

INTRODUCED: January 13, 2020

A RESOLUTION No. 2020-R005

To express support for the City's application to become a member of the American Flood Coalition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patron – Mayor Stoney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: JAN 27 2020 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, proactively investing to prevent flooding is a wiser use of resources than spending on flooding recovery, as exemplified by the United States Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency research showing that \$1.00 spent on disaster prevention saves up to \$7.00 in recovery costs; and

WHEREAS, national coordination and support are necessary for communities to fully address the challenge of flooding and sea level rise, and the American Flood Coalition provides a platform advocating for national solutions to flooding and sea level rise that invest in and protect our coastal communities; and

AYES:            9            NOES:            0            ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED:    JAN 27 2020    REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_    STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the American Flood Coalition is a no-cost forum for best practices and source of support in developing local and state-level responses to flooding and sea level rise that will enhance the City's resilience effort; and

WHEREAS, flooding and sea level rise are important issues that residents deserve to understand and the American Flood Coalition provides opportunities and tools to communicate with residents on flooding challenges and solutions; and

WHEREAS, joining the American Flood Coalition will aid the City's efforts to protect against flooding without requiring any financial support or dues from the City of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the City established an annually funded stormwater utility and operates and maintains a \$153,000,000.00 floodwall and levee system to provide river flood protection to important economic and residential portions of the city, with such system directly impacting the rates paid by those citizens requiring federal flood insurance for their structures; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that joining the American Flood Coalition will promote the welfare of the residents of the city of Richmond and ensure the prosperity of the city's economy by accelerating solutions to sea level rise and flooding, and

WHEREAS, the City believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the City submit an application to become a member of the American Flood Coalition for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the residents of the city of Richmond and ensuring the prosperity of the city's economy by accelerating solutions to sea level rise and flooding;

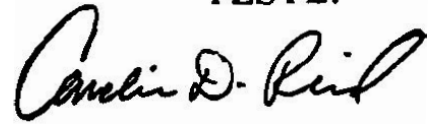
NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the City hereby supports efforts to become a member of the American Flood Coalition, and the application therefor, for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the residents of the city of Richmond and ensuring the prosperity of the city's economy by accelerating solutions to sea level rise and flooding.

**A TRUE COPY:**

**TESTE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Camlin D. Rind". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a stylized 'R'.

**City Clerk**



RECEIVED  
DEC 06 2019  
Human Sues. 8/21/19  
CITY OF RICHMOND  
INTRACITY CORRESPONDENCE

O&R REQUEST

DATE: December 6, 2019

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

THROUGH: The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor

THROUGH: Lenora G. Reid, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Sharon Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

THROUGH: Reginald Gordon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Robert C. Steidel, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Membership in the American Flood Coalition

ORD. OR RES. No. \_\_\_\_\_

EDITION: O&R REQUEST

4- 9500

DEC 13 2019

Office of the  
Chief Administrative Officer

JAN 08 2020

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY  
RECEIVED

JAN 08 2020

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

PURPOSE: To adopt a resolution to join the American Flood Coalition.

**REASON: Description:** The American Flood Coalition is a nonpartisan group of government, military, business, and local leaders that have come together to drive adaptation to the reality of higher seas, stronger storms, and more frequent flooding. The coalition seeks to advance national solutions that support flood-affected communities and protect our nation's residents, economy, and military installations.

The American Flood Coalition advocates for policy changes and practical national solutions to address the issues posed by rising seas and flooding which complement City of Richmond planning for environmental justice for citizens in flood prone areas, economic and community development and infrastructure resiliency as a tidal community with a major river within our downtown.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt a resolution in the form used by other cities joining the American Flood Coalition

**BACKGROUND:** There are 175 American Flood Coalition members in 12 states. Virginia cities include Hampton and Virginia Beach. The mission and the needs of the city regarding flood issues are compatible and would be a fit for membership. Policy issues that could be addressed

with the Flood Coalition is the equitable expense of flood resiliency; the impact of flood insurance and flood proofing on properties; the cost of the Richmond community to maintain and renew the \$153,000,000 floodwall and levee system; convening conversations on climate change floodplain and dam safety with the Secretary of the Army, US Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation along with the other current members of Virginia Beach and Hampton. City departments that may benefit from membership include public works, public utilities, parks and recreation, planning, economic development, social services, the offices of sustainability and risk management, housing, and community wealth building.

Joining the Network would support multiple city initiatives including: RVAgreen 2050, the city's equity-centered, integrated mitigation and adaptation planning; the city's climate resilience including its urban heat island work and urban tree canopy program; Richmond 300; and RVA H20.

**FISCAL IMPACT / COST:** There is no cost in membership.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** None

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY:** No

**REVENUE TO CITY:** None

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 27, 2020

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** January 13, 2020

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** January 27, 2020

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** Land Use, Housing and Transportation January 21, 2020

**CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:**

**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** Departments of Public Works, Public Utilities, Planning & Development Review, and Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities, Social Services, Community Wealth Building and Offices of Sustainability and Risk Management

**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** None

**REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S):** None

**ATTACHMENTS:** Draft resolution to express intention to join the American Flood Coalition

**STAFF:** Robert C. Steidel, DCAO Operations, extension 1378

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND TO BECOME A MEMBER OF  
THE AMERICAN FLOOD COALITION

WHEREAS, proactively investing to prevent flooding is a wiser use of resources than spending on flooding recovery, as exemplified by FEMA research showing that \$1 of spent on disaster prevention saves up to \$7 in recovery costs, and

WHEREAS, national coordination and support are necessary for communities to fully address the challenge of flooding and sea level rise, and the American Flood Coalition provides a platform advocating for national solutions to flooding and sea level rise that invest in and protect our coastal communities, and

WHEREAS, the American Flood Coalition is a no-cost forum for best practices and source of support in developing local and state-level responses to flooding and sea level rise that will enhance Richmond's resilience effort, and

WHEREAS, flooding and sea level rise are important issues that our residents deserve to understand and the American Flood Coalition provides opportunities and tools to communicate with residents on flooding challenges and solutions, and

WHEREAS, joining the American Flood Coalition will aid the Richmond's efforts to protect against flooding without requiring any financial support or dues from the City of Richmond Stormwater Utility, and

WHEREAS, the Richmond community, operates and maintains a \$153,000,000 floodwall and levee system to provide river flood protection to important economic and residential portions of the city, enacted a stormwater utility in 2009 and annually funds that utility to address flooding issues throughout the city and that some citizens in Richmond must obtain federal flood insurance for their structures, the rates for such insurance is dependent on the City of Richmond proactively addressing flooding issues, and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond finds that joining the American Flood Coalition will promote the welfare of Richmond residents and ensure the prosperity of the Richmond economy by accelerating solutions to sea level rise and flooding, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

Recognizes the need to advance national solutions to sea level rise and flooding and will work as a member of the American Flood Coalition to safeguard the welfare of all Richmond residents.