



CITY OF RICHMOND
Recreation & Parks Commission Meeting
AMENDED AGENDA

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 6:00 PM

This meeting is held on Zoom that is accessible to people with disabilities.

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/93771521625?pwd=ZEI1Q0ZiOHV4b0lRRnZjeUYxak9RZz09>

Webinar ID: 937 7152 1625

Passcode: 156963

Or One tap mobile: +16699006833, or 93771521625# US (San Jose)

Or join by phone: US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/abTvlsoMuj>

Board Members: Joey Smith, Chair, Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Vice Chair, Allison Blakeley, Secretary, Vacant, Treasurer

Commissioners: Maryn Hurlbut, Soheila Bana, Eleanor Thompson, Catalin Kaser, Aaron Rowden

1. **Call to Order** (2 min)

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Genuine acknowledgement of the value of a land acknowledgement
 - The opportunity and risk of this moment in our agenda, and how to embrace it wisely
 - The simple acknowledgement that we stand, sit, live and exist on land that was previously and currently occupied and cared for by First Peoples prior to the establishment of the United States, California statehood and the founding of the City of Richmond
 - Embracing the truth and leaning into our discomfort
 - Relentlessly identifying and pursuing opportunities for genuine engagement with local indigenous communities to understand indigenous struggles, needs and goals with a specific focus on exploring pathways to return indigenous lands to indigenous hands

2. **Roll Call** (1 min)

3. **Welcome and Meeting Procedures** (1 min)

*Individuals who would like to address the Recreation and Parks Commission on relevant matters not listed on the agenda or on Department Reports for Information items not pulled for discussion, may do so under **Open Forum**.*

Public comment may be made on agenda items when the item is discussed. The standard amount of time for each speaker, in either instance, will be two (2) minutes.

4. **Agenda Review** (1 min)

The order in which items will be heard may be adjusted by Commissioner vote at this time. In addition, items may be removed from or placed on the Consent Calendar at this time. Individual items may be removed from Department Reports for Information for discussion, explanation, or continuance to a future meeting. In addition, the order in which items will be heard may be adjusted at this time.

5. **Open Forum** (10 min.; 2 min per speaker)

*Issues brought to the attention of the commission in **Open Forum** cannot result in discussion or action at this meeting. Individuals who would like to address the Recreation and Parks Commission on relevant matters **not** listed on the agenda or on Department Reports for Information items **not** pulled for*

Public comment may be made on agenda items when the item is discussed.

6. **Announcements through the Chair** (5 min.)

7. **Consent Calendar** (2 min)

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered matters requiring little or no discussion and will be acted upon in one motion.

APPROVE minutes of the February 2, 2022 meeting.

8. **Department Reports For Information** (10 min)

Unless items were pulled for discussion during Agenda Review, all reports are considered received and accepted by the commission requiring no further action.

- a. Public Works: Facilities – Jose Urquilla
- b. Parks & Landscaping Divisions – Greg Hardesty
 - a. **UPDATE** on Park Signage to include the following information
 - i. Ordinance regarding dog leash and waste pick up by park users
 - ii. Posting multilingual signage (English/Spanish)
 - iii. Signage regarding Illegal dumping
 - iv. Signage with QR Codes
- c. Community Services Division: Recreation and Neighborhood Services – Ranjana Maharaj

9. **Presentations**

- 1. None

10. **Ad Hoc Committee Reports** (20 min)

- a. Sustainability and Climate Responsiveness Committee (Brendan/Catalin/Maryn)
- b. Willie Mays Day Project (Maryn/Eleanor/Joey)
- c. Associate Commissioner Committee (Maryn/Allison/Joey)

d. Statement of Policy and Guidelines for Naming or Re-naming of Parks, Facilities and Streets

11. **Discussions and Action Items**

Following discussion of each item, the commission may vote to make recommendations to Commissioners, staff and/or to the City Council.

a. **COORDINATE** open conversation on how the city can support the native stewardship of Ookwe Park:

- i. Recreation and Parks Commission
- ii. Sogorea Te' Land Trust
- iii. Arts and Culture Commission
- iv. Planning Commission

b. **APPROVE** – a nomination request for Memorial Signage to honor James “Jim” Matzorkis, former Port Director

c. **APPROVE** – a request to convert one tennis court to fixed pickleball courts at BTA

12. **Commissioner Liaison Reports** (18 minutes, 2 min. per member)

At 8:00 PM, any items remaining on the agenda that require immediate attention may be moved to this time. All other items will be tabled to another meeting or the following commission meeting in order to make fair and attentive decisions. This meeting adjourns at 8:30 PM. The meeting may be extended by a majority vote of the commissioners.

13. **Commissioner Comments** (9 min.;1 min. per person)

14. **Agenda Setting for Next Meeting and Future Topics** (3 min.)

15. **Adjournment** (1 min.)

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

As presiding officer, the Recreation and Parks Commission Chair has the authority to preserve order at all Recreation and Parks Commission meetings, to remove or cause the removal of any person from any such meeting for disorderly conduct, or for making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, using profanity, or becoming boisterous, threatening or personally abusive while addressing said Commission, and to enforce the rules of the Commission. Any documents produced by the City and distributed to the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available at the Community Services/Recreation Division located at 3230 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, California during normal business hours.

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

PURSUANT to the Governor of the State of California’s Assembly Bill 361 and in the interest of the public health and safety, attendance at the City of Richmond City Council meeting will be limited to Council members, essential City of Richmond staff, and members of the news media. Public comment will be confined to items appearing on the agenda and will be limited to the methods provided below.

Public comment may be submitted by email and/or Zoom video conference in the manner that follows; provided that no member of the public may submit more than one verbal comment per agenda item.

1. Via email to recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us by 1:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Emails MUST contain in the subject line 1) Public Comments – Open Forum; **OR** 2) Public Comments agenda item # - [include the agenda item number].

All such email will be posted on-line and emailed to the Commission before the meeting is called to order. **No individual email will be read into the record. Due to the high volume of emails received, emails that do not contain the correct identifying information in the subject line may be overlooked and may not become part of the record. Email received after 1:00 p.m. will be posted on-line following the meeting as part of the supplemental materials attached to the meeting minutes.**

2. Via Zoom by video conference or by phone using the following link/call-in numbers – for Open Session:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Zoom webinar link: <https://zoom.us/j/93771521625?pwd=ZEI1Q0ZiOHV4b0lRRnZjeUYxak9RZz09>

Webinar ID: 937 7152 1625

Passcode: 156963

Or One tap mobile: +16699006833,or 93771521625# US (San Jose)

Or join by phone: US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592
or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099

Webinar ID: 937 7152 1625

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/abTvIsoMuJ>

- a. To comment by video conference, click on the Participants button at the bottom of your screen and select the “Raise Your Hand” button to request to speak when Public Comment is being asked for. Speakers will be called upon in the order they select the “Raise Your Hand” feature. When called upon, press the unmute button. After the allotted time, you will then be re-muted.

**

- d. To comment by phone, you will be prompted to “Raise Your Hand” by pressing “*9” to request to speak when Public Comment is asked for. When called upon, you will be asked to unmuted by pressing *6. After the allotted time, you will then be re-muted. Instructions of how to raise your hand by phone are available at:
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663-Joining-a-meeting-by-phone>. **

3. Use the below email address to correspond directly with the Chairperson for any other issues:
rec.parkscommission@gmail.com

**The Chair will announce the agenda item number and open public comment when appropriate. Individuals who would like to address the Commission should raise their hand. The Chair will close public comment when public comment is concluded.

Open Forum for Public Comment: Individuals who would like to address the Commission on matters not listed on the agenda or on items remaining on the consent calendar may do so under Open Forum.

The City cannot guarantee that its network and/or the site will be uninterrupted. To ensure that the Commission receives your comments, you are strongly encouraged to submit your comments in writing in advance of the meeting.

AB 361 Procedures in the Event of Technical Difficulties: In the event the meeting broadcast is disrupted, or if a **technical issue on the agency’s end** disrupts public participation, the legislative body board cannot take any further action on the agenda until the technical issue is resolved.

Record of all public comments: Properly labeled public comments will be considered a public record, put into the official meeting record, available after the meeting as supplemental materials, and will be posted as an attachment to the meeting minutes when the minutes are posted: [Archive Center • Richmond • CivicEngage](#)

Procedures for Removing Consent Calendar Items from the Consent Calendar: Members of the public who request to remove an item from the consent calendar must first discuss the item with a staff member by phone or a back-and-forth email discussion, and state the name of the staff member when requesting removal of the item from the consent calendar.

Any member of the Commission who would like to remove an item from the consent calendar must notify the appropriate staff person prior to the meeting. Although members of the Commission are encouraged to ask questions and share concerns with staff ahead of the meeting, they are not required to do so.

The Recreation Division staff must be informed of any requests to remove items from the Consent Calendar.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities: Upon request, the City will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services and sign language interpreters, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be emailed to recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us or submitted by phone at 510-620-6950. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility.

Effect of Advisory on In-person participation: During the pendency of Assembly Bill 361, the language in this Advisory portion of the agenda supersedes any language contemplating in-person public comment.

Richmond Recreation & Parks Commission

MINUTES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022 6:00 PM



To view a video of this meeting click on this link:

https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=37

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order by Chair Joey Smith at 6:00 P.M. who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Joey Smith, Sohelia Bana*, Allison Blakeley, Brendan Havenar-Daughton, Maryn Hurlbut, Catalin Kaser, Aaron Rowden, and Eleanor Thompson

*Arrived after Roll Call

ABSENT: None

Chair Smith requested that the Commission embrace a genuine acknowledgement that the City of Richmond was situated on land that was previously and currently occupied and cared for by First Peoples, the Huichin: Confederated Villages of Lisjan, Chochenyo Ohlone Territory, made up of the seven Tribes of Lisjan (Ohlone), Karkin (Ohlone), Bay Miwok, Plains Miwok, Wappo, Delta Yokut and Napian (Patwin) whose territory included Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano, Napa and San Joaquin counties. The intent is to relentlessly identify and pursue opportunities for genuine engagement with local indigenous communities to understand indigenous struggles, needs and goals, with a specific focus on exploring pathways to return indigenous lands to indigenous hands. Vice Chair Havenar-Daughton, added the importance of reflecting on our work to ensure we are contributing to and in alignment with the goals of our indigenous neighbors and Community members.

Chair Smith provided a brief overview of the meeting procedures and the Mission of the Recreation and Parks Commission.

AGENDA REVIEW

Motion by Commissioner Hurlbut to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice Chair Havenar-Daughton, and carried unanimously by a voice vote.

OPEN FORUM

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, noted his understanding that the Mayor would make an appointment to the

Commission in the near future. He invited Commissioners to a performance of *As You Like It* at the Masquer's Playhouse on Friday and Saturday at 8:00 P.M., \$30 per person, proof of vaccination required. Mr. Hindler also invited Commissioners to attend the Council of Industries general meeting on February 16 at 11:30 A.M. when Mayor Tom Butt will present an update of the City's 2021 activities as we move forward into 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS THROUGH THE CHAIR

1. Chair Smith advised that the Next Commission meeting would be held on March 2, 2022 via Zoom.
2. The balance in the Commission Trust account was reported to be \$413.08, with an additional \$1,000 in the Trust for the RTA Snow Ball account.
3. There were no membership changes.
4. Anyone wishing to speak during this meeting was encouraged to send an email to recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us by 1:00 P.M. the day of the meeting. Emails must contain in the subject line 1) Public Comments – Open Forum; or 2) Public Comments agenda item # [include the agenda item number].

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approve Minutes of the January 12, 2022 Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Hurlbut to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2022 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Rowden, and carried by a voice vote, with an abstention by Vice Chair Havenar-Daughton due to absence.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Ranjana Maharaj reported that she had been appointed as the Deputy Director of Recreation on December 1, 2021, and that all Deputy Directors for the Divisions in the Community Services Department (CSD) had also been appointed.

Public Works: Facilities

The report from Jose Urquilla, Superintendent of Facilities, was provided verbally and visually by Ms. Maharaj.

Parks & Landscaping Divisions:

The report from Greg Hardesty, Superintendent of Parks & Landscaping, was provided verbally and visually. Mr. Hardesty reported he was still working on the ordinance regarding dog leash and waste pickup by park users. He responded to questions from the Commission, some of which related to the not-currently-being-maintained putting green and the lack of resources to maintain it.

UPDATE on Park Signage to include the following information:

- i. Ordinance regarding dog leash and waste pickup by park users
- ii. Posting multilingual signage (English/Spanish)
- iii. Signage regarding illegal dumping
- iv. Signage with QR Codes

Community Services Division:

Ranjana Maharaj, Deputy Director, CSD, provided an extensive oral and visual report and responded to comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Hurlbut responded to a portion of Ms. Maharaj's report where staff and members had waited late into the night at the last City Council meeting to support the Juneteenth Freedom Mural Project that had been placed on that agenda but which had been continued to the next meeting due to the lateness of the hour. She stated in the past an item that had been approved by the Recreation & Park Commission would be presented on the City Council Consent Calendar. She recommended that the same process be pursued with the City Council in the future.

Ms. Maharaj advised that the Willie Mays' Day celebration would be considered by the City Council at its February 15, 2022 meeting.

Commissioner Kaser requested a simple flow chart to show how things moved between the Recreation & Parks Commission and the City Council.

PRESENTATIONS: None

AD HOC COMMITTEE STATEMENTS

Sustainability and Climate Responsiveness Committee (Brendan/Catalin/Maryn)

Vice Chair Havenar-Daughton reported he would be meeting with Mr. Hardesty with respect to the Richmond Greenway, and he and Commissioner Kaser had been continuing to populate a laundry list of the stakeholders engaged in the improvement of the Greenway, putting together some strategies of how to engage the public, highlight the work, and how they might update the master plan with a specific focus on the Greenway.

Commissioner Kaser referred to Safe Routes Partnership, a national non-profit that provided resources to help communities create safe routes for walking, biking and rolling, and now safe routes to parks. She also referred to asphalt art (murals on asphalt) about beautifying pavement and using it to reclaim space, redefine space, make statements and create a sense of place. She would pass the safe routes to parks information along to Ms. Maharaj.

Willie Mays' Day (Maryn/Eleanor/Joey)

Willie Mays Field Committee (Maryn/Eleanor/Joey)

Kiosk Concept Paper for a "Walk of Honor" Committee (Maryn/Eleanor/Joey)

Commissioner Hurlbut asked for a future meeting item to combine Willie Mays' Day, Willie Mays Field Committee and the Kiosk Concept Paper for a "Walk of Honor" Committee into one Ad Hoc Committee entitled *Willie Mays Day Project* given that they were all being considered as one set of dependent items. She reported the summary of all three was that the set up was ongoing and on time, everyone involved had been identified, there had been initial conversations, everyone seemed excited about what was going on, and the Deputy Director was supportive of the project plan. She listed a number of the stakeholders involved in the City and the Giants organization, among others, emphasized the need to keep all involved, and advised of a task list to keep the process moving given the limited time before Willie Mays' Day.

Associate Commissioner Committee (Maryn/Allison/Joey)

Commissioner Hurlbut noted that the follow-up meeting had not yet been scheduled and she would schedule a catch up meeting with Dominique Roache-Green to get direction on how to proceed.

Ms. Maharaj recommended focusing on the Willie Mays project for now and deferring the Associate Commissioner Committee pending the completion of the Willie Mays event.

Statement of Policy and Guidelines for Naming or Re-naming of Parks, Facilities and Streets

Commissioner Hurlbut noted that over the last few years some communications had gotten lost in the shuffle between the City Council policies and procedures and the Commission's policies and procedures. As a result, she had asked to have a meeting set up with the key players and the committee to clarify the procedures.

DISCUSSIONS & ACTION ITEMS

- a. **APPROVE** Installation of a Sculpture in the Grassy Area Near the Entrance to the Richmond Art Center – Winifred Day, Arts and Culture Commission

Chair Smith noted that the item was not being discussed at this time pending communication from Winifred Day.

- b. **COORDINATE** Open Conversation on How the City can Support the Native Stewardship of Ookwe Park:

Commissioner Havenar-Daughton reported that they were working to get contact information for the Chairs of the Richmond Arts & Culture Commission and the Planning Commission along with their respective staff members. He reported that the Sogorea Te' Land Trust had been responsive and interested in a conversation and there could potentially be 8-10 people involved with all four groups. Once everyone's contact information was available a draft agenda would be circulated. He would report out to the Commission any outcomes from the meeting along with any potential action items and next steps.

- v. Recreation and Parks Commission
- vi. Sogorea Te' Land Trust
- vii. Arts and Culture Commission
- viii. Planning Commission

Commissioner Hurlbut requested a chart of the City's new staff reorganization along with the Deputy Directors for the Community Services Department.

Ms. Maharaj reported that was being prepared for the budget presentation and the changes would be approved at the next budget hearing prior to June 2022. She was unsure when a finalized organization chart would be available but was aware that it would have to be approved prior to June 30, 2022.

COMMISSIONER LIAISON REPORTS

There were no reports.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Vice Chair Havenar-Daughton advised that he was involved with an organization that was supporting park and recreation commissions across the state and there were a lot of resources they shared which he would pass along to staff.

Commissioner Blakeley explained that she had discovered that the El Sobrante Rotary had adopted La Moine Park, and she verified with Ms. Maharaj that the Rotary could apply for a Love Your Block grant with respect to that park.

Commissioner Kaser noted that she had participated in the celebrations for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Unity Park, and had also participated in the Self Care Sunday Bicycle Ride sponsored by Rich City Rides, starting from Unity Park. She commented that some community members had asked her how to get improvements for their parks and she asked where to get that information.

Chair Smith and Ms. Maharaj explained that members of the community could speak during public forum at Commission meetings, could write directly to the Commission, or could contact Greg Hardesty directly. If there was a major project involved the City could also seek grants for park improvements.

Commissioner Bana asked for a budget allocation for each district at the beginning of each year with the amount budgeted for each district to be reported to the Recreation & Parks Commission, and she urged that the Commission have a say in the allocation of funds.

Ms. Maharaj explained that the Public Works Department was charged with the maintenance of parks and Greg Hardesty or Joe Leach, Public Works Director, should be approached to provide a response to what could be done for any specific maintenance request or need. She suggested that the Public Works Department could make a presentation to the Commission to describe its process, the availability of funds, and how the Department handled requests.

Commissioner Bana asked that the Public Works Department be advised of her request for information and urged that the Commission be allowed some input into the need for funds.

Commissioner Hurlbut offered a brief description of how funds were budgeted to Richmond by the State of California and Contra Costa County based on prescribed formulae.

Commissioner Blakeley explained that the Public Works Department had promptly responded to any problems in the parks in her district.

Commissioner Thompson thanked Commissioner Hurlbut for her work and report on the Willie Mays project. She also commended Ms. Maharaj for the \$8 million grant for the Shields-Reid Park and Shields-Reid Community Center in North Richmond.

AGENDA SETTING FOR NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE TOPICS

There were no additional comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anita L. Tucci-Smith
Minutes Clerk

Recreation and Parks Commission 2022 Meeting Attendance

Commissioner	Term Ending	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Total Absences
Joey Smith	Appt. 5/2/17-10/26/19 Re-appt. 12/3/19-10/26/22	P	P											0
Brendan Havenar-Daughton	Appt. 11/5/19-10/26/22	E	P											0
Soheila Bana	Appt. 10/17/17-10/26/19 Re-appt. 3/17/20-10/26/23	P	P											0
Allison Blakeley	Appt. 12/3/19-10/26/22	P	P											0
Maryn Hurlbut	Appt. 3/15/16-10/26/19 Re-appt. 12/3/19-10/26/22	P	P											0
Catalin Kaser	Appt. 6/15/21-4/28/24 Serving unexpired term	P	P											0
Aaron Rowden	Appt. 10/26/21 – 10/26/24	P	P											0
Eleanor Thompson	Appt. 7/10/18-10/26/18 Re-appt. 12/4/18-10/26/21	P	P											0

Legend

P = Present
A = Absent
E = Excused
Absence

Excused absences are:

1. Military and related military service leave
2. Bereavement
3. Attendance of Commission related conferences and meetings.

Terms that need date correction:

1. Joey Smith
2. Brendan Havenar-Daughter
3. Maryn Hurlbut
4. Allison Blakeley

Terms Expiring 10/26/21

1. Eleanor Thompson

City of Richmond
Recreation & Parks Department
Recreation & Parks Commission

Nomination Form
For
Naming or Re-Naming Parks, Facilities or Streets

1. Name of Nominee:

James "Jim" Matzorkis

Individual () Group () Organization

2. Nominated By:

Rich-Zhoushan Commission &

Name: Nathaniel Bates
Address: 440 Civic Ctr Plaza
City: Richmond Zip: 94804
Telephone: (510) 620-6581
Organization: COR

3. Proposed
() Facility
() Park
() Street
 Other

Current Name: Hanging sign underneath the Point Portero Port Entry sign
Proposed Name: In memoriam of
James "Big Jim" Matzorkis, Port Director 2001-2020

PLEASE INDICATE THE CATEGORY THAT APPLIES TO THE NOMINATION:

Service Recognition () Monetary, Capital or Material
() Recognition of Heroes Special Feature, Area, Locale

PLEASE FILL IN ONLY THE SECTION THAT APPLIES TO THE PROPOSED NOMINATION. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE THIRD (3) PAGE OR OTHER RELATED MATERIALS OR COMMENTS MAYBE ATTACHED TO THE APPLICATION.

SERVICE RECOGNITION: (Individual, group or organization)

1. Was service provided in a voluntary non-paid status or if a group or organization was contribution provided outside the normal function of a profit making organization?
 YES NO
2. Did the contribution exceed five (5) years in duration?
 YES NO
3. Is the nominee an elected or appointed official?
 YES NO
4. Did the contribution have a direct positive effect on the delivery of public services?
 YES NO
5. If the nominee is DECEASED and provided service while they were in a pay status or they were an elected or appointed official, please indicate year of death.

Year of Death 2020

- a. Did the service exceed ten (10) years in duration?
 YES NO

MONETARY, CAPITAL OR MATERIAL CONTRIBUTION:

1. What is the amount or value of the contribution?
\$ _____
2. Date of contribution:
Date: _____
3. Does nominee have a good record of citizenship?
 YES NO

RECOGNITION OF HEROES:

1. Did the deed for which the nominee is being honored occur two (2) years prior to the date of consideration?
 YES NO

2. Is the deed for which the nominee is being honored common knowledge to the citizens of Richmond?

() YES () NO

3. Does the nominee have a good record of citizenship?

() YES () NO

4. Is the nominee recognized as a national hero by an agency of the United States Government?

() YES () NO

NAME OF AGENCY: _____

SPECIAL FEATURE, AREA OR LOCALE:

1. Is this name appropriate to the facility?

(X) YES () NO

Please explain in comments section.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Matzorkis was instrumental in the success of the Port, including the Honda Port of Entry project that resulted in over a decade of profitability for the Port. He was also vital to the sister city relationship w/ Zhoushan, China. Refer to attached for add'l comments.

NOMINATED BY: CM Bates & Rich-Zhoushan Friendship Commission DATE: 2-14-22

RECEIVED IN RECREATION & PARKS

BY: _____

DATE: _____

REQUESTED ACTION:

Prepare for Commissioner recommendation

Deny (Explanation)

Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission



February 15, 2022

Dear Recreation and Parks Commission,

On behalf of the City of Richmond's Richmond- Zhoushan Friendship Commission, we would like to propose memorial signage honoring the late Port Director James "Jim" Matzorkis to be installed at the Richmond Port entrance and a plaque on or near the Port Administrative Office. The signage is to honor Mr. Matzorkis' leadership, contributions and dedication in developing stronger international relations in the areas of business, education and travel between the City of Richmond, California, USA and the City of Zhoushan, Zhejiang Province, People's Republic of China.

The late Mr. James "Jim" Matzorkis started traveling to Zhoushan with the Commission in 2007. As the Port Director, he was instrumental in exploring avenues for economic exchanges. In 2010, the City Council authorized the port director's marketing travel to China to initiate a business development plan with the Port of Zhoushan and to explore the potential for China auto manufacturers entering the US market through the Port of Richmond's renovated automobile facilities. Mr. James "Jim" Matzorkis was a steadfast leader of the Commission and kept the commissioners and Zhoushan engaged. His experience and dedication helped the commissioners to navigate the goals of the relationship.

Under Jim's leadership, the Richmond Port is Northern California's most diversified cargo handler. Among ports on San Francisco Bay, Port of Richmond is ranked #1 in liquid bulk and automobile tonnage. The requested memorial signage, will be hung underneath the Point Potrero sign at the entrance of the Port of Richmond. The Public Works Sign Shop will be consulted to ensure that the required specifications and vertical height requirements are used relative to design and installation. It is also requested that a memorial plaque be installed at the Port of Richmond Administrative Office; either affixed to the building or erected on a freestanding podium approved by the Public Works. The selected port locations symbolize the late Mr. James Matzorkis' continued contributions benefiting our economy and education community.

Mr. Matzorkis and Zhoushan Commissioners worked to develop and maintain an education exchange. Approximately fifteen Zhoushan Officials and teachers from the Zhejiang Ocean University came to Richmond in the summer of 2010 from June 1st through August 31st to study business, trade, culture, public health, port activities and to take courses at Contra Costa College to learn about American culture and conversational English. The Zhoushan Commission, Jim Matzorkis and other city staff facilitated the logistics of their stay. Several other exchange visits have occurred over the last decade between the two municipalities.

Jim was also instrumental in 300 plus students from DeAnza High School traveling to China in 2018 as part of a summer education program developed by Commissioners Joseph Kong, Margaret Lee and Eric Peterson. In Jim's honor, the commission is working on a pilot program that proposes an International Toastmaster Course and Lions Club Quest program to assist Mandarin speaking students to practice public speaking in English. In turn, English speaking students will be able to practice public speaking in Mandarin.

The Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission with support from City Council Liaisons Bates, Johnson and Martinez, would like memorial signage at the Port entrance and a memorial plaque to pay homage to Mr. James "Jim" Matzorkis' dedication to the City of Richmond and the Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship.

The proposed verbiage on the hanging sign at the entrance

In remembrance of James "Big Jim" Matzorkis, Port Director from 2001 - 2020.

The proposed verbiage for the plaque will be or similar to the following.

In memory of the late James "Big Jim" Matzorkis who was the Port of Richmond Marketing Manager from 1998 to 2001. He was promoted to and held the position of Port Executive Director from 2001 to 2020. Jim's commitment and dedication were instrumental to the success of the Port of Richmond. Under Jim's leadership, the Richmond Port is Northern California's most diversified cargo handler. Among ports on the San Francisco Bay, the Port of Richmond is ranked #1 in liquid bulk and automobile tonnage. He was loved by many and respected by most. May his memory and legacy live on through the Jim Matzorkis Education and Training Programs.

The total expenses will be donated by Richmond City businesses and other donors. The Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission will facilitate the fundraising campaign.

May our local neighbors and visitors from near and far visit the memorials, in remembrance of all the contributions given by our outstanding leader, adviser and hero James "Big Jim" Matzorkis of our Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission. Your approval of having the signage installed will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Stanley Li

Stanley Li, Chair
Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission

Margaret Lee

Margaret Lee, Vice-Chair
Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission

cc: Members of the Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission
Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III, Council Liaison
Councilmember Nathaniel Bates
Councilmember Eduardo Martinez

Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission Proposed Jim Matzorkis Education Programs

<https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/1352/Zhoushan-China>
<https://www.zhoushanrichmond.org/>

Background of Jim Matzorkis Memorial

Jim Matzorkis worked as the Richmond Port Director for 17 years. Thanks to his guidance and leadership, the Richmond Port saw growth in its partnerships with various local and international businesses. Jim was instrumental in building the relationships with The City of Richmond's sister cities, Zhoushan, China and Shimada, Japan, increasing trade and educational growth.

After several discussions about developing an educational exchange program, the Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission proposes an International Toastmaster Course and Lions Club's Lions Quest Program to assist Mandarin speaking students to practice public speaking in English. Instructors selected by Zhoushan would in turn, assist English speaking students to practice public speaking in Mandarin. This exchange would be a pilot program.

The goal of this International Education Program is to establish some fundamental courses to teach the younger students' English and Communication skills with established and online programs. These extracurricular classes will strengthen Zhoushan students' conversation skills before attending regular school programs. It is our hope that eventually, this pilot program will become a successful International Student Exchange program. Also, these types of courses will allow Richmond's teachers to gain professional development with international students, cultural understanding about China, and hands-on experience with conducting virtual classroom experiences.

This pilot program will establish the baseline for the long-term goals of International Students & Teachers Exchange Program, and the abilities to resume our interaction between the two cities.

Short-Term Education Programs

International Toastmasters Education Program

The International Toastmasters Course would be an eight-week virtual program via Zoom. Each weekly session would be 45 minutes in length. Instructors would be selected by the respective jurisdictions. The Richmond-Zhoushan Commission has made contact with Contra Costa Community College to be a partner in the collaboration. Former commissioner Dr. Wei Li would serve as the lead instructor. Additionally, retired teachers would be solicited to participate in the proposed pilot program.

The fees for our participation in a Toastmaster program would be paid by the Richmond-Zhoushan Commission, if feasible. Funds would be raised by the commission to cover agreed upon stipends for the teachers/instructors.

Provided that the piolet program is successful, the commission will propose a state approved credited language exchange program with Contra Costa Community College. The intention of the program is to create a mutually beneficial interactive program that is aligned with the purpose of the sister city relationship. An educational exchange program that assists in the instruction and practice of the Mandarin and English languages is ideal. Ultimately, the development of a long-term educational program is desired.

Lions Club Educational Program

Please visit <https://www.lions-quest.org/> to learn about the program

For Example – Grade 6



You may preview two sample lessons from *Lions Quest Skills for Adolescence*. The first set of sample lesson materials highlights the vertical skills progression PreK-12 from Unit 2/ Lesson 6 – focused on labeling emotions. Identifying and naming emotions is the foundational intrapersonal emotional competence of self-awareness and self-management.

We've also included one additional lesson at each grade level demonstrating the full scope of skills taught in the program.

These lessons will provide ample material for you to review and evaluate the Lions Quest program. Feel free to print the materials and use them as a "mini-pilot" in your own classroom.

1-year program, 36 lessons; 18/36 core lessons, once a week, 45 minutes each lesson

Professional development for teachers, administrators, coordinators, and managers, 1 day, \$2700 fee, 1-40 attendees, online

Long-Term Education Programs

1. International Student Exchange Program –

- Digitalize City of Richmond for Revitalization
2. Vocational Education Program –
 - For Return Citizen in Maritime College Program between the two cities
 - Supply Chain & Logistics

Questions for Zhoushan:

1. Would Zhoushan instructors provide Mandarin language assistance to American students during the 8-week session?
2. Alternatively, would there be a separate program that would run concurrently or immediately after the completion of the English course?
3. What is the level of English proficiency of the intended students?

Jim Matzorkis Memorial

Jim Matzorkis worked as the Richmond Port Director for 17 years. Thanks to his guidance and leadership, the Richmond Port saw growth in its partnerships with various local and international businesses. Jim was instrumental in building the relationships with The City of Richmond's sister cities, Zhoushan, China and Shimada, Japan, increasing trade and educational growth.

Sadly, Jim passed away at his home on December 20, 2021, following complications from Covid-19. He was surrounded by his loving family members. Jim left behind many family members, friends and business acquaintances who were used to his gregarious approach to business and growth of the Richmond Port. A job he loved doing.

In an effort to memorialize Jim's unwavering devotion to the Richmond Port and its businesses, Councilmember Bates and the Zhoushan Sister City Committee would like to propose a memorial to be erected at the Port of Richmond at a cost TBD and funded by donations garnered by the Sister Cities Committee.

The following are ideas proposed for a fitting memorial:

1. A Plaque posted at the entry to the Richmond Port, in Jim's Honor.



2. A Photo Relief Plaque posted at the Richmond Port Administrative Office.



3. A memorial bench and/or plaque and the viewing point, just west of the Red Oak Victory Ship and Port Administrative Offices.



4. Jim Matzorkis Education Programs

Please refer to document, “RZFC_Jim_Matzorkis_Education_Programs” for proposed details.



RECREATION AND PARKS
COMMISSION
REPORT FROM STAFF

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
RECREATION DIVISION

DATE: March 2, 2022

TO: Recreation and Parks Commission

FROM: Ranjana Maharaj, Deputy Director for Community Services – Recreation
Tetteh Kisseh, Recreation Supervisor- CSD- Recreation
Greg Hardesty, Parks & Landscaping Superintendent-
Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Two Permanent Pickleball Courts at BTA Tennis Courts

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Install two permanent pickleball courts at BTA Tennis Courts.

DISCUSSION:

Based upon the growing interests of the pickleball program the Community Services Department-Recreation and Parks Division is requesting to create two permanent pickleball courts at Booker T. Anderson Tennis (BTA) Courts. Currently, the courts at BTA have two permanent tennis courts (with nets) and six temporary pickleball lines imbedded onto the courts. Pickleball players currently bring their own portable nets (about 14 pounds to 50 pounds in weight) each day they use the courts. They have to carry the nets back and forth into their vehicles after play. This creates an inconvenience to the players. Having two permanent pickleball courts will ease some of the inconveniences and make for easy play.

Listed below are some benefits of playing Pickleball:

- **Easy to learn-** One of the best aspects of pickleball is that anyone can learn how to play. Whether you have zero athletic experience or you're a multi-sport athlete, the rules of pickleball are fairly simple. All you need to get started is a paddle and a ball.
- **Health Benefits-** Since pickleball moves at a slower pace than tennis, it's easier on the joints while also improving balance, coordination and agility. This makes it a wonderful choice for those who have had injuries in the past, or former tennis players looking for a gentler alternative.
- **Social Interaction-** More than anything, pickleball is a social game, and it's no secret that

strong social connections improve the quality of our life and can extend our life expectancy. You never know who you will meet on the courts, but more importantly, each time you play, you will probably leave the courts with a new friend for your next game!

This item was presented to the Southside Plus One Neighborhood Council on February 23rd. They conditionally approved this request provided that the permanent Pickleball Courts are located closer to the play structure (west side) of the BTA Tennis Courts. Members of the Southside Plus One Neighborhood Council and staff will meet via zoom on February 28th for a formal approval of this request. Staff will provide a written approval from Southside Plus One Neighborhood Council at the Commission meeting on March 2nd. Furthermore, the courts at BTA will maintain four pickleball lines already embedded on the Tennis courts.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that the Recreation and Parks Commission approve the request to create two permanent Pickleball Courts on the west end (closer to the play structure) of the BTA Tennis Courts provided the written approval from Southside Plus One Neighborhood Council is made available to the Commission by March 2nd.

Attachment - Court diagrams



Diagram 1 - BTA Tennis Courts Original Setup

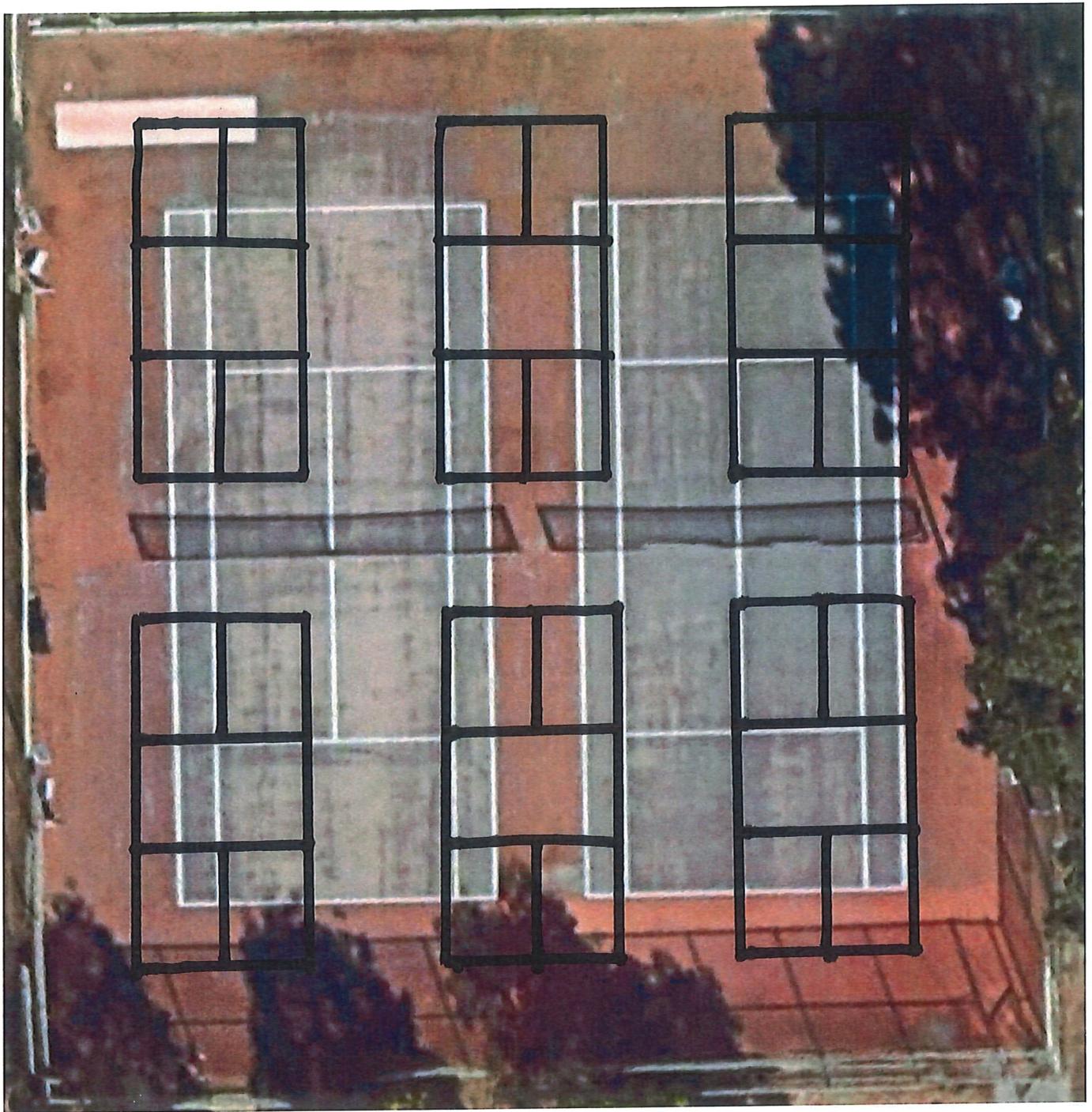


Diagram 2 - BTA Tennis Courts with 6
Pickleball court lines.
Current Setup



Diagram 3:

- Blue edges indicate permanent courts
- Yellow/Gold edges indicate pickleball lines