



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** ORD. 2023-320, **Version:** 1

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To authorize the special use of the property known as 1904 Powhatan Street for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions. (5<sup>th</sup> District)

WHEREAS, the owner of the property known as 1904 Powhatan Street, which is situated in a R-5 Single-Family Residential District, desires to use such properties for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, which use, among other things, is not currently allowed by sections 30-410.4, concerning lot area and width, and 30-410.5(2), concerning side yards, of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 17.11 of the Charter of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, it has been made to appear that, if granted subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance, the special use granted by this ordinance will not be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved, will not tend to create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved, will not create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers, will not tend to overcrowding of land and cause an undue concentration of population, will not adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements, and will not interfere with adequate light and air; and

WHEREAS, (i) the City Planning Commission has conducted a public hearing to investigate the circumstances and conditions upon which the Council is empowered to authorize such use, (ii) the City Planning Commission has reported to the Council the results of such public hearing and investigation and its recommendations with respect thereto, and (iii) the Council has conducted a public hearing on this ordinance at which the person in interest and all other persons have had an opportunity to be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE,

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. **Finding.** Pursuant to section 30-1050.1 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, the Council hereby finds that the special use set forth in and subject to the terms and conditions of this ordinance will not (i) be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved, (ii) tend to create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved, (iii) create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers, (iv) tend to overcrowding of land and cause an undue concentration of population, (v) adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements, or (vi) interfere with adequate light and air.

§ 2. **Grant of Special Use Permit.**

(a) Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance, the property known as 1904 Powhatan Street and identified as Tax Parcel No. W000-0838/010 in the 2023 records of the City Assessor, being more particularly shown on a survey entitled “Survey and Plat of 1904 Powhatan Street, in the City of Richmond, Virginia,” prepared by Frederick A. Gibson & Associates, P.C., and dated February 15, 2023, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of this ordinance, hereinafter referred to as “the Property,” is hereby permitted to be used for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, hereinafter referred to as “the Special Use,” substantially as shown on the plans entitled “Plat Showing Proposed Division of 1904 Powhatan Street, in the City of Richmond, Virginia,” prepared by Frederick A. Gibson & Associates, P.C., and dated February 15, 2023, and “1902 Powhatan St,” prepared by River Mill Development, and dated February 28, 2023, hereinafter referred to, collectively, as “the Plans,” copies of which are attached to and made a part of this ordinance.

(b) The adoption of this ordinance shall constitute the issuance of a special use permit for the Property. The special use permit shall inure to the benefit of the owner or owners of the fee simple title to the

Property as of the date on which this ordinance is adopted and their successors in fee simple title, all of which are hereinafter referred to as “the Owner.” The conditions contained in this ordinance shall be binding on the Owner.

§ 3. **Special Terms and Conditions.** This special use permit is conditioned on the following special terms and conditions:

(a) The Special Use of the Property shall be as two single-family detached dwellings, substantially as shown on the Plans.

(b) The height of the Special Use shall not exceed two stories, substantially as shown on the Plans.

(c) All building materials, elevations, and site improvements shall be substantially as shown on the Plans.

(d) All mechanical equipment serving the Property shall be located or screened so as not to be visible from any public right-of-way.

(e) Prior to the issuance of any building permit for the Special Use, the establishment of two lots, substantially as shown on the Plans, shall be accomplished by obtaining the necessary approvals from the City and recording the appropriate plats and deeds among the land records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond.

§ 4. **Supplemental Terms and Conditions.** This special use permit is conditioned on the following supplemental terms and conditions:

(a) All required final grading and drainage plans, together with all easements made necessary by such plans, must be approved by the Director of Public Utilities prior to the issuance of the building permit.

(b) Storm or surface water shall not be allowed to accumulate on the land. The Owner, at its sole cost and expense, shall provide and maintain at all times adequate facilities for the drainage of storm or surface water from the Property so as not to adversely affect or damage any other property or public streets and the use thereof.

(c) Facilities for the collection of refuse shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Director of Public Works. Such facilities shall be located or screened so as not to be visible from adjacent properties and public streets.

(d) Any encroachments existing, proposed on the Plans or contemplated in the future shall require separate authorization and shall be subject to the applicable provisions of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and all future amendments to such laws.

(e) In all other respects, the use of the Property shall be in accordance with the applicable underlying zoning regulations.

§ 5. **General Terms and Conditions.** This special use permit is conditioned on the following general terms and conditions:

(a) No permit implementing this special use permit shall be approved until satisfactory evidence has been presented to the Zoning Administrator that any delinquent real estate taxes applicable to the Property have been paid.

(b) The Owner shall be bound by, shall observe and shall comply with all other laws, ordinances, rules and regulations applicable to the Property, except as otherwise expressly provided in this ordinance.

(c) Words and phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted to have the meanings ascribed to them by section 30-1220 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, unless the context clearly indicates that a different meaning is intended.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this special use permit is being approved due, in part, to the mitigating effects of each and every condition attached hereto; consequently, if any portion of this ordinance is determined to be invalid for any reason by a final, non-appealable order of any Virginia or federal court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity shall cause the entire ordinance to be void and of no further effect from the effective date of such order.

(e) The privileges granted by this ordinance may be revoked pursuant to the provisions of sections

30-1050.7 through 30-1050.11 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and all future amendments to such laws. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of this ordinance shall constitute a violation of section 30-1080 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and all future amendments to such law, or any other applicable laws or regulations.

(f) When the privileges granted by this ordinance terminate and the special use permit granted hereby becomes null and void, whether as a result of the Owner relinquishing this special use permit in a writing addressed to the Director of Planning and Development Review or otherwise, use of the Property shall be governed thereafter by the zoning regulations prescribed for the district in which the Property is then situated.

§ 6. **Implementation.** The Commissioner of Buildings is authorized to issue a building permit substantially in accordance with the Plans for the Special Use subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this ordinance. An application for the building permit shall be made within 730 calendar days following the date on which this ordinance becomes effective. If either the application for the building permit is not made within the time period stated in the previous sentence or the building permit terminates under any provision of the Virginia Statewide Building Code, this ordinance and the special use permit granted hereby shall terminate and become null and void.

§ 7. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

### **O & R Request**

**DATE:** September 12, 2023

**EDITION:** 1

**TO:** The Honorable Members of City Council

**THROUGH:** The Honorable Levar M. Stoney, Mayor (Mayor, by Request)  
(This is no way reflects a recommendation on behalf of the Mayor.)

**THROUGH:** J.E. Lincoln Saunders, Chief Administrative Officer

**THROUGH:** Sharon L. Ebert, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic  
Development and Planning

**FROM:** Kevin J. Vonck, Director, Department of Planning and Development Review

**RE:** To authorize the special use of the property known as 1904 Powhatan Street for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

**ORD. OR RES. No.**

**PURPOSE:** To authorize the special use of the property known as 1904 Powhatan Street for the purpose of two single-family detached dwellings, upon certain terms and conditions.

**REASON:** The applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit to authorize a lot split to create two, individual single-family dwellings on two, independent lots within an R-5 Single-Family Residential District. While the use is permitted the lot split would create conditions which would not meet the current lot area and width, and side-yard requirements for a single family detached dwellings. A Special Use Permit is therefore required.

**RECOMMENDATION:** In accordance with the requirements of the City Charter and the Zoning Ordinance, the City Planning Commission will review this request and make a recommendation to City Council.

**BACKGROUND:** The property is located in the Randolph neighborhood on Powhatan Street between South Meadow and South Allen Streets. The property is currently an 8,492 sq. ft. (.195 acre) parcel of land, improved with a single-story, 1,156 sq. ft. dwelling, constructed, per tax assessment records, in 1938. The City's Richmond 300 Master Plan designates a future land use for the subject property as Residential, which is defined as "Neighborhood consisting primarily of single-family houses on large- or medium-sized lots more homogeneous in nature."

Intensity: Buildings are generally one to three stories. Lot sizes generally range up to 5,000 to 20,000+ sq. ft. Residential density of 2 to 10 housing units per acre.

Primary Uses: Single-family houses, accessory dwelling units, and open space.

Secondary Uses: Duplexes and small multi-family buildings (typically 3-10 units), institutional, and cultural. Secondary uses may be found along major streets.

The current zoning for this property is R-5 Single-Family Residential District. All adjacent and nearby properties are located primarily within the same R-5 zone. The area is generally single family residential, with some two-family residential, and some multi-family residential and institutional uses, present in the vicinity. The proposed density of the parcel is 2 units upon .195 acres, or 10 units per acre.

**FISCAL IMPACT / COST:** The Department of Planning and Development Review does not anticipate any impact to the City's budget for this or future fiscal years.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** Staff time for processing the request; preparation of draft ordinance; and publishing, mailing and posting of public notices.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT NECESSARY:** No

**REVENUE TO CITY:** \$300 application fee

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon adoption

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** October 10, 2023

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** November 13, 2023

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** None

**CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES:** Planning Commission  
November 6, 2023

**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** Office of Chief Administrative Officer  
Law Department (for review of draft ordinance)

**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** None

**REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S):** None

**ATTACHMENTS:** Draft Ordinance, Application Form, Applicant's Report, Plans, Survey, Map

**STAFF:** Jonathan Brown, Senior Planner, Land Use Administration (Room 511) 646-5734

**Key Issues:**

Retain on Consent Agenda

Move to Regular Agenda

Refer Back to Committee

Remove from Council Agenda

Strike

Withdrawn

Continue to: