

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,**

May 3, 2022, 4:00 p.m.  
Community Services Building  
440 Civic Center Plaza  
Richmond, CA 94804

---

**A. OPEN SESSION TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION**

Open Session was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt via teleconference.

**B. ROLL CALL**

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

**C. CLOSED SESSION**

**C.1 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957)**

- Title: City Attorney

**C.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (paragraph (1) of Subdivision [d] of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- SPRAWLDEF et al. v. City of Richmond
- The Guidiville Rancheria of California, et al. v. The United States of America, et. al.
- North Coast Rivers Alliance et al./Point Molate Alliance et al. v. City of Richmond
- City of Richmond v. Thomas K. Butt

**C.3 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)**

- **Three cases:**

In light of the California Court of Appeal's decision in Fowler v. City of Lafayette, the City Attorney's Office is attaching to this agenda four communications regarding the amended judgment and various agreements related to Point Molate. These letters provide the existing facts and circumstances for going into closed session on these items pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) and (e)(3).

**C.4 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- One case

**C.5 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6)**

- Agency Representatives: Jaclyn Gross and Anil Comelo

Employee organizations:

1. SEIU Local 1021 Full Time Unit and Part Time Unit
2. IFPTE Local 21 Mid-Level Management Unit and Executive Management Units
3. Richmond Police Officers Association RPOA
4. Richmond Police Management Association RPMA
5. IAFF Local 188
6. Richmond Fire Management Association RFMA

**C.6 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8)**

- Property: 1324 Canal Boulevard (General Warehouse, Port of Richmond) Agency negotiator: Alan Wolken Negotiating parties: Richmond Grown Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION (Public comment on Closed Session items only)**

None.

**E. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

---

Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 4:03 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

**F. REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL**

The Regular meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:44 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt via teleconference.

**G. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Nathaniel Bates, Claudia Jimenez, Demnlus Johnson III, Melvin Willis, Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Melvin Willis was absent the entire meeting.

**H. PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO**

The Public Comment Instructional Video was shown.

**I. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**J. AGENDA REVIEW**

Items O.4.a., O.5.a. and O.9.c. were continued to the May 17, 2022, City Council meeting. Item O.1.b. was removed from the Consent Calendar to be discussed at the end of the agenda.

**K. REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION**

Interim City Attorney Dave Aleshire stated there was no reportable action.

**L. REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER (public comment allowed under Open Forum)**

City Manager Shasa Curl reported that the Richmond Fire Department and the American Red Cross, in collaboration with the Sound the Alarm Program, would provide and install free smoke alarms to residents on Saturday, May 7, 2022. Residents could request free smoke alarms by calling 510-307-8038.

Ms. Curl also reported that the Martin Luther King Turf Field re-opening event would be soon.

**M. ABATEMENT REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - 1st Tuesday (public comment allowed under Open Forum)**

Public Works Director Joe Leach reported the following activities: Neighborhood Dumpster Day; Illegal Dumping; Private Property Abatement; Encampment Abatement; and Graffiti Removal.

**N. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference:

Deborah Bayer and Sally Tobin gave comments regarding the Point Molate Draft Map.

Naomi Williams stated that there would be a Juneteenth fundraiser event on May 4, 2022, at the Moose Lodge 4660 Appian Way, El Sobrante.

Councilmember Jimenez gave comments in opposition of the possible reversal of Roe vs. Wade.

Councilmember Bates congratulated Savannah Van Dyke on her Centennial birthday on May 5th.

Leisa Johnson spoke against District Map 201, which was adopted by City Council.

Jessi Taran stated residents of Rydin Road would be moved to an unknown location June 2022.

**O. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion by** Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III

**Seconded by** Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin

Ayes (6): Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, Councilmember Claudia Jimenez, Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt

Absent (1): Councilmember Melvin Willis

Passed (6 to 0)

**O.1 City Attorney's Office**

O.1.a Point Molate Legal Services Agreement with Downey Brand and Amendment Related to Claims and Litigation

APPROVE a third amendment with Downey Brand, for \$60,000, for up to \$1,010,000, for the Point Molate litigation and claim, and a up to \$60,000 legal services agreement (LSA) for Guidiville work – City Attorney’s Office (Dave Aleshire 510-620-6509).

O.1.b Approve second amendment to a legal services agreement with Meyers Nave LLP and request appropriation from the General Fund

APPROVE a second amendment in the amount of \$215,000 to a legal services agreement with the law firm of Meyers Nave, LLP, for a total amount not to exceed \$300,000; APPROPRIATE \$215,000 from the general fund to pay for the second contract amendment; RATIFY the first amendment executed by the Vice Mayor; and AUTHORIZE the Vice Mayor to execute the second amendment and any other necessary documents – City Attorney’s Office (Heather McLaughlin 510-620-6509).

Interim City Attorney Dave Aleshire gave an overview. Discussion ensued.

(At 11:00 p.m. - A motion made by Councilmember McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Johnson III, extended to meeting until the end of Item 0.1.b., by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Jimenez, Johnson III, Martinez, McLaughlin **Noes:** Mayor Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Willis. **Abstain:** None).

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference: Leisa Johnson, Don Gosney, Deborah, and Jessi Taran.

**Motion by** Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III  
**Seconded by** Councilmember Claudia Jimenez

Ayes (4): Councilmember Claudia Jimenez, Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, and Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez

Noes (2): Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt

Absent (1): Councilmember Melvin Willis

Passed (4 to 2)

**O.2 City Manager's Office**

O.2.a Downtown Richmond Property and Business Improvement District (DRPBID) Renewal

ADOPT a resolution authorizing the city manager to execute all documents on behalf of the City of Richmond in support of the renewal of the Downtown Richmond Property and Business Improvement District (DRPBID) – City Manager’s Office (Shasa Curl/Thomas Omolo 510-620-5560).

Adopted **Resolution No. 57-22.**

**O.3 Finance Department**

O.3.a Investment and cash balance report for the month of March 2022

RECEIVE the City's Investment and Cash Balance Report for the month of March 2022 – Finance Department (Delmy Cuellar 510-620-6790).

O.3.b Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Third Quarter Budget report and Overtime Report

RECEIVE the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 third quarter budget report and the overtime report for the period of July 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022 – Finance Department (Delmy Cuellar/Mubeen Qader 510-412-2077).

O.3.c Write-Off of Uncollectable Richmond Housing Authority Debt

APPROVE the write-off of uncollectible Richmond Housing Authority receivables in the amount of \$10,442,853 – Finance Department (Anil Comelo/Delmy Cuellar 510-620-6740).

O.3.d Contract for Collection Services

APPROVE a three-year contract with Rash, Curtis & Associates to provide collection services in the Finance Department, with costs for services paid on a contingency fee of revenue collected, with an option to renew the contract for two years based on the same terms if approved by both parties – Finance Department (Delmy Cuellar 510-620-6740/Antonio Banuelos 510-620-6741).

**O.4 Human Resources**

O.4.a Approve Legal Services Agreements with Three Firms to Perform Confidential Personnel Investigations

APPROVE a first amendment to the legal services agreement with Kramer Workplace Investigations and a second amendment to the legal services agreement with Ellis Investigations and an initial legal services agreement with Boucher Labor and Employment Law. Terms of these agreements are until June 30, 2024, for an amount not to exceed \$50,000 per agreement, to conduct confidential personnel investigations for the Human Resources Department – Human Resources Department (Anil Comelo/Sharrone Taylor 510-620-6600).

**Continued** to the May 17, 2022, City Council meeting.

**O.5 Information Technology**

O.5.a Pole License Agreement for Small Cell Sites on City Infrastructure

ADOPT a resolution approving a Pole License Agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, that establishes the procedures, terms, and conditions under which New Cingular Wireless is permitted to deploy “small cell” facilities on City-owned streetlights, traffic signals, and other vertical infrastructure, for a term of ten years – Information Technology Department (Sue Hartman 510-620-6874).

**Continued** to the May 17, 2022, City Council meeting.

**O.6 Library and Community Services**

- O.6.a Accept and Appropriate California State Library State-Funded English as a Second Language Service Project Grant Award.

ADOPT a resolution to accept and appropriate into the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget a California State Library grant, in the amount of \$21,700, to support English as a Second Language educational services offered at the library's literacy services program, LEAP - Library and Community Services Department (Melinda Cervantes 510-620-5452/Abigail Sims-Evelyn 510-307-8082).

Adopted **Resolution No. 58-22.**

## **O.7 Mayor's Office**

- O.7.a CalFresh Awareness Month – May 2022

PROCLAMATION declaring May 2022 as CalFresh Awareness Month in the City of Richmond – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503).

- O.7.b Preservation Month – May 2022

PROCLAMATION declaring May 2022 as Preservation Month in the City of Richmond – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503).

- O.7.c Military Appreciation Month – May 2022

PROCLAMATION declaring May 2022 as Military Appreciation Month in the City of Richmond – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503).

- O.7.d Stroke Awareness Month

PROCLAMATION declaring May 2022 as Stroke Awareness Month in the City of Richmond – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503).

- O.7.e Affordable Housing Month – May 2022

PROCLAMATION declaring May 2022 as Affordable Housing Month in the City of Richmond – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503).

- O.7.f Bike Month – May 2022

PROCLAMATION declaring May 2022 as Bike Month in the City of Richmond – Mayor's Office (Mayor Tom Butt 510-620-6503).

## **O.8 Police Department**

- O.8.a Proposed Standing Purchase Order with LN Curtis and Sons

APPROVE a standing purchase order with LN Curtis and Sons to purchase police tools, equipment, uniforms, and safety supplies, in a total amount not to exceed \$70,000, for a term of three years beginning May 1, 2022, through April 30, 2025, with the option of an additional one (1) year extension – Police Department (Louie Tirona 510-621-1802).

- O.8.b Allied Universal Security (AUS) Services Contract Amendment

APPROVE a contract amendment with Allied Universal for additional security guard services at 325 Civic Center Plaza to increase the contract amount by \$55,000, for a new total payment limit not to exceed

\$1,064,350, with a term expiring on December 31, 2022 – Police Department (Louie Tirona 510-621-1802).

## **O.9 Public Works**

### **O.9.a Engineer’s Report for Fiscal Year 2022-23 for the Hilltop Landscape Maintenance District**

ADOPT a resolution approving the Engineer’s Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for the Hilltop Landscape Maintenance District (“HLMD”), declaring the City Council’s intention to increase the annual assessment in the HLMD, and announcing a public hearing about the proposed increased assessment on June 21, 2022, at 6:30 PM – Public Works Department (Joe Leach 510-620-5478/Greg Hardesty 510-620-6920).

Adopted **Resolution No. 59-22.**

### **O.9.b Engineer’s Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 for the Marina Bay Landscape and Lighting Maintenance District**

ADOPT a resolution approving the Engineer’s Report for FY2022-2023 for the Marina Bay Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District, declaring the City Council’s intention to increase the annual assessment in the Marina Bay Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District, and setting a public hearing about the proposed increased assessment on June 21, 2022, at 6:30 PM – Public Works Department (Joe Leach 510-620-5478/ Greg Hardesty 510-620-6920).

Adopted **Resolution No. 60-22.**

### **O.9.c Transportation Development Act (TDA) Grant Contracts with Bike East Bay and SOS! Richmond**

APPROVE a Transportation Development Act (TDA) grant-funded contract with Bike East Bay to provide two years of bicycle safety education, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Contract will have a term starting May 3, 2022, and ending May 3, 2024 – Public Works Department (Joe Leach/Patrick Phelan 510-307-8111).

**Continued** to the May 17, 2022, City Council meeting.

### **O.9.d Approve a Contract for Repairs to a Loader**

APPROVE a contract with Pape Machinery, Inc., for repairs to a John Deere loader (VIN ending 17154), in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 – Public Works Department (Joe Leach 510-620-5478).

### **O.9.e Action Necessary Related to the Vacation and Dedication of a Public Storm Drain Easement Related to the Pinole Point Phase 3 Development**

ADOPT a resolution to abandon an old, unusable 10’ and 15’ storm drain easement (SDE) owned by the City of Richmond on the property of 6065 Giant Road in the City of Richmond, California in the County of Contra Costa; AUTHORIZE to quitclaim said easement; and ACCEPT the grant of new storm drain easement to be recorded within the same property – Public Works Department (Joe Leach 620-5478).

Adopted **Resolution No. 61-22.**

O.9.f Approval of Contract for Repairs to a Sweeper

Approve a contract with Owen Equipment for repairs to an Elgin sweeper (VIN ending H3506), in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 – Public Works Department (Joe Leach 510-620-5478).

O.9.g Large Lot Final Map for the Point Molate Development Area

AUTHORIZE the Mayor to sign, and staff to record the large lot final map for the Point Molate Development – Public Works Department (Joe Leach 620-5478).

Adopted **Resolution No. 62-22.**

**P. NEW BUSINESS**

**P.1 Update on the Transportation Division**

RECEIVE a presentation from the Transportation Division to update the City Council and the community on the status of current and upcoming projects - City Council Office (Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III 510-620-6568). This item was continued from the April 26, 2022, meeting.

Councilmember Johnson III presented the item. Denee Evans Transportation Services Manager presented a PowerPoint, which highlighted the following: Parking Management Strategies; Electric Vehicle Readiness; Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure; Transportation Division Rtransit Update; Bikeshare; Drive Electric earth Day Event; Richmond MOVES On-Demand Shuttle Launch; Electric Carshare; miocar; and Fleet Electrification. Naomi Williams, Bouakhay Phongboupha, Ethan Fogg, and Jessi Taran gave comments via teleconference.

**Q. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Q.1 Approval of New Fees for the Revised Master Fee Schedule**

The city clerk announced that pursuant to public notice it was time to hold a public hearing to introduce an ordinance (first reading) establishing certain fees for the proposed Master Fee Schedule.

Antonio Banuelos gave an overview of the proposed updated fees and new fees. Mayor Butt opened the public hearing; there were no public speakers. Mayor Butt closed the public hearing.

**Motion by** Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III  
**Seconded by** Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez

Ayes (6): Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, Councilmember Claudia Jimenez, Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt

Absent (1): Councilmember Melvin Willis

Passed (6 to 0)

**R. BUDGET SESSION**

**R.1 Budget Presentation**

RECEIVE budget presentation from the Richmond City Council, Mayor's Office, and the Public Works Department – Finance Department (Delmy Cuellar/Mubeen Qader 510-412-2077).

The City Council, Mayor's Office, and Public Works Department presented budget reports. Discussion ensued. Jessi Taran gave comments via teleconference.

**R.2 Acknowledge receipt of Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed First Draft Budget**

ACKNOWLEDGE receipt of the first draft of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Operating Budget and Fiscal Year 2022-2027 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan Budget and establish the review process and schedule for their review and adoption – City Manager's Office/Finance Department (Shasa Curl/Delmy Cuellar 510-620-6740).

City Manager, Shasa Curl, Revenue Manager Antonio Banuelos, and Finance Director Delmy Cuellar presented a PowerPoint, which highlighted the following: FY 2022-23 Budget Development & Key Milestones; General Fund Revenue Assumptions to Date; General Fund Revenue Estimates; General Fund Expenditures; FY 2022-23 Potential Budget Savings; Expenditures not budgeted; Proposed FY2021-22 Year-End Priorities; and FY 2022-23 Budget Development. Discussion ensued. Councilmembers requested a report regarding the amount of money allocated to the Cost Pool account and what each department used and a comparison of what the percentage paid was versus what was used.

**Motion by** Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III

**Seconded by** Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin

Ayes (6): Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, Councilmember Claudia Jimenez, Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt

Absent (1): Councilmember Melvin Willis

Passed (6 to 0)

**R.3 Update on Cost Recovery and Revenue Enhancement**

RECEIVE an update on the Cost Recovery and Revenue Enhancement tracking document and Options for Long-term Fiscal Sustainability; and PROVIDE input to City staff – City Manager's Office (Shasa Curl/LaShonda White 620-6512). This item was continued from the April 26, 2022, meeting.

City Manager Shasa Curl and Interim Library and Community Services Director LaShonda White presented a PowerPoint which highlighted the following: Management Partners; Budget Strategy Options Maintaining Service Levels; Revenue Enhancements; Voter Required Revenue Strategies; Council-Led Revenue Strategies; City Department Rankings; Potential Ballot Initiatives; Utility Users Tax; 1/2 Cent Sales Tax Measure; and Key November 2022 Election Dates. Discussion ensued. Leisa Johnson and Jessi Taran gave comments via teleconference.

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

**T. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:18 p.m., in memory of Evelyn Owens and Jeray Kimbro, to meet again on May 17, 2022.

---

Clerk of the City of Richmond

---

Mayor

**From:** [Cordell Hindler](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** public comments- Open Session prior to closed session  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 4:31:12 PM

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good Evening Mayor Butt, Council Members and Staff

Dave Aleshire has done an incredible job as the city attorney

Sincerely  
Cordell

**From:** [Cordell Hindler](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** public comments- Open Forum  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 4:35:20 PM

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good Evening Mayor Butt, Council Members and Staff, I have some comments for the Record

1. for the June 28th Agenda, the Council should consider Inviting Sabrina Landreth to Provide a Report on how CO-VID has impacted Park Services
2. Also to Have Lavonna Martin to Provide an Update on Homelessness

Sincerely  
Cordell

**From:** [Steve Bischoff](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - Open Forum  
**Date:** Monday, May 2, 2022 2:52:31 PM  
**Attachments:** [RCC re CCC crisis response program.pdf](#)

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please give copies of the attached document to the Mayor and City Council members.

May Valley Neighborhood Council  
PO Box 20161  
Richmond, CA 94820-0161



May 2, 2022

Dear Mayor Butt and other members of the City Council:

May Valley residents do not understand what is happening with crisis response services in Richmond. The Reimaging Public Safety Task Force is pursuing an independent community crisis response program, meanwhile the County has designed and is implementing A3 the Anyone Anywhere Anytime Community Crisis Response program.

It appears that we are being asked to use our very limited City tax dollars to fund a program which may be duplicative of the one the County has developed and which is funded in part by Measure X dollars that were specifically passed by the voters to fund this work.

We are requesting that you invite Supervisor John Gioia and appropriate County Staff to a City Council meeting in the very near future to present an overview including:

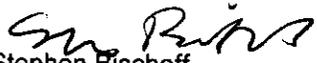
- 1) An update on the A3 County Community Crisis Response program, including how that will be structured, staffed, and decisions made regarding the accompaniment of a law enforcement officers on calls;
- 2) How Measure X funds have been appropriated to date, including Richmond's allocation;
- 3) If the City proceeds without taking part in this County program, what will Richmond receive in Measure X funds?

Richmond is in the midst of planning the FY 2022/23 budget and critical decisions will have to be made. The City will need to examine the costs of providing community crisis response services and what the most economical methods would be to provide these services.

As the elected officials of our City, taxpayers are relying on you to uphold your fiduciary duty and ensure the most judicious and prudent use of our taxpayer dollars.

We look forward to learning about the County's Community Crisis Response program and what services it might offer to Richmond. Thank you for considering this request.

Respectfully,

  
Stephen Bischoff  
President – May Valley Neighborhood Council

Copies to:

City Manager  
Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council

**From:** [Cordell Hindler](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments- R.1 Budget Session  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 4:43:32 PM

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good Evening Mayor Butt, Council Members and Staff,

I Must Commend the City Council, Mayor's Office and Public Works for the Presentations

Sincerely  
Cordell

**From:** [Cordell Hindler](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public comments- R.2 Budget Session  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 4:49:50 PM

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good Evening Mayor Butt, Council and Staff

I am requesting that the Council ACKNOWLEDGE the work that the City Manager's Office and Finance department has put into the Draft Budget.

Sincerely  
Cordell

**From:** [Katrinka Ruk](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#); [Tom Butt - external](#); [Eduardo Martinez](#); [Nat Bates](#); [Demnlus Johnson III](#); [claudia jimenez](#); [Gayle McLaughlin](#); [Melvin Willis](#)  
**Cc:** [Bob Connolly](#); [Scott Sexton](#); [Scott Sexton](#); [Sharla Sullivan](#); [Aaron Winer](#); [Hakim Johnson](#); [Julie Abate](#); [Maryann Moran](#); [Barbara O'Neill](#); [Desiree Heveroh](#); [Fred Glueck](#); [Bob Connolly](#); [Stan Teaderman](#); [Jill Rodby](#); [Bielle Moore](#); [Larry Ficken](#); [James Lee](#); [John Ziesenhenn](#)  
**Subject:** 05/03/22 council meeting / Public Comments/ R3. Update on Cost Recovery and Revenue Enhancement  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 12:25:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [05.03.22 Item R3 Revenue Enhancements ltr.docx](#)

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

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

05/03/22

To: City Clerk, Richmond

Cc: Council Members, City Manager

**S.6 Update on Cost Recovery and Revenue Enhancement**

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->**RECEIVE an update on the Cost Recovery and Revenue Enhancement tracking document and Options for Long-term Fiscal Sustainability; and PROVIDE input to City staff – City Manager’s Office (Shasa Curl/LaShonda White 620-6512).**

This letter is being submitted on behalf of the Council of Business & Industries. Whereas we support the city being fiscally responsible, that the city ensures city services meet the expectations of the community and businesses that operate in the city, and, that the budget is balanced – however, focusing only on revenue enhancements is not being responsible to property owners, residents and businesses.

In addition, the city needs to focus on cost containment, and we have yet to see an

analysis of such.

The majority of the twelve recommended “Revenue Enhancement Options” will impact property owners, residents and businesses. According to the agenda report, estimated revenues from this group (excluding the ECIA) will result in \$15.5Million of the \$27.3 Million estimate.

It is concerning that such an important discussion should be delegated to the end of city council agenda that is already very impacted. In addition, the material that is posted on the website – particularly “Proposed Revenue Generators” – which appears to have a great deal of information, is unreadable due to the font size.

We understand that more information will be brought back to the council, please consider providing comment regarding the following:

1) The Agenda Report notes that Management Partners were authorized to “gather best practices from around the country that might be good options for Richmond to Consider”- what local, similar cities were contacted and what was their input.

2) The Agenda Report states that the consultant will look at feedback from stakeholders and unions – has any feedback been requested from residents, the business community, and Economic Development Commission?

3) The recommendations include THREE parcel or property taxes (vacant parcel tax, library services parcel tax, transient occupancy tax increase to 10%, increase real property transfer tax by 20%). These total \$9.5Million if all were implemented.

4) Impact to residents would include an additional \$6Million by raising the utility users tax rates by 1%, creating neighborhood improvement districts and increasing cost recovery on recreation services, if all implemented.

5) We have approximately 15,000 seniors in our city the majority on fixed incomes – will they be able to afford increases in property taxes? This could severely impact them. In addition, some property owners use their rentals to support their retirement. Have you reached out to property owners to determine if they can take on this additional tax burden?

**Two years ago, you put more burdens on businesses with a new tax. Now, you are targeting property owners and residents with these “revenue enhancements” totaling \$15.5Mil – putting 56.8% of the increased tax burden on them.**

6) The revenue enhancers recommended for the city total \$2.8Million. These would include the option to increase the cost recovery on planning, building services - how does Richmond compare with other similar cities? Increasing city permitting fees beyond what other similar cities charge will not incentivize developers to consider

projects in this city.

7) What local, comparable cities were contacted for their “best practices” to increase revenues and what information was provided?

We are still recovering from the pandemic – individuals and businesses. Any additional taxes and fees need to be fully vetted and shared with the public prior to final decisions being made. This should be done in parallel with cost reductions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Katrinka Ruk, Executive Director

Cc: COI and Chamber

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

This transmission may contain information that is privileged, confidential, proprietary, and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the information contained herein (including any reliance thereon) is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you received this transmission in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer immediately. Thank you.

**From:** [Leisa Johnson](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Cc:** [Leisa Johnson](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for City Council, Agenda Item R.3, 5/3/2022  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 9:02:56 PM

---

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear City Clerk,

Can you please include the below written comments in the supplementary minutes?

Warmly,  
Leisa

\*\*\*\*\*

Good Evening Mayor, Councilmembers and Staff-

I am respectfully requesting that City Staff finally propose a serious discussion on all of the options for fiscal sustainability that the City's consultant, Management Partners, first publicly discussed at the July 27, 2021 City Council meeting and provided City Staff and Council.

In that presentation, they provided 2 slides of revenue enhancements and 6 slides on cost & expenditure reductions.

In the attachments associated with tonight's agenda item, Management Partners again covered:

- **12 items for revenue enhancements, including 6 voter-approved taxes and 6 council-led options.**
  - The 6 voter-approved taxes would bring in an estimated \$14.5M if all were approved.
    - 4 of those 6 taxes further jack up our property taxes and total \$9.5M if all were approved.
  - The 6 council-led options would bring in an estimated \$12.8M if all were approved.
  - Together, all 12 options total \$27.3M.
- **Importantly, Management Partners also included 20, yes 20, options to address service delivery alternatives, expenditure controls & cost shifts, and service level reductions.**
  - There were 6 service delivery alternatives highlighted bringing in an estimated \$14.4M if all were approved.
  - There were 9 expenditure controls & cost shifts highlighted bringing in an estimated \$14.05M if all were approved.

- There were 5 service level reductions options highlighted bringing in an estimated \$17.3M if all were approved.
- Together, all 20 options total \$45.75M in savings.

Please explain to the public how you can have a honest and effective budgetary discussion when you don't review both revenues and cost savings?

All we have heard from the City Manager and Staff for the past year is how to further harm property owners, businesses and residents with yet more tax hikes, once again. We already pay the highest cumulative taxes in the county.

The agenda report details that City Staff directors ranked all 12 revenue enhancements.

- How many City Directors or high level managers even live in the City of Richmond and would be directly impacted by these harmful taxes?
- I mean no disrespect, but why are they influencing these recommendations if they don't even live here and don't pay these taxes?

Where is our voice in this discussion?

Between Covid, Measure U and our highly punitive rent control & just cause policies — businesses and housing providers simply cannot afford to do business in Richmond and will leave, taking critically needed housing, jobs, and revenue with them. It's already happening.

For those who don't own property in Richmond, please ask someone who does to show you their property tax statements. Depending upon where you live in Richmond, we already have **26 or 27 additional taxes in addition to the 1% county-wide property tax.**

I, myself, have 2 neighbors who bought their house less than 2 years ago and have told me they are selling and moving due to the excessive taxation and draconian policies that the majority council are passing.

This is simply unsustainable.

While you may think that you can continue to put more & more leeches on Richmond taxpayers, you can't as they will simply starve as you have already sucked all of the blood out of us, yet we see fewer services because all of those dollars are going to pay unsustainable employee compensation packages.

Respectfully,  
Leisa Johnson  
*22 year Richmond Resident*