



Richmond Workforce Development Board Meeting Minutes – March 7, 2019

Cassandra Youngblood, Interim RWIB Chairperson, called the Richmond Workforce Development Board meeting to order on Thursday, March 7th at 11:55 am.

Roundtable introductions

No minutes were reviewed.

Review and Approve: Richmond Workforce Development Board's PY 2017-2020 Two Year Local Plan Modification

Steven Schultz, Senior Associate, Glen Price Group

The final draft of the Richmond Workforce Development Board's PY 2017-2020 Two Year Local Plan Modification was presented by Mr. Schultz. The final draft was distributed two weeks ago to the members, via e-mail, for review. The modification includes recommendations provided Public Hearing meetings held throughout the county in the last couple of months. Comments received within the 30-day public comment period were also included; one comment in total. If approved the final draft of the modification will be submitted to the State of California on March 15th.

RWDB members are asked to approve the final draft of the Richmond Workforce Development Board 2017-2020 Local Plan as presented. A motion to approve was made by Board Member Uche Uwahemu, seconded by Board Member Kelly Schelin. All members present were in agreement, no nays or abstentions.

Review and Approve: Revised Individual Training Account (ITA) Policy

Rosemary Viramontes, Project Coordinator, RichmondWORKS

RichmondWORKS would like to revise the Individual Training Account (ITA) Policy amount awarded to WIOA participants and increase the dollar amount of \$3500 to \$5000 with a flexibility of up to \$8000. The ITA policy was distributed to the Members via-email before the meeting for review.

Revised policy to: "ITA's will be capped to \$5000 per individual enrolled into a training program, with the flexibility of increasing that amount up to \$8000 when classroom/vocational training or OJT is in a priority industry and there are no training providers/employers who can provide the same type of training at \$5000 or less" (Page 2).

RWDB members are asked to approve the revised Individual Training Account (ITA) Policy as presented. A motion to approve the application, as is, was made by Board Member Willie Hicks, seconded by Vice Chair Xavier Abrams. All members present in agreement, no nays or abstentions.



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Presentation: Development Projects in Downtown Richmond

Ernst Valery, Founder & President, Ernst Valery Investments

Mr. Earnst shared that in 30 there will be a grand opening of the “Richmond Station” at the Richmond BART station. This will be a co-business building with businesses like Red Bean Coffee and other local vendors. SAA|EVI’s goal for Richmond, California is to revitalize the community and make it a better place to live by creating affordable housing without gentrifying and displacing people. They had success with similar projects already in Buffalo, New York and Baltimore, Maryland. Richmond is an ideal location because of its transportation hub; nowhere else in the Bay Area are the BART, Amtrak and the San Francisco Bay Ferry services available.

In order to achieve these affordable homes SAA|EVI is partnering with Blokable, Inc. – Nelson Del Rio, Co-CEO & Aaron Holm, Co-CEO.

Blokable, Inc. believes that Richmond would be a wonderful pilot location for a production plant. This plant would also help create jobs for the community which the company looks forward to hiring locally and from Labor Unions.

“The Blokable Building System (BBS) is a comprehensive building system designed, engineered, and manufactured to consistently produce high-quality, low-cost, connected housing.

Each Blok in the system is a standardized, modular housing component assembled entirely in our manufacturing facility and designed to be stacked, combined, and connected to create prosperous communities.

By vertically integrating the entire prefabricated building stack under our factory roof, we are able to drastically cut overall project time, slash project costs, and deliver lower operating costs over time.

Bloks are currently designed to be assembled into 1-3 story communities and can be configured in a variety of ways, from standalone homes to multi-unit developments with retail and community spaces on the ground floor. The BBS structural steel frame and shear-wall system allows us to create wide open spaces for studio, 1, 2, and 3 bedroom homes and to attach decks, railings, stairs, architectural features, a wide range of cladding options, and a variety of roof types to create unique and beautiful building designs and to match climate and community design requirements.

Blokable's standardized building system is designed to be a canvas for our architect partners, offering them maximum flexibility and creativity in design and is built to accommodate an extensive variety of high-quality materials and finishes, giving owners a choice in aesthetics. This means that Blokable projects are suitable for even the most architecturally demanding projects.



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The Blokable Building System integrates BlokSense hardware and software to monitor performance and safety features of a home or property in real time. This integrated approach minimizes maintenance and insurance costs, while providing highly efficient housing as well as real-time integrated monitoring of buildings vitals, greatly reducing the lifetime operating costs of a building.”

Source: <https://blokable.com/solution/>

The *Development Without Displacement* Presentation by SAA|EVI Development can be found at <https://prezi.com/p/opp3xgo1dfmq/> .

Update: Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)

Rosemary Viramontes, Project Coordinator, RichmondWORKS

Bouakhay Phongboupha, Senior Employment Specialist, YouthWORKS

Last Year, 2018 SYEP:

- 175 youth (ages 16-21) participated in the SYEP
- 30 of the 175 had disabilities
- All 175 participated in the following workshops:
 - Job Prep
 - Work Readiness
 - Career Exploration
 - Money Management
 - Work Ethics
 - Cal OSHA Safety Training
- 31 Worksites hosted 175 youth with paid work experience

This Year, 2019 SYEP:

- Applicants are currently being accepted – 145 thus far
- Our base goal is 150 youth and we will add in more based upon funding (grants and donations)
- Requirements: Richmond residents ages 16-21
- Workshops are underway and will continue through June
- Interested in hosting a youth this summer?

For more information regarding the Summer Youth Employment Program please contact YouthWORKS at (510) 412-2044.

Announcements

None



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Public Comment

None

Next RWIB Meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2019

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

330 25th Street

2nd Floor Training Room

Richmond, CA 94804

Attendees

Alicia Gallo, Bouakhay Phongboupha, Brandon Evans, Cassandra Youngblood, Charita Patterson, Cherese LeBlanc, Dan Torres, Gina Baker, Itza Gonzalez, Jeffrey Carr, Jill Perry, Joe Serrano, John Short, John Troughton, Katy Curl, Kelly Schelin, Len Turner, Loretta Bisio, Michael Parker, Nancy Seto, Richard Johnson, Rosemary Viramontes, Sal Vaca, Sarah Wally, Steven Schultz, Uche Uwahemu, Willie Hicks, Xavier Abrams

- Meeting adjourned at 1:14p.m. -