

November 13, 2020

Public Art Commission City of Richmond 900 Broad Street

## Commission Chair:

RPL connected with DPU and RVAH20 during a landscape beautification project at our Westover Hills Branch Library. At that location we implemented features in the landscaping to mitigate and demonstrate to library users the ease and functionality of rainwater retention and diversion.

DPU and RVAH20 assisted by advising and helping us improve and expand the project. In 2018 we worked with James River Association to apply for a DEQ grant to duplicate the Westover Hills project at our other library locations throughout the City of Richmond. We were awarded that grant and will not only do more rainwater mitigation projects with interpretation, but education workshops that will demonstrate rain barrels, bayside gardens, and other ways to slow and control storm water from the James River. This would not have happened without DPU and RVAH2O.

A new awareness campaign uses the library mascot, Ripple the river otter, to deter pollution in storm drains. A stencil of Ripple basking in the James requests that we don't put things in the river that should not be there. Richmond Public Library wishes to expand this effort to other storm water drains throughout the City of Richmond with DPU's help.

Sincerely,

Scott R. Firestine Library Director

- East End Branch 804/646-4474
  1200 North 25th Street, 23223
- Ginter Park Branch 804/646-1236 1200 Westbrook Avenue, 23227
- Hull Street Branch 804/646-8699 1400 Hull Street 23224
- North Avenue Branch 804/646-6675 2901 North Avenue, 23222
- West End Branch 804/646-1877 5420 Patterson Avenue 23222
- Westover Hills Branch 804/646-8833 1408 Westover Hills Boulevard, 23225