

INTRODUCED: March 9, 2020

A RESOLUTION No. 2020-R020

To declare a public necessity to amend ch. 30 of the City Code and to initiate an amendment to the City's zoning ordinance to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to permit shelters in all nine Council districts by requesting that the Chief Administrative Officer cause to be conducted a study to determine whether and, if so, how the City's zoning ordinance lawfully may be amended to permit, to the extent permitted by law, shelters in all nine Council districts.

Patron – Ms. Robertson

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: MAR 23 2020 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, section 15.2-2286 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, provides that a zoning ordinance may include, among other things, reasonable regulations and provisions for the amendment of regulations or district maps from time to time; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 15.2-2286 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, such amendment may be initiated by resolution of the governing body, provided that any such resolution by the governing body proposing an amendment to the regulations or district maps shall state the public purposes therefor; and

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: MAY 26 2020 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Richmond believes that there is a need for shelters, as the term “shelter” is defined by section 30-1220.97 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, in the city of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the Council believes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Richmond that the City amend its zoning ordinance, codified as Chapter 30 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to permit shelters in all nine Council districts;

NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the City Council hereby declares that the public necessity, convenience, general welfare and good zoning practices of the City require the initiation of an amendment of the zoning ordinance set forth in Chapter 30 of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended, to make such lawful changes as may be necessary to permit shelters in all nine Council districts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

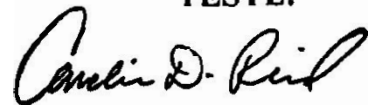
That, pursuant to section 15.2-2286 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the City Council hereby initiates an amendment to the City’s zoning ordinance by requesting the Chief Administrative Officer to cause to be conducted a study to determine whether and, if so, how the City’s zoning ordinance lawfully may be amended to permit, to the extent permitted by law, permit shelters in all nine Council districts within the city of Richmond and to provide the Council with a report concerning the results of the study and the recommended changes to the zoning ordinance based on such study as soon as practical after the adoption of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the City Planning Commission is hereby directed to hold a public hearing on any such proposed changes to the zoning ordinance and submit its recommendation and any explanatory materials to the City Council as soon as practicable.

A TRUE COPY:

TESTE:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carlin D. Reed". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

City Clerk



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

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

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

FROM Samson Anderson, Council Budget Analyst *SA*

COPY Ellen F. Robertson, 6th District Representative
Tavares M. Floyd, 6th District Liaison
Meghan K. Brown, Deputy Chief of Staff *MKB*

DATE March 2, 2020

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TITLE Zoning for Shelters

This is a request for the drafting of an Ordinance Resolution

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Ellen F. Robertson, 6th District
Representative

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing, and Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

The Patron requests that the Department of Planning & Development Review and the Planning Commission review the City's zoning code in order to determine the best method of amending the zoning code to allow for single occupancy homeless shelters in all nine districts.

BACKGROUND

Summary:

- Currently, for a homeless shelter to be established or built the organization must complete the Special Use Permit (SUP) process.
- The SUP process requires the organization to make a presentation before Council and allows for feedback from the community in which the shelter will be placed.
- The SUP process also allows the City the flexibility to make zoning constraints unique to that particular location. This flexibility is not available with any other zoning process currently used by the City.
- Frequently what occurs during community feedback regarding homeless shelters is that concerned individuals supporting the shelter are drowned out by individuals opposing the shelter due to NIMBY-ism. NIMBY stands for "Not in My Backyard".

- While most agree there is a need within the City for homeless shelters, specifically ones with wrap around services, it is common for people to oppose locating shelters in their district.
- Currently, only 50% of the homeless within the City are from the City.
- Moving forward the City and the Administration should work towards a regional approach to homelessness.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes No
Budget Amendment Required Yes No
Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact:

Attachment/s Yes No

Richmond City Council Ordinance/Resolution Request Form/updated 10.1.2012 /v1