

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, November 17, 2020

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:00 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. 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 and livestream online at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3178/KCRT-Live>.

*Written public comments were received via email to cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us. Comments received by 1:00 p.m. on November 17, 2020, were summarized at the meeting, put into the record, and considered before Council action. Comments received via email after 1:00 p.m. and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item closed, were put into the record. Public comments were also received via teleconference during the meeting. **Attached herewith all written public comments received.***

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ben Choi, Demnlus Johnson III, Eduardo Martinez, Melvin Willis, Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Jael Myrick arrived after the Open Session adjourned to Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The city clerk announced the public comment procedures and 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

LIABILITY CLAIMS - (Government Code Section 54956.9):

Roberto De La Pena v. City of Richmond

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

City of Richmond v. Pacific Gas & Electric Company

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

There were no public comments via teleconference.

Mayor Butt stated a conflict of interest on the City of Richmond v. Pacific Gas & Electric Company closed session item due to PG&E being a client with his firm, Interactive Resources.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:02 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

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

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

The city clerk announced the public comment procedures published in the agenda.

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

City Attorney Teresa Stricker stated that there were no final actions to report. Ms. Stricker stated that Human Resources Director, Anil Comelo was the initial negotiator during closed session and later the negotiator was Jack Hughes.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman announced the City was working on ways to use City-surplus land and there were two community meetings scheduled on Thursday, November 19, 2020, from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the other from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Persons interested in participating could RSVP by calling Thomas Omolo at 510-620-5560.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference:

Mike Parker gave comments regarding the Campus Bay Project and that any decisions made regarding the project should wait until the newly elected City Council was seated.

David Reinerston thanked the City Council for supporting the LGBTQ support week proclamation.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Choi, seconded by Councilmember Willis, the items marked with an (*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

***G-1.** Adopted **Resolution No. 127-20**, establishing a list of on-call consultants for Building Plan Check and Inspection Services contracts for an amount not to exceed \$750,000 per firm over three years through December 2023, with an option to extend the contracts up to two years.

***G-2.** Adopted **Resolution No. 128-20**, approving the application to revitalize Shields Reid Park with the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant funds.

***G-3.** Introduced an ordinance (first reading) amending Richmond Municipal Code Section 2.50 to extend the date of the Business Opportunity Ordinance through December 31, 2026.

***G-4.** Approved the minutes of the October 27, 2020, Regular Meeting of the City Council.

***G-5.** Approved a contract amendment with Nichols Consulting Engineers for additional design services on the Yellow Brick Road project, increasing the contract amount by \$120,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,318,697.58.

***G-6.** Approved Contract Amendment No. 2 with mack5 for the Via Verdi landslide repair effort, extending the term of the contract by two years to December 31, 2022, expanding the scope of work to include the Via Verdi Slope Stabilization Project, and increasing the contract amount by \$250,000 for a total not to exceed amount of \$400,000.

***G-7.** Approved and authorized the city manager, or her designee, to execute an amendment to the Interagency Agreement with the City of Richmond, effective August 11, 2020, to increase the payment limit by \$275,000 to a new payment limit of \$475,000 and extend the term through September 30, 2023, to facilitate the City's continued use of jointly-administered North Richmond Waste and Recovery Mitigation Fee (NRMF) funding to implement services and programs authorized in the City/County-approved expenditure plans and co-staff the NRMF Committee, and appropriated funds into a dedicated North Richmond Mitigation Fund.

***G-8.** Approved a contract with Management Partners to develop a fiscal sustainability plan designed to address both immediate and structural financial challenges for an amount not to exceed \$84,900 and for a term beginning November 18, 2020 to June 30, 2022; and appropriated \$84,900 from the City's reserve balance to cover the cost of this contract.

***G-9.** Approved appointments to the Community Police Review Commission; appointed H. Dow Tunis, new appointment, seat #1, term expiration date November 1, 2023; Andre Jackson, new appointment, seat #2, term expiration date November 1, 2023; Donnell Jones, new appointment, seat #5, term expiration date November 1, 2021.

***G-10.** Approved appointment to the Workforce Development Board; appointed Karen Norwood new appointment, seat #25, education/training representative, term expiration date March 1, 2024.

***G-11.** Approved actions to update the Youth Council: appointed Ozmar Huerta, re-appointment, seat #1, term expiration date October 1, 2021; Kashaf Iqbal, re-appointment, seat #2, term expiration date October 1, 2021; Jocelyn Khansouvang, re-appointment, seat #3, term expiration date October 1, 2021; Xitlalli Santiago, new appointment, seat #4 term expiration date October 1, 2021; Mian Shah, new appointment, seat #5, term expiration date October 1, 2021; Stephanie Estrada, new appointment, seat #6, term expiration date October 1, 2021; Laiba Noor, re-appointment, seat #9, term expiration date October 1, 2021.

***G-12.** Proclamation declaring November 28, 2020, as Small Business Saturday in the City of Richmond.

***G-13.** Proclamation declaring November 20, 2020, as Transgender Day of Remembrance in the City of Richmond.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

The matter to receive a presentation on the Richmond Department of Children and Youth's Draft Community Needs Assessment Report was presented by LaShonda White and members of the Department of Children and Youth team. The PowerPoint highlighted the following: Community Needs Assessment; Community Engagement; Emerging Priorities; Mental Health; Mental Health and Depression in Schools; Suicidal Ideation; Education Support and Employment Support; Enrichment; Information, Guidance, and Case Management; Violence Prevention; Basic Needs; Needs of Students During COVID-19; Strategic Investment Plan; and Grant Application Process. The City Council requested information on the demographics of the community and different languages spoken and that staff look into providing information in various languages. Mike Parker gave comments via teleconference. Responses to the draft Community Needs Assessment Report were due by 12 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2020.

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

Councilmember Willis stated that there was a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases and urged everyone to wear their face masks and stay safe.

Councilmember Martinez reported that on Friday, November 13, 2020, he was a moderator for a panel on smart growth in the face of water crisis 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m., to meet again on Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: open forum for Public Comment
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2020 7:14:28 PM

hello Sabrina, i have some comments for the record

1. as far as G-10 and G-11 goes, i am in full support of it,
2. my projects is coming along just wonderful, and i will be updating the council on the progress

sincerely
Cordell

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: COUNCIL AS A WHOLE H-1
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2020 7:22:06 PM

hello Sabrina, i had looked at the presentation and i liked it

sincerely
Cordell

From: [Sarah M Dunham](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: For Public Comment section of Richmond City Council Meeting November 16
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 5:53:03 PM

For Public Comments during 11/17 Richmond City Council Meeting

I am addressing the Richmond City Council meeting this evening to ask you to join other Bay Area cities in writing a Proclamation to support the 3rd Annual **Bay Area United Against Hate Week November 30 - December 6**. In 2019, 41 Bay Area jurisdictions passed a resolution/proclamation in order to acknowledge and express community-wide support of United Against Hate Week last year.

United Against Hate Week 2020 is a call for local civic action by people in Bay Area communities to address hate and implicit biases in our neighborhoods, towns and cities. It is also an opportunity to build a community shared vision of inclusion and celebration of our diversity.

United Against Hate Week grew out of a United Against Hate poster campaign created by Bay Area Cities in response to white supremacist rallies in Berkeley and San Francisco in 2017. "Bay Area Stands United Against Hate" posters are available for free at Supervisor John Gioia's Office, if you would like one to hang in your home or business window.

The call for a week of action emerged from the cities and community leaders that were a part of the original poster campaign. The goal of this week of action is to draw local residents, students, school, civic, faith and business leaders together to raise awareness about how to stop hate and promote inclusion.

Because of the pandemic, communities this year are planning virtual events: webinars, panel discussions, film screenings, art projects, community dialogues and storytelling workshops. These actions will provide a dynamic way to increase engagement across neighborhoods and support efforts to stand up to hate in our communities.

Community groups or individuals in the City of Richmond who would like to plan an event during the Week of November 30 - December 6 are encouraged to do so. There is a "20 Ideas for Action" toolkit and other helpful resources online at unitedagainsthateweek.org.

We hope the City of Richmond will join other Bay Area cities and towns by issuing a Proclamation in support of United Against Hate Week 2020. Please join the strong movement against bias and bullying in West Contra Costa County.

There are sample resolutions and proclamations on the website unitedagainsthateweek.org in the "Get Involved - For Cities and Communities" section.

Please feel free to call me with any questions. Sarah Dunham at 510-847-3903

Thank you so much for your time.

Sarah Dunham

Planning Committee, Bay Area United Against Hate Week 2020

510-847-3903

From: [Ashley Scarborough](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Cc: mrmelvinwillis@gmail.com
Subject: public comments agenda item #g13
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 8:01:49 PM

Hello,

Please include in meeting materials. I joined a few minutes after 630 but missed the proclamation for transgender day of remembrance. I would appreciate if this public comment could go on record.

My name is Ashley Scarborough-Gonzalez. I'm a Richmond resident, I use she/her pronouns and I enjoy the privilege of regularly being seen and validated in my gender identity. I have transgender family and friends and it is not ok with me that they have to struggle to achieve the same. I'm here today because it shouldn't just be up to transgender people to fight for their safety and dignity.

Thank you city council for your proclamation in memory of transgender people who have lost their lives due to violence. Each year the tally of trans people murdered, mostly black and Latina women reminds us how much work we have to do. In 2020 so far there have been 34 murders that we know of. This is a 36% increase from last year.

Murder isn't the only violence that contributes to death of our trans family members. Abuse, neglect, and poor access to healthcare play a role. Since March of 2020, trans lifeline a suicide prevention hotline, has reported an 89% increase in call volume. In addition to the impacts of covid-19, the transgender community has faced increased political attacks on their human rights and constant reminders of hate crimes on the rise.

We remember the dead but we also need to fight for the living. Are we taking care of transgender people in our city? Are we making this a safe place to express gender in all its beautiful varieties? It doesn't cost us as cisgender people to build a safe and inclusive culture for all genders, but the lack of that continues to cost gender expansive people their lives.

Murder, suicide and poor access to housing and jobs are not caused by gender or gender expression. It's a symptom of a diseased society that doesn't value and uplift trans and gender diverse people. And that's not the society I want to live in. So today and this week let's reflect on what we've lost and then let's get busy building a world that loves and respects transgender people.

Thank you

Sent on the go please excuse typos