



CITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Planning & Development Review *Staff Report*

Ord. No. 2021-349- To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the total amount of \$408,022.00 from the Virginia Department of Transportation and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Public Works' Citywide Pedestal Pole to Mast Arm Signal Upgrades (Federal) project in the Transportation category by \$408,022.00 for the purpose of funding the modernization of pedestal pole mounted traffic signals to overhead mast arm signal indicators to improve visibility of traffic signals and reduce traffic accidents.

To: City Planning Commission
From: Land Use Administration
Date: December 20, 2021

PETITIONER

Michael Sawyer, P.E.; City Transportation Engineer

LOCATION

Cary Street and Jefferson Street, Cary Street and Adams Street, Cary Street and Foushee Street, Grace Street and Madison Street, and Monument Avenue and Thompson Street.

PURPOSE

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the total amount of \$408,022.00 from the Virginia Department of Transportation and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Public Works' Citywide Pedestal Pole to Mast Arm Signal Upgrades (Federal) project in the Transportation category by \$408,022.00 for the purpose of funding the modernization of pedestal pole mounted traffic signals to overhead mast arm signal indicators to improve visibility of traffic signals and reduce traffic accidents.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

The purpose of this ordinance is to accept and appropriate \$408,022.00 from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for the Citywide Pedestal Pole to Mast Arm Signal Upgrade Project - Award # 500944/500962. These additional funds are allocated by VDOT to cover the shortfall.

The Citywide Pedestal Pole to Mast Arm Signal Upgrade Project provides for the modernization of pedestal pole mounted traffic signals to overhead mast arm mounted indicators at Cary Street and Jefferson Street, Cary Street and Adams Street, Cary Street and Foushee Street, Grace Street and Madison Street, and Monument Avenue and Thompson Street. Converting pedestal mounted signal indications to overhead mast arm signal indications will increase and improve the signal indicator visibility, and reduce crashes and red light running. This provides a

comprehensive systemic approach to all transportation users' safety, particularly in our walkable, urban grid.

The total projected construction cost for this project is \$2,295,716.00. The additional funds granted by VDOT will allow the Department of Public Works (DPW) to deliver this safety project in alignment with Vision Zero.

City Administration recommends approval of this request.

FINDINGS OF FACT

SITE DESCRIPTION

Public Right-of-Way at Cary Street and Jefferson Street, Cary Street and Adams Street, Cary Street and Foushee Street, Grace Street and Madison Street, and Monument Avenue and Thompson Street.

PROPOSED USE FOR THE PROPERTY

Public Right-of-Way

MASTER PLAN

The Richmond 300 Master Plan designates these portions of public right-of-way as Downtown Mixed-Use, Institutional, and Public Open Space. Downtown Mixed-Use is defined as “Central business district of the Richmond region features high density development with office buildings, residential buildings, and a mix of complementary uses, including regional destinations in a highly-walkable urban environment.”

Primary Use: Retail/office/personal service, multi-family residential, cultural, institutional, government, and open space.

Secondary Uses: Not applicable. (p. 66)

Institutional is defined as Public and quasi-public entities, such as local, state, and federal government, hospitals, universities, schools, and religions institutions.

Primary Uses: Institutional, cultural, government, and open space.

Secondary Uses: Retail/office/personal service and multi-family. (p. 69)

Public Open Space is defined as “Public and quasi-public parks, recreation areas, open spaces, and cemeteries.”

Primary Uses: Open space.

Secondary Uses: Cultural, institutional, and governmental. (p. 70)

ZONING

Public Right-of-Way

SURROUNDING AREA

Much of the area surrounding these public streets are mixed-use with the exception of Monument Avenue and Thompson Street which are primarily medium density residential.

Staff Contact:

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