Mayor and Members of the City Council:

This is the weekly report for the week ending June 27th, 2014.

1. **Meeting Notes**

   The next City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1st, 2014, beginning with a Closed Session at 5:00 PM, followed by the regular Council agenda at 6:30 PM.

2. **Juneteenth Family Day Parade & Festival on Saturday, June 28th**

   Please join the City of Richmond as it celebrates the Juneteenth Family Day Parade & Festival on Saturday, June 28th from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The parade begins at 10:00 AM on Cutting Boulevard and Marina Way South and ends at Nicholl Park on 31st Street and Macdonald Avenue. The festival begins at Nicholl Park at 11:30 AM and ends at 6:00 PM. Please join us for two stages of entertainment, health screenings, ethnic food, kids expo, youth poetry slam, local vendors and much more. Visit [http://www.richmondcajuneteenth.org](http://www.richmondcajuneteenth.org) for more information.

3. **Employment & Training Department Receives Grant for RichmondBUILD**

   The Employment & Training Department’s RichmondBUILD Program is the recipient of a $50,000 grant award from the San Francisco Foundation to provide intensive employment training in construction and education to Richmond residents facing significant barriers to employment. The grant will assist in providing extra training support for up to 75 participants with pre-determined goals for enrollment, participant certification, employment placement and stability.

   This is another strong endorsement of the RichmondBuild program from a well-respected philanthropic organization.
4. **Summer Youth Employment Program Reaches 225 Youth**

The YouthWORKS Division of the Department has placed 225 youth in meaningful, career path work experience in this tenth year of the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Over 250 youth and parents were on hand for the June 14 Youth/Parent orientation, which featured Mayor McLaughlin as a keynote speaker, as well as Andrea Baily from Chevron and Kevin Williams from the Office of Neighborhood Safety. All speakers were inspiring and motivational for both the participants and the caring adults in their lives.

Worksites for the tenth year of the SYEP include the City’s Recreation Department, for whom the summer workers have become a key element in the Department’s Summer Camp and recreational activities, Price & Associates Law Offices, BART Administration, Milo Foundation Pet Rescue, California Youth Energy Services, Student Conservation Association, Urban Tilth and many, many more. The program has partnered with the After School Division of WCCUSD to provide nine teaching assistants in their summer high school program, for which the District will reimburse for wages and over 25 participants are in line for employment beyond their subsidized hours as long as they perform well in the training period.

We are especially pleased with the partnership with the new TJ Maxx store in Pinole to provide work experience for up to 15 SYEP participants, with the commitment that those that perform well will be hired for the “Back to School” employment period. All of these participants will receive an extra 20 hours of training provided by Richmond Main Street and those that perform well will be selected for this opportunity.

5. **City Manager Chronicles**

I have listed below some of the topics for meetings that I have recently attended in the hope that it provides an idea of the varied issues with which our organization deals routinely.

A substantial amount of time was spent on issues related to the FY 2014-15 budget. Other activities and meeting topics during the past week have included:

- Met, along with staff from the City Attorney’s office, the Planning Department, and the Port, with representatives of Laconia Development to discuss the draft Land Disposition Agreement for Terminal 1;
- Met with the Mayor, representatives of the Point Molate Citizens Advisory Committee, together with City staff and its technical consultant, to discuss issues related to the procurement of soil remediation services for Pt. Molate;
- Reviewed with City staff the status of HUD regulatory compliance issues;
- Attended the Personnel Board meeting;
- Tour the Summer Day Camp program sites at the Shields Reid and Nevin Community Centers;
- Attended the Annual Public Safety Awards Dinner.
These meetings were in addition to attending the regular management staff meeting, agenda planning, reviewing staff reports to the City Council, doing department head “check-ins,” having discussions on various personnel matters, and having short discussions with staff, community members, members of the press, etc.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the substance of these or any other topics.

6. **Officer Bradley A., Moody Memorial Underpass Project Update**

The Bradley A. Moody Memorial Underpass Project involves the construction of a roadway underpass on Marina Bay Parkway between Meeker Avenue and Regatta Boulevard, and is intended to resolve long-standing access limitations to the Marina Bay area caused by frequent train crossings. In early September 2013, Marina Bay Parkway was closed to traffic. This closure is planned to remain in place until early May 2015.

During the week of June 23rd, crews commenced excavation for walers and permanent struts, which are concrete structures that will cross the roadway and below the road surface. Crews began installation of reinforcing steel in the excavation trenches, in preparation for the first concrete pour for walers, scheduled for the week of July 7th. In order to expedite this work, crews plan to work on Saturday, June 28th, and hand work (i.e. no heavy equipment) to assemble the rebar can be expected to start at 7:00 AM on most days. Also during the week of June 23rd, excavation at Jetty drive continued, as well as excavation of the fourth level of the pump station.

For the week of June 30th, waler excavation and installation of reinforcing steel will continue, the fourth level of tiebacks will be installed at the pump station, and the excavation of Jetty Drive will near completion.

For additional information and to be added to the project update contact list, please see the project website at [www.moodyup.com](http://www.moodyup.com). You can also follow the project on twitter: @moodyunderpass, or contact the project’s public outreach coordinator Jacqueline Majors at (925) 949-6196.

7. **Police Chief Chris Magnus Speaks at the Library**

The Richmond Public Library Foundation (RPLF) announces the next event in their Book Talk, Lecture Series, “Leadership on the Line: Changing the Culture of a Police Department.”

Richmond Police Chief Chris Magnus is known nationwide for his innovative approach to community policing and creating a police culture that is sensitive to the needs of the residents served by the department. The Chief is also an avid reader and believes that libraries are an important component of a safe community. The
Chief will share some of his favorite books—always a good way to get to know someone better. The event will feature a special appearance by **Youth Poets**.

This FREE event will be held in the Whittlesey Community Room at the Richmond Public Library, 325 Civic Center Plaza, on **Thursday, July 10th**. The event begins at 6:30 PM and includes door prizes and a special prize to be given to the business or civic group with the most members in attendance. Light refreshments will be provided. For additional information on the event or to learn more about Richmond Library Foundation visit their website: [www.rplf.org](http://www.rplf.org) or send an email to info@rplf.org.

### 8. City’s Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) and Peacemaker Fellowship

**Featured in Mother Jones Magazine – July/August 2014 Issue**

The [ONS and its Peacemaker Fellowship](http://www.rplf.org) was recently profiled in Mother Jones Magazine for its innovative approach towards reducing firearm assaults and
associated injury. The efforts of the ONS continue to attract positive attention and inform the field of violence intervention and interruption through the development and implementation of promising practices.

9. Code Enforcement Updates

As always, the Code Enforcement Unit has been very busy addressing health, safety and quality of life issues throughout the City. Code Enforcement abatement crews removed 28.16 tons of debris from public right-of-ways and abated weeds from 6 City locations totaling 33.98 tons (includes wood from Spring Street). Although the work is continuous, Code Enforcement takes pride in their ability to address most complaints within 24 hours.

659 4th Street
10. West Macdonald Avenue Undergrounding Project

PG&E Rule 20A is an ongoing program that provides for undergrounding of overhead utility lines that is funded through a small surcharge on utility bills. A PG&E Rule 20A Electric Underground Conversion Project for the West Macdonald Avenue area between 5th Street and the Richmond Parkway is nearing completion.

The West Macdonald Avenue undergrounding project was initially brought forward to City Council by Engineering Department and Redevelopment staff in 2007 as part of the rehabilitation of Macdonald Avenue. Staff from PG&E and the City presented this approximately $4 million project to the Iron Triangle Neighborhood Council in the fall of 2013. This project provided underground electric service and utilities in the area and provided much needed area improvements that included ADA curb ramps and upgraded street lighting. The project also allowed for certain private property owners to upgrade their electrical service from 60 to 100 amperage panel units. City Public Works staff are adding the finishing touches by installing new street signs. A summary of the West Macdonald Avenue Underground Project is as follows:
- Twenty-five new street light poles;
- Eighteen new ADA ramps installed;
- Twenty-four steel and one wooden pole removed and a number of the old metal trolley poles;
- Approximately 18,000 square feet of new cement, sidewalk work;
- Approximately 29,000 square feet of new street AC work;
- Approximately 8,500 linear feet of trenching performed to underground electric, phone and cable utilities.

West Macdonald Utility Undergrounding Project

11. Improvements to the San Pablo Dam Road Interchange at I-80

In preparation for future improvements to the San Pablo Dam Road Interchange at I-80, El Portal Drive, near Glenlock Street in the City of San Pablo, will be temporarily closed to allow for the advance relocation of underground utilities.

The roadway closure is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 23rd, 2014, and is anticipated to continue into August 2014. The closure limits on El Portal Drive will be between Glenlock Street and the entrance ramp to westbound I-80 (towards San Francisco), near the Shell Gas Station. Access to/from Glenlock Street from/to El Portal Drive and all entrance and exit ramps will remain open at all times during construction. The sidewalk on El Portal Drive within the road closure segment will remain open at all times, except as needed, when construction activities require temporary closure for public safety.
Detour signs will be posted to inform drivers of alternative routes to reach their destination during the roadway closure. Electronic changeable message signs will be placed in strategic locations on city streets to minimize traffic delays and public inconvenience.

The Contra Costa Transportation Authority and project partners, including the cities of San Pablo and Richmond, Contra Costa County, and Caltrans, are making every effort to provide opportunities for project neighbors to stay informed about this construction work.

More information about the project can be found at: http://www.ccta.net/projects/project/38.

The project hotline’s number is (510) 277-0444.

Thank you for your cooperation during this essential work.
12. **2013 Supplemental Web Survey Results (Non-Scientific Survey)**

As part of its participation in The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS), the City of Richmond conducted a mailed survey of 3,000 residents. Surveys were mailed to randomly selected households in April 2013 and data was collected through early June 2013. After the official data collection period was over and the data were reported, the City made available the web-based survey to its residents through a link on the City’s web site. Visitors to the site were able to complete the survey from June 2013 through December 2013, and 282 surveys were received. The results from the non-scientific survey are included in the 2013 Supplemental Web Survey Report at [http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2745](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2745).

13. **Literacy for Every Adult Program (LEAP) is Looking for You!**

LEAP will celebrate 30 years of service on September 21, 2014. We want to thank the many volunteer tutors and students, as well as community service providers, who have supported and shaped LEAP’s success. Who are the LEAPster’s? What are their stories? In the next three months we will be collecting stories and photos to create a memorable timeline and history of the program. Are you part of this history? Please let us know and tell us the part that you played. Feel free to submit your information by email to [leapvolunteerinfor@gmail.com](mailto:leapvolunteerinfor@gmail.com) with the subject heading: LEAP 30 Year Story. If you have any questions or want to assist with our plans, feel
free to contact Sherry Drobner at (510) 307-8082 or sherry_drobner@ci.richmond.ca.us.

14. Recreation Highlights

Disabled People’s Recreation Center

The garden is looking fabulous. Participants, assisted by staff, were finally able to plant herbs, tomatoes, peppers, sweet peas, squash, strawberries, and lilies in the planter boxes. They used butterfly stakes made from popsicle sticks, coffee filters, and water colors for identifying the different plants. Now they want to plant a lemon tree, blood orange tree and a mandarin tree along with more herbs and flowers.
Pt. Richmond

“Point to Point” is a monthly Pop-Up event which brings the community together to Rediscover & Reimagine art, music, food, and small businesses. Knit & Such, Arts of Point Richmond, and the Labyrinth Studio came together at the Point Richmond Community Center to share their vision of the Pop-Up concept. Over 35 community members attended.

May Valley Kids ‘N Motion Summer Camp

May Valley Community Center has been very busy. Campers enjoyed making a lady bug collage or a lady bug construction paper project. Other days, staff and participants engaged in a water gun and balloon fight and all that participated had a wonderful time. Participants brought in their own water guns and balloons to share with the program at Lamonie Park across the street. Last Friday, campers headed over to the Pinole Swim Center and enjoyed an afternoon of swimming and playing in the water.
Senior Center

Peter Defabio, Recreation Program Coordinator was honored by the Mayor on behalf of the Commission on Aging for his dedication, energy, and devotion to the seniors of the City of Richmond over the past 33 years and creating beautiful decorations at the senior events including, Commission on Aging Senior Winter Ball, Senior Night Out, Chinese New Year, Black History Celebration, Senior Health and Information Day, and assisting the Commission on all requests. He has been a silent strength in bringing services, events and programs to the City of Richmond. Congratulations Peter!

Annex Senior Center

The Annex celebrated the 100th birthday of Irene Patterson, who served Annex Senior Center Advisory Board President until the age of 98. It’s been quite a birthday month for Irene, being the Centenarian of the Year at the Commission on Aging Senior Night Out, the Annex potluck and being honored at the council meeting by the Commission on Aging Council Liaison, Councilmember Nat Bates. Happy Birthday Irene!
15. **Public Works Updates**

**Facilities Maintenance Division:** Carpenters installed modular displays in the R-Transit lobby, repaired the wall frame and door within the Nevin Community Center, repaired drywall, and assisted in the delivering of 500 children’s books.

Painters applied the first and second coats of paint to the glass canopy framework at 450 Civic Center Plaza.

Stationary Engineers repaired the heating exchanger at the Nevin Community Center, restored the air conditioning at the Hilltop Police sub-station, repaired the air conditioning to the server room at 450 Civic Center Plaza, installed ADA drinking fountains at the Disable People’s Recreation Center (DPRC), replaced the pressure regulator to the boiler in the Main Library, cleared waste lines at the Bayview Branch Library and Fire Station 64, and installed a new water station at the Recreation Complex.

Electricians installed plugs for monitors and repaired the stage lights within the Richmond Auditorium as well as lighting ballast repairs in Civic Center Plaza.

![Ballast Repair](image)

**Parks and Landscaping Division:** Crews continued work on pathway project on the Richmond Parkway, completed weed abatement on Atlas Road, moved 1300 cubic yards of mulch to the Hilltop area, performed renovations to the Judge Carroll Park bleachers, removed weeds in Point Richmond, removed vegetation on Valley View Road, repaired irrigation at the Solano Play Lot, and prepared for the festivities for the July celebration.
Tree crews trimmed trees on Carl Avenue, 35th Street, Overend Avenue, 27th Street, as well as the Cherry trees at John F. Kennedy Park.

Streets Division: Staff grinded and paved Carl Avenue, set up for the Juneteenth Celebration and worked from the outstanding pothole and sidewalk list.
Street sweeping performed commercial sweeping services for the fourth Monday through Friday in Santa Fe, Point Richmond, Marina Bay, Coronado, Metro Richmore Village, Pullman, Cortez/Stege, Park Plaza, Laurel Park, City Center, Richmond Annex, Parkview, Panhandle Annex, and Eastshore neighborhood council areas.

Signs and Lines staff created 16 new City logos, installed 30 new signs and poles, repaired 72 signs, installed and replaced 18 pavement delineations and poles, and repainted 1,516 feet of curbs.

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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.

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