



Legislation Text

File #: ORD. 2023-122, **Version:** 1

To authorize the special use of the properties known as 600 Tredegar Street and 501 South 5th Street for the purpose of wall signs, upon certain terms and conditions. (6th District)

WHEREAS, the owner of the properties known as 600 Tredegar Street and 501 South 5th Street, which are situated in a B-4 Central Business District, desires to use such properties for the purpose of wall signs, which use, among other things, is not currently allowed by section 30-516(2)(b), concerning permitted sign area, 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 properties known as 600 Tredegar Street and 501 South 5th Street and identified as Tax Parcel Nos. W000-0043/001 and W000-0043/002, respectively, in the 2023 records of the City Assessor, being more particularly shown on a survey entitled “Costar, City of Richmond, Virginia, SUP Plat Exhibit - 501 S 5th Street,” prepared by Timmons Group, and dated February 1, 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 wall signs, hereinafter referred to as “the Special Use,” substantially as shown on the plans entitled “Exterior Building Signage, Costar Group, Richmond Campus,” prepared by afreeman, and dated January 2, 2023, hereinafter referred to 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 wall signs, substantially as shown on the Plans.

(b) In addition to the signs permitted in section 3(a) of this ordinance, (i) signs permitted in all zoning districts, pursuant to section 30-505 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, and (ii) signs permitted in the B-4 Central Business District, pursuant to sections 30-516(1), 30-516(2)(a), 30-516(3), and 30-516(4) of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020), as amended, shall be permitted on the Property.

§ 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: March 14, 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 600 Tredegar Street, for the
purpose of signage, upon certain terms and conditions

ORD. OR RES. No.

PURPOSE: To authorize the special use of the property known as 600 Tredegar Street, for the purpose of signage, upon certain terms and conditions

REASON: The applicant is requesting a Special Use Permit to authorize signage on office buildings, within the B-4 - Business (Central Business) District. While the signage is permitted by the underlying B-4 - Business (Central Business) zoning district, some of the applicable feature requirements cannot be met. 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 in the Gambles Hill neighborhood between 5TH Street and 7TH Street. The property is currently a 169,709 (3.9 acres) parcel of land with an office campus. The City's Richmond 300 Master Plan designates a future land use for the subject property as Downtown Mixed-Use, which is defined as, "high-density development with office buildings, residential buildings, and a mix of complementary uses, including regional destinations in a highly-walkable urban environment".

Primary Uses: Retail/office/ personal service, multi-family residential, cultural, institutional, government, and open space

Intensity: Buildings typically a minimum height of five stories.

The current zoning for the property is B-4 - Business (Central Business) District. All adjacent and nearby properties are located primarily within the same B-4 - Business (Central Business) District. The area is generally commercial properties.

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: April 10, 2023

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE: May 8, 2023

REQUESTED AGENDA: Consent

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE: None

CONSIDERATION BY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES: City Planning Commission
May 1, 2023

AFFECTED AGENCIES: Office of Chief Administrative Office
sLaw Department (for review of draft ordinance)

RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.: None

REQUIRED CHANGES TO WORK PROGRAM(S): None

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

STAFF: Shaianna Trump, Associate Planner, Land Use Administration (Room 511) 804-646-7319

Key Issues:

Retain on Consent Agenda

Move to Regular Agenda

Refer Back to Committee

Remove from Council Agenda

Strike

Withdrawn

Continue to: