

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, June 2, 2020

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:02 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 21, 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, Jael Myrick, Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Melvin Willis.

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 LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6):

Agency Representatives: Jack Hughes
Employee organizations:
1. SEIU Local 1021 Full Time Unit
2. SEIU Local 1021 Part Time Unit

3. IFPTE Local 21 Mid-Level Management Unit
4. IFPTE Local 21 Executive Management Unit
5. Richmond Police Officers Association RPOA
6. Richmond Police Management Association RPMA
7. IAFF Local 188
8. Richmond Fire Management Association RFMA

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
(Government Code Section 54957):

Title: Interim City Attorney

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

Property: Port of Richmond (Terminal 3)
Agency negotiators: Jim Matzorkis
Negotiating party: Richmond Terminal 3 Partners (Bobby Winston, Orton Development and Tom Lockard)
Under negotiations: Price and terms of payment

Property: Port of Richmond (Terminal 4)
Agency negotiators: Jim Matzorkis
Negotiating party: Nematode Holdings, LLC/dba Bay Crossings (Bobby Winston-Owner)
Under negotiations: Price and terms of payment

The following gave comments via email, eComment, or telephone regarding Terminal 3 and 4: Beryl Golden, Jim Hanson, and Deborah Bayer.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:09 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:56 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** Councilmembers Martinez and Myrick.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

Item G-6 was continued to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting. Items G-10, G-11, and G-19 were removed from the Consent Calendar, to be discussed at the end of the agenda. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, added an emergency item condemning the murder of George Floyd and that Interim Chief Bisa French provide a report on the City of Richmond's response, passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council. A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Willis, added an emergency item to ratify an emergency order to set a 6 p.m. curfew, by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Martinez, Myrick, Willis, and Vice Mayor Bates. **Noes:** Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None. **Abstain:** None. The Raise Up Richmond Coalition group were

allowed to give their proposed alternative budget strategy during Budget Session Item H-1. A motion by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Myrick, to hear the emergency items after the budget hearings, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Myrick, Willis, and Vice Mayor Bates. **Noes:** Councilmember Martinez and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None. **Abstain:** None.

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

Acting City Attorney Rachel Sommovilla stated there were no reportable actions.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman stated the following: reiterated that Richmond raised its diversity flags for Diversity Awareness Month. Richmond is committed to maintaining a welcoming, tolerant, and stable place for all people, no matter their color, religion, national origin, socioeconomic standing, gender, sexual orientation, or immigration status. Richmond instituted a one-day citywide curfew from 6 a.m. until 5 a.m. The Contra Costa County Health Officer issued a new COVID-19 order which lessened some restrictions. Day care services resumed and religious services resumed on June 15, 2020, with certain restrictions.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals gave comments via email, eComment, or telephone:

Deborah Bayer gave comments regarding the death of George Floyd and stated that racism and police culture must change.

Paul Kilkenny expressed concern over the potential development of the Zeneca Site due to toxicity.

Councilmember Willis gave comments regarding the death of George Floyd and thanked the youth that protested peacefully in front of Richmond City Hall.

Luis Padilla, Thomas Phelps, Will Bachman, Elizabeth De Dios, Chris Riccardi, Nick Bartsch, Lorenzo Tiscareno, Dane Poteet, Erin Perez, Rick Bargas, Joshua Tate, Jeremy Booth, Robin Poindexter, Mark Lucero, Terry Harris, Germaine Gomez, Anthony Woddards, Nick Jackalone, Ben Faulkner, gave comments regarding Fire Chief Adrian Sheppard's lack of leadership and trust and in support of the 71 to 4 vote of No Confidence against Chief Sheppard.

Robert Christie, Jeff Cozens, Shawn McCombe, and Dane Poteet gave comments regarding the lack of support firefighters received for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Post-Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI).

Naomi Williams stated tickets should not be issued for any vehicles in Richmond during street sweeping days in fairness to the Richmond Annex residents not being required to move their vehicles on street sweeping days.

Jason Flaum gave comments regarding the deplorable conditions of the city's dispatch center and the antiquated computer aided dispatch system.

Mike Parker gave comments regarding institutional racism.

Jim Hanson gave comments regarding technical issues experienced by the public with City Council Zoom meetings.

Don Gosney gave comments regarding the lack of notification about the City of Richmond's 6 p.m. curfew.

Tarnel Abbott spoke against police brutality and the activation of the National Guard.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

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

***G-1.** Adopted **Resolution No. 49-20**, to accept and appropriate into the Fiscal Year 2019-20 budget \$952,000 received from the California Employment Development Department, \$250,000 received from the California Employment Training Panel, and \$50,000 received from Y&H Soda Foundation.

***G-2.** Approved **Resolution No. 50-20**, to accept and appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$4,165,000 from the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Prop 68 funds to Revitalize Boorman Park.

***G-3.** Approved **Resolution No. 51-20**, to accept and appropriate grant funds in the amount of \$250,000 from the National Football League Foundation for the Martin Luther King Turf Field Replacement Project.

***G-4.** Adopted **Resolution No. 52-20**, approving contracts with Patriot Environmental Services, NRC Environmental Services Inc. and American Integrated Services, Inc., to provide as-needed decontamination services at various City facilities, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 each for a three-year contract plus a two-year extension option.

***G-5.** Adopted **Resolution No. 53-20**, to install one four way stop controls at the intersections of Virginia Avenue and South 24th Street and two, two-way stop controls at the intersections on 3rd Street at Chanslor Avenue and on 9th Street at Lincoln Avenue.

G-6. Continued to the June 16, 2020, meeting the matter to approve a Master Funding Agreement Supplement with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and appropriate \$325,000 for implementation of bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements along Harbour Way South.

***G-7.** Adopted **Resolution No. 54-20**, authorizing the public works director and the city attorney to execute the Stipulated Order between the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board and the City of Richmond on behalf of West County Agency, and to allocate funds in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget in the amount of \$84,000 to pay the Mandatory

Minimum Penalty. The \$84,000 will be reimbursed by Veolia, City's Contractor.

***G-8.** Adopted **Resolution No. 55-20**, amending Veolia's contract authorizing them to manage subcontractor WR Forde for the change order needed to complete the repairs on Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge pipe repair project. The total project cost will not exceed \$265,777.72 [Prior Project Cost of \$189,312.50 plus change order cost of \$76,465.22 [Project cost of \$70,151.58 plus Veolia's 9.0% mark-up of \$6,313.64.

***G-9.** Approved contract amendment number two (2) in the amount of \$250,000 with Gordon & Rees, LLP for a total contract amount not to exceed \$525,000 for the evaluation, audit and legal review of the City's Wastewater Operations (as contracted by Veolia Water North America); and appropriated the budget in the amount of \$250,000.

G-10. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, meeting, the matter to approve on-call concrete repair contracts with four construction companies: Bay Hawk, Inc., Malachi Paving & Grading, Inc., Precision Concrete Cutting, and Yerba Buena Engineering & Construction, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 per company per year over a three-year period, each with an optional maximum two year extension.

***G-11.** The matter to adopt an ordinance setting wastewater user rates for fiscal years 2020-21 through 2024-25 with annual rate increases of 5%, 6%, 7%, 7% and 7% for fiscal years 2020-21 through 2024-25 respectively was presented. Jim Hanson and Leisa Johnson gave comments. Discussion ensued. A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Johnson III, adopted **Ordinance No. 09-20 N.S.**, by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Myrick, and Willis. **Noes:** Councilmember Martinez and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** Vice Mayor Bates. **Abstain:** None.

***G-12.** Approved and appropriated the funding/purchase of three 2021 Ford Hybrid Police Interceptors from The Ford Store San Leandro in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$116,000.

***G-13.** Approved the sole-source contract amendment with Bauer Compressors, Inc. to perform annual preventative maintenance and as-needed repairs to the Fire Department's mobile breathing compressor, increasing the contract by \$13,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$20,000, and extending the term of the contract through March 31, 2022.

***G-14.** Received the City's Investment and Cash Balance Report for the month of April 2020.

***G-15.** Introduced an ordinance (first reading) setting the tax rate for the Tax Override Pension Fund for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 at 0.14%,

***G-16.** Approved the minutes of the May 12, 2020, Special City Council meeting.

***G-17.** Adopted **Ordinance No. 10-20**, establishing the wages, salaries, and compensation for the new classification specification of Industrial Building Inspector (salary range 060G \$8,154 -\$9,864/month).

***G-18.** Adopted **Resolution No. 56-20**, authorizing employment of retired annuitant, Allison Picard, as the Interim Human Resources Director to fill a vacant position pending the recruitment of a permanent Human Resources Director.

G-19. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to adopt a resolution amending the City of Richmond's Position Classification Plan to add the classification specification for Assistant Police Chief, and change the title for the Human Resources Management Director to Human Resources Director and introduce an ordinance (first reading) to establish the wages, salary, and compensation for the Assistant Police Chief (Salary Range 5.5: \$12,338 - \$19,640) and to revise the wages, salary, and compensation for the Police Chief (Salary Range 5.7: \$13,572 - \$20,833) and the Human Resources Director (Salary Range 5.1: \$10,728 - \$17,078).

***G-20.** Approved appointments to update the Public Art Advisory Committee: Appointed Siobhan Hayes, new appointment, seat #1, term expiration date February 20, 2022, Gretchen Borg-Hillstead, re-appointment, seat #2, term expiration date February 20, 2022, Phillip Mehas, re-appointment, seat #3, filing an unexpired term with an expiration date of February 20, 2022.

BUDGET SESSION

H-1. The matter to approve staff recommendations on additional cost savings, budget balancing options, and provide direction to staff on which options to implement and/or on modifications to the options to bring back to the City Council during a special City Council meeting on June 9, 2020 was presented by Sean Staulbaum, Local 1021, who made a presentation on behalf of a coalition of Richmond employee unions, that highlighted the following: Context of budget gap; 2020-2021 budget shortfall existed before COVID-19; FY 2019-20 impact of COVID-10 on city finances; FY 2020-21 General Fund Expenditure Summary; No impacts to current service levels; action to address the deficit; vacancy savings/hard hiring freeze; postpone I.T. capital projects; reduce insurance reserves; postpone vehicle/equipment replacement; postpone compensation study and eliminate costs associated with hiring freeze; postpone/eliminate department furniture replacement; eliminate budgeted 1% cost of living increase; modest use of reserves; new revenue potential for the November 2020 ballot; CARES Act FEMA reimbursements; HEROES act municipal aid; long term debt refinancing ; impacts to current service levels are not required. Belinda Brown, Finance director, presented a PowerPoint, which highlighted the following: additional cost savings; vacancy review; budget balancing proposals; budget goals, union recommendations; vacancy summary; non-sworn vacancies marked for hiring freeze; sworn vacancies marked for hiring freeze; non-sworn vacancies requested to fill; sworn vacancies requested to fill; sworn overtime; unknown factors that may further impact the FY2020-21 budget; financial challenges; budget balancing proposals. The following individuals gave comments: Brianna Costelloian Birnam, Tarnel Abbott, Henriette Lenssen, Claudia Jimenez, Henriette Lenssen, Ms. Dandie, Jose Murrillo. Briceida Guzman, Deborah Bayer, Dena Nelson, Gaby Mercado, Katherine Britton, Kate , Paul Larudee, Ezequiel Chum, Elizabeth Castro, Cristina Lorenzana, Martha Pastrano, Ana Gonzalez, Jane Courant, Lynn Maack, Tarnel Abbott, Michael Gliksohn, Mike Parker, Pam Tellew, Jeremy

Booth, Gail Elerweiss, Myrna Godinez, and Andrea Mullarkey. Discussion ensued. A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Johnson III, to not include 75 layoffs, and included the following additional costs savings: additional vacancies for hiring freeze; additional reductions to department operating budgets, elimination of replacement of fire pumper and street sweeper; and moved one Code Enforcement Officer to Planning fund, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Myrick, Willis, and Vice Mayor Bates. **Noes:** Councilmember Martinez and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None. **Abstain:** None. Further discussion ensued. The City Council discussed individual employee positions at the Special City Council budget meeting on June 9, 2020.

EMERGENCY ITEMS

The matter to discuss an official city statement related to the local response and local incidents related to the George Floyd incident was presented by Vice Mayor Bates and Interim Police Chief Bisa French. The City of Richmond police department does not use chokeholds or knee to the neck maneuvers during arrests. *(11:00 p.m. - A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Johnson III, extended the meeting 30 minutes, by the unanimous vote of the City Council).* Mike Parker and Ben Therriault gave comments. A motion by Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Willis, the City Council and the City of Richmond condemned the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis, demanded that the police officers that stood and observed were held accountable for Mr. Floyd's death also, and that the city stood for the individuals protesting this injustice in moving America closer to its goals of being a Country for all, passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council. A peaceful protest took place on June 3, 2020, at Nicholl Park and on June 6, 2020, in front of City Hall.

The matter to ratify and rescind an emergency order for a 6 p.m. curfew in the City of Richmond was presented by Councilmember Myrick. Discussion ensued. Contra Costa County's curfew is 8 p.m. *(11:32 p.m. - A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Willis, suspended the rules and extended the meeting until the conclusion of the current item and Item G-11, passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Martinez, Myrick, Willis, and Mayor Butt. Noes: Vice Mayor Bates. Absent: None. Abstain: None).* A motion by Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Johnson III, declined to ratify and rescinded the 6 p.m. curfew order for the city of Richmond, and kept the time at 8p.m., consistent with Contra Costa County's curfew order, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Martinez, Myrick, Willis, and Vice Mayor Bates. **Noes:** Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None. **Abstain:** None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

I-1. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to adopt a resolution approving the Engineer's Report and ordering the levy and collection of assessments in the Hilltop Landscape Maintenance District for the Fiscal Year 2020-21, providing for a three percent increase in annual assessments.

I-2. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to adopt a resolution approving the Engineer's

Report and ordering the levy and collection of assessments in the Marina Bay Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021, providing for a three percent increase in annual assessments.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

J-1. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to receive information on the financial impact of compensating employees that are unable to work due to COVID-19; approve staff's recommendation to implement Option A, which allows for full compensation of all city staff with the use of accruals for time they are not working due to COVID-19; and authorize the City Manager to clarify the selected policy option administratively, as needed.

J-2. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to approve contract Amendment No. 1 with Mark43 in an amount of \$1,500,000. The proposed contract amendment would extend the term of the contract for five-years and increase the amended contract amount by \$1,500,000 for a total ten-year contract amount not to exceed \$3,000,000. This item was continued from the May 26, 2020, meeting.

J-3. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to authorize the city attorney to draft an amendment to Measures E and K, to be placed on the November 2020 ballot, that will cap the maximum general fund allocation for Measures E and K with an amount equal to the net increase in revenue resulting from Measure H for each fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for the budget being adopted and to provide for an emergency waiver of Section 6 of Measure E. This item was continued from the May 26, 2020, meeting.

J-4. CONTINUED to the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the matter to authorize the city attorney to draft an ordinance to be placed on the November 2020 ballot that will repeal the Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction and Homeowner Protection ordinance and replace it with the Richmond Affordable Housing Ordinance. This item was continued from the May 26, 2020, meeting.

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

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:48 p.m., to meet again on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 8:11 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

hello Sabrina, i think that Rachel is doing a wonderful job as Interim city Attorney

Sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: Dorothy Gilbert <mariesnicewerewolf@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:42 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Terminal 3 and Terminal 4

June 2, 2020

Re: Conference with Real Property Negotiator in Closed Session

Mayor and City Council Members, c/o City Clerk
City of Richmond
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, California 94804

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

I have some questions I have regarding proposed uses of Terminal 3 and Terminal 4.

First, has there been public discussion regarding the best uses of these properties? If there were, what are they? Since these sites are public land, has the public been provided with information outlining and describing those uses? If there has no such public discussion, or information provided, why not? Has the City Council taken any action on these matters, regarding the potential uses of Terminals 3 and 4?

Was there a request for qualifications, specifications, and a public bidding process to select the best possible vendors, i.e., qualifications, experience, cost to the City, potential revenue generated for the City?

If *no*, then the City Council must not decide on this contract in closed session. It must be a public matter, with a public bidding process.

What are Bobby Winston's qualifications for managing these properties Why is he being considered?

I understand that Terminal 4 is zoned for parks and recreation. How will any leasing to a bidder conform with its zoning? What effect will this leasing have on activity on Stenmark Drive? What is the contamination status of this property, and of Terminal 3?

There must be public discussion regarding these properties before matters are taken any further.

Many thanks for your consideration.

with all best regards,
Dorothy Gilbert

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jeannette Kortz <jeannekortz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Ben Choi; Tom Butt - external; Eduardo Martinez; Melvin Willis; Nat Bates; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick
Cc: Irene Perdomo; Lina Velasco; City Clerk Dept
Subject: Closed Session - Terminal 3 and Terminal 4 contracts

Dear City Council,

I am writing to you to ask that you publicly discuss the contracts for the above publicly owned terminals.

My reasons for this are listed as follows:

- Were there public discussions regarding the best potential uses of Terminal 3 and Terminal 4?
- Did the City Council take any action about the potential uses of these properties?
- If there were public discussions and City Council actions, then what are those uses? Was this information provided to the public since Terminal 3 and Terminal 4 are public land?
- Was there a request for qualifications, specifications, and a public bidding process to select the best possible vendors, i.e. qualifications, experience, cost to the City, potential revenue generating for the City?
- If the answers to the above is “no”, then the City Council should not decide on this contract in closed session. This must be done in public, and there must be a public bidding process.
- What are Bobby Winston’s qualifications for managing these properties? He is not a licensed property manager. Why is he even being considered?
- The last time the City followed a non-standard allocation of public resources by sole-sources, Bobby Winston as a de factor property manager for Pt Molate and, originally without even a contract, the City lost considerable funds based on property manager.

This is Mark Howe’s analysis of the potential for Pt Molate revenue....”Re the terminals. I still have to fine tune my criticism and ask...I can raise questions about this distribution of public assets and good business practices based on inside track on obtaining ownership or financial benefit control of major city assets. How did these major city assets become available and get advertised. Where are the bidding documents?”

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Kortz
Richmond Resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: Pam Stello <pamstello@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 3:00 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments — Closed Session
Attachments: Document (219).docx

Dear Mayor and Members of the Council,

According to property manager Mark Howe's 2016 Study Session about potential revenue from Pt Molate leasing, sole sourcing Bobby Winston as property manager for Pt Molate has led to a considerable loss of revenue for the City. What then is the benefit of sole sourcing Bobby Winston to manage Terminal 4 leasing?

Bobby Winston and Eddie Orton seem to have an inside track on being given major city assets.

For example:

—Bobby Winston was sole sourced as the property manager for Pt Molate leasing without a competitive bidding process and is not even a licensed property manager.

—Eddie Orton was privy to the Pt Molate settlement deal before it was public, lobbied a Council member to vote for it. Then SunCal gave him the contract to rehab the Winehaven District in SunCal's plan.

—The City paid Eddie Orron to rehab the City-owned Craneway Pavillion with considerable overruns. Then sold it to him for \$5 million. The property has yielded about \$5 million a year for Eddie Orton. If the City still owned it, Richmond would be receiving this revenue.

The Pt Molate deal for Winston and the Craneway deal for Orton enriched them at the City's expense.

Winston and Orton are now in negotiations for Terminal 4 and Terminal 3. These are public assets. Yet, to my knowledge there has not been a public bidding process to select the best possible vendors, and esp re generating the highest revenue for City.

The City Council should not decide on this contract in closed session. This must be done in public, and there must be a public bidding process. Public land for public benefit.

Thank you.

Sincerely

—Pam Stello
Richmond resident
Pt Molate Alliance Co-Chair

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sally Tobin <otwsally@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:01 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Demnlus Johnson; richcityservant@gmail.com; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis; Lina Velasco
Subject: Public Comments - Closed Session Agenda - Conference with Real Property Negotiator

Sara L. Tobin
742 Lobos Avenue
Richmond CA 94801

June 2, 2020

RE: Conference with Real Property Negotiator in Closed Session

Mayor and City Council Members, c/o City Clerk
City of Richmond
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

There is an item on the agenda for the Closed Session to discuss price and terms of payment for a lease of Port of Richmond (Terminal 4) to Nematode Holdings. Background information on this discussion should be made public, particularly because according to Lina Velasco, this area is zoned for parks and recreation. How will this use conform with its zoning for parks and recreation? What will be the broader impacts? How will the proposed use affect traffic on Stenmark Drive? What is the time interval being discussed? How will the proposed lease contribute to a transition to parkland use? What is the contamination status of the property? Is any current cleanup being coordinated with other agencies? Public discussion of these issues is required.

Was an open call for bids issued? Use of Richmond public property should be handled openly and transparently, preferably in an open bidding process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Sara L. Tobin

Sabrina Lundy

From: AJ Jelani <aj_jelani@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 12:32 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Belding Woods 14th & Pennsylvania & Sewer Taxes (Seniors / Disable)

Dear: City Council of Richmond California,

My comments are in regards to G; 11- the purchase of property by Bart 14th & Pennsylvania in Belding Woods Neighborhood.

I am not aware of any contact person(s) or phone number that can be called or a agent for Bart to explain this acquisition. I have received calls from the neighbors but have "NO" information, some received a letter and wanted me to explain whats going on? Is it possible to contact Bart representative or a contact number to be given to the Seniors and community ?

Also, the seniors ask me to tell the council that the taxes increases, water, sewer, property, school, and other taxes or forcing them to choose between paying Mortgage or Sewer, they said " Its too much." Question: is there any relief or assistance Senior and Disable ?

If there is anything else regarding Belding Woods Neighborhood,please let me know.

In your service!

AJ Jelani - President
Belding Woods Neighborhood Council
Contact: (510) 932-2072

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 8:18 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

hello Sabrina, i have a couple of comments for the council

1. is that the city buildings need to be reopened because the community has not been able to do business due to the covid 19
- 2, to have MR AndyKatz to make a presentation in Regarding the needs of a hospital in West County
3. also to have the Agenda and rules and Public safety committees to be revised to discuss the needs for Richmond

Sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: Gmail <kgross24@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:59 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments not on the agenda

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kirk Gross I am a Fire Captain for the Richmond fire Department. Thank you for hearing me today. I am writing this to express my disapproval with Fire Chief Adrian Sheppard. Since Chief Sheppard has been the with the Richmond Fire Department he has done nothing but serve is own personal agendas, caring nothing for the effect it has had on the fire department and the citizens we have sworn to protect. He has sold off equipment leaving key parts of the city unprotected and firefighters short handed. The equipment that we have is outdated and and in disrepair leaving the city maintenance shop over worked and unable to catch up on repairs. He has consistently relied on outside agencies to equip our department with new safety equipment and apparatus so that we may do our jobs. We are a young and eager fire department ready to progress along with this great city but we have been road blocked by chief Sheppard at every turn. This department needs a leader who will work along side us to progress our department not one who is using his position as a stepping stone to the next step in his career. Chief Sheppard has not taken a moment to try and join, teach or lead this department, on the contrary he has applied for most every other city/department in the greater Bay Area that has had an opening. Now with the possibility of financial crisis all over the country his first and only response is to cut positions and leave the members he hired and welcomed into our family, out of jobs. The future of the Richmond fire department has bleak outlook with Chief Sheppard in his current position, without him I believe our potential has no limits.

Thank you for your time.

Kirk Gross
Fire Captain
Richmond Fire Department

Sabrina Lundy

From: Rod <thehitchman2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 10:11 AM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Please read at public comment for council meeting

Good evening,

My name is Rod Woods, retired fire inspector for the City of Richmond. I'm speaking in favor of Local 188 and the vote of no confidence of Fire Chief Adrian Sheppard. Fire Chief Sheppard's violent behavior and propensity to lie is unacceptable and should not be tolerated. He verbally abused me and accosted me because I requested to attend training classes. He falsely accused me of stealing from the Toy program. A program that I personally founded and administered for over 25 years. Adrian Sheppard is a vindictive person and should not be the fire chief of this great department. Please support your firefighters and support the letter of no confidence. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 8:34 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Budget Session

hello Sabrina, i was going thru the items in the Budget Session, and i have some recommendations,

1. Keep the Festivals so that Families can see what Richmond is Like
2. i would Direct Staff not to institute the Hiring Freeze Because we are trying to bring some new talent in the City of Richmond
3. Keep the Recreation Programs for the youth and seniors

Sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: janettom@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 10:14 AM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Richmond Public pools - Agenda item H-1

Please do not shut down the pools. We seniors depend upon the pools for exercise and health.
Janet Tompkins, resident of Pt Richmond.

Sent from my iPhone

Sabrina Lundy

From: Karen DiDomenicis <kdidomenicis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 12:56 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Ellie Wynn
Subject: for City Council meeting agenda budget Item H-1

I am aware that it has been proposed to close the pools until year end. I am definitely opposed to this. I am a frequent visitor to the Plunge, and occasionally the RSC, along with my friend Ellie. Swimming is very therapeutic for both of us, both physically and mentally/emotionally. It is a great joy to swim for those of us that do, and a great asset for the local community. Please don't close the pools!

-- *Karen DiDomenicis*
510-915-2639

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sally Tobin <otwsally@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 1:35 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments - Agenda Item H-1

**Sara L. Tobin
742 Lobos Avenue
Richmond CA 94801**

June 2, 2020

RE: Proposed Budget Cuts for Richmond Library System

Mayor and City Council Members, c/o City Clerk
City of Richmond
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

In the current budget situation, of course cuts must be made. But NOT to the libraries! Libraries are a community resource. Libraries support education. Libraries provide exploration and knowledge to Richmond youth. Libraries are valuable for adult education.

As a child, I attended a rural school with limited resources, but the Clallam County Library System had a bookmobile! My horizons were opened, and it has made a huge difference to my personal and professional life. We owe that to the youth of Richmond.

Please do not cut the budget for the Richmond Public Libraries, and keep all branches open!

Best regards,

Sara L. Tobin

Sabrina Lundy

From: Stanley Rinne <stanley.rinne@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 2:14 PM
To: Sabrina Lundy
Subject: H-1 Agenda Item

Keeping the Swimming Pool open and available for water exercising is an important ingredient for health of senior citizens like myself. Please keep the pools open!

Point Richmond Resident.

Stanley Rinne

Sent from my iPhone

Sabrina Lundy

From: Andrew Yeung <andrew@rysecenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:05 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Mayor Butt and Richmond City Council,

I am writing as a educator in service to youth in the city of Richmond to demand the following:

1. Vote NO on agenda Item J-3.

- Capping Kids First *will not* support any immediate revenue relief, so why put this on the ballot now when our community is feeling most vulnerable.
- There is no revenue allocation written into Kids First until 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 is only 1%.
- Measures E & K was widely supported by Richmond voters (*Measures E passed with 76% support*)

2. Authentically partner with community orgs and unions on progressive measures that bring in revenue and don't strip away critical supports from those most impacted by COVID-19.

- This proposed ballot measure will be confusing to voters and will take away from the progressive and real revenue measures unions and community based organizations are focused on to ensure children, youth, families don't bear the biggest burden of the economic downturn.

3. Transparent Data re: Measure H & current spending on children/youth budget and # of youth served.

- The community has been requesting accurate data from the City regarding money spent on children and youth for the past ten years. To date we have only received inaccurate and overstated budgets with no data of youth served attached.

4. Work with organizations and data in the next two years to make adjustments to Measure E&K, if needed.

- We know that in these moments everyone needs to participate in making the necessary cuts to ensure all of our community members can thrive. However gutting a measure, without accurate data or authentic community engagement is not how a transparent and engaged democracy works.
- Leaders of the Kids First Coalition have been requesting to be at the table to identify solutions for the last few years. And many are helping to lead the new revenue measures.

Please respond to this moment with progressive action and partnership, rather than with reactionary, harmful moves.

In community,
Andrew

--

*** Please note, RYSE will be working remotely until further notice, visit our website for a list of virtual programming and resources ***



Andrew Yeung
Economic Justice Program Manager
Pronouns: he/him

p: 510.374.3401
c: 626.589.1938

205 41st Street
Richmond, CA 94805
www.rysecenter.org



Sabrina Lundy

From: David Scott <david@rysecenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:52 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments - Agenda Item J-3

Mayor and city council,

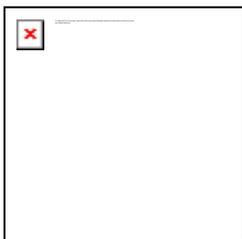
My name is David Scott and I'm adult ally who serves youth victims of gun violence in Richmond. We are watching impossibly well resourced police departments across the country commit violent act after violent act upon citizens who have suffered months of economic losses alongside other deep indignities of this political moment. I am urging you to vote NO on J-3 not only to reaffirm your commitment to the young people of this city, but also as a stark rejection of the looting of public services - the politics as usual of the past thirty years - that has lead us directly to this moment.

Nearly all major and minor fiduciary crises resolve according to the same playbook - cut public schools, cut community programs, cut the resources that affirm the worthiness, the dignity, the goodness, and the potential of a city's given constituency. It is clear that something different must be done. Measure E&K was a moment where YOUR constituency stood up and FAITHFULLY participated in the civic process, believing their elected representation would honor the fragile hope we have for something better for our kids. Your actions to cap Kids First will be a resounding abuse of that faith; what's more, no matter what you espouse publicly, it places you firmly in alliance with the economic and political imagination of the very same forces that leave our youth dead outside their father's doors.

Thank you,

David

--



*** Please note, RYSE will be working remotely until further notice, visit our website for a list of virtual programming and resources ***

David Scott

Trauma Response Specialist

pronouns: he/him

p: [510.374.3401](tel:510.374.3401)

c: 916.917.0813

[205 41st Street](#)

[Richmond, CA 94805](#)

www.rysecenter.org



Send us a donation! www.rysecenter.org/donate

Sabrina Lundy

From: Eric Aaholm <eric@yesfamilies.org>
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 11:01 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Dear City Council Members,

As a Richmond resident and organizer of the Kids First Initiative that passed in November 2018 with 76% approval from Richmond voters, I urge you to Vote No on agenda item J-3.

We know that in these moments everyone needs to participate in making the necessary cuts to ensure all of our community members can thrive. However gutting a measure, without accurate data or authentic community engagement is not how a transparent and engaged democracy works.

Capping Kids First *will not* support any immediate revenue relief, so why put this on the ballot now when our community is feeling most vulnerable?

Leaders of the Kids First Coalition have been requesting to be at the table to identify solutions for the last few years. And many are helping to lead the new revenue measures.

Thank you,

Eric

--

Eric Aaholm, MSW
Executive Director
Pronouns: He/Him/His



[Watch our 20th anniversary video!](#)

3029 Macdonald Ave.
Richmond, CA 94804
510-232-3032 (ph)
510-701-3425 (c)
510-232-3011 (fax)
www.yesfamilies.org

To support our local and global community wellbeing, YES has closed our office until further notice, and cancelled or postponed all programming until further notice.

YES staff are working from home during this office closure, and we welcome you to be in touch. Please see www.yesfamilies.org/staff-board for contact information for all staff. I wish you and yours health and safety during this time.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Hector Malvido <hmalvido@richmondcf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:56 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments: Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Hector Malvido and I am a the Policy Manager AND an adult ally from Ensuring Opportunity to End Poverty in Contra Costa. As member of this community and an ardent advocate to have the voices of the people heard and represented at decision making tables, I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

Measures E & K was widely supported by Richmond voters (*Measures E passed with 76% support*)! It is imperative to our democratic principles that we move forward with a ballot that is not confusing to voters and would take away from the progressive and real revenue measures unions and community based organizations are focused on to ensure children, youth, families don't bear the biggest burden of the economic downturn

We URGE you to Vote No on Agenda Item J-3

In Community,

Hector Malvido

Policy, Advocacy, and Community Engagement Manager

Ensuring Opportunity to End Poverty in Contra Costa County

Sabrina Lundy

From: Indi McCasey <ihm513@mail.harvard.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 12:46 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Dear Richmond Mayor and Council Members,

My name is Indi McCasey and I am writing in support of the youth artists and organizers from RYSE Center in Richmond. As an education consultant who partners with both the West Contra Costa Unified School District and Richmond-based community arts organizations, **I request that you vote NO on agenda item J-3.** I encourage you to collaborate with community organizations to devise strategies that address our current economic downturn while also continuing and expanding vital services to children and youth.

Richmond voters overwhelmingly supported Measure E. Your actions to cap Kids First! go against the public will and may have long-term, negative impacts on the health of the youth of Richmond.

Respectfully,
Indi McCasey



pronouns: they/them/theirs
indimccasey.com

Instructional Designer - [Integrated Learning Specialist Program](#)
Creative Consultant - [OUSD Visual and Performing Arts Program](#)
Teaching Faculty - [Project Zero Classroom](#)

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jacquelyne Vera <jvera@bacr.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 1:53 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment J-3

Hello, as a resident of Richmond. I want city council to vote no on agenda item J-3. We need to support our community during this pandemic.

Thank you,

Jacquelyne Marlene Espejo Vera
Alcohol Coalition Coordinator
Bay Area Community Resources
11175 San Pablo Ave
El Cerrito, CA 94530
jvera@bacr.org

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jamileh Ebrahimi <jamileh@rysecenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:36 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Jamileh Ebrahimi and I am an adult ally with the RYSE Center and I served as the campaign manager for the Kids First Campaign.

The goal of Kids First is to ensure that Richmond’s children & youth are physically, emotionally, mentally and socially healthy, educated, and live in stable, safe and supported families and communities. The level of investment, coordination and accountability established by the Kids First Initiative is critical, especially given the current and impending impacts of COVID-19, that are now compounded with the racial and class inequities that existed prior to this moment.

Your actions to cap Kids First will not support any immediate revenue relief (*There is no revenue allocation written into Kids First until 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 is only 1%*).

As an organizer who canvassed for Measure E&K and mobilized communities to get this measure on the ballot in 2018, I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and **commit to working in partnership with community on a solution that doesn’t impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.**

Thank you,

Jamileh Ebrahimi

--



RYSE creates safe spaces grounded in social justice that build youth power for young people to love, learn, educate, heal and transform lives and communities.

Jamileh Ebrahimi

Director of Programs
and Organizing
pronouns: she/her

p: 510.374.3401

c: 510.500.7561

205 41st Street
Richmond, CA 94805

www.rysecenter.org



Sabrina Lundy

From: Jane Fischberg <janef@rubiconprograms.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 11:58 AM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

I oppose Item J-3 on tonight's City Council Agenda Item.

Here are the economic and community support realities:

- Capping Kids First *will not* support any immediate revenue relief.
- There is no revenue allocation written into Kids First until 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 is only 1%.
- Measures E & K was widely supported by Richmond voters (*Measure E passed with 76% support*)

I also urge the Council to:

- 1. Partner with community organizations and unions on measures that bring in revenue and don't strip away critical supports from those most impacted by COVID-19.**
 - This proposed ballot measure will be confusing to voters and will take away from the progressive and real revenue measures unions and community based organizations are focused on to ensure children, youth, families don't bear the biggest burden of the economic downturn.
- 2. Provide a mandate to City staff to provide Transparent Data re: Measure H & current spending on children/youth budget/# of youth served.**
 - The community has been requesting accurate data from the City regarding money spent on children and youth for the past ten years. To date we have received only inaccurate and overstated budgets with no data on youth served.
- 3. Work with organizations in the next two years to make adjustments to Measure E & K if needed.**
 - We know that in these moments everyone needs to participate in making the necessary cuts to ensure all of our community members can thrive. However, gutting a measure, without accurate data or authentic community engagement, is not how a transparent and engaged democracy works.
 - Leaders of the Kids First Coalition have been requesting to be at the table to identify solutions for the last few years.

Thank you for acting today to preserve the mandate from Richmond voters.

Respectfully,
Jane Fischberg

Jane Fischberg
President and Chief Executive Officer

Pronouns: She/her/hers



Join our [mailing list!](#)

510.231.3987 phone

510.213.0578 cell



Sabrina Lundy

From: Jasmine Jones <jasmine@edfundwest.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:16 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Robert Bunce
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Jasmine Jones and I am the Executive Director of West Contra Costa Public Education Fund and a lifetime Richmond resident. As someone who is committed to this community and all of my family who live in the various neighborhoods in Richmond, **I urge you to vote NO on Agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.**

Measure E&K was voted in by residents of the City of Richmond because they saw the value in the City making a commitment to invest in our children, to invest in our future. Many of the cities we look to like Oakland and San Francisco have had city departments dedicated to serving children and youth for years. What does this say about Richmond? Do we not care about our kids? Your actions to cap Kids First will have a profound negative impact on the Richmond community. Now more than ever we need our City leaders to make a commitment to the residents of Richmond by not putting a cap on funding to the department.

I would like to reiterate that I urge you to vote NO on Agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

Warmly,
Jasmine

--

Jasmine Jones, MPA | Executive Director | jasmine@edfundwest.org
West Contra Costa Public Education Fund
217 C W. Richmond Avenue, Richmond CA, 94801
510.233.1464 ext.101 | www.edfundwest.org

Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom. --George Washington Carver

You have to get your degree! Because the one thing people can't take away from you is your education. --Michelle Obama

Sabrina Lundy

From: Joan Binalinbing <joanbinalinbing@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:00 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments - Agenda Item J-3

Hello.

As a resident of Richmond for 20 years, I am urging city council to vote NO on agenda item J-3.

In addition, I urge the city council to partner with local community organizations on more progressive measures that bring in revenue and to not take away the critical supports that are needed by those most impacted by COVID19. We need transparency and we need effective collaboration!

Thank you.

Best,

Joan

Sabrina Lundy

From: Joyce Synnott <joyceksynnott@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 10:38 AM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Joyce Synnott and I am a Community School Director in WCCUSD and a Richmond resident. As someone who is committed to this community I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

This is the time to invest everything we have to creating more equitable and life-affirming opportunities for our children. A majority of our city passed measures E and K and we need to respect that vote. The crisis we currently face requires us to be bold and collaborative, to change unjust structures - not retreat to deficit and fear-based thinking and constant redistributing.

Please don't cap Kids First funding before it even gets off the ground. Work with the community to demonstrate that we do, in fact, put kids first in our city because these are the same kids who need to heal and grow so that they can lead us.

Thank you,

Joyce Synnott, MSW
Richmond resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: Lana Tilley <lana.tilley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:16 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Lana Tilley and I am an adult ally connected with RYSE. As an organizer who canvassed for Measure E&K and mobilized communities to get this measure on the ballot in 2018, **I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.**

I support and add my voice to the following community demands:

1. Vote NO on agenda Item J-3.

- Capping Kids First *will not* support any immediate revenue relief, so why put this on the ballot now when our community is feeling most vulnerable.
- There is no revenue allocation written into Kids First until 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 is only 1%.
- Measures E & K was widely supported by Richmond voters (*Measures E passed with 76% support*)

2. Authentically partner with community orgs and unions on progressive measures that bring in revenue and don't strip away critical supports from those most impacted by COVID-19.

- This proposed ballot measure will be confusing to voters and will take away from the progressive and real revenue measures unions and community based organizations are focused on to ensure children, youth, families don't bear the biggest burden of the economic downturn.

3. Transparent Data re: Measure H & current spending on children/youth budget and # of youth served.

- The community has been requesting accurate data from the City regarding money spent on children and youth for the past ten years. To date we have only received inaccurate and overstated budgets with no data of youth served attached.

4. Work with organizations and data in the next two years to make adjustments to Measure E&K, if needed.

- We know that in these moments everyone needs to participate in making the necessary cuts to ensure all of our community members can thrive. However gutting a measure, without accurate data or authentic community engagement is not how a transparent and engaged democracy works.
- Leaders of the Kids First Coalition have been requesting to be at the table to identify solutions for the last few years. And many are helping to lead the new revenue measures.

Thank you,
Lana Tilley

Sabrina Lundy

From: Lehidly Frias <lehidly@rysecenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 9:38 AM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Lehidly Frias and I am an adult ally from the RYSE Center. As someone who is committed to this community and work in community healing and restorative practices, I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

Measure E&K is necessary to ensure a decrease in crime and an increase in community healing. Your actions to cap Kids First will endanger our current youth and the youth of tomorrow. The future of Richmond is your responsibility and capping the revenue for programs that support community healing will result in larger future costs as more youth will be funneled into the legal system, looking the human capacity for impact in the community.

Best,

--

*** Please note, RYSE will be working remotely until further notice, visit our website for a list of virtual programming and resources ***



Lehidly Frias

Restorative Practices Specialist
pronouns: They/Them/Theirs

p: 510.374.3396
c: 401.559.0028

205 41st Street
Richmond, CA 94805
www.rysecenter.org



Sabrina Lundy

From: Megan Zapanta <megan@apen4ej.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:03 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Items J-3 & J4

Dear Mayor & City Council,

These are both positions of my organization, the Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN), because we worked to pass both of these measures in Richmond, it is really upsetting to see proposed repeals.

Vote NO on Item J-3

I am the Richmond Organizing Director for the Asian Pacific Environmental Network.

Our immigrant and refugee families and youth worked tirelessly to get Measures E&K on the ballot and passed because youth services are a priority for them. While our Richmond families are struggling to get by through COVID19, it is outrageous to think about cutting necessary services. Please work with our community groups and youth to find a solution.

Vote no Item J-4

I am the Richmond Organizing Director for the Asian Pacific Environmental Network.

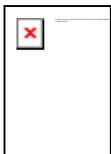
Our families have worked for years to support rent control and tenant protections in Richmond. With rising prices in the Bay Area, this feels necessary for our survival. Under COVID-19 with mass layoffs and economic and health hardship, it unthinkable to take away the protections that are so crucial to our community and that we already fought and voted for. To try to change these laws now, under COVID-19, when many people who don't have internet can't even attend, is truly underhanded and undermines the democratic process.

sincerely,

Megan Zapanta

Asian Pacific Environmental Network

--



Megan Zapanta

Pronoun: She, Her

Richmond Organizing Director, Asian Pacific Environmental Network

p: 510-236-4616 X 331 a: 12818 San Pablo, Richmond, CA 94805

426 17th Street, #500 Oakland, CA 94612

s: apen4ej.org e: megan@apen4ej.org,



Sabrina Lundy

From: Sarah Willner <sarah.willner@ousd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 11:48 AM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment - agenda item J-3

1. Greetings, Mr. Mayor and esteemed City Council,

My name is Sarah Willner, and I am concerned about this measure, as a teacher and admin from Oakland Unified School District Visual and Performing Arts Dept. I also am a resident of El Sobrante, and our community is very affected by Richmond. As someone who is committed to this community by living in close proximity to Richmond students and young adults, I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

Please Vote NO on agenda Item J-3.

- o I know that Measures E & K were widely supported by Richmond voters (*Measures E passed with 76% support*)

all the best,
Sarah

--

Sarah Willner
Teacher on Special Assignment, Visual and Performing Arts Dept.
Oakland Unified School District
(510) 685-9986

Sabrina Lundy

From: Tara Malik <tara@rysecenter.org>
Sent: Monday, June 01, 2020 8:02 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Tara Malik and I am an adult ally from the RYSE Center. As someone who is committed to this community by developing arts programs in partnership with staff and youth, local organizations, and WCCUSD, **I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3.** Our collective city-wide programs are a critical support for young people in developing their identity, creativity, and leadership through the arts. Measures E & K build on the legacy of young people who advocated for a city fund that would ensure Richmond's children and youth are physically, emotionally, mentally, and socially healthy, educated, and live in stable, safe and supported families and communities. Please commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

Please:

1. Vote NO on agenda Item J-3.

- Capping Kids First *will not* support any immediate revenue relief, so why put this on the ballot now when our community is feeling most vulnerable.
- There is no revenue allocation written into Kids First until 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 is only 1%.
- Measures E & K was widely supported by Richmond voters (*Measures E passed with 76% support*).

2. Authentically partner with community orgs and unions on progressive measures that bring in revenue and don't strip away critical supports from those most impacted by COVID-19

- This proposed ballot measure will be confusing to voters and will take away from the progressive and real revenue measures unions and community based organizations are focused on to ensure children, youth, families don't bear the biggest burden of the economic downturn.

3. Transparent Data re: Measure H & current spending on children/youth budget/# of youth served.

- The community has been requesting accurate data from the City regarding money spent on children and youth for the past ten years. To date we have only received inaccurate and overstated budgets with no data of youth served attached.

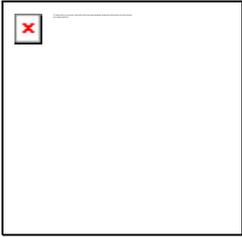
4. Work with organizations and data in the next two years to make adjustments to Measure E & K if needed.

- We know that in these moments everyone needs to participate in making the necessary cuts to ensure all of our community members can thrive. However gutting a measure, without accurate data or authentic community engagement is not how a transparent and engaged democracy works.

- o Leaders of the Kids First Coalition have been requesting to be at the table to identify solutions for the last few years. And many are helping to lead the new revenue measures.

Thank you,
Tara

--



Tara Malik

Media, Arts, & Culture Director

pronouns: she/her

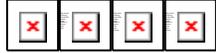
p: [510.374.3401](tel:510.374.3401)

c: [240.401.6811](tel:240.401.6811)

[205 41st Street](https://www.rysecenter.org)

[Richmond, CA 94805](https://www.rysecenter.org)

www.rysecenter.org



Send us a donation! www.rysecenter.org/donate

*** Please note, RYSE will be working remotely until further notice, visit our website for a list of virtual programming and resources ***

Sabrina Lundy

From: Vanessa Whang <vmwhang@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 1:32 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments - Agenda Item J-3

Dear Mayor and City Council,

My name is Vanessa Whang and I am an ally of the youth and families of Richmond and the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts. As someone who has been committed to this community as a long-standing board member of the Center, I urge you to **vote NO on agenda item J-3** and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services for children and youth, and increases revenue for the City. There is no immediate need to cap Kids First and Measures E and K were passed with wide community support.

Many thanks for consideration of this request and for all you do for people of Richmond.

Stay safe and well,
Vanessa

Vanessa Whang
culture/change consultant
vmwhang@gmail.com
718.578.9080

Sabrina Lundy

From: Megan Zapanta <megan@apen4ej.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:03 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Items J-3 & J4

Dear Mayor & City Council,

These are both positions of my organization, the Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN), because we worked to pass both of these measures in Richmond, it is really upsetting to see proposed repeals.

Vote NO on Item J-3

I am the Richmond Organizing Director for the Asian Pacific Environmental Network.

Our immigrant and refugee families and youth worked tirelessly to get Measures E&K on the ballot and passed because youth services are a priority for them. While our Richmond families are struggling to get by through COVID19, it is outrageous to think about cutting necessary services. Please work with our community groups and youth to find a solution.

Vote no Item J-4

I am the Richmond Organizing Director for the Asian Pacific Environmental Network.

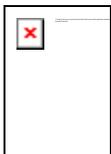
Our families have worked for years to support rent control and tenant protections in Richmond. With rising prices in the Bay Area, this feels necessary for our survival. Under COVID-19 with mass layoffs and economic and health hardship, it unthinkable to take away the protections that are so crucial to our community and that we already fought and voted for. To try to change these laws now, under COVID-19, when many people who don't have internet can't even attend, is truly underhanded and undermines the democratic process.

sincerely,

Megan Zapanta

Asian Pacific Environmental Network

--



Megan Zapanta

Pronoun: She, Her

Richmond Organizing Director, Asian Pacific Environmental Network

p: 510-236-4616 X 331 a: 12818 San Pablo, Richmond, CA 94805

426 17th Street, #500 Oakland, CA 94612

s: apen4ej.org e: megan@apen4ej.org,



Council Meeting - 6/2/2020

Meeting Time: 06-02-20 18:30

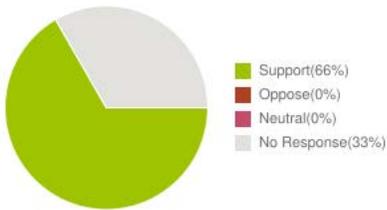
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Council Meeting - 6/2/2020	06-02-20 18:30	53	3	2	0	0

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 - 6/2/2020

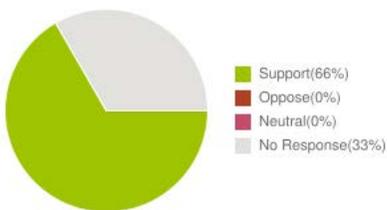
06-02-20 18:30

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Deleted Agenda Item	1	0	0	0
Deleted Agenda Item	1	1	0	0
Deleted Agenda Item	1	1	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

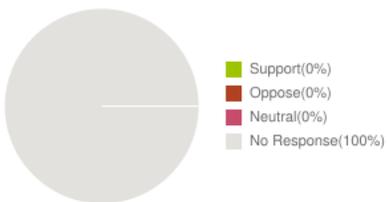
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for Deleted Agenda Item

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

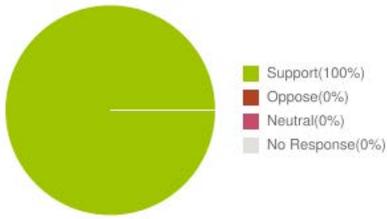
Submitted At: 6:03pm 06-02-20

Hello Mayor and City Council,

My name is Cherie Hill and I am a Richmond resident. As someone who is committed to this community by working as an early childhood education teacher and advocate for arts education, I urge you to vote NO on agenda item J-3 and commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City. Measure E & K are vital to building a strong and healthy community.

Agenda Item: eComments for Deleted Agenda Item

Overall Sentiment



Dee Joyce

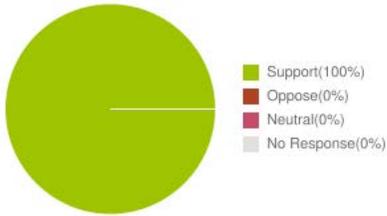
Location:

Submitted At: 5:59pm 06-02-20

Agree with proposal.

Agenda Item: eComments for Deleted Agenda Item

Overall Sentiment



Dee Joyce

Location:

Submitted At: 6:00pm 06-02-20

Strongly Support!

Sabrina Lundy

From: Shirley Dean <shirley.dean@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 2:54 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment: Item C: Close Session, Conference with real property negotiators, Terminals 3 and 4, Richmond City Council Meeting, June 3, 2020

Importance: High

Dear Mayor Butt and Members of the Richmond City Council,

I understand that the City Council is scheduled to meet in closed session on June 3rd regarding the prices and terms of sale of property known as Terminal 3 and Terminal 4. As has frequently been maintained by the City, the City Council has the right to meet in closed session regarding the sale of City property to private parties in order to “tip your hand” in seeking the best possible price for the property. I do not argue against that purpose.

However, this action, at this time, does not seem ready for such discussion. Not only because of restrictions due to Covid-19 to hold open meetings, but mainly because of the absence of disclosure of the background for such sales. This is of deep concern in view of the fact that this public land includes at least a significant area that has been zoned for park and recreation uses. Why isn't there, at the very least, an attached report to the agenda item that provides a summary of the reasons this closed session action is being held at this time?

Information is not even provided as to where it could be found so that the public might have some idea of what the potential uses for this property might be? Certainly the purchasing entities, Bobby Winston, Orton Development, Nematode Holding, LLC, et al are not offering to buy the property to retain it as park and recreation uses. Is any of this property under management overview by other jurisdictions due to contamination or other issues? Has the Planning Commission or other City Commission reviewed changing land uses in these properties? How long have these sales been under discussion?

I am not suggesting that the City disclose anything except straightforward information about the current status of the property, what proposals have been given to the City, and what steps, if any, the City has taken to review those proposals and/or what steps it intends to take to review those proposals. From that information, determination of the point at which negotiations should or should not be undertaken and to what extent could be scheduled. Such public disclosure would allow the public to not only comment on the future of their City, but would avoid much future wasted time and effort. As you are well aware, effective partnering with residents is not only is of the highest value in governance, effective use of staff time and effort is mandatory in these troubled economic times.

I ask that you postpone negotiations regarding the same of Terminal 3 and 4 properties until such public disclosure is provided.

Thank you for consideration of these views.
Shirley Dean

Sabrina Lundy

From: Leisa Johnson <leisa_johnson@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 4:54 PM
To: Mary Phelps; Yader Bermudez; City Clerk Dept
Cc: Leisa Johnson
Subject: Comments for Open Forum or Consent Calendar Item G-11 (if pulled)

Dear City Clerk —

Please find below my comments for **either** Open Forum or Consent Calendar Item G-11 **if** it is pulled. I will email before Open Forum to confirm.

Dear Mary and Yader,

There are still many outstanding questions that have not yet been addressed and the Public would like clarity on these.

1. In light of all of the issues & litigation that the City of Richmond and Veolia have been mired in over the past 18 years, can you please clarify why the City willingly extended the contract for another 5 years to 2027 as this was not mandated in the settlement agreement with Baykeeper and West County Toxics Coalition in March 2018?

2. Can you please clarify if the City considered putting the contract out for bid before entering into this extension?

- If not, why?
- If so, why weren't they pursued?

3. When the City of Richmond and Veolia entered into a 20-year contract in 2002, Veolia also entered into a 20-year contract with the City of Indianapolis. Within eight (8) years, Indianapolis opted to part ways with Veolia and paid them a \$29 million contract termination fee.

Upon reviewing Richmond's and Veolia's primary contract and all five amendments it is my understanding that there were two termination fee schedules (please see below) established: Schedule 15 (2002 original contract) and Exhibit F (2004 first amendment).

Based on Exhibit F, we are now in contract year 19 and it appears that the City would no longer have to pay an early termination fee. Is this correct?

4. Can you please clarify if the City has done a cost/benefit and risk analysis to examine if Taxpayers would be better off by: 1) conducting a new bid assessment, and 2) opting to terminate our contract with Veolia early?

- If not, why?
- If so, what did the analysis show?

5. I understand that it may be difficult to provide exact cost estimates beyond 5 years and things change. However, Taxpayers deserve to see a fully transparent layman's presentation that covers the three (3) separate master/facility plans, what the forecasted costs are going to be through 2045 and beyond, and what that will mean to our property tax assessments.

A. Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan:

- This draft was updated in Sept 2016, **before** the 2018 Baykeeper's agreement. I do not see that this has ever been finalized.
 - **Has the City Council seen and approved a final plan?**
- The attached charts show:
 - The 10-YEAR WWTP CIP (2016-2025) total cost at \$118M.
 - **The Long-range WWTP CIP (2016-2045+) total cost at \$610M.**
 - **What is the current Long-range CIP as this hasn't been updated in 4 years let alone after the Baykeeper's agreement?**

B. Sewer Collection System Master Plan:

- This draft is dated even earlier - **November 2011.**
- The estimated costs in Tables ES-1 & Table 7-3 (attached) are \$35.6M for pipeline projects + \$24.4M in Storage = **\$60M.**
- **What is the current cost estimate?**

C. Wastewater Collection System Lift Station Master Plan:

- This draft is dated - October 2018
- Upon reviewing Tables 4-2 through 4-14, it **appears** that the all lift station project costs total **~\$10M** (\$9,668,552).
- **What is the current cost estimate?**

GRAND TOTAL (out of date): \$610M + \$60M + \$10M = \$680M

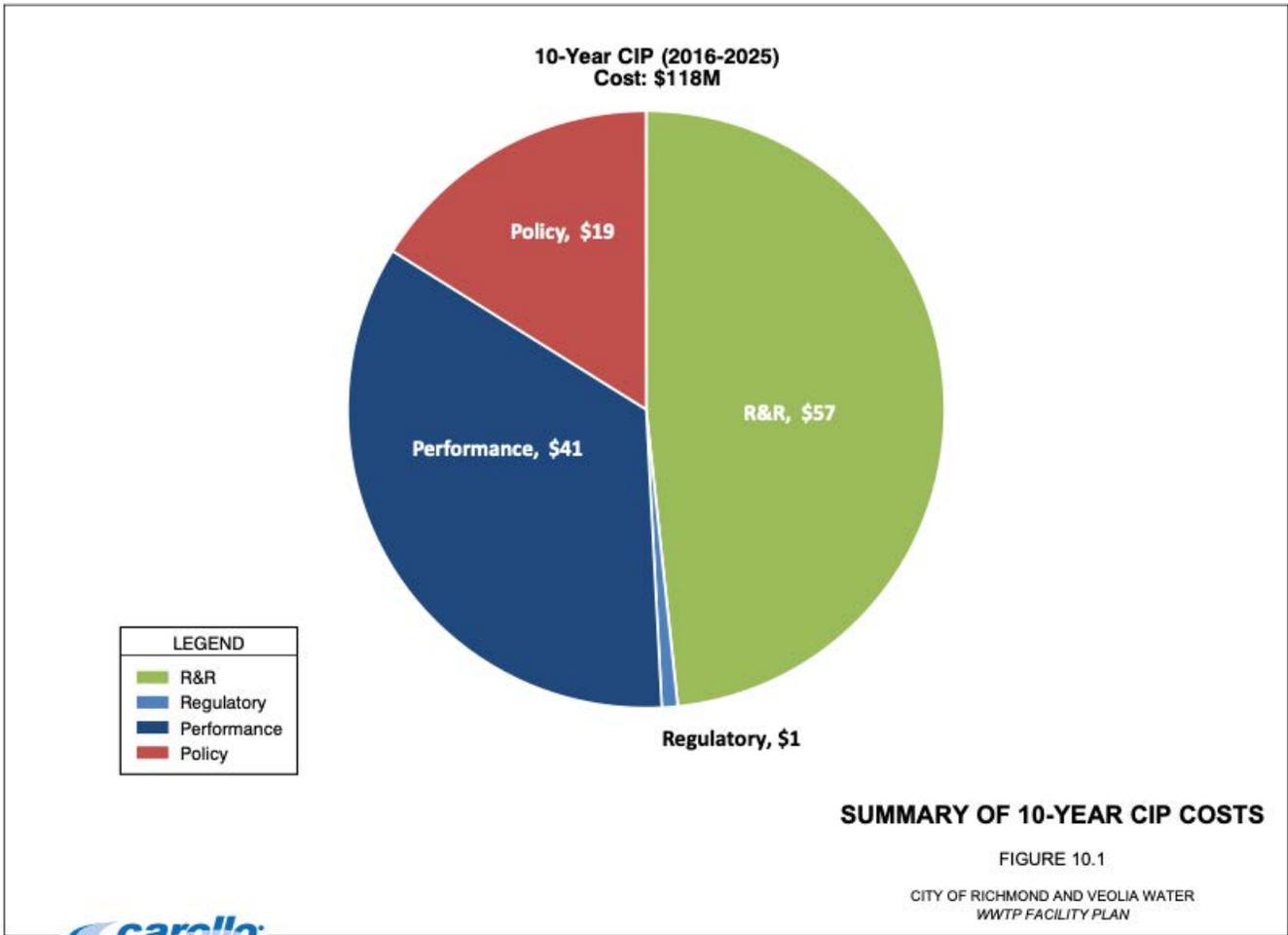
If you just increased our property taxes another 37.5% over the next 5 years, what does this mean for taxpayers long-term?

At a minimum, I would like to request a study section to be presented to the City Council and Public ASAP so that the Public is aware of long-term property tax implications and, importantly, why this project can't be put out for bid, especially since it appears there is no longer a termination fees currently

associated with our Veolia contract. Right now, we have no idea if another service provider could provide service more cost effectively.

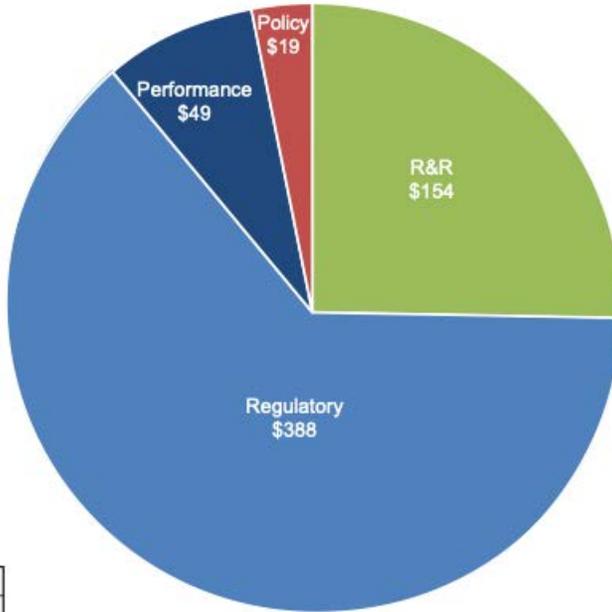
Thank you.

Respectfully,
Leisa



rich0618f3b-11034.ai

Long Range WWTP CIP (2016 - 2045±)
Total Cost: \$610M



LEGEND	
■	R&R
■	Regulatory
■	Performance
■	Policy

SUMMARY OF LONG RANGE CIP COSTS

FIGURE 10.2

CITY OF RICHMOND AND VEOLIA WATER
 WWTP FACILITY PLAN



rich061609-11034.ai

Table 7-3. Capacity Improvement Project Estimated Costs

Project Name	Project	Estimated Construction Cost	Estimated Total Cost
Hensley Street Pipelines	Parallel Relief Sewer and New Trunk Sewer	\$13.7M	\$16.1M
Cutting & Hoffman Boulevards	Parallel Relief Sewers	\$6.5M	\$7.6M
First Street, MacDonald Avenue, Virginia Avenue	Parallel Relief and Trunk Sewers	\$6.5M	\$7.7M
San Pablo & Carlson Boulevards	Parallel Relief and Trunk Sewers	\$3.6M	\$4.2M
Total Estimate for Pipeline Projects		\$30.3M	\$35.6M
Total Estimate for Storage (8MG)		\$20.8M	\$24.4M

SCHEDULE 15
 TERMINATION PAYMENTS FOR EARLY TERMINATION

TERMINATION PAYMENTS (in 2002 Dollars)				
Termination Cost Category	Contract Years 1 - 5	Contract Years 6 -10	Contract Years 11 - 15	Contract Years 16 - 20
Early Termination	\$ 4,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000
Demobilization and Other ⁽¹⁾	\$ 515,606	\$ 515,606	\$ 515,606	\$ 515,606
Net Termination Payments	\$4,515,606	\$3,515,606	\$2,515,606	\$1,515,606

Notes:

(1) "Demobilization and Other" costs should be indicated to include all additional payments to the Company for termination for convenience by the City.

EXHIBIT F

EARLY TERMINATION SCHEDULE

The schedule below defines the fee to be paid by the City to the Company in the event the City terminates this Amendment prior to the end of the contract period.

Beginning Year 1 through the end of Year 5	-	\$750,000.00
Beginning Year 6 through the end of Year 10	-	\$550,000.00
Beginning Year 11 through the end of Year 15	-	\$400,000.00
Beginning Year 16 through the end of Year 18	-	\$250,000.00

Sabrina Lundy

From: Hammad Khan <hkhan9357@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 3:50 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – H-1

Hello,

Good evening, my name is Hammad Khan, and I am a member of IBX Fitness, which operates out of the Booker T Anderson community center in Richmond.

My email is regarding item 10 in the Potential Budget Balancing Strategies for the current and next fiscal years: Cancellation of recreation activities through December 2020. Without the community center, IBX Fitness will not have a physical location for its members to come together and take full advantage of what the program has to offer. I understand the importance of and need to comply with the safety and health orders from the county during this unprecedented time. At the same time, access to IBX Fitness classes also has a direct impact on the community's health. Without being able to take full advantage of these offerings, many in our community are losing the benefits of improvements to both their physical and mental wellbeing, in addition to a positive environment where a community can thrive.

Personally, IBX Fitness helps me to reduce my stress and increases my ability to maintain a healthy body and lifestyle. I think you would agree that the need for these positive health benefits has never been higher.

I once again ask that you allow the BTA community center, and all community centers, to continue operating so that programs such as IBX Fitness can survive and provide a much needed morale boost. Please keep this thriving community alive in Richmond. Thank you.

Hammad Khan

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jimmy Reina <jimmy@redoakrealty.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 4:57 PM
To: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis; City Clerk Dept
Subject: Annex street sweeping
Attachments: Dear Neighbor Street Sweeping.pdf

Permanent street sweeping signs work no better than the voluntary system we are using.

At the neighborhood meeting where this was originally discussed, Berkeley was the example of what we didn't want. On many Berkeley streets there are two signs per block, but they just become part of the background and are ignored. Sit on any Berkeley street on sweeping day and you will see one, sometimes two meter maids driving one block ahead of the sweeper giving out tickets. Is that what we want in the Annex- a forest of signs and Bounty Hunters twice a month?

We have been using a system based on what is being done in Albany where residents put out their own signs. Some tie the sign to a tree, some use a sawhorse or other physical "sign stand". On the afternoon of the 4th Wed. of the month, we put out 2 signs – one at the end of the block and one in the middle. Except for one perpetual scofflaw, we usually get 100% participation. Unless they start ticketing, that car isn't going to move anyway, so permanent signs would have no effect. On Thursday afternoon, we move the signs to the even side of the street.

There are signs on the Annex streets North of Bayview, and there is no evidence that residents are complying any more than they do on the streets where there are no signs.

The Annex is a very desirable neighborhood and there has been a goldrush of people moving in since this system was established. These new residents can't be blamed for not knowing about the Annex Neighborhood meeting agreement, but it is probably safe to say they want to cooperate. They can learn about sweeping days as we welcome our neighbors to the block.

Sometimes, when we don't get to know them, we pass them the attached note. This has worked well since the program was developed.

Good citizenship requires both education and effort.

Jimmy Reina

Sabrina Lundy

From: Beryl Golden <berylgolden@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:00 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Closed Session - Open Forum

Re: Conference with Real Property Negotiator in Closed Session

The public must be informed of the procedure that was followed to grant the use of Terminal 4. We want to know that the use and management will be in the best interests of the City as a whole.

Thank you,

Beryl Golden, Richmond resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:04 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment before closed session

Public Comment before closed session

To the Council:

It looks like the Council is going ahead with the negotiations for Terminals 3 and 4, despite public calls for a more transparent process. To my knowledge, the public has not been informed what the terminals will be used for, how the bidding process for these properties was publicized, what assessment of the value of these properties was made by the City, how Bob Winston and Ed Orton came to be involved in these negotiations.

Mr. Winston already leases the land and buildings at Winehaven, and subleases many of the structures at a profit. The deal to allow Winston to manage the property at Winehaven was a subject of concern for the Pt Molate Advisory Committee, which questioned the legality of the process. Shortly after, the Committee was disbanded by the mayor.

Eddie Orton, who bought the Ford building for \$5 million after the City had spent \$28 million rehabbing it, became a topic of discussion during a City Council meeting a year ago after it became known that he had knowledge of the secret closed session negotiations between the City and Jim Levine over Winehaven.

Bypassing transparent and public processes raises questions of corruption and favoritism that Richmond does not need. The negotiations on Terminals 3 and 4 may be completely above board, but not knowing casts aspersions on all involved. Please let us know how these negotiations came about.

Debbie Bayer
Richmond
510-685-5999

Sabrina Lundy

From: Al M <alix.mazuet@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:50 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Nat Bates; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; AJ Jelani; Eduardo Martinez; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis; Mary Phelps; Yader Bermudez
Subject: City Council Meeting June 2 G-8

Dear City Council:

It is difficult to understand why the people of Richmond should pay for this repair, as there is no clear data, no clear information on the history of all expenses **already** made in the name of our wastewater system. It seems clear to me that there is an urgent need for an audit of Veolia's spending throughout the years it has had a contract with the City of Richmond, an audit on its work expenses and performance. I am so glad to learn that this is proposed in Item G-9, which I wholeheartedly support!

In addition, I urge the City Council to explore **all** possible options that can prevent Richmond residents and property owners from being held **financially** responsible for bad **management and bad maintenance** of their public sewer system, as it has been performed in the past and unfortunately, unless it is carefully monitored from now on, will continue onward. The people of Richmond should not be held responsible for problems they did not generate. As you know, we are already heavily taxed and our utility bills increase on a yearly-basis at a higher rate than our wages. Briefly put: we cannot take more of these **unjustified** increases.

I could go on with the many discrepancies that can be noted in the long history of our city's relationship with Veolia. For the time being, suffice to say that we live in a democratic **system**: our "public" utilities should function efficiently for the benefit of all residents, at **affordable** rates. Therefore, Veolia must be held accountable to ensure that our wastewater public utilities do not become a wealth extraction machine that only serves the very few.

Please, I urge you to carefully consider Item G-9 before you make your decision about Item G-8. It would be undemocratic to make any final decision in spending tax payers' dollars when the great majority of us is struggling to make ends meet.

Best regards,

Alix Mazuet

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:04 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Open Forum (not agenda item)

Open Forum for Public Comment

To the Council:

We are all sick and stunned by the murder of George Floyd, and the resultant outpouring of rage and despair over the fact that this never seems to end. Each time this happens, we acknowledge that this can't continue, that we need to change the structure of state sponsored racism and police culture, and yet it doesn't change. Here in Richmond we have the chance to demonstrate our commitment to change by calling for the prosecution of the killer of Pedie Perez 5 years ago. We have a chance to distance ourselves from the actions of one police officer and the officers who backed him up and say, "This is not who we are, this is not who we want to be, this will not stand."

Thank you,
Debbie Bayer, Richmond
510-685-5999

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:04 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Open Forum (not agenda item)

Open Forum for Public Comment

To the Council:

We are all sick and stunned by the murder of George Floyd, and the resultant outpouring of rage and despair over the fact that this never seems to end. Each time this happens, we acknowledge that this can't continue, that we need to change the structure of state sponsored racism and police culture, and yet it doesn't change. Here in Richmond we have the chance to demonstrate our commitment to change by calling for the prosecution of the killer of Pedie Perez 5 years ago. We have a chance to distance ourselves from the actions of one police officer and the officers who backed him up and say, "This is not who we are, this is not who we want to be, this will not stand."

Thank you,
Debbie Bayer, Richmond
510-685-5999

Sabrina Lundy

From: Melvin Willis <mrmelvinwillis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:08 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment Open Forum

Hey i want to sign up for general public comment please

Sabrina Lundy

From: Paul Kilkenny <kilkennygreen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:35 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comments - not on the agenda

My name is Paul Kilkenny. I have been involved with the Richmond South Shoreline Area Community Advisory Group for fifteen years. The last ten as a CAG member.

Last week you had approvals on an item regarding the Toxic Zeneca Site. This is extremely concerning because I live near the site.

My concern is that the comprehensive cleanup the community fought for and a previous City Council agreed with was smacked down at your meeting last September 24th.

At last weeks' meeting when a staff member answered a questioned about the Community Benefits Agreement incorporated into the September 24th decision it was revealed the agreement was negotiated by a city staff person.

How did a staff person get to incentivize that vote last September on this highly toxic site. A vote that will allow a developer to build on this site that for 100 years was used for the manufacture of chemicals.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jim Hanson <jimhmail@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Mary Phelps; City Clerk Dept
Cc: Yader Bermudez
Subject: Fwd: Request to pull Sewer Rate Increase (G-11)

Hello Ms. Phelps:

Thank you for letting me know you received my email with questions on Friday regarding item G-11. Regarding your comment that this would not be pulled because I did not request the City Clerk to pull this item by 2pm today, below is an email to the City Clerk from 1:35 pm today requesting the city clerk to pull the item.

FYI, the instructions to the public on the agenda state that items that are requested to be pulled must be received by 3 pm.

I'm still requesting that this item be pulled.

thank you,

Jim Hanson

----- Original Message -----

Subject:Request to pull Sewer Rate Increase (G-11)
Date:2020-06-02 13:25
From:Jim Hanson <jimhmail@sonic.net>
To:cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us
Cc:Yader Bermudez <Yader_Bermudez@ci.richmond.ca.us>, Mary Phelps
<Mary_Phelps@ci.richmond.ca.us>, Carlos Privat <Carlos_Privat@ci.richmond.ca.us>

Hello Mr. Bermudez:

I didn't hear back from you or Ms. Phelps, so I'm hoping the questions directly related to what the sewer rate increase would pay for will be answered at Council tonight.

I'm requesting the City Clerk to pull this consent item G-11 for this purpose.

Thank you,

Jim Hanson

----- Original Message -----

Subject:Request for Information Follow Up - Sewer Rate Increase - requested Monday AM prior to Council
Date:2020-05-29 16:48
From:Jim Hanson <jimhmail@sonic.net>
To:Mary Phelps <Mary_Phelps@ci.richmond.ca.us>, Yader Bermudez <Yader_Bermudez@ci.richmond.ca.us>
Cc:Carlos Privat <Carlos_Privat@ci.richmond.ca.us>

Dear Mr. Bermudez and Ms. Phelps-

I'm following up on important, remaining questions from previous correspondence and phone conversations (one of which may be more legal in nature which is why I've copied Mr. Privat based on a question #3 below).

1. Total Est. Sewer System Project Cost over 30 years should be made public - It appears that the estimated cost of the sewer treatment plant upgrades over the next 30 years in 2016 dollars is projected to be over a half billion dollars (**\$609 million** from Draft WWTP Facility Plan Summary, City of Richmond and Veolia, 9/2016).

Presumably this does not incorporate the collection system repair and replacement (currently at \$2.5 million per year, or \$25 million for 10 years, \$75 million for 30 years) or pump repairs (currently at \$9.7 million from the Draft Wastewater Collection System - Lift Station Master Plan, 10/2018)

I realize priorities and construction costs change, but is there any further update on the long term cost total over 30 years? Otherwise, I'll assume that the previous information you provided from the WWTP Plan-2016 stands).

2. A List of Annual Pipeline Repair projects the public is paying over 10 years - As you know, I've inquired repeatedly about a map or a simple spreadsheet list of the locations across the city for the "annual pipeline replacement projects" would take place (currently at \$25 million over the next 10 years from Council letter).

I am not interested in the condition, length, depth, size, etc., of the pipe repair and replacements, and therefore "proprietary information" (email 5-18 below), and I realize that repair priorities change (email 5-18 below). Our neighborhoods should be able to know if pipe repairs they are being asked to pay for and if they are needed and planned for our neighborhoods.

I look forward to this the list of "annual pipeline replacement projects" planned for as part of this increase, even if their priority order changes during this time.

3. Fully informing the public what they are paying for in the Sewer Rate Increase - Where does it specifically and fully say in writing what the sewer rate increase ordinance pays for?

There is no reference in the ordinance that specifically links this sewer rate increase to upgrades and repairs identified in the current Waste Treatment Plan plan, Sewer Collection Plan, or Lift Station Plan. The proposed ordinance (both options) contains only a *general* statement that is not tied to any particular sewer improvement. It only says that the "the Sanitary Sewer System Charge is imposed to pay the costs of administering, monitoring, operating, maintaining, and improving the Richmond Municipal Sewer District No. 1 Sanitary Sewer System and retiring the capital debts of that system. The Stormwater Management Program Charge is imposed to pay the costs of administering, monitoring, operating, maintaining and improving the Storm Sewer System throughout the City of Richmond." Period.

Also, the Council letters (May 19 and on June 3) simply mention "*sanitary sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant master planning documents*" without specifically identifying any master plan documents. (In fact, I understand these are draft plans only that have not been approved by the City Council)

Whether one voted for or against the ballot measure, in the last election the WCCSD provided a detailed plan that described what their capital improvement ballot measure would pay for. The only way the public is going to know now or in the future what their rate increases are paying for is if these detailed sewer improvement plans are specified in the ordinance, or, at the very least, the Council letter associated with this increase.

In addition to question 2 above, would you please let me and the public know how the sewer rate increase will be legally tied to some specific plans with detailed information for reference now and into the future.

4. **\$5 million increase in Priority #3 R&R project** - Although I cannot locate the spreadsheets at the moment, thank you for providing the source documents with spreadsheets from Carollo Engineers for the "R&R projects 1-3." At the time I asked why the cost of Priority #3 had increased by about \$5 million (email 5-15 table below from Carollo) to \$12.8 million in the proposed sewer rate increase letter to Council.

Is there any updated information on that increase?

This is a complex project, however, put simply, the public should be able to find out and track what they are paying for. Toward this interest, I look forward to hearing from you on these remaining important questions Monday AM in advance of the Council meeting.

Thank you,

Jim Hanson

President, Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council

On 2020-05-18 17:50, Mary Phelps wrote:

Jim:

Please see my comments below.

Mary Phelps

Project Manager I

Water Resource Recovery Department

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond CA 94804

(510) 621-1269 (direct)

(510) 685-0820 (cell)

(510) 620-6594 (office)

(510) 307-8195 (fax)

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From: Jim Hanson [mailto:jimhmail@sonic.net]
Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 11:02 AM
To: Mary Phelps
Cc: Yader Bermudez
Subject: Re: FW: Request for Information

Ms. Phelps:

Thank you. Could you kindly please email or text me when the Draft Master Plans are posted on the city website and under what page and menu item. **They have been posted to the City's webpage. You will find them at the following link:**

<https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/74/Wastewater>



Also, I understand that pipeline R & R projects can change over time with new CCTV data on the pipes.

However, is there a spreadsheet or list available to the public at present on the location and length of pipeline that will be rehabilitated/repared using between \$32-82 million from a sewer rate increase.

We have a database that tracks all the specification of the pipes (condition, length, depth, size, etc.). However, this information is not available for the public.

This information is considered "proprietary" and will only be released as the need arises for contractors to bid on repairs/replacement/rehabilitation of the pipes.

And, is the public to read from the CIP that the sewer system maintenance over the next 30 years estimated to be \$579 million (\$609 million minus projects on line in 2019 and 2020)? **I will need to get back to you on this.**

Sincerely,

Jim Hanson

President, Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council

On 2020-05-18 10:35, Mary Phelps wrote:

Mr. Hanson:

Please see my responses to your questions below.

Mary Phelps

Project Manager I

Water Resource Recovery Department

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond CA 94804

(510) 621-1269 (direct)

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From: Jim Hanson [mailto:jimhmail@sonic.net]

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2020 8:37 AM

To: Mary Phelps

Cc: Yader Bermudez

Subject: Re: FW: Request for Information

Hello Mary:

Thank you for the CIP summary. I have some brief questions about that. My information request has centered on the location of the non-plant R&R improvements, which appear to mostly be pipeline rehab and replacement.

You've highlighted below approx. \$35 million, 2.11-2.15 in general "rehabilitation and replacement" projects. The original City letter to Richmond Property owners states that "there are additional sewer-related capital projects that are planned over the next 5 years to address rehabilitatoin and replacement (R&R) of aging infrastructure." The letter indicates they are 57% or \$83 million. The Council letters list for 4/21 and 5/19 also shows \$82 million for the "annual critical pipeline replacement program" and Priority 1-5 R&R projects.

Previously you sent me the maps of the McDonald/Virginia and Cutting/Carlson/Hoffman pipeline projects that are, if I understand this correctly, underway or will be, with additional funds listed in the Council letter to complete these projects.

Questions:

1. Is there a list of the pipeline and other R&R projects and their location and costs that will be made available to the public prior to the vote on the ordinance (before tomorrow) since are is a major element the sewer rate increase and these questions were raised by the public at the 4/21 hearing?

The Master Plans (in DRAFT Form) will be posted to the City's website that lists all the CIP projects for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the Sanitary Sewer System (aka Collection System) and the Sanitary Sewer Pump Station (aka Collection System Pump Station).

The "Plans" are only in DRAFT form, so they have not been formally adopted by the City council.

The City's finance department must ensure that we have adequate funding for these projects, otherwise they will be classified as "unfunded".

Also, as you may (or may not) know, the City is under a Settlement Agreement with Baykeeper and certain projects have been listed in the agreement that the City is obligated to fund and complete.

You can find the Settlement Agreement on the City's website at the following link:

<https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/46265/Baykeeper-Richmond-Settlement-Agreement-March-20-2018?bidId=>

2. While I understand CIP table "unescalated" and "escalated" costs and markups, the 18% column is confusing, unless that is being included as the higher estimate. Bottom line, is the total cost for the sewer system maintenance over the next 30 years estimated to be \$579 million (\$609 million minus projects on line in 2019 and 2020)?

The "costs and mark-up" are for consumer price index and the mark-up that our contractor Veolia receives for managing the projects.

They have a contract with the City until the year 2027 that entitles them to a 16.5% mark-up on all Capital Improvement Projects they manage. That is above and beyond the base cost of the project.

Unfortunately these questions remain one day prior to the Council's vote at a time when you likely have a lot to prepare for, but I've frankly done everything possible to locate the answers from Council letters and City online reports since March when the notice came out.

These projects are updated and change from year-to-year based on new information as it is obtained from CCTV data on the pipes. As new information is obtained, the "model" is updated and project priorities change to coincide with information in the model.

Thank you and the Public Works Director for helping us in the public to understand this major investment by Richmond residents,

Jim Hanson

President, Richmond Hts. Neighborhood Council

On 2020-05-15 18:07, Mary Phelps wrote:

Jim:

I have attached two pages from the Facility Master Plan:

- List of budget items
- Schedule of projects

The projects that are on the Schedule of Projects would be covered under the following:

Item	Site / Location / Item Name	Amount	Unit
2.11	Low-Lift Effluent Pump Station	\$ 2,800,000	\$
2.12	Priority 1 Rehabilitation and Replacement Projects	\$ 1,000,000	\$
2.13	Priority 2 Rehabilitation and Replacement Projects	\$ 2,100,000	\$
2.14	Priority 3 Rehabilitation and Replacement Projects	\$ 7,500,000	\$
2.15	Priority 4 Rehabilitation and Replacement Projects	\$ 21,300,000	\$

A complete detailed plan of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan Update will be posted to the City's website (no later than Monday).

The plan has not (yet) been formally adopted by City Council, so still in DRAFT format. These projects are for upgrades/rehabilitation (in phases) of equipment at the Plant.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Mary Phelps

Project Manager I

Water Resource Recovery Department

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond CA 94804

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From: Jim Hanson [mailto:jimhmail@sonic.net]
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 1:00 PM
To: Mary Phelps
Cc: Yader Bermudez
Subject: Re: FW: Request for Information

Thank you!

Jim Hanson

On 2020-05-15 11:59, Mary Phelps wrote:

Jim:

I will provide the remaining information this afternoon.

I am on a conference call now and will be on another one later this afternoon.

I will try to touch base with you in between calls.

Kindest regards,

Mary Phelps

Project Manager I

Water Resource Recovery Department

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond CA 94804

(510) 621-1269 (direct)

(510) 685-0820 (cell)

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From: Jim Hanson [mailto:jimhmail@sonic.net]

Sent: Friday, May 15, 2020 11:44 AM

To: Mary Phelps

Cc: Yader Bermudez

Subject: Re: FW: Request for Information

Hello Mary:

I've received the maps of McDonald/Virginia and Cutting/Carlson/Hoffman pipeline projects.

I also located the pages on in the CIP webpage link (fy 20-24) for water resource recovery, but there is insufficient detail and the projects listed only seem to partially correspond to the project amounts in the "additional projects" in the staff report for the proposed sewer rate increase.

Will the remaining information I requested regarding the details of the CIP projects as submitted in the Staff Report from April 21, 2020 be able to be sent for public distribution prior to the final vote on this item this coming Tuesday night?

Even without a map, a simple spreadsheet of that sufficiently describes the name, project, and the locations for the "annual pipeline replacement projects" (\$25 million) and the R&R projects 1-5 (approx \$57 million) noted in the 4/21 and 5/19 staff letter would provide the information needed to report back to our Neighborhood Council.

Thank you,

Jim Hanson, President, Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council

On 2020-05-15 10:12, Mary Phelps wrote:

Jim;

The attachments were too large to send in one e-mail. I'm sending this in parts.

This is part one:

Map of Macdonald/Virginia Sewer Project

The link for the Financial Reports is listed below.

Mary Phelps

Project Manager I

Water Resource Recovery Department

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond CA 94804

(510) 621-1269 (direct)

(510) 685-0820 (cell)

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From: Mary Phelps
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:33 PM
To: 'jimhmail@sonic.net'
Subject: FW: Request for Information

Mr. Hanson:

It was a pleasure speaking with you today. This e-mail in regards to you request for information.

I am sending you the following information:

- Map of the three sewer districts in Richmond (several different versions for printing)
- Map of the location of the Macdonald/Virginia Sewer Project
- Map of the location of the Cutting/Carlson/Hoffman Sewer Project
- California Constitution regarding Property Related Fees (Article 13D) – sections that pertain to use are highlighted

Here is the link to the City's Financial Reports:

<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/183/Budget-Documents>

I will research obtaining the remaining information you requested regarding the details of the CIP projects as submitted in the Staff Report from April 21, 2020.

As soon as I have more information available, I will e-mail it to you.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions,

Mary Phelps

Project Manager I

Water Resource Recovery Department

450 Civic Center Plaza

Richmond CA 94804

(510) 621-1269 (direct)

(510) 685-0820 (cell)

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Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:34 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment H-1 (Ana Gonzalez)

Ana Gonzalez, Richmond resident and parent

We all want safer streets, and deserve better libraries. It's important to keep a robust budget for these departments to thrive and for our children to grow, please do not cut funding to libraries, parks and recreation, code enforcement and traffic safety departments. Thank you for listening.

Blessings,

Ana G.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Andrea Mullarkey <andrea.mullarkey@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:56 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item H1

Good evening Mr. Mayor and City Councilmembers,

I am Andrea Mullarkey, a Richmond resident, a public librarian, and a member of SEIU 1021. I am writing to ask you to please protect the Richmond Public Libraries.

Those of us who spend a lot of time in libraries know that they are beloved cultural institutions. We know that a broad cross-section of our community uses libraries and that the collections, the events, the buildings, and the staff reflect that diversity. We offer collections and programs for kids including expected things like books and homework help, but also unexpected things like toys to check out and take home, and master gardening programs for young people. For teens there are the expected career and college prep resources but also skate board science events and access to mental health resources and hotlines because library staff know that the library is a safer space for young adults. Grown-ups will find books of course and computers with fast internet. But they will also find immigration lawyers and seeds to take home and plant and small business resources.

Patrons find all these things and so much more in multiple languages because we know it is the function of the library to offer whatever thing it is that patrons want help with to make their lives better. That includes telling your kids stories and walking teens through their first resume and showing our elders how to zoom with their grandkids.

And so I ask you: please fully fund the library. Do not close branches. Help ensure that these remain vibrant public places open to all and filled with books and events and learning and community.

Cuts to labor should be the very last thing that you do and I urge you to explore every possible avenue for closing the budget gap before resorting to laying off any city workers.

Thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:07 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM H-1 (BRICEIDA GUZMAN)

Hello members of the council,

My name is Briceida Guzman, I live in Richmond and I want to express my concern for the city budget decision this city council will be making. I'm concerned about services like code enforcement, libraries, parks and recreation and traffic safety. I think these are essential services that we need and the people who are city staff in these departments depend on their work for survival in these distressing times. I have no doubt in my mind that this council can work to see if there is another way to fix discrepancies in the budget without having to slash essential services and firing city workers. Please take everything into consideration when making these decisions.

Thank you for your time,

Briceida Guzman

Sabrina Lundy

From: claudia jimenez <jimenez.claudia78@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 7:07 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment - Agenda Item H1

Dear City Clerk,

I would love to make a public comment on item H-1. Please call me to my cellphone 510-998-9027. If you can not reach me please read the following statement- thank you. Please could you reply if you receive this email?

Public comment H-1

Good evening mayor and city council, today it is another opportunity for all of you to vote your values. As you are considering balancing the budget, many people in the streets are protesting because another precious Black life was taken by the police in America. I think this is a great opportunity for all of you to show your leadership and consider to support our community and start proposing how we can move funds from a punishment system to a more restorative system.

You are here considering things like closing the public libraries and reducing other vital services and this is unacceptable. The idea that the city is considering to close Public libraries is sending a message to our community that we do not deserve better. We are proud of having the public libraries and they are the few public spaces for our Richmond community. We have to care for our librarians who are also service workers who have been helping our kids and youth.

SEIU 1021 and Local 21 have been working on a proposal to prevent lay offs and cutting services. You should consider their proposal very seriously.

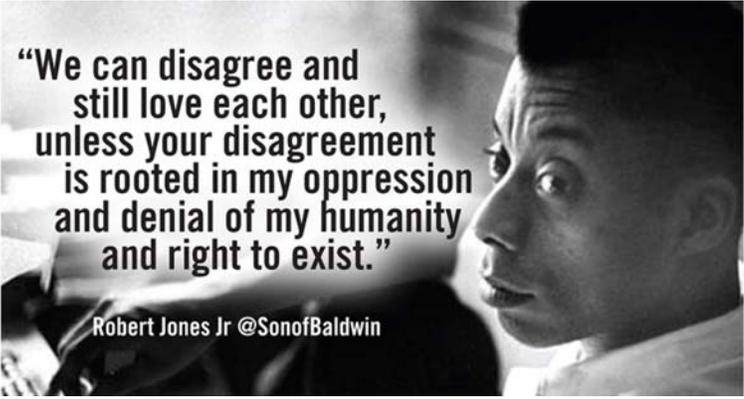
We do not need further austerity measures. We need services that support our community in these difficult times.

Sincerely,

Claudia Jimenez
5109989027

--

«Es porque soy tan testaruda que todavía insisto en cambiar el mundo» Mercedes Sosa

A black and white photograph of a young man with short hair, looking off to the right. The image is partially obscured by text on the left side.

**“We can disagree and
still love each other,
unless your disagreement
is rooted in my oppression
and denial of my humanity
and right to exist.”**

Robert Jones Jr @SonofBaldwin

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:29 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item H-1 (Cristina Lorenzana)

Thank you for listening to our comments

My name is Cristina Lorenzana, ACCE member and tenant in Richmond. I live on Barrett and I am writing to ask that you all do your best to not shut down services that we depend on, libraries, parks and recreation are very important to keep the integrity of our community. How bad does it sound that in Richmond, a low income community is cutting library hours, code enforcement seems already non existing, parks and recreation are going to be underfunded? It makes no sense please find another way that does not further push our community into more disparity.

Thank you

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:08 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Item H-1 Budget

I suggest the Council consider a progressive wage cut among city employees instead of across the board cuts. If the top 15 workers who made over \$300,000 total pay (not including benefits) took a 10% wage cut, the City would save more than \$500,000. This is not to say these workers do not deserve their salary, but the part time library employee or maintenance worker deserves his or her salary too. The wage cuts could be temporary, and salaries brought back to current status once the financial crisis is over. This type of progressive cut accomplishes three things: those who can most afford to lose a little allow those who cannot afford a wage cut to keep their heads above water. It also generates more money -- Returning 10% from all who earn a total pay of over \$300,000 provides a greater yield to the City than cutting those making under \$70,000 by 1% or by furloughing them or laying them off. City services would also be less affected. The finance department could cost this all out and report back.

Thank you,

Debbie Bayer, Richmond

Sabrina Lundy

From: Dena Nelson <dena.g.nelson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:16 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments –agenda item H-1

City Council Members:

You have an important opportunity right now to step up to protect our lower-income community members and vital public services. The decisions we are making on this budget are difficult, but I am hopeful that you are eager to ensure the cuts reflect our city's values and vision for shared prosperity.

As you negotiate city employee pay, please make any cuts progressive so that the highest-paid city employees take the largest percentage cuts, and any city employees making less than \$70,000 per year are able to keep their full salaries. How can we espouse views about income inequality more broadly if we don't take a simple step like this?

In 2018, the Richmond City Council voted to systematically apply a racial equity lens in decision-making. Because households of color are more likely to have lower incomes and less wealth than white households, progressive cuts are an imperative through that lens. Please share with us how else you are using a racial equity lens while making your budget decisions. I encourage you to adopt this lens when considering proposal J-4 to repeal Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction and Homeowner Protection. It is your burden to prove to your constituents that a repeal would not fall hardest on lower-income households and households of color.

Thank you,
Dena Nelson
5732 San Jose Ave, Richmond, CA

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:28 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item H-1 (Elizabeth Castro)

Hello members of the council my name is Elizabeth Castro and I am an ACCE member, I live on Bissell Ave, and would like to express my concern for the budget. I have 5 children now with my new born. I want you all to know that my children are avid city of Richmond volunteers as youth. I have faith that you all want the best for my children and other children from our community and there is nothing that would be more devastating to know that our parks and traffic safety could possibly be defunded. My children love to clean up as volunteers and love to step up when the city has events, I know things are different because of COVID 19 but it's no excuse for taking funding away. We need these funds to be there when we need. Please do not decide to deal with balancing the budget by cutting money from our services and putting jobs on the line.

Thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:26 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item H-1 (Ezequiel Chum)

My name is Ezequiel Chum, Richmond Ca. resident

I am an ACCE member. Thank you for your time. I would like for you all to know that I have been more aware about what it means to stand up for what is right and definitely during this time. I ask that this body consider other options to fix our city budget. You can't possibly go to bed at night knowing that you are doing away with vital services that we all need. Probably do some fundraising to keep everything balanced in the budget and not take away from seniors, workers, children and vulnerable people. Do the right thing.

thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:23 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM H-1 (Gaby Mercado)

My name is Gaby Mercado, ACCE member. I live in the apts behind Foods Co,

I wanted to express my comments for the council.

I am against budget cuts to Code enforcement, traffic safety is very important, and our parks need to be preserved now more than ever. My daughter and I would like to still have safe parks to go for walks in this time of COVID19 there is nothing more sad than knowing that our representatives are okay with taking away many services that we need. It's really uncalled for and disgusting, I expect more from you because you make things happen for us and we rely on the decision making that you all take. Please consider doing everything possible to keep jobs for city workers and to keep our services intact.

Thank you for your time.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Gail Eierweiss <gaileierweiss@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:47 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment agenda Item H1 Budget Session

To Richmond City Council:

Good evening. My name is Gail Eierweiss and I am a Richmond resident. I thank you for hearing my comments tonight. I appreciate the great, careful work of the City Manager, Finance Director and staff, Department managers, labor reps and all the individual employees participating in this process. And I very much appreciate the transparency you are trying to present to the public through these and other sessions.

My primary purpose is to urge you to Save our Public Library. All of it: staff, books, branches. In these troubled times, cutting such vital services, used by EVERY element in our community - the young, the seniors, the housed and unhoused; all income classes, every part of the diverse community that is our beloved city. Do not take away our libraries. Do not bring that shame to our city. Instead: Grow them. Lead with them. Add volunteer staffing. Consider all that libraries provide and all the more that they could provide.

In your presentations, you consider only across the board types of salary reductions and furloughs. I ask you, please, present another alternative for City Council to consider. Show us what it would mean if salaries above \$75K/year were reduced in a progressive way, taking a higher percentage from the top. Show us what that would look like. Let our City Council consider this option. And find a creative way to Save the Services that shine light on our Community.

Thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: IBX Fitness <teamibx.fitness@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 7:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments - H-1

Good evening everyone, my name is Ian Birnam, and I am the co-owner and head instructor for IBX Fitness, a group fitness and personal training program that operates out of the Booker T Anderson community center in Richmond as an independent contractor.

I'm calling over a concern regarding one of the Potential Budget Balancing Strategies for the current and next fiscal years: Cancellation of recreation activities through December 2020. By reducing the hours and/or services of community center programs, I would no longer have a physical location to hold my program. While I am more than happy complying with safety/health orders from the county, the complete loss of our physical location for the rest of the year or longer would severely impact both the community and my business for the worst with the loss of not only our recreation programs for children and adults but the jobs of many of our community center employees.

While this cut would severely impact my business, as I outlined to you last week, I want to also highlight some of the people of BTA who would be affected: Kenneth Daniel has diligently been there to keep the center open for us and locking up for us after-hours and on the weekends. I loved seeing his happy demeanor and smiling face every week, and it was great to learn about his own exercise routine, and what he was doing to stay healthy. Jose Tirado was one of the people who filled in when Kenny couldn't make it and was always incredibly responsive and cooperative in making sure we had a clean and safe space to hold class. Other part-time staff have also been at BTA to help IBX out, and we couldn't do this without all of them.

This all would not be possible without the help of Maurice Range and Tetteh Kisseh, who have been instrumental in helping IBX get started at BTA, and who have been nothing but supportive of our program since the beginning. We are incredibly grateful to them and the help they've provided us.

I see the hard work the BTA staff puts in every day for the youth and adults who utilize the community center. It greatly saddens me that these folks would no longer be able to help provide a safe, health-focused, and morale-boosting environment. While I understand there is a deficit, there needs to be another way to obtain money than by cutting jobs and reducing hours and wages from employees who provide nothing but exceptional service. This is just at BTA, and I'm sure there are numerous staff like Kenny and Jose at all of Richmond's community centers who would be impacted as well.

I once again ask that you allow the BTA community center, and all community centers, to continue operating so that these wonderful community center employees can continue to provide amazing services and provide for their own families. This is bigger than my IBX Fitness, as it's the lives and income of these people who would be affected. Think about these people first before making a decision that has the potential to upturn their lives. Thank you.

- Ian Birnam

--



Full-Body Fitness With a Personal Focus

Book your class [today!](#)
teamibx.fitness@gmail.com / 510-394-5484
[IBX Fitness](#)
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jane Courant <janecourant@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:46 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: City Council Agenda Item H-1

Mayor Butt and city council members

Just today the state assembly's appropriations committee has been considering AB 1054, a bill to fund grants for community alternatives to policing, especially during crises or emergencies.

As Richmond faces its budget crisis, our city can serve as a model for other jurisdictions by reducing the amount it allocates to the police and by increasing rather than cutting, vital community services.

A safe and healthy city fully supports its libraries, recreational and cultural programs as well as providing housing security and economic opportunity for its residents.

At a moment of national reckoning over racism and abuses in policing--and Richmond has had its share--the city must devote more of its precious resources to ensuring public safety through essential services. Don't cut the branch libraries, pools or other vital community centers.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:06 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: AGENDA ITEM H-1 (JOSE MURILLO)

Hell members of the council,

My name is Jose Murillo, I am writing to express my concern around the budget cuts that are considered. At all costs, the city should protect the vital services that we need in my community. I would like my kids to be able to go to the library and to enjoy the parks in Richmond. I know we are in a pandemic and there are grave decisions that need to be made in order to see a future but right now we must think about services that are sacred, that is; Code enforcement, traffic safety, and parks, especially right now, we need to take our kids for walks to relieve stress that the quarantine is causing to many people. There are wonderful staff members that are intelligent here and I'm sure know how to budget and even more sure that if they budget in their house, they would not take away from their kids and their safety please don't take away from ours, thank you.

Jose Murillo

Sabrina Lundy

From: Kate Britton <callkmb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:23 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Regarding potential closure of Richmond Pools H-1

Dear City Clerk,

By way of this comment, I am submitting a very earnest plea to please open at least one of the Richmond swimming pools so that people like me, with physical issues that make the water a much kinder environment in which to exercise can keep up somewhat of a routine.

Please consider that Kennedy Swim Center has a roof that opens, allowing more fresh air and enhanced airflow. Maybe if the roof remains open, it would be a good choice for swimmers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Katherine Britton

Sabrina Lundy

From: Teresa Kearns <teresakearns419@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:40 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Rhea E. Laughlin
Subject: Public comment (H-1)

Good evening council members and city staff, my name is Maria Teresa Kearns. I'm a mother volunteer with the West County Regional Group sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa and a mother of two young daughters.

Today I'm writing to you to request that you don't make any budget cuts to the libraries or recreation department. Those services are vital sources for our community. That's where our children receive tutoring, do homework, meet with friends and learn.

The children are the ones that benefit the most from the library but they're not the only ones. The library also offers other services for adults like, citizenship classes, printing services, resume help, voting registration etc. people print their resumes there to be able to go out to look for a job, they check their e-mails, print important documents and it also is just a calm and safe place where to sit down and just read a book.

Personally, I am a mother of an autistic child and I know she would be severely impacted if the library was to reduce its services. The library is a place where she can actually focus, before the pandemic we were constantly using the study rooms, tutoring, reading time, and other classes offered. Imagine how hard it would be for a child, especially an autistic child to be excited about getting their routine back once the shelter in place is over and then realize many of those "normal" things are gone. It would be heart-breaking and yet another trauma for them.

So please, DO NOT make any budget cuts to our libraries or recreation department. Where will children with no computers and no internet go for homework help if not their local community centers or libraries? Not everyone is privileged enough to have internet, a computer and a printer at home.

I ask you to please look for budget cuts somewhere else where our children will not be severely impacted.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:32 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item H-1 (Martha Pastrano)

Hello members of the council,

My name is Martha Pastrano Richmond tenant, I've lived on S. 30th St for over 15 years. The conditions of our streets lack attention. Over the years of living on this street, the pavement has deteriorated and multiple pot holes now decorate our narrow streets. The back street on Hoffman is notorious for having debris and illegal dumping. We need a budget for code enforcement and traffic safety in order to maintain our streets safe. The city needs to find other sources of revenue to fill the gap in the budget. Cutting our services like code enforcement and traffic safety is not the way to do it. These resources need to stay in these departments to suit our community needs. Also, cutting library hours is not going to fill the gap, again, not only will it take away from our community, this will negatively affect our city workers by having unnecessary layoffs. Find another way to fill the gap without dipping into local services.

Blessings.

Martha P.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Michael Gliksohn <mglksohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:13 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment City Council Agenda Item H-1

Dear Mayor Butt and City Council members,

I am writing to urge you to protect Richmond's libraries and its public swimming pools. These are vital, life-enhancing city services that a city like Richmond must continue to make available to its residents. As a senior citizen I make regular use of the library and the Richmond Plunge. It would be a grave disservice to approve a budget that dessimates the libraries of the pools.

Please find alternative ways to close the budget deficit that maintain jobs and services, like graduated pay reductions where the highest paid employees take the largest percentage decrease and lower paid employees are spared any reduction.

Thank you,
Michael Gliksohn
Richmond resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: M Parker <mparker00@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:23 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment item H1 budget

My name is Mike Parker

I note that all the proposals that the city is making in Meet & Confer Bucket 2 are all unbalanced. Proposal A and B call for large reductions on non-sworn and zero for sworn.

Proposals C and D call for greater reductions in nonsworn to sworn

Again we have the institutional bias in favor of the police.

I also oppose across the board-furloughs

Furloughs means mainly a reduction in service to the public with some speed-up of the service providers on the staff. Further the effective cut in income hurts lower paid staff members much more than higher-paid staff members who are more likely to be able to cover the loss in income.

Instead I call on the city to propose to the unions a sliding scale of cuts with no cuts for those who earn \$70,000 or less, and progressively greater cuts for those who make higher salaries and the largest cuts coming from those who make more than \$200,000. An offer can be made to each individual whether they want to their cut as a temporary salary reduction or a furlough.

Fairness and recognition of equity are required if we are to get through the combination pandemic, budget, economic , and justice crisis we are facing.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Myrna Godinez <myrnagodinez@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:54 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Rhea Laughlin
Subject: public comments – agenda item H-1"
Attachments: public comments – agenda item H-1".docx

Good evening,

I have attached my public comment. (pasted below).

Good evening council members and city staff, my name is Myrna Godinez. I am a parent volunteer with the West County Regional Group sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa and a single mother.

Today I'm writing to you to ask you to not make any budget cuts to the libraries or recreation department. Those services are very special to our children. Right now it's closed but when they open back up, our children expect to have a safe and comfortable place where to go like they used to.

The libraries have services like reading time, which is an essential service for all children but especially for those that are behind on reading. Personally, my son uses the tutoring services that the libraries offer, we use it to print out documents, homework, do research and more.

The recreation department is also very important, community centers are a place where our children gather to have healthy fun, to see their friends, to play, learn social skills, grow and spend quality time with each other.

My son and other children would be impacted negatively if when the shelter in place is over they don't have a safe place to gather like before, where to do homework, where to spend time with each other instead of being at home playing video games.

So I ask you to not make any budget cuts to the libraries or recreation department. Those services are vital to our children. Find other departments or services where to make budget cuts, anywhere where our most vulnerable, our children are not affected.

Thank you

Sabrina Lundy

From: Pam Telles <pamtelles@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 9:05 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Agenda Item H 1 Budget Session

Leaving one police officer position vacant is equivalent in savings to saving all the part-time library jobs. I would argue that in the long run, keeping the part-time library jobs is better for the city.
Pam Telles

Sabrina Lundy

From: Pam Tellew <pamtellew@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Agenda Item H 1 Budget Session

A budget is a statement of a city's values. To show where our city's values are, here are numbers from last year's budget.

Last year, we spent \$78 million on policing. For library and cultural services, community services, housing and housing authority, and employment and training **combined**, we spent less than half of that, around 41%.

The City Manager and Finance Department are trying to re-structure the budget so it's sustainable going forward. But is it sustainable or wise to continue to spend so much on policing instead of spending in ways that will address underlying problems and injustices?

Let's use this unique moment to re-structure our budget to reflect the priorities the community wants and needs. Let's not cut libraries and community services; let's invest in ourselves, our people, our children. In the long run, this will help our budget as it helps our city and all its people thrive.

Pamela Tellew
510-367-6805

Budget figures (not rounded) pulled from last year's budget,
<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/50308/Adopted-FY2019-2020-Operating-Budget>

Police: \$78.0 million

Library and cultural services:	\$7.0 million
Community services:	\$6.9 million
Housing	\$4.8 million
Housing authority	\$5.6 million
<u>Employment and training</u>	<u>\$8.0 million</u>
Total	\$32.3 million

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:25 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item H-1 (Paul Larudee)

Hello council members, also a member of Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE),

My name is Paul Larudee and I live in Richmond and am an ACCE member. I would like to express that taking away from the population most in need is shameful and shows the lack of initiative to consider your residents a priority. I ask that you all maintain the funds in the departments of Parks and Rec., Code Enforcement, and traffic safety untouched. There is no other way to show that you care about us. Keep the services that we need. There are other options and that is up to you all to figure out how to fix the budget in a more humane way. Don't risk more loss of jobs to workers in our city and don't risk our services.

Thank you for your time

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:11 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM H-1 (Veronica Medina Hernandez)

Hello council members and staff.

My name is Veronica Medina Hernandez, I am an ACCE member I want my comment to be read out loud. I do not agree with this council to create budget cuts for our services. I have kids that look forward these days to going out and taking a walk at the park and we have never been more grateful to take joy in that. I would like to have our libraries functioning so my kids can benefit from. When I heard that other cuts could be made like to the traffic safety and code enforcement I was sad because we need to make sure that our streets and our buildings are being kept up and that are safe. We make sure that everyone in shelter in keeping safe because we have t, how can the city not take care of us and keep us well and safe. We all want teh best for our families so please do anything to maintain our services running smooth.

Thank you so much!

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:09 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM J-3 (Ana Gonzalez)

Members of the council,

My name is Ana Gonzalez, Richmond resident ACCE member and parent leader at Peres Elementary School. I have 2 children that attend there and 1 grand daughter that attends there as well. My eldest son is 17 attending Richmond High. Being a very active leader in the community and in my childrens' lives, access to resources and programs for youth is very important to me. My son's teacher and other parents at school really pushed for E & K because we need more revenue to fund programs for youth and children in order to expand their opportunities and prepare them for challenges to come in their life. We need to cultivate our childrens' interest and curiosity, and water the seeds to allow their full growth. The best opportunity we have is when they are young, the earlier in their life we invest the better. Do not cap revenues from E & K, that's like putting restraints on their little branches and limiting their growth. Let's give our kids the opportunities we never had.

Our children are our future!

Ana G.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:40 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment J-3 (Angela Flores)

Hello

My name is Angela Flores, I am a Richmond tenant, I have 3 children and I take care of my neighbors children. I wish there were more programs and more funding for the programs that do exist. My daughter is taking classes at East Bay Center For Performing Arts. She loves dance, music classes and is really missing her friends right now. Measures like E and K are supposed to plump up these programs and create more opportunity for kids like mine and like others in the Richmond community. There is no revenue allocation written into Kids First until 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 is only 1%. Placing the item on the consent calendar prevents the public, who widely supported Measures E & K, from speaking on the item which passed with 76% *support in favor*. Give this measure the chance to fulfill its merits. Don't cap this fund especially if people who put it on the ballot haven't had a say in it.

Thank you,

Angela F.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:06 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT- AGENDA ITEM J-3 (Briceida Guzman)

Hello members of the council,

Briceida Guzman. I live in Richmond, I'm an ACCE member (Alliance Of Californians For Community Empowerment) and I'm writing to say that This proposed ballot measure will be confusing to voters and it's going to take away the possibility of having really well funded services and programs. Why not work with the groups and allies that put this on to figure out if there are changes that need to be made? A large percentage of people in Richmond voted for this because people want this for our kids. You can't make decisions about work that you haven't done. Don't put a cap on Richmond's future.

Thank you for the consideration,

Briceida G.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Patricia Aguiar <paguiar@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Patricia Aguiar
Subject: Agenda item J-3 (Cornelio Perez)

HI, my name is Cornelio Perez and I do what any change , our kids need all the help that they can take. First kids will not support any immediate revenue relief so why put this on the ballet now when our community is feeling vulnerable . I will vote NO. thank you,

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:02 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-3 From ELIZABETH CASTRO

My name is Elizabeth Castro. I am a Richmond resident, I live with my family and all my 5 kids and my husband. I make sure that my children are constantly bettering themselves to have a brighter future, two of my kids are involved with city planning and events, they love to volunteer and help out. E & K is supposed to bring in funding to more programs and services for youth and children in Richmond and we need to adhere to the whole purpose. There is no reason to cap the measure when it hasn't even had enough time to flourish results within the community. Thank you for your efforts.

Elizabeth C.

Sabrina Lundy

From: cubanelsa@sbcglobal.net
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:31 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: J-3 (Elsa Stevens)

Elsa Stevens, Richmond voter, says "No on J-3"

76% of the voters voted **YES** on promising to spend at least a measly 1% on the children of Richmond.

AND THAT IS NOT SCHEDULED TO HAPPEN UNTIL THE 2021-2022 BUDGET.

Weakening "Kids First" - NOW - makes as much sense as Trump trying to kill ObamaCare.

Sincerely, Elsa Stevens

Sabrina Lundy

From: Patricia Aguiar <paguiar@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Patricia Aguiar
Subject: Agenda Item J-3

Hi, my name is Esequiel Chum , i just want to said that now our kids are very important and we need to see that they get all the support and money for they education , and with this crisis Covi19 , i do not agree with any change so my vote is NO.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:49 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-3 (Gabriela Mercado)

Hello councilmembers,

My name is Gabriela Mercado As a single mother of a 7 year girl, E an K is a promising measure to bring in funding for youth and children's programs into our community. I supported E & K all the way to the ballot. Children in our community need to be invested in and taking away from them shows a lack of interest in its youth. I request that staff and this board not move forward with capping E & K. I would like to see more opportunities not only for my daughter but her friends at school as well and all of Richmond's youth. Support our youth, don't cap E & K.

Blessings,

Gaby M

Sabrina Lundy

From: Alisha Semplar <alishas@rubiconprograms.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 7:39 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Item J-3 - Kids First initiative (re Measure H& K)

City Councilmembers,

We urge you to vote no on J-3!

Measures E & K support the youth of Richmond!

Rubicon families and Participant Advisory Board members support Measures E & K so that their children and all of Richmond's youth are physically, emotionally, mentally and socially healthy, educated and live in a stable, safe and supported families and communities.

We have innovative ways that our city leaders are willing to enact to develop opportunities for youth to grow and thrive.

We urge you to vote against Item J-3 today!

Thank you!

Rubicon Programs Participant Advisory Board Leaders (and Richmond parents & residents):

Gail Thomas,
Kalani Siegrist
Darease Brown
Alex Thomas
Vanessa Bell

Alisha Semplar
Community Connections Program Manager
Pronouns: she/her



510-478-1611 phone
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Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:38 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-3 (Hipolito Pastrano)

Greetings council members My name is Hipolito Pastrano,

I am a Richmond resident and a local member of ACCE (Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment). I am not in favor of capping funding from E & K. The city's finances can be fortified through other means of revenue. Capping funds from E&K will set back the full potential of and intention behind the measure. We need to continue fueling more children's programs and not limit them.

Thank you,

Hipolito P.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jim Becker <jbecker@richmondcf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:23 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item J-3

Good evening Mayor and Richmond City Council Members,

I ask you to vote no on Agenda Item J-3 and my reasons are simple. This is not a solution to the city's current budget crisis and it sends the wrong message to the youth of Richmond who worked so hard on the initiative and to those voters who supported them. The COVID -19 pandemic has created economic hardships, but trying to solve it in this way is just bad policy. Children and youth should not hold the burden of our economic challenges. I ask you to collect the data first, and then, if warranted, bring forward ideas and work with your community partners to create solutions. Thank you.

Jim Becker

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:05 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM J-3 (Jose Murillo)

Hi everyone,

My name is Jose Murillo and I am a member of the community group ACCE in the Richmond chapter. I have a family and I am doing the best that I can in these times I am not making ends meet. I won't deny that but I am doing the best that I can. I want the best for children as much as I am sure you all want the best for your children too. Measures E and K were supposed to bring revenue for youth services from the uncontrollable purchases and sales of extremely unaffordable housing that is displacing people like me and my family. If there were issues with the transfer tax, it should have been discussed before. We need these funds to help our youth thrive in the city of Richmond. Please vote no to capping the revenue from E and K.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jose Murillo

Sabrina Lundy

From: Kanwarpal Dhaliwal <kanwarpal@rysecenter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:04 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item J-3

Mayor and City Council,

My name is Kanwarpal Dhaliwal. I am an adult ally from RYSE. RYSE convenes the WCC COVID Community Care Coalition and we are a launch partner for the Richmond Rapid Response Fund, coordinating and procuring resources for the Richmond families and residents. I am committed to the young people of Richmond. This is their city. You and I work in service to them. They organized and succeeded in galvanizing the highest percentage of voter support that invests in kids. When a safety net of services and resources is most needed, it is dumbfounding that I have to send this comment to remind you that your job is to serve the people, not cap them.

You need to vote NO on agenda item J-3. I, as many others I know in this city, continue to commit to working in partnership with the community on a solution that doesn't impact services to children and youth and increases revenue for the City.

Kanwarpal Dhaliwal

Associate Director

pronouns: she/her

p: 510.374.3401

c: 510.579.1922

205 41st Street
Richmond, CA 94805

www.rysecenter.org



Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:35 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-3 (Martha Pastrano)

Hello members of the council,

My name is Martha Pastrano, Richmond resident and I want to express that we need youth programs for children and youth in Richmond. We need to come together as a community to pass revenue measures that help shore up our city's finances, not cap measures E and K. I used to work for the after school program at Stege elementary where all my three children attended. I was blessed to build relationships with my childrens' friends and parents. In my group, I taught knitting and crochet. Other parents taught arts and crafts. I saw many of these students grow up to be really respectful adolescents. We need to invest in our youth and give them opportunities to expand their knowledge and wisdom, they are our future nurses, doctors, public officials and leaders. Let's show our children that they deserve to be invested in. Please don't back track all the efforts toward that goal by capping E and K. Thank you for investing in our future.

Warm regards,

Martha P.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Valerie Jameson <valerie@richmondland.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 8:07 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment in opposition of J.3

Hello Richmond City Council,

My name is Valerie Jameson. I am a life long Richmond area resident, and I am urging you to vote no on J.3.

As a WCCUSD alumnae, current WCCUSD parent, community advocate, and official signatory of the Richmond Kids First initiative, I am disheartened to learn that our city is considering putting forward an amendment on the November ballot that undermines the will of the voters to have a dedicated funding allocation that explicitly serves our communities children and youth. Hundreds of youth, young adults, residents and allies worked tirelessly for years to push for local funding decisions that align with the public's will and our communities stated values. The passage of J.3 would be neither good policy nor democratic practice. PLEASE do not support the erosion of funds for the department of children and youth.

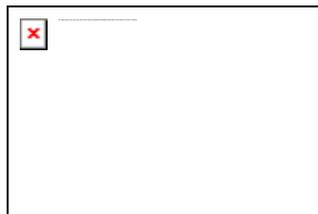
Rather than change the terms of a hard-earned and community-supported effort, chose to authentically partner with local groups that have consistently been willing to come to the table as partners for the benefit of our city. Putting forward an amendment that ties Measure's E&K's success to measure H, without transparent data, and in this difficult, economic and political moment is a lose-lose situation. Families, children, and youth risk losing further resources and services in a time of widespread instability. The city will lose community trust, and valuable time trying to impose a faulty ballot measure on stressed, anxious, and burdened families. It is a time to be politically courageous. Youth are watching, and need to see their elected officials upholding their values, hopes, and dreams, backed up with investment in their future from their city.

Rather than change a widely supported initiative, please invite the oversight committee and community groups into the conversation of determining what other options can be collectively determined BEFORE the 1% set aside goes into effect. I have faith that if the city chooses to work collaboratively with community leaders, we can come to a collective solution. Youth and children are not responsible for the current budget shortfall, and should not bare the burden of financial disinvestment. They need to see themselves reflected in the cities budget and prioritized. Passing item J.3 will only lead to further hostility, mistrust, voter apathy, and lack of faith in our local government. There is much than financial trade-offs riding on this decision. Please vote no on item J.3.

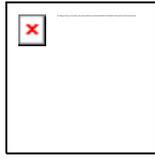
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Valerie Jameson
Richmond LAND
Founding Director

"Leadership is a choice, not a position."



Our mission is to build grassroots power for resident-driven and community-controlled land-use through community organizing, land acquisition, development, and stewardship of land and affordable housing for long-term community benefit.



Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:31 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-4 (Ana Gonzalez)

Hello members of the council,

My name is Ana Gonzalez, I am a Richmond tenant, I live on 11th street and I'm an ACCE member and advocate for tenant protections. I am disgusted at the mayor's intent to destroy what little security we have right now. How can you be on the side of money and power during this time of uncertainty and despair? People are struggling and suffering. I am a mother of 6 and a caregiver to my husband. How can you take away the law that I and many fought in the streets to make it a reality for tenants like myself? And you want to take that away from us during this devastating crisis! How dare you? Mayor, I know you never supported Rent Control. By taking away these very much needed tenant protections, you are revealing to me and my family and the rest of Richmond tenants that you don't care about what will happen to us. We can't pay our rent, because COVID-19 took away our jobs. There is little to nothing we can do to make money, and what little we can scrounge up, please believe we pay what we can to the landlord because we know they are struggling too, but I will be damned if I let my children and my sick husband starve. Touch your heart, Butt. Your position on the council requires you to think about all of us, not just yourself. You might not be hurting because you are a rich man and could probably roll around in money as a wealthy, successful landlord. Meanwhile, my husband's hands are tired and grimy because at his 72 years of age, he is still breaking his back doing what he can, working odd jobs, hauling up old, heavy appliances off the street to sell for metal. You are lucky to only have to hear a transcript of my plead while sitting in your comfort. What you need to do during this time of crisis is work towards the interest of the people who helped get you elected to serve. You need to be out here trying to figure out how to help and make life a little easier for us who are hurting not trying to sweep the rug from under us. The time to do good more than ever before is now, but you are doing the opposite. My children were along my side while going door to door supporting you as mayor. We trusted that you would be better for us, but we are now very disappointed because you turn your back on us. I pray for you and for this council to find your path in this time of crisis.

Blessed be the poor,

Ana G.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:42 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment J-4 (Angela Flores)

Hello members of the council my name is Angela Flores and I live on Pennsylvania ave. in Richmond in a rent controlled apartment with my family. I think that repealing rent control and just cause is the worst thing that could possibly happen to tenants. It's disheartening to know that there is an agenda item for this at the time of COVID-19. Our lives are already out of control and everyone I know stands uncertain with what is happening, and now this? There are no words to express the amount of stress that I am under as a parent to know that just like that, all the hard work and effort we put in will be for not if the repeal happens. No to repeal of tenant protections, we need protection not rejection.

Blessings,

Angela F.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:06 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT- AGENDA ITEM J-4 (Briceida Guzman)

My name is Briceida Guzman,

As a resident of Richmond and a supporter of Rent Control and just cause for evictions, I feel that there is a different motive behind drafting an entire new ordinance to repeal one that is already in place and is protecting us from being priced out and gentrified. Rent Control came a long way from getting passed and then suspended by ill efforts thanks to the CAA, to then getting on the ballot and passing again. This is not the time to be messing with peoples' housing security. Who is drafting this ordinance and why? When Rent control was brought up, the people were the ones behind it, getting signatures, organizing. Who is behind this ordinance if not the ones who weren't okay with it in the first place. I don't trust that there is anything good for us tenants and homeowners in that ordinance.

Thanks but no thanks,

Briceida Guzman

Sabrina Lundy

From: Patricia Aguiar <paguiar@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:37 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Patricia Aguiar
Subject: Agenda Item J-4 (Cornelio Perez)

Hi, I am Cornelio Perez from Richmond ca and now in our city many people they are going to a crisis , not been able to pay they rent and with no jobs if we do this change is going to be no protection for renters and many people is going to be move out from our city with no place to go , RENT CONTROL need to be protected from others interests.please vote NO .

Thank you,

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:55 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment J-4 (Elizabeth C.)

Thank you for you time members of the council,

As a tenant and a mother with 5 kids including a little one of 3 months and my husband, I can't begin to say how concerned I am with the possible repeal of rent control. It's the only reason we are able to still afford to live here after 15 years. My husband barely went back to work but his hours are minimal and we are scrapping whatever money possible. This is not what you do during a time of crisis as severe as this. You do not put peoples lives in danger in this way. This is when you are supposed to be with us not against us and this idea is just a bad one with horrible repercussions. No to repealing Rent Control and Just Cause

Elizabeth C.

Sabrina Lundy

From: cubanelsa@sbcglobal.net
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:32 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Patricia ACCE; David Sharples
Subject: J-4 (Elsa Stevens)

Elsa Stevens, Richmond Voter, says **No on J-4**

Redundancy is not a problem that needs to be solved.

That is like claiming that having seat belts AND brakes, AND air bags on a car is too complicated.

We voters **DO NOT** give you permission to use the current pandemic to trash our hard-won Rent Control.
STOP IT! HANDS OFF!

Sincerely, Mrs. Elsa Stevens

Sabrina Lundy

From: Patricia Aguiar <paguiar@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:46 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Agenda Item J-4 (Ezequiel Chum)

Hi, my name is Ezequiel Chum, i live in Richmond , for many years we did not have any protection for renters in our city , and now you want to change , rent Control in our city , I am been affected by Covi19 lost my job and has been very hard to pay any rent and , now more than ever we need protection ,so if you understand the city situation you will vote NO. and that's what I ask , Vote NO

Thank you,

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:39 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-4 (Hipolito P.)

Members of the council and staff,

The idea of repealing Rent Control & Just Cause for Evictions makes absolutely no sense. The pandemic we are currently in has put me and millions of people in a vulnerable place when it comes to housing. People all over California are struggling through the Corona-crisis on top of the housing crisis we have been in for a lot longer. This is not the time to inject fear into us by taking the only protections away from tenants like myself. You have no idea what it feels like to lose your job and wonder how you are going to make rent. Thankfully I have not had to miss a payment towards my rent but a number of my neighbors and co-workers are not in the same situation I am in. We are able to take turns making payments in my family but only because we all have our little savings. You will be doing a dis-service to your constituents by setting forth a repeal of Rent Control and Just Cause for Evictions.

Thank you for your time,

Hipolito P.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jane Courant <janecourant@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:52 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: City council agenda item J-4

Mayor and City council,

I once more express my shock that yo would consider repealing the fair rent and just cause ordinance passed by be an overwhelming majority of Richmond voters. This is the worst possible time to even consider such a wrong-headed proposal.

I urge you to defeat this proposal. Find ways to assist small local landlords and keep our democratically supported ordinance to keep larger corporate owners from exploiting our city's renters.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jim Becker <jbecker@richmondcf.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:34 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item - J 4

Good evening Mayor and City Council Members,

I am speaking this evening to encourage you to maintain the existing Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction and Homeowner Protection ordinance because the ordinance provides security for Richmond's lower income renters. Also, with the passage of rent and eviction moratoriums, I believe that the rent board is ideally positioned to lead and support a rental assistance program that can help our residents, both landlords and tenants, with mediation services and financial support to repay rents after the moratoriums expire but the economy has not recovered.

Thank you.

Jim Becker
RCF Connects

Sabrina Lundy

From: John Brown <johnbrown0059@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 7:35 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments- Agenda Item # J-4

Council Members and Mayor,

I am not sure if my letter from last week will be read so I am resending this. I am going to keep this short since I know you have a lot to handle, especially because of this pandemic. This item is just stupid. I am actually a Mayor supporter but this is just dumb. During a pandemic mayor and previously on the consent calendar? And to place something on the November ballot when voter turnout will be low given the pandemic. Mayor it looks bad. It looks like you're trying to sneak something passed people during the pandemic crisis. And I know that you're not a bad person. You've actually demonstrated a lot of integrity and served Richmond well. You know with the national politics how they are, I don't want Richmond to be like that but Mayor that's what you are doing. Think of it this way, your refrain for Rent Control is becoming like Obamacare. Repeal and Replace. Saying things for the sake of politics without regard for the people it impacts. I have lived here for three decades and let's be clear, I did not vote for Rent Control. But 65% of my fellow residents did. I have to honor that. This is a community. We live by majority rule. I have moved on and rather than focus on the bad, I have found the benefits of rent control. The rent control people were the only people in the city to be responsive and helped me mend a bad relationship I had with my tenant by having us do mediation. Can we not be so obsessed with repeal and replace. Just like Obamacare helps a bunch of people at the cost of a few, I think rent control does the same. I may not be a fan, it may cost me extra money, but it helps out a lot of people. As a church going person, why not help? Let's move on please, this conversation only divides our community, reopens wounds, and makes it into them versus us. Especially now is not the time to divide us. Mayor be a leader and please unite us. I may not support rent control but I support my neighbor, and the issue has already been voted on and it wasn't a fun time for me because it was so polarizing. I am still a supporter of you mayor, will still vote for you if you ever ran for anything, but this action is out of character and I can't support it. City Council please vote against this item.

Sincerely,

John Brown

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:05 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT- AGENDA ITEM J-4 (Jose Murillo)

PLEASE READ ALOUD

My name is Jose Murillo and I am a tenant in Richmond and am a member of the ACCE chapter here. I am concerned about the proposed ordinance to repeal Rent Control and Just Cause for Evictions Ordinance. Right now, with everything that is going on as far as the COVID19 pandemic, I am terrified what landlords might do the moment they learn that there is a change to the existing law. I'm not saying that every landlord is evil but there will be those that will take advantage of the situation and tenants will suffer. Because of the pandemic we are in, I haven't been back to work until recently and this has made it very difficult to provide for my family, thanks to protections that have been put in place we have rights and have a security when it comes to housing. Please do not move forward with this draft, it is not necessary, it is dangerous to the safety of tenants and homeowners.

Thank you,

Jose Murillo

Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 5:36 PM
To: City Clerk Dept; Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Demnlus Johnson; Eduardo Martinez; Nat Bates; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment Item J-4 (Martha Pastrano)

Dear members of the council,

My name is Martha Pastrano. I'm a Richmond ACCE member, and tenant for 30 years. I want to express my disappointment and fear behind the intention of a repeal of our tenant protections under Rent Control and Just Cause for evictions. I question and fear what the purpose of something like this means in this dreadful time when we need to be sheltered in place. This is completely contradictory to the actions that cities and counties are doing to protect tenants right now. Getting rid of the law is frightening because as it is, California has the worst homelessness crisis due to the housing crisis. People will be pushed out as landlords will try to start evicting tenants, increasing their rents, and taking any other actions to due away with tenant's rights the minute Rent Control and Just Cause is repealed. We need housing security now more than ever before and this is opposite of housing security. As a tenant and supporter of Rent Control and Just Cause, I do not want our rights to be infringed upon.

Blessed be the poor,

Martha P.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Michael Gliksohn <mglksohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:11 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment City Council Agenda Item J-4

Dear Mayor Butt and City Council Members,

I am writing today to voice my ***strong support*** for maintaining Richmond's rent control and just cause for eviction program and my ***strong opposition*** to placing a measure to repeal it on the November 2020 ballot.

In 2016 Richmond voters overwhelmingly passed Measure L to establish Richmond's rent program. This is the will of the people and it should not be overturned.

Thank you,
Michael Gliksohn
Richmond resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: PAUL LARUDEE <larudee@pacbell.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 6:48 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: J-4 Rent Control

Do we need more homeless people? Do we need more gentrification? Do we need the people of Richmond to move out so that someone else can live here?

Rent control is not an ideal solution, but until someone provides a better way to house people who would otherwise be homeless, it's the best solution we have, and the right solution for all compassionate people in Richmond. Do we have compassionate people in Richmond? Are there enough of them on the city council?

Paul Larudee, Richmond resident
5104184485
405 Vista Heights Road

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Sabrina Lundy

From: Valerie Jameson <valerie@richmondland.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2020 8:16 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment on item J.4

I am reaching out to voice my strong opposition of J.4 on behalf of Richmond LAND and myself (Valerie Jameson) as a Richmond resident. I find it grossly inappropriate for the council to be voting on an item that directly goes against the will of the voters. I strongly disagree with any council action putting forward a ballot measure that repeals and limits protections and services that Richmond residents have fought to put before the electorate and won by a wide margin. The city of Richmond has a model rent control and just cause for eviction program that is far more superior than the protections implemented in AB 1482. It would be a tremendous disservice to our community to put forward a ballot measure to repeal tenant protections, especially in a moment when our communities are experiencing unprecedented hardships, limited resources, and heightened anxiety.

It is insensitive and damaging to our communities health and wellbeing. I sympathize with the added challenges that staff and council find themselves in trying to cure our structural deficit and find new dollars for affordable housing in a time when the city is experiencing loss of revenue and limited federal dollars for housing development. However, Richmond's rent control department is a sustainably funded program that has a dedicated revenue stream that is tied to a necessary administrative oversight body, to ensure adequate accountability of public funds. To remove that infrastructure would be a poor decision. As an emerging community land trust, Richmond LAND opposes the red herring claim that a repeal ballot measure would result in better allocated landlord fees.

It is a disservice to our community to treat tenant protections, affordable housing development, and neighborhood stabilization as a zero-sum game. This is a moment when all of our elected officials should be unequivocally championing stronger housing and shelter protections, and bringing together community stakeholders that care about finding new solutions to emergent affordable and dignified housing challenges stemming from COVID-19. It should not be an opportunity to impose top-down rulings to alter past decisions. This will desperately erode public trust, remove and limit critical protections for residents made vulnerable, and result in retroactive voter suppression. Despite how any particular member of the council personally feels about the outcomes of past elections, they should not be allowed to usurp the public process and put forward ballot measures in a time when voter protections, engagement, and turn-out have been and will continue to be seriously compromised.

I urge you all to vote no on J.4
Thank you!

--

Valerie Jameson
Richmond LAND
Founding Director

"Leadership is a choice, not a position."



Our mission is to build grassroots power for resident-driven and community-controlled land-use through community organizing, land acquisition, development, and stewardship of land and affordable housing for long-term community benefit.

