Mayor and Councilmembers:

This is the weekly report for the week ending July 20th, 2012.

1. **Meeting Notes**

   The next City Council meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday, July 24th, beginning with a Closed Session at 5:30 PM, and with the regular agenda at 6:30 PM. As a reminder, the City Council will also meet on July 31st before starting its August hiatus.

2. **Staffing Notes**

   As you will recall, Edric Kwan left his employment as City Engineer with the City of Richmond to accept a position with the Town of Moraga. To provide immediate oversight for implementation of the City’s capital improvement program, I have asked Alan Wolken, recently retired Redevelopment Manager, to return to the City on a part-time basis. Alan will work approximately half time, overseeing project management and administrative functions in the Engineering Department, and will also be available to assist in “winding down” the former Redevelopment Agency. He returns to the City on Tuesday, July 24th.

3. **Public Workshop on LBNL’s Richmond Bay Campus**

   The public will have an opportunity to hear from representatives of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and University of California, Berkeley about the proposed LBNL second campus at the Richmond Bay Campus Community Workshop on Thursday, July 26th, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM at the Richmond Auditorium.

   The Richmond Bay Campus of LBNL will have deep and far-reaching impacts in the Richmond community, and the public’s involvement in offering thoughts and ideas throughout the planning process is critical to delivering a successful project. Find out more about the Richmond Bay Campus: www.ci.richmond.ca.us/lbnl.

   Please RSVP for the community workshop: www.richmondbaycampus.eventbrite.com so that staff can effectively plan for the estimated attendance.
4. **Richmond’s3 Program Propels the City to the Top of Contra Costa Energy Upgrades**

Recent data from PG&E shows that the City of Richmond is the leader of all Contra Costa cities and has the most homes participating in the Energy Upgrade California program. Energy Upgrade California provides homeowners with rebates up to $4,000 to complete energy efficiency upgrade work on their homes. Richmond’s success can be attributed to residents’ ability to combine up to $5,000 from the City’s Richmond Recovery Rebate (R3) program with the Energy Upgrade California rebate.

By utilizing both these rebates, residents have the ability to increase the efficiency of their homes, reduce energy bills while improving home comfort, durability and health. The graph below demonstrates that most participating homes are able to achieve an energy reduction between 20-50 percent. To learn more about rebates for home assessments and upgrades from the City’s R3 programs and Energy Upgrade California, please visit [www.richmondenvironment.org](http://www.richmondenvironment.org) or contact the City Manager’s Office at (510) 620-5458.
5. **City Receives Award for its Procurement Expertise**

The Finance Department’s Purchasing Division has received the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award from the National Purchasing Institute. This is the third consecutive year that the City has received this award. Presentation of the award will take place in January, at the Annual Conference of the California Association of Public Procurement Officials in Napa, California. This prestigious award is earned by those organizations that demonstrate innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-procurement, and leadership attributes, and is well-deserved by the City of Richmond Finance Department’s Purchasing Division.
6. **The City of Richmond receives a $343,000 Grant to Expand the Greenprint Transportation “Easy Go” Project**

The Greenprint Transportation "Easy Go" project has been awarded a $343,000 federal grant through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the expansion of the "Easy Go" Carshare and Kids Shuttle program to additional Richmond neighborhoods.

The City of Richmond Easy Go transportation offers the following programs:

1. Car-sharing/Neighborhood EV
2. Car-pooling
3. Transit Pass
4. Shuttle Bus
5. Bicycles
6. Kids Cab

In November 2011, the City approved the Greenprint "Easy Go" transportation project, charting a new course for the City, particularly with regards to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and financing future sustainable transportation improvements. Under the Easy Go Transportation Project, an essential investment is made stationing on-site shared vehicles on multi-family lots, commonly termed “soft” measures, that include transportation demand management (TDM) initiatives such as ridesharing, a bicycle program, a transportation climate action campaign, sustainable transportation options serving low-income travelers, and pedestrians, and safe routes to school improvement initiatives.

The Greenprint “Easy Go” Transportation Project offers the following services:

- **Provide transportation options**
  - Active marketing
  - Voluntary program
  - Initial subsidy
  - Car-sharing - $3 per hour
    - Variety of vehicles - hybrid, minivan, EV
    - Average carsharing trip is assumed at 3 hours + 18 miles
    - Carshare vehicles rented on a regular daily-basis
7. **The Richmond Circular Shuttle**

The Richmond Circular Shuttle began its second year of operations on July 1st 2012. The service is funded through the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and can be accessed within a five mile radius to multiple health facilities and clinics, pharmacies, businesses, recreation, residential communities, and employment centers for those traveling to and from the El Cerrito Del Norte and Richmond Intermodal BART stations.

To provide the highest level of quality, dependability, reliability, and customer service, riders board the free “Richmond Circular Shuttle” at any of its scheduled 11 stops. Buses arrive every 15-20 minutes during commute hours from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM (excluding weekends and holidays).

The objectives of the service is to ensure mobility and access by linking key regional destinations through reliable public transportation services including buses, and the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) and Amtrak for all of Richmond residents to travel to and from San Francisco and other Bay Area destinations. To meet evolving transportation needs, the service promotes quality and reliability.

The Marina Bay route currently has the highest ridership with continued increase in boarding at the Civic Center and the Richmond BART station. The most frequent patron request is the addition of service hours for the Marina Bay shuttle service routes.

Valor Community Awareness and Outreach has started to promote the Richmond Circular Shuttle to residents, visitors and Richmond businesses, to increase service in other scheduled areas.
For additional information on any of the transportation service plans, please contact the City Manager’s Office at (510) 620-6869.

8. **Richmond Resident on a Pathway to Success – Another LEAP Forward**

With a winning smile, Imani exclaims that LEAP (the Richmond Library’s literacy program) is the spot, especially if you are an adult and don’t know where to start. Why? According to Imani, since he got his GED, his life is taking off. Prior to enrolling at LEAP in 2010, Imani tried to study with HEALD, a private vocational college. The financial obligations stopped him in his tracks. He attended LEAP throughout the next year, receiving his GED in May of 2011. During his time at LEAP, his mentor/teacher Virgil Weekes referred him to one of our partners, the Stride Center. Imani had a great aptitude for computers and graduated from the Stride Center in December 2011. Within the next four months, Imani found himself employment. Imani now provides technology support at major companies when he isn’t volunteering in our LEAP computer lab. Imani offered the following comment: 10% of life is what happens to you, but the other 90% is how you react.

In the fall, Imani plans to return to college for additional certifications in technology. Indeed, his life is taking off!

9. **City of Richmond Office of Neighborhood Safety to Act as Fiscal Agent for $300,000 SAMHSA Planning Grant for System of Care Expansion for Children and their Families**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has awarded the Native American Health Center (NAHC) a 1-year planning grant in the amount of $300,000 for the Expansion of the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and their Families program. The purpose of this grant is to develop a comprehensive strategic plan for improving and expanding services provided by systems of care for children and youth with serious mental health conditions and their families. The City of Richmond Office of Neighborhood Safety will serve as the fiscal agent for this grant.

The US Department of Health and Human Services through the 2012-13 SAMHSA System of Care Expansion Planning Grant award specifically funds strategic planning efforts to improve and expand Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and their families through Urban Trails Richmond.
The Native American Health Center (NAHC) is the largest agency serving Native Americans in the San Francisco Bay Area with offices in Oakland, San Francisco, and Richmond. This recent grant will help plan for the expansion of Contra Costa County’s system of care and support to American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and their families who have not been effectively served by previous awards.

10. **United Heckathorn Technical Assistance**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Technical Assistance Services for Communities Program is conducting a Technical Assistance Needs Assessment for the United Heckathorn Superfund Site in Richmond. You can view more information about the technical assistance program at [www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc).

Community members are invited to apply for educational and technical assistance to better understand and become involved in the United Heckathorn cleanup process. If you are interested in providing your input on technical assistance, please contact Krissy Russell-Hedstrom at 719-256-6701 or krissy@skeo.com.

11. **Public Works Updates**

Facilities Maintenance Division: Carpenters repaired the automatic entrance doors at 450 Civic Center Plaza, repaired the apparatus room doors at fire stations #61 and #68, and replaced the entrance door to the Carpenter Shop at the corporation yard.

The new roof hatch for the Richmond Memorial Convention Center has arrived and will be installed on July 24th. A large crane will lift and place the hatch, causing the parking to the rear of the building to be restricted.

The painters completed the exterior of fire station #66 located at 41st and Clinton Avenue.
The Stationary Engineers repaired the automatic gate at fire station #62, repaired the wheelchair lift at 440 Civic Center Plaza, and relocated the portable restroom to fire station #66.

The electrical shop repaired the traffic signal at Richmond Parkway and Hensley Avenue, replaced two knocked down poles in Marina Green Park, restored power to the Kerning overpass, and continued with the re-lamping of street lights around the City.

**Parks and Landscaping Division:** Parks crews are preparing for the ribbon cutting of the Bioswale on the Greenway, removed furnishings to prepare for the Burg Park Play Area rehabilitation, completed turf irrigation renovation work at Marina Green park, continued with the tennis court renovations at the Plunge, completed fire fuel management in the Point Richmond area, stump grinding and landscape clearing on Macdonald Avenue across from the Bart Station, vegetation management on Richmond Parkway from Bay Vista Park to the Giant Highway off ramp, and turf fertilizing and aeration in the Marina Bay Landscape and Lighting Assessment District.

![Tennis Courts at the Plunge](image)

The Tree crew trimmed and pruned trees along Bissell Avenue and 7th Street, and Sutter Avenue. Leke Way, Johnson Drive and Bradford Drive were trimmed in preparation for paving.

**Streets Division:** Pavement maintenance paved in Parchester Village on Leke Way, Bradford Drive and Johnson Drive.
Regularly scheduled commercial and residential routes for the third Monday through Friday are North Richmond, Iron Triangle, North Belding Woods, Atchison Village, South Belding Woods, Sante Fe, Coronado, Marina Bay, and Point Richmond Neighborhood Council areas.

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Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments about these or any other items of interest to you.

Have a great week!

You can sign up to receive the City Manager’s weekly report and other information from the City of Richmond by visiting:

www.ci.richmond.ca.us/list.aspx