

#### Monday, April 27, 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 (late arrival) The Honorable Andreas Addison The Honorable Kim Gray The Honorable Michael Jones (late arrival) The Honorable Kristen Larson The Honorable Stephanie Lynch The Honorable Ellen Robertson The Honorable Reva Trammell

President Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., and presided.

#### **ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

City Clerk Candice Reid, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 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 April 16, 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, April 27, 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.

Councilor Michael Jones joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Invocation was offered by Pastor Eric W. Carroll of the Ascension Church RVA, 9507 Hull Street Road, Richmond, VA.

Members of Council and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **CITIZEN SPEAKER GUIDELINES**

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

#### APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

There were no appointment/reappointment items for consideration.

#### AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no awards or presentations.

#### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

There were no citizen comment speakers.

#### AGENDA REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

#### Councilor Ellen Robertson moved to amend the agenda as follows:

#### ORD. 2018-324

To amend and reordain Ord. No. 2007-131-174, adopted Jul. 23, 2007, which authorized the special use of the property known as 1400 Grove Avenue for the purpose of permitting a multifamily dwelling consisting of no more than ten units and authorized the special use of the properties known as 1410 and 1412 Grove Avenue for the purpose of allowing single-family attached dwellings on substandard sized lots, together with accessory off-street parking, to remove from the ordinance the provisions pertaining to 1412 Grove Avenue, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

#### ORD. 2018-325

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1412 Grove Avenue for the purpose of either a single-family attached dwelling or a single-family detached dwelling and up to four rooms or groups of rooms for short-term rental use, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

#### 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 Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### 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 Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-025

To erect all-way stop signs at the intersections of Bainbridge Street and West 10th Street; Bainbridge Street and West 12th Street; Bainbridge Street and West 14th Street; Porter Street and West 10th Street; Porter Street and West 12th Street; Porter Street and West 14th Street; Perry Street and West 10th Street; Perry Street and West 12th Street; McDonough Street and West 10th Street; McDonough Street and West 12th Street; McDonough Street and West 14th Street.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-046

To rezone the property known as 2925 Garland Avenue from the UB Urban Business District and the PE-7 Brookland Park Boulevard / North Avenue Parking Exempt Parking Overlay District to the R-6 Single-Family Attached Residential District.

#### To be continued to Monday, May 11, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-047

To amend and reordain Ord. No. 2003-375-337, adopted Dec. 8, 2003, which authorized the special use of the property known as 1100-1102 West Cary Street and 20-22 South Harrison Street for the purpose of certain enumerated uses in accordance with such ordinance, to allow an outdoor pergola, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Monday, May 11, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-048

To authorize the special use of the property known as 3412 R Street for the purpose of two single family attached dwellings and one single family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Monday, May 11, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-083

To amend Ord. No. 2019-041, adopted May 13, 2020, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by re-appropriating a \$1,352,558.00 portion of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 fund balance excess, assigned by Res. No. 2019-R016, adopted Jun. 24, 2019, to the General Fund Cash Transfer for Capital Projects program, and to appropriate these transferred funds to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amounts appropriated to the Universal Access, Community Center Enhancements, Tredegar/Brown's Island Accessible Walk Improvements, and RAA Building and Property Improvements projects by a total of \$1,352,558.00 for the purpose of providing additional funding for those projects.

#### To be continued to Monday, May 11, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-084

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Urban Project Construction Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Virginia Department of Transportation to provide funding for the design, construction, and maintenance of safety improvements to Laburnum Avenue at the southbound and northbound ramps of Virginia Route 195.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-085

To designate the 3100 block of Decatur Street in honor of Johnny R. Battle.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-086

To designate and incorporate certain City-owned properties located along Riverside Drive and West 22nd Street into Canoe Run Park.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-087

To designate and incorporate certain City-owned properties along West 42nd Street, West, 43rd Street, West 44th Street, West 46th Street, Rear West 42nd Street, Dunston Avenue, Rear Dunston Avenue, and Reedy Avenue Rear into Crooked Branch Ravine Park.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-088

To repeal City Code § 26-902, concerning erroneous assessments and refunds and exoneration from payment of local taxes, and to amend ch. 26, art. II, div. 1, by adding therein a new § 26-48, for the purpose of authorizing the Director of Finance to refund and exonerate taxpayers from any local tax and requiring approval of any such refund or exoneration by the City Attorney.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-089

To amend Ord. No. 2014-222-204, adopted Nov. 10, 2014, as previously amended by Ord. No. 2018-328, adopted Jan. 14, 2019, which authorized the special use of the property known as 2319 Grove Avenue for the purpose of authorizing an expansion to an existing day nursery, to modify the fencing requirements for the roof-top play area, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Monday, May 11, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-090

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2852 Hull Street for the purpose of a singlefamily detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Monday, May 11, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-097

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to enter into a Facility Use Agreement between the City of Richmond and the American National Red Cross for the use of six Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities' community centers as shelters during disaster emergency situations.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-098

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an Urban Project Construction Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Virginia Department of Transportation to provide funding for the design and construction of improvements to the interchange at Maury Street and I-95.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### ORD. 2020-099

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Lease between DAR Enterprises, LLC, as lessor and the City of Richmond as lessee for the purpose of providing office and storage space for the Office of the General Registrar at 2134 West Laburnum Avenue.

## To be removed from the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee and considered on the Consent Agenda

#### RES. 2019-R068

To express the Council's support for certain goals in alignment with the Vision Zero traffic safety program that promote sustainability and equity in access to safe transportation.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R014

To request the Virginia Department of Transportation to amend the street mileage inventory for the City of Richmond.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R016

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the Director of Public Works to conduct a study and provide recommendations to the Council concerning how applicable laws and regulations might be lawfully amended to require contractors to provide protected walkways, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, shared-use paths, and trails for the purpose of further promoting the City's Vision Zero traffic safety program.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R019

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the appropriate departments in the City's Administration to incorporate, to the extent permitted by law, the applicable recommendations of the Advisory Task Force for the Economic Revitalization of South Richmond in the development of the City's Master Plan.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 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.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R021

To name the east-west alley located in the block bounded by West Main Street, South Shields Avenue, West Cary Street, and South Addison Street as "Uptown Alley."

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R022

To name a portion of the east-west alley located in the block bounded by Dorchester Road, Jahnke Road, and CSX Transportation, Inc.'s railroad tracks as "Gravel Alley."

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R024

To recognize the effects of global warming caused by human activity and to establish a climate action goal to achieve a 45 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 from the 2008 baseline.

#### To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R026

To request that the Mayor introduce such budget amendments and propose other such legislation as may be necessary to establish a grant program to be administered by the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond for restaurants within the city of Richmond affected by the spread of COVID-19.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R027

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer, in accordance with City Charter § 5.05.1(c), provide the Council with revised financial and activity reports due to reduced economic activity in the business

communities within the city of Richmond occasioned by the disaster presented by the spread of COVID-19.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R028

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 classify licensed outpatient opioid treatment facilities as medical clinics or to otherwise permit licensed outpatient opioid treatment facilities in such additional zoning districts as the Director of Planning and Development Review may deem appropriate 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 the extent permitted by law, to classify licensed outpatient opioid treatment facilities in such additional zoning and Development Review appropriate 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 the extent permitted by law, to classify licensed outpatient opioid treatment facilities in such additional zoning districts as the Director of Planning and Development Review may deem appropriate.

## To be removed from the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee and continued to Monday, May 4, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R029

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the Department of Planning and Development Review to conduct a redevelopment study of the properties along Commerce Road and a certain portion of the surrounding area concerning potential opportunities and implementation of plans for the redevelopment of certain properties along Commerce Road in the area bounded generally by Semmes Avenue to the north and Bellemeade Road to the south.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

#### RES. 2020-R015

To modify the decision of the Commission of Architectural Review, which approved a certificate of appropriateness for the demolition of a certain portion of George Mason Elementary School located at 813 North 28th Street by adding to such certificate the approval to demolish a certain portion of such school constructed in 1922, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### To be continued to Tuesday, May 26, 2020

**The motion to amend the agenda was seconded and approved:** Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Lynch, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille. Noes None. Hilbert had not yet arrived.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### The following ordinances were considered:

#### ORD. 2019-302

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1620 Park Avenue for the purpose of a multifamily dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-095

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to accept funds in the amount of \$297,414.00 from the Compensation Board for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to appropriate the grant funds received to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Special Fund Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Circuit Court's Technology Trust Fund special fund by \$297,414.00 for the purpose of providing funding for the Circuit Court marriage license preservation and access project in the city of Richmond.

#### ORD. 2020-096

To amend City Code §§ 26-22, 26-27, and 26-29, concerning the City's tax amnesty program, for the purpose of providing for a 2020 tax amnesty period.

#### ORD. 2020-099

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Lease between DAR Enterprises, LLC, as lessor and the City of Richmond as lessee for the purpose of providing office and storage space for the Office of the General Registrar at 2134 West Laburnum Avenue.

There were no comments or discussions and the **Consent Agenda was adopted:** Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Lynch, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille. Noes None. Hilbert had not yet arrived.

#### **REGULAR AGENDA**

There were no regular agenda items.

#### BUDGET RELATED PAPERS

#### The following ordinances were considered:

#### ORD. 2020-049

To adopt the General Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021, and to appropriate the estimated revenues for such fiscal year for the objects and purposes stated in such budget. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-050

To adopt the Special Fund Budgets for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021, and to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Special Revenue funds for the said fiscal year. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-051

To accept a program of proposed Capital Improvement Projects for the fiscal year beginning Jul. 1, 2020, and for the four fiscal years thereafter; to adopt a Capital Budget for the fiscal year beginning Jul. 1, 2020; and to determine the means of financing the same. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-053

To appropriate and to provide funds for financing the school budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-054

To adopt the Debt Service Fund Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021, and to appropriate the estimated expenditures from the Debt Service Fund for the said fiscal year.

#### ORD. 2020-055

To adopt the Internal Service Fund Budgets for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021, and to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Internal Service funds for the said fiscal year.

#### ORD. 2020-056

To adopt the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities' Richmond Cemeteries Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021, and to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Richmond Cemeteries for the said fiscal year for the operation and management of the facilities.

#### ORD. 2020-057

To adopt the Department of Public Works' Parking Enterprise Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, and to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Department of Public Works' Parking Enterprise Fund for the said fiscal year for the operation and management of parking facilities.

#### ORD. 2020-058

To adopt the Electric Utility Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021; to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Electric Utility for the said fiscal year; and to make appropriations from the Electric Utility Renewal Fund or Operating Fund for renewing, rebuilding or extending the plant and distribution system of the Electric Utility and for the purchase of vehicles.

#### ORD. 2020-059

To adopt the Gas Utility Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021; to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Gas Utility for the said fiscal year; and to make appropriations from the Gas Utility Renewal Fund or Operating Fund for renewing, rebuilding or extending the plant and distribution system of the Gas Utility and for the purchase of vehicles. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-060

To adopt the Department of Public Utilities' Stores Internal Service Fund Budgets for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021, and to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Department of Public Utilities' Stores Internal Service Funds for the said fiscal year.

#### ORD. 2020-061

To adopt the Stormwater Utility Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021; to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Stormwater Utility for the said fiscal year; and to make appropriations from the Stormwater Utility Renewal Fund or Operating Fund for renewing, rebuilding or extending the stormwater utility and for the purchase of vehicles. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-062

To adopt the Water Utility Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021; to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Water Utility for the said fiscal year; and to make appropriations from the Water Utility Renewal Fund or Operating Fund for renewing, rebuilding or extending the plant and distribution system of the Water Utility and for the purchase of vehicles. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-063

To amend and reordain the fees set forth in Appendix A of City Code § 8-274(a)(2), (concerning the issuance of permits and conditions for concessions) for the purpose of providing for permit fees for the issuance of permits for concessions in public parks and playgrounds of the City.

#### ORD. 2020-068

To authorize the issuance of general obligation public improvement bonds of the City of Richmond in the maximum principal amount of \$33,000,000 to finance the cost of school projects and general capital improvement projects of the City for the following purposes and uses: construction, reconstruction, improvements and equipment for public schools; construction, reconstruction, improvement and equipment for various infrastructure needs, including traffic control facilities, streets, sidewalks and other public ways, bridges, storm sewers, drains and culverts, and refuse disposal facilities; participation in redevelopment, conservation and community development programs, including the construction, reconstruction, improvement and equipment for targeted public facilities included in these programs; construction, reconstruction, improvements and equipment for public institutional, operational, cultural, educational and entertainment buildings and facilities, including but not limited to the theaters, parks, playgrounds, cemeteries, libraries and museums; acquisition of real property therefor as appropriate; and the making of appropriations to the City's Economic Development Authority ("EDA") to be used by the EDA to finance capital expenditures or to make loans or grants to finance capital expenditures for the purposes of promoting economic development; to authorize the Director of Finance, with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on

behalf of the City, to sell such bonds for such capital improvement projects, to provide for the form, details and payment of such bonds; to authorize the issuance of notes of the City in anticipation of the issuance of such bonds; and to authorize the issuance of taxable bonds, for the same purposes and uses, in the same maximum principal amount and payable over the same period as such general obligation public improvement bonds.

#### ORD. 2020-069

To authorize the issuance of general obligation public improvement bonds of the City of Richmond in the maximum principal amount of \$9,976,000 to finance the cost of capital improvement projects of the stormwater utility of the City for the following purposes and uses: replacement of and upgrades to the stormwater facilities, including but not limited to, construction, reconstruction, improvements, rehabilitation and upgrades of stormwater sewers and associated facilities; new and replacement infrastructure of the storm sewer system, drainage structures, catch basins, ditches, storm sewer pipes, culverts, green infrastructure; acquisition of real property therefor as appropriate; and equipment for various infrastructure needs; and authorizes the Director of Finance, with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City, to sell such bonds for such capital improvement projects, to provide for the form, details and payment of such bonds, and to authorize the issuance of notes of the City in anticipation of the issuance of such bonds, and to authorize the issuance of taxable bonds, for the same purposes and uses, in the same maximum principal amount and payable over the same period as such general obligation public improvement bonds.

#### ORD. 2020-070

To cancel all authorized but unissued notes authorized by the City of Richmond in Fiscal Years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018, to authorize the issuance of general obligation equipment notes of the City of Richmond in the maximum principal amount of \$4,867,332 to finance the cost of equipment for the following purposes and uses: acquisition of computer, radio, office, solid waste collection, office furniture and miscellaneous equipment and vehicles for the various departments, bureaus and agencies of the City, and equipment for City schools; and to authorize the Director of Finance, with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City, to sell equipment notes to finance the acquisition of such equipment, and to authorize the issuance of taxable notes, for the same purposes and uses, in the same maximum principal amount and payable over the same period as such general obligation equipment notes.

#### ORD. 2020-071

To cancel all authorized but unissued bonds authorized by the City of Richmond in Fiscal Years 2016-2017, to authorize the issuance of public utility revenue bonds of the City of Richmond in the maximum principal amount of \$103,007,500 to finance the cost of capital improvement projects of the gas, water and wastewater utilities and public utilities buildings and facilities for the following purposes and uses: enlargement, extension, repair, replacement, improvement and equipping of the gas plant and transmission lines; enlargement, extension, repair, replacement, improvement and equipping of the waterworks plant and transmission lines: enlargement, extension, repair. replacement, improvement and equipping of the wastewater plant and intercepting lines; construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, and improvement of sanitary and storm water sewers, pumping stations, drains and culverts; construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, improvement and equipping of public utility buildings and facilities therefor, including but not limited to the stores division; and acquisition of real property and real property rights (including without limitation easements and rights-of-way) therefor as appropriate; to authorize the Director of Finance, with the approval of the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City, to sell such bonds for such capital improvement projects; to provide for the form, details and payment of such bonds; to approve the form of supplemental indenture of trust: to authorize the issuance of notes of the City in anticipation of the issuance of such bonds; and to authorize the issuance of taxable bonds, for the same purposes and uses, in the same maximum principal amount and payable over the same period as such public utility revenue bonds.

#### ORD. 2020-072

To amend Appendix A of the City Code by increasing the fee for section 4-307, concerning the annual fee for a breeding permit, per dog or cat.

#### ORD. 2020-073

To amend Appendix A of the City Code for section 4-275 (concerning impoundment and violation notice and fee for board and care) for the purpose of establishing a separate adoption fee for puppies.

#### ORD. 2020-074

To amend City Code § 12-95, (concerning athletic activities, adult leagues, tennis tournaments, tennis camps, and softball tournaments) for the purpose of removing the separate fees for softball tournaments and for the recreation centers known as Pine Camp Art and Recreation Center and portions of Hickory Hill Community Center, and to amend Appendix A of the City Code for section 12-95 (concerning athletic activities, adult leagues, tennis tournaments, tennis camps, and softball tournaments) for the purpose of establishing revised charges for such activities.

#### ORD. 2020-075

To amend City Code § 12-108, concerning a nonresident fee for nonresidents of the City renting facilities or enrolling in Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities athletic activities or classes, for the purpose of increasing the nonresident fee for the rental of any facility, park or equipment from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities.

#### ORD. 2020-076

To amend and reordain City Code § 12-94, (concerning the reservation of picnic shelters and the rental fee for picnic packs), for the purpose of including the fee for reservation of picnic shelters and removing the fee for picnic packs, and to amend the fees set forth in Appendix A of the City Code for City Code §§ 8-281, (concerning the permit processing fee for the use of public grounds, parks, playfields and playgrounds) to increase the cost of the permit processing fee, and 12-94, (concerning picnic shelter fees), for the purpose of removing the fee for rental of picnic packs.

#### ORD. 2020-077

To amend ch. 13, art. V, div. 3 of the City Code by adding therein new §§ 13-203 and 13-204, to concerning establishing fees for employees of the City's Department of Fire and Emergency Services who conduct Fire Prevention Code inspections on commercial and institutional properties in the City, and to amend Appendix A of the City Code by adding therein new fees for City Code § 13-203, for the purpose of establishing the fees to be charged for employees of the City's Department of Fire and Emergency Services who conduct Fire Prevention Code inspections on commercial and institutional properties in the City.

#### ORD. 2020-078

To amend City Code § 13-190, concerning the removal and closure of underground storage tanks, for the purpose of including aboveground storage tanks as subject to removal and closure, and to amend the fees set forth in Appendix A of the City Code for City Code § 13-190, for the purpose of establishing a new fee for the removal of aboveground storage tanks.

#### ORD. 2020-079

To amend § 30-930.6 of the City Code, concerning certificates of appropriateness, for the purpose of establishing a fee for filing an application for a certificate of appropriateness, and to amend Appendix A of the City Code by adding therein new fees for City Code §§ 30-930.6, concerning certificates of appropriateness, and 30-1020.4(a), concerning fees for filing an application for a certificate of zoning compliance, of the City Code, to establish new charges for such services.

#### ORD. 2020-080

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 8-279 (concerning fees for use of public parks) for the purpose of revising the fees for weddings and to establish fees for rafting in the James River Park Systems, and to amend and reordain the fees set forth in Appendix A of the City Code for sections 8-277 (concerning fees for the use of the Dogwood Dell Amphitheater and Carillon in Byrd Park), 8-278 (concerning fees for the use of City-owned equipment), 8-279 (concerning fees for use of public parks), and 8-284(b) and (c) (concerning meeting fees) of the City Code.

#### ORD. 2020-081

To adopt the Wastewater Utility Budget for the fiscal year commencing Jul. 1, 2020, and ending Jun. 30, 2021; to appropriate the estimated receipts of the Wastewater Utility for the said fiscal year; and to make appropriations from the Wastewater Utility Renewal Fund or Operating Fund for renewing, rebuilding or extending the plant and distribution system of the Wastewater Utility and for the purchase of vehicles. (As Amended)

#### ORD. 2020-082

To [amend the schedule of classifications and assigned ranges incorporated into section I of the Pay Plan for the purpose of revising the wording of certain classification titles and changing the pay ranges of certain classification titles; to amend section II(B) of the Pay Plan to provide a 2% pay increase for classified and unclassified permanent City employees who are not in the step based pay system for police and fire employees; and to] amend sections III(B)(4). III(B)(11), III(B)(12), III(B)(25)(e), III(B)(36), and III(B)(40), of the Pay Plan to (i) suspend police and fire career development. (ii) provide the Commonwealth Attorney's Office with \$884,474 for salary supplements and \$202,138 for Virginia Retirement System contributions and the Commonwealth Attorney with a \$51,074 salary supplement and a \$10,306 Virginia Retirement System contribution, [(ii)] (iii) provide the Sheriff's Office with \$2,236,106 for salary supplements and the Sheriff with a \$41,301.20 supplement, [(iii)] (iv) to suspend the education incentive for police and fire program until Jun. 30, 2021, [(iv) to change the living wage,] and (v) to add the new "Driver Pump Operator" classification to the step-based pay system for sworn fire and police officers. (As Amended)

Vice President Chris Hilbert joined the meeting at 6:13 p.m.

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding proposed legislation on the agenda prior to the Formal City Council meeting and public hearing. 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 April 27, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

#### **Public Hearing Speakers**

Martin Wegbreit, Affordable Housing Trust Fund member, Eviction Task Force member, Richmonders Involved in Strengthening our Committees (RISC) member, stated that the COVID-19 pandemic turned Richmond's eviction and affordable housing crisis into a public health calamity. Mr. Wegbreit informed Council that RISC members request that Council allocate \$2,900,000.00 to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, allocate \$400,850.00 to the Eviction Diversion Program, and that Council pass a resolution directing \$800,000.00 be allocated to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Eviction Diversion Program, as funds become available in FY 2021.

**William "Bill" Pantele, Richmond Coalition of Police consultant**, requested Council remember Richmond City Police officers and first responders as members review the proposed FY 2021 budget. Mr. Pantele also requested that Council reserve the Richmond City Police Pay Plan step increases and stated step increases were necessary for officer recruitment and retention.

**Brad Nixon, Richmond City Police officer, Richmond Coalition of Police president**, stated the COVID-19 pandemic and cancellation of events throughout the city prevented Richmond City Police officers from earning additional income by providing services outside of their official duties. Mr. Nixon informed Council of the dangers Richmond City Police officers face due to COVID-19, and requested members keep police officers in mind when reviewing the proposed FY 2021 budget.

Lucy Meade, Venture Richmond director of economic development and community relations, informed Council that Venture Richmond was still providing beautification efforts in downtown Richmond during the pandemic. Ms. Meade requested Council continue to provide Venture Richmond with funding to maintain provided services and to achieve future goals regarding downtown Richmond.

**Reginald White, RISC member**, addressed Council and spoke to the lack of affordable housing in the city. Mr. White stated it was expensive and difficult to move into affordable housing currently available.

**Dr. Aubrey Jones, Fourth Baptist Church member and RISC board member**, addressed Council and requested Council allocate \$2,900,000.00 to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, allocate \$400,850.00 to the Eviction Diversion Program, and that Council pass a resolution directing \$800,000.00 be allocated to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Eviction Diversion Program as funds become available in FY 2021.

**Steve Saltzberg, Affordable Housing Trust Fund Oversight Board member and RISC copresident**, addressed Council and stated evictions in the city would increase due to the pandemic. Mr. Saltzberg requested Council pass a resolution directing an additional \$600,000.00 be allocated to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund as funds become available in FY 2021.

**Rabbi Michael Knopf, Temple Beth-El rabbi, RISC member**, addressed Council and requested Council pass a resolution directing \$200,000.00 be allocated to the Eviction Diversion Program as funds become available in FY 2021. Rabbi Knopf stated evictions and homelessness would rise in the city due to the pandemic and requested Council address the emergency situation.

Janice Lacy, Ebenezer Baptist Church member, RISC member, addressed Council and stated residents recently out of work due to the COVID-19 pandemic were at risk of eviction and homelessness. Ms. Lacy requested Council create a designated stream of revenue for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

**Pastor Ralph Hodge, Second Baptist Church senior pastor**, **RISC member**, addressed Council and expressed his concern regarding an increase of evictions in the city due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pastor Hodge requested Council allocate \$2,900,000.00 to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, allocate \$400,850.00 to the Eviction Diversion Program, and that Council pass a resolution directing \$800,000.00 be allocated to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Eviction Diversion Program as funds become available in FY 2021. Pastor Hodge also requested Council create a designated stream of revenue for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Andria Impson, Richmond Public Schools (RPS) employee, addressed Council and expressed her concerns with a cut in proposed funding for RPS due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Impson stated the proposed budget cuts would drastically affect RPS's ability to address an increase in the student population that speak English as a second language. Ms. Impson also stated proposed cuts would prevent the addition of staff to assist students who speak English as a second language.

**Allan-Charles Chipman** addressed Council and expressed his concerns that the proposed FY 2021 budget did not properly take into account the full effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Chipman stated he worried about the potential of a rise in citizens facing evictions in the city, and that the proposed budget did not provide enough support to citizens vulnerable to eviction.

Councilor Ellen Robertson stated she would support a resolution related to providing the Affordable Housing Trust Fund with additional revenue as funds become available in FY 2021.

Councilor Michael Jones stated he was committed to fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Eviction Diversion Program for the health and safety of citizens.

Councilor Kristen Larson expressed her concerns regarding the potential of additional necessary budget cuts in FY 2021, and stated Council should establish a list of priorities regarding allocation of additional revenue as funds become available in FY 2021.

Councilor Stephanie Lynch stated she believed any additional revenue that becomes available in FY 2021 should be directed toward affordable housing issues. Councilor Lynch informed members she would propose a budget amendment to provide the Affordable Housing Trust Fund with additional funding due to the potential of a depressed economy in the city.

Councilor Kim Gray expressed her support for providing additional funding to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Eviction Diversion Program. Councilor Gray also shared her appreciation of city first responders who have provided services during the pandemic.

Councilor Andreas Addison expressed his support of providing additional funding to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Eviction Diversion Program. Councilor Addison stated continued designated funding for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Eviction Diversion Program, was necessary to address the affordable housing crisis in the city.

President Cynthia Newbille thanked individuals that provided public comment regarding the budget related papers. President Newbille stated affordable housing would be a priority of Council as members review the budget moving forward in FY 2021.

Councilor Kristen Larson moved that the budget related ordinances be continued to the Monday, May 4, 2020, Special Meeting at 3:30 p.m., which was seconded and unanimously approved.

#### MOTIONS

## Councilor Andreas Addison moved to expedite consideration of the following resolution, which was seconded was unanimously approved:

#### RES. 2020-R032

To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$2,415.00 from the Council District Funds for the Ninth District to pay Marion Marketing Global, LLC for the design, printing, and mailing of post cards to be sent during the first week of May, 2020, notifying Ninth District residents about resources available to those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Patron: Mr. Jones

Councilor Michael Jones provided an introduction and background information regarding the proposed resolution.

Councilor Kim Gray inquired if the mailings could be considered promotional or campaign related.

Councilor Jones confirmed that the proposed mailings would only contain information and no pictures or campaign related material would be included.

Vice President Chris Hilbert informed members he intended to work on an ordinance relating to out-going members of Council and the use of district funds.

President Cynthia Newbille requested Vice President Hilbert consult with the Office of the City Attorney regarding the proposed ordinance.

There were no further comments or discussions and **RES. 2020-R032 was unanimously** adopted.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Councilor Kim Gray moved to approve the minutes of the following Richmond City Council meeting: Formal Council Session held on Monday, April 13, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.

#### The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

#### INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

## City Council will hold a public hearing on the following resolution on Monday, May 4, 2020, at 3:30 p.m.:

#### RES. 2020-R033

To support requests made by the City of Richmond to the United States Congress for the enactment of legislation to supplement and modify the CARES Act for the provision of additional federal aid to recover from the damaging economic loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to promote timely economic recovery assistance for all residents.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

#### This resolution was introduced and committee referral waived pursuant to Rule VI(B)(2).

## City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinance on Monday, May 11, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.:

#### ORD. 2020-102

To amend the schedule of classifications and assigned ranges incorporated into section I of the Pay Plan adopted by Ord. No. 2018-319 on Jan. 14, 2019, for the purpose of revising the wording of certain classification titles and changing the pay ranges of certain classification titles, and to amend section III(B)(6) of the Pay Plan to revise the classification and assigned ranges for persons occupying unclassified positions in the courts for whom compensation is not fixed directly or indirectly by statute adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting on Monday, May 4, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

## City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolution on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.:

#### ORD. 2020-103

To rezone certain properties in the areas surrounding the Science Museum of Virginia, Allison Street, and the Virginia Commonwealth University and the Virginia Union University Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit station areas.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

## This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

#### ORD. 2020-104

To amend the official zoning map for the purpose of designating certain street blocks as "priority streets" and certain street blocks as "street-oriented commercial streets" in the areas surrounding the Science Museum of Virginia, Allison Street, and the Virginia Commonwealth University and the Virginia Union University Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit station areas.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

#### ORD. 2020-105

To amend and reordain City Code §§ 30-433.2 (concerning parking lots in the UB Urban Business District, 30-440.3 (concerning yards in the B-4 Central Business District), 30-446.2 (concerning parking lots in the B-7 Mixed-Use Business District), and 30-950.2-30-950.5 (concerning Plan of Development Overlays), for the purpose of implementing the recommendations of the adopted Pulse Corridor Plan.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

## This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

#### ORD. 2020-106

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1701 North 21<sup>st</sup> Street for the purpose of 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, May 18, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

#### ORD. 2020-107

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2126 Rosewood Avenue for the purpose of an existing single-family dwelling with an accessory dwelling unit, upon certain terms and conditions.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

## This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

#### ORD. 2020-108

To repeal Ord. No. 2019-274, adopted Nov. 12, 2019, which amended ch. 11 of the City Code by adding therein in ch. 11 a new art. VIII, consisting of new §§ 11-190-11-197, effective Jul. 1, 2020, to establish a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Program, for the purpose of repealing this program.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

## This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

#### RES. 2020-R034

To declare surplus and to authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to seek proposals for the properties located at 112 North 7th Street, 114 North 7th Street, 116 North 7th Street, 500 North 10th Street, 401 East Broad Street, 730 East Broad Street, 800 East Clay Street, 808 East Clay Street, 609 East Grace Street, and 601 East Leigh Street for the purpose of facilitating the purchase and development of such parcels.

#### Patron: Mayor Stoney

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2020, 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.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

CITY CLERK



#### **Police and Fire Steps**

### Bill Pantele <bill@pantelelaw.com>

Mon, Apr 13, 2020 at 2:18 PM

Bill Pantele <bill@pantelelaw.com>

To: CYNTHIA.NEWBILLE@richmondgov.com, chris.hilbert@richmondgov.com, andreas.addison@richmondgov.com, Ellen.Robertson@richmondgov.com, stephanie.lynch@richmondgov.com, michael.jones@richmondgov.com, Reva.Trammell@richmondgov.com, "Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council" <Kimberly.Gray@richmondgov.com>, kristen.larson@richmondgov.com Cos brad pixon20120420mpail.com\_MatlowWilliame@richmondgov.com\_mattocockatedor@ampail.com\_andookeith@ampail.com

Cc: brad.nixon2912@gmail.com, Marley.Williams@richmondgov.com, mattsacksteder@gmail.com, andeskeith@gmail.com Bcc: William.Smith@richmondgov.com

Honorable Members of Council,

In reviewing the Mayor's amendments to his proposed budget, I on behalf of the Richmond Coalition of Police note the proposed elimination of raises, career development program reinstatement, and the regular step increase for Police and Fire. We know from prior experience that step plan freezes can be difficult to sort out later.

If it is possible, RCOP would appreciate your working to protect your first responders by holding onto the public safety pay increases. Of the three elements of that as proposed in the original proposed budget (raises via recruit and starting salary increase, Career Development reinstatement, and step increase), we consider that the step increase is the most crucial.

We appreciate the Mayor's, the Administration's, the Chief's, and your longstanding support of your first responders. In this tremendously hazardous and challenging environment, your first responders and RCOP members are out there every day and on the front of this crisis. It goes without saying that your consideration of them at this time would be most appreciated.

I am glad to discuss this with you and thank you for your tireless efforts.

Very truly yours,

**Bill Pantele** 

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Revised March 6, 2020 Ordinance Effective July 4, 2020

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### Virginia.gov

Agencies | Governor

## TRAININ BECOMING A TROOPER 🗸 TROOPER LIFE 🗸 CURRENT FY **Earn While You** Learn! All Trooper-Trainees are paid while attending the Academy. \$44,290 Starting Trooper-Trainee Salary E \$48,719 12 months after graduation\*

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## CHESTERFIELD SAFETY&SECURITY

How can we help?

Police Home

**Basic Qualifications** 

Employee Benefits

Frequently Asked Questions

Recruitment & Testing Information

Hiring Process

Home , Government , Departments , Police , Recruitment

### Recruitment



Recruitment

#### **Police Records**

# Online Crime

Calls and Incidents Map

\*A A.

Report



#### **Now Hiring**

The Chesterfield County Police Department is now hiring new and pre-certified officers. The department offers an attractive benefits package, including a starting salary of \$47,000 (recruit salary is \$44,289 until the completion of training).

Annly

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From: Janet Woody [mailto:hooyajanet@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:37 PM
To: Larson, Kristen N. - City Council <Kristen.Larson@richmondgov.com>
Subject: Richmond Public Library funding

hello Kristen, yesterday at our Library Board of Trustees meeting we learned about likely budget cuts.

It's a terrible time that will hurt the city's budget for a long time. We appreciate the Council's support of libraries and understand that tough decisions will need to be made.

We ask that Council keep in mind that reduced library hours impact all citizens, but especially young people who need access to the internet from libraries, and to the book collections. Libraries are essential for job seekers without computers and internet at home. Social services are a growing part of basic library services.

Please let us know if we can help share the importance of RPL to all of Richmond, and please know how much we appreciate all that city government does for its libraries.

Sincerely, Janet Woody

From:	andeskeith@gmail.com
To:	City Clerk"s Office
Cc:	Carter, Melvin D Fire; Mike Oprandi; Bill Pantele; Brad Nixon
Subject:	2021 Budget Public Hearing
Date:	Friday, April 24, 2020 8:48:10 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.

Good morning Candice, I hope you and your Family are holding up well under these extreme circumstances!! Richmond Firefighters Association would like to request distribution of the following letter to City Council for the April 27th 2021 Budget Public Hearing in lieu of speaking through audio or video means. Thanks for all you & the dedicated City Clerk's staff do for all of us, stay safe!! My best, Keith

Keith Andes, President Richmond Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 995 andeskeith@gmail.com

Honorable Councilmembers, what a difference six weeks make!! On Friday March 6th, Mayor Stoney addressed City Council on his 2021 Budget proposal that included funding for police/ fire step increases, unfreezing/funding the Career Development Program & increasing starting salaries. Welcomed news by the rank & file of public safety!! Sadly, our world has changed not only medically, but economically as well. Federal, state & local governments, along with household budgets have been hit hard, no one could have predicted this, but it is what it is, unfortunately. Tough decisions will be made by this government body, and as always you will do your best to make sure the financial health of the City remains a priority, but we also ask to keep the health & safety of Richmond's Public Safety employees as a component of your decision making as well. I could include in this letter all the risks that my fire service Brothers & Sisters are subjecting themselves and their families to during this crisis, but I'm sure you are aware of them. Firefighters are also exposed daily to cancer causing carcinogens and unknown elements that, statistically proven, cut years from their life, unfortunately the Covid-19 virus just adds to that list.

Over the last year, our members have been heavily involved in the communities we serve by volunteering to assist areas of need. Through our "Operation Warm Program" Firefighters & Police Officers came together, with help of generous donations from corporate & private donations in raising over \$20,000 to purchase 1000+ new coats for kids in three RVA schools. Every child enrolled at those schools received a fitted coat that will keep them warm on cold winter days. The "Thank You's" and smiling faces that came from the placement of a new coat on these young people, warmed the souls of all who participated. Local 995 also continued its annual participation in providing free popcorn to attendees for the Recreation & Parks "Movies in the Park" summer program. Lastly, we filled a "need request" for a citizen to have a ramp in place so that it would make her journey to the dialysis center a little easier to navigate. These listed efforts above are not looking for "pats on the back", but to show we truly care about the citizens we serve.

Firefighters & Police Officers are cognizant to the fact the City faces tough budget shortfalls. We respectfully ask that in your upcoming budget discussions, please look at keeping as a priority, the police/fire step plan increase. We appreciate all the support you show public safety. Richmond Professional Firefighters, IAFF Local 995 & the Richmond Coalition of Police will continue to answer the call with the dedication & professionalism displayed each & every day, no matter the crisis, it's that concerted effort that will bring us back to where we were on March 6th, sooner then later!! We ask you to keep all our first responders in your thoughts & prayers, also please continue to keep your Family & yourselves safe!! We thank each of you for all you do!! My best, Keith

Keith Andes, President Richmond Firefighters Assoc., IAFF Local 995 andeskeith@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From:	Fred Plaisted
To:	City Clerk"s Office
Cc:	jkamras@rvaschools.net
Subject:	FY 21 Budget
Date:	Friday, April 24, 2020 4:43:09 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.

Good afternoon,

I am a 2nd District resident with a daughter at Albert Hill Middle School. I can't express how grateful I am for the incredible work RPS has been doing throughout this pandemic. I am also grateful for City Council's leadership as we navigate these uncertain times.

I was extremely disappointed to hear Virginia's House of Delegates voted 91-1 to cut the State budget for school guidance counselors. I have written Del. Jeff Bourne to express my concern over his vote on this important matter.

I clearly understand hard decisions face City Council with regarding budget decisions but respectfully request that cuts to RBS's budget be limited as much as humanly possible. Their work has been a shining light to our community and children RPS serves are facing life-changing situations.

Thank you for all you do and for taking time to hear my request. God bless.

Fred Plaisted

From:	Sebastian Shetty
To:	City Clerk"s Office
Subject:	Comments for City Council Meeting 4/27/20
Date:	Sunday, April 26, 2020 11:43:51 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 Members of the Richmond City Council,

The Partnership for Smarter Growth (PSG) recognizes that you face difficult budgetary choices in light of the fiscal contraction resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak. However, we stand with other members of the Richmond community in asking that you carefully consider the priorities of our community as you review the Mayor's proposed FY2021 budget for the City.

In particular, we would like to emphasize two priorities: transit and affordable housing.

While transit ridership in Richmond has fallen during the current state of emergency, ridership has dropped far less than it has in many other cities. This illustrates just how important maintaining our transit system is, not only for those deemed essential workers who must still commute to their jobs, but for all of us who rely on the grocery stores, pharmacies, and supply chains that would cease to function without these workers. The recent transit improvements the City and GRTC have made have proven to be very successful, and we need to build on that success to create a safer, more equitable, and more accessible city -- and to drive post-pandemic economic recovery.

In addition, even before the onset of the pandemic and ensuing stay-at-home orders, Richmond faced a shortage of affordable housing. Unfortunately, the circumstances we now face have exacerbated this problem, and the number of evictions is on track to rapidly increase in the coming months, creating untenable levels of suffering in our community.

To help address these issues, we ask that you support the following provisions in for the FY21 budget:

• Maintain GRTC funding at 100% of current levels.

• Allocate \$2.9 million to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (as the Mayor has proposed). In addition, pass a resolution stating that as an additional \$600,000 becomes available in 2021, such funds will be allocated to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (as was originally proposed).

- Staff the Department of Housing & Community Development for purposes of administering the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- Allocate what was originally proposed for the Eviction Diversion Program (\$686,000).

These steps will help Richmond retain its position as a leader within Virginia, as well as throughout the nation, while helping to protect our friends and neighbors and enhancing our future. PSG, along with many other members of our community, urge you to support these

\_\_\_

## **PARTNERSHIP** for SMARTER GROWTH

Sebastian Shetty Coordinator for Policy and Administration Partnership for Smarter Growth sebastian@psgrichmond.org | https:// www.psgrichmond.org/ Dear Ms. Reid,

I am writing to you as a resident of the City of Richmond and an employee of the James River Association to express my support for projects funded in the City of Richmond, Virginia Proposed Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2021 - 2025. The James River is the lifeblood of Richmond, providing residents with a source of drinking water and opportunities for recreation. The proposed Capital Improvement Plan funds projects that will contribute to a healthier James River for all Richmonders to enjoy. The proposed Capital Improvement Plan includes:

- \$49,502,000 for Combined Sewer Overflows
- \$11,976,000 for Stormwater Facilities Improvements
- \$7,681,500 for Wastewater Treatment

I urge Richmond's City Council to maintain funding proposed for Stormwater Facilities Improvements, Wastewater Treatment, and Combined Sewer Overflows in the Capital Improvement Plan. Combined sewer overflows of untreated wastewater and stormwater into the James River and its tributaries typically occur when the capacity of Richmond's combined sewer system is overwhelmed during heavy rainfall. Senate Bill 1064, passed by the General Assembly this year, establishes a timeline for improving Richmond's combined sewer system by July 1, 2035, and this critical funding puts Richmond on the right track to meet the July 1, 2035 deadline.

The proposed Capital Improvement Plan does not include funding to advance implementation of the Richmond Riverfront Plan or the recently adopted James River Park System Master Plan. Both plans include recommendations to make the James River and public spaces on its banks more accessible to Richmonders. Planned projects like a new park at East Riverfront (Lehigh) and the Missing Link project need funding to support design and construction. I encourage City Council to fund implementation of the Richmond Riverfront Plan and James River Park System Master Plan by introducing a budget amendment.

If you or any councilmembers have any questions regarding my support of funding for capital projects or a budget amendment supporting implementation of the Richmond Riverfront Plan and James River Park System Master Plan, I can be reached at (804) 572-4667.

Sincerely,

Justin Doyle

Council members,

I would like to remind you all of your passed resolution to eliminate the PILOT fee that exists in household water bills.

I would also ask that you all look at the high minimum residential water rates, the regressive rate structure overall, and the unbelievably bad water contracts with the surrounding counties.

The current pandemic emergency presents an opportunity to truly reform the City of Richmond's water utility, which is supposed to serve its true owners, the citizens of Richmond. RESTRUCTURE for conservation and resilience!

Sincerely, Scott Burger Richmond, VA Good morning Ms. Reid,

I am writing to urge your support for projects funded in Richmond's Proposed 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Plan. I am a local resident of the City of Richmond and an employee at the James River Association.

The James River is the centerpiece for our City. It's a gathering place for Richmonders to connect with nature and it's an essential source of drinking water and driver of eco-tourism. A healthy James River supports a healthy community and that's why it's so important to continue investment in water quality and recreation focused projects in the City. <u>Lask that Richmond's City Council maintain funding proposed for Stormwater Facilities Improvements</u> (\$11,976,000), Wastewater Treatment (\$7,681,500), and Combined Sewer Overflows (\$49,502,000) in the Capital Improvement Plan.

This year the general Assembly passed legislation, Senate Bill 1064, which establishes a timeline for improving Richmond's combined sewer system by July 1, 2035. Richmond's proposed investment to address Combined Sewer Overflows is essential to keep the city on track to meet this July 1, 2035 deadline and reduce the frequency of untreated wastewater and stormwater into the James River. As Congress considers moving forward with a stimulus bill that invests in infrastructure, these projects to improve water quality and stormwater infrastructure could be an important leverage opportunity for Richmond to secure additional federal funding.

Lastly, I encourage the City Council to continue to fund the implementation of the Richmond Riverfront plan and the James River Park System Master Plan. Collectively, these plans will be our guide for making the James River and our parks more accessible to Richmonders. Access to parks and greenspaces are especially important now, as citizens look for ways to safely access nature while practicing safe social distancing. I urge City Council to consider a budget amendment that would assist with funding implementation of these critical plans.

Best,

Jamie Brunkow