



DEPARTMENT OF
**PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
REVIEW**

Application for **SPECIAL USE PERMIT**

Department of Planning and Development Review
Land Use Administration Division
900 E. Broad Street, Room 511
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 646-6304

<https://rva.gov/planning-development-review>

Application is hereby submitted for: (check one)

- special use permit, new
- special use permit, plan amendment
- special use permit, text only amendment

Project Name/Location

Property Address: _____ Date: _____

Parcel I.D. #: _____ Fee: _____

Total area of affected site in acres: _____

(See page 6 for fee schedule, please make check payable to the "City of Richmond")

Zoning

Current Zoning: _____

Richmond 300 Land Use Designation: _____

Proposed Use

(Please include a detailed description of the proposed use in the required applicant's report)

Existing Use: _____

Is this property subject to any previous land use cases?

Yes No

If Yes, please list the Ordinance Number: _____

Applicant/Contact Person: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _() _____ Fax: _() _____

Email: _____

Property Owner: _____

If Business Entity, name and title of authorized signee: _____

(The person or persons executing or attesting the execution of this Application on behalf of the Company certifies that he or she has or have been duly authorized and empowered to so execute or attest.)

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _() _____ Fax: _() _____

Email: _____

Property Owner Signature: _____

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of all owners of the property are required. Please attach additional sheets as needed. If a legal representative signs for a property owner, please attach an executed power of attorney. Faxed or photocopied signatures will not be accepted.

NOTE: Please attach the required plans, checklist, and a check for the application fee (see Filing Procedures for special use permits)



In instances where it has been determined that underlying zoning regulations cannot be met, a special use permit may be granted by City Council to provide relief from zoning regulations.

Special use permit applications are reviewed for compliance with the Richmond 300 to ensure the proposal is compatible with the surrounding area and that it is an appropriate use for the site. Specifically, applications are reviewed to ensure that the City Charter conditions for granting special use permits have been met. The City Charter requires that prior to City Council approval; it must be shown that the proposed special use will not:

1. be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved;
2. create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved;
3. create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers;
4. tend to cause overcrowding of land and an undue concentration of population;
5. adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements; or
6. interfere with adequate light and air.

Applicants **are encouraged** to schedule a pre-application conference with the Division of Land Use Administration staff to review related Master Plan, land use and other issues that may be involved prior to making application. Please call (804) 646-6304 to schedule an appointment with the staff. Staff will review submitted applications to ensure all required materials and information are provided. If the application is not acceptable, the required information must be provided prior to formal staff review.

Applicants should also discuss the proposed special use permit with area civic associations, property owners, residents, and the area Council Representative prior to submitting an application. Letters from the associations and property owners stating their position in regards to the request should be submitted with the application.

The Division of Land Use Administration circulates the special use permit application materials to appropriate City agencies as determined necessary. City agencies reviewing the proposal may include: Public Works, Building Permits & Inspections, Public Utilities, Water Resources, Zoning Administration, and Fire and Emergency Services. The Division of Land Use Administration will coordinate responses by City agencies. Written comments will be provided generally within 30 days of the application submittal date.

After review by these agencies and by the Division of Land Use Administration, the staff will confer with the applicant regarding suggested conditions to be included in the ordinance and any suggested changes to the plans. If the property is located in a City Old and Historic District and the request involves exterior alterations, additions or new construction, the plans should also be reviewed by the Commission of Architectural Review prior to an ordinance being introduced in City Council. Once the plans are in final form, an ordinance is drafted and the plans are attached to and are made a part of the ordinance. The staff will forward a copy of the ordinance to the applicant for review and approval.

The ordinance is then reviewed by the City Attorney's office and the City Administration. Once their review is complete, the ordinance is introduced to City Council and a public hearing is scheduled, usually thirty days after introduction. During this thirty-day period, public notice of the hearing is posted on the site and in a daily newspaper. Notices are also mailed to the owners of all properties within 150 feet of the subject property. One week prior to the City Council public hearing, the Planning Commission, after receiving a report from the Department of Planning and Development Review, considers the proposed special use permit and forwards a recommendation to City Council. The Planning Commission welcomes information submitted prior to the meeting and may ask questions of proponents and opponents during the course of its deliberation on the ordinance. Six affirmative votes of City Council are required to adopt a special use ordinance. Please note that there is a fee of \$250 for each continuance caused by the applicant.

If the special use ordinance is adopted by City Council, the applicant has a specified time period in which to apply for a building permit to implement the special use permit. Building permit plans must be substantially in accordance with the adopted special use permit plans, otherwise a building permit will not be issued. In general, the approval process for special use permits takes between 120 to 180 days. However, depending on the complexity of the proposed special use permit, more or less time may be required. The City Planning Commission considers approval of special use permits at its regular meetings on the first and third Monday of each month. Incomplete submissions or major modifications to the plan during the review process may cause delays in the schedule.



FILING

Special use permit applications are filed with the:

Department of Planning and Development Review
Land Use Administration Division, Room 511
City Hall, 900 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219
Telephone (804) 646-6304

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The application for a special use permit must include the following, each part of which is explained below. **Application must be submitted in an electronic format (PDF) to PDRLandUseAdmin@rva.gov.**

1. Application form;
2. Application fee;
3. Applicant's report;
4. Electronic PDF plans; and
5. Survey plat.

1. Application Form: All owners of the property must sign the application form. If a legal representative signs for a property owner, a copy of an executed power of attorney is required.

2. Application Fee: The appropriate fee must accompany the application. Checks should be made payable to the "City of Richmond". The fees are determined from the attached fee schedule.

3. Applicant's Report: A written report must be submitted describing the proposed use. For non-residential development, the description should include the anticipated number of employees, hours of operation, and an estimated amount of vehicular traffic that will be generated by the use. The report should point out the specific features of the special use that will ensure that it will be compatible with the surrounding area, and that it is an appropriate use for the site. In addition, the City Charter specifies certain conditions that must be met before City Council can approve a special use permit. It must be shown that the proposed special use will not:

- a. be detrimental to the safety, health, morals and general welfare of the community involved;
- b. tend to create congestion in streets, roads, alleys and other public ways and places in the area involved;
- c. create hazards from fire, panic or other dangers;
- d. tend to cause overcrowding of land and an undue concentration of population;
- e. adversely affect or interfere with public or private schools, parks, playgrounds, water supplies, sewage disposal, transportation or other public requirements, conveniences and improvements; or
- f. interfere with adequate light and air.

The report must indicate the reasons why the applicant feels these conditions will be met (e.g., features of the plan, characteristics of the proposed use or surrounding area). Please note that the above materials will be forwarded to the City Planning Commission and City Council along with the special use permit ordinance.



FILING

4. **Plans:** Plans are required to provide sufficient detail to permit the staff to make a determination of the compatibility of the proposed project with surrounding development. Plans must be properly scaled and include a scale bar. Depending on the request, plans may include the following:

- a. Site Plan
- b. Elevation Plans
- c. Floor Plans
- d. Landscape Plans
- e. Signage Plan & Details
- f. Lighting Plan & Details

In some cases not all plans would be relevant to the request and may not be required. If there is a question about the level of detail required, please contact Land Use Administration Staff. Electronic Plans (PDF) are required with the initial application and any subsequent resubmissions. Electronic plans may be submitted on a disk or via email at: PDRLandUseAdmin@rva.gov

5. **Survey Plat:** A PDF of a survey plat showing the property and including metes and bounds is required. The plat should show existing physical features of the property, including:
 - a. North arrow, scale, property address, the distance to nearest public street, preparer of plat, date, revision dates, area of site;
 - b. Existing structures, buildings, paved areas, fences, streets, alleys, easements, and limits of the 100 year flood plain, Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area limits, wetlands, and streams.



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(As of 7/1/2024) **(FEE SCHEDULE)**

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COMMUNITY UNIT PLAN

Preliminary	\$3,000 + \$100/acre ¹
Extension of Preliminary Approval	\$1,500
Final	\$1,500 + \$100/acre ¹
Amendment	\$1,500 + \$100/acre ¹

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Initial	\$1,500 + \$100/acre ²
Amendment	\$1,000 + \$100/acre ²

PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT

Floor area & Land disturbed ≤5,000 square feet	\$ 500 + \$100/acre ²
Floor area & Land disturbed ≥5,001 & ≤50,000 square feet	\$1,000 + \$100/acre ²
Floor area & Land disturbed ≥50,001 square feet	\$1,500 + \$100/acre ²

REZONING/CONDITIONAL REZONING

Each continuance caused by the applicant	\$1,500 + \$100/acre ²
	\$250

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

<i>Use</i>	<i>Initial</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
Sign, patio, fence, wall, other improvement that is not a building/structure	\$400	\$200
Principal use of 1 or 2 dwelling units (excluding short term rental uses)	\$400	\$200
Principal use of 3-12 dwelling units (excluding short term rental uses)	\$800	\$400
Day nursery or outdoor dining uses, less than or equal to 5,000 square feet and less than or equal to 3 stories	\$400	\$200
Adult care residence, adult day care facility, emergency/permanent supportive housing, social services delivery, and transitional housing uses, less than or equal to 5,000 square feet and less than or equal to 3 stories	\$800	\$400
Adult care residences, adult day care facility, emergency/permanent supportive housing, social service delivery, and transitional housing uses, greater than 5,000 square feet or greater than or equal to 3 stories	\$1,200	\$600
Other uses, less than or equal to 5,000 square feet and less than or equal to 3 stories	\$2,400	\$1,200
Other uses, greater than 5,000 square feet or greater than 3 stories	\$3,600	\$1,800

A full refund of the application fee is permitted if the application is withdrawn prior to the second submittal of plans. Once a second submittal of plans is made, fees are not refundable.

¹For Community Unit Plans (CUP), the first 10 acres are included in the base price.

²For Conditional Use Permits, Plans of Development, and Rezonings, the first acre is included in the base price.

For all applications with an additional price per acre, fractions of an acre are rounded up to the nearest whole number. Do not prorate the fee per fraction of acre.

• Example: A Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a 0.76 acre property would owe \$1,500 (base fee only). A CUP for a 2.3 acre property would owe \$1,700 (\$1,500 base fee + 2*100 (for the 1.3 acres over the first acre))

* No charge for the 1st continuance requested by the applicant or for any continuance requested by the Planning Commission. The second or subsequent continuance request by the applicant costs \$50.

