

December 13, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor Irma L. Anderson
Members of the City Council

From: Finance, Administrative Services and Economic Development Committee

SUBJECT: SUMMARY
Finance, Administrative Services and Economic Development Committee
Thursday, December 12, 2006, 4:38 p.m.

Attendance: Present: Chair Rogers, and Councilmembers Butt, Griffin, and Thurmond.
Absent: None

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Consider directing staff to fund previously authorized partial public financing of Richmond campaigns

- Chair Rogers stated that in 2003, the City Council passed a law providing partial public financing of Richmond campaigns for Mayor and Council. However, funding the ordinance was delayed due to financial problems that Richmond was undergoing. The law was in response to ever increasing flow of special interest money in Richmond campaigns. The courts have allowed Richmond to level the playing field by providing matching public funds to qualifying candidates.
- The law would provide up to \$25,000 in matching public funds to let serious candidates avoid being drowned out by huge special interest independent expenditures. The current law in Richmond is it matches each \$5,000 that a candidate raises after the candidate raises an initial \$10,000, however the match cannot exceed \$25,000.
- The cost to fund this is estimated at \$75,000.

Consider adopting a resolution renewing standing orders/outline agreements for Technology related goods and services from various vendors in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 per year per vendor for fiscal years 2006-2007 and 2007-2008

- There is no fiscal impact. The proposed standing orders/outline agreements are not a commitment to spend. Only pre-approved adopted budget dollars can be used with these certified vendors.

OUTCOME:

On motion of Councilmember Griffin, seconded By Councilmember Thurmond, this item was referred to the full City Council.

Consider approval of an allocation of \$125,000 toward the total of contractual services for Moore Iacofano Goltsman (MIG) Inc., to develop a Specific Plan for the San Pablo corridor between the intersections of Macdonald Avenue and the Contra Costa/Alameda County line

- Richard Mitchell, Planning Director, stated that between the intersections of Macdonald Avenue and the Contra Costa/Alameda County Line, the San Pablo Avenue right-of-way and/or adjacent parcels are shared between the cities of Richmond and El Cerrito. The shared boundary line between the two cities changes course a number of times.
- The irregular city boundary line, with differing general plan, zoning, development and design standards between the two cities, creates obstacles for the successful economic development of this major commercial arterial corridor.
- The cities of El Cerrito and Richmond wish to retain the services of MIG, Inc. to develop a joint Specific Plan for the shared segment of San Pablo Avenue.

OUTCOME:

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this matter to the City Council and suggested that the funding be obtained from the Redevelopment Agency budget.

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

- Councilmember Butt asked that Impact Fees be looked at to ensure that all that should be collected is being obtained.
- Councilmember Thurmond suggested that there be a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Economic Development Committee in order to obtain ideas and strategies to raise revenue.

OUTCOME:

A motion was made by Councilmember Thurmond, seconded by Councilmember Griffin that the Finance Committee meet with the Economic Development specialist and members of the Economic Development Commission to work on a revenue generation plan that can identify assets that can lead to revenue.

OPEN FORUM

Naomi Williams gave comments regarding businesses that may not be paying business licenses that are located in homes.

Future Items:

Chair Rogers asked Mr. Goins to return to the Finance Committee with a report on the process for procuring costs and benefits of commercial residential and commercial development.

The next Finance Standing Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.