

**From:** Diane Thieke <dthieke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2021 8:17 PM  
**To:** PDR Land Use Admin  
**Subject:** Public comment in support of ORD 2021-025

**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 Mr. Poole and Members of the Planning Commission,

As a resident of the city of Richmond, I fully support the proposed project for 500 North 10th Street (Capital City Partners, ORD 2021-025).

I'm a volunteer for Ronald McDonald House Charities. The house on Monument Avenue is a warm, cozy and soothing place for families to stay while their children are receiving medical care. However, the demand for RMHC services is growing, and only nine families – at most – can stay each night. In addition, there's no elevator, and it has pained me at times to see some of our guests struggle with the steep stairs, especially those who bring younger siblings or who have health issues of their own. Parents often make several trips a day between the House and the hospital, which – as you might imagine – can be taxing even when you drive yourself.

A new facility would help RMHC accommodate more families and meet a wider range of needs. This project, with its close proximity to Children's Hospital, will provide a space specifically designed for the needs of RMHC guests. I hope you share my enthusiasm and approve this project.

Best regards,  
Diane S. Thieke  
City of Richmond resident

Email: [dthieke@gmail.com](mailto:dthieke@gmail.com)  
Phone: 609-577-4075

**From:** Marsh Whaling <Marsh@vatech.solutions>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2021 5:00 PM  
**To:** Rodney@thewiltonco.com; lawmanchem@yahoo.com;  
jackthompson1@verizon.net; Saunders, Lincoln - Mayor's Office; Addison,  
Andreas D. - City Council; mhbuchanan@venturerichmond.com;  
dave@johannasdesign.com; murthyvg@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR; City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Sale of Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners

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Good afternoon, my name is Marshall Whaling and I am a board member of Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Richmond began operations in 1980 to serve the needs of families who have sought care from ten hospitals in Central Virginia. Our largest referring partner is Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU. I am extremely proud of our staff who provide the very best care for the hundreds of families we serve every year. Our house today has limited space and while we can serve up to nine families per night, the true demand is between 30+ rooms each night. In addition to the need for more space, we often hear from our families of their need for greater access to their children who are in care at Children's Hospital.

The opportunity for a new Ronald McDonald House will allow us to design the optimal space for all our short-term and longer-term guests. The closer proximity of this location to the Children's Hospital will not only make it more convenient for our families to be with their children while allowing us to expand our offering to a greater number of families.

As we have pursued our interest in the project, we believe strongly that a new facility at this location would meet the needs of the Ronald McDonald House. We also believe that with the proximity to VCUH, this proposal meets the needs of the Health System and The Doorways as well.

Thank you for considering the recommendation of the ordinances and the sale of the Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners.

Marshall Whaling  
President, CBA Enterprises

**From:** Diana Villarreal <diana@rmhc-richmond.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 15, 2021 2:17 PM  
**To:** PDR Land Use Admin  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Planning Commission Meeting

**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 would like to submit my public comment for the Planning Commission Meeting tomorrow at 1:30 pm.

My name is Diana Villarreal, I work in the City of Richmond, and I am a staff member at the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Richmond. Over the past 5 years, we have been working on this project to identify a site with closer proximity to VCU hospital. This proximity will be essential to serving more families while their child is receiving care in the Richmond area. I would like to express my support for the project and ask that you vote in favor of it.

Thank you in advance.

Diana

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**Diana Villarreal, MSW**

Director of Volunteers & Community Engagement

Volunteer & Engagement Team

RMHC Richmond | [www.rmhc-richmond.org/](http://www.rmhc-richmond.org/)

(804) 355-6517 | [diana@rmhc-richmond.org](mailto:diana@rmhc-richmond.org)

2330 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23220

**From:** Darnetta Daire <darnettadaire@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 6:02 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR  
**Subject:** Richmond Public Safety Building

**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.

I am writing to support the sale of Richmond's Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners. I am a board member of the Ronald McDonald House Charities which is one of the organizations that will benefit from this project.

As you may know, Ronald McDonald House Charities has been located in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District since opening its doors in 1980. While we serve 10 hospitals from across the region, our largest referring partner is Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU. We hear from parents on a regular basis that although our house is nice, they need to be closer to their hospitalized child. In 2015 we began looking for land and working with our hospital partners to determine (based on pediatric discharge data) the appropriate size of a Ronald McDonald House. Our current house can serve up to 9 families each night. **The data shows the true need for pediatric medical hospitality ranges from 32-65 rooms per night.** In addition to not enough space, our beautiful 1913 home on Monument Avenue lacks true accessibility and does not have private bathrooms for each family.

This new building will allow us to design the optimal space for all our guests and especially our long-term guests/patients many of whom are immune-compromised and are with us for over a month, some staying 6 months or more. The location is closer to the hospital which will make it safer and easier for our guests to get back and forth. And even more importantly it will allow us to expand the number of rooms available so that we can serve all those who need us. In our current building we are often at capacity and while we try to offer families hotel stays when possible the true need will not be met until we have a new building in close proximity to Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU.

The Public Safety Building has repeatedly been identified as a significant opportunity in the master planning process for the neighborhood and for VCUH.

- Richmond Downtown Master Plan
- Pulse Corridor Plan
- One VCU Master Plan
- Navy Hill Commission findings
- Richmond 300

We have all watched the processes with hope and enthusiasm especially as there has been unanimous agreement on the proposed uses for the Public Safety Building block. Given the proximity to VCUH, this proposal meets the needs of the Health System, The Doorways, and the Ronald McDonald House as each have been identified in each of the master planning documents and confirmed by the input of thousands of Richmonders who participated in the process.

Please recommend the ordinances and sale of the Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners.

Thank you so much,

Darnetta Daire

**From:** Laura Hicks <llhicks23221@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** Addison, Andreas D. - City Council  
**Cc:** Ebinger, Matthew J. - PDR  
**Subject:** Proposed Sale of Richmond's Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners

**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 Mr. Addison,

I am writing to support the sale of Richmond's Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners. I am a resident of Richmond and I work for Ronald McDonald House Charities, which is one of the organizations that will benefit from this project.

As you may know, Ronald McDonald House Charities has been located in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District since opening its doors in 1980. While we serve 10 hospitals from across the region, our largest referring partner is Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU. We hear from parents on a regular basis that although our house is nice, they need to be closer to their hospitalized child. In 2015 we began looking for land and working with our hospital partners to determine (based on pediatric discharge data) the appropriate size of a Ronald McDonald House. Our current house can serve up to 9 families each night. **The data shows the true need for pediatric medical hospitality ranges from 32-65 rooms per night.** In addition to not enough space, our beautiful 1913 home on Monument Avenue lacks true accessibility and does not have private bathrooms for each family.

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We have all watched the processes with hope and enthusiasm especially as there has been unanimous agreement on the proposed uses for the Public Safety Building block. Given the proximity to VCUH, this proposal meets the needs of the Health System, The Doorways, and the Ronald McDonald House as each have been identified in each of the master planning documents and confirmed by the input of thousands of Richmonders who participated in the process.

Please recommend the ordinances and sale of the Public Safety Building to Capital City Partners.

Thank you very much,

Laura L. Hicks

1536 Park Ave

Richmond, VA