Reid, City Clerk,

Please delete a previous email sent this evening at 9:17 pm. It did not show the Ordinance Number, which I'm including in this message.

I am writing to submit this comment for the City Council meeting Monday, December 14, on a Resolution Kim Gray is planning to introduce regarding the Richmond 300 Plan, Ordinance 2020-236:

I support Richmond 300—there is so much good in it. Some discrepancies are a concern, and the Resolution introduced by Councilwoman Kim Gray lists those discrepancies in specific areas to be amended in the plan.

I support the Resolution.

We can work together for a win-win.

Thank you,
Deborah Woodward
2039 West Grace Street
Richmond, VA 23220
Member, West Grace Street Association

From: [Mary-Helen Sullivan](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#)
Subject: Richmond300 Plan
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:34:47 PM
Attachments: 

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Please see my letter attached.

Thank you

To the Honorable Mayor Stoney and members of the Richmond City Council,

I have been extremely impressed with the results of the three years of work that have gone into creating this plan, an effort which has engaged almost 9,000 people. My husband and I have participated in some of the meetings, both in person and virtually. It's clear that many Richmond residents want a more walkable, sustainable, vibrant city, and we are anticipating that the population will grow over the next decades.

I am also impressed, however, with the request by Partnership for Smarter Growth and other entities that believe that the plan needs to be sent back to the Planning Commission to include certain amendments. (I do not support changing the land use designation of Oregon Hill to residential only, given that the neighborhood already includes some businesses, restaurants, churches, and schools.)

Below please see the amendments PSG is requesting, amendments that make sense to me:

1. The Richmond 300 plan should explicitly include the intention to build one-for-one, brick-and-mortar replacements within the City limits for any public housing units that are lost in the process of redevelopment.
2. The Richmond 300 Plan should include the development of an affordable housing ordinance pursuant to the provisions of Code of Virginia, § 15.2-2305.1, so that any developer who seeks to upzone private property negotiates community benefits that support residents with incomes below 50% AMI as part of the rezoning or special use permit process.
3. In addition, the Richmond 300 plan should specify that for proposed city-initiated area-wide rezonings the city will reserve some height and density as a benefit in return for contributions to affordable housing, whether through on-site units, adjacent units, or contribution to a local supplemental rental assistance program.
4. Preservation and expansion of the city's affordable housing stock through affordable housing zoning ordinances, Low Income Housing Tax Credit programs, and inclusionary zoning must be coupled with other strategies, such as reforming the Affordable Housing Trust fund to target projects that create housing for households earning less than 30% of the AMI, a local supplemental rental assistance program, and the preservation of existing federally assisted housing.
5. The plan should commit council to developing an ordinance for a permanent inclement weather shelter for homeless persons in the city of Richmond.
6. Under equitably expanding Richmond's economy, Goal 11 should include the intention to develop and support efforts that increase business contracting opportunities for Section 3 resident owned businesses.

1. That the pending Shockoe Bottom plan be cited in Richmond300 not just as an “element of Richmond 300” but as “the plan that will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.”
2. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating: “Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park.
3. That the proposed downriver bridge across the James River from I-95 at Bellemeade through historic Tree Hill Farm to Route 5, be removed from the plan. This concept was never highlighted or properly vetted and would damage historic and natural resources, and degrade the overwhelmingly popular Virginia Capital Trail.

I am asking that the Richmond City Council return the plan to the Planning Commission, asking the commission to add these amendments.

Sincerely yours,

Mary-Helen Sullivan



From: [Barbara Cotter](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond300 Plan -- 3 issues
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:36:47 PM
Importance: High

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Regards,

Barbara Cotter



From: [Elizabeth Whitehurst](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Church Hill Amendments to Richmond300
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 6:11:18 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. I agree that overall the draft plan is a much-needed update of the far out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. However, I concur with the three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan explicitly state that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. Include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to "rezone to the plan," it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Keller Whitehurst

From: [Alexis Fisher-Rizk](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Comments for Tonight's meeting
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:43:23 AM

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I am requesting that the following comments be provided to city council and included in the record of the meeting, in lieu of speaking during the meeting.

I am a resident of the 1st district and also the parent of a 12 year old boy. We have lived in the city of Richmond since 2004. My husband and I enjoy the walkability of our neighborhood and also the various trails in the city. In fact, just yesterday, we did a family hike at Pump House Park.

I am writing to urge city council to please approve the Richmond 300 plan. This plan includes key strategies for connecting Richmond's biking and walking network and also for increasing greenways and trails throughout the city. I want everyone in Richmond to be able to get outside and to be able to walk and bike safely and the Richmond 300 plan will bring us closer to the goal.

Thank you for your time and for listening!

Alexis Fisher-Rizk

From: [Brown, Jay](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Support for Richmond 300
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:58:37 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Honorable Councilmembers,

Please approve the action of the City Planning Commission adopting the Richmond 300 Master Plan. We have been thoroughly impressed with the professionalism and dedication of all the City staff who ran such an efficient and wide ranging public engagement process to produce a plan that will create the inclusive, equitable, and sustainable growth that is so necessary here in RVA.

CCC looks forward to continued engagement and partnership with the City as it seeks to serve and empower all of its citizens, especially the most vulnerable.

Sincerely,

Jay Brown

[Redacted signature block]

From: [Eugenia Anderson-Ellis](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 improvements
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:06:28 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

Thank you for the thorough vetting of the Richmond300 plan. Now I urge you to take the additional time needed to incorporate simple but critical amendments for the continued economic growth of the city of Richmond.

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the planning process. The overall draft plan is a much-needed update of the way out-of-date city master plan. This new plan includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability. That said, there are three areas that need clarification.

These important amendments, as requested by the Church Hill Association, will ensure economic development as well as protect key viewsheds, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom. Specifically:

1. The Richmond300 plan must state, explicitly, that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. It must include specific reference to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. The viewshed provisions need to be strengthened by stating explicitly: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed."

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan be explicit in the intention to protect historic resources and viewsheds. Moreover, this is a 20-year plan, so the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Eugenia Anderson-Ellis

--

Eugenia Anderson-Ellis



From: [Martha Faulkner](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: December 14th City Council - Ord. 2020-236
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:40:50 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Please no buildings higher than
five stories in
Shockoe Bottom

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael Rogers](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [McEachin, Colette W. - Commonwealth Attorney](#); [Sheriff](#); [Ask Public Works](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Showalter, Kirk - General Registrar](#); [Bikeped -DPW](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Wagner, Daniel M. - City Council Office](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Bieber, Craig K. - City Council Office](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Townes, Lisa F. - City Council Office](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Bond, Aaron A. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robins, Amy E. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Floyd, Tavares M. - City Council](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Patterson, Samuel - City Council Office](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#); [Bishop, Richard K. - City Council Office](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Morris, Summer A. - City Council](#)
Subject: Vote "Yes" on Richmond 300
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:48:12 AM

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Good morning,

As a resident of the 2nd District of Richmond, I am reaching out to express support for the adoption of Richmond 300 by City Council this evening.

Thank you,
Michael Rogers

From: [Nelson Reveley](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Written Public Comment - Richmond 300 Master Plan
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:57:14 AM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

Please see attached below a written public comment for Richmond 300 from RVA Rapid Transit. If you need any additional information from our end, please just let me know.

Grace and Peace,

Nelson Reveley
Director of Operations
RVA Rapid Transit



December 11, 2020

Dear Richmond City Council:

I am writing on behalf of RVA Rapid Transit in support of the Richmond 300 Master Plan, especially its emphasis on creating a Richmond that “prioritizes the movement of people over the movement of vehicles through a safe, reliable, equitable, and sustainable transportation network” — a city in which “walking, biking, and transit options are the most convenient and used forms of transportation” (Richmond 300, p. 108).

Richmond 300 sets a strong vision for Richmond’s future in which frequent, far-reaching public transit and accompanying alternative modes of transportation play core roles. That vision combined with powerful funding for public transit, pedestrian infrastructure, and bike lanes will lead to a Richmond in which people can lead healthier, more productive, and more interconnected lives.

While we support adopting Richmond 300 now, we also strongly request that an amendment ultimately be made to remove the potential bridge connecting Route 5 and I-95 (see Richmond 300, p. 127). A bridge like that would cut against the vision of Richmond 300, and the immense amount of money that would have to be poured into constructing and maintaining such a bridge could be so much more equitably and generatively spent making it easier, safer, and quicker to get around the city by bus, bike, and foot.

Thank you for your consideration and for all the enormous work that has gone into creating the Richmond 300 Master Plan.

Grace and Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nelson Reveley', written in a cursive style.

Nelson Reveley
Director of Operations
RVA Rapid Transit

From: [Charles Ware](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Request for deferral of action on Plan 300
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:00:55 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

TO: The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council

I have been advised that a virtual meeting has been established today for review of the proposed city comprehensive plan. Although a select advisory board has had input into development of the existing plan draft, and although the City Planning Commission has approved the draft, it is my opinion that the approval process should be deferred for approximately one year that regular, in-person, public hearings may be held in accordance with the letter and spirit of Virginia law governing such plans.

I note that the proposed plan was developed under the direction of the current Director of Planning and Community Development, who came to Richmond after having worked on a similar plan for Dayton, Ohio. I urge city council members to examine Wikipedia articles on Dayton and the Dayton plan, and to also look at the many YouTube ratings of Dayton {which is regarded as being one of the worst communities to live in, and one that has been spiraling into ruin-as has been the case with a great many rustbelt cities and communities in this nation}. The Dayton comprehensive plan contains many of the same elements as the current draft Richmond plan, and was intended to arrest the loss of population in Dayton caused by the flight from the city of working, middle-class residents. This loss of population may have slowed recently, but Dayton has not reversed course.

I have two major objections to the draft Richmond plan. The first and primary objection is to an express provision that would allow, as a matter of right, two-family use of any single family residence. The plan promotes duplex development, which is generally regarded as an undesirable use {and which was adopted mainly as an emergency provision during and after World War II due to mass movement military families and military industrial worker families across the nation}. I am a retired planner and zoning administrator, and was formerly certified by AICP, and as a Virginia Certified Zoning Administrator. Accessory dwellings in single-family districts have been allowed under Virginia law, typically as special exceptions. A major problem is that, once established as special exceptions, these uses typically do not disappear when the property transfers ownership. Density increases in established Richmond neighborhoods such as the Fan District, Woodland Heights, Westover Hills, and older "trolley car" neighborhoods, is likely to be disruptive. Speculative "block breaking" is likely to lead to destruction of these neighborhoods as desirable places to live. In my opinion, this and other proposed measures, are more likely to see Richmond's population decline to 100,000 or fewer residents within the next three decades than increase to 300,000. The same objection applies to provisions in the plan which would allow taller buildings in neighborhoods such as the Fan District.

My other objection is that the plan specifically rejects Euclidean zoning, which was intended {as part of the City Beautiful Movement} to separate industrial, commercial, and residential uses. Mixed-use commercial and residential uses do make a great deal of sense where neighborhoods are designed for higher density. The City of Richmond has, for many years, used an ad hoc system of approval of special use permits for small-area developments that should have required rezoning. It makes no sense to require special use permits for residential apartment construction, but this is necessary as large areas of Richmond were rezoned for industrial use. This over-zoning resulted in the destruction of many architecturally significant and valuable structures, especially in areas such as that part of the central city east of Belvidere Avenue and the VCU Central Campus.

Finally, the current draft plan lacks specificity in dealing with pedestrian and bicycle transportation. I am aware that many proponents of bike use are advocates of the current plan, although they will admit that the plan draft does not address the street design issues that should be a part of any improvements. Indeed, the graphics in the current plan draft portray as projections of a wonderful future Richmond examples of terribly bad design—shared bicycle and

pedestrian ways, inconsistent markings, and chaotic interaction design. I have, in many of the Plan 300 meetings, pointed to Amsterdam {Netherlands} as an example of a city that redesigned and rebuilt its urban streets over a period of only thirty years. Amsterdam requires that any repaving or utility work includes bring the affected street segments up to current design standards. Improvements do not require extensive hearings and approval processes, as the intersection and lane design measures are consistent. These measures include separated bike and pedestrian ways that are differentiated by pavement color; also continuous sidewalk features that slow vehicular traffic; and elimination of stop signs and lights; and consistent marking of vehicle parking areas.

I wish to reiterate my opinion that most city residents have no idea what is in the draft plan, and that most property owners will find the contents objectionable. Please defer consideration of this plan.

From: [Frederick Fisher](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: Richmond 300 Plan
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:01:16 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Greetings:

My name is Frederick Fisher. I am a member of The Partnership for Smarter Growth (PSG). While the 300 Plan is good, it should be returned to the Planning Commission to consider the changes requested by PSG to ensure that its provisions will support the Plan's goals and objectives. Below is a summary of PSG's requests.

To address critical housing needs:

1. The Richmond 300 plan should explicitly include the intention to build one-for-one, brick-and-mortar replacements within the City limits for any public housing units that are lost in the process of redevelopment.
2. The Richmond 300 Plan should include the development of an affordable housing ordinance pursuant to the provisions of Code of Virginia, § 15.2-2305.1, so that any developer who seeks to upzone private property negotiates community benefits that support residents with incomes below 50% AMI as part of the rezoning or special use permit process
3. In addition, the Richmond 300 plan should specify that for proposed city-initiated area-wide rezonings the city will reserve some height and density as a benefit in return for contributions to affordable housing, whether through on-site units, adjacent units, or contribution to a local supplemental rental assistance program.
4. Preservation and expansion of the city's affordable housing stock through affordable housing zoning ordinances, Low Income Housing Tax Credit programs, and inclusionary zoning must be coupled with other strategies, such as reforming the Affordable Housing Trust fund to target projects that create housing for households earning less than 30% of the AMI, a local supplemental rental assistance program, and the preservation of existing federally assisted housing.
5. The plan should commit council to developing an ordinance for a permanent inclement weather shelter for homeless persons in the city of Richmond.
6. Under equitably expanding Richmond's economy, Goal 11 should include the intention to develop and support efforts that increase business contracting opportunities for Section 3 resident owned businesses

Land use and Transportation Amendments:

- That the pending Shockoe Bottom plan be cited in Richmond300 not just as an "element of Richmond 300" but as "the plan that will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom."
- That the viewshed provisions be strengthened by stating: "Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill park.
- That the proposed downriver bridge across the James River from I-95 at Bellemeade through historic Tree Hill Farm to Route 5, be removed from the plan. This concept was never highlighted

or properly vetted and would damage historic and natural resources, and degrade the overwhelmingly popular Virginia Capital Trail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick Fisher

From: [Jay Johnson](#)
To: [Mayor Levar Stoney](#); [City Clerk's Office](#); [Newbille, Cynthia I. - City Council](#); [Addison, Andreas D. - City Council](#); [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Hilbert, Chris A. - City Council](#); [Jones, Michael J. - City Council](#); [Larson, Kristen N. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#); [Robertson, Ellen F. - City Council](#); [Trammell, Reva M. - City Council](#)
Subject: RICHMOND 300 MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT REQUESTS (3)
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:02:00 AM

CAUTION: This message is from an external sender - Do not open attachments or click links unless you recognize the sender's address and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Stoney, President Newbille, and Members of City Council,

As a city resident and member of the Church Hill Association, I have been participating in and following the progress of the Richmond 300 planning process. The draft plan is a much-needed update of the out-of-date city master plan and includes important goals for more housing, more affordable housing, walkable communities, transit, and sustainability.

However, there are three priority amendments requested by the Church Hill Association that will ensure economic development but also **protect key viewsheds**, and enhance, not detract, from the economic value created by the historic neighborhoods of Church Hill and Shockoe Bottom.

Specifically:

1. That the Richmond300 plan **explicitly state** that the Shockoe Bottom Plan will govern heights, density, and design in Shockoe Bottom.
2. **Include specific reference** to the easement between Tobacco Row and the State Department of Historic Resources, and that the easement will provide contributing guidance for the heights, location, and design of development between 21st Street and Rocketts Landing.
3. That the viewshed provisions be strengthened **by stating explicitly**: “Establish a Viewshed Overlay zoning district to protect and enhance views of critical natural features, particularly the view from Libby Hill Park. Development on city-owned parcels within the defined viewshed shall not obscure the viewshed.”

Since the Richmond300 plan will be the guide that developers and residents will rely upon, and the plan currently states the intention by the city to “rezone to the plan,” it is critically important that the plan **be explicit in the intention to protect historic**

resources and viewsheds.

As this is a 20-year plan, the city should take the time to make final, necessary adjustments.

Thank you,

Jay Johnson