REPORT TO COUNCIL

To:

Richmond City Council

From:

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt

Date:

October 11, 2002

Re:

History and Heritage in City Hall

Heritage preservation has always been of great importance to the City of Richmond. As much as possible we have tried to preserve those items from our past that will let current and future residents learn about our collective history. We have preserved buildings, pictures, and artifacts to help us accomplish this goal.

One very public and important place in Richmond that I feel is totally lacking in acknowledgement of our history is our new City Hall. Nowhere in this new building is there anything to identify the previous civic leaders who helped to shape Richmond into the wonderful community it is today. In the previous City Hall our citizens could see the current and previous Councils by simply looking at the pictures on the wall leading up to the Council Chamber. In this new City Hall we have nothing of our past. It is like it did not exist. That is simply not right. We have a proud and vibrant past. Those past civic leaders deserve to be identified and recognized for their contributions.

I would like to see one of the walls, in a public area of City Hall, dedicated to our political past. A portrait of our current Mayor and Council, the previous Reeves/Mayors back to 1879 and a picture of previous Councils in chronological order would be a very appropriate display in our new City Hall.

I would therefore make the following recommendation:

That staff through the appropriate department bring forward a report that identifies possible locations for this pictorial display, the options for frame materials based on the locations chosen, a timeline for completing the project and the cost of the project.

Councillor Evelina Halsey-Brandt