

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, August 1, 2022

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Community Services Building
440 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

A. SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

The Special Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt via teleconference.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Nathaniel Bates, Claudia Jimenez, Demnlus Johnson III, Gayle McLaughlin, Melvin Willis, Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** None.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO

The Public Comment Instructional Video was shown.

D. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

E. AGENDA REVIEW

None.

F. NEW BUSINESS

F.1 Rydin Road Encampment Sunsetting Program

MANDATE the sunset date of the Rydin Road encampment as August 31, 2022; APPROVE a fifth contract amendment in an amount not to exceed \$135,966, with Housing Consortium of the East Bay and extend the contract term to August 31, 2022, for a total not to exceed amount of \$695,966; AUTHORIZE the City Manager or her designee to negotiate and execute contracts for the administration of flex funds with a community-based organization; and CONTINUE collaboration with Contra Costa County (CCC) H3 and C.O.R.E. programs to provide needed supportive services to residents at Rydin Road prior to abatement – City Manager’s Office (Shasa Curl 510-620-6512).

City Manager Shasa Curl introduced the matter. The city manager presented drone footage of Rydin Road. City Manager Shasa Curl, Community Development director Lina Velasco, Fire Chief Angel Montoya, Wastewater Program Manager Yader Bermudez, Contra Costa County Health, Housing and Homeless Services Interim Director Christy Saxton presented a PowerPoint that highlighted the following: background information; employment data; synergistic policies/developments; affordable housing in Richmond; police calls for service; overview on Fire department abatement assistance, fire extinguisher training, and calls for service; Public Works abatement efforts; street improvements at Rydin Rd; CORE outreach, prevention/diversion, emergency shelter, CARE centers; rapid exit, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing; CORE access/assessment/prioritization; services/resources; summary of CORE services; CORE Services provided at Rydin Rd; HCEB expenditures; unhoused

interventions expenditures commencing in Fiscal Year 21/22; and potential policy options. Discussion ensued. Jessi Taran, Ramon Quintana, Amanda Jenkins, Lea Murray, Payton Silket, Leticia Chavez, and Terry Dunn gave comments via teleconference.

Main Motion

Motion by Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin

Seconded by Councilmember Melvin Willis

To approve option 3 with additional funding for a September 30, 2022, sunset for the Rydin Road encampment and direct the city manager to work out the details of an extension of the Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB) contract with the following funding: \$169,958 to HCEB; \$35,000 for a Collaborising subcontract; and \$200,000 for flex funds for a total allocation of \$404,958.

Ayes (5): Councilmembers Demnlus Johnson III, Claudia Jimenez, Melvin Willis, Gayle McLaughlin, and Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Noes (2): Mayor Tom Butt and Councilmember Nathaniel Bates.

Passed (5 to 2)

Substitute Motion

Motion by Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez

To allocate \$58,000 to Collaborising, \$135,000 to HCEB, and \$200,000 for flex funds.

Died for lack of second

F.2 R3f Strategic Planning and Governance Advisor Contract

APPROVE a contract with Dalberg, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000, for a term beginning July 26, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023, to prepare a Strategic Plan and Governance Structure for the Richmond Rapid Response Fund (R3F); and AUTHORIZE the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the West Contra Costa Public Education Fund to accept their \$25,000 contribution towards this work – Community Development (Lina Velasco 510-620-6741).

Community Development Director Lina Velasco introduced the item. Ms. Velasco presented a PowerPoint that highlighted the following: background information; procurement process; and the proposed scope of work Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember Melvin Willis

Seconded by Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez

To approve the staff recommendation.

Ayes (6): Councilmembers Demnlus Johnson III, Nathaniel Bates, Claudia Jimenez, Melvin Willis, Gayle McLaughlin, and Eduardo Martinez.

Noes (1): Mayor Tom Butt

Passed (6 to 1)

F.3 Contract for Castro Encampment Resolution Project Manager

APPROVE a contract with Way2Love, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$235,000, for a term beginning July 26, 2022, and ending June 30, 2024, to provide project management services for the Castro Encampment Resolution Project to be funded by the City’s Encampment Resolution Funding grant – Community Development (Lina Velasco 620-6841/Jesus Morales 620-6649).

Housing Manager Jesus Morales introduced the item. Mr. Morales presented a PowerPoint that highlighted the following: Castro encampment map; Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) application and award Timeline; procurement process; overall ERF project goals and objectives; main activities; project manager responsibilities; reporting structure chart (org chart); and information about Way 2 Love, Inc.. Discussion ensued. Eleanor Thompson, Amanda Jenkins, and Leticia Chavez gave comments via teleconference.

Motion by Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III

Seconded by Councilmember Melvin Willis

To approve the staff recommendation and authorize staff to make amendments to the contract to ensure satisfactory performance and achieve metrics.

Ayes (5): Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III, Claudia Jimenez, Melvin Willis, Gayle McLaughlin, and Vice Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Noes (2): Mayor Tom Butt and Councilmember Nathaniel Bates

Passed (5 to 2)

G. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m., in memory of Bill Russell, to meet again on September 13, 2022.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

Mayor

From: [John Knox](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comment on #F.1 Rydin Rd. Encampment Sunsetting Program
Date: Monday, August 1, 2022 12:06:16 PM

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----- Forwarded message

Hello,

It's inhumane and unrealistic to expect Rydin Rd residents to leave without financial assistance to help them succeed outside of Rydin Rd.

I'm a nomad.

My van is my home and woodworking calling card.

For me to travel onto Arizona, my van and trailer have to be in good mechanical condition.

I have kept #3 & #4 spots clear and clean for over a year. It's how I live.

I've already repaired the critical mechanical problems with my van/home.

My van passed SMOG in June.

Once I'm reimbursed for those documented expenses and once my DMV charges are paid, I can and will leave.

What has sustained me is my trade and Soc. Sec.

I suggest that the City put those Rydin residents whom the City wants to help out, into a trade education program so they can earn and become a useful Richmond citizen.

HCEB has treated me fairly.

SOS has provided critical street services also.

And I believe Collaborising has had the BIGGEST impact on the community of all the organizations.

Keep them please.

Thank You.

-John Knox

From: [Marisol Cantu](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item #- F1 Rydin Road Encampment Sunsetting Program
Date: Monday, August 1, 2022 8:00:20 AM

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To the City Council, Vice Mayor, the Mayor, and members of the public,

My name is Marisol Cantu. I am a 3rd generation Richmond resident and Reimagining Public Safety Community Taskforce member. I am writing to express my extreme concern for Rydin Road's sunset on August 31st. Currently, there is no thorough plan by the city to help Rydin Road residents transition from the encampment. This is an issue of neglect of people's humanity. Although there was a planned sunset in October, the City Manager has put forth this agenda item in haste. There is still much work to be done for our unhoused residents in regard to adequately addressing the unique needs of each individual living at Rydin Rd.

I ask that you allocate Flexible Relocation Funds to encampment residents to assist in their transportation, housing needs, food expenses, moving/storage needs, and additional expenses needed to maintain a humane and equitable transition. I worry that without adequate funding, residents will be forced to create an encampment in another part of the city and this will only exacerbate the housing crisis in Richmond.

Thank you for your time,
Marisol Cantu

From: [Bruce Beyaert](#)
To: [Tom Butt - external](#); [Eduardo Martinez](#); [Melvin Willis](#); [Gayle McLaughlin](#); [Nat Bates](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Demnlus Johnson](#); [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Cc: [Shasa Curl](#); [Jesus Morales](#); [Dave Aleshire](#); [Lina Velasco](#); [LaShonda White](#); [Goretha Johnson](#); [Marena Brown](#); [Don Gilmore](#); [Lee Jones](#); [Princess Robinson](#); [Tania Pulido](#); [Dulce Galicia](#); [Bruce Brubaker](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item F.3 - Contract for Castro Encampment
Date: Friday, July 29, 2022 9:53:45 AM
Attachments: [RichBT_LR123120.pdf](#)

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Mayor Butt and City Councilors,

Please consider the following comments by TRAC, the Trails for Richmond Action Committee, when you [meet this Monday, August 1 at 3 PM to consider agenda item F.3 Contract for Castro Encampment Resolution Project Manager](#).

As shown on the attached map, the Castro Street encampment has straddled and blocked the spine San Francisco Bay Trail between Pennsylvania and Gertrude Avenues for more than a year. This means that Richmond residents from neighborhoods to the South ranging from the Iron Triangle and Atchison Village to Point Richmond haven't been able to safely bicycle or walk the Bay Trail to reach Point Pinole Regional Shoreline or Atlas Road employment centers such as Amazon, Whole Foods and UPS. Conversely, North Richmond residents haven't been able to safely bicycle or walk to Macdonald Avenue employment sites such as Kaiser Permanente and Social Security Administration or to The Plunge and Miller/Knox Regional Shoreline.

TRAC was delighted by the City's success in obtaining the \$4.8 million grant to assist the City in providing services to support people living at the Castro Encampment onto paths to safe and stable housing and result in sustainable restoration of this Bay Trail segment. The RFQ Statement of Purpose states the site Project Manager shall "manage and sunset the encampment by rehousing residents; and restore the site to its original trail use"; and the agenda report states that "The project aims to move all encampment residents into stable housing by June 2023".

However, the contract Performance Schedule states only a "goal" housing as few as 50 of the over 100 residents through June 2023. This is not even a required contractor performance metric — only a goal.

This modest goal of placing less than half of the residents, combined with extending the project management services contract June 2024 is inconsistent with the aim of "to move all encampment residents into stable housing by June 2023". Moreover, the proposed June 2024 extension of the contract gives the contractor an economic incentive to perpetuate this homeless encampment and continue billing the City for management services.

The contract should be amended to require delivery on the stated aim of moving all encampment residents into stable housing by June 2023. In addition, measures must be take to ensure that the site is not perpetuated by new people moving in to take advantage of the municipal services being provided.

Bruce

Bruce Beyaert, TRAC Chair

baytrailtrac@gmail.com

tel. 510-235-2835

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

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

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

Bay Trail

- Complete
- Incomplete

Connector Trail

- Complete
- Incomplete

- Water Trail site
- Water Trail site (planned)
- Parks/Open Space
- Water Bodies



Welcome to Richmond

Over 36 miles of Bay Trail linking a necklace of 12 shoreline parks

December 31, 2020