



TWO CAPITOLS CONSULTING

Federal & State Government Strategies

General Assembly Update Hampton City Council

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August 14, 2024



Hampton 2024 Legislative Requests

- ❑ **Provide Localities the Authority to Regulate Blight in Neighborhoods:
Vacant Building Registry**
 - ❑ **Passed both House & Senate; Signed by the Governor and took effect July 1st**

- ❑ **Add Municipal Park Rangers, 911 Operators and Animal Control Officers to the List of Local Employees Who Receive Enhanced Hazardous Duty Retirement Benefits**
 - ❑ **Passed Senate 40-0; Failed to pass in the House Appropriations Committee**

Hampton 2024 Legislative Requests

- ❑ **Authorize Local Governments to Provide for the Lawful Seizure, Impounding, and Disposition of An Illegally Operated All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV)**
 - ❑ Passed both House and Senate; Signed by the Governor and took effect July 1st
- ❑ **Request a Code Change Related to Public Meetings Under FOIA (*Gloss v. Wheeler* fix)**
 - ❑ Passed both House and Senate; signed by the Governor and took effect July 1st
- ❑ **Request a Study of Virginia's Barrier Crimes Statutes Related to Credible Messengers**
 - ❑ Failed to pass in House Rules Committee; The Speaker of the House requested a study by the Crime Commission

Hampton Budget Amendments

- ☐ Fund Rental Increase for the Hampton Health District
 - ☐ No increase in final budget; discussions are ongoing
- ☐ Fund Rental Increase for the Hampton Human Services Department
 - ☐ No increase in final budget

- ☐ *Support Funding Request of \$1.5 million for Fort Wool Restoration Efforts
 - ☐ Not included in final budget

*Not a direct request from Hampton

Special Session Budget Deal Highlights

- Maintains the conference report language/funding to provide the state share of a three percent salary increase on July 1, of each year of the biennium for SOQ-recognized instructional and support positions
- Maintains the conference report approach to allow up to \$200 million the first year and \$50.0 million the second year in Literary Fund proceeds for school construction loans over the biennium
- Appropriates \$200 million each year of the biennial budget from the proceeds of state bonds to the water quality improvement fund for nutrient reduction projects at wastewater facilities across Virginia.
- Maintains the conference report increase in funding (\$10.0 million each year) for a total of \$296.65 million each year for localities with police departments.
- Provides approximately \$145 million for the Washington Metropolitan Transit system, toll relief in Hampton Roads

2024 Special Session I

- ❑ Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Program (VMSDEP)
 - ❑ The legislation fully repealed the changes to VMSDEP and related tuition waivers and provided an additional \$90 million from the FY 2024 surplus to offset costs of the program. When added to the amounts appropriated in Chapter 2, this will provide \$65 million in each year of the 2024-2026 biennium.
 - ❑ General Assembly approved on July 18th
- ❑ Skill Games
 - ❑ There have been several bills introduced during the Special Session however none have been considered by a legislative committee
 - ❑ There is a possibility that the General Assembly convenes again later this fall to consider skill games legislation
- ❑ The Special Session convened on May 13th and the General Assembly is procedurally still in session and may come back to Richmond at the call of leadership

Interim Legislative Work

- ❑ Hampton's Community Development team has been very active in the Virginia First Cities (VFC) Access to Housing Workgroup
 - ❑ We expect legislative recommendations will be presented later this fall
- ❑ The City Attorney's Office is involved in a FOIA Council study of SB 324 that will review the costs of FOIA requests
- ❑ Several Members of the Hampton City Council have been actively participating in the Virginia Municipal League policy committees
- ❑ The Two Capitols team is monitoring several important legislative commission and committees ahead of the 2025 General Assembly to include:
 - ❑ Virginia Housing Commission
 - ❑ Public Procurement Workgroup
 - ❑ FOIA Council
 - ❑ House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees
 - ❑ Joint Commission on Technology and Science

2025 Legislative Agenda Timeline

Mid-October

Draft and present legislative agenda with coordination from City Council, City Manager, and City Attorney

Mid-November/End of November

Finalize legislation for General Assembly members and have bills pre-filed (deadline for pre-filed drafting is November 25, 2024) We expect bill limits of 15 in the House and 20 in the Senate



August-October

Gather ideas for the legislative package to present to City Council for discussion

Early November/Mid-November

Finalize legislative agenda and present for approval by City Council

Start sharing legislative package with members of the General Assembly

December

Finalize any budget amendments

Session starts January 8, 2025 at Noon (45 day session)



Questions?