

Media Advisory Department of Public Works Providing a clean, safe and healthy environment

Richmond, Virginia The Honorable Mayor Levar M. Stoney

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City Launches Tree Pruning Project to Enhance Safety on Roadways ~Project is in accordance with Vision Zero initiative~

RICHMOND, Va. – Department of Public Works crews today will begin trimming and pruning trees along the city's major thoroughfares and intersections to increase sight distance and visibility of regulatory signage. They will begin along Jefferson Davis Highway.

Public Works Director Bobby Vincent said this safety measure aligns with the city's Vision Zero initiative, "Evaluating and implementing our policies regarding sight distance at intersections is a major portion of our approach to supporting Vision Zero and Mayor Levar M. Stoney's commitment to the initiative." Vision Zero is a multidisciplinary strategy designed to eliminate traffic fatalities and severe injuries by increasing safety measures.

Crews will spend the remainder of the year pruning back trees at intersections and major thoroughfares citywide. According to Director Vincent, the Transportation Engineering Division will employ an arborist to assist with proper pruning procedures and address service requests.

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The City of Richmond Department of Public Works (DPW) is one of only 146 accredited public works agencies in the United States. DPW's portfolio comprises a wide array of services to include leaf collection; street, sidewalk and alley maintenance; trash collection; recycling; urban forestry; signs; signals and pavement markings; grass cutting; graffiti removal; and parking. In addition, DPW issues permits for working in the city's right-of-way, manages Richmond's Bike Share program and maintains the fleet of city vehicles. DPW's operating budget comes from the general fund of the City of Richmond. For more information about DPW services, <u>click here</u> or call 3-1-1.