



CITY OF RICHMOND

Department of Planning & Development Review ***Staff Report***

Ord. No. 2021-309 - To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to accept funds in the total amount of \$145,000.00 from the James River Outdoor Coalition and to appropriate the increase to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget by increasing estimated revenues and the amount appropriated to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities' Universal Access project in the Culture and Recreation category by \$145,000.00 for the purpose of funding the construction of a universal access ramp at Huguenot Flatwater Park located at 8600 Riverside Drive in the city of Richmond. (4th District)

To: City Planning Commission
From: Land Use Administration
Date: November 15, 2021

PETITIONER

Christopher E. Frelke, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities

LOCATION

Huguenot Flatwater (James River)

PURPOSE

To authorize the Acting Chief Administrative Officer to accept a grant in the amount of \$145,000.00 from the James River Outdoor Coalition (JROC) for the implementation of a Universal Access Ramp at Huguenot Flatwater and amend the Capital Improvement Plan for FY22 (Ord. No. 2021-042) for the purpose of appropriating \$145,000.00 to the Universal Access project account (106388 – Universal Access) in the Culture and Recreation category of the Capital Improvement Program.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

Currently, there is only one ADA compliant river access point in the middle at Reedy Creek which is primarily for whitewater access. The proposed universal access ramp at Huguenot Flatwater will connect the upper 4 miles of the James River with ADA compliant access points at both ends. Paddlers of all abilities will have access to a calmer section of the James River and be able to paddle downriver to Reedy Creek with its accessible takeout.

Currently, a total of \$330,000.00 has been appropriated for Universal Access at Huguenot Flatwater:

- Ordinance No. 2019-041, which adopted the FY20 Capital Budget, appropriated \$150,000.00 for Universal Access at Huguenot Flatwater.
- Ordinance No. 2019-158 established a commitment of \$180,000.00 from the FY19 General Fund Balance for Universal Access at Huguenot Flatwater.
- Ordinance No. 2020-083 amended the FY20 Capital Budget to appropriate an additional \$180,000.00 for Universal Access at Huguenot Flatwater.

Staff recommends approval of this request.

FINDINGS OF FACT

SITE DESCRIPTION

Huguenot Flatwater

PROPOSED USE FOR THE PROPERTY

To provide ADA compliance for river access at Huguenot Flatwater.

MASTER PLAN

The City's Richmond 300 Master Plan designates a future land use for this property as Public Open Space which consists of "public and quasi-public parks, recreation areas, open spaces, and cemeteries." The development style "includes passive and active recreation, natural habitats, cemeteries, and large plazas."

Access: Designed in a manner to allow access by all modes of transportation, while emphasizing connections to bicycle and pedestrian amenities, such as sidewalks, bike lanes, and shared-use paths. Bike parking and other such amenities are provided as well.

Primary Uses: Open space.

Secondary Uses: Cultural, institutional, and governmental. (p. 70)

ZONING

R-2 Single-Family Residential

SURROUNDING AREA

The area includes primarily public open space and single-family detached dwellings.

Staff Contact:

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