



City of Richmond

Formal Meeting Minutes

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

Tuesday, May 26, 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 (late arrival)
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 6:00 p.m., and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

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 May 14, 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 Tuesday, May 26, 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.

Invocation was offered by Rabbi Michael R. Knopf of Temple Beth-El, 3330 Grove Avenue, 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.

Councilor Andreas Addison joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

There were no appointment/reappointment items for consideration.

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no awards or presentations.

CITIZEN COMMENT

It was the consensus of Council to allow individuals that had signed up to provide public comment regarding **Ord. 2019-343** and **Res. 2020-R034**, prior to Council's decision to continue consideration of both items, to provide public comment during the citizen comment period.

Citizens were provided an opportunity to offer comments in writing regarding **ORD. 2019-343 and Res. 2020-R034** 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 May 26, 2020 Formal City Council meeting minutes.

Councilor Michael Jones joined the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Vice President Chris Hilbert joined the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Thomas Courtney addressed Council and expressed his concerns regarding **Ord. 2019-343**. Mr. Courtney provided data regarding the proposed ordinance and stated a majority of short term rental operators would have to cease operations if the ordinance was adopted.

Tyler Rackley addressed Council and expressed his concerns regarding **Ord. 2019-343**. Mr. Rackley stated he appreciated Council's decision to continue consideration of Ord. 2019-343, and that he believed it would provide enough time to address potential amendments regarding the principal occupancy requirement referenced in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Rackley also stated he believed nearly 80% of short term rental operators were using second homes and not primary residences as short term rental space.

Stacie Vanchieri addressed Council and expressed her concerns regarding **Ord. 2019-343**. Ms. Vanchieri stated if Ord. 2019-343 was adopted as currently drafted, it would decimate nearly 80% of the short term rental operators in the city. Ms. Vanchieri informed Council she believed that tourists who visit the city want the ability to rent entire homes and not single rooms

Allan-Charles Chipman addressed Council regarding **Res. 2020-R034**, and expressed his support for Council's decision to continue consideration of the proposed resolution. Mr. Chipman stated he believed a small area plan and appraisals of city-owned property should have been completed before the city declared the city-owned property referenced in Res. 2020-R034 as surplus property. Mr. Chipman also stated more public input was necessary before action was taken on city-owned property.

Sebastian Shetty, Partnership of Smarter Growth member, addressed Council regarding **Res. 2020-R034**, and stated Council should allow more public input before the city-owned property referenced in Res. 2020-R034 is declared as surplus property. Mr. Shetty also stated due do the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, consideration of the proposed resolution should be continued to allow for an effective public review process of the proposed resolution.

AGENDA REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

Councilor Andreas Addison moved to amend the agenda as follows:

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 Monday, June 22, 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 Monday, June 22, 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; and McDonough Street and West 14th Street.

To be continued to Monday, December 14, 2020

ORD. 2020-085

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

To be continued to Monday, June 22, 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 amended and continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

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.

To be continued to Monday, June 22, 2020

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.

To be continued to Monday, June 22, 2020

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.

To be continued to Monday, June 22, 2020

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.

To be continued to Monday, June 22, 2020

ORD. 2020-110

To amend Ord. No. 2019-041, adopted May 13, 2019, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 General Fund Budget and made appropriations pursuant thereto, by reducing total appropriations by \$11,782,826, transferring funds from various agencies and non-departmental programs and the Budget and Revenue Stabilization Contingency Reserve, and appropriating the transferred funds to various agencies and non-departmental programs; and to amend Ord. No. 2019-042, which adopted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Special Fund Budget and made appropriations thereto, by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development's Affordable Housing - Non CDBG Areas special fund by \$1,000,000.00 to provide for affordable housing initiatives.

To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

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 Monday, September 28, 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 Monday, June 22, 2020

RES. 2020-R018

To remove Tanya Francis from the Richmond Public Library Board.

To be continued to Monday, June 8, 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 stricken

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 Monday, June 22, 2020

ORD. 2018-236

To amend ch. 26, art. V, div. 2 of the City Code by adding therein new sections 26-370-26-374, concerning a real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling, for the purpose of establishing a new real estate tax deferral program for real estate owned and occupied as a sole dwelling.

To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

ORD. 2019-343

To amend City Code §§ 30-402.2, 30-411.3, 30-412.2, 30-413.3, 30-413.13, 30-414.2, 30-416.2, 30-418.2, 30-419.4, 30-420.1, 30-426.1, 30-428.1, 30-430.1, 30-433.2, 30-433.11, 30-434.1, 30-436.1, 30-438.1, 30-440.1, 30-442.1, 30-444.2, 30-446.2, 30-447.2, 30-447.11, 30-448.1, 30-450.1, 30-457.1, concerning permitted principal uses, and 30-1220, concerning definitions related to zoning, and to amend ch. 30, art. VI of the City Code by adding therein a new div. 14 (§§ 30-697—30-697.3), concerning short-term rentals. (As Amended)

To be continued to Monday, June 22, 2020

ORD. 2020-041

To amend and reordain Ord. No. 2017-129, adopted Oct. 9, 2017, which authorized the special use of the property known as 1704 Arlington Road for the purpose of illuminated canopy signage, to modify the permitted uses, upon certain terms and conditions.

To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

RES. 2019-R057

To require that Richmond Performing Arts Alliance take all actions necessary to sell at fair market value its property at 623 East Broad Street and contribute the proceeds thereof to its endowment as provided in a Comprehensive Agreement dated Sept. 14, 2007.

To be continued to Monday, July 27, 2020

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.

To be continued to Monday, June 8, 2020

*Vice President Chris Hilbert informed members he opposed the agenda amendments as presented, stating he believed Council should consider **Ord. 2019-343** that evening. Vice President Hilbert stated he would not support consideration of potential amendments to Ord. 2019-343.*

*Councilor Kim Gray clarified that **Ord. 2020-108**, regarding the establishment of a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) Program, was withdrawn and would not be considered by Council that evening. Councilor Gray requested that the C-PACE program be addressed at Council's upcoming Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting, on June 1, 2020.*

*Councilor Stephanie Lynch stated she would help coordinate discussions regarding **Ord. 2019-343**, concerning short term rentals within the city and possible amendments prior to Council's consideration of Ord. 2019-343 at the June 22, 2020 Formal Council meeting.*

The motion to amend the agenda was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Jones, Robertson, Larson, Lynch, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Newbille. Noes 1, Hilbert.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following ordinances and resolutions were considered:

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.

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.

ORD. 2020-086

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

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.

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.

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.

ORD. 2020-106

To authorize the special use of the property known as 1701 North 21st Street for the purpose of two single-family attached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

ORD. 2020-112

To establish a residential permit parking district in the Historic Jackson Ward neighborhood.

ORD. 2020-113

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Deed of Quitclaim of Utility Easement Portion between the City of Richmond and FW-VA The Village Shopping Center, LLC, for the purpose of releasing a portion of a utility easement to FW-VA The Village Shopping Center, LLC.

ORD. 2020-114

To amend ch. 26, art. I of the City Code, concerning taxation, by adding therein a new § 26-3, concerning the application of payments for taxes, for the purpose of providing that the Director of Finance shall not be required to credit all payments of local levies first against the most delinquent account and may instead credit such payments, to the extent permitted by law, in the manner deemed appropriate where the taxpayer has entered into a bona fide payment agreement with the City.

ORD. 2020-115

To amend Appendix A of the City Code for section 12-120(a)(20), concerning rates and discounts for parking facilities operated by the City.

RES. 2020-R014

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

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.

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.

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."

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."

RES. 2020-R035

To accept and approve a budget review process for the City's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 annual budget.

RES. 2020-R036

To urge the city of Richmond's small businesses, real estate companies, and landlords, who receive governmental financial assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, to share the benefits of such financial assistance with the employees and tenants of such entities, as applicable, to minimize employment terminations and housing evictions within the city of Richmond.

Support

Phil Gardner spoke in support of **Res. 2020-R022**, and provided Council with additional information regarding the proposed name of "Gravel Alley" referenced in Res. 2020-R022.

Councilor Kristen Larson shared her appreciation of Mr. Gardner's efforts regarding Res. 2020-R022 and his involvement in the public review process.

There were no further comments or discussions and the **Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted.**

REGULAR AGENDA

The following resolution was considered:

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.

President Cynthia Newbille provided background information regarding the proposed resolution and informed members of plans to memorialize the historic portions of George Mason Elementary School, set to be demolished if Res. 2020-R015 was adopted.

Jason Kamras, Richmond Public Schools (RPS) superintendent, stated the proposed resolution and demolition would allow RPS to provide full outdoor recreational opportunities for RPS students.

Councilor Kim Gray informed Council she did not support the proposed resolution. Councilor Gray stated that a solution regarding historic preservation should have been addressed by all parties involved, prior to the start of school construction.

Councilor Kristen Larson expressed her concerns regarding historic preservation, and stated the issue regarding historic preservation at George Mason Elementary School, should have been resolved prior to the start of school construction.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Res. 2020-015 was adopted:** Ayes 6, Jones, Robertson, Lynch, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes 3, Larson, Gray, Trammell.

MOTIONS

Councilor Kim Gray moved that the following ordinance entitled:

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.

be amended and continued to Monday, June 8, 2020, as follows:

Page 1, Line 5

After the comma following the word "Avenue", insert the word "and"

Page 1, Line 6

After the word "Avenue", strike the comma and the text "and Reedy Avenue Rear"

Page 1, Line 13

After the word "Park", insert a comma followed by the text "As Amended"

Page 2, Line 5

After the word "Park", insert a comma followed by the text "As Amended"

There were no comments or discussion, and **the motion was seconded and unanimously approved.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no minutes of previous meetings for approval.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinance and resolution on Monday, June 8, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2020-125

To amend and reordain City Code § 9-58, which assigns polling places in the city, to relocate and establish a new polling place for Precinct 206.

Patron: Ms. Gray

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, May 28, 2020, at 12:00 p.m.

RES. 2020-R037

To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the development of a housing policy plan to address homelessness and affordable housing in the city of Richmond.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

This resolution was introduced and referred to the Education and Human Services Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, June 4, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

City Council will hold a public hearing on the following ordinances and resolutions on Monday, June 22, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.:

ORD. 2020-126

To authorize the special use of the property known as 420 North 26th Street for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, June 15, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-127

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 1201 North 31st Street and 1201 ½ North 31st 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, June 15, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-128

To authorize the special use of the property known as 2109 East Marshall Street for the purpose of a two-family detached dwelling, upon certain terms and conditions.

Patron: Mayor Stoney (By Request)

This ordinance was introduced and referred to the Planning Commission meeting on Monday, June 15, 2020, at 1:30 p.m.

ORD. 2020-129

To amend Ord. No. 2019-274, adopted Nov. 12, 2019, which amended ch. 11 of the City Code by adding therein a new art. VIII (§§ 11-190-11-197) to establish a commercial property assessed clean energy program in accordance with Va. Code § 15.2-958.3, for the purpose of facilitating the development of clean energy projects, to revise the effective date of the program.

Patrons: Ms. Larson and Mayor Stoney

This ordinance was introduced and referred to Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-130

To amend Ord. No. 2019-338, adopted January 27, 2020, which repealed ch. 26, art. V, div. 3 (§§ 26-397-26-408) of the City Code and amended ch. 26, art. V, by adding there a new div. 3 (§§ 26-408.1-26-408.11) for the purpose of modifying the requirements for the partial exemption of rehabilitated structures from real estate taxation, to provide for the submission of program guidelines and to modify the effective date of such ordinance.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

This ordinance was introduced and referred to Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

ORD. 2020-131

To approve the Work Plan and Budget for the fiscal year ending Jun. 30, 2021, for the provision of services in the Downtown Richmond Special Service and Assessment Districts.

Patron: President Newbille

This ordinance was introduced and referred to Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, June 18, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

Res. 2020-R038

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 eliminate or appropriately reduce parking minimums and restrictions in areas zoned for commercial use and areas within the TOD-1 Transit Oriented Nodal District 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 changes as may be necessary to eliminate or appropriately reduce parking minimums and restrictions in areas zoned for commercial use and areas within the TOD-1 Transit Oriented Nodal District.

Patron: Mr. Addison

This resolution was introduced and referred to Land Use, Housing and Transportation Standing Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.

Res. 2020-R039

To request that the Mayor introduce such budget amendments to the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget as may be necessary to restore funding for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and the Eviction Diversion Program to the amounts proposed in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget introduced on March 6, 2020, in the event that City revenues exceed current projections for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

This resolution was introduced and referred to Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, June 18, 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 7:38 p.m.

CITY CLERK

From: [Pitts, Marianne G. - PDR](#)
To: [Reid, Candice D. - Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: FW: City of Richmond Short-Term Rental Ordinance - At Council Tonight
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 10:41:35 AM

Candice,

Please advise if this email is too late to be included with the public comments.

Thank you,
Marianne

Marianne Pitts
Department of Planning and Development Review
900 E. Broad Street, Room 511, Richmond, VA 23219
Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com



www.richmond300.com

From: Justin C [mailto:j.n.chesney@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 10:30 AM
To: Pitts, Marianne G. - PDR <Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com>
Subject: Re: City of Richmond Short-Term Rental Ordinance - At Council Tonight

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.

To whom it may concern,

This entire process has been woefully handled and it's no wonder why there is such a public lack of faith in city government properly serving its citizens as opposed to back channel private business interests. This email is yet another poignant example of poor practices or worse organizational ineptitude. "If you would like to provide public comment during tonight's virtual meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office before 10:00am:" says the message sent out ONLY 22 minutes prior to 10:00am. The planning commission and council has repeatedly made it crystal clear that they do not actually want nor will they heed any public feedback provided. Surely tonight they will ramrod through whatever asinine proposal they deem fit and inevitably the STR hosts will be left holding the proverbial short straw.

Congratulations in advance on ruining a great city asset for residents and visitors alike.

On Tue, May 26, 2020 at 9:38 AM Pitts, Marianne G. - PDR
<Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com> wrote:

Good Morning,

I am emailing you because you have attended a meeting or completed a survey regarding the City of Richmond's Short-Term Rental legislation. The [legislation](#) is on City Council's Agenda this evening for a vote after being continued for several months. If you would like to provide public comment during tonight's virtual meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office before 10am: 646-7955 (Option 3) or CityClerksOffice@richmondgov.com. I will follow up if we are informed that Council intends to continue the legislation to a future meeting.

Thank you,
Marianne

Marianne Pitts
Department of Planning and Development Review
[900 E. Broad Street, Room 511, Richmond, VA 23219](#)
Marianne.Pitts@richmondgov.com



www.richmond300.com

From: [Thomas Innes](#)
To: [City Clerk's Office](#)
Cc: [Gray, Kimberly B. - City Council](#); [Lynch, Stephanie A. - City Council Office](#)
Subject: Proposed STR Regulations Ord35 2019-343
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 9:20:16 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.

Members of Council,

I hope all of you are staying safe and doing well in the Covid 19 world and I especially thank you for your service during this period.

This is a follow up to several comments I have made, including a detailed letter from me earlier this year. I would urge your support of the proposed STR guidelines, including any amendments that would make it more restrictive and/or add stronger fees and sanctions for violators.

The key is the Primary Residence provision. This solves the original intent of STR discussion for the owner seeking to supplement their income while at the same time preventing the commercial operator from encroaching into residential neighborhoods. While the commercial operators have put forth their points in a compelling presentation, the blanket approval would allow any commercial operator, not just the examples they shared, to run a business. There is no prohibition against any of them applying individually in the future to obtain a STR through the Zoning Variance process.

On behalf of all of the residential neighborhoods in the City, I urge you to support the City's Zoning Department's well thought out and researched proposal.

Thanks,
Tom Innes

--

Thomas N. Innes
Principal Broker
RE/MAX Commonwealth
Licensed in Virginia

From: [LaToya Gray](#)
To: [Reid, Candice D. - Clerk's Office](#)
Subject: Comment on Resolution 2020-R034
Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020 8:54:02 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.

Dear Members of Council,

I hope that this comment finds you well. I am writing to express concern over Resolution 2020-R034 which would have publicly-owned property in the Navy Hill district declared as surplus for the purpose of development. My concern is that this resolution, particularly its timing, will lead to a process that is void of community engagement. This was a huge criticism of the initial Navy Hill development proposal. This resolution was introduced last week in a standing committee that was most likely not well-attended by members of the public with many questions and concerns left unanswered by proponents of the Resolution.

If there is any lesson that can be learned from Navy Hill 1.0, it is that transparency and public accessibility during processes like this are critical. Approval of Resolution 2020-R034, during a time in which the public cannot be fully engaged, would be a step in the wrong direction. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

LaToya Gray
Resident in the 1st District of the City of Richmond