

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, June 15, 2021

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 4:30 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> and <http://www.youtube.com/user/KCRTTV>.

*The methods to submit public comment were via mail, email to cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us, teleconference, and telephone during the meeting. Written comments received by 1:00 p.m. on June 15, 2021, were put into the record and considered before council action. Written comments received after 1:00 p.m. and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item closed, were also put into the record. **Attached herewith all written public comments received.***

ROLL CALL

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

CITY COUNCIL

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

San Francisco Baykeeper and West County Toxics Coalition v. City of Richmond

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) [as applicable] of Government Code Section 54956.9):

One Case

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Significant threat of litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) and paragraph (3) of Subdivision (e) of Government Code Section 54956.9): One case.

In light of the California Court of Appeal decision in Fowler v. City of Lafayette, the City Attorney's Office attached to the agenda a notice from the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH). The notice provided the existing facts and circumstances for going into closed session on the item pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9.

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 COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference regarding the labor negotiation item: Yen Do, Kevin Tisdell, and Gregory Everetts.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 4:38 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Jimenez, Martinez, McLaughlin, Willis, Vice Mayor Johnson III, and Mayor Butt.
Absent: None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

Item G-25 was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion at the end of the agenda. Item G-26 was withdrawn from the agenda.

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

City Attorney Teresa Stricker stated there were no final actions to report.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman reported the following items: Graduation ceremonies for the Literacy for Every Adult Program and Richmond YouthBUILD were scheduled for the week of July 14, 2021. The Richmond YouthBUILD's next training cohort was scheduled for July 2021 and applications were being accepted. Police Chief Bisa French provided a brief crime report.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals gave the following comments via teleconference:

Gayle McLaughlin read the proclamation for item G-24 honoring Juneteenth. Mrs. McLaughlin gave comments regarding the crime statistics during her term as the mayor of Richmond.

Eduardo Martinez and Deborah Bayer expressed concerns regarding the lack of transparency for item G-13. Mr. Martinez proposed an amendment that requested staff to list the contracts, work being performed, and the associated Request for Proposals on the Transparent Richmond website. Mr. Martinez gave comments in support of Juneteenth.

Demnlus Johnson III gave comments in honor of Juneteenth and advised that an essay he authored regarding Juneteenth and other freedom celebrations was available upon request. Mr. Johnson III invited the community to participate in the Juneteenth caravan scheduled on June 19, 2021.

Mark Wassberg informed the council that Juneteenth was not a national holiday. Mr. Wassberg gave comments regarding Richmond crime statistics during Gayle McLaughlin's term as the mayor of Richmond.

Andres Soto gave comments in defense of his leadership on the Richmond Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force.

Katrinka Ruk congratulated graduates that received a general education diploma. Ms. Ruk acknowledged the Public Works and Planning divisions for their work on the Castro Ranch paving project. Ms. Ruk urged bicyclists to be careful.

Naomi Williams announced that Neighborhood Block Association Executive Director Jerrold Hatchett was the grand marshal of the Richmond Juneteenth event scheduled on June 19, 2021.

Ronnie Mills announced that the Richmond Main Street Initiative was co-hosting, with the Nurturing Independence Through Artistic Development Art Center, the free Small Business Development Workshop for Richmond-Based Artists scheduled on June 23, 2021. Registration for the event was required online at: www.niadart.myshopify.com.

Chris Knight gave comments regarding the City of Richmond's Urban Greening Master Plan adopted in 2017. Mr. Knight recommended more aggressive outreach efforts for the Adopt-A-Tree Program. Mr. Knight suggested giving trees to homeowners to assume full responsibility.

Tarnel Abbott suggested that contracts over a certain dollar amount needed council discussion. Ms. Abbott expressed concerns regarding the Department of Toxic Substance Control's public comment period concerning the Richmond AstraZeneca site.

Gonzalo Ochoa gave comments against reducing the Police Department's budget.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

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

***G-1.** Approved a first contract amendment with Keyser Marston Associates in the amount of \$25,000, not to exceed a total amount of \$35,000, through December 31, 2023, to assist the City of Richmond in preparing guidelines for implementation of the recently adopted inclusionary housing program and affordable housing linkage fee program.

***G-2.** Approved a one-year Lease Agreement, with a one-year extension option with Point San Pablo Harbor, Inc., a California corporation.

***G-3.** Adopted **Resolution No. 67-21** approving positions of the City of Richmond Finance Director, City of Richmond Internal Services Deputy City Manager, and City of Richmond Accounting Manager, as authorizing signatory on the Mechanics Bank Public Entity Banking Resolution.

***G-4.** Approved a contract with Van Iwaarden Associates for actuarial services necessary for pension fund management in the amount of \$26,000 with the termination date of June 30, 2022.

***G-5.** Adopted **Resolution No. 68-21** adding Zoom to the approved list of standing orders/outline agreements for technology related goods and services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 per year for Fiscal Years 2021-2022 through 2024-2025.

***G-6.** Approved the minutes of the May 18 and 25, 2021, regular meetings of the City Council.

***G-7.** Approved a contract with Municipal Code Corporation, for ordinance, zoning code codification, and supplements of the City of Richmond's municipal code, for a one-year period to extend, for the City Clerk's Office and the Planning Division, from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, in the amount of \$19,000.

***G-8.** Approved a one-year agreement with Granicus, Inc., to continue to provide maintenance services, and data and video transfer services to eSCRIBE, the new City Council meeting agenda management system and video service streaming system, in an amount not to exceed \$17,577.78, for the term of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

***G-9.** Approved an appointment to the Economic Development Commission: Appointed Ayoka Nurse-Medlock, re-appointment, seat #1, term expiration date March 30, 2024.

***G-10.** Approved appointments to the Workforce Development Board: Appointed Chuck Leonard, new appointment, seat #19, labor representative, term expiration date March 1, 2025, and Jason Lindsey, new appointment, seat #29, labor representative, term expiration date March 1, 2025.

***G-11.** Approved an appointment to the Human Rights and Human Relations Commission; Appointed Jeff Ritterman new appointment, seat #2, term expiration date March 30, 2024.

***G-12.** Approved an appointment to the Recreation and Parks Commission: Appointed Catalin Kaser, new appointment, seat #3, term expiration date April 28, 2024.

***G-13.** Adopted **Resolution No. 69-21** amending various on-call professional services contracts.

***G-14.** Adopted **Resolution No. 70-21** approving the project list for Senate Bill 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account funding for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

***G-15.** Adopted **Resolution No. 71-21** appropriating funds from the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Sanitary Sewer Developer Impact Fees, amending the Wastewater Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget, and approving Veolia Water to manage and award contracts for the Marina Bay Parkway Force Main Relocation Project to W.R. Forde, Inc. (construction) and Questa Engineering (testing and inspection) in an amount not to exceed \$491,666.20 [project cost of \$433,264 plus a 15 percent contingency cost of \$58,402.20].

***G-16.** Adopted **Resolution No. 72-21** to approve Veolia Water to manage and award contracts for the Sludge Thickener Project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to Myers and Sons (construction) in an amount not to exceed \$596,818.07 (contractor cost of \$449,242 plus a 16.5 percent Veolia mark-up \$74,125), plus a 15 percent contingency of \$73,451.07 (\$67,386.30 plus a 9 percent Veolia mark-up of \$6,064.77) and for the additional repairs: to the DAFT Gearbox in an amount not to exceed \$85,666.46; the portable sludge thickener leased by Synagro® in an amount not to exceed \$94,638.50; repairs to the DAFT sludge line in an amount not to exceed \$15,816.13; and additional chemical usage required to keep the plant fully operational in an amount not to exceed \$77,000. The total project cost for all items listed would not exceed \$869,939.16.

***G-17.** Approved an amendment to the contract with Alliance Graphics, Inc. to provide additional graphic art services and promotional products for the RichmondBUILD Academy. The contract term was from October 1, 2019, through June 30, 2022. The contract amount was increased by \$12,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$40,000.

***G-18.** Approved an amendment to the contract with the National Association of Training and Environmental Consulting International, Inc. to provide additional hazardous materials training classes as part of the RichmondBUILD pre-apprenticeship training program. The contract term was December 3, 2019, through June 30, 2022, and the amount was increased by \$22,038 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$71,738.

***G-19.** Approved a contract with Weigh of Life to provide workforce development services in support of the State of California Employment Development Department's English Language Learner grant. The contract term was from June 15, 2021, through March 31, 2023, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$16,000.

***G-20.** Approved a contract with West Contra Costa Unified School District Adult Education to provide workforce development services in support of the State of California Employment Development Department's English Language Learner grant program. The contract term was from June 15, 2021, through March 31, 2023, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$16,000.

***G-21.** Approved a contract with the Contra Costa County Department of Health, Continuum of Care to provide training and assistance in support of RichmondBUILD, Returning Home grant participants with criminal justice histories. The contract term was from June 15, 2021, through March 31, 2022, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$40,000.

***G-22.** Approved a contract with Oscar I. Solano, Jr. dba ZumbaRico Fitness, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2024, to continue Zumba and Aqua Zumba classes.

***G-23.** Approved a letter of support for Contra Costa Behavioral Health as it seeks to expand mental health crisis programs and authorized the city manager to submit the letter to the Measure X Community Advisory Board.

***G-24.** Proclamation honoring Juneteenth which is a holiday that recognizes the Emancipation Proclamation and the freeing of slaves in Texas two and a half years after it was signed by President Abraham Lincoln.

G-25. Withdrew from the agenda the matter to introduce an ordinance (first reading) amending Chapter 11.102 (Relocation Ordinance) of the Richmond Municipal Code.

G-26. Withdrew from the agenda the matter to approve the appointment of Sara Cantor to the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force to fill a vacancy created by Nakari Syon.

BUDGET SESSION

H-1. The matter to receive information on additional financial options for implementing Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force proposals and direct staff to incorporate one specific option into the Fiscal Year 2021-22 budget was introduced by City Manager Laura Snideman. When the report was originally drafted, staff recommended Option A and brought further options to the City Council meeting based on recent events. Ms. Snideman, Interim Project Manager Jim Nantell, and Community Development Director Lina Velasco presented a Powerpoint that highlighted the following: summary of recent council direction; summary of six options (A-F); revised and recommended unhoused interventions and alternative option; and the staff recommendation of Option A and alternative option. Discussion ensued. The following individuals gave comments via teleconference: Elsa Stevens, Linda Whitmore, Robin Lupe, Jan

Mignone, Madelyn Law, Randy Joseph, Leisa Johnson, Oscar Garcia, Naomi Williams, Henry Washington, Andres Soto, Jovanka Beckles, Deborah Bayer, Edith Pastrano, Clara (last name unknown), Terri Hinte, Linda Hemmila, Sara Cantor, Shawn Dunning, A. Frankel, James Lee, Andre Shumake, Cynthia Haden, Mark Wassberg, Tarnel Abbott, Joe Fisher, Luis Chacon, Aleta Alston-Toure, Alix Mazuet, Steve Bischoff, Yenny Garcia, Jacqueline T., Katrinka Ruk, Michael Gilksohn, Annie Pennell, Denny Khamphanthong, Chandra Davies, Ben Therriault, Sebastian Dalvand, Valerie Jameson, Marco Lemus, Mike Parker, Jamie McBean, Raul Vasquez, Katt Ramos, Eddy Chacon, Garland Ellis, Flora (last name unknown), Richard Muro-Salazar, Carlos Lemus, Vernon Whitmore, Mary Savoie-Stephens, Keri Contreras, Monica Diaz, Tamisha Walker, Ana Navarro, Ms. Dandie, Kamal Hassan, Eli Moore, Kevin Tisdell, Pam Stello, Deysi Madriz, Leah Jarvis, Jane Courant, Khalieghya Dandie-Evans, Shiva Mishek, Patricia (last name unknown), Jonnette Newton, Daniel Tinajero, Kris Mejia, Janet S. Johnson, Stephanie Diaz, Helene Burks, Don Gosney, Adey Teshager, Ross Harris, Emily Ross, Kabir Kapur, and Marena Brown. *(At approximately 11:00 p.m., on motion of Councilmember Jimenez, seconded by Councilmember Willis, extended the meeting to 11:30 p.m. by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Bates, Jimenez, Martinez, McLaughlin, Willis, and Vice Mayor Johnson III. Noes: Mayor Butt. Abstained: None. Absent: None).* Further discussion ensued. *(At approximately 11:30 p.m., a motion made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, to extend the meeting until the end of the discussion for item H-1 and discuss scheduling a special meeting (if necessary) passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Bates, Jimenez, Martinez, McLaughlin, Willis, and Vice Mayor Johnson III. Noes: Mayor Butt. Abstained: None. Absent: None).* Further discussion ensued. A motion made by Vice Mayor Johnson III to support staff's recommendation for Option A died for the lack of a second. A motion was made by Councilmember McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Jimenez, to adopt Option E. A substitute motion made by Mayor Butt, seconded by Councilmember Bates, to adopt Option F failed by the following: **Ayes:** Councilmember Bates and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** Councilmembers Jimenez, Martinez, McLaughlin. **Abstained:** Councilmember Willis and Vice Mayor Johnson III. **Absent:** None. On motion of Councilmember McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Jimenez, adopted Option E by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Jimenez, Martinez, McLaughlin, and Willis. **Noes:** Councilmember Bates and Mayor Butt. **Abstained:** Vice Mayor Johnson III. **Absent:** None.

Discussion ensued to schedule a special City Council meeting to provide staff with additional budgetary feedback. The council requested staff to facilitate via email the council's availability for a special meeting.

H-2. Continued to the June 21, 2021, special City Council meeting the matter to approve \$8.88 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds as part of the proposed FY 2021-22 Annual Budget to replace lost revenue in the amount of \$4 million; upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems in the amount of \$2 million; implement Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force recommendations in the amount of \$1.63 million; invest in community beautification efforts in the amount of \$1 million; and conduct a community needs assessment in the

amount of \$250,000 to help inform the City Council's future decision for the City of Richmond's remaining ARPA allocation.

H-3. Continued to the June 21, 2021, special City Council meeting the matter to adopt a resolution approving the five-year Capital Improvement Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2022 through 2025-2026, and a budget appropriating \$30,196,844 for projects in the Capital Improvement Plan Budget for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

I-1. Continued to the June 22, 2021, special City Council meeting the matter to receive a presentation from HR&A Advisors on the Short-Term Local Business Recovery Action Plan (STLBRAP) and receive a written update to address the recommendations made in item "Small Business Support" from the May 4, 2021, Richmond City Council Meeting.

I-2. Continued to the July 6, 2021, City Council meeting the matter to direct staff to draft amendments to Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 11.05 (Fireworks Ordinance) that strengthened the City of Richmond's ability to enforce the Fireworks Ordinance and return by the end of July 2021 with the first reading of an amended ordinance.

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

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 p.m., to meet again on Monday, June 21, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. for a special meeting.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

From: [Chris Knight](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: public comments – Open Forum
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 8:38:40 AM

Hello Mayor Butt, Vice Mayor Johnson, and City Council Members,

My name is Chris Knight and I live off Barrett on 40th st. I was looking through the [urban greening master plan](#) the city appears to have adopted in 2017. I was surprised to see that for every \$1 invested in trees within the city each year, it is estimated to generate \$3 in annual benefits to stormwater capture, groundwater recharge, air quality, and carbon dioxide sequestration, not to mention aesthetics!

I'm aware the city has an adopt-a-tree program where the city will plant a tree in sidewalk gaps that are next to a private property, which homeowners are then responsible for maintaining. The 2017 urban greening master plan identified over 13,000 opportunities for planting trees in these types of spaces.

However, based on the number of unused tree opportunity sites I see walking my dog, It seems this program could benefit from more aggressive outreach efforts, potentially door to door. Of course, homeowners may be reluctant to adopt a tree they don't technically own, but are responsible for.

Which brings me to my main point: if the annual benefit-cost ratio is 3 to 1, why not simply give trees to homeowners who are willing to assume full responsibility and plant them on the street-facing side of their property. If anything, owning these trees will increase their incentive to take care of them. And trees provide their benefits whether on public or private land.

That's it. Thanks for your time and I hope you'll give these ideas some consideration.

Chris

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comment- Open Forum
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 4:03:39 PM

good Evening Mayor Butt, Council Members and City Staff, I have a Couple of Comments for the Record

1. I was very Disappointed that the council did not let the City Manager speak when it comes to priorities
2. My Projects is coming along exquisitely and I will keep the council Informed once I Return

Sincerely
Cordell

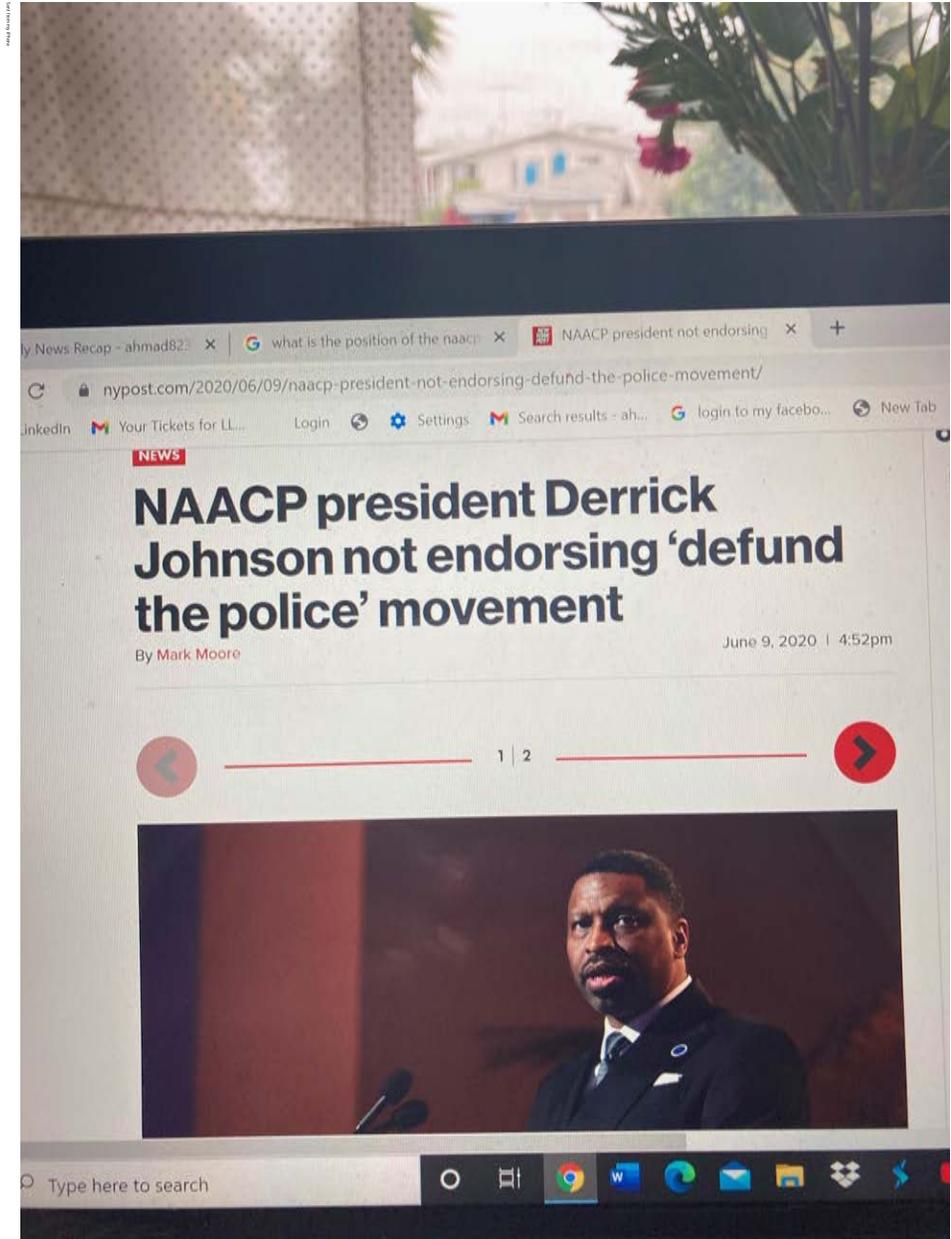
From: [ahmad.anderson](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Cc: [ahmad8233](#); [Vernon Whitmore](#)
Subject: Richmond City Council Meeting June 15, 2021 -Open Forum; 3) public comments agenda item # H-1
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 5:55:16 PM

DEFUNDED NO ; REIMAGINE WITH AN ACTION PLAN YES

I SUPPORT OPTION F

- New program implementation should be phased in, and success measured through hitting benchmarks.
- Conduct meetings with Richmond residents, Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council , Council of Industries & Richmond Chamber of Commerce businesses to garner their recommendations.
- Avoid the 2002-2005 Richmond where Violent Crime and Property Crime Per population was the highest in the United States.
- This issue is also about EQUITY. The same North -South - Central BLIPOC communities the taskforce aims to support - would mean 32 less officers on our streets. The citizens of these communities would suffer significant impacts on crime, response times and overall public safety.

Regards,
Ahmad Anderson
(He / Him / His)



From: [Andrew Yeung](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 11:39:00 AM

Members of the Richmond City Council,

I am writing as an educator that works with the youth of Richmond to approve Option E, which includes the most recent revised budget recommendations by the Task Force to fund the program proposals by \$6.3M with funding coming from a combination of police department vacancies and surplus funds. This proposal WILL NOT layoff any officers.

What I see in the brilliance of youth and community members in Richmond is what I see in these proposals -- the creativity, boldness, and bravery to imagine new (and practiced) ways of addressing community struggles and a fearlessness in looking to the roots when considering solutions. What I see in the youth and in these proposals is a deep love for community that demands investment, commitment, and boldness on the part of City leadership.

Please honor the labor and vision of the Task Force, of community members, historical residents, and new generations by approving Option E tonight.

In community,
Andrew Yeung

On unceded Chochoeny Ohlone land (temporarily on Kizh/Tongva land)

From: [Annie Pennell](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public comments agenda item # H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 12:44:47 PM

I am requesting the City Council approve **option E** on item H-1, adopting the most recent revised budget recommendations by the Public Safety Task Force to fund the program proposals by \$6.3M with funding coming from police department vacancies and surplus funds. We must invest in youth and unhoused people and offer new opportunities for people in crisis if we want to make our city safer.

I am frustrated by the messaging of Mayor Butt, Chief French, the RPOA, and other officials, which misdirects the plan and attempts to stoke fear in the community. These measures increase public safety staff in the city, and focusing on the "job losses" in the police department is not going to decrease crime. The number of active officers will stay the same, and by providing resources to more community members, crime will go down. These measures are key in **improving** the safety and future of our community.

Thank you for your time,

Annie Pennell
Richmond Resident, District 6

From: [Bean DS](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Agenda Item: H1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 12:47:34 PM

Greetings Councilmembers,

I urge you to reallocate police funds to the necessary services and systems as proposed by the Reimagine Public Safety Community Task Force. After the Black Lives Matter movement last year came to mainstream attention, there is no room for any of us to deny that police do more harm than good. We need to protect our communities of color, our youth, our queer and trans and otherwise targeted friends and family from violence. This means putting money where our mouths are, it means funding the programs that will actually address and remediate issues like homelessness and mental health crises rather than punishing those who suffer from them. This redistribution of money and priorities is a crucial step to acting in response to, rather than denial of, the inhumane systems this country is built on.

Thank you,
Bean DS

From: [Cathie Louden](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Option F
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 3:56:55 PM

We longtime Richmonders, 70 years as Richmond residents, support Option F !
Please Do not defund our RPD by eliminating any Police Officers Jobs!

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Catherine and John Louden
2611 Grant Avenue
Richmond, California 94804
510-233-0722

From: [DeenaMLove](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Open Comment - Agenda item H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 1:14:52 PM

I urge the council to support Option F, and leave existing funding for the police department at currently budgeted levels. I have been a resident of Richmond since 1993. I have witnessed vast improvements in crime in the city and the quality of police-resident relations. While I recognize the room for continued improvement, and am sympathetic toward restructuring primary responses for many types of calls to organizations and services other than the police department, but I strongly oppose cutting police department funding below current levels at this time. I believe we need to support both the police and alternatives while exploring what organizations and services fit the needs of residents and the city best.

Respectfully,
Deena Love

From: [Dianne Sweer](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Budget for Police Department Richmond, CA
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 7:24:39 PM

I prefer that the budget NOT be reduced but perhaps re-allocate some funds for related public safety professionals. This might include specialists who understand juvenile crime, mental health and other problems that underlie criminal behavior. Possible a special assesment is warranted?? I hope tp attend the meeting. Dianne Sweer

From: [donna mize](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments - Open Forum
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 10:19:55 PM

As a homeowner, I strongly oppose a reduction in police staffing. I support Option F.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ellen Pechman](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public comments agenda item #H-1 - City Council June 15, 2021
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 10:03:25 PM

Mayor Butt and City Council Members,

I am writing to endorse Option E, including \$6.38 million to strengthen and sustain permanent alternatives to our current military approach to policing, using at least \$3 million from permanent reductions in the Policy Department's budget.

Following the outstanding year-long work of the Reimagine Task Force, and in coordination with Chief Friend and Richmond's Police force, our community has the planning in place it needs to redefine and reimagine community policing. Chief French's leadership and skill makes possible the innovation and collaboration needed to expanded and better use ONS, SOS, and our numerous other community health and social service agencies to put in place new, ever more promising community policing.

The time to reimagine a different kind of Policing is long overdue. Under the guidance of our Reemerging Task Force, our Council leadership, and Richmond's forward-thinking Police Chief, Richmond is positioned well to dramatically improve and offer the quality of policing the community needs.

Thanks.

Ellen Pechman
Marina Bay

From: [Ellen Sasaki](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: public comments – Open Forum for Tues June 15
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 9:29:06 PM

To Richmond City Council: I strongly oppose any reduction in funds to our police department and demand that you vote for Option F, as below. I favor funding local organizations that are working to address homelessness and mental health, but that funding must come from another source.

**Ellen Sasaki
824 36th St
Richmond 94805**

Option F: Total year-1 funding would be \$6.38M funded from a variety of sources, but with no monies coming from reductions in the Police Department budget. The following is a more detailed analysis of the various options with brief descriptions of the differences between the impacts of each option.

From: [Francesco Indrio](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public comments - Open session prior to closed section; Public comments - Open Forum; Public comments - Agenda item # H-1
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 4:03:02 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Our company moved to Richmond not 5 months ago and during this period we have experienced already a break in (Last Friday night) and an abandoned stolen vehicle. In both cases Police intervention was instrumental in solving the situation, guarantee our safety and even returning stolen property to their legitimate owner. We loved Richmond Police's promptness of response and we appreciated the extremely positive and efficient attitude of the individuals we met.

Our company moved to Richmond from West Oakland where Police has already for a long time lost control of the situation and do not respond to calls other than in dire and extreme situations. We moved out our 65 jobs and 35 year history as a growing small family operated business from Oakland to Richmond, and this was one of the major reasons for the move. Daily life was becoming intolerable and extremely unsafe for us and our workers. No one could safely leave their cars parked in the streets and garbage and general decadence were so prevalent that it was hard to even keep workers at their jobs. Every time we had contractors come to work on our facility we had to make sure they would not leave anything in their cars or park inside the building. When we did not warn them, burglaries happened on a regular basis.

Now I hear that it there is a proposal to reduce the Police force in Richmond by a large number of officers and I fear that this area will also fall into the Oakland area series of mistakes that made it similar to a war zone. Already the impunity for various crimes is telling criminals that it is cool to do whatever they want because there is no consequence to their criminal actions. As a hard working tax paying citizen I can't accept that the law applies only to people who can afford to comply by the rules, while others are exempt, but there is more. After hearing the presentation of the chief of Police at a public meeting the other day I realized that not only the future is in jeopardy, but also the work and investments that this Police department has made in the past few years with the tax payers' money. The chief of Police said that beside current officers we would stand to los also other officers in training. As a business owner , I can't understand the logic of taking away the jobs of many well trained new police officers after having spent money for years training them for the new positions that needed to be filled. All this work would be now null and void, and it would only go to the advantage of neighboring counties that would pick up the officers that we are planning to discard. It just sounds insane. A total disrespect for the will and the tax money of residents and businesses.

The search for equality and a solution to disparity should not be adjusted to the minimum common denominator, increasing the crime activity and making our county into a lawless area. It should be brought forward with what we have already achieved with a good and adequate Police force, finding other funds for new programs. Otherwise it will not be long before business will move elsewhere.
Sincerely,



ALPI.NET

Francesco Indrio

President francesco@alpi.net

P: 510.655.6456 x101 F: 510.655.2093

asi/34415 ppai/111221 sage/50313



From: [GARY C. HARRIS](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Option F
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 11:02:49 AM

I vote for Option F. Defunding the RPD is absurd. Community policing has been good for the citizens of Richmond, I was a resident of Richmond in the early 2000's, prior to community policing, and gang-related crime (easter Hill) was profound. Please do not defund RPD. Please vote for Option F. Thank you

Gary Harris
2716 Beach Head Way
Richmond, CA 94804

From: [jan.diamond](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#); [Demnlus Johnson](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Tom Butt - external](#)
Subject: We oppose cuts to Richmond Police Department
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 3:11:22 PM

Our household opposes the proposed cuts to Richmond Police Department. Public Safety is a top priority. I was held up by gunpoint in front of my house 6 years ago: i want to know that the RPD has staffing to handle these situations. I believe the RPD Chief of Police that opposes the recommendation of the "Reimagine" task force.

Thank you
Jan Diamond

From: [Janie Holland](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: FW: Internet Fax Job - Letters from Richmond Residents supporting the Police Dept.
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 1:22:42 PM
Attachments: [BRWE86F385BCB5D_004698.pdf](#)

Ms. City Clerk,

Please make sure these letters get to the Mayor and City Councilmembers for Tuesday night meeting.

Thanks,

Janie Holland
Community Building & Engagement, Director | Community Building & Engagement Department
Community Housing Development Corporation, https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.CommunityHDC.org&c=E.1.7ySsHS-gBHd1aRusrThg4SZUHW20zPvNu2C0JTW9bkBz_IS-d8DEToB35M_oLRQXzjnk7-MSup81kKzHkeSRfK3WA3RCSrZHXHGekZdw00L6av7stjB&typo=1
JHolland@communityhdc.org
O: 510-260-0005 ext 15 | M: 510-760-3241 |
1452 Fred Jackson Way, Richmond, CA 94801-1525
Creating Vibrant Communities Throughout the Bay Area

CONNECT w/ COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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

From: CHDC_Scan <chdcscans@CommunityHDC.org>
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021 10:56 AM
To: Janie Holland <jholland@communityhdc.org>
Subject: Internet Fax Job

Image data has been attached.

June 13, 2021

Councilmember Melvin Willis
450 Civic Center Plaza Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Councilmember Willis:

We are writing to ask that you take our community's safety and best interest to heart. A cut to the Richmond Police Department would mean 32 less officers on our streets and would have significant impacts on crime, response times and overall public safety.

We all know that additional funding towards community services and intervention programs would help with homelessness, gun violence prevention and intervention, and the mental health crisis on our streets. But slashing the Richmond Police Department's budget without a thorough plan only means 32 less police officers working in our community -- that's just not safe.

Richmond has already seen what defunding our police department means for the city. Our police department has been understaffed with officers forced to work overtime, making it harder for them to be there when we need them most. We've also seen the impacts of a defunded police department in cities like Vallejo and Oakland where crime is on the rise. Richmond deserves better.

We don't need to defund our police -- we need a DETAILED plan for REAL reform.

We urge you to vote NO on budget cuts to the Richmond Police Department. We can make reforms that make sense without putting our friends, family and neighbors at risk.

Sincerely,

Jewel Purvey-Spikes
Keith Thomas
Gloria Thomas
Lizzerene Thomas
Deloris Macdonald
Lenzy Montgomery
Lucille Griffin
Johnny Morris
Emmit Boone
Keisha Owens
Annie King-Meredith
Awo Baah-Arhin
Phyllis Smith
Alma Reddick
Ruby Rapp

June 13, 2021

Councilmember Eduardo Martinez
450 Civic Center Plz Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Councilmember Martinez:

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June 13, 2021

Councilmember Claudia Jimenez
450 Civic Center Plz Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Councilmember Jimenez:

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June 13, 2021

Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin
450 Civic Center Plz Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Councilmember McLaughlin:

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June 13, 2021

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450 Civic Center Plz Richmond, CA 94804

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June 13, 2021

Councilmember Nat Bates
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Councilmember Bates:

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June 13, 2021

Mayor Tom Butt
450 Civic Center Plz Richmond, CA 94804

Dear Mayor Butt:

We are writing to ask that you take our community's safety and best interest to heart. A cut to the Richmond Police Department would mean 32 less officers on our streets and would have significant impacts on crime, response times and overall public safety.

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From: [Jon](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Open Comment - Agenda item H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 12:57:16 PM

As a resident of Richmond since 1993, and a homeowner in Richmond since 1998, I have witnessed vast improvements in crime in the city and the quality of police-resident relations. I recognize the room for continued improvement, and am sympathetic toward restructuring primary responses for many types of calls to organizations and services other than the police department, but I strongly oppose cutting police department funding below current levels at this time. I believe we need to support both the police and alternatives while exploring what organizations and services fit the needs of residents and the city best.

I urge the council to support Option F, and leave existing funding for the police department at currently budgeted levels.

Respectfully,
Jon Stiles

From: [Katrinka Ruk](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public comment item H-1 Richmond Police Department Funding
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 12:51:52 PM
Attachments: [06.15.21 #H1 ReimPubSafety budget.docx](#)

COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIES
P.O. BOX 70088, PT. RICHMOND, CA 94807
(510)215-9325
501(C)(6) FED ID# 94-0672760

June 15, 2021

/email/

To: City Clerk

To: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council, City Manager

Re: 06/15/21 City Council; Item H-1 Receive information on implementing Reimagining

Public Safety Task Force proposals.

On behalf of the Council of Business and Industries (COI) the following comments are being submitted for your review. We want to thank the Task Force for the work they have done in hearing community and business concerns and revising their recommendation to city council. We are in agreement with the Task Force and the City Council's June 8th decision, not to lay off any sworn police officers. The concerns from the neighborhood and business community have been directed at the loss of services and public safety coverage. Concern still remains at the council decision to not fill open positions in the police department, and, the elimination of public safety contracts.

We have seen an increase in crime in our business community— robberies, break-ins, vandalism. Limiting the police staffing and budget led to increases in public safety risks in other bay area cities. If that happens in Richmond, our businesses will suffer through loss of customers; leading to lower revenue, lower business taxes to the city,

increased businesses moving to a "safer" city, loss of local jobs, less opportunity to support YouthWorks programs...all adding to the same systemic root causes the task force is hoping to address with its recommendations.

The June 15th Agenda Report provides staff's recommendation to Council, to implement Option A. This provides for "\$2.3M coming from reductions in the Police Department budget." We cannot support this recommendation due to the impact this will have on public safety for the community at large..

We support Option F which provides for one year funding of \$6.38M from a variety of sources and no reductions in the Police Department Budget. This allows for funding of new programs for one year to determine their viability, their impact on the community and their ability to meet benchmarks and goals.

Regarding staff recommendation Option A, a \$2.3M reduction would be achieved by eliminating 10 vacant sworn officer positions and reinvesting those funds into the new recommended programs.

:

- It is unclear if positions become open during the year due to more officers leaving due to uncertainty of their positions or due to retirement, if these positions would be able to be filled.
- Without filling these 10 vacant positions, our patrol staffing will be impacted – Current staffing does not allow for coverage seven days /week, as a result, overtime is required to cover additional hours. The reduction in staffing has impacted their ability to respond to crime trends and district/beat/neighborhood needs. Patrols in our business community help defray criminal activity and without this we foresee an uptick in vandalism and customers visiting stores in other cities.
- Council, Staff and Task Force has yet to explain how the diminished responsibilities and additional reduced coverage of the police department will be addressed. The proposed identification of police functions that will be replaced or augmented should be done first BEFORE the reduction in staffing takes place. For example, how is the Council proposing to address:

✓ Response to older/cold-cases: This is a service the RPD is unable to provide with its current resources.

- ✓ Response to domestic violence and sexual assault cases: has not diminished but the number of detectives assigned to those cases has resulted in cases not getting the attention they are due for a rapid response.
- ✓ Response to robbery cases: There are not enough detectives to handle in-custody robbery cases, leaving little time to investigate cases with existing leads. Robberies at businesses will increase and could determine if a business remains in Richmond. This will also impact and increase insurance coverage with many small businesses may not be able to financially support.
- ✓ Intelligence gathering to thwart crimes (fireworks, side-show activity, etc.): Due to reduced staffing they cannot focus on gathering intelligence as they are focused on combatting retaliatory shootings, or repetitive vandalism of business entities.
- ✓ Response to human trafficking operations: Current staffing provides for only ONE DETECTIVE focused on this who is also pulled to assist other teams with their case load.
- ✓ Response to quality-of-life issues (prostitution, drug house abatement, open air narcotic sales, homelessness issues, citizen/business complaints, etc.): Previous teams addressing these issues – BRAVO and Street Teams – had to be eliminated when staffing was reduced. Beat Patrol has the responsibility and in the past required overtime to address issues due to lack of proper staffing. These issues impact how safe individuals feel in approaching local businesses.
- ✓ Response to evacuations: RPD is responsible for coordinating emergency evacuation and for enforcing laws against illegal fireworks. In the case of needing to coordinate a widespread evacuation due to a wildfire, the Police Department's current staffing will likely require requesting assistance from neighboring cities- depending upon their availability.

In response to other Options provided by staff:

- **Option B** -elimination of 36 sworn offices and \$1,215,000 in needed police support contacts would impact the health and safety of our citizens, residents – housed and unhoused, community

members and businesses.

✓ Traffic Unit would be eliminated

✓ Contracts would be terminated with:

- Shotspotter- over Memorial weekend RPD responded to shots fired which resulted in an arrest – no one called in the event therefore, if it wasn't for this, RPD would not have responded.
- Fighter tech evaluation system which evaluates RPD response to calls- this is used as a tool to determine improvements in RPD response.
- Community Violence Reduction Team
- Regulatory Unit that oversees taxi licenses
- District Attorney Assistance
- Police strategies use of force team which supports transparency
- CCTV maintenance and replacement
- RPAL subsidy of \$300,000 which could eliminate the youth programs
- Response times will be impacted resulting in elimination of response to calls regarding: nonviolent issues at schools, reporting of issues with the homeless, noise, fireworks, trespassing, loitering, suspicious person, drug usage, illegal grass operations.
- Inability to participate in community events meetings, Neighborhood Council meetings, activities.

• **Option C** – Reducing the Police Department budget by \$3M: This provides for reduction of 12 sworn officer positions – two more than Option A. With the police department already stretched, elimination of two more positions would eliminate more public safety services. In addition, there is no commentary in the Agenda Report as to what the \$1.7M elimination of proposed investment in facilities improvements includes, or, the impact of elimination of \$1.6M in vehicle purchases will have on the department.

• **Option D** – In addition to Option C, permanently eliminate additional 20.6 positions city-wide. The Agenda Report does not go into any detail as to what these positions would be; whether or

not they are vacant. If they are staffed, then this becomes a negotiable issue with the union.

- **Option E- Proposed by the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force** – provides for reducing PD budget by \$3M, permanent reduction of 12 sworn officer positions, use of FY20-21 excess funds and elimination of \$1.6M in vehicle purchases FY21-22. Again, this would increase the elimination of positions on an already stretched police force. This recommendation includes excess funds use, however, Chief French stated that there will probably not be any excess funds. And, the question of vehicle purchase does not go into detail as to how this will impact the force.

Unable to fill the 10 to 12 vacant positions, and with elimination of these units and contracts, RPD focus will be directed to emergency and violent situations only. The Task Force has not addressed how funding of other programs will address this gap in public safety. The city has a fiscal responsibility to ensure that funding is adequate to support the need of the community, residents and businesses in regards to public safety. Not filling the vacancies and elimination of these key programs will add to the deterioration of our blue-ribbon community-based nationally recognized public safety program. It also impacts recruitment and growth of economic development.

The city needs to take a measured approach in supporting social programs with pilot programs financed through outside funding and slowly phased in based on meeting benchmarks. **Overall, the social programs' success has to ultimately be measured as to their impact on improving public safety- for our residents, neighbors and businesses.** Further downsizing an already depleted police department and reducing budget dollars is not the answer.

Katrinka Ruk, Executive Director

Katrinka Ruk
Executive Director

Council of Business & Industries
510)260-4820 cell
<http://www.councilofindustries.com>

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From: [Kerry Moriarty](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments - Open Forum
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 1:01:05 PM
Attachments: [Opposition to City Council Plan.docx](#)

TO: Richmond City Council
RE: City Council Meeting June 15, 2021

SUBJECT: City Council efforts to reduce spending on Richmond Police and Public Safety

This is a hair-on-fire email directed to the City Council members who support this misguided effort to strip away a significant portion of the police budget and redistribute it to other projects.

The vast majority of Richmond residents are not requesting this change nor do they support it. Had the City Council members made any effort at all to reach out to their constituents seeking input on this, they would have shelved this idea months ago. WE DO NOT WANT THIS AT ALL!!!

Rather, we wish to see a return to Community Policing instituted by the previous Chief of Police Magnus. THIS IS WHAT MATTERS TO US!!!

The process City Council members have used to push this effort is seriously flawed. It looks like you had already determined the outcome you (the council members, not the residents) had predetermined, and then you developed a dog-and-pony show to secure the outcome you wanted (again not the outcome desired by the residents).

Our neighborhood, Richmore Village, receive ABSOLUTELY NO PUBLIC OUTREACH from our member on the Council . Yet we know how this person intends to vote. OUTRAGEOUS.

Should the City Council succeed in shoving this down the residents' throats, you should anticipate a severe and immediate backlash, including recall petitions. You shame the office you hold. This is not democracy in action. It's more like something we would see in Texas or Missouri or Arizona, not Richmond, CA.

Do not make the mistake of pushing forward with this budget plan. Instead, we, along with Richmond businesses support Option F.

Kerry Moriarty
Past President
Richmore Village Neighborhood Council

From: [Leisa Johnson](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Cc: [Leisa Johnson](#)
Subject: Written Public Comment for Item H-1, 6/15/2021 City Council meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 11:47:16 PM

Dear City Clerk,

Can you please acknowledge receipt and include these public comments in the supplementary material to the minutes?

Many thanks.

Respectfully,
Leisa

Good evening Mayor, City Councilmembers, and Staff:

Of the options presented, I support Option F, whereby RPD is not further defunded.

From the outset back, this process has had inadequate community outreach & involvement, and failed to incorporate appropriate input from City Staff to facilitate the Task Force's mandate.

The net result, the cart is currently way in front of the horse as there has been inadequate time to inform the necessary program design that will in turn allow staff to identify, review and secure the necessary funding from appropriate sources.

In particular:

- Why are City funds being used to address homeless & mental health crises, both of which are regional issues that should be funded using county, state and federal sources, including Measure X?
- This also applies to ONS: how is this funding appropriately aligned with supplementary funding from CalVIP?

This is not how new programs and a budget should be constructed. What other City or Private entity does this? None.

I also want to remind the RPA 5 majority councilmembers and Public that RPD was already significantly defunded less than a year ago in that budget's reconciliation process.

Specifically:

- RPD's budget was cut last year by ~\$7.8M
 - \$5.8M of that was due to a loss of 34 positions: 21 of those were sworn officers

and 13 were civilians.

- If you vote to remove yet another 10 or 12 vacant positions, you must be honest with the Public and let them know that in one year's time, you will have cut 44 to 46 RPD positions. That's the truth.

Importantly, as additional RPD officers retire or resign, it will take 6-18 months to hire a replacement depending upon their level of experience.

I also want to highlight that with the already reduced force, our sworn officers and civilian staff are forced to work more overtime (OT) to meet community needs. During the pandemic, many of those activities requiring OT were not required.

We all know that OT will increase again and compensation levels will be higher as things re-open and we have even fewer sworn officers & civilian staff due to the loss of 12 more vacant positions and the time it will take to hire new officers to replace those leaving due to retirement or resignation.

There were several City Employees who inappropriately (likely illegally) received discretionary pay, some for years, at the taxpayers expense and without their knowledge. Why is this Council not mandating that all of that pay be recouped & automatically deducted from their paychecks and applied towards funding these new programs and Option F?

This would have never happened elsewhere in either the public or private sector.

How many Task Force or supporting members are planning to apply for the new SEIU positions that you are attempting to create, the same union who funds many of your city council campaigns? The conflict of interests here are not unnoticed.

Your votes tonight were pre-determined last year and have far-reaching consequences that will take months to years to recover from.

You were elected to represent everyone and to help ensure everyone's public safety. But that is not what we're getting from the RPA 5 majority councilmembers who are choosing a personal agenda over the majority of this community. These same five councilmembers refuse to utilize the appropriate funding sources from the county, state & feds, including Measure X, as well as Richmond's Kids First Initiative. That speaks volumes as to the true intent behind this effort.

This should be delayed until City Staff have had adequate time to appropriately design & define these programs, they are implemented in a phased approach as pilot programs, with appropriate benchmarks and metrics of success (and failure) built in, and appropriate funding sources identified, reviewed & secured.

This is not an either/or proposal. Please stop making it one.

People are generally very supportive of these new & enhanced programs, but they should be funded elsewhere.

If those programs are successful, then and only then should you even consider further reducing an already depleted force while not compromising the public's safety and a nationally acclaimed community policing model.

Respectfully,

Leisa Johnson

Richmond Resident for 20+ years

From: [Louis Buty](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: public comments agenda item #H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 10:46:32 AM

I urge the council to vote for option F.

As a business owner in Richmond, along with my business neighbors, we have seen a tremendous increase in theft of business property. We need an increase in police presence. We do not need to “defund” police departments, but should fund them to improve training and recruitment of the best candidates. Other services that support the police and the community are great, but not at the expense of Richmond Police services.

Lou Buty

American Textile & Supply, Inc.

Environmental Grime Solutions™

(510) 236-7424

3439 Regatta Boulevard

Richmond, CA 94804

www.americantex.com

This e-mail may contain American Textile & Supply, Inc.'s proprietary information intended for the sole use of the recipient(s). Any use by others is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender and delete all copies of the message. Thank You.

From: [Peter Foller](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Cc: [Peter Foller](#)
Subject: Comments on 6/15/21 Item H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 8:17:49 AM

I urge the city council to fully support our law enforcement officers, in budget and in word and deed.

In the case not, I am "reimagining" more burglary, more gun crime, SF-scale car break-ins, SF-scale shoplifting, more boarded-up storefronts, more disrespect of public and private property with graffiti, more illegal dumping, more flagrant littering along our roads, more donuts spun in the streets, more red lights run, more illegal fireworks, more catalytic converter thefts, more unsanitary encampments, further stunted investment, and additional risks to residents' life and limb.

Where else does it end-- neglected law-abiding citizens risking prosecution to defend themselves and their property?

I would rather "reimagine" a Richmond that is known to be a safe community, is welcoming of business, and which has finally stepped back from its long history of squandering the opportunities the world-leading entrepreneurial ecosystem of the SF Bay Area would have provided to residents in the absence of its toxic politics.

From: [Romeo Benson](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments - Open Forum
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 10:10:29 AM

Greetings Honorable Mayor and City Council,

On June 8, City Council voted 5 to 2 to not fill 12 sworn police position vacancies, which was unfortunate to hear. Everyday I hear "Defund the Police" on the news, radio and our neighborhoods. What are the benefits of defunding Police and not filling police position vacancies? Is the City Council feeling pressured to reduce the Police budget?

Like many cities, priority is SAFETY. Reducing and not filling police vacancies is not the answer. If anything, it would hurt our community and the residents. Your residents are dealing with more crime and nuisances than ever. Police are only able to assist with crimes in progress because they do not have enough officers to respond or resolve other criminalities. Already, Police are unable to respond to shots heard and fired, suspicious persons, alarms, fireworks, and when cars decide to speed down your residential road at 60 miles per hour, doing donuts and fish tailing closely to residential cars. Every week I hear these nuisances. Every day I hear fireworks booming through the neighborhood. Every day I hear the screeching of tires and see the hideous tire marks left behind.

If Police can not handle the amount of calls to make their residents feel safer, why is the City Council deciding to reduce the Police budget and not willing to fill these vacancies?

These times do not feel safe. I recommend the City Council to not reduce the Police budget and to adopt budget Option F. Which would allow adequate staffing to run the Police Department and make the City and residents feel a lot more safer.

Thank you for your time and service.

R Benson

From: [Shaila Regan](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item H-1, June 15, 2021
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 9:37:52 AM

To: Richmond City Council
Re: "Reimagine Public Safety Task Force" vote scheduled for June 15, 2021

Vote according to the wishes of the people of the city of Richmond, and **vote for Option F. Do not defund the police.** Continue to work to make the police force more community based and responsive to the needs of the people of the city of Richmond, CA.

Sincerely,

Shaila Regan
1205 Melville Square, 407
Richmond, CA 94804
1-510-672-5668

From: [Steve Bischoff](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: To City Council members Re Budget Option F
Date: Monday, June 14, 2021 5:47:41 PM

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and other Council members.

This is to ask you to support Budget Option F which does not reduce funding for the Police Department in the FY 21-22 Richmond budget. This option provides several advantages: first, it leaves the Police Department better able to respond to challenges such as a mass evacuation in response to a wildfire, something a budget cut would jeopardize; second, it will give you a chance to reach out to the general public and hear what they would like to see you do with the Police Department and other public safety efforts ; three, it gives you some time to see how effective some of the other options that you have funded are before you have to make decisions in the future. So, I hope you'll take advantage of this opportunity while leaving our community safer in the near term.

Thank you, Steve Bischoff, May Valley resident since July 1999

From: [Steve Mirabito](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda #H-1 Reimage Public Safety
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 10:25:06 AM
Attachments: [City of Richmond Public Safety Reimagine.pdf](#)



Storage PRO Management, Inc.
1615 Bonanza Street, Suite 208
PO Box 459
Walnut Creek, CA 94597-0459

Phone: 925-938-6300 ext. 111
Fax: 925-938-6006
www.storagepro.com

June 15, 2021

Honorable Tom Butts, Mayor
City of Richmond
440 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond CA 94804

Via: cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us

RE: PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA ITEM #H-1 REIMAGINE PUBLIC SAFETY

Dear Mayor Butts and Members of the Richmond City Council:

I am a proud Santa Fe Neighborhood business owner, supporter of community non-profit associations, and employer of many citizens of Richmond.

I support the concept of reimagining community policing, including the use of civilian City employees to respond and process non-violent crimes. However, I stand with the Santa Fe Neighborhood Council in opposing the reallocation of any portion of the police budget to fund this concept. The community must retain a fully trained police force to support and successfully implement the goals of a reimagined public safety program.

Although Option "F" is least impactful, it will adversely impact the police budget which will impact police training, morale and successful implementation of proposed public safety goals.

The reimagined public safety goals must be funded separately and concurrently with full policing—i.e. use non-police funding to demonstrate the success or failure of a reimagined public safety program. The shock caused by a reduced police force will destabilize the community's public safety and contribute to the failure of the proposed alternative public safety concept.

Use alternative funds to implement and demonstrate the success of a progressive public safety concept.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this important land-use matter.

Respectfully,

Stephen Mirabito

Joyce Mirabito

From: [s.kusano](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item H-1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 4:52:55 AM

As a resident of Richmond, I support Option F. Our Police Department needs to be adequately funded.

There are currently not enough Police officers to meet our basic needs. The funding for the vacant positions should not be eliminated.

Thank you,

Susan Kusano

2908 Oxford Ave, Richmond

From: [Thomas O'Reilly](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: 1) public comments – Open Session prior to Closed Session; 2) public comments – Open Forum; 3) public comments agenda item # H1
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 8:45:38 AM

To the Richmond City Council:
Funding the Police Department to the highest police officers count is essential to the public safety of the citizens of Richmond. Crime is increasing and we need more police officers than we currently have. As such, I support Option F.

- **Option F: Total year-1 funding would be \$6.38M funded from a variety of sources, but with no monies coming from reductions in the Police Department budget....A MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS OF EACH IS INCLUDED IN THE ATTACHED AGENDA.**

Tom O'Reilly
Marina Bay, Richmond resident since 1988, 33 years.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

I am writing to ask that you take our community's safety and best interest to heart. A cut to the Richmond Police Department would mean 32 less officers on our streets and would have significant impacts on crime, response times and overall public safety.

We all know that additional funding towards community services and intervention programs would help with homelessness, gun violence prevention and intervention, and the mental health crisis on our streets. But slashing the Richmond Police Department's budget without a thorough plan only means 32 less police officers working in our community -- that's just not safe.

Richmond has already seen what defunding our police department means for the city. Our police department has been understaffed with officers forced to work overtime, making it harder for them to be there when we need them most. We've also seen the impacts of a defunded police department in cities like Vallejo and Oakland where crime is on the rise. Richmond deserves better.

We don't need to defund our police -- we need a DETAILED plan for REAL reform.

I urge you to vote NO on budget cuts to the Richmond Police Department. We can make reforms that make sense without putting our friends, family and neighbors at risk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'R' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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I urge you to vote NO on budget cuts to the Richmond Police Department. We can make reforms that make sense without putting our friends, family and neighbors at risk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Damon Tice". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely, *Santiago Zaragoza*

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Quon Hueta", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Katie O'Connell".

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Kimball", written over a horizontal line.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Lu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping tail.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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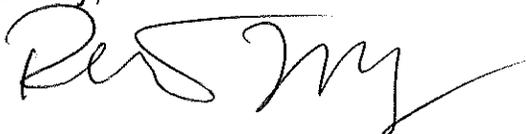
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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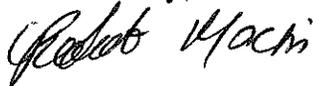
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Macchi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Myra Rodriguez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

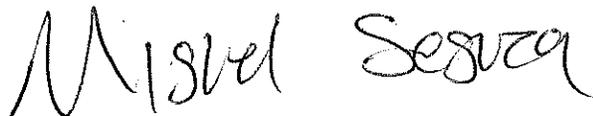
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I urge you to vote NO on budget cuts to the Richmond Police Department. We can make reforms that make sense without putting our friends, family and neighbors at risk.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Misael Segura". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sincerely,

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcela Lopez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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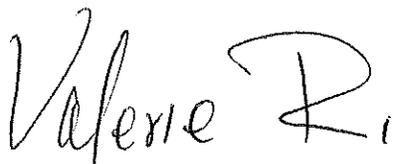
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I urge you to vote NO on budget cuts to the Richmond Police Department. We can make reforms that make sense without putting our friends, family and neighbors at risk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valerie R." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely, *Leticia Sandoval*

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

Mariana Rosas

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lucy O'Connell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Lucy O'Connell".

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

Rafael Aberca

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter D.', written in a cursive style.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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We all know that additional funding towards community services and intervention programs would help with homelessness, gun violence prevention and intervention, and the mental health crisis on our streets. But slashing the Richmond Police Department's budget without a thorough plan only means 32 less police officers working in our community -- that's just not safe.

Richmond has already seen what defunding our police department means for the city. Our police department has been understaffed with officers forced to work overtime, making it harder for them to be there when we need them most. We've also seen the impacts of a defunded police department in cities like Vallejo and Oakland where crime is on the rise. Richmond deserves better.

We don't need to defund our police -- we need a DETAILED plan for REAL reform.

I urge you to vote NO on budget cuts to the Richmond Police Department. We can make reforms that make sense without putting our friends, family and neighbors at risk.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Padellaro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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Sincerely,

Paul Rodriguez

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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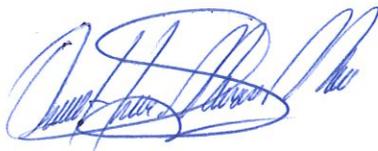
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C. H. ...", written over a circular stamp or seal.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'J' followed by several horizontal loops.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'R' followed by a long horizontal line.

Sincerely,

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Shirley" or similar, written over a horizontal line.

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Sincerely, *Mambel Cervantes*

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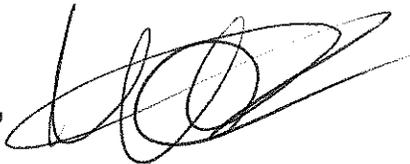
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. ...', written over a horizontal line.

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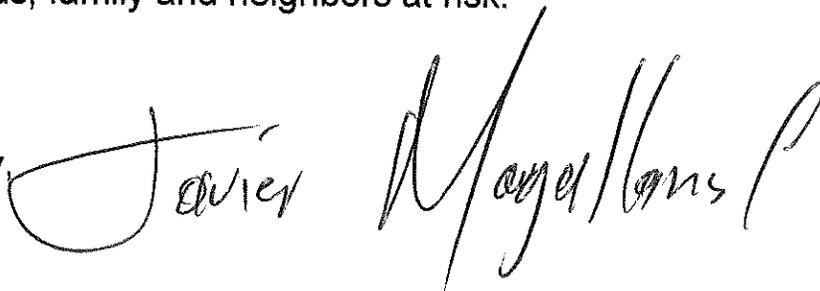
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Javier Magallon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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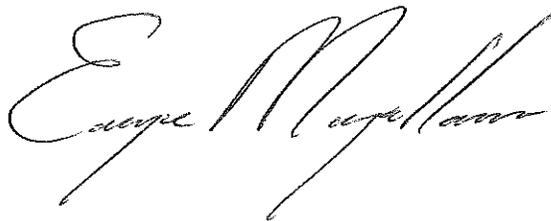
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Magallon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Lee', written in a cursive style.

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Sincerely,

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Sincerely, JUAN VELAZQUEZ

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'M. ...' or similar, written in a cursive style.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric L. Smith". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "E" and "S".

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Sincerely,

Anabella Carrillo

Richmond CA City Councilmembers,

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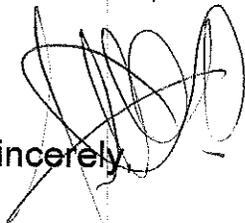
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Sincerely,

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Sincerely,

Lushen Sontax

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Brumby". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a dark ink on a white background.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Chavez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

From: [Vernon Whitmore](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Memo for item H-1 Reimaging Task force
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 11:26:07 AM
Attachments: [letter to the Mayor Butt \(1\).docx](#)

Good morning Madam Clerk,

The attached Memo is for item H-1, Reimaging Taskforce.

Thank You

Vernon Whitmore

Globe Media Solutions

Whitmore and Majors Consultants LLC

510-459-4730

Vernon@whitmore4com



Memo

To: Richmond Mayor Tom Butt, members of the Richmond City Council

We as Presidents of Richmond Neighborhood Councils are supporting **Option F**

For the following reasons (partial list):

On June 30, 2020, the Richmond City Council heard item I-1: *to direct staff to prepare a plan to transition from Richmond's current 'community policing' model to a plan conducive to the reduced police force and return to Council with the preferred policing model and a plan for implementation by the end of Fiscal Year 2020/2021.*

It was **not** created with the intent of reducing the current police budget or staffing.

Richmond residents deserve everything needed for the best quality of life: Safety, Economic Stability and Opportunity. Limiting the police staffing and budget led to increases in public safety risks in other bay area cities, unfortunately criminal activity is on the increase in Richmond.

People are getting robbed after shopping at Richmond businesses. More shootings and homicides have occurred just in the past two weeks; businesses have reported break-ins and vandalism. If this is a sign of what is to come, Quality of Life in Richmond is at serious risk. Do not let these unintended consequences of limiting Police Chief French and the department put more Richmond residents at higher risks.

It has come to our attention that an Implementation Monitoring Committee has already been formed from the sitting Reimaging Task force. Our neighborhood councils strongly urge Mayor Butt to select a new unbiased Implementation Monitoring committee that is more reflective of all the citizens of Richmond.

**PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE FUNDING FROM THE RICHMOND
POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET. We Support Option F**

Best Regards,

Vernon Whitmore

Neighborhood Council Presidents listed below:

Myrtle Braxton, Laurel Park

Joe Fisher, Coronado

Oscar Garcia, Iron Triangle

Madelaine Law, Park Plaza

Naomi Williams, Pullman

Vernon Whitmore, Santa Fe

From: ray.on400.7
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Agenda Item H-1. RECEIVE information on additional financial options for implementing Reimagining Public Safety Task Force proposals and DIRECT staff to incorporate one specific option into the Fiscal Year 202...
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 8:23:39 AM

Reimagine Richmond advocates for a rebalancing of Richmond City's budget: reallocation of some funding from the Richmond Police Department to community services.

There is a scarcity of resources that the most underserved in our communities need access to. Supporting the reallocation of funding from the Richmond Police Department budget to fund five new safety programs that target the root causes of homelessness, gun violence, mental health crises, racial profiling, and youth unemployment serves to strengthen the community.

But when City Council Members refer to the citizens of Richmond as "gang bangers, mental ill nuts, rapist, domestic violence individual and thugs who rob and steal whatever they can" it shows a racial bias towards profiling which exasperated the situation.

Thank You.

William Goodwin

From: [TRAC](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#); [Nat Bates](#); [Tom Butt - external](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Demnlus Johnson](#); [Eduardo Martinez](#); [Gayle McLaughlin >](#); [Melvin Willis](#)
Cc: [Laura Snideman](#); [Antonio Banuelos](#); [Anil Comelo](#); [Joe Leach](#); [Alan Wolken](#); [Lina Velasco](#); [Tawfic Halaby](#); [Bruce Brubaker](#)
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #H-3: Proposed 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan/Budget
Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021 7:07:19 AM

Mayor Butt and City Councillors,

The 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan/Budget proposed for adoption tonite is missing four major grant-funded projects. Moreover, it includes a project that was completed last year and another whose purpose was superseded two years ago. The situation is as follows:

SF Bay Trail - Pt Richmond to Pt. Molate: This old project to construct the Bay Trail between Castro Street and Stenmark Drive has been superseded by construction of this trail by the Bay Area Toll Authority. It should not be in the CIP.

SF Bay Trail - Pt. Molate: This project should be added to the CIP for construction of the Bay Trail along the shoreline of the City's Point Molate property using the \$1,019,967 in the above project description supplemented by \$2,139,000 in grant funds from CNRA, SCC and ABAG's Bay Trail Project to fully fund construction. The approximately \$1 million remaining in the above project account was used as matching funds in applications that led to award of these grants and is the residual from the \$3 million designated "In consideration of Richmond's agreement to use such Specifically Allocated Funds for the construction of the San Francisco Bay Trail" in the 2009 Release and Settlement Agreement between Chevron and the City resolving litigation over Chevron's underpayment of Utility User Taxes.

SF Bay Trail - Goodrick Avenue: This project was completed last year and should not be in the CIP.

Terminal 4 Wharf Removal Project: The SCC, SFBRA and others have awarded the City \$7,434,400 to fully fund this project. Hence, the project should be in the CIP.

Point Molate Shoreline Erosion Control Project: The PS&E and CEQA documentation were completed for this project last year, so it seems that it should be in the CIP.

SF Bay Trail - Garrard Blvd. to Castro Street: WCCTAC awarded the City \$241,000 for this project implementing the Ferry to Bridge to Greenway Complete Streets Plan. It seems that it should be in the CIP.

TRAC requests that the four missing projects be added to the CIP and the completed or obsolete ones deleted. We would be glad to assist City staff in providing narratives and detail on funding sources for the missing projects.

Bruce

Bruce Beyaert, TRAC Chair

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<http://www.pointrichmond.com/baytrail/>

<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/109/TRAC>

Photos: <https://sfbaytrailinrichmond.shutterfly.com/pictures/5> .

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments H-3 Budget Session
Date: Thursday, June 10, 2021 4:09:39 PM

good Evening Mayor Butt, Council Members and City Staff, I Have looked at the five year capital Improvement Plan and I like how it is outlined

so I am asking that the Council to ADOPT the Resolution for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 through 2025-2026

Sincerely
Cordell