



## **2018 General Assembly Session**

### **Legislative Agenda**

**(DRAFT)**



# NORFOLK

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## **Norfolk City Council**

The Honorable Kenneth C. Alexander, Mayor

The Honorable Theresa W. Whibley, Vice Mayor

The Honorable Martin A. Thomas

The Honorable Mamie Johnson

The Honorable Paul R. Riddick

The Honorable Thomas R. Smigiel

The Honorable Andria P. McClellan

The Honorable Angelia Williams Graves

## **City Manager**

Douglas L. Smith

## **City Attorney**

Bernard Pishko

## **City Clerk**

R. Breckenridge Daughtrey

## **General Assembly Members**

### **(Senate)**

The Honorable Lionell Spruill, Sr., 5th Senatorial District  
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P.O. Box 396 - Richmond VA 23218  
Email: [district05@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district05@senate.virginia.gov)  
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Legislative Assistant: Susan Johnston Rowland

The Honorable Lynwood Lewis, 6th Senatorial District  
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Legislative Assistant: Jessie Williams

The Honorable Frank Wagner, 7th Senatorial District  
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### **(House of Delegates)**

The Honorable Stephen E. Heretick, 79th House District  
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The Honorable Matthew James, 80th House District  
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The Honorable Christopher P. Stolle, 83rd House District  
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The Honorable Daun Sessoms Hester, 89th House District  
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Legislative Assistant: Ann Fitzgibbon  
***\*Member until 1/1/2018\****

The Honorable Joseph C. Lindsey, 90th House District  
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Legislative Assistant: Shakira Brown

The Honorable Robert S. Bloxom, Jr., 100th House District  
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Legislative Assistant: Joseph Hopkins

## **2018 General Assembly Legislative Requests**

The Norfolk City Council respectfully recommends that the 2018 General Assembly consider approving the following legislative requests:

1. Clarify Virginia Code Section §58.1-3958 that attorney fees imposed on delinquent real estate taxes not exceed 20 percent.
2. Remove reference to Norfolk as an appointed school board in Subsection C of Virginia Code Section §22.1-32.
3. Amend Norfolk City Charter §62 (Division of Fire) by removing paragraph 5. The city does not need this paragraph to have the power to fight and extinguish fires. There are very broad powers granted under Charter section 2(18) that will remain in effect.

## **2018 General Assembly Legislative Priorities**

The Norfolk City Council respectfully advances to the 2018 General Assembly the following legislative priorities:

1. Support establishing a protective floor price for the 2.1 percent regional wholesale gas tax in Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia.
2. Support and fund the creation of a Secretariat for Coastal Protection position.
3. Amend Virginia Code Section § 15.2-1812 to allow for the removal/relocation of monuments and memorials.
4. Oppose loosening restrictions on the sale and use of consumer fireworks.
5. Retain local land use authority for expanding wireless and broadband technologies.
6. Support the decriminalization of simple possession of marijuana as well as the expansion of conditions that physicians licensed by the Virginia Board of Medicine can treat with cannabidiol or THC-A oil.

7. Support efforts of the Port of Virginia in deepening the Norfolk Harbor Channel from 50 feet to 55 feet.
8. Support extending the maximum groundwater permit to 15 years and oppose imposition of groundwater fess on households and businesses that are connected to a public water supply.
9. Support adding Virginia General Assembly members representing Hampton Roads to the Transportation District Commission of Hampton Roads' governing board.
10. Oppose anonymity of taxpayers offering Airbnb services.
11. Support the use of unmanned drones during natural disasters.
12. Continue support for the Governor's Access Plan (GAP).
13. Support Medicaid expansion.

## **2018 General Budget Amendment Requests**

The Norfolk City Council respectfully recommends that the 2018 General Assembly consider approving the following budget requests:

1. Add Norfolk Naval Air Station chambers to list of airfields eligible to receive funds from the Commonwealth to buy out encroachments.

## **2018 General Assembly Budget Priorities**

The Norfolk City Council respectfully advances to the 2018 General Assembly the following budget priorities:

1. Support new avenues for funding public school construction and renovation costs, including the creation of a two-year pilot program of competitive grants using funds from the Virginia Public Building Authority

to offset new construction or renovation costs for publicly owned and operated K-12 schools.

2. Provide continued investment in the Stormwater Local Assistance Fund (SLAF) for improvements and installation of effective stormwater management controls in urban lands as required in the Virginia Watershed Implementation Plan.
3. Support increased funding for statewide transit capital needs.
4. Support a dedicated regional funding source for public transit in Hampton Roads without a reduction in funding for other transportation needs.
5. Support the business-led statewide "GOVirginia" initiative to grow and diversify the private sector in each Virginia region and enhance regional efficiencies and cost savings collaboration.
6. Advance mental healthcare services by increasing ID/DD Waiver slots and supporting workforce development opportunities for behavioral health consumers.
7. Increase state funding support for Virginia's Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades to reduce the flow of pollution to the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia Rivers.
8. Support funding a flood mitigation revolving fund and add flood mitigation efforts to historic tax credits.
9. Support fully funding Step-Virginia.