



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk

Minutes

Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee

Tuesday, July 17, 2018

1:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Chair
The Honorable Kim Gray – Vice Chair
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Committee member
The Honorable Andreas Addison – Council member
Bonnie Ashley, Deputy City Attorney
Lisa Braxton, Interim Deputy City Clerk
Bill Echelberger Jr., Council Budget Analyst
Pamela Nichols, Assistant City Clerk
Steve Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

Call to Order

Chair Ellen Robertson called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Pamela Nichols, assistant city clerk, provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

Julia R. Winfree addressed the committee regarding legislation to prohibit bike lanes on Brook Road and proposed bus stops. She remarked that residents support plans for bike lanes and planned bus stops and Council should support the alternative modes of transportation.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The committee acknowledged the proposed withdrawal of ORD. 2018-154 and ORD. 2018-155.

ORD. 2018-154

To amend and reordain City Code § 29-184, concerning the designation of bus stops for the motorbus system, for the purpose of prohibiting bus stops on North Davis Avenue.

Patron: Ms. Gray

ORD. 2018-155

To amend and reordain City Code § 29-172, concerning the designation of routes for motorbus systems, for the purpose of prohibiting certain operations of a motorbus system of passenger

transportation in the block bounded by West Broad Street, North Robinson Street, West Grace Street, and North Davis Avenue.

Patron: Ms. Gray

Member Kristen Larson moved to amend the agenda as follows:

ORD. 2018-153

To reserve the easternmost southbound lane of North Belvidere Street on the north side of North Belvidere Street's intersection with West Broad Street for vehicular traffic making a left turn from southbound North Belvidere Street onto eastbound West Broad Street.

Patron: Ms. Gray

To be continued to September 18, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting

ORD. 2018-194

To prohibit, on Brook Road between Brook Road's intersection with Azalea Avenue and Brook Road's intersection with West Charity Street, new travel lanes from being designated to accommodate bicycle travel and lanes currently designated for motor vehicle travel from being converted to accommodate bicycle travel.

Patrons: Ms. Gray and President Hilbert

To be continued to September 18, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting

RES. 2017-R086

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer establish and implement a policy and methodology to require that any residential development agreement to which the City is a party or involving City financial incentives mandate that a minimum percentage of the new residential development's total units be designated as affordable housing.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

To be continued to September 18, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting

RES. 2018-R068

To declare a public necessity to amend the City's zoning ordinance and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to require that certificates of zoning compliance and letters of zoning confirmation be reviewed by the City Attorney prior to issuance and published on the City's website shortly after issuance.

Patron: Mr. Agelasto

To be continued to September 18, 2018 Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting

The motion was seconded and unanimously approved

Approval of Minutes

Member Kim Gray moved to approve the meeting minutes of Tuesday, June 19, 2018, at 1:00 p.m., which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Presentations

Urban Forestry Commission Update

Bobby Vincent, director – Department of Public Works (DPW), provided responses to questions previously submitted by the committee regarding DPW urban forestry’s budget. Mr. Vincent updated the committee on the department’s efforts to fill vacant positions within the urban forestry division and reported that administrative support for the Urban Forestry Commission has been assigned to DPW. Mr. Vincent asked the committee to consider revising the responsibilities of the Urban Forestry Commission to include the recommended changes from city administration and agreed to work with Council on possible amendments.

Chair Robertson advised Mr. Vincent that the committee would like an update on the Urban Forestry Commission’s policies, proposed timelines to complete specific objectives and an anticipated date for the submission of the annual report to the committee.

Member Larson advised Mr. Vincent that any amendment to ORD. 2009-174-184, which established the Urban Forestry Commission, should be adopted before the commission convenes.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Board Vacancies

Pamela Nichols, assistant city clerk, reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

Member Kristen Larson stated that she would like to expand membership on the City Planning Commission to include applicants who live in areas south of the James River.

Vice Chair Gray requested a listing of current members for the City Planning Commission.

Vice Chair Gray moved to forward the reappointment board application of David Johannas for the City Planning Commission to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Vice Chair Gray moved to forward the following appointment and reappointment board applications to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

<u>Board Name</u>	<u>Criteria for Appointment</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>
Board of Building Code Appeals, General Division (5 members & 3 alternates)	Licensed architect or licensed engineer who is currently engaged in the active design of buildings and structures * (1 vacancy)	Robert Easter (reappointment)
Clean City Commission (15 members)	Corporate or citizen volunteers (2 vacancies)	James B. Arnold Wanda McGee (reappointment)
Commission of Architectural Review (9 members)	Citizens of the city at-large (3 vacancies)	James Klaus (reappointment) Sean M. Wheeler Kathleen Harper Morgan
	One person appointed from a list of at least three nominees from the Historic Richmond Foundation * (1 vacancy)	(Letter of Nomination) Lawrence Pearson

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Board of Directors of the Greater Richmond Transit Company (3 directors nominated by the city)	None (3 vacancies)	George Braxton (reappointment) Benjamin Campbell (reappointment) Eldridge Coles (reappointment)
Board of Commissioners of the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (12 members)	* (1 vacancy)	Robert Adams (reappointment)
Urban Design Committee (10 members)	Member of the Commission of Architectural Review * (1 vacancy)	James Klaus (reappointment)
	Member of the faculty of the arts division of a local college or university * (1 vacancy)	Emily A. Smith
Urban Forestry Commission (9 voting members)	Residents of the city (3 vacancies)	Wyatt Carpenter Hannah R. Fuerhoff Ryland Potter

* Applicants must either reside or work in the city.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2018-193

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Lease Extension Agreement between Northbrook Properties, Inc., as lessor and the City of Richmond as lessee for the purpose of providing office and storage space for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities at 1209 Admiral Street.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

There were no comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to forward ORD. 2018-193 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R024

To declare a public necessity to amend the zoning ordinance and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to make such changes as may be necessary to reduce or eliminate requirements concerning the minimum number of off-street parking spaces for business zoning districts within the city of Richmond.

Patron: Mr. Addison

Councilor Andreas Addison provided an overview of RES. 2018-R024 and remarked that, improvements to the city's multi-modal transportation options, ride sharing services and mass transit have decreased the demand for off-street parking, and the city's current parking requirements should be evaluated to reflect the decline.

Vice Chair Gray expressed concern that a reduction in parking requirements in certain areas would have a negative impact. She asked Councilor Addison to consider continuing RES. 2018-R024 until pending traffic studies were completed.

Councilor Addison explained that parking requirements would be decided based on location and intensity of use. He further explained that revised parking stipulations will help eliminate inconsistencies.

Opposition

Mark Olinger, director – Planning and Development Review (PDR), remarked that city administration supports the evaluation of the current parking requirements as a part of the traffic study for the updated Richmond 300 Master Plan. Mr. Olinger reported that PDR was currently working through the parking studies and anticipated completion by the end of the calendar year. He further stated that PDR cannot provide any parking recommendations until the studies were completed.

Mr. Charles Pool spoke in opposition to the proposed legislation stating that the resolution was too broad and eliminating citywide parking requirements would be detrimental to many neighborhoods.

Councilor Addison stated that the intent of the resolution was to ensure that parking requirements were included in traffic study for the new Master Plan and he was willing to withdraw RES. 2018-R024.

Bonnie Ashley, deputy city attorney, agreed to work with Councilor Addison on the drafting of new legislation to ensure the inclusion of the evaluation of current parking requirements in the traffic studies for the new Master Plan.

The committee acknowledged the proposed withdrawal of RES. 2018-R024 at the request of the patron.

Vice Chair Gray stated that she was not willing to support any legislation that would eliminate parking spaces in all business district because of the impact it will have on residential neighborhoods adjacent to business districts.

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2018-R069

To approve the issuance by the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority of its multifamily housing revenue bonds in an amount up to \$15,000,000.00 for the acquisition, construction, renovation, rehabilitation and equipping of an approximately 163-unit multifamily residential rental housing project to be known as the Herod Seed Apartments located at 904, 908, and 1020 Oliver Hill Way in the city of Richmond.

Patron: Ms. Robertson and Vice President Newbille

Chair Robertson introduced RES. 2018-R069.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Gray moved to continue RES. 2018-R069 to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Discussion Item(s)

It was the consensus of the committee to consider a possible cancellation of its August meeting until after the July 23, 2018 Formal Council Meeting.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, council policy analyst, and Bill Echelberger, council budget analyst, provided the committee with the July staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.