

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, April 28, 2020

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt via teleconference.

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. (See, for example, March 31, 2020, County Order extending the shelter-in-place order until May 3, 2020, and March 19, 2020, statewide shelter-in-place order). Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom issued executive orders that allowed cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing (Executive Order N-29-20).

DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, attendance at the City of Richmond City Council meeting was limited to Councilmembers, essential City of Richmond staff, and members of the news media. Public comment was confined to items appearing on the agenda and was limited to the methods provided below. Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting utilized teleconferencing only. The following provides information on how the public participated in the meeting.

The public was able to view the meeting from home on KCRT – Comcast Channel 28 or AT&T Uverse Channel 99, or live-streamed online at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3178/KCRT-Live>.

*Written public comments were received via email and eComment. Comments received by 3:00 p.m. on April 28, 2020, were put into the record and considered before Council action and were submitted by email to cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us. Comments received via email during the meeting and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item closed, were read into the record. Comments were also received via telephone during the public comment period. **Attached herewith all written public comments received.***

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ben Choi, Demnlus Johnson III, Eduardo Martinez, Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Melvin Willis arrived after the roll was called. Councilmember Jael Myrick was absent for the entire Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The city clerk announced that the purpose of the Open Session was for the City Council to hear public comments on the following items to be discussed in Closed Session:

CITY COUNCIL

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (paragraph (1) of Subdivision [d] of Government Code Section 54956.9):

Levin Terminal vs. City of Richmond
Wolverine Fuels Sales vs. City of Richmond
Phillips 66 vs. City of Richmond

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
(Government Code Section 54957):

Title: City Clerk

Cordell Hindler gave comments via email.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY
NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8):

Property: Port of Richmond (Rigger's Loft)
Agency negotiators: Laura Snideman and Jim Matzorkis
Negotiating party: Rigger's Loft Wine Company, Inc.
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government
Code Section 54957.6):

Title: City Attorney

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:11 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was
called to order at 6:46 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Myrick, Willis,
and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Martinez and Vice
Mayor Bates arrived after the roll was called.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

**REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY ON FINAL
DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION**

Acting City Attorney Rachel Sommovilla stated there were
no final actions to report.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman reported the following
updates related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic: The City
of Richmond opened the Richmond Cares Hotline for COVID-19
resources and information. The hotline was available weekdays
from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by calling (510) 620-6700. For small
businesses, a resources list was distributed via email and Contra
Costa County provided a hotline that was available on weekdays
from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. by calling (833) 320-1919. Six bay area
counties including Contra Costa County announced the extension of
shelter-in-place orders through the end of May 2020, with minor
changes. Ms. Snideman also reported that Governor Gavin Newsom
laid out the types of information and data he was seeking to
potentially modify the State of California COVID-19 order by
lifting in stages.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals submitted the following comments via email, eComment, or telephone:

Cordell Hindler requested the Council to invite Andy Katz to make a presentation on the need for a hospital in West County and Bay Area Rapids Transit (BART) General Manager Robert Powers to provide an update on the Del Norte BART station. Mr. Hindler gave comments regarding Item G-3 and stated that he received an email from a teacher at Salesian High School regarding the Youth Council.

Jane Porter, Naomi Williams, Rebecca Willis, and Wen Cheng gave comments in opposition to the proposed sewer rate increase discussed at the April 21, 2020, City Council meeting. Ms. Porter and Ms. Willis requested to delay the public hearing for the sewer rate increase to 45 days post the expiration of the City of Richmond's urgency ordinance.

Jules Balen and Pam Young expressed concerns regarding SunCal's proposed Point Molate development. Ms. Balen requested the Council to be careful with decisions regarding Point Molate.

Asuncion Carmona, Blanca Retano, Christina Lorenzana, David Sharples, Diodoro Martinez, Ezquiél Chum, Gaby Mercado, Gorgina Vasquez Baldadano, Irene Gonzalez, Jose Alfredo Palma Espinoza, Juan Jose Gutierrez, Juan Jose Lozano, Kristi Laughlin, Maria Esther Sanchez, Paul Laurudee, Ricardo Zepeda, Sandra Aldava Colon, Sara Rodriguez, Xiomara Elisabeth Portillo, and Rhea Elina gave comments in favor of a moratorium on evictions and rent increases with a stronger grace period than Contra Costa County.

Deborah Bayer expressed concerns regarding Item G-1 and what the Council's proposed actions were to support affordable housing.

Ben Therriault thanked Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia for facilitating COVID-19 testing for front-line employees. Mr. Therriault and Jason Flaum expressed concerns regarding the placement of Human Resources Management Director Lisa Stephenson on administrative leave.

Toni Perez and Tomasa Espinoza expressed concerns regarding the City Council meeting public comment process during the COVID-19 shelter order. Ms. Perez and Ms. Espinoza also gave comments in favor of a moratorium on evictions and rent increases with a longer grace period to repay rent.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Myrick, the items marked with an (*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council:

***G-1.** Proclamation declaring May 2020 as Affordable Housing Month "Affordable Homes for All".

***G-2.** Proclamation declaring May 2020 as Historic Preservation Month in the City of Richmond.

***G-3.** Announced recent resignation from City of Richmond boards, commissions, and committees; and announced vacancies as of April 22, 2020, and asked that interested individuals send applications to the city clerk.

STUDY AND ACTION SESSION

H-1. The matter to determine employee compensation status by selecting Option A or B or provide alternative direction; approve staff's recommendation that all employees are eligible to receive 80 hours of emergency paid sick leave pro-rated to their position hours as part of Families First Coronavirus Response Act; and approve staff's recommendation to either temporarily remove the vacation cap allowance or allow for sell-back of vacation for sworn public safety personnel, as a result of COVID-19 was introduced by Acting Deputy City Manager Internal Services LaShonda White. Mrs. White presented a Powerpoint that highlighted the following: current employee compensation, Policy Option A (use of accruals or other for non-working employees); Policy Option B (extends paid leave for non-working employees through May 31, 2020, without the use of accruals); First Families Coronavirus Response Act emergency sick leave; and vacation cap removal and sell-back for public safety employees. Discussion ensued. The following individuals submitted comments via email, eComment, or telephone: Cheryl Cardenas, Cordell Hindler, Jill Perry, Joe Summers, John Adams, Michael Schlemmer, Rosanne Ryken, Yen Do, Yolanda Skelton, Angela Walton, Sean Stalbaum, one anonymous, Janet Johnson, Kevin Tisdell, Wylendia Eastman, Angela Cox, Gabriel Shipp, Ben Therriault, and Gayle McLaughlin. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, to approve Policy Option B and accept staff's recommendations regarding emergency paid sick leave and vacation accruals. Further discussion ensued. A friendly amendment was made by Vice Mayor Bates, requesting staff to return to the Council within 30-45 days with the actual costs associated with the policy options and to determine if the Council should continue or make adjustments. Further discussion ensued. The Council requested staff to utilize non-working staff for special projects. The friendly amendment was accepted. Another friendly amendment made by Councilmember Martinez to instruct all managers to find new loads of work for non-working employees was accepted. The motion passed with the friendly amendments by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS: REFERRALS TO STAFF, AND GENERAL REPORTS (INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS)

Councilmember Willis reported that portable handwashing stations were installed in Richmond for the homeless community.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m., to meet again on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 9:29 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment before Closed Session

hello Sabrina, i think that the city clerk is doing a wonderful job,

sincerely
Cordell

p.s , 1. more pay

2. adding a couple of Assistant and Deputy City Clerks for the next fiscal budget 2021

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 9:33 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Open Forum for Public Comment

hello Sabrina, i have a couple of suggestions for the next council Agenda

1. invite Andy Katz to make a presentation on the needs for a hospital in West County
2. also to have Bob Powers to provide an update on the Del Norte Bart Station

as far as G-3 is concerned, i did receive an Email from the teacher at Salesian High about the youth Council

Sincerely
Cordell

P.S, i think that Laura is a wonderful city Manager.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jane Porter <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 8:16 PM
To: Tom Butt - external; Jael Myrick; Demnlus Johnson; Nat Bates; Melvin Willis; Eduardo Martinez; Ben Choi
Cc: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Sewer Rate - Delay the Public Hearing and Oppose Increase

2730 Bissell Ave
26 - 16th street
28 - 16th street
30 - 16th street
32 - 16th street

I respectfully request that the Mayor and City Council:

PLEASE DELAY THE PUBLIC HEARING for the Sewer Rate Increase to 45 days post the expiration of the City's Urgency Ordinance. During this COVID-19 pandemic, many residents and small business owners are in survival mode.

Among the pressing issues:

-Many have lost their jobs or have had to close their businesses; -Most cannot afford childcare and are schooling their kids from home; -Some may be dealing with COVID-related illness within their family; -67% of Richmond Property Owners and Customer of Records, predominantly in lower income areas, will be impacted by this 37.5% rate increase.

PLEASE RECORD MY FORMAL PROTEST TO THE SEWER RATE INCREASE

I formally oppose the proposed sewer rate increase and humbly request the Mayor and City Council:

1. Conduct an independent financial audit of the Richmond Municipal Sewer District & Veolia, and deliver a report to the Taxpayers.
2. Send this service contract out for formal bids to at least three new vendors and make this process fully transparent to the Public.
3. Provide documentation to the Public that includes verifiable, fact-based accounting to support any new proposed rate hike.
4. Provide written guarantees that sewer rates will be capped and decrease in the future.
5. Require the Developer/Sun Cal pay for all costs associated with the sewer line(s)/system to Point Molate.
6. Establish clear oversight and accountability of the Richmond Municipal Sewer District.
7. Provide a fair and clear democratic process in a timely manner for all customers to lodge protests and participate in the Public Hearing, irrespective of the current pandemic.
8. After a fair Public Hearing, put this to a vote to determine how a majority of property owners feel.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jules B <jbconsumer@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 6:19 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: City Council Meeting for Pointe Molate Public Comment

April 25, 2020

Mayor Tom Butt, Vice Mayor Nate Bates,
Council Members Ben Choi, Demnlus Johnson III,
Eduardo Martinez, Jael Myrick, & Melvin Willis
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us

Re: City Council Meeting for Pointe Molate Public Comment

Dear Mayor Butt, Vice Mayor Bates, Council Members Ben Choi, Demnlus Johnson III, Eduardo Martinez, Jael Myrick, & Melvin Willis:

I am writing to ask you to be careful in your decision-making about Point Molate. I believe SunCal's proposal is not in the City's interests, and if approved, will land the City back in court. We can find a better solution for Point Molate than what is being proposed by SunCal.

Regarding SunCal's proposed project, did you know that

1. Driven by the cost of operating a new fire and police substation, the City's General Fund could lose \$100 million over thirty years. Subsidization of infrastructure costs is another concern.
2. It could take 2 hours to get a stroke victim to John Muir during morning commute
3. It could take 90 minutes to get to work in San Rafael from Central Avenue or Hilltop
4. Point Molate has the healthiest eelgrass beds in San Francisco Bay
5. The peninsula Point Molate is part of, is home to the greatest number of ospreys in the bay
6. Our Supervisor, John Gioia, opposes the proposed project
7. The City will end up in court yet again because
 - a. the EIR is inadequate
 - b. the proposed project violates federal, state, regional and City regulations and guidance for protecting habitat and limiting GHG emission increases

What the City Council should do right now is

- Postpone all decisions until the public can participate fully in the review process
- Review a full financial analysis of the project's financial risks and the City's strategy for protecting the General Fund
- Avoid litigation by rejecting the Draft SEIR as inadequate and requesting a more complete analysis of known traffic, safety and environmental concerns
- Place the Citizens Initiative on the November ballot - let the voters decide whether to restrict development to the Winehaven District and create a ridge-to-shoreline park in the southern portion of the property

Moreover, it's not in the best interest of our community to make such a risky decision during this health emergency.

Sincerely,

Dr. J Balén

Richmond

Sabrina Lundy

From: naomi williams <msnana4632@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:59 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Open Forum or item if one is there for SEWER TAX R

Good evening Mayor, citycouncil, City manager and all the residents of Richmond this is Naomi Williams who lives and pays Tax's in Richmond I'm sorry we could not be there in person I hope you all are staying safe where ever you are. And doing all the things that we are required to do to help save our lives now, —at the last meeting we told that we would not act on the sewer Tax issue until more residents were informed and also the tax would not be deducted until November is that correct? Well Did anybody think,remember that our property taxes is also due at the last of the year so that's been a property tax over \$2000++ mplus the increase that is coming out around the wsame time around the same time each year. And I think that all of Richmond do not have the same sewer company am I right? please answer that.

Sent from my iPhone

Sabrina Lundy

From: Pam Young <pyoung@goldengateaudubon.org>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 12:20 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Laura Cremin; Michael Strom
Subject: [BULK] GGAS comment Point Molate SEIR planning process
Attachments: GGAS Pt Molate Planning Process Comment 27Apr2020.pdf

Importance: Low

Honorable Mayor Tom Butt, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers,

Please accept our Golden Gate Audubon Society comment on the Point Molate SEIR planning process.

Please update us regarding all Point Molate discussions, documents, and related processes.

Thank you,

Pam Young

--

Pam Young
Executive Director
Golden Gate Audubon Society



*inspiring people to protect
Bay Area birds since 1917*

Mayor Tom Butt,
Vice-Mayor Nathaniel Bates,
Councilmembers Ben Choi, Demnlus Johnson III, Eduardo Martinez, Jael Myrick, Melvin Willis

April 27, 2020

Richmond City Hall
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804
cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us

Subject: Point Molate-Mixed Use Project Planning

To the Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Councilmembers:

The Golden Gate Audubon Society (GGAS) has reviewed the project plans presented in the Point Molate Mixed-Use Development Project draft SEIR. The purpose of this letter is to state GGAS concerns related to the overall planning process for this Project and its alternatives during the unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic.

GGAS is a 103 year old non-profit organization that has long been involved in land stewardship, in particular the preservation and expansion of healthy bird habitat. More than 160 species of birds are found on the shoreline and surrounding acreage of Point Molate, which makes the future of the site of great relevancy to our members.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has disrupted every aspect of life - requiring our communities and local governments to immediately shunt resources away from ongoing activities and towards responding to the emergency and providing essential services. Non-essential projects with known extensive environmental and financial impacts, including the Point Molate Mixed-Use Development Project, should not continue at the expense of transparency and the opportunity for adequate public participation.

Therefore, GGAS requests that:

- The City of Richmond pause all controversial business decisions related to Point Molate (e.g. signing a Development Agreement with SunCal) until the public can fully participate in the review and approval process.
- Place the Save Our Pt. Molate Initiative on the November ballot. The ballot initiative was certified; however the State-wide Shelter-in-Place Order prohibited signatures from being gathered and the normal process was halted.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY

2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite G, Berkeley, CA 94702

phone 510.843.2222 web www.goldengateaudubon.org email ggas@goldengateaudubon.org

On March 12, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 Crisis Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-25-20 (“Order”) waiving provisions of the Bagley-Keene Act and Brown Act that expressly or implied requiring the physical presence of the public. At the same time the order urges local governments “...to use sound discretion and make reasonable efforts to adhere as closely to the provisions of the Bagley- Keene Act and Brown Act, and other applicable local laws regulating the conduct of public meetings, in order to maximize transparency and provide the public access to their meetings.”

Given the spirit of the Order to use sound discretion and maximize transparency, decisions of any magnitude regarding the Pt. Molate Mixed-Use Development Project should not be made during this enforced period of restricted social contact.

The COVID-19 Crisis has injected a new appreciation of nature as a healing force. Citizens are looking at the world with changed eyes, and it behooves our government at all levels to listen to their concerns for the future, including the natural world. The public’s vision for Pt. Molate may well be very different now from what it was before this life-altering siege.

Thank you for your consideration,

Respectfully,

Pam Young
Executive Director

1. eBird. 2019. eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L597003>]. eBird, Ithaca, New York. Available: <http://www.ebird.org>. (Accessed: October 28, 2019).
2. Avocet Research Associates. 2004. Aquatic Park, Berkeley, California: Waterbird Population and Disturbance Response Study.
3. Ferlin C. 1983. History and Development of Aquatic Park.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Rebecca Willis <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 8:07 AM
To: Tom Butt - external; Jael Myrick; Demnlus Johnson; Nat Bates; Melvin Willis; Eduardo Martinez; Ben Choi
Cc: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Sewer Rate - Delay the Public Hearing and Oppose Increase

2360-2362 Lowell Ave. RICHMOND, CA 94804

I respectfully request that the Mayor and City Council:

PLEASE DELAY THE PUBLIC HEARING for the Sewer Rate Increase to 45 days post the expiration of the City's Urgency Ordinance. During this COVID-19 pandemic, many residents and small business owners are in survival mode.

Among the pressing issues:

-Many have lost their jobs or have had to close their businesses; -Most cannot afford childcare and are schooling their kids from home; -Some may be dealing with COVID-related illness within their family; -67% of Richmond Property Owners and Customer of Records, predominantly in lower income areas, will be impacted by this 37.5% rate increase.

PLEASE RECORD MY FORMAL PROTEST TO THE SEWER RATE INCREASE

I formally oppose the proposed sewer rate increase and humbly request the Mayor and City Council:

1. Conduct an independent financial audit of the Richmond Municipal Sewer District & Veolia, and deliver a report to the Taxpayers.
2. Send this service contract out for formal bids to at least three new vendors and make this process fully transparent to the Public.
3. Provide documentation to the Public that includes verifiable, fact-based accounting to support any new proposed rate hike.
4. Provide written guarantees that sewer rates will be capped and decrease in the future.
5. Require the Developer/Sun Cal pay for all costs associated with the sewer line(s)/system to Point Molate.
6. Establish clear oversight and accountability of the Richmond Municipal Sewer District.
7. Provide a fair and clear democratic process in a timely manner for all customers to lodge protests and participate in the Public Hearing, irrespective of the current pandemic.
8. After a fair Public Hearing, put this to a vote to determine how a majority of property owners feel.

Yours sincerely,
Rebecca Willis

This email was sent by Rebecca Willis via Do Gooder, a website that allows people to contact you regarding issues they consider important. In accordance with web protocol RFC 3834 we have set the FROM field of this email to our generic no-reply address at campaigns@good.do, however Rebecca provided an email address (Orangeblossoms@hotmail.com) which we included in the REPLY-TO field.

Please reply to Rebecca Willis at Orangeblossoms@hotmail.com.

To learn more about Do Gooder visit www.dogooder.co To learn more about web protocol RFC 3834 visit: <https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2ftools.ietf.org%2fhtml%2frfc3834&c=E,1,oGhwZbTWlO47uXfOmd4nEzp9E7cydgOs6g3jut9bYioRBli0Jmfj8DVTk1p3yCixNC8u5V-LlzKXXyvAL1JAjXrxizvHXTAlwb85jmAKxb6ULsZNeppGi89w-lf4&typo=1>

Sabrina Lundy

From: Wen Cheng <gbgb11@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 26, 2020 9:06 PM
To: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; City Clerk Dept; info@demnlus.com; Eduardo Martinez; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis; Nat Bates
Subject: consideration: Eviction Protection and Rent Freeze Law •

Dear Mayor Butt and City Councils,

I own a triplex in Richmond since 2008. My annual salary is under 60k and I am a family of three. My daughter is first grade 7 years old. My wife is a house wife.

Does this sound familiar to you like a typical American family?

I do not have a high paid job. So I had to work 2 jobs day and night, 7 days a week for I do not know how many years to have enough down payment to buy the triplex and the house I am living now and to pay for the mortgage. My current work hours is cut and so is my pay.

I have same question like other small time home owners.

-Why you think we can survive without rent income.

-Why you act like we do not need to pay mortgage and property tax.

-For years I have responsibly, faithfully paid more than \$10,000 property tax annually which is one of the most important incomes for the city to sustain its function and we are not considered by you for any protection

-Why you think we can give tenant free rent, free loan, free interest for as long as you think appropriate and I am collecting rent below market rate due to rent control

-Why you can illegally strip our rights away

-Why you think we are free from this pandemic damage

-Why owning a property in Richmond needs to be punished always - it is not cheap, it is not free and there is not so much profit we can play government and bank.

-Why our life does not matter to you

Home owners fall down do not benefit anybody

It is your job to protect home owners too not only the tenant.

It is more workable to have a program to help out the home owners so they can help the tenants

Sincerely

Wen Cheng

Sabrina Lundy

From: Diana Wear <diana4richmond@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:56 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment Item G-1

Diana Wear
Richmond resident

Mayor and City Council Members,

I am encouraged to hear that you are declaring May 2020 as “Affordable Housing Month and Affordable Homes for All.” I am a commissioner on the Economic Development Commission and affordable housing top on my list for choosing to serve on the EDC. When I joined the EDC a little over a year ago, I became aware that the commission was more focused on business development. This did not discourage me, however, because with Richmond’s vast diversity of both economic classes and cultures I was keen to find ways to help many of those small businesses develop and thrive in our city.

Now with the pandemic, clearly the EDC is going to need to broaden its scope to include affordable housing. I am ready, willing, and able to be part of that venture with you, especially as we launch “Affordable Housing Month.” Let’s put Richmond on the map for tackling this critical issue in the Bay Area.

I trust the City is already hard at work putting affordable housing programs into place. We will of course need to address a number of questions:

- a) What affordable housing is currently available in Richmond?
- b) Is there a timeline for different projects to serve special communities?
- c) Is the Planning Department at work on some projects already?
And, of course, is there adequate funding for these projects?
- d) Has Richmond sought State or Federal funds for future projects?
- e) How many people are currently provided with affordable housing?
- f) What is the waiting list for people requesting affordable housing?
- g) What are the current needs for affordable housing in Richmond, pre-pandemic?
- h) Is anyone gathering data on housing needs for the post-pandemic period?
- i) What are the plans for the un-housed population in Richmond? Tiny homes?

j) What is being done for social distancing requirements in Richmond shelters?

Please, put me to work on this important issue. I have a lot of time on my hands these days (and my husband will thank you, too).

Sincerely,

Diana Wear

diana4richmond@gmail.com

Sabrina Lundy

From: okdf <checar@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 1:53 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM H-1

Members of the City of Richmond Council;

I am a City of Richmond resident and employee.

I would like to state, first and foremost, how upsetting it is to me that documents can be presented to the Council or any other governing body that have the appearance of representing me and my co-workers when we haven't been consulted at all. Agenda Item **H-1** claims labor unions have had input but beyond a handful staff and the authors, that is not the case.

Secondly, with regards to the section that allows Sworn Employees to have the cap on their vacation accruals temporarily removed, I believe that this should be applied to all City of Richmond employees. As we do not know where the pandemic will lead us, it is plausible to believe non-sworn employees may also be affected if/when their scheduled vacations are cancelled by administration to meet the needs of the citizens. We hear everyday that the surge is yet to come, that there may be a resurgence as the world reopens &/or there will be another influx in the Fall or Winter as this may be an annually occurring virus. At this point in time, we do not know what our working schedules will look like from now until year end, until more is known about diagnosing and treating this virus.

Lastly, and most importantly, I believe **Option B** is the best way to keep the City of Richmond functioning and prepared to be fully open for business. The wages for essential and non-essential employees are already budgeted for the current fiscal year. Having all staff either at work, working from home or at home in an on-call like status keeps City services available ongoing or at a moments notice, as the environment changes. **Stability is essential for residents, businesses and employees.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Take care and be safe,

Cheryl Cardenas

Resident & RPD Dispatcher

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 9:38 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: STUDY AND ACTION SESSION

hello Sabrina, i did read the agenda Report and i am in full support of Option B for the same reasons as the report stated

Sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jill Perry
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:58 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment for agenda item H-1

As a long-time employee of the City of Richmond, I need to strongly encourage the City Council **to reject Policy Option A** in the city staff memo for Agenda Item H.1. and encourage the Council to **approve Policy Option B instead**. There are many reasons that Policy Option A should be rejected, including that it violates the spirit of the shelter at home order. As soon as employees will be required to use their leave accruals, there will be some without sufficient accruals who will come to work so that their pay isn't impacted. This would put others at significant and unnecessary risk. I would also like to point out that the salaries that would be paid in Policy Option B have already been budgeted for the current fiscal year and would have no significant financial impact to the City.

We also encourage the City Council to lift the caps on leave accruals during this crisis.

Thank You,

Jill Perry
Local 21 Vice President

Sabrina Lundy

From: LaShonda White
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Joe Summers
Cc: Dee Karnes; Jill Perry; Sean Stalbaum; Gregory Everetts; Kevin Tisdell; Yen Do; Gabriel Haaland; Benjamin Therriault; Luis Padilla; Timothy Simmons; local188ba@outlook.com; Joshua Anijar; Steve Older; City Clerk Dept; Laura Snideman; Allison Picard; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: RE: Letter of Opposition to Option A on Council Agenda Item H1

Mr. Summers,

Thank you for your email and letter.

Take care,

LaShonda White
Acting Deputy City Manager for Internal Services
City Manager's Office
510.620.6828 | Direct Line

From: Joe Summers [<mailto:joe@cclabor.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 11:35 AM
To: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis; Laura Snideman; Lisa Stephenson; LaShonda White
Cc: Dee Karnes; Jill Perry; Sean Stalbaum; Gregory Everetts; Kevin Tisdell; Yen Do; Gabriel Haaland; Benjamin Therriault; Luis Padilla; Timothy Simmons; local188ba@outlook.com; Joshua Anijar; Steve Older
Subject: Letter of Opposition to Option A on Council Agenda Item H1

Mayor Butt and City Council Members,

The Contra Costa Labor Council joins Richmond bargaining units in urging the Richmond City Council to **Reject Policy Option A** on Agenda Item H1 for the reasons addressed in the [attached letter](#). Instead, we encourage the Council to **Approve Policy Option B** or request an immediate meeting between city staff and the bargaining unit representatives to seek a mutually agreeable alternative policy option to address employee compensation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Best,
Joe

--

Joseph J. Summers
Campaign Director
Contra Costa Labor Council
1333 Pine St., Ste. E
Martinez, CA 94553

Office: (925)228-0161
Cell: (707)398-1772

Email: joe@cclabor.net

Central Labor Council Contra Costa County AFL-CIO

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President

Kevin Van Buskirk, *SMW 104*
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Sue Guest, *IFPTE 21*

Gabriel Haaland, *SEIU 1021*

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Tim Jefferies, *IBB 549*

Anita Johnson, *MDEA*

Doug Jones, *SEIU-UHW*

Tom Lawson, *UA 159*

Michael Nye, *CARA*

Nadine Peyrucain, *AFSCME Ret.*

Tracy Scott, *USW 5*

Rachel Shoemake, *IBEW 302*

Vince Wells, *IAFF 1245*

Jonathan Wright, *IFPTE 20*

Council Staff

Josh Anijar
Executive Director

Joe Summers
Political Director

April 28, 2020

Attention Mayor Butt and City Council Members:

The Richmond City Employee Unions copied herein (Fire Fighters Local 188, IFPTE Local 21, RPOA, and SEIU Local 1021) strongly encourage you to **Reject Policy Option A** in the city staff memo for Agenda Item H.1. We encourage you to **Approve Policy Option B** instead. OR, if Option B is not preferred, we request an immediate meeting between city staff and the bargaining unit representatives to seek a mutually agreeable alternative policy option to address employee compensation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the inference at the bottom of page 2 of the city staff memo, there was not consultation with our bargaining groups regarding the specific policy options (A & B) city staff presented for your consideration under Item H.1. City staff did not share their policy option ideas with bargaining groups prior to presenting them for the City Council's consideration.

Option A should be rejected by the City Council for the following reasons:

Option A penalizes dedicated public servants who cannot work during the pandemic through no fault of their own. City employees who are unable to work due to their job function being declared non-essential or not conducive to Working-From-Home, or because they are high-risk due to age or underlying health issues, are not choosing not to work. They are being ordered not to work to help prevent community spread of COVID-19, including spread in the workforce. They should not be penalized for doing their part by remaining home.

Option A is not needed to appease the City's tax payers. City salaries are budgeted for all city staff through the end of the Fiscal Year (June 30th). It's not costing more than anticipated to continue to pay the workers without use of their accruals who can't work at this time through no fault of their own.

Option A is out of touch with many other Bay Area public agencies. Many Bay Area public agencies are continuing to honor their commitments to their workers by compensating those who can't work through no fault of their own without the use of their accruals.

Option A breeds division among City workers by forcing non-essential staff to use their accruals to be paid, or file for public benefits to help compensate them (such as when an employee has no accruals to use), while essential staff can continue to work and be paid per usual.

Option A would further harm the local economy. Once public agencies begin forcing employees who are unable to work due to the SIP Orders to begin using their accruals, those employees and their families will cut back their own spending, thereby contributing to the economic downward spiral.

Again, we strongly encourage you to **Reject Policy Option A.** If Policy Option B is not preferred, we request an immediate meeting between city staff and the bargaining unit representatives to seek a mutually agreeable alternative policy option to address employee compensation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Respectfully and on Behalf of City of Richmond Labor Unions,



Steve Older
President



Joshua Anijar
Executive Director

Sabrina Lundy

From: John Adams <adamsjp007@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 1:12 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Comment: H-1 Agenda Item: City Council Should Choose Option B

Dear City Council Members,

As a concerned and property owning tax payer in the City of Richmond I highly recommended and advocate for the City to choose Option B on tonights H-1 agenda item.

Argument: There are so many reason why I think the city should choose Option B, but I will try to just list a few:

1) This an unprecedented situation and as I watch the federal government pass the buck of responsibility I would hate to see the City I live and cherish take the same route, literally, and pass the cost of the crisis on to it's employees.

Richmond is often on the forefront of progressive and people first politics. I would hate to see my City take a step back. I would hate to see my City undercut it's employees.

2) The one way to get back to normal will be to allow people their normal lives. If City employees keep their accruals they will be the engine that drives the local economy back. They will be the ones who have the ability to frequent restaurants and business and spark the economy back because they weren't worried about their future or their families. City employees often choose that service job because they know that, we the people they serve, support them. It's a two way street and I want to do my part.

Please support our City demonstrate Richmond to the wonderful place fulling of caring people that I need it to be as I live through this crisis.

John

Sabrina Lundy

From: Michael Schlemmer
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:03 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item H1

As the Police Departments Communications Center Manager and with Captain Tirona and Chief French's approval I have canceled all vacations through May for all dispatch staff. Canceling vacations was necessary to maximize the amount of available staff I have as well as minimize the amount of back fill mandatory overtime for employees to work. This was the best course of action to ensure we can better serve each other and the citizens in Richmond.

Item H1 should include all dispatch staff in locals 1021 and 21 from the Police Departments Dispatch Center.

Thank you,

Michael

Michael Schlemmer

Communication's Center Manager

Richmond Police Department

1701 Regatta Blvd Richmond, CA 94804

510.620.6660

Mon-Thurs 6:00am-4:00pm

Sabrina Lundy

From: rosanne ryken <rkryken@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:57 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment. H 1 agenda item

I support option. B. Rosanne
Ryken 1021 member city worker.
[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Sabrina Lundy

From: Yen Do <Yen.Do@seiu1021.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 1:21 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment

Members of the City of Richmond Council,

My name is Yen Do, SEIU 1021 Union Field Staff, representing the City's service workers. We are in a pandemic and in a state of uncertainty during these times, I'd like for ALL of us to recognize the level of care, the level of passion and compassion your workers, our members execute, even in a pandemic. We

With this said, this is not the time to consider layoffs, furloughs or other ways to balance the budget on the back of workers. I ask that the Administration work with respective labor unions to come up with alternatives in place of layoffs. This is the time, to seek what other ways we – TOGETHER – can achieve creatively to ensure our workers stay in their jobs to care for our City. We say not to any and all concessions.

For starters, for those workers who are currently on the front lines, SEIU 1021 along with our Contra Costa County Central Labor Council partners are demanding that these workers receive additional benefits to support them as they continue to do the work. We, the City of Richmond labor coalition are asking you, members of the Council to **support item H1, choosing Option B** to extend sick leave accruals should an emergency happen for our working families; they will have an additional safety net to provide for their own families.

And finally, this support is only the beginning. We love our workers and know that you do too. With this said, as the shelter in place is extended, plus, the future economic uncertainty that lies ahead, SEIU 1021 and the rest of our Labor Union partners are throwing off our masks and gloves, ready to fight and do what is necessary for ALL workers. We are as strong as we make our society, in your case, your City. We ask that the Council and the City's Administration join us and work with labor to achieve a more prosperous way of life for the community in which we all serve. We ask that the Council and City Administrators all continue to fully communicate with labor and continue to work along the side of labor to work towards strengthening the City and communities' needs.

I thank you for your time and for your considering on supporting agenda item H1. Stay safe everyone & know that we truly are IN THIS TOGETHER!

Yen L. Do, MPP
SEIU 1021
Field Representative

Sabrina Lundy

From: yskelton@comcast.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 2:33 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item #H Option A and B

Hello,

I'm Yolanda Skelton, member of Local 21 Richmond Chapter and would like express my opinion against Policy Option A and highly in favor of Policy Option B of the agenda # H for tonight's meeting. Through no fault of our own and due to statewide/countrywide effort to contain the spread of COVID-19 virus, non-essential employees were mandated to stay home especially those of 65 years of age and over to prevent such exposure with a guarantee that we will not lose our pay and benefit and, without using our vacation accruals that some of us may not have as much for. We should not be forced to seek for public assistance with H&SS in order to put food in our table for our kids and families.

I also would like to ask the Mayor and Council to remove the vacation cap during the SIP Orders for all employees, including non-public safety employees. Local 21 members who are categorized as essential workers in the PD, Fire, Public Works, and other departments who still must report to worksites daily and cannot take vacations due to the need for their services during the pandemic response. These employees should not lose vacation accruals that they worked so hard to earn for due to this situation. Thank you very much.

Council Meeting - 4/28/2020

Meeting Time: 04-28-20 18:30

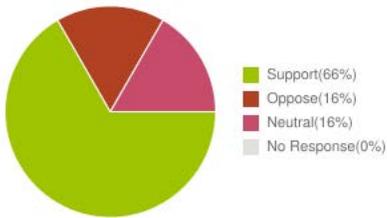
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Council Meeting - 4/28/2020	04-28-20 18:30	31	6	4	1	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Council Meeting - 4/28/2020

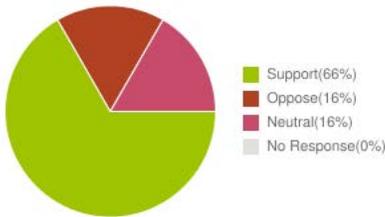
04-28-20 18:30

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
B. PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION	3	1	1	1
H-1. DETERMINE employee compensation status by selecting Option A or B or provide alternative direction, APPROVE staff's recommendation that all employees are eligible to receive 80 hours of emergency paid sick leave pro-rated to their position hours as part of Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and APPROVE staff's recommendation to either temporarily remove the vacation cap allowance or allow for sell-back of vacation for sworn public safety personnel, as a result of COVID-19 - City Manager's Office (LaShonda White 620-6512).	3	3	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

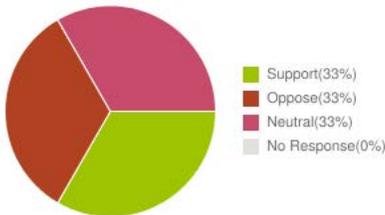
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for B. PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:54pm 04-28-20

Option B. It's not the employees fault. Also remember they haven't received a COLA in 5 years.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:51pm 04-28-20

Mayor Butt and Members of the Richmond City Council:

I strongly encourage you to Reject Policy Option A in the city staff memo for Agenda Item H.1. I encourage you to Approve Policy Option B instead. OR, if Option B is not preferred, I request an immediate meeting between city staff and the bargaining unit representatives to seek a mutually agreeable alternative policy option to address employee compensation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you

Janet L. Johnson

Guest User

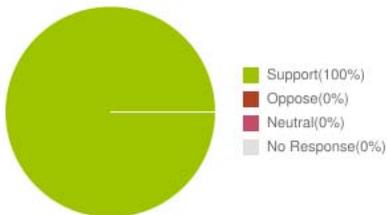
Location:

Submitted At: 1:46am 04-24-20

Failure to finalize some new development agreement by April 2020 could force the city to sell the land at point molate back to the would-be casino developers for just \$300. Has the city of Richmond Finalized a new development agreement for the land at Point Molate? If so, when does construction begin?

Agenda Item: eComments for H-1. DETERMINE employee compensation status by selecting Option A or B or provide alternative direction, APPROVE staff's recommendation that all employees are eligible to receive 80 hours of emergency paid sick leave pro-rated to their position hours as part of Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and APPROVE staff's recommendation to either temporarily remove the vacation cap allowance or allow for sell-back of vacation for sworn public safety personnel, as a result of COVID-19 - City Manager's Office (LaShonda White 620-6512).

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:23pm 04-28-20

My name is Kevin Tisdell, I write to you as a Richmond resident, a City employee, and a member officer for SEIU Local 1021. I join the Contra Costa Labor Council, the Richmond labor coalition to include SEIU Local 1021, and front-line employees to support Option B.

I take seriously the Health Orders issued by the Contra Costa Health Officer and believe that Option B allows employees and City residents to be as safe as possible.

I implore you to support and vote Option B for the agenda item H-1.

Wylendia Eastman

Location:

Submitted At: 9:03pm 04-28-20

Greetings, I am Wylendia Eastman, Administrative Librarian with the City of Richmond, for more than 25 years. During the pandemic, I have been working, from home, to ensure our users can access our online resources and services, even though our physical location is closed. As a city and library employee, I urge the council to reject Policy Option A, approve Policy Option B, or meet with the unions to identify an acceptable alternative.

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 4:42pm 04-28-20

My name is Angela Cox and I am a taxpaying homeowner. I have also been a library employee for the last 34 years. I have worked tirelessly to support young people to obtain a college education. There are other dedicated

SEIU 1021 members like myself that work for the City of Richmond. While we are waiting for safe return to work, we are able to do some work remotely. To this end, I want the City Council to support option B which honors our contract and ensures we can continue our mission.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Angela Walton
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 3:01 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEM #.H1

My preference would be Option B; however, with that option employees will have to agree to work out of their current classification until which they are able to return to their regular jobs. This is for those persons that are healthy enough to work in this environment.

Public Works have more than enough overtime in Abatement, Parks and Utility Services.



Angela Walton

Administrative Services Project Manager

Public Works Department - Administrative Services

Administrative Services - Main Office | 450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Corp Yard Office | #6-13th Street, Bldg. A, 2nd Floor | Richmond, CA 94801

Direct Landline: (510) 621-1610 | **Cell:** (510) 255-9688 | **Fax:** (510) 231-3014

Dept. Ofc. Hrs.: 8:30am – 4:00 pm | **My Ofc. Hrs.:** M–Th, 5:00 am–2:30 pm PST

ABAG POWER Executive Committee Vice Chair

NorCal Chapter Treasurer

Personal Cell: (707) 384-3296

Please consider the environment before printing this email

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sean Stalbaum <sstalbaum@ifpte21.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 3:05 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment -- Agenda Item

Dear Mayor Butt and City Council Members:

I'm writing on behalf of more than 140 City of Richmond workers represented by IFPTE Local 21 to join the Contra Costa Labor Council in urging you to **Reject Policy Option A** on Agenda Item H1. Instead, Local 21 encourages the Council to **Approve Policy Option B** or request an immediate meeting between city staff and the bargaining unit representatives to seek a mutually agreeable alternative policy option to address employee compensation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Put simply, Policy Option A would unfairly penalize workers who can't work through no fault of their own during this pandemic. It is divisive, and it is not aligned with the approaches most Bay Area public agencies have taken to compensate workers during the pandemic. Perhaps most importantly, it would harm the regional economy as well.

Additionally, I'm writing to urge you to please consider allowing all essential employees, including non-public safety essential employees, the option of deferring or selling back the vacation time they accrue during the period of the SIP Orders. Local 21 represents non-public safety essential workers in PD, Fire, Public Works, and other departments who still must report to worksites daily and cannot take vacation due to the need for their services during the pandemic response. There are not a lot of non-public safety essential employees who are at their vacation maximum caps, nonetheless, these workers should not lose vacation accruals due to this situation. The essential staff (whether public safety or non-public safety) are the ones responding to the call for service during this pandemic. They are putting themselves and their families at significant risk. These workers shouldn't lose their vacation accruals due to not being able to take vacation time so they can be on the job serving Richmond residents during pandemic.

Thank you for your leadership.

-Sean

Sean Stalbaum

Lead Representative/Organizer
IFPTE Local 21

Physical Address:

624 Ferry Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Mailing Address:

649 Main Street #226
Martinez, CA 94553

Main: (925) 313-9102

Direct: (925) 239-1271

Fax: (925) 313-0190

Email: sstalbaum@ifpte21.org

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 7:01 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Asuncion Carmona

We are having problems to pay the rent and other bills, and food, my hours were cut at work and I know I will not be able to make it.

I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you for your time.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:12 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comments from

Blanca Retano-

I live with my family we are 6 people in the household (ages: 8,12,17, 20,46, 48) Husband lost hours at work as a chef at a local restaurant on 23rd, El Tapatio. Now works only 4 hours for 3 days out of the week. Neither of us qualify for EDD benefits nor stimulus packet. We had to borrow money to pay April's rent. We are not sure how we are going to make it by. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health. We need at least a year to pay back rent owed, remember that there are other payments that need to be made.

Blessings to the City Leaders, thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:13 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment from Cristina Lorenzana, Richmond tenant

" My main concern is my rent payment and secondly the concern of buying food, and payment of other bills at the end of the quarantine. Health wise me and my daughter are good, however I suffer from the anxiety of not knowing what is going to happen. I'm now 7 weeks with no job and I'm at a loss for grounding because I don't know if I will even get my job back. I already don't get paid enough, everything I get is to pay my rent. I don't have any savings to my name and we don't know what to do. I am writing to urge you to pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you."

Sabrina Lundy

From: David Sharples <dsharples@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 5:11 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: General Public Comment - Item Not on the Agenda

Good Evening Richmond City Councilmembers, My name is David Sharples and I am the Director of Contra Costa County ACCE. I am writing to urge you to Strengthen the eviction and rent increase moratorium with a stronger grace period than the County's moratorium. Families need at least 180 days per month of arrears—or no less than a year - in order to pay back the rent they owe. Please Do not let the County legislate for the Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands up for Richmond residents and public health.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 5:28 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Affordable Housing Proclamation

Please read during public forum if the item remains on the consent calendar, or before the proclamation if it is pulled. (Wherever appropriate.)

To the City Council:

I appreciate the city's recognition of the need for affordable housing to maintain the stability of the Richmond community.

With so many people currently prohibited from working and worried about paying rents or mortgages, a proclamation like this, without any attempt at a solution, seems more insulting than supportive. What are your proposed actions behind this proclamation? We need specifics.

Last week many people sent letters to the Council expressing the need to extend the grace period to pay back rent after the shelter at home orders are lifted. We know the economy will not quickly return to where it was before the pandemic. Businesses have closed, personal funds have been used up, and people already living close to the lower limit of what they need will be well under that limit.

I regret that the Council did not seriously discuss proposals on last week's agenda to suspend residential and business rents and mortgages for the duration of the emergency or ask staff to investigate other options. For example, as part of the Cares Act, a small proportion of lenders (with federally backed loans) are urged to suspend mortgages and tack the unpaid period to the back end of their loans. This would allow rent forgiveness also without putting stress on landlords concerned with paying their mortgages. This idea needs to be expanded so it is available to all.

I believe every member of the City Council is worried about the issue of affordable housing and how the economy will function after the stay-at-home orders are lifted. I don't mean to imply that you don't care. But it is the duty of the Council to plan for changes that need to take place to protect the health and safety of Richmond residents, including protecting residents from homelessness or housing insecurity.

These changes will be outside of business as usual, because *there will be no business as usual*. If the Council feels that steps such as rent forgiveness or extended repayment periods lie outside of the City's power, then the least it could do is to proclaim a pending state of emergency and collaborate with other cities and organizations to lobby for changes in state or federal laws that would permit these powers. Now that would be a proclamation!

I appreciate your prompt attention to this very urgent topic affecting so many of our Richmond neighbors.

Deborah Bayer,
Richmond, California

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:55 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE READ ALOUD

Public comment for

Diodoro Martinez. We don't have any money to pay our rent, buy food, because of the global pandemic and we are looking to the elected leaders to take action in passing an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 days per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:22 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON AGENDA _PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment from

Ezequiel Chum, Richmond tenant

It's a very difficult time right now with no money to pay rent or to buy food , no one is working now and we don't have a way out you all can do something to make a change, please pass better protections for our city. I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 120 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you all so much.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:11 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT - PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment from Gaby Mercado, Richmond tenant

I am a Single mom, my daughter is 7, I lost my employment as a florist associate. I won't be getting a stimulus check, and I do not qualify for EDD benefits. It is a very hard time because I do not have money for anything. I asked for help with a one time payment for rent from Catholic Charities but I have not been receiving money or help. I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 120 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thanks.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:58 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL COMMENT READ ALOUD

Public comment for Gorgina Vasquez Baldadano Richmond Homeowner

There is no money to pay the mortgage on my house and bills on top of that plus keeping food on the table. We need relief now. I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Gracias.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:35 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment from

Irene Gonzalez, There are 6 people in my house ages 6,13,13,16,17,41 I have difficult time because the covid-19 I am not working, I have 5 kids and I a single mother, I have to decide to buy groceries or pay rent, I decide to buy groceries.

I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 7:06 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment for Jose Alfredo Palma Espinoza,

Like many neighbors and co workers, I am also having problems paying my rent and there is nothing that will take away the feeling, anxiety, and sadness of not being able to pay rent and keep our families from starving, it must be known that people will rather pay for food and figure out rent a different time. But right now we are hurting and it will go further and the pain will be more severe. please do what you need to do to make sure you are taking care of us. I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you and hope to hear good news.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:41 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE READ ALOUD

Public comment from

Juan Jose Gutierrez, I am responsible for 6 people in my family, I am in constrution but because covid-19 I am not working and can not pay my rent and buy groceries, I am not going to get any money from the government I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city’s residents and public health.

Thank you

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:13 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA- PLEASE READ ALOUD

This comment is for Juan Jose Lozano, richmond home owner

"I am 1 of 7 in my household (ages: 4, 19, 21, 23, 25, 56, 58) I lost my job at Nutiva food packaging and my father lost landscaping jobs. My sister is still working and earning \$500 a week but has a husband and her son she has to take care of. We are holding on by a thread. This is a crisis for many of us who are already struggling to make ends meet. Please Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thanks!

Sabrina Lundy

From: Kristi Laughlin <Kristi@workingeastbay.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:46 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: pubic comment for tonight 4/28/20

For public comment

Good evening Mayor, Councilmembers and staff,

I am Kristi Laughlin with the East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy. We support the struggles of low-income workers and tenants in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

I urge this Council to strengthen the provisions of your eviction moratorium by offering a more realistic, effective and compassionate grace period.

I have heard that some are reluctant to take action and would prefer to just fall back on the County-wide policy. But I believe that you can and should do better than that policy. The County-wide policy should be the floor, and NOT the ceiling in terms of protections.

Let's be real, many of the Board of Supervisors were representing cities very different from Richmond ---like Danville, Orinda, Lafayette or San Ramon. It does not make sense for this city council to accept that policy as adequate to meet the needs of residents here.

Note that six other cities in Contra Costa have enacted longer grace periods, including the much smaller city of San Pablo just last night. This is because families need at least 180 days per month of back-rent owed---or no less than a year.

We know that some have voiced concern about "fairness" and concern for landlords in considering a grace period. But understand, A longer grace period helps everybody: tenants have more time to pay back their landlords, so ultimately, landlords to get their money; Less families get evicted and displaced; and we prevent a dramatic rise in homelessness.

Please take a stand for the city's working families and residents who are suffering from job loss and / or illness, and who need to know they will not lose their homes in the next few months. Please strengthen the eviction moratorium with a longer grace period

--

Kristi Laughlin
Senior Campaign Director
East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy

Concord office: 2140 Minert Rd, 94518
510-847-2399

Preferred pronouns: She/her or They/them

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:51 PM
To: City Clerk Dept

This is a public comment from
Maria Esther Sanchez

I didn't pay my rent this month because I don't have a job due to COVID Shelter in Place order. I need more time to figure out my finances and what is more important whether feeding my family or ending up in debt, or homeless or both. I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you very much

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:29 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment from Paul Larudee, Richmond homeowner and Self Employed

I repair pianos. Since COVID-19's outbreak and the shelter in place order I get no income from my business. Unemployment is giving me issues, and I don't know if I qualify for a small business loan. My wife & I get social security . However, that is not enough to pay my mortgage or utilities. My reserves are \$2000. I don't know if I'll have this money in June.

The people who depend on you need to know that they are being taken care of. If this results in hard hardship for you then the people you depend on will have to take care of you.

I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 120 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:16 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL COMMENT NOT ON AGENDA READ ALOUD

Ricardo Zepeda - 510-224-8033

5 people living in the household (ages: 19,22,26,44,45) Wife lost job at Blue Apron and daughter's hours got cut, son lost his jobs at two different restaurants. Struggling with car payments, insurance bill is now \$500 from last months. We called in for a 3 month extension and everyone else in the family has bills of their own. It is really difficult to live on fixed income when you also depend on combined incomes in the family. PLEASE pass a moratorium. I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears— or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you to all of you

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:45 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE READ ALOUD

Public comment from

Sandra Aldava Colon, I live with my family of 5, I was in housekeeping before all this happened. But now I don't have means to provide food for my family because of COVID-19. Please pass a moratorium, please I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:12 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT NOT ON THE AGENDA- PLEASE READ ALOUD

This is a public comment from Sara Rodriguez

Sara Rodriguez- We are 6 people in the household, (ages: 2 months, 3, 4, 30, 34, 62) I Lost my job as a babysitter of 2 girls because their father lost his job and no longer requires my services. I don't qualify for EDD benefits nor the stimulus check. I depleted what little I had saved up.

We are desperate, indoors, we are hungry and barely making it. One of the members in the family had influenza and he also couldn't pay his part of rent, he didn't receive any sick days.

Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

Thank you.

Hello mayor, councilmembers and staff, my name is Tomasa Espinoza, Richmond resident for the past 15 years and a mother of 3 children.

I am submitting public comment tonight to share how appalled and shocked I was at council comments during Tuesday's discussions on the Moratorium on evictions.

For years, I have volunteered with various organizations in Richmond who strive to create a better future for Richmond families. I do this volunteer work because I care and value the families that make up Richmond. As our elected leaders, I also assume that you lead the city with families' best interests. Unfortunately, on Tuesday; it appeared that we mattered very little.

I would like to point out that your public process during the moratorium discussion was not transparent or fair. I had submitted public comment during this discussion item and it was never read aloud.

As if this wasn't disappointing enough, we also were disrespected by councilmembers who instead of showing compassion and consideration to families during this unprecedented time, questioned if families were really in a crisis. I want to share that there is no family in this city who isn't being affected by COVID-19. What more data do you need than families writing to ask for help?! My family is looking to you to protect us from ending up on the streets. I pay \$2045 a month but due to COVID-19 we have had no income. By the time the shelter in place is lifted, we will owe \$6135. There is no way I will be able to pay back this amount of money with the grace period you currently have provided us. Please revisit this item in an upcoming meeting and look into a longer grace period. Thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:47 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment from Xiomara Elisabeth Portillo

We don't have enough money for food, rent and ther expenses because of Covid Shelter in Place

I am writing to urge you to Pass an eviction and rent increase moratorium that offers a stronger grace period than the County. Families need at least 180 day per month of arrears—or no less than a year. Please do not let the County legislate for Richmond City Council. Richmond families need a policy tailored to their needs. This is a time for bold leadership that does not bow down to threats of lawsuits but instead stands for the city's residents and public health.

thank you!

Sabrina Lundy

From: Gabriel Shipp
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 6:31 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: April 28th City Council Meeting Item H Sugesstions

Hello,

My name is Gabriel Shipp and I am a full-time employee at the Library. In regards to the possibility of being furloughed I would like to offer two suggestions. First, because of Covid-19 significant modifications to the library's existing structure and workflow will be needed moving forward, so there will be plenty of things for the staff to work on before the library can even be reopened. As of April 28th, there hasn't been any work done in preparation of the library reopening, whenever that may be. In light of how many changes may be necessary, my request is to allow staff to begin working on developing a plan and implementing the changes before being furloughed. The time and effort required to make these changes could take a month or more and I believe that it is in the best interest of the public and the City of Richmond to begin working on this transition rather than being furloughed. Furloughing library employees will only prolong the the closure of the library because of all the work that needs to happen prior to reopening.

If the first option isn't possible I would like to see the City of Richmond follow a similar strategy as the City of Berkeley by allowing their library staff to work in other departments rather than being furloughed.

Thank you,

Gabriel Shipp