

April 4, 2008

**To:** Honorable Mayor Gayle McLaughlin  
Members of the City Council

**From:** Finance, Administrative Services and Economic Development Committee

**SUBJECT:** SUMMARY  
Finance, Administrative Services and Economic Development Committee  
Friday, April 4, 2008, 9:13 a.m.

**Attendance:** Present: Chair Viramontes and Members Butt, (*arrived at 10:38 a.m.*),  
Lopez and Rogers.

Absent: None

**FINANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE**

***Discuss & recommend financing and research of the economically and environmentally  
affordable Greenprint Housing Development***

- Councilmember Rogers stated that Greenprint Housing is aimed at building affordable housing while also reducing greenhouse carbon emissions by trying to setup alternative methods of transportation and reducing the number of people driving their vehicle. Partnering with EAH Housing, Greenprint will design and build approximately a 200-unit green building affordable housing development in Richmond.
- Lamar Turner, Lead Planner EAH Housing, stated that there is currently a \$45 million rehabilitation project in Richmond at the Crescent Park apartments, which includes a solar paneling system.

**OUTCOME:**

A motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Lopez, this item will return to the next Finance Standing Committee meeting for further discussion on how to develop a Greenprint project in Richmond..

### *Review of the Monthly Investment Report*

- Finance Director, Jim Goins, stated that the City has experienced a loss of about 1 ½ percentage points on interest earnings per year. There is approximately a \$1 million loss of earnings revenue anticipated for this year.
- Herb Pike, Finance Department, gave an overview of the negative fund balances. The Paratransit Operations will accumulate another \$350,000 in debt by year end, which will be written off. A complete audit has been performed and staff will make recommendations to the Council at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting regarding the Paratransit deficit.
- The Hilltop Maintenance Assessment District's negative balance is an accounting error and will be corrected to reflect a positive \$500,000 balance.
- The Planning & Building cost recovery fund shows a negative balance, but by restructuring capital expenditures, it will be a positive balance by year end.
- The General Debt Service fund will not be negative by year end once the audit entry is made.
- The Stormwater Fund is negative approximately \$3 million per year due to the increased cost of permits and there has not been a stormwater rate increase since 1992. The rate increase would need a 2/3 vote to authorize an increase. Councilmember Lopez expressed concern about the stormwater deficit being an ongoing operational problem rather than a one-time problem and would like to take a look at the entire budget before assuming that borrowing money is a good option to cover the deficit. Chair Viramontes stated that gap financing may be an option to consider.
- Community Development Block Grant has a negative \$938,868 due to the City expending the funds first and the delay in receiving the funds from the grantor.

OUTCOME:

A motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Lopez to direct staff to return to the Finance Committee with further analysis about what type of revenue raising measures may be appropriate to gain revenue for the stormwater fund.

***Review of the Check Register***

A motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Lopez, accepted the report.

***Report from staff on the efforts of Community and Economic Development to support local non-profit organizations through resources available through CDBG and other programs***

- Patrick Lynch, Director of Housing, stated that applications were received from non-profit organizations in December 2007 and they were reviewed by members of the Economic Development Commission. There were 30 applications received and 15 were chosen to be funded. \$245,000 will be distributed among the 15 non-profits selected.
- Councilmember Lopez stated that workshops should be planned with grant funders and non-profits in the region to build a stronger relationship.

**OUTCOME:**

This matter will move forward to the City Council for consideration and further discussion.

*The regular Finance Committee meeting was closed at 10:43 a.m. to reconvene after the Special Finance Committee meeting.*

***Discuss & recommend priority list of parks projects for East Bay Regional Park District's 2008 Park Bond***

- East Bay Regional Parks District is planning regional parks projects in that will be funded through the 2008 Measure AA allocation. Richmond is slated to receive \$4,797,001. The district asked for the City's comments regarding the priority list of projects for funding in the City of Richmond.

OUTCOME:

A motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Lopez, made the following recommendations for funding: building of piers for access to Brooks Island on both sides, with the possibility of using Pt. Sheridan; building a riding horse facility with a possible connection to a complex that would be developed at Clark Road and any further acquisition of Clark Road over the Bay Ridge Trail in El Sobrante connecting to Wildcat Creek; North Richmond Wetlands and an interpretive center; North Richmond Wetlands; Interpretive Center in North Richmond or Point Pinole, and the possible acquisition of the Rambler's property.

*The special meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m. and the regular meeting reconvened.*

***Approve the proposed guidelines for implementing a private sanitary sewer repair and replacement grant program and direct staff to fund and administer the grant program through FY 15-16***

- The grant program will provide up to \$3,000 to property owners who repair or replace a private sewer main or lateral in accordance with Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 12.17. The City will provide \$100,000 per fiscal year through FY 15-16 to fund the grant program. Funding and administration of the grant program is required to comply with the settlement agreement with Baykeeper.

OUTCOME:

A motion was made by Councilmember Lopez, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, recommended this item to the full City Council.

***Discussion of ways to provide better and increased services through finding new revenue sources, obtaining organizational efficiencies, and redirecting existing sources of funding***

There was no discussion from the committee.

***Discuss & identify departments for future audits***

- Councilmember Lopez suggested that the Community & Economic Development and Housing Authority Departments be audited next. Councilmember Rogers and Councilmember Butt suggested auditing the Code Enforcement Department.

*Status on budget process and community outreach*

- Councilmember Lopez stated that the budget is due to the City Council on May 6, 2008 and would like to solicit input from the community prior to this by conducting budget meetings with neighborhood councils.
- Finance Director, Jim Goins, suggested that department heads also attend the community meetings.

OUTCOME:

Councilmember Lopez, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, recommended the scheduling of the meetings. Councilmember Lopez will work on the coordination of the meetings.

*Approve summary notes of the Finance Standing Committee meeting held on February 19, 2008*

A motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Lopez, approved the summary notes.

Councilmember Butt asked that an item regarding how to provide street paving information and a schedule for future and current street paving be made available to the public.

**OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.