

CITY OF RICHMOND
Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/99598896210?pwd=MEdpUWRjMG02bnI5MXlnb2xrQTloQT09>

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities*



Members:

Bischoff, Steve
Burks, Helene
Cantú, Marisol
Chacon, Eddy
Chacon, Luis
Gosney, Don
Joseph, Randy
Kilian-Lobos, Kristin
Lee, Armond
Mangels, Laura
Njissang, Marcus
Schlemmer, Joey
Small, Deborah
Soto, Andres
Therriault, Ben
Walker, Tamisha
Whitmore, Linda
Williams, B.K.
Vacant (3)

ALL TASK FORCE MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE VIA VIDEO OR TELECONFERENCE

This meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 7:30 P.M. The meeting may be extended by a majority vote of the Task Force members.

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Roll Call**
- C. Agenda Review and Adoption**
- D. Meeting Procedures**
- E. Minutes Approval**
 - 1. APPROVE the minutes of the April 13, 2022 special meeting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force
 - 2. APPROVE the minutes of the May 25, 2022 regular meeting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force
- F. City Staff Reports (Verbal) (Public comment allowed under Public Comments)**
- G. Public Comments**
- H. Presentations, Discussions, & Action Items**

Following discussion of each item, the Task Force may vote to make recommendations to staff or to the City Council.

 - 1. DISCUSS and APPROVE Task Force meeting schedule, specifically adjournment for month of August (next Task Force update report to City Council mid-October)
 - 2. RECEIVE verbal updates from City staff and/or Task Force members regarding: Community Crisis Response Program, Unhoused Interventions, Office of Neighborhood Safety, or YouthWorks
 - 3. REVIEW, DISCUSS, and APPROVE the Task Force working group structure and membership for the next six months, and RECEIVE verbal reports from active working group members
 - 4. REVIEW feedback on proposed Task Force bylaws and DISCUSS next steps
- I. Action Item Recap**
- J. Adjournment**

CITY OF RICHMOND
Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Wednesday, July 27, 2022 5:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/99598896210?pwd=MEdpUWRjMG02bnI5MXlnb2xrQTloQT09>

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities*

Scheduled Meetings:

- Report to City Council - Tuesday, October 18, 2022
- General Meeting - Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Staff:

LaShonda White (510) 620-6828 lashonda_white@ci.richmond.ca.us
Stephanie Ny (510) 620-6563 stephanie_ny@ci.richmond.ca.us
Guadalupe Morales (510) 620-6553 guadalupe_morales@ci.richmond.ca.us



MEETING PROCEDURES & INFORMATION

ALL TASK FORCE MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE VIA VIDEO OR TELECONFERENCE

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom have issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. (See, for example, March 31, 2020 County Order extending the shelter-in-place order until May 3, 2020 and March 19, 2020 statewide shelter-in-place order.) Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom has issued executive orders that allow cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing (Executive Order N-29-20).

Both <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/> and <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3914/Richmond-Coronavirus-Info> provide updated coronavirus information. On April 29, 2020, the Health Officer of Contra Costa County issued a press release to inform the public that regional shelter-in-place orders will be extended through May 31, 2020, as some restrictions are eased.

DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, and consistent with Executive Order N29-20, this meeting will utilize video/teleconferencing only.

How to participate in Public Comment and/or to speak on an agenda item in the meeting:

Written comments will only be accepted via email to recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us by no later than 3 p.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting. The comments will be read at the top of the Public Comment portion of the agenda. Emails MUST contain in the subject line:

1. Public Comments
2. Public Comments agenda item #__ [include the agenda item number].

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 3 p.m. will not be read into the record. Email received after 3 p.m. will, however, be posted on-line following the meeting as part of the supplemental materials attached to the meeting minutes.

By Computer, Tablet, or Mobile Device:

Step 1: Tune in to the videoconference at the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99598896210?pwd=MEdpUWRjMG02bnI5MXlnb2xrQTloQT09>

Webinar ID: 995 9889 6210

Passcode: TASKFORCE

Step 2: 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 announced or as speakers are called upon at the start of each agenda item. Attendees will then have two (2) minutes to click the “**Raise Your Hand**” button at that time. Speakers will be called upon in the order they select the “Raise Your Hand” feature. When called upon, you will be unmuted. Speakers are allowed up to two (2) minutes on public comment and agenda items. After the allotted time, you will then be re-muted.

By Telephone:

Step 1:

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699009128,,99598896210# or +12532158782,,99598896210#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 995 9889 6210

Passcode: TASKFORCE

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/99598896210>

Step 2: To comment by phone, you will be prompted to “Raise Your Hand” by pressing “*(star)9” to request to speak when Public Comment is being announced or as speakers are called upon at the start of each agenda item. Attendees will then have two (2) minutes to click the “**Raise Your Hand**” button at that time. Speakers will be called upon in the order they select the “Raise Your Hand” feature. When called upon, you will be unmuted. Speakers are allowed up to two (2) minute on public comment and agenda items. After the allotted time, you will then be re-muted.
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362663-Joining-a-meeting-by-phone>

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 bruce_soublet@ci.richmond.ca.us or submitted by phone at (510) 620-6507. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility.

Record of public comments:

Public comments will be considered a public record, put into the official meeting record. Public comments will be available after the meeting as supplemental materials and will be posted as an attachment to the meeting minutes when the minutes are posted:

<https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/Archive.aspx?AMID=183>.

City of Richmond - Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force
Special Meeting held via Zoom: https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=38

MINUTES*
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2022, 5:30 P.M.

**video recording and meeting transcript available*

A. CALL TO ORDER (CHAIR SMALL)

Meeting called to order by Chair Small at 5:33 P.M.

B. ROLL CALL (CITY STAFF)

PRESENT: H. Burks, E. Chacon, L. Chacon, D. Gosney, K. Kilian-Lobos, L. Mangels, M. Njissang, D. Small, T. Walker, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams

ABSENT: M. Cantú, R. Joseph, A. Lee, J. Lee, J. Schlemmer, A. Soto, B. Therriault

C. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION (CHAIR SMALL)

Concerns regarding the voting quorum and the need to approve the agenda by quorum were brought up by the Chair and Task Force members.

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as presented by L. Chacon; seconded by H. Burks; approved by the following vote:

Ayes: H. Burks, E. Chacon, L. Chacon, K. Kilian-Lobos, L. Mangels, M. Njissang, D. Small, T. Walker, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams

Noes: D. Gosney

Abstentions:

Absent: M. Cantú, R. Joseph, A. Lee, J. Lee, J. Schlemmer, A. Soto, B. Therriault

D. MEETING PROCEDURES

E. CITY STAFF REPORTS (VERBAL)

No staff reports.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Gayle McLaughlin invited the Task Force and the public about an event on April 30th from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. regarding the Historic Iron Triangle Neighborhood to kickoff of a comprehensive revitalization initiative she is hosting this with Rebuilding Together. She stated there will be free food, a tiny home exhibit, an opportunity for free home repairs, and more activities at this event.
2. Leisa Johnson requested Task Force members turn on their cameras for the length of the meeting due to concerns regarding active presence in a meeting. She recalled an incident where Council Member Demnlus Johnson in a previous Council meeting had attend several meetings at once.

G. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, & ACTION ITEMS

- 1. REVIEW and DISCUSS City of Richmond FY 2021-22 Mid-Year Budget Report and Task Force expenditures to-date**

Chair Small led the discussion on this item but wanted to discuss item G-1 first.

- 2. REVIEW, DISCUSS, and APPROVE Task Force meeting schedule**

City of Richmond - Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Special Meeting held via Zoom: https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=38

Chair Small led the discussion on this item to meeting biweekly temporarily until the end of June. Task Force member D. Gosney and L. Whitmore raised concerns on voting on this item with many Task Force members absent. Task Force members L. Mangels, H. Burks, and L. Chacon agreed to have more meetings. Further discussion ensued. Due to discussions, Chair Small moved this agenda item to the regular Task Force meeting on April 27, 2022.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Recess - 6:05 P.M. - 6:15 P.M.

During discussion for this agenda item, the Task Force took a ten (10) minute recess at 6:05 P.M. and rejoined at 6:15 P.M. due to a temporary loss in quorum. Roll call was taken again with the following Task Force members in attendance:

PRESENT: H. Burks, E. Chacon, L. Chacon, D. Gosney, K. Kilian-Lobos, L. Mangels, M. Njissang, D. Small, T. Walker, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams

ABSENT: M. Cantú, R. Joseph, A. Lee, J. Lee, J. Schlemmer, A. Soto, B. Therriault

3. REVIEW and DISCUSS Task Force presentation schedule to City Council

Chair Small led the discussion on this item. She stated the next presentation is scheduled for the upcoming Tuesday, April 18 and she is presenting this month. She stated she would present on updates about the Community Conversations, Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP), unhoused interventions, and the hiring of Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS). She asked any additional suggestions for updates be sent to her and recommended scheduling Task Force members to give reports to Council in future meetings. She further mentioned making a new joint document to share notes and updates. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

4. REVIEW, DISCUSS, and APPROVE Task Force working group structure and membership

Chair Small led the discussion on this item. She recommend the new four working group structures consist of each group focusing on a proposal that was approved in addition to general Task Force work. Chair Small noted that H. Burks was to be the point person for the YouthWorks proposal, R. Joseph would be the point person for the Unhoused Interventions proposal, A. Lee and M. Njissang would be the point persons for ONS proposal. There is also the CCRP proposal. Discussion ensued and included topics such as implementation, evaluation, budget management, and other efforts that are not under a specific proposal such as dispatch. The following working group structure was discussed thus far:

1. Community Based Solutions - will be accountable for managing implementation of Unhoused Intervention programs. Randy Joseph has agreed to serve as point person/liaison for the Working Group whose members include - Eddy Chacon, Tamisha Torres-Walker and Armond Lee
2. Health and Safety - will be accountable for managing implementation of the Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP). Kristin-Killian Lobos has agreed to serve as point person and will be assisted by fellow members B.K. Williams and Laura Mangels.
3. Smart Budget & Finance is now Community Investment and will be accountable for implementation of initiatives involving YouthWorks and the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS). Helene Burks has agreed to serve as point person and will be assisted by fellow members Luis Chacon and Marcus Njissang.
4. Police Practices and Accountability will be accountable for implementing initiatives related to the Richmond Police Department (RPD). Members at present include Joey Schlemmer, Linda Whitmore, Ben Therriault, James Lee and Deborah Small

Public Comment:

City of Richmond - Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Special Meeting held via Zoom: https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=38

1. Leisa Johnson wanted staff to provide clarity from the CCRP meeting with City Attorney Bruce Soublet on the Brown Act requirements for the subcommittees/working groups.
2. Sara Cantor responded to Leisa Johnson noting some comments that City Attorney Bruce Soublet clarified that if it was not a fixed meeting and each had a specific purpose, then it was not subject to the Brown Act according to her understanding.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Draft

City of Richmond - Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force
Meeting held via Zoom: https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=38

MINUTES*
WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022, 5:30 P.M.

**video recording and meeting transcript available*

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chair Small at 5:34 P.M.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: M. Cantú, L. Chacon, D. Gosney, R. Joseph, K. Kilian-Lobos, A. Lee, L. Mangels, J. Schlemmer, D. Small, A. Soto, B. Therriault, T. Walker, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams

ABSENT: H. Burks, E. Chacon, M. Njissang

T. Walker left the meeting at 6:00 P.M. B. Therriault left the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

C. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION

M. Cantú requested to move agenda item G-6 up before agenda item G-5 and Chair Small accepted.

D. MEETING PROCEDURES

E. CITY STAFF REPORTS (Verbal)

Staff Liaison LaShonda White provided several staff reports. Liaison White and City Attorney Heather McLaughlin introduced new City Attorney Alison Flowers who will replace former City Attorney Bruce Soublet in staffing the Task Force meetings. Liaison White provided a brief explanation and update about the Form 700 that Task Force members are subject to and will be sending additional information via email. She also invited Task Force members and the general public to attend a Community Forum the following night on May 26 at 6:00 P.M. for an update on the Community Crisis Response Program hosted by Councilmembers Gayle McLaughlin and Claudia Jimenez.

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Leisa Johnson urged Task Force members to turn on their cameras so the public can observe that Task Force members are present and participating in the meeting. She also requested City Attorney Flowers to send her contact information for questions and concerns regarding the Task Force.
2. Carole Johnson asked about the April deadline for the Form 700 and wanted clarification on the matter.
3. Steve Bischoff mentioned he has heard about the upcoming Community Forum for the Community Crisis Response Program in the meeting and found out recently about the past April Community Forum. He mentioned he is the president of the May Valley Neighborhood Council and would like to stay informed about these meetings and recommended that the City have a larger distribution list.
4. Andres Soto mentioned that 20 years ago on May 5, 2002 was the Richmond Police riot where the Police Department attacked the largely Latino community on 23rd Street. He mentioned he and his sons were the first victims that night. They had the Police Chief removed and the City Manager resigned due to health reasons but also left the City in a deficit. These incidents are what led the community to organize against how the City was run. He also mentioned it was the 10th year anniversary of the Chevron explosion that happened on August 6, 2012. He urged everyone to remember their history.
5. Randy Joseph noted it was the second year anniversary of the murder of George Floyd which was a major influence on creating the Richmond Task Force to reimagine how public safety is conducted with community support. He urged everyone to continue doing the work that is needed.

G. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, & ACTION ITEMS

City of Richmond - Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Meeting held via Zoom: https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=38

1. **RECEIVE presentation from Safe Organized Spaces (SOS) updating Task Force on implementation of Unhoused Interventions proposal**

Daniel Barth and Alison Gil provided a joint presentation on the status of the Unhoused Interventions proposal. He provided updates on the demographics on the current Workforce, noted which specific activities are funded by the City of Richmond, explained how the Neighborhood-Based Change Model works, reported on current activity outcomes, key performance indicators, expenses, and budget, noted their field partners, provided an overview of their organization chart, SOS programs, and safe spaces. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

1. Leisa Johnson asked when the results of the audit regarding this program will be presented to the Richmond City Council and public.

2. **RECEIVE update from the Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP) Working Group**

Staff Liaison LaShonda White provided a brief update on this agenda item. She provided updates on the Community Forum presentation, Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Community Crisis Response Program model, Measure X, and Contra Costa program model updates. She also reminded Task Force members to join the Community Forum meeting the following night. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

1. Leisa Johnson recognized Staff Liaison White's work on the RFP but also mentioned the public has concerns about the RFP and its three directives/priorities for a standalone City program, a nonprofit collaborative program, and a City/County A3 collaborative program. She stated that County will already have a county program in place and is concerned about where funding will come from.
2. Sara Cantor pointed out that Staff Liaison answered Leisa Johnson's questions and concerns in the RFP update.

3. **REVIEW, DISCUSS, and APPROVE Task Force meeting schedule for June and July 2022**

Chair Small presented this agenda item and moved into a discussion with Task Force members to ask if they were interested in continuing on a monthly or schedule additional meetings. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

There were no public speakers.

4. **REVIEW and DISCUSS Task Force presentation schedule to City Council**

Chair Small presented this agenda item. She asked Task Force members who would be available to present to City Council in June and July 2022. Discussion ensued. It was confirmed that A. Soto would present in June and R. Joseph in July.

Public Comment:

There were no public speakers.

5. **REVIEW, DISCUSS, and APPROVE the Task Force working group structure and membership for the next six months**

Item was moved for discussion after agenda item G-6.

City of Richmond - Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Meeting held via Zoom: https://richmond.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=38

6. REVIEW and DISCUSS City of Richmond FY 2021-22 budget report and Task Force program expenditures to-date

This agenda item was discussed after G-4. Staff Liaison White provided a report on this item. She provided updates on each of the proposals that were pushed through the Task Force, including YouthWORKS, Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), Unhoused Interventions, and Community Crisis Response. She reported on their budgets, expenditures, staffing, and other administrative updates from Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

1. Sara Cantor commented that she would also agree that we should pay our youth workers more.

I. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to extend to the end of the budget item discussion by R. Joseph; seconded by D. Gosney; approved by the following vote:

Ayes: H. Burks, M. Cantú, L. Chacon, D. Gosney, R. Joseph, K. Kilian-Lobos, A. Lee, L. Mangels, J. Schlemmer, D. Small, A. Soto, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams

Noes: B. Therriault

Abstentions:

Absent: E. Chacon, M. Njissang, T. Walker

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.



REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

DATE: July 27, 2022

TO: Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

FROM: LaShonda White, Interim Director of Library and Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: August 2022 Task Force Meeting Schedule

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Chair Small requested an agenda item to discuss the Task Force meeting schedule for August 2022.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DISCUSS and APPROVE Task Force meeting schedule, specifically adjournment for month of August (next Task Force update report to City Council mid-October).

DISCUSSION:

Chair Small requested an item to discuss the adjournment for the month of August 2022, in alignment with the City Council August recess. The next Task Force update report to City Council would take place mid-October.



REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

DATE: July 27, 2022

TO: Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

FROM: LaShonda White, Interim Director of Library and Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Verbal Updates Regarding Community Crisis Response Program, Unhoused Interventions, Office of Neighborhood Safety, or YouthWorks

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The Task Force will receive verbal updates from City staff and/or Task Force members regarding: Community Crisis Response Program, Unhoused Interventions, Office of Neighborhood Safety, or YouthWorks.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE verbal updates from City staff and/or Task Force members regarding: Community Crisis Response Program, Unhoused Interventions, Office of Neighborhood Safety, or YouthWorks.

DISCUSSION:

City staff, consultants, and/or Task Force members that currently support the development and implementation of the four interventions will provide verbal updates. A high-level overview of the programs is included below:

Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP)

The proposed Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP) intends to provide a community response that is non-law enforcement to address non-violent/non-felony mental health crises in Richmond. The CCRP provides an opportunity to improve access to mental health and other community services in Richmond and seeks to provide a community-based crisis response that is efficient and effective for medically vulnerable and socially marginalized people in Richmond, most especially for people with mental illness, substance use disorders, or people in crisis who are experiencing homelessness and requiring community-based services.

The CCRP team developed a Request for Proposals to hire a consulting group to assist with CCRP development and implementation. The consultant will support the team to determine the best path forward to ensure successful implementation of the program.

The RFP was released on April 15, 2022 and was due on May 20, 2022. The RFP was posted on the City's BidsOnline system for competitive bidding, in which 1,415 vendors were notified. Two (2) proposals were received and deemed as responsive by the deadline

An item was placed on the July 26, 2022 City Council consent calendar to approve a contract with Urban Strategies Council to conduct research and analysis of various Community Crisis Response Program options, for a total amount not to exceed \$112,844, with a term beginning August 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2024.

Unhoused Interventions

The City Council approved a contract with Rebuilding Together East Bay-North (RBTEN) on July 27, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$983,975, for a term ending on June 30, 2022, for Safe Organized Spaces Richmond (SOS!) to provide outreach and support services to unsheltered people who reside in encampments and safe parking sites in the City. SOS serve all Richmond neighborhoods and SOS teams provide support surrounding Mobile Engagement (trash and outreach), Mobile Showers, Local Stewards, and RV Repair.

Office of Neighborhood Safety

Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) moved forward with its hiring process for new positions after the City Council passed a resolution approving the salaries. The goal is to hire 8 new staff members:

- 1 Program Manager
- 1 Project Coordinator
- 1 Program Coordinator
- 5 Neighborhood Change Agents

ONS is also working on finalizing a contract with the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

YouthWORKS

YouthWORKS' goal is to provide up to 500 Richmond youth with work experience in order to help guide youth with meaningful career goals. YouthWORKS provides youth the opportunities to gain new skills set, networks, competencies, and knowledge they need to meet the increasing challenges they face as they mature. The program innovates youth work experience by adapting industry-driven skills workshops to work with Opportunity Youth, focusing on the tech sector and adding a paid skills-building bridge and pre-apprenticeship program incorporating lessons learned.



REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

DATE: July 27, 2022

TO: Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

FROM: LaShonda White, Interim Director of Library and Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Status of Task Force Working Groups

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force will discuss working group structure and membership.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

REVIEW, DISCUSS, and APPROVE the Task Force working group structure and membership for the next six months, and RECEIVE verbal reports from active working group members

DISCUSSION:

During the April 13, 2022, special Task Force meeting, a discussion ensued regarding the future structure and membership of working groups; however, there was a desire to continue the discussion and make decisions at the next regular meeting. The results of the discussion, in addition to other factors (i.e. number of members, duration of subcommittee, tasks/focus, etc.), will help the City Attorney’s Office determine if any of the working groups are subject to the Brown Act.

The original working groups were:

- Smart Budget and Resource Allocation - Focused on budgetary and other resource allocation
- Accountability as Safety - Focused on Richmond Police Department staffing, training, and basic processes for departmental accountability
- Health & Safety – Focused on mental and behavioral health, substance abuse, and homelessness with an emphasis on public health-oriented approaches that were alternatives to traditional law enforcement
- Community Based Solutions - Focused on alternatives to policing for common problems (e.g. mutual aid, housing counseling and assistance, immigration issues)

- Implementation – Focused on implementation of the four (4) intervention programs developed by the Task Force and approved by City Council
 - Unhoused Interventions
 - Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP)
 - YouthWORKS
 - Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS)

Based on recommendations received during the April 13, 2022 special Task Force meeting, the proposed working group titles, duration, focus, and members are listed below:

- Community Investment (six months) - Accountable for implementation of initiatives involving YouthWorks and the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS). Helene Burks has agreed to serve as point person, and other members could include Luis Chacon and Marcus Njissang.
- Police Practices and Accountability (six months) - Accountable for implementing initiatives related to the Richmond Police Department (RPD). Members could include Joey Schlemmer, Linda Whitmore, Ben Therriault, and Deborah Small.
- Health and Safety (six months) - Accountable for managing implementation of the Community Crisis Response Program. Kristin-Killian Lobos has agreed to serve as point person, and other members could include B.K. Williams and Laura Mangels.
- Community Based Solutions (six months) - Accountable for managing implementation of Unhoused Intervention programs. Randy Joseph has agreed to serve as point person, and other members could include Eddy Chacon, Tamisha Torres-Walker and Armond Lee.

Numerous members were not present at the April 13, 2022, special meeting, and therefore, additional people may choose to join proposed groups.



REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

DATE: July 27, 2022

TO: Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

FROM: LaShonda White, Interim Director of Library and Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Creation of Task Force Bylaws

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

The Task Force will discuss and provide feedback on the draft Task Force bylaws.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

REVIEW feedback on proposed Task Force bylaws and DISCUSS next steps

DISCUSSION:

The City of Richmond Boards and Commission Handbook ([Handbook](#)) was approved by City Council and contains guidelines and instructions for all City of Richmond Boards and Commission. Members will discuss the potential of creating specific bylaws for the Task Force, which will not be in conflict with information included in the Handbook, but will provide greater clarity where needed.

Chair Small developed draft bylaws for review and consideration by the full Task Force during the March 23, 2022 regular meeting. Task Force members were subsequently provided an opportunity to review and recommend revisions to the draft bylaws prior to the April 27, 2022 regular meeting. The draft bylaws, as well as the feedback received, are being presented for further discussion before revisions are incorporated and submitted to the City Attorney's Office for final review and approval. Final bylaws will be brought back before the Task Force at a subsequent meeting for adoption.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force Bylaws
2. Feedback on Draft Bylaws

**RICHMOND REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMUNITY TASK FORCE
By-Laws**

ARTICLE I. NAME, PURPOSE, FUNCTION

- Section 1. *NAME:* The name of this committee shall be the Richmond Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force (hereinafter “Task Force”).
- Section 2. *PURPOSE:* A joint, community-led task force charged with examining the public safety needs of Richmond residents and communities. Providing recommendations for alternatives to policing and enforcement to reduce conflict, harm, and institutionalization, introduce restorative and transformative justice models, and reduce or eliminate use of fines and incarceration. Develop options to reduce police contacts, stops, arrests, tickets, fines and incarceration and replace these, to the greatest extent possible, with educational, community serving, restorative and other positive programs, policies and systems.
- Section 3. *FUNCTIONS:* The duties of the task force are as follows:
- Conduct comprehensive reviews of existing institutional and community-based public safety and health resources. Identify community safety needs that are not currently being served and provide recommendations for how to add new resources to fill these gaps;
- Conduct listening sessions to ascertain community needs as well as public meetings to discuss community concerns about public safety; gather information and educate the public about existing resources;
- Provide regular reports on action steps and deliverables to all relevant governing bodies.

DRAFT

Evaluate and make recommendations for the implementation of, or improvements to current and proposed programs that impact public safety to the Richmond City Council.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. *MEMBERSHIP.* The Task Force is comprised of 21 members who represent the Richmond community. The Mayor and City Council members each nominated three individuals to be members of the Task Force for a total of twenty-one, which were subsequently approved by the City Council. Current members shall be listed in the written minutes of each meeting.
- Section 2. *VACANCIES.* It was determined that it is within the charter-appointed duties of the Mayor to nominate candidates for appointment to the task force, as is done for the city's boards and commissions. Mayor Butt has reasserted his right to fill vacancies that may occur with approval of the City Council.
- Section 3. *CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR.* The Task Force will elect a chair and vice-chair from the 21 members. The Chair will work with City Staff to develop Task Force agendas, review minutes and facilitate meetings. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair will assume these accountabilities. The Task Force will elect a Chair and Vice Chair annually until its termination.
- Section 4. *ATTENDANCE.* Members are required to attend all Task Force regular meetings unless excused by the Chair for good reason. Three unexcused absences are grounds for removal. The list of attendees will be recorded as part of the minutes of each meeting. Any member in violation of the attendance policy shall be sent a letter informing them of their automatic removal.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

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- Section 1. *Quorum.* A quorum of fifty (50) percent plus one of the Task Force twenty-one (21) members must be present at any regular or specially scheduled meeting in order for the Task Force to engage in formal decision-making. A quorum is defined as more than one-half of the total membership, including vacant seats.
- Section 2. *Proceedings.* Task Force meetings shall be open to the public, in full accordance of the Brown Act. Audio recordings will be kept for all meetings and will be posted on the Task Force website in accordance with the Brown Act and will be a public document.
- Section 3. *Parliamentary Procedure.* Rosenberg's Rules of Order, as published by the League of California Cities, shall be the parliamentary rules of order for Task Force meetings.
- Section 4. *Regular Meetings.* Task Force meetings will occur once a month at a time and place to be determined by the Task Force members. The Task Force may hold meetings more frequently if necessary. Any change in the regular meeting schedule shall be announced at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance.
- Section 5. *Order of Business.* Unless changed as determined by a majority vote of the Task Force, the order of business of any Regular meeting shall be as follows:
1. Roll call
 2. Approval of the Minutes
 3. Open Public Comment (for items relevant to the Task Force, but not on the agenda).
 4. Consideration of Task Force Business/Action Items.
(Public comment specific to each business/action item shall be requested prior to any action being taken on the item.)
 5. New Business (No action if not on agenda.)
 6. Adjournment
- Section 7. *Notice.* Written notice of the time and place of every full Task Force meeting shall be given to members of the Task Force and

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the public at least 72 hours before the time of such meeting, in accordance with the Brown Act.

- Section 8. *Special Meetings.* Special Meetings may be called and scheduled by the Chair or, by seven or more members. The agenda, place and time of such meetings shall be set forth in the meeting notice, at least twenty-four (24) hours before the time of such meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.

ARTICLE IV. VOTING

- Section 1. *Voting.* While the Task Force strives to achieve consensus, the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present shall be required for the approval of any matter. Votes will be taken by roll call vote, and detailed in the minutes.

- Section 2. *Absentee Votes.* Absentee votes shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE V. SUBCOMMITTEES

- Section 1. *Subcommittee Structure.* The Task Force may create working groups and sub-committees as deemed necessary, by a majority vote of the Task Force.

- Section 2. *Committee Membership.* Membership of working groups and subcommittees shall be made up of members of the Task Force.

- Section 3. *Advisory Committees.* Task Force members may create Advisory Committees to support specific working groups or subcommittees. Advisory committee members may include city staff, organizational stakeholders and such other experts as appropriate and/or necessary. No subcommittee, working group or advisory committee may make decisions or act on behalf of the Task Force, except as authorized.

ARTICLE VI. TERMINATION

Section 1. It is anticipated that the Task Force shall complete its mission by the close of FY2024. However, this work is critically important and should be completed with due care and all needed time and attention. In light of that, if at the end of that time, the Task Force has not fully completed its work, the Task Force may by two-thirds vote of the membership add six months to its period of work with approval by City Council.

ARTICLE VII. NON-PARTISAN/NON-DISCRIMINATORY

Section 1. The Task Force shall be non-partisan, shall not support any political party or candidate for public office, and shall not take positions on matters of governmental policy or legislation, except for those relevant to its purposes. The Task Force shall not directly or indirectly participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

Section 2. The Task Force shall not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or disability.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Task Force by a two-thirds vote of those members present, providing that a notice of the proposed amendment shall be distributed to all members at least ten days prior to the meeting.

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COMMENT:

Since most of these by-laws are already included in the Brown Act, Rosenberg’s Rules of Order and the City’s Handbook of Committees and Commissions, how necessary is it for the Task Force to establish their own by-laws?

When this draft is discussed, the individual items of concern should be addressed seriatim and not as a group. Each item has its own merits (and flaws).

ARTICLE I. NAME, PURPOSE, FUNCTION

Section 1. *NAME:* The name of this committee shall be the Richmond Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force (hereinafter “Task Force”).

Section 2. *PURPOSE:* A **joint [I-2(a)]**, community-led task force charged with examining the public safety needs of Richmond residents and **communities [I-2(b)]**. Providing recommendations for alternatives to policing and enforcement to reduce conflict, harm, and institutionalization, introduce restorative and transformative justice models, and **reduce or eliminate use of fines and incarceration [I-2(c)] [I-2(e)]**. Develop options to reduce police contacts, stops, arrests, tickets, fines and incarceration and replace these, to the greatest extent possible, with educational, community serving, restorative and other positive programs, policies and systems **[I-2-(d)], [I-2(f)]**

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COMMENTS:

I-2(a) “Joint”? Who is the Task Force partnered with? His reference needs clarification.

I-2(b) What “communities”? This reference needs definition and explanation.

I-2(c) The Task Force’s scope seems to have been expanded beyond what the Council approved when the Task Force was created. The Task Force needs to revisit the very specific language used when the Council created the Task Force. If the Council specifically created the scope of the Task Force, does the Task Force have the authority to expand that scope?

[The specific language of the motion to create the Task Force:

MOTION TO CREATE REIMAGINING TASK FORCE

06.30.20

TRANSCRIPT

COUNCILMEMBER JAEL MYRICK

It was to direct staff to prepare a plan to transition from Richmond’s current community policing model, to a plan conducive to reduce police force and return to Council with a preferred policing model, and a plan for implementation by the end of the fiscal year.

And to create a transition accountability task force of the public, to advise staff during that process. And that that task force would have access to legally allowable

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data, and to legal questions from the City Attorney's office. And that task force would have standing meetings with the City Manager.

And I was going to say the Police Chief, because originally ... or someone from the Police Department, I should say, and require that that task force ... I won't say it would be convening within two weeks, because it sounds like that's going to be a little more complicated, but they still will have to report back to the Council by September 15th, 2020, and then monthly.

COUNCILMEMBER EDUARDO MARTINEZ

Would you accept a friendly amendment of including community groups such as Safe Return Project RYSE Center?

COUNCILMEMBER Jael Myrick

Yeah. I was trying to avoid getting specific, but yeah, we could say it includes, but it's not limited to members of the Richmond police ... Community Police Review Commission, Office of Neighborhood Safety, Safe Return Project and the RYSE Center as well as the Police Department.

COUNCILMEMBER MELVIN WILLIS

And even the County?

COUNCILMEMBER Jael Myrick

Yeah, and even the County.

COUNCILMEMBER MELVIN WILLIS

And part of that motion was just allowing the task force to have access to legally available public data, and just general legal consultation. Sorry, I didn't capture that. It was a long one. You're doing good Councilmember Myrick, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER Jael Myrick

It was a long one.

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COUNCILMEMBER MELVIN WILLIS

You're doing good.

COUNCILMEMBER JAELE MYRICK

Yeah, so we could accommodate that, that's fine.

MAYOR TOM BUTT

Okay. Now, let's call the roll vote please.

PAM CHRISTIAN

Vice Mayor Bates?

VICE MAYOR NAT BATES

No.

PAM CHRISTIAN

Councilmember Choi?

COUNCILMEMBER BEN CHOI

Yes.

PAM CHRISTIAN

Councilmember Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER DEMNLU JOHNSON

Yes.

PAM CHRISTIAN

Councilmember Martinez?

COUNCILMEMBER EDUARDO MARTINEZ

Yes.

PAM CHRISTIAN

Councilmember Myrick?

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COUNCILMEMBER JAELE MYRICK

Yes.

PAM CHRISTIAN

Councilmember Willis?

COUNCILMEMBER MELVIN WILLIS

Yes.

PAM CHRISTIAN

And Mayor Butt?

MAYOR TOM BUTT

I'm going to vote, no. And I think the other thing is that I'm going to take up Vice Mayor Bates' advice that I don't think we need two bodies doing this. So, I'm going to disband the ad hoc committee, and let the task force redesign the police department.

PAM CHRISTIAN

And the motion passes with Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt voting no.

I-2(d) This task force is purely advisory and has no authority to take action on behalf of the City. The Task Force can make recommendations but the language here needs to be specific so there is no confusion or ambiguity as to the authority that the Task Force has.

I-2(e) Isn't it the State that determines what is against the law and what the punishment for breaking those laws will be? Is it the intent of this Task Force to direct the Richmond Police Department about which laws they should not enforce or which persons they should give a pass to? Since sworn police

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officers take an oath to uphold the laws of California, does the Task Force have the authority to reprioritize which laws should be enforced? Does the Task Force have the authority to direct the judicial system which cases should be heard and the punishments meted out by the courts?

I-2(f) This reads like a list but its written as if the items are sentences. His section should be redrafted so it's either a list of items or the sentences are complete sentences and make sense.

Section 3. *FUNCTIONS:* The duties of the task force are as follows:

Conduct comprehensive reviews of existing institutional and community-based public safety and health resources. Identify community safety needs that are not currently being served and provide recommendations for how to add new resources to fill these gaps; **[I-3(a)]**

COMMENT:

I-3(a) Is it the responsibility of the Task Force to find new resources to fund the solutions to the “community needs” or should it be the responsibility of the elected City Council?

Conduct listening sessions to ascertain community needs as well as public meetings to discuss community concerns about public safety; gather information and educate the public about existing resources; **[I-3(b)]**

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COMMENT:

I-3(b) Include language that would require the Task Force to actually listen to members of the community at these “listening sessions”.

Provide regular reports on action steps and deliverables to all relevant governing bodies. [I-3(c)]

COMMENT:

I-3(c) Specify what governing bodies other than the City Council that this Task Force reports to.

Evaluate and make recommendations for the implementation of [I-3(d)] public safety to the Richmond City Council.

COMMENT:

I-3(d) Remove comma.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. *MEMBERSHIP.* The Task Force is comprised of 21 members who represent the Richmond community. The Mayor [II-1(a)] and City Council members each nominated three individuals to be members of the Task Force for a total of twenty-one, which were subsequently approved by the City

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Council. [II-1(b)] Current members shall be listed in the written minutes of each meeting. [II-1(c)]

COMMENTS:

II-1(a) The Mayor is a member of the City Council so this reference should not make a distinction between the two elected offices.

II-1(b) Amend the second sentence to as follows so it reflects the policy of the Council: “Members of the Task Force are nominated by individual members of the City Council, appointed by the Mayor with the appointments approved by a majority of the Council.”

II-1(c) Maintain a current list of the Task Force members on the Task Force web site as well.

Section 2. *VACANCIES.* It was determined that it is within the charter-appointed duties [II-2(a)] of the Mayor to nominate candidates [II-2(b)] [II-2(c)] for appointment to the task force, as is done for the city’s [II-2(d)] boards and commissions. Mayor Butt has reasserted his right to fill vacancies that may occur with approval of the City Council.

COMMENTS:

II-2(a) This language suggests there was a question on who had the authority to appoint members to the Task Force, there

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was an investigation with a follow-up ruling—which was not the case. Remove this text.

II-2(b) The Mayor appoints people to the Task Force and these appointments must be approved by the Council.

II-2(c) These are not candidates—they are applicants.

II-2(d) In cases like this where the reference is to the City of Richmond as opposed to a generic city, “City” is capitalized.

Section 3. *CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR.* The Task Force will elect a chair and vice-chair from the 21 members. The Chair will work with City Staff to develop Task Force agendas, review minutes and facilitate meetings. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair will assume these accountabilities. The Task Force will elect a Chair and Vice Chair annually until its termination. **[II-3(a)]**

COMMENT:

II-3(a) When will the elections be held?

Section 4. *ATTENDANCE.* Members are required to attend all Task Force regular meetings unless excused by the Chair for good reason. **[II-4(a)]** Three unexcused absences **[II-4(b)]** are grounds for removal. The list of attendees will be recorded as part of the minutes of each meeting. Any member in violation of the attendance policy shall be sent a letter informing them of their automatic removal. **[II-4(c)] [II-4(d)]**

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COMMENTS:

II-4(a) What constitutes an excused/unexcused absence?

II-4(b) Three absences over what period?

II-4(c) A letter should be sent out well in advance of any removal as well as notifying the Task Force member of the removal. The Task Force should find way of keeping people on the Task Force instead of giving the appearance of finding ways to remove them from this Task Force.

II-4(d) Why are Task Force members NOT required to attend special called meetings of the Task Force? Are these special called meets of less importance?

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

Section 1. *Quorum.* A quorum of fifty (50) percent plus one of the Task Force Force's [III-1(a)] twenty-one (21) members must be present at any regular or specially scheduled meeting in order for the Task Force to engage in formal decision-making. A quorum is defined as more than one-half of the total membership, including vacant seats.

COMMENT:

III-1(a) Pluralize the word "Force".

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Section 2. *Proceedings.* Task Force meetings shall be open to the public, in full accordance ~~of~~ with [III-2(a)] the Brown Act. Audio Audio and Video [III-2(b)] recordings will be kept for all meetings and will be posted on the Task Force website in accordance with the Brown Act [III-2(c)] and will be a public document.

COMMENTS:

III-2(a) Replace “of” with “with:.”

III-2(b) Replace “Audio” with “Audio and video”.

III-2(c) Should the reference to The Brown Act be removed? Since the Brown Act was passed in 1953 it does not always keep up with the advancements of technology. Video recordings are the norm today but were not existent in 1953.

Section 3. *Parliamentary Procedure.* Rosenberg's Rules of Order, as published by the League of California Cities, shall be the parliamentary rules of order for Task Force meetings.

Section 4. *Regular Meetings.* Task Force meetings will occur once a month at a time and place to be determined by the Task Force members. The Task Force may hold meetings more frequently if necessary. Any change in the regular meeting schedule shall be announced at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance. [III-4(a)]

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COMMENT:

III-4(a) Who has the authority to change the date and time of the meetings?

Section 5. *Order of Business.* Unless changed as determined by a majority vote of the Task Force, the order of business of any Regular meeting shall be as follows:

1. Roll call
2. Approval of the Minutes
3. Open Public Comment (for items relevant to the Task Force, but not on the agenda).
4. Consideration of Task Force Business/Action Items. (Public comment specific to each business/action item shall be requested prior to any action being taken on the item.)
5. New Business (No action if not on agenda.)
6. Adjournment

Section 7. *Notice.* Written notice of the time and place of every full Task Force meeting shall be given to members of the Task Force and the public at least 72 hours before the time of such meeting, in accordance with the Brown Act. **[III-7(a)]**

COMMENT:

III-7(a) For more fluid flow, relocate the end of the paragraph to the beginning:

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“In accordance with the Brown Act, written notice of the time and place of every full Task Force meeting shall be given to members of the Task Force and the public at least 72 hours before the time of such meeting.”

Section 8. *Special Meetings*. **[III-8(a)]** Special Meetings may be called and scheduled by the Chair or, by seven or more members. The agenda, place and time of such meetings shall be set forth in the meeting notice, at least twenty-four (24) hours before the time of such meeting in accordance with the Brown Act. **[III-7(b)]**

COMMENT:

III-8(A) What would be the basis of a Special Meeting? Normally a Special meeting is called when there is an item with critical timing involved. What kind of item covered by this Task Force might fall under that category?

III-8(b) When such a small group has the authority to call a special meeting with only 24 hours notice, this is ripe for the small group to hijack the Task Force and act on items possibly without a full representation of the Task Force. This Task Force is far from unanimous on the issues and this item comes across as if it were designed to circumvent the democratic purposes. What kind of emergency would require a Special Meeting with only 24 hours notice?

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ARTICLE IV. VOTING

Section 1. *Voting.* While the Task Force strives to achieve consensus, the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present **[IV-1(a)]** shall be required for the approval of any matter. Votes will be taken by roll call vote, and detailed in the minutes.

COMMENT:

IV-1(a) Rosenberg's Rules call for a majority of possible members to approve any action—NOT just those present.

Section 2. *Absentee Votes.* Absentee votes shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE V. SUBCOMMITTEES

Section 1. *Subcommittee Structure.* The Task Force may create working groups and sub-committees as deemed necessary, by a majority vote of the Task Force. **[V-1(a)]**

COMMENT:

V-1(a) For more fluid flow, relocate the end of the paragraph to the beginning:

“By a majority vote of the Task Force the Task Force may create working groups and sub-committees as deemed necessary.”

Section 2. *Committee Membership.* Membership of working groups and subcommittees shall be made up of members of the Task Force.

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Advisory Committees. Task Force members [IV-2(a)] may create Advisory Committees to support specific working groups or subcommittees.

COMMENTS:

V-2(a) “Task Force members”? Is this ‘two or more’ Task Force members or a ‘majority’ of the Task Force members?

Section 3. Advisory committee members may include city staff, organizational stakeholders and such other experts as appropriate and/or necessary. No subcommittee, working group or advisory committee may make decisions or act on behalf of the Task Force, except as authorized. [V-3(a)]

COMMENT:

V-3(a) This sounds like individual Task Force members may be creating a Task Force within a Task Force—adding persons not appointed by the City Council.

ARTICLE VI. TERMINATION

Section 1. It is anticipated that the Task Force shall complete its mission by the close of FY2024. However, this work is critically important and should be completed with due care and all needed time and attention. In light of that, if at the end of that time, the Task Force has not fully completed its work, the Task Force may by two-thirds vote of the membership add six

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months to its period of work with approval by City Council.
[VI-1(a)]

COMMENT:

VI-1(a) **ONLY** the City Council can extend the life of the Task Force. Likewise, the Council may choose, at their convenience, to terminate the Task Force at any time deemed appropriate to their whims.

Suggest the replacement of this entire section with the following text:

“The City Council shall determine when the work of this Task Force has concluded and will have sole authority to either extend the duration of the Task Force or to terminate it’s work.”

ARTICLE VII. NON-PARTISAN/NON-DISCRIMINATORY

Section 1. The Task Force shall be non-partisan, shall not support any political party or candidate for public office, and shall not take positions on matters of governmental policy or legislation, except for those relevant to its purposes. The Task Force shall not directly or indirectly participate or intervene in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

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Section 2. The Task Force shall not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or disability. **[VII-2(a)]**

COMMENT:

VII-2(a) This is meaningless as long as Task Force members feel and act contrary to these words. There have been numerous incidents of comments made that conflict with this section made towards Task Force members as well as staff. Task Force members have walked away from this Task Force because of the lack of civility and attitude towards persons who may have opposing opinions or the gender or color of their skin does not match what the preferences of other Task Force members. [See video of meeting of 02.23.22 where a Task Force member objected to the face of a White Man being seen on the screen.

ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Task Force by a **two-thirds** **[VIII-1(a)]** vote of those members present, providing that a notice of the proposed amendment shall be distributed to all members at least ten days prior to the meeting.

COMMENT:

VIII 1(a) Normal procedure requires only a simple majority. Rosenberg's Rules allows for a supermajority to be required under specific situations but amending the By-Laws is not one

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of them. Getting 14 Task Force members to agree on a By-Law amendment is overly burdensome. This Article should revert to the standard of a simple majority for passage and it should follow the same rules for what constitutes a majority as any other vote as covered by Rosenberg's Rules.