

# City of Richmond



October 8, 2025

The Honorable Glenn A. Youngkin  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia  
Patrick Henry Building, 1111 E Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

**Subject: Budget Request for Richmond Waterworks to Enhance Regional Resiliency**

Dear Governor Youngkin,

On behalf of the City of Richmond, I am writing to respectfully request the inclusion of \$40 million in Fiscal Year 2027 and \$40 million in Fiscal Year 2028 in the Commonwealth's biennial budget to support critical projects that will enhance regional resiliency of the Richmond Waterworks.

The Richmond Waterworks provides clean, reliable drinking water and fire protection to more than 500,000 residents, businesses, institutions, and state offices across the City of Richmond and portions of Henrico, Chesterfield, and Hanover counties. We have consulted with our counterparts in Central Virginia to assist in developing this request and are in alignment that, while one of the oldest in Virginia, this regional system still serves as the backbone of public health and economic vitality for the Greater Richmond area.

Despite the City's strong commitment to infrastructure investment, Richmond households already bear some of the highest combined water and wastewater utility bills in the Commonwealth. For many residents, these costs approach or exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's affordability benchmark. Without state assistance, needed capital improvements risk either delay in execution or further burden our ratepayers, especially our most vulnerable households.

Richmond has prepared a comprehensive 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to guide modernization and resiliency investments for the waterworks system, the total investment for the water system approaches \$1.4 billion over the next ten years through rate increases and regional funding.

The \$80 million requested for FY 2027–2028 represents an essential first step in implementing this 10-year CIP while minimizing the need for further rate increases on Richmond residents. Inclusion of this funding in the biennial budget would therefore not only prevent increases on regional ratepayers but also accelerate project delivery, protect public health, and strengthen the entire region's economic base.

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I respectfully request your consideration of this funding as your administration prepares the Commonwealth's FY 2027–2028 budget. Please find attached a list of current and future projects that have been identified and have regional support going forward if adequate funding can be obtained. The inclusion of resources from the Commonwealth in your introduced budget will cover a portion of these project costs with the majority paid for by utility rate payers within the service areas. My administration and our Department of Public Utilities stand ready to provide any additional information or documentation your office or the General Assembly may require during the budget process.

Thank you for your continued leadership and partnership in safeguarding Virginia's infrastructure. I look forward to working with you to ensure Richmond and the region remain resilient and prosperous for years to come.

Sincerely,

Danny TK Avula MD, MPH  
Mayor  
City of Richmond

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Project Name	FY27 and FY28 Costs
Pumping Process Control Project Phase 3B (SCADA DPC Replacements)	\$1.8M
Pumping Process Control Project Phase 3C	\$2.0M
Waste Pumping & Control Sys Improvements	\$4.6M
Feeder Channel Renovations Phase 1B	\$3.4M
Feeder Channel Renovations Phase 2	\$18.0M
Feeder Channel Renovations - Retaining Wall Restoration	\$1.7M
Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Filtration System and Filter Media Replacement	\$31.1M
WTP Electrical Reliability & Resilience Improvements Phase 1 and 2	\$2.5M
WTP Lime Storage and Feed System Replacement	\$1.2M
Clearwell and Triple Conduit Concrete Restoration	\$3.3M
Sodium Hydroxide (Caustic Soda) Tanks Replacement	\$1.5M
Kanawha West Canal Improvements	\$3.5M
PLC and SCADA Upgrade at the Water Treatment Plant	\$1.6M
Korah Pump Station (PS) #2 - Pump Motor Starter & Korah 1 DPC Replacement	\$5.5M
VFD Replacements - Korah 3 PS, K3-3, K3-4, K3-5	\$13.6M
Byrd Park Reservoir Rehabilitation	\$30.0M
Byrd Park Main PS Renovations	\$24.5M
Trafford PS Upgrade and Generator/Substation/Transformer/UPS System Upgrades	\$3.6M
Columbus PS Structure Repairs and Roof Replacement	\$1.1M
Columbus PS VFD Replacement	\$2.0M
Cofer Road PS VFD Replacement	\$2.0M
Church Hill PS VFD Replacement	\$1.5M
Critical Valve and PRV Station Replacement Project 7A & 7 Zone	\$8.3M
24" Gravity Transmission Main Relocation	\$4.9M
Jahnke Road Main Relocation	\$3.2M
Ginter Park Tank Rehab	\$2.4M
Jahnke Rd Tank Rehab	\$1.5M
Woodside Tank Rehab	\$2.9M
Transmission Main Byrd Park Main to Reservoir	\$11.0M
Korah-3 Pipe Replacement	\$4.5M
Belvidere St Bridge 16" Pipe Replacement	\$2.2M
16" Waterline Replacement - E Cary St	\$1.1M
Water Distribution Pipe Replacement (End of Useful Life or Leak Prone)	\$63.7M
Total	265.7M