MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, August 22, 2013

LOCATION: Annex Senior Center, 5801 Huntington @ Santa Clara

STARTING TIME: 7:00 PM SHARP

(Length of time per agenda item is only approximate; more time allotted if necessary.)

1. **Call to order:** Pledge of Allegiance; welcome and introductions; announcements – 3 min.

2. **Finance Report:** Tom Hoffman, Treasurer (finance report given quarterly) – 3 min.


4. **Board Officer Announcements** – 3 min.

5. **Richmond Police Dept. Report:** Dt. Donovan Decious to talk about the Detective Unit at RPD – 10 min.

6. **South Shoreline Specific Plan:** RANC will discuss the major expansion of the South Shoreline Specific Plan boundary areas.

**I-80 Central Ave. Interchange Improvement Project:** RANC will discuss the proposed major changes to Central Avenue from Pierce Street to Rydin Road; City Council Public Hearing is Tues. Sept. 17th

7. **Proposed Building and Planning Projects:** 10 min. ea.

5201 Van Fleet off San Joaquin, proposed 2-story addition & rebuild; outstanding flooding issue

10425 San Pablo Avenue corner of Huntington, proposed massage establishment (former Party Warehouse Store)

8. **In brief – Reports; project & committee updates:** 5 min. ea.

   a) Streets/Traffic Committee Update:

   I-80 Central Ave. Interchange Improvement Project, Dave Harris, co-chair; Carlson Landscape Project, Jerry Yoshida, co-chair; Phase II of Carlson Corridor Upgrade Project; Street Repavement; Unsigned intersections, Jeff Jones, chair

   b) Planning/Zoning Committee Update: South Shoreline Specific Plan, Mary Selva, chair

   c) Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council Update: Garland Ellis and Jerry Yoshida, RNCC representatives and board members

   d) 92nd public meeting of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) is Thurs. 9-12-13, 6:30-9pm, Richmond Multi-Purpose Room (located in basement) of 440 Civic Center Plaza (old Hall of Justice at downtown City Hall). CAG is a group of volunteers who provides an opportunity for all affected and interested citizens to openly learn, discuss and provide advice to the CA Dept. of Toxic Substances Control regarding cleanup activities at the former Stauffer Chemical/Zeneca site. Public participation is strongly encouraged. CAG provides an open forum for public input. To serve on CAG, contact Carolyn Graves at 625-4459.

9. **Good of the Order** limited to brief general interest announcements; adjournment. Contact RANC, 375-7769.

**Our 39th Year! – “Together We Continue To Make A Difference!”**

YOUR PARTICIPATION in this wholly independent volunteer group is significant in our City’s decision-making process.
Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council General Monthly Meeting  
Thursday, May 30, 2013

1. **Call to Order:** Mary Selva, President presiding. Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Finance Report:** Tom Hoffman, Treasurer; Finance Report given quarterly.

3. **Minutes** of April 25, 2013 were approved.

4. **Board Officer Announcements:** Neighborhood Cleanup & Membership Drive

   Many volunteers are needed to make this happen. The Neighborhood Cleanup encourages Annex residents to clean up their yards, garages, attics, basements, and become members. Large dumpsters are provided by the City for this one day event. The City Program pays the disposal cost and provides large roll-off dumpsters, giving residents a chance to dispose of their items right in our own neighborhood. The Alvarado School yard can accommodate this event. Sims Metal recycles our scrap metals and Richmond Sanitary recycles or disposes most everything else. They even take mattresses, couches, and large appliances. However, hazardous waste, tires, construction/demolition materials are not accepted. Volunteer traffic monitors will be needed to single-file long lines and direct traffic; bins must be monitored at all times; Cleanup Coordinator is responsible for working with the designated hauler to schedule pickups for seniors, including disposal of illegal dumping at the program’s conclusion. Once again, we need many volunteers for this event. Call 510-375-7769 or email maryspond@sbcglobal.net to volunteer.

5. **Richmond Police Dept. Report:** Crime Stats for the Month of May 2013:

   - 8 Residential Burglaries—5600 blk. of Alameda, 1600 blk. Butte, 5600 blk. of Madison, 1500 blk. of Merced, 1900 blk. of San Mateo, 5800 blk. of Santa Cruz, 2600 blk. of San Mateo, 2800 blk. of San Luis
   - 2 Auto Burglaries in Residential Area—5600 blk. of Highland, 5500 blk. of Modoc
   - 1 Auto Theft in Residential Area—5600 blk. Alameda,
   - 2 Petty Thefts—both in the10300 blk. of San Pablo
   - 3 Auto Burglaries in Commercial Area—all three in the 3200 blk. of Pierce (Pacific East Mall area)
   - 1 Auto Theft in Commercial Area—10800 San Pablo Ave.
   - 2 Vandalisms—2400 blk. of San Mateo, 1200 blk. of So. 56th
   - 1 Battery—5500 blk. of Madison

Some simple steps you can take to decrease the likelihood that you or your home is targeted for crime:

- All doors are locked at night and every time you leave the house (even if it’s just for a few minutes).
- Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.
- Doors feature wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.
- If there are glass panels in or near your doors, they are reinforced in some way so they cannot be shattered.
- All entryways have a working, keyed entry lock and sturdy deadbolt lock installed into the frame of the door.
- Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in the mailbox.
- Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.
- There are no dark areas around the house, garage, or yard at night that would hide prowlers.
- Every outside door has a bright, working light to illuminate visitors.
- Floodlights are used appropriately to ensure effective illumination.
- Outdoor lights are on in the evening, whether someone is home or not, or motion-sensitive lighting system is installed.
- The door leading from the attached garage to the house is solid wood or metal-clad and protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.
- The overhead garage door has a lock so you don’t rely solely on the automatic door to provide security.
- All garage doors are locked when you leave the house.
- A dowel or pin is installed to secure glass door and prevent it from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.

**Remember:** Do your part and continue to keep a hawk eye out for any suspicious activity in your neighborhood and be sure to keep a log (dates & times, make, model, color, and license plate number of vehicle/s; description of person/s involved—i.e. gender, race, age range, build, hair color, detailed description of clothes they were wearing), and report it to the Police Dept. at 233-1214. Ofc, Brian Hoffman can be reached at (510) 621-1212, Ext. 2056 or email bhoffman@richmondpd.net. If you’re interested in starting a neighborhood crime watch on your block or getting signs, warning criminals that “Neighbors are Watching Out for Each Other,” contact the City’s Crime Prevention Coordinator at (510) 620-6538 or RANC at (510) 375-7769 to get you started.
6. **City Budget Presentation:** A pleasant surprise, Chief of Police Chris Magnus was in attendance for City Manager Bill Lindsay (absent due to son’s graduation). Also in attendance were Neighborhood Liaison Rochelle Monk, Public Works Director Yader Bermudez, and Civil Engineer Joel Camacho to hear about our top priorities for inclusion to the City Budget. First, RANC President Mary Selva gave PowerPoint Presentation on Street Repavement, Unsigned Intersections, and Phase II of the Carlson Corridor Improvement Project. Second, Kent Coddington gave PowerPoint Presentation on severity of the Plumas Flooding Problem. Third, Dave Rohrer, representing the Annex Senior Board of Directors, petitioned for Geneveva Sirlopu to be promoted from part-time to full-time status. After working at the Annex Senior Center for 8-years, she has taken on the duties of the former Program Coordinator and is well-deserving and long overdue for full-time job status. Copies of all presentations were submitted to appropriate department heads. Next, Police Chief Chris Magnus was well-informed and presented the July Fiscal Year 2013/14 City Budget, along with Andrea Miller, Budget Administrator and Mubeen Qader, Budget Analyst II, who were representing Finance Director James Goins (on medical leave). Our get well wishes go out to him. Yader Bermudez, Director of Public Works, acknowledged that our streets are badly in need of repair. They just repaved San Benito and will repave the 6000 block of Plumas and 1500 block of Santa Clara (the worst streets in the Annex!). Due to very limited budget funds, it will take time to complete all streets in the Annex and the City as a whole. Street repaving is the number one priority in the City, according to City Survey. Joel Camacho, Civil Engineer, said he will look into the unsigned intersections issue in the Annex. He said two electronic speed advisory signs will be installed and the speed limit will be reduced on Carlson Blvd.

**Budget Overview** - The City's budget is intended to achieve 3 objectives:

- **Policymaking** - By its decision to allocate resources through the budgeting process, the City Council is establishing policies with respect to priorities and service levels for municipal operations.

- **Financial Management** – The final Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets that are adopted by the City Council will establish the underlying financial policies and financial controls that are utilized by City staff to measure revenues and manage expenditures on an ongoing basis.

- **Operations Management** – The FY2013-14 Operating and FY2013-18 Capital Improvement Plan budgets support the vision of the City as conveyed through its five strategic goals, performance standards, and system which measures the extent to which these service level goals and standards are being achieved. This ongoing management reporting system provides for continuous improvement of City services.

**Operating Budget** – An Operating Budget is adopted each fiscal year for the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds. Public hearings are conducted on the proposed budgets to review all appropriations and sources of financing. Midway through the fiscal year a mid-year budget review is completed; necessary adjustments to projected revenues and expenditures are made during this time.

**Capital Budget** – The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) is a proposed funding schedule for 5 years. The CIP is updated annually to add new projects, evaluate program and project priorities, and to revise recommendations while taking into account new requirements and new sources of funding.

**Strategic Budgeting** – The budget is intended to be consistent with the community vision and in alignment with the City’s Five-Year Strategic Business Plan and Five-Year Financial Plan. The budget describes this vision in five core strategic goals:

- Maintain and enhance the physical environment
- Promote a safe and secure community
- Promote economic vitality
- Promote sustainable communities
- Promote effective government

**Promote effective government**

- All City credit ratings have been affirmed.
- Received Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award from the National Purchasing Institute.
- Received Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).
- Received California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO) Excellence Operating Budget and Excellence in Capital Budget Awards.
- Received GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

**Revenues: Where Does the Money Come From?**

Property Taxes comprise 23% of General Fund Revenues at $28.8 million. In 1978, Proposition 13 revised the calculation of CA property taxes by establishing a fixed rate of one percent of a property’s value and limiting the growth in assessed valuation not to exceed two percent per year, except when property changes hands, the fair market value becomes the basis of valuation. The City receives property taxes in December (55%), April (40%), June (5%) each year.

Utility User Tax (UUT) comprises 41% of General Fund Revenue budget at $50.2 million. UUT is a tax on utility revenues comprised of telecommunication (9.5%), video (5%), and gas & electric (10%).

The City share of the 8.75% Sales and Use Tax collected is 1.25%, representing $28.4 million or 23% of General Fund revenue. Sales and Use Taxes are collected from purchases of consumer goods and are distributed as follows:

- 6.25% State of California
- 0.25% Contra Costa County
- 0.50% Contra Costa Transportation Authority
- 0.50% Bart
- 1.25% City of Richmond
- 8.75%
What is Richmond’s Share of Your Tax Dollar?
When you pay your property tax or sales tax, not all of the money paid comes to the City. For every dollar you pay in property tax (of the basic 1% property tax), the City receives less than 29 cents, while the rest goes to other local government entities and to the state to fund public education. An additional .14% ad valorem tax and sewer and storm drain assessment is received by the City. The City receives approximately 2 cents for each dollar paid by the consumer in sales tax in the City of Richmond.

Allocation of basic 1% Property Tax
- 0.12% Contra Costa County
- 0.29% City of Richmond
- 0.42% West Contra Costa Unified School District
- 0.06% Contra Costa Community College
- 0.05% Transportation
- 0.06% Other
1.00%

Expenditures: Where Does the Money Go?
General Fund expenditures include both direct and indirect services to the community. Some of these services include:

Community Services
- Parks (55)
- Recreation Centers (8)
- Senior Centers (2)
- Arts & Culture

Police Activities League
Paratransit
Auditorium
Office of Neighborhood Safety

Libraries
- Main
- Children’s Branch (2)

Public Works
- Streets
- Sidewalks
- Facilities

Police & Fire
- Police Patrol
- Criminal Investigations
- Code Enforcement
- Fire Suppression
- Emergency Medical Services
- Hazardous Materials Response

City Administration
- Council Appointed Officers

Administrative Support
- Finance
- Information Technology
- Human Resource

7. **Rat Poison** – Janet Johnson relayed a warning about serious threat to our kids, pets, and wildlife. She and her husband saw a little gray fox drinking water in their garden in the afternoon. They were fascinated but perplexed, since as a rule foxes are nocturnal animals. Their neighbor had seen a fox in his yard acting strangely the following day and called Animal Control. By the time the officer arrived the fox was convulsing, and said it would have to be euthanized. They spoke to environmentalist Lisa Owens-Viani, co-founder of RATS—Raptors are the Solution, and said the fox had probably eaten a poisoned rat.

For about a year they noticed small scat in their yard and thought it had been left by some little dog that had sneaked under their fence. Now they believe it may have been a fox, and they were saddened that this wild animal had made its home in the Annex only to be killed by an anti-coagulant (D-Con) poisoned rat.

Foxes are natural predators of rats and mice, which makes it doubly sad this fox was likely poisoned. It could have also eaten loose bait: **beware, rat poisons kill dogs and cats too.**

In February 2012, the Richmond City Council unanimously passed a resolution opposing the sale and purchase of second-generation anticoagulant rat and mouse poisons, a well-documented threat to kids, pets, and wildlife.

To learn more about controlling rats in ways that don’t threaten our kids, pets, and wildlife, please check out this article in the latest Earth Island Journal: [http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/eij/article/raptors_are_the_solution/](http://www.earthisland.org/journal/index.php/eij/article/raptors_are_the_solution/) You can also check out the RATS website at [http://www.raptorsarethelolution.org/](http://www.raptorsarethelolution.org/). It has a link to a downloadable brochure.

8. **Annex Senior Center Happenings:** The Richmond Annex Senior Center is having their Rummage Sale on Saturday, September 14th, 9am to 12pm, 5801 Huntington.

The AARP Driver Safety Course will be offered at the Annex Senior Center on Thursdays, Sept. 12th & 19th, 9am to 1pm. Cost is $12 for AARP members and $14 for non-members for drivers 50 and older.
Dear Richmond Annex Neighbor,

If you haven’t renewed your membership, you will find an asterisk * next to your name on the mailing label of your RANC mailer. **Please take a moment to send us a check for the incredibly reasonable dues listed below.** The money is used for flyers on important issues or public hearings, letters, other necessary copying, mural touch ups, and now for printing our newsletter and postage.

The Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council is a non-partisan, wholly volunteer group dating from postwar 1940s. Founded under its present name in 1974, the Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council (RANC) represents a long proven example of what the Neighborhood Council is intended and best able to accomplish. We are a founding member of the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council (RNCC), an umbrella group of all neighborhood councils throughout Richmond, under the wing of the City. Meeting monthly for now 39 years the RANC has maintained active involvement in development, crime, traffic, schools, parks, environmental problems, and shoreline issues for the Greater Richmond Annex area. Some people operate businesses in the Greater Richmond Annex area that have long been supportive members. Our long success has resulted from the trust and good faith of neighbors able to place community beyond purely personal agendas. It is a record we share with pride.

Your membership is encouraged. Our Council depends upon its members to participate, help their neighbors, and community.

**Annual membership dues are due each spring:** $7 per household, $5 for seniors, and $10 for businesses.

Please return completed application below for renewal or new membership. You will receive the monthly mailer with the meeting agenda, minutes of prior meeting, and other information concerning the Greater Richmond Annex area and our City. Below, you may also add your name to our RANC Email List to receive information about important updates or events. Your private information WILL NOT BE SHARED OR USED FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Our meetings are on the 4th Thursday of every other month, at the Richmond Annex Senior Center (the old firehouse), 5801 Huntington Avenue (corner of Santa Clara St.).

Note: An asterisk * on your mailing label means it’s time to renew your annual membership. Please remit dues, along with completed membership application below. **Thank you**

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**RANC Membership Application**

Please complete form and send it with your annual membership dues, $7 per household, $5 for seniors, and $10 for businesses to: **Tom Hoffman, Treasurer, Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council or RANC, P.O. Box 5436, Richmond, CA 94805.** Make check payable to RANC or Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council. Do not send cash.

Name_________________________ Phone #_________________ Fax #_________________

Address_______________________ City_________________ State__________ Zip_________

Email address (if you have one)_________________________________ Date_____________ Amount__________

☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ * Willing to do Volunteer Work

* If you are interested in joining any one of the RANC committees, please ✔ check one of the boxes below:

☐ Parks & Shoreline ☐ Fairmont School ☐ Emergency Preparedness ☐ Neighborhood Cleanup

☐ Planning/Zoning ☐ Streets/Traffic; Carlson ☐ Stauffer/Zeneca Cleanup Advisory Group

☐ Code Compliance ☐ Annex History ☐ I-80 Sound wall Landscape Maintenance

☐ Alvarado School ☐ Annex Block Party ☐ Welcome Wagon
Move Your Vehicles: Annex Street Sweeping, 4th Thurs. odd address #s, 4th Fri. even address #s, 8 am-1 pm

Richmond Annex Neighborhood Council
Founded 1974  PO Box 5436, Richmond, CA 94805  *Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

WE THE ANNEX

Working together nearly 60 years, local residents have built and nurtured the stable, uncrowded, family-oriented character of the Greater Richmond Annex.

We enjoy the traditional low-density neighborhoods, public access shoreline, and healthy environment rare in urban areas today.

THIS IS NO ACCIDENT!

Since the 1940’s, Annex residents and businesses have organized to preserve and enhance these special qualities, now increasingly threatened by economic and political pressures.

Good neighborhoods, as good families and sound businesses, succeed by working together for common benefit. Just as we don’t expect others to pay our taxes or cast our vote, we can’t expect others to bear our share of keeping the Annex the kind of neighborhood we want for our families.

If not already serving on one of our committees or special projects, please join your neighbors as an active voice in our shared Greater Richmond Annex neighborhood where . . .

“TOGETHER, WE CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!”