

CITY OF RICHMOND  
**Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 5:30 PM

Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium, 403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

*All Task Force members, staff, and visitors must enter the building from Nevin Avenue.*

*Maps are attached to the agenda packet.*

**This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities\***



**Members:**

Burks, Helene

Cantú, Marisol

Chacon, Luis

Gliksohn, Michael

Gosney, Don

Joseph, Randy

Kilian-Lobos, Kristin

Lee, Armond

Murray, Lea

Njissang, Marcus

Pursell, Jamin

Schlemmer, Joey

Small, Deborah

Therriault, Ben

Walker, Tamisha

Whitmore, Linda

Williams, B.K.

Vacant (4)

**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 - 5:30 PM**

**B. Roll Call - 5:35 PM**

**C. Agenda Review and Adoption - 5:40 PM**

**D. Meeting Procedures - 5:43 PM**

**E. Minutes Approval - 5:45 PM**

1. APPROVE the minutes of the January 24, 2024 meeting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**F. City Staff Reports (Verbal) (Public comment allowed under Public Comments) - 5:50 PM**

**G. Public Comments - 5:55 PM**

**H. Presentations, Discussions, & Action Items - 6:00 PM**

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

1. DISCUSS the planting of a tree or other commemoration in memory of Steve Bischoff and APPROVE recommendations - **6:00 PM**
2. RECEIVE an update from Police Chief Bisa French on policing practices - **6:10 PM**
3. RECEIVE a detailed financial report regarding Office of Neighborhood Safety expenditures - **6:20 PM**
4. RECEIVE an update from Safe Organized Spaces Richmond - **6:30 PM**
5. RECEIVE a proposal for the Community Crisis Response Program Community Advisory Board from the Task Force's Community Advisory Board working group and APPROVE recommendations to City Council - **6:40 PM**
6. DISCUSS the Social Host Ordinance and APPROVE recommendations to City Council - **7:00 PM**
7. DISCUSS non-police parking enforcement and related traffic safety concerns raised by Richmond City Councilmembers Gayle McLaughlin and Claudia Jimenez - **7:10 PM**
8. DISCUSS the early sunseting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force and APPROVE recommendations and report to City Council - **7:20 PM**

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**I. Action Item Recap - 7:25 PM**

**J. Adjournment - 7:30 PM**

**Scheduled Meetings:**

- Report to City Council - Tuesday, March 19, 2024
- General Meeting - Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Staff:

LaShonda White (510) 620-6828 [lashonda\\_white@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:lashonda_white@ci.richmond.ca.us)

Stephanie Ny (510) 620-6563 [stephanie\\_ny@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:stephanie_ny@ci.richmond.ca.us)

Guadalupe Morales (510) 620-6553 [guadalupe\\_morales@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:guadalupe_morales@ci.richmond.ca.us)

**Message from the City Clerk**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the California Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) which bypassed certain Brown Act requirements to allow teleconference/virtual meetings during the period in which the California Governor's declaration of a statewide emergency remained in effect. This emergency declaration is set to expire on February 28, 2023. Once this statewide emergency is lifted, cities can no longer rely on AB 361 to bypass the regular Brown Act teleconferencing rules. The California legislature also enacted AB 2449, which provides for very complex and restrictive alternative teleconference procedures:

1. At least a quorum of the members of the legislative body must participate in person from a singular physical location identified on the agenda, which location will be open to the public and within the boundaries of the local agency;
2. A member may only teleconference for publicly disclosed "just cause" or in "emergency circumstances" approved by the legislative body; and
3. A member may only teleconference for a limited number of meetings.

Since AB 361 will no longer allow for members of boards and commissions to remotely participate in meetings and AB 2449's requirements will rarely allow for members to participate remotely, please plan on attending all meetings in person beginning on March 1, 2023.

The City of Richmond will allow for members of the public to participate in person and remotely when attending the Richmond City Council, Richmond Housing Authority, Successor Agency to the Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency, and Planning Commission meetings. Given technology constraints and staffing issues, all other boards, commissions, and committees will not have a remote public participation option at this time. Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings in person to listen and to provide public comment. We are still sorting through significant staffing and technology issues to accommodate remote public participation for all meetings.

We will keep you updated as we progress, and we thank you for your patience.

Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force Meetings  
Bermuda Room  
Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

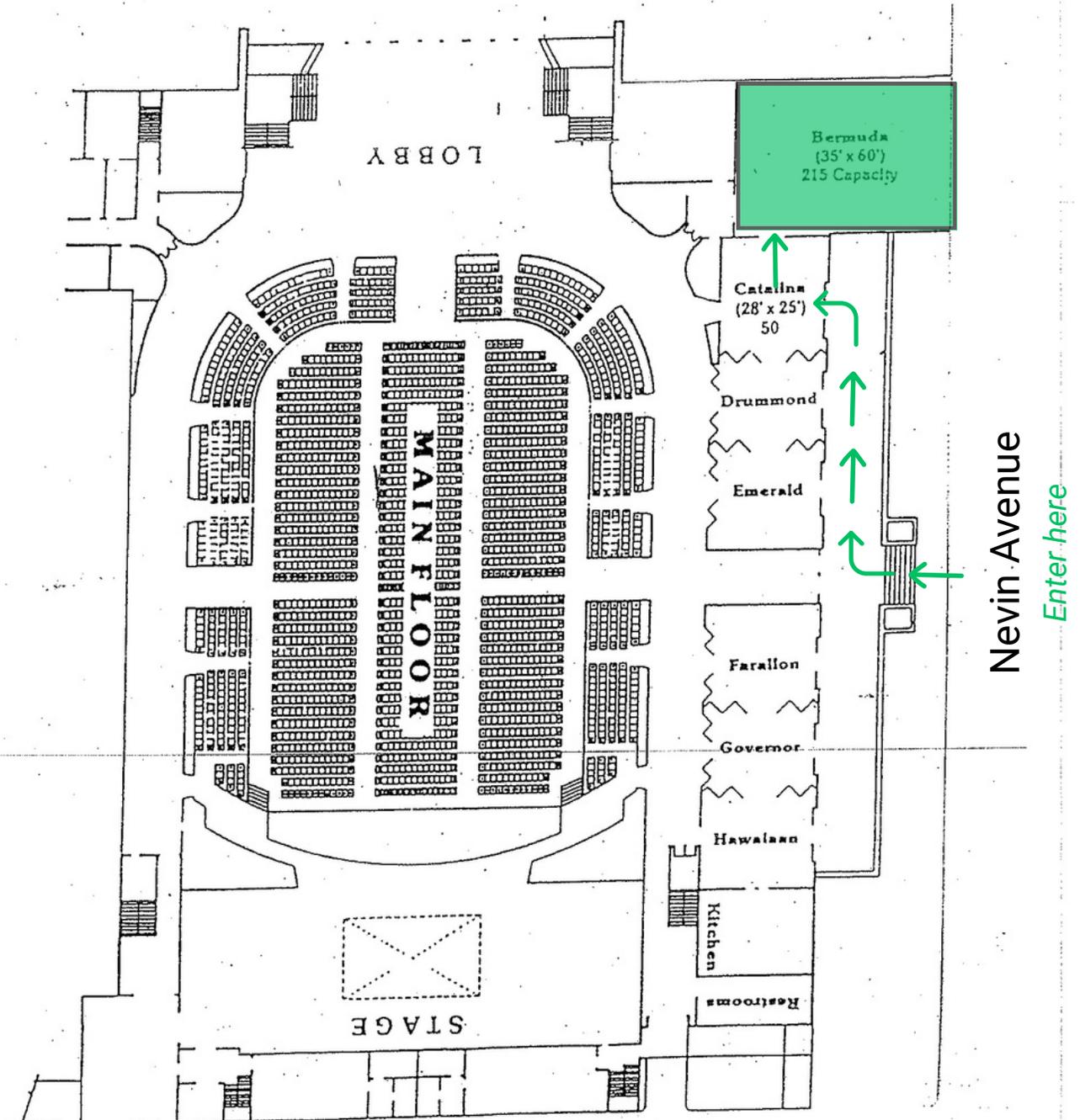


- Enter the building into the Catalina room from Nevin Avenue.
- Entry to the building through Civic Center Plaza **will not** be available for Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force meetings.
- There are major parking lots on Nevin Ave between 24th St and 25th St, as well as Nevin Ave between 26th St and 27th St.
- There is street parking available on surrounding streets.

Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force Meetings  
Bermuda Room  
Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Civic Center Plaza

*No entry available for Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force meetings  
Use Nevin Avenue entrance through Catalina Room*





## MEETING PROCEDURES & INFORMATION

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

#### **By Email**

Written comments will only be accepted via email to [recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto: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. Emails received after 3 p.m. will not be read into the record. Emails 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.

#### **In Person**

Anyone may make an oral comment, even if a written comment was submitted. However, each speaker may only raise their hand once to make one (1) oral public comment per agenda item.

Anyone who desires to address the Task Force on items appearing on the agenda, including Public Comments, may raise their hand upon the Chair's announcement of the public comment period. The Chair will recognize each speaker. Each speaker will be allowed up to two (2) minutes to speak.

### **Conduct at Meetings:**

Richmond City Council meetings are limited public forums during which the City strives to provide an open, safe atmosphere and promote robust public debate. Members of the public, however, must comply with state law, as well as the City's laws and procedures and may not actually disrupt the orderly conduct of these meetings. The public, for example, may not shout or use amplifying devices, must submit comment cards and speak during their allotted time, may not create a physical disturbance, may not speak on matters unrelated to issues within the jurisdiction of the City Council or the agenda item at hand, and may not cause immediate threats to public safety.

[Click here for City Harassment Policy](#)

### **Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities**

Upon request, the City will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services and sign language interpreters, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be emailed to [recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us) or submitted by phone at (510) 620-6563. 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**  
Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

**Minutes\***  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 5:30 P.M.**

*\*video recording and meeting transcript available*

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Deborah Small called the regular meeting to order at 5:42 P.M.

**B. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: S. Bischoff, H. Burks\*, M. Gliksohn, D. Gosney, K. Kilian-Lobos, A. Lee, L. Murray, J. Pursell, B. Therriault, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams and Chair Small

\*Arrived after Roll Call

EXCUSED: M. Cantú, L. Chacon, R. Joseph, M. Njissang, and T. Walker

ABSENT: J. Schlemmer

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy City Manager-Community Services Director (Staff Liaison to the Task Force) LaShonda White, Associate Administrative Analyst Stephanie Ny, YouthWORKS Program Manager Bouakhay Phongboupha and City Attorney Alison Flowers

**C. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

Chair Small acknowledged the request to modify the agenda by considering Item 2 prior to Item 1. There was no objection from the Task Force to do that. After the Action Item Recap on the agenda, she requested an additional item that had arisen after the last City Council meeting, would identify the item at that time, and would introduce the item as New Business not for discussion at this time. There were no objections from the Task Force to do that.

**D. MEETING PROCEDURES**

Associate Administrative Analyst Stephanie Ny, staff to the Task Force, identified the meeting procedures and the public's ability to speak during the meeting. She announced that anyone may make an oral comment even if a written comment had previously been submitted; however, each speaker may raise their hand only once to make one oral public comment per each agenda item. She added that an announcement would identify the time to make public comment for each item.

**E. MINUTES APPROVAL**

- 1. APPROVE the Minutes of the October 25, 2023 Meeting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**

**City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**  
Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Motion by Taskforce Member Gliksohn, seconded by Taskforce Member Pursell to adopt the minutes of the October 25, 2023 meeting, as submitted, carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: S. Bischoff, M. Gliksohn, D. Gosney, K. Kilian-Lobos, A. Lee, L. Murray,  
J. Pursell, B. Therriault, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams and Chair Small  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: H. Burks, M. Cantú, L. Chacon, R. Joseph, M. Njissang, J. Schlemmer and  
T. Walker

**F. CITY STAFF REPORTS**

Deputy City Manager-Community Services Director LaShonda White, Staff Liaison to the Task Force, urged people to visit the City’s newly-designed website to view the City Manager’s Report. She highlighted portions of that report such as the \$30 million Richmond Main Library Redesign, which would be presented during a meeting on January 25, 2024 at 6:00 to 7:15 P.M. at the Richmond Library. She also identified an environmental community investment agreement grant available and urged people to share that information with organizations small and large doing work in the City. She reported that February events would include the Chinese New Year celebration at the Richmond Auditorium on February 10, a Black History Celebration at the Auditorium on February 24, and an NAACP event honoring the Richmond Neighborhood Councils on February 3, 2024.

Associate Administrative Analyst Ny reported that the Richmond Love Your Block had launched the 2024/25 mini-grants for organizations and individuals using a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor to apply for up to \$10,000 for a volunteer-based beautification project happening in a publicly accessible space, with a February 23, 2024 deadline. She urged those interested to visit [www.richmondloveyourblock.org](http://www.richmondloveyourblock.org) to be directed to the webpage on the City’s website.

**G. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No written comments were submitted, or oral comments made, by any member of the public.

Chair Small referred to the recent message from Vice Mayor McLaughlin that the City of Richmond had the lowest number of homicides, eight (8) for the year 2023, since the City had been keeping records. She suggested that was in part due to the types of programs the City had been investing in. She reported that unfortunately shortly after that announcement, the City’s first homicide of 2024 had occurred. There was a suspect in the case and she commended the Richmond Police Department (RPD) for its quick response. She offered her condolences to the family of Charles Anthony Harvey.

On a related issue, Chair Small reported that the City of Oakland was bringing back its Cease Fire program given the level of gun violence in that city. She commented that the investment in those kinds of programs worked.

**City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**  
Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Chair Small also reported the RPD would be holding a public session on January 25 to discuss its Military Equipment Policy, although Michelle Milam, RPD’s Crime Prevention Manager clarified that the session had been postponed to Monday, February 5, 2024 to avoid conflict with the Library Presentation.

**H. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSIONS, AND ACTION ITEMS**

The next item was taken out of agenda order.

**2. DISCUSS the Status of All Task Force Recommendations and Proposals, Including YouthWORKS, Office of Neighborhood Safety, Unhoused Interventions, and Policing Practices**

Brandon Evans, Natasha Terry, and Cynthia Hernandez, Workforce Specialists with Richmond YouthWORKS provided a PowerPoint presentation to identify what had occurred with YouthWORKS since its last report to the Task Force four months ago. The Workforce Specialists also introduced YouthWORKS Program Manager Bouakhay Phongboupha and Director Tamara Walker.

The Workforce Specialists reported that the program had provided Richmond youth 16 to 24 years of age the opportunity for work experience as well as those over 18 years of age to seek career and vocational training. Some of the services offered were 101 career counseling, apprenticeship training, workshops, paid work opportunities and supportive services that could be used for transportation, digital devices and a one-time fee for those interested in the trades. The update was for the 2022-23 year where there had been 1,065 applications compared to the prior year when there had been 759 applications. It was also reported that about 612 intakes had been completed compared to 451 for the prior year, and 452 youth had been placed compared to 364 for the prior year.

Brandon Evans presented an overview of current financials to date and reported that of the \$1,980,000 commitment from the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force, close to \$1.4 million had been spent from July to December 2023, with approximately \$585,000 remaining. Operating costs, overhead, administrative labor and direct labor had totaled \$653,000 of the budget. Of that total, \$273,000 had been spent and \$380,000 remained. The biggest cost was for wages where \$1,244,000 had been budgeted and \$1,056,000 had been spent. Participant wages were \$1,033,000 with \$190,000 remaining. Total support services which included training and stipends had been budgeted at \$81,000, \$63,000 had been spent, and \$18,000 remained.

Mr. Evans identified the continued collaboration with the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), the Richmond Pool and Richmond Fire Department (RFD) and the upcoming Richmond Fire Youth Academy. In October, YouthWORKS had provided job placements for 100 of the 400 youth on the waiting list at a total cost of \$366,000. The money received from the City of Richmond as an investment in youth was \$1.2 million, which was expected to be spent down by June 2024, with 295 participants at \$17.20/hour (the City’s increased minimum wage). YouthWORKS expected to be able to serve 100 youth aged 16 to 17 at 100 hours, and 195 youth aged 18 to 24 at 300 hours, at a cost of \$1.17 million.

## **City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**

Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium

403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Cynthia Hernandez explained that the social impacts associated with YouthWORKS was one of the reasons for the reduced crime rate in Richmond. Skilled development also helped and provided many of the youth the skills to be prepared to go into the workforce. This had created diversity in the workforce, had opened up more opportunities for the local youth, and many youth had been placed in various City departments, and had been hired as either student interns or office aids and hopefully future city employees. She thanked the Task Force for its commitment to the City and for making sure that young adults in Richmond were being provided opportunities. She had grown up with the program and was a walking billboard and YouthWORKS had greatly impacted her life. She noted that the program used to serve 100 youth and now served 747 Richmond youth who would get work experience as well as career and technical opportunities.

Taskforce Member Lee commended YouthWORKS and verified that the most sought-after programs were in the healthcare field. He also asked about the appropriate number of staff that would allow YouthWORKS to sustain itself.

YouthWORKS Director Tamara Walker commented that the program had been in existence for many years and initially eight to 1,000 people had been served each summer, and while more staff would be helpful there was no desire to take away funds that could help more young people. She referred to a model that had been used years ago by bringing students in early to make sure they were ready for placement, which would help the young people transition from one level to the next. She stated they had the option to hire one more staff member and that would likely be done.

Taskforce Member Williams commended the program and agreed that the program had helped reduce the crime rate. She asked how sustainable the successes would be for the future and she urged the hiring of an additional staff person to help expand the capacity to serve.

Chair Small also commended the amazing job being done by YouthWORKS. With respect to community engagement, she asked if the YouthWORKS program had considered any personal services such as helping seniors get registered to vote, applying for benefits or managing electric bills, among other services. She also noted that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was one-time funding and she asked how YouthWORKS had planned to replace that money to be able to continue to serve as many young people as were now being served.

Cynthia Hernandez explained that YouthWORKS was working with the Senior Center and partnering with other community organizations.

YouthWORKS Program Manager Bouakhay Phongboupha added that they were always looking for money to continue the program. She had been working on grants and would continue to do so.

Chair Small verified her understanding that the current ARPA funds would be spent down by June 2024, and Mr. Evans clarified that did not take into account any 2024/25 Task Force funds.

The next presentation was from the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) and included a presentation on the Community Crises Response Program (CCRP).

## **City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**

Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Sam Vaughn, Deputy Director of Community Services – Office of Neighborhood Safety, advised that the goal with the additional resources from the Task Force was to restructure the organization. There were new staff members and a need for the administrative support to engage different demographics in the community. He reported that 2022 data had been used as a means of gun violence reduction and intervention. An organizational chart had been completed and new staff under the current demographics had been hired to help reduce gun violence. He commented there were a number of offices of violence prevention around the country that had opened since the inception of ONS and one of the biggest issues was that the work was compromised. He stated the City of Oakland had brought back the Cease Fire program but it had nothing to do with the Office of Violence Prevention and the expected results had not materialized.

Mr. Vaughn explained that school outreach was tremendously important, particularly since gun violence was becoming a young issue. He spoke to the issues involved and explained how they were working to get the needs addressed. The purpose was to go into the community, get information and find out who was bringing the violence into the communities and with a laser focus address that issue.

With the resources now available, Mr. Vaughn reported that ONS had been able to add over 90 folks to the intense fellowship program and had 130 plus in the process right now with different levels of risk. Six days of life skills classes were being provided in schools given that there were frequent shootings in schools, and guns were being found in schools. He identified programming with Spanish speaking leaders, explained that a number of resources, outreach, and food had been provided to the unhoused encampments. Further, that over 100 unhoused citizens in Richmond and staff had been innovative to do what it could with the resources that had been provided by the Task Force. He referred to one occasion when 100 bags of burgers and fries had been purchased. Efforts would continue with staff development to make sure mental health was being addressed.

Mr. Vaughn reported that 32 percent of the \$2,050,000 provided by the Task Force had been spent. One position was available to be filled. He saw the ONS spending the majority of the funds this year and being fully staffed. He noted that funds had been approved for vehicles that had been ordered but would not be available before June 2024. If the vehicles were not available at that time, the funds would roll over until the vehicles were available.

Taskforce Member Gosney asked about the reported 100 bags of burgers and fries, and Mr. Vaughn explained that the budget provided went to operational costs only, and everything else done for the community had been from other sources.

Taskforce Member Gliksohn asked about the life skills classes in the schools and Mr. Vaughn stated those classes provided the opportunity for individuals to make better decisions, and when making those decisions the incidents of crime and homicides went down. He stated that life skills were really social skills and attempts to create good citizens, and especially in the schools related to fundamentals that would seem to be natural but were not always natural. He reported that two female staff ran the life skills classes and sometimes it was as simple as basic hygiene, but there had to be a relationship, which was the key to success. Without the relationship and the trust, the conversations would be meaningless. The life skills classes talked about bullying, sexual interactions, healthy relationships and let the young people guide the situation.

**City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**  
Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
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Social media was also being discussed in the classes of junior high school students, and the discussions were what they needed at that time, and appropriate for child development.

Mr. Vaughn responded to questions from the Task Force and explained that the funds had been spent on salaries and operational costs. As to the difference between school resource officers and the ONS officers in the schools, he stated that school resource officers were sworn officers while ONS officers were civilians serving as mentors, counselors, and advocates.

Taskforce Member Murray asked who ONS partnered with when working with the unhoused, and Mr. Vaughn explained that they did not partner with anyone specifically and helped where they could. With the closure of the Castro Encampment, ONS provided resources such as food for people and food for dogs. He clarified that their involvement with the unhoused was to build trust and have a credible relationship to get information that would help with gun violence reduction, which was their sole purpose. ONS had also provided porta-potties on one occasion but their work with the unhoused population was not the normal work with unhoused populations.

Chair Small stated she was seriously impressed with ONS' track record and the work it was doing but was troubled that many cities thought to replicate programs without understanding what made them work. She referred to the Cease Fire program and asked if there was any place in the ONS program that was being regularly evaluated and chronicled so that people who were looking to replicate the model would be able to have a good sense of what it was.

Mr. Vaughn explained that many cities had opened up Offices of Gun Violence Prevention, had spent time with ONS and there would always be people who would benefit from the work, but if the purpose was to reduce gun violence it could not be done that way.

Chair Small asked if there was anything the Task Force could do to help showcase ONS beyond what had already been done, and she asked what ONS would recommend to those who were looking to do what ONS had done in Richmond.

Mr. Vaughn stated that the Journal of Public Health had done research on Richmond's ONS and a documentary called *Sitting in the Fire* would be privately streamed first and then go on to film festivals. There was also a book being published. He would provide that information to the Task Force.

For the update on the Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP), Mr. Vaughn stated in September 2023, the City Council had directed that the program be instituted within the existing department within the ONS, proposing structural options by November, and directing a proposal for program design implementation and plan by August 2024 for launch. Draft job descriptions had already been done and City staff would work with the Task Force to develop a proposal for the structure of a Community Advisory Board (CAB). With respect to the proposed operational structure, he identified the option of having a separate division alongside ONS given that the work was different and would involve different mandates. A Program Manager would be hired and the ONS Director would be responsible for that person, or the Program Manager would report to the Deputy City Manager of Community Services.

## **City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**

Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Kaitlen Burnom, UC Berkeley MSW Intern brought on in Phase I, shared some updates since September. She reported working with Mr. Vaughn to fill the Program Manager position, which had been posted on December 15, 2023. To date, there had been 40 responses. The next step would be to review and start interviews. Informational interviews had been conducted with other programs in Long Beach, West Hollywood, Oakland and Cahoots to learn from them and she had a ridealong in December with the Oakland Macro Team. She had also been working with Urban Strategies on the CAB, would have a meeting soon with the County in terms of next steps for how A3 and the proposal would work together, and other details were being pursued including the Dashboard Project with Microsoft and ongoing involvement with the government performance lab that would provide general information for programs. Next steps would be to hire the Program Manager, finalize other job descriptions, discuss the EMT situation, engage with City legal staff, identify the facility, develop protocols and engage with RPD and RFD. By August 2024, CAB members would be recruited, design protocols for the CCRP would be identified, equipment would be ordered, referral relationships with community providers would be established and data collection, training, outreach, office, and evaluation along with documentation for the program would be identified.

Taskforce Member Therriault asked about the classifications and Mr. Vaughn indicated that would have to go to the Personnel Board. Draft job descriptions were being considered by the Human Resources Department.

Deputy City Manager Community Services White understood the urgency, as did the Personnel Board, HR and the City Council to get the classifications identified to be able to recruit the right people to do the work.

Chair Small suggested that an acronym other than CCRP should be considered that would be easier for the public to remember. She urged the creation of a name that would stick with people. In addition, she referred to public education and while she understood that program development and staffing was ongoing, she noted that other cities had put up billboards by major thoroughfares to identify similar upcoming programs. She recommended that be done in this case. It was her understanding that when the budget had been developed public relations had been included. She wanted to make sure there would be a sufficient number of people to utilize the program.

Mr. Vaughn explained that initially it would be 911 Dispatch that would be the PR itself and Dispatch would determine who would respond, including the CCRP.

Kaitlen Burnom stated that the CCRP's first engagement with the community would help identify the program and get the community engaged. She explained that other cities had indicated that initially the community engagement was low which allowed CCRP members in the downtime to go out to the community to build rapport.

Chair Small did not want people to have a false expectation of what the CCRP would look like when initialized and she emphasized the importance of communicating with people.

Taskforce Member Burks commended what had been done so far. She asked about the pros and cons of the two options for the reporting structure.

## City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Mr. Vaughn indicated that the City Council had asked that the structure be housed specifically in ONS as Option 1. The only reason for another option was to ensure the right process given the need to meet and confer with unions. They had to go through the right process with the unions and wanted to be transparent. At this time, Option 1 was the goal but a meet and confer process with the unions was required and a default could be that the CCRP could be separate but connected.

Chair Small stated with respect to Option 1 that ideally in the future it would be great to have the idea of public safety linked with health and having the CCRP work closely with ONS as a good way to start. Potentially five to ten years in the future, she wanted the City to have a variety of programs that represented interventions to address behavioral problems that would be part of the public safety strategy, and address issues like addictions and mental health. She supported the development of a model consistent with that strategy and urged work to address what had already been started.

Michelle Milam, the Crime Prevention Manager for the City of Richmond who had been assigned to the City's Unhoused Intervention Task Force, described the history and evolution of the City of Richmond's first investment in unhoused intervention in that homeless services had not previously been provided. She stated that had led up to the investment from the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force, which wanted to support a ground level empowerment-based model to help those unhoused with employment and with some basic quality of life issues.

The Task Force wanted to look at a streets team for community engagement to be able to develop relationships with the unhoused community. She noted that Safe Organized Spaces (SOS) had been the model that the Task Force had decided to pursue to build employment opportunities for folks in the encampments. She explained that the housing epidemic across the nation was a crisis of poverty and the level of poverty and unhoused crisis was at record levels. The Task Force had funded basic infrastructure such as Shower Power, job training and pre-employment training along with the implementation of adult and transitional villages.

Ms. Milam reported how the funds had been spent with \$715,000 for the Year 1 allocation to Rebuild Together North and SOS for the streets team and Shower Power, while Year 2 continued with the SOS strategy of outreach to encampments and continuing to hire people to go out to encampments and work with Rebuild Together North. Services had also been funded for the Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB) because during the beginning of the pandemic there had been two large vehicle encampments in the City at Rydin Road and the Castro Encampment in areas where people were in crisis with different levels of need to be able to, in some cases, reunite with family, pay for short-term rental assistance, or with Housing First money to pay for longer term rental assistance. The Task Force had provided some of those services. There had been \$345,000 in funding for the street team strategy through SOS Richmond, and some of those funds remained.

Ms. Milam stated that SOS Richmond had 22 active employees who served Richmond neighborhoods five days a week and had made an effort to build connections with neighborhoods.

One of the strategies with SOS was to work within the Neighborhood Council structure to be part of the solution. In terms of the pay, the pay scale was about \$18/hour and the effort was to keep the pay scale more towards a living wage. The SOS work force had worked with 64 unhoused neighbors eligible for further work to improve neighborhood encampments. For five weeks in 2022, the street

**City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**  
Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

team had removed 38 tons from encampments and throughout neighborhoods. SOS could not have direct contact with Richmond Sanitary Service (RSS) and Task Force funds had been used under a special contract fund with RSS to deal with that abatement. In February 2022, the Shower Power program had been expanded with six events per week and 14 showers per event. She suggested that being in and out of the process eventually would allow SOS to make organized referrals to programs such as addressing substance abuse addictions. SOS continued to work with residents of Rydin Road to help provide rental assistance.

Ms. Milam explained how the Task Force money had leveraged other resources, and while the process was ongoing, they had continued their work with grant writing. She reported throughout the City there was a main core of folks in the Unhoused Intervention Team of three who wrote a \$4.8 million grant to be able to transition almost 100 residents from the Castro Encampment into more permanent housing. They were trying to place people at a level that when the subsidy ended those people would not become homeless again. That was one of the ways to leverage funding. She referred to triage meetings for each client to be able to help the client with crisis management and other needs. A second round of \$8.6 million in grants would be citywide with an emphasis on Caltrans Right of Way. A navigation center would be provided to help get people off the streets.

On December 5, 2023, Ms. Milam stated the City Council had authorized the use of ARPA funds for tenant protections and resources and had been working on Universal Basic Income (UBI). She noted that homelessness was expensive and there were always questions about the use of the funds and whether it was making a difference and how to get someone from homeless to having a home along with the costs involved for not only the housing costs but the wraparound costs. The idea was to prevent people from becoming unhoused given that it was very expensive. Funds from the Opioid Settlement were also being used and a funding plan would be developed. Other funds were being pursued and CORE had been expanded from some of the funding. For ongoing expenditures, the other things that Task Force funds had provided was one-time critical resources to put people into a Housing First program providing assistance for up to a year. That effort would continue with the state funding in round two.

As to the future, Ms. Milam stated the existing program would continue and staff would continue to work with the street team and SOS strategy and expand some of the work from Task Force and other dollars. She emphasized that the Task Force had provided one of the first large investments in unhoused resources. The other thing was the adoption of a Homeless Strategic Plan with Home Base and she noted the City of Richmond was doing more work with the homeless than any other city. There was not just one solution in that there were many solutions that would have to be considered to determine what was best for the Richmond community. A program of eight different strategies was currently in process, some funded through Task Force funds, and those strategies would be implemented in the next several months.

Ms. Milam reported the City Council had voted to use some of the ARPA funds as emergency shelter funds. She stated people still needed help and the county shelters were full and it was a race equity issue in that over 50 percent of the people countywide and in Richmond who were experiencing a housing crisis were African-American. There was a lot to do but a lot of work had been done. There was a need for continuing resources for what was a public health crisis. She stated RPD officers had

## City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium

403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

been trained to work with CORE, SOS and other resources and the resources were needed to ensure that camps were not allowed to remain in neighborhoods. She suggested there were a lot of tools in the toolbox to make a difference in the unhoused situation. The desire was to support the strategy and fill the gaps as needed.

Motion by Taskforce Chair Small, seconded by Taskforce Member Burks to extend the meeting to 7:45 P.M., carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES:	S. Bischoff, H. Burks, M. Gliksohn, K. Kilian-Lobos, A. Lee, L. Murray, J. Pursell, B. Therriault, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams and Chair Small
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	M. Cantú, L. Chacon, D. Gosney, R. Joseph, M. Njissang, J. Schlemmer and T. Walker

Ms. Milam responded to questions and acknowledged a comment from the Board that many cities did not have unhoused services, which was one reason that Richmond was so impacted by the unhoused. She stated that regional approval would be helpful in that no one city could do it alone and support was needed. She noted some discussion about trying to have a regional Joint Powers Authority (JPA) where people could pay into a service to provide shelter and housing services countywide. She suggested this was an opportunity to engage with the County Board of Supervisors and others to see what that might look like. She identified some of the local legislators who were supportive but commented that there was no funding available.

Taskforce Member Murray was grateful with the mention of the race equity issue and was pleased to see there were Black-led organizations getting funding from the City. Given that Richmond had the highest number of unhoused in Contra Costa County, and 19 percent of Richmond's population was Black and 50 percent of all Black people were unhoused, she asked if the City was targeting Black homelessness.

In response, Ms. Milam stated that being able to target specifically African-American unhoused residents living in the City had to be a coordinated strategy. She stated that needed to be incorporated into the strategy of who was hired and how to engage the African-American community. She emphasized the need to pull people in and then work around all the services, which she suggested needed a different strategy. She stated the City was thinking about that as part of the evaluation, a race equity strategy that was being considered in all of the contracts.

Chair Small asked about the County's new racial justice initiative to address the continuing racial equity issues about housing, education and health that disproportionately impacted Black people in Richmond.

Ms. Milam stated that there were a couple of members who had participated in the County Racial Justice Coalition, as had the Police Chief and some staff. She noted the need to look at those countywide recommendations to see how they could be incorporated into some of the strategies moving forward.

## City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Chair Small referred to the Opioid Settlement money and the City investing in fentanyl testing strips given that most overdoses in Richmond related to fentanyl. She recommended that some of the settlement money be used to purchase fentanyl testing strips, specifically with respect to the overdose of Black and Brown people and their inability to access other forms of assisted treatment that was not methadone. She wanted to know if that matched what was being seen and what Ms. Milam would recommend.

Ms. Milam stated there were conversations now about how to come up with a spending plan for the use of Opioid Settlement funds for Narcan distribution and fentanyl testing strips and do that street level outreach to train people how to use those aids and how to access services.

Chair Small commented that Taskforce Member Joseph had often raised the issue of unsheltered youth and she asked what the Unhoused Intervention Task Force was doing around homeless youth, to which Ms. Milam stated there was a shortage of Transitional Age Youth (TAY) beds throughout Contra Costa County. The City had been watching and supporting in the background an innovative initiative for the Richmond Tiny House Village, Farm, and Garden and there may be an opportunity to continue some support for that initiative, which it was hoped to grow with 12 youth in partnership with the Richmond Police Activities League (PAL). PAL was constructing a culinary academy for youth and with a transitional village on MacDonald Avenue, would work with them to provide training and resources for some of the young people in the culinary academy and with an opportunity to intersect with YouthWORKS. She noted a lot of the initiatives intersected and the next phase could make some connections with some of the different programs to support each other and to maximize the resources.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS OPENED

Daniel Barth, Safe Organized Spaces (SOS), expressed a desire to make a short presentation at the next Task Force meeting to talk about SOS and its future.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS CLOSED

1. **RECEIVE a Proposal for the Community Crisis Response Program Community Advisory Board from the Task Force’s Community Advisory Board Working Group and APPROVE Recommendations to City Council**

This item was continued to the next meeting.

3. **DISCUSS the Early Sunsetting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force and APPROVE Recommendations and Report to City Council**

This item was continued to the next meeting.

4. **DISCUSS and APPROVE an Assignment and Substitute for the City Council Monthly Report for February 2024**

**City of Richmond – Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force**  
Meeting held in Person: Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium  
403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804

Motion by Taskforce Member Pursell, seconded by Taskforce Member Whitmore that Taskforce Member Pursell and Chair Small attend the City Council meeting to provide the Monthly Report for February 2024, carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: S. Bischoff, H. Burks, M. Gliksohn, D. Gosney, K. Kilian-Lobos, A. Lee,  
L. Murray, J. Pursell, B. Therriault, L. Whitmore, B.K. Williams and Chair  
Small  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: M. Cantú, L. Chacon, R. Joseph, M. Njissang, J. Schlemmer and T. Walker

Chair Small reported that Police Chief Bisa French had been invited to the next meeting of the Task Force to offer a status update on what was going on with the RPD, along with some of the things that had been discussed early in the Task Force process around police practices, data collection and the like.

With respect to the item she had added to the agenda, Chair Small referred to a presentation at the last City Council meeting about a proposal for a Social Host Ordinance when Councilmember Willis had recommended that proposal be specifically considered by the Task Force, which would then make a recommendation to the City Council. She reported the actual presentation had been included in the materials with the City Council agenda packet for that meeting, was available on the website, and recommended that Task Force members read that information since the item would be placed on the next meeting agenda for discussion.

**I. ACTION ITEM RECAP**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 P.M. to a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 in the Bermuda Room, Richmond Memorial Auditorium, 403 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804.



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Commemoration of Steve Bischoff

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

Task Force member Steve Bischoff passed away in January. The Task Force may wish to consider the planting of a tree or other commemoration in his memory.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

DISCUSS the planting of a tree or other commemoration in memory of Steve Bischoff and APPROVE recommendations.

**DISCUSSION:**

Task Force member Steve Bischoff passed away on January 31, 2024. Steve was an active and committed resident of the Richmond community, known to many as a passionate advocate for people dealing with mental health illnesses. Steve served for 44 years as the Executive Director of the Mental Health Association of Alameda County. He also served as President of the May Valley Neighborhood Council until his passing.

Chair Small suggested an agenda item to discuss the planting of a tree or other commemoration in memory of Steve. This would serve as a lasting tribute to Steve’s contributions and legacy to the Richmond community.

Additionally, Steve’s family is planning to have a public memorial in the spring or summer. His family has requested help in collecting memories of Steve. Crime Prevention Manager Michelle Milam created a link where these memories could be gathered. Task Force members and other members of the public who knew Steve are encouraged to share their memories using this link: <https://ww04.elbowspace.com/secure/20240207124807101104> City staff members will share information about the memorial when it becomes available.



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Status of Task Force Recommendations and Proposals

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

Police Chief Bisa French will provide an update on policing practices to the Task Force.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

RECEIVE an update from Police Chief Bisa French on policing practices.

**DISCUSSION:**

At the January 24, 2024 regular meeting of the Task Force, the Task Force heard an agenda item to discuss the status of all Task Force recommendations and proposals, including YouthWORKS, Office of Neighborhood Safety, Unhoused Interventions, and Policing Practices. The Task Force received updates on YouthWORKS, Office of Neighborhood Safety, and Unhoused Interventions.

Police Chief Bisa French will provide an update on policing practices. Chair Small provided some questions to be taken into consideration for the update, including:

- How are things going with recruitment and retention of officers?
- How do you perceive the roll out of the new mental health crisis response program?
- Where do things stand with respect to racial disparities in marijuana arrests in Richmond?
- What challenges are you facing that you think the Task Force should address?
- What else can be done to improve police-community relations?



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Status of Task Force Recommendations and Proposals

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

Office of Neighborhood Safety staff will provide a detailed financial report on expenditures.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

RECEIVE a detailed financial report regarding Office of Neighborhood Safety expenditures.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) provided a departmental update to the Task Force at the January 24, 2024 regular meeting of the Task Force. Chair Small requested a follow up agenda item to receive a detailed financial report regarding ONS expenditures. Task Force members have noted the importance of this information in ensuring transparency and accountability to the public.



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Safe Organized Spaces Richmond Update

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

The Task Force will receive a presentation from Safe Organized Spaces Richmond regarding updates on unhoused interventions and next steps for the organization.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

RECEIVE an update from Safe Organized Spaces Richmond.

**DISCUSSION:**

The City Council approved a contract with Rebuilding Together East Bay-North (RTEBN) 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 serves all Richmond neighborhoods and SOS teams provide support surrounding Mobile Engagement (trash and outreach), Mobile Showers, Local Stewards, and RV Repair.

On August 1, 2022, a contract amendment was executed that extended the term of the contract through November 30, 2022.

On November 15, 2022, the City Council approved a second contract amendment that extended the terms of the contract through January 31, 2023, and the payment limit of the contract to \$1,150,479.72. The third contract amendment extended the term to June 30, 2023.

At the May 24, 2023 and September 27, 2023 regular meetings of the Task Force, SOS provided update on work completed and future plans. SOS requested to provide another update for the February 28, 2024 regular meeting of the Task Force.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- SOS Presentation

# The Next Stage for Safe Organized Spaces Richmond

Empowering our unhoused neighbors on their journey  
to health, housing, income and personal goals



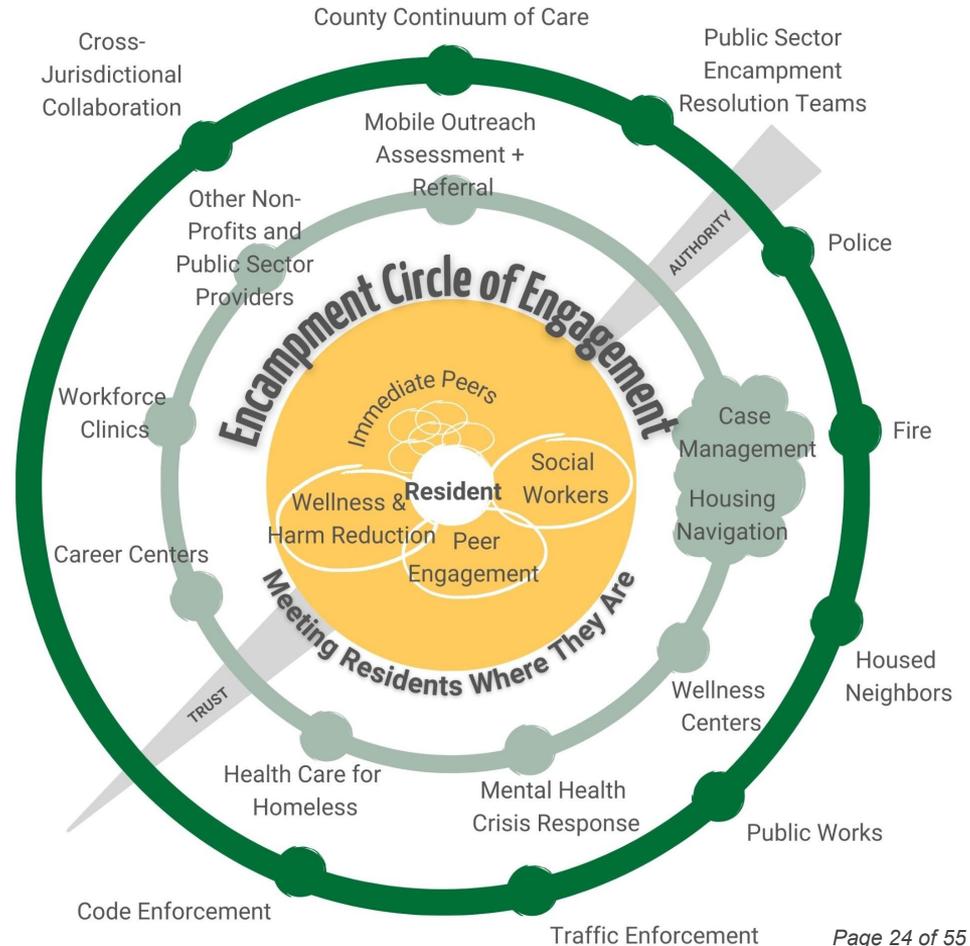


# Encampment Circles of Engagement

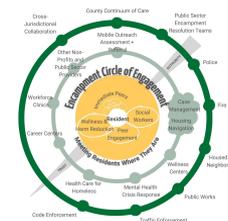
## Street Level Partnership

SOS + HCEB + LifeLong Medical Care tightly integrated and coordinated with County mobile outreach (CORE) + Health Care for the Homeless (HCH)

and other public + nonprofit services



# Encampment Circles of Engagement



## Center Circle – where people live

### **Trust Builds From Encampments Out**

The journey to housing begins with close, trusting peer relationships developed in encampments - proactively over months of visits.

SOS peer ambassadors and harm reduction, LifeLong wellness, and HCEB social work listen for self-described needs and accompany people to resources when they are ready. These relationships continue into and through housing.

## Middle Circle – access to services

### **Begin To Meet People Where They Are**

Public agencies and nonprofits provide services when unhoused neighbors are ready for housing referrals, case management, treatment and income support.

They reach toward the center circle, and they continue past the time when people are housed.

These services may converge at a wellness center.

## Outer Circle – enables safety

### **Authority Addresses Public Health**

Outer circle authorizes interventions that improve unhoused conditions.

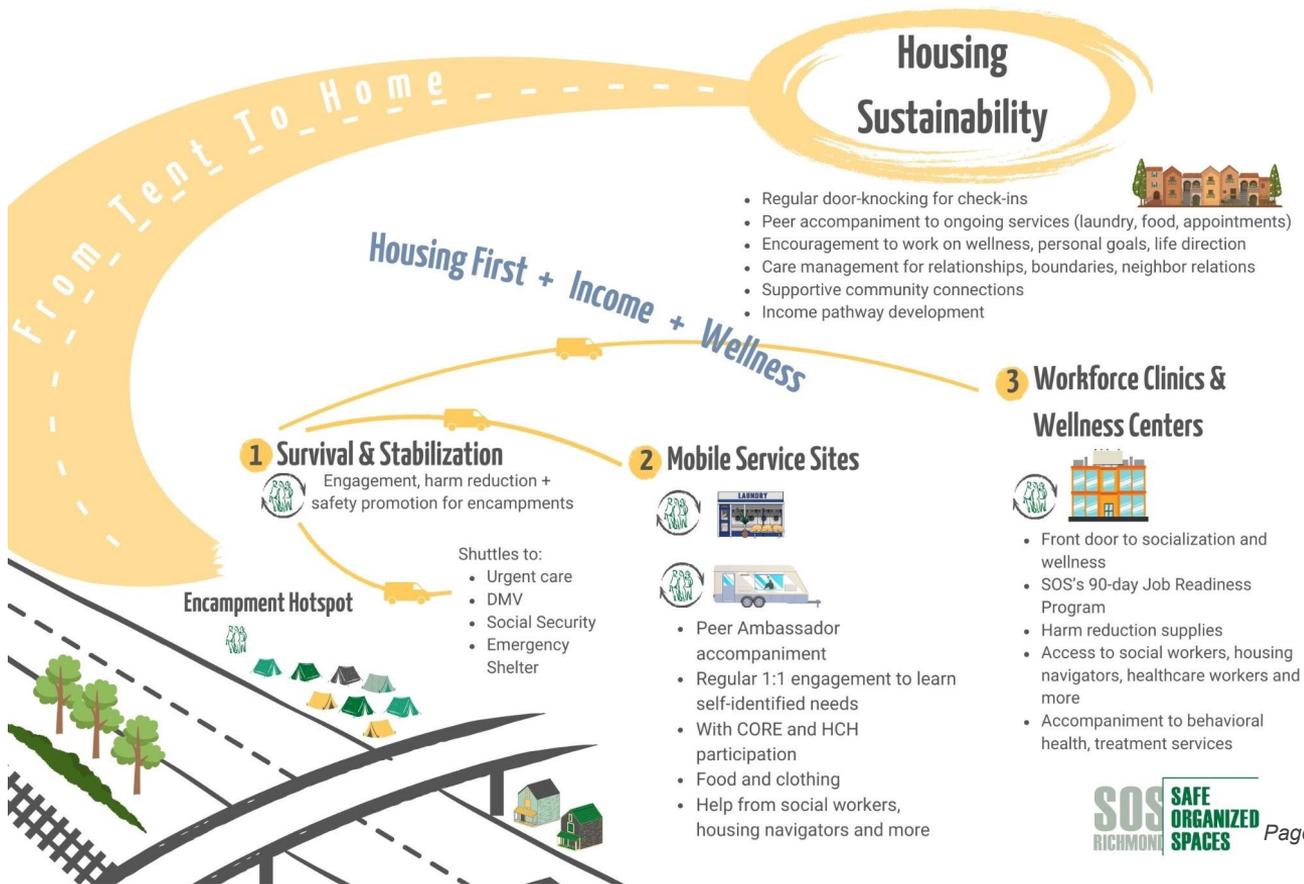
Inner and middle circles buffer and mediate interactions with jurisdictions and agencies.

Peer ambassadors can facilitate bridging the gap between inner and outer circles.

# FROM TENT TO HOME: Accompaniment & Support

SOS, Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB), and Lifelong Medical Care accompany people on their path from tent to home

From Tent to Home



# From Tent to Home: Housing Sustainability

Trusting peer-to-peer relationships developed in **encampments** - along with critical and commonly-sought services - help those living outdoors survive and stabilize in their unsafe conditions.

From there, shuttles deliver participants to **mobile shower and laundry** sites where peer ambassadors engage more deeply to understand people’s self-stated needs. Participants interact with public and nonprofit service providers, and get food, clothing and other basics.



For encampment residents who wish to explore housing, income and wellness goals:

**SOS Workforce Clinic and Warm Hand Wellness & Resource Centers** introduce low barrier hospitality, socialization, job readiness classes and work experience, and harm reduction services.

**Housing Sustainability & Wellness** is encouraged with regular check-ins, ongoing peer support, income development, household care management, and community connections – focused at the wellness center.

# Whole Person Care Roadmap

## Whole Person Care Roadmap From Tent to Home

### + Health & Safety

- Crisis intervention
- Addressing chronic/acute medical conditions
- Ensuring Medi-Cal access
- Warm hand-offs to harm reduction, substance abuse monitoring
- Accompaniment to treatment services

### 🌱 Goal Setting & Wellness

- Self-identified personal goals and life direction
- Addressing healthy (vs unhealthy) life choices
- Increased community connection and belonging among peer groups
- Healthy food choices
- Stress reduction, healthy activities

### 💰 Income

- Job readiness
- Work experience
- SOS employment
- Mainstream employment
- Disability benefits/other entitlements

### 🏠 Housing

- Encampment mapping & tracking
- Ongoing encampment visits
- Warm hand-offs to Housing First opportunities + housing problem-solving support
- Connections to other supportive resources to ensure housing sustainability



# Whole Person Care Roadmap

*"An apartment is useless if someone is hanging out with the wrong people and making bad life choices." - O'Neill Fernandez*

Care for the whole person is a prerequisite for success in housing sustainability.

Ongoing **peer accompaniment** is essential

Everything begins with basic **health and safety**

Then **housing needs** must be met, along with **income development**

Lastly, **personal goals and wellness** can be explored to provide a sense of agency that is critical to success



# 90 Day Job Readiness Program



On March 1, 2024 SOS launches a 90 Day Job Readiness program for those who have work documents (ID, SS card) and would like to prepare for work in a small cohort with a mentor.

A starting pilot will be located at the SOS Yard until funds and new locations allow for a moveable, and then permanent, location.

SOS and partners applied for County Measure X capacity-building funds.

## Month 1 - Trust Building + Goals

- Trust building
- Needs assessment + 90-day plan
- Begin part-time SOS work
- Work with team leader/mentors
- Address needed healthy choices
- Financial literacy, Part 1
- Personal vision and goals

## Month 2 - Search Skills + Wellness

- Writing basics, Part 1 and 2
- Build resume
- Write cover letter
- Wellness activity & cooking class
- Coaching by mentors
- Reviewing specific job options

## Month 3 - Applications + Job Prep

- Orientation job options via CalJobs
- Review plan milestones
- Apply for jobs
- Financial literacy, Part 2
- Interview practice
- Interview & work clothing selection
- Prepare for specific job

# 2023 Success Measures

## SOS RICHMOND: SUCCESS MEASURES January - December 2023

### ENGAGEMENT, ENCAMPMENT SERVICES, AND WORK EXPERIENCE



24 ENCAMPMENT  
HOTSPOTS  
SERVED WEEKLY



71 ENCAMPMENT  
HOUSEHOLDS  
RELOCATED



1,379 PEOPLE  
SHUTTLED TO  
SERVICES



36 WORKFORCE  
CLINIC GRADUATIONS



374 TRASH TONS  
DISPOSED



2,878  
SHOWERS  
DELIVERED



2,484 LAUNDRY  
PARTICIPANTS  
(2 LOADS)



19,180 DRINKING  
WATER GALLONS  
DELIVERED



23 NEW STAFF  
HIRED



18,025 TOTAL  
UNHOUSED  
HOURS WORKED



16.9 AVERAGE  
HOURS WORKED  
PER PERSON  
PER WEEK

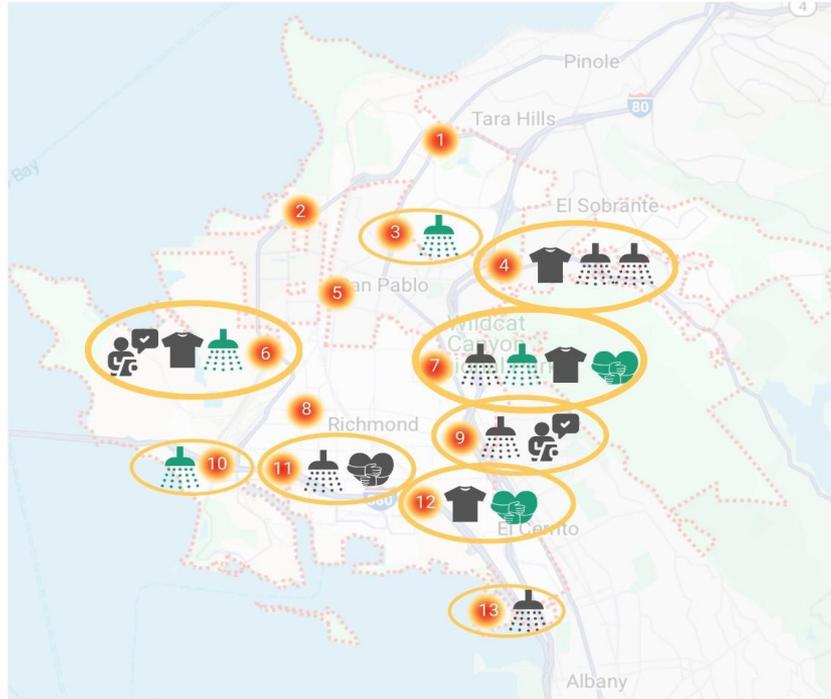


19 STAFF SECURED  
IN HOUSING  
(SUSTAINED)

# SOS Service Site Events

- Service Location
- Laundry
- Showers
- Workforce Clinics
- Wellness Centers

## Encampment Hotspots and Service Locations



Shower Power Mobile Service



WashWorks Laundry Service  
3 hours; Last Call 1-hour prior



Workforce Clinic



Wellness Center

## Schedule

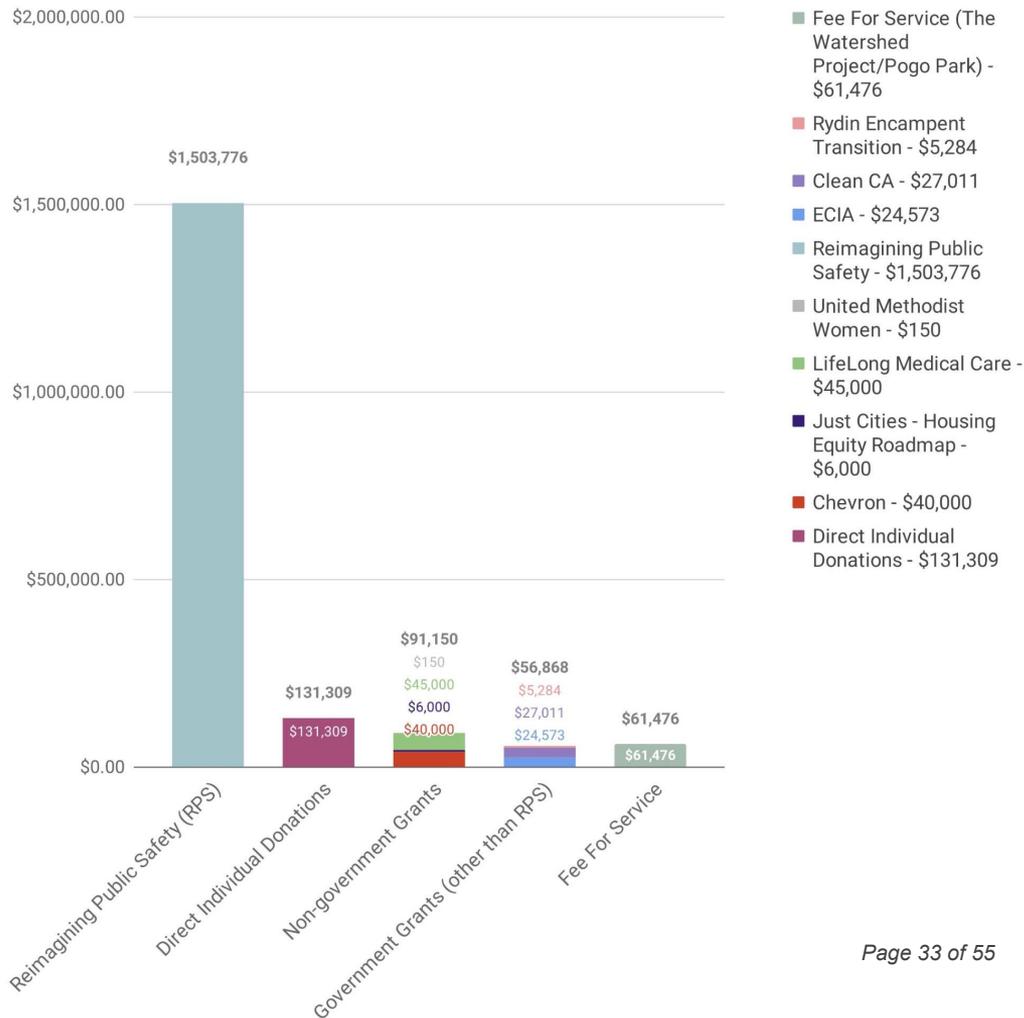
Numbers correspond to map. Green indicates planned. Gray indicates existing.

- North Hilltop**
- Parkway/Goodrick**
- South Hilltop.** Serves Hilltop, North Richmond, Parkway, Parchester.
  - Showers – Rodeway Inn, WED 2:30 PM
- El Portal/El Sobrante.** Serves North Hilltop to El Sobrante.
  - Laundry: Raley's, WED 10 AM
  - Showers: El Portal Church, TUE 10:30 AM
  - Showers: El Portal Church, THURS 10:30 AM
- Creeks East of Rumrill**
- North Richmond / Castro to Creeks.** Serves N Richmond north of Hensley, creeks west of Rumrill.
  - Laundry 13th/Hellings, FRI 12 PM
  - Workforce Clinic: CHDC/Fred Jackson & Chesley, TUE 10:30 AM
  - Showers: 3M Market Fred Jackson/Vernon THURS 2:30 PM
- North & East.** Serves Home Depot, north in North & East to San Pablo border.
  - Laundry: Greenway/San Pablo Ave., SAT 12 PM
  - Wellness Center: San Pablo Library, THURS 12 PM - 3PM
  - Showers: Baxter Creek/Greenway, SAT 2:30 PM
  - Showers – San Pablo Library, SAT 2:30 PM
- West Macdonald**
- East Macdonald.** Serves Macdonald and Iron Triangle.
  - Workforce Clinic: GRIP/22nd & Bissell, THURS 2 PM
  - Showers: Reentry Success Center/Harbour Way, SAT 10:30 AM
- Pt. Richmond.** Serves Marina Bay to 2nd St., Pt. Richmond, north to Hensley.
  - Showers: Milo/Gerard, TUE 2:30 PM
- S. 2nd St.** Serves Marina Bay to 2nd St., Pt Richmond, north to Hensley.
  - Wellness Center: S. 2nd St./580, MON 8 AM - 12 PM
  - Showers: South 2nd St./580, MON 2:30 PM
- Hoffman Blvd.** Serves Central Ave to Hoffman Blvd.
  - Laundry: Carlson/Cutting, MON 10:30 AM
  - Wellness Center: Ephesians Church/Foothill near Cutting, FRI 8 AM - 12 PM
- Central Ave.** Serves Central Ave. to Hoffman Blvd.
  - Showers: Rydin Rd., SUN 10:30 AM

# Income Sources Jan 2022 - Dec 2023

2-Year Total	1,847,394
All Sources 2022	879,616
All Sources 2023	967,778
City RPS	81.4% of Total

In 2023:  
 Direct individual donations rose by 204%  
 Fee for service income rose by 215%



## SOS Next Stage April 2024 - June 2025

Encampment Services - RPS & Prologis	\$1,886,016
90 Day Job Readiness Program - RPS & ERF2	\$510,457
Housing Sustainability & Wellness - RCF, ERF2 & RPS	\$229,904
Harm Reduction - Opioid Settlement Funds	\$149,528
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,775,905</b>



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Community Crisis Response Program – Community Advisory Board

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

On July 26, 2022, the City Council approved a contract with Urban Strategies Council (USC) to conduct research and analysis of various Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP) options and set forth recommendations. USC and City Staff provided an update to the Task Force on the progress of the work done and shared the CCRP draft report at the July 12, 2023 special meeting of the Task Force and August 23, 2023 regular meeting of the Task Force. City Council received a report on September 12, 2023, and provided direction to staff regarding implementation of CCRP and the development of the Community Advisory Board.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

RECEIVE a proposal for the Community Crisis Response Program Community Advisory Board from the Task Force’s Community Advisory Board working group and APPROVE recommendations to City Council.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP) began taking root in November 2020 amidst conversations within the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force (RPSTF). Following a host of RPSTF Round Table and Sub-committee meetings, and subsequent allocations made and approved by City Council in the Fall of 2021, City Staff released a Request for Proposal (RFP) in 2022, and ultimately approved a contract with Urban Strategies Council to assist with the implementation of a CCRP.

A major component of this work is to determine how the City of Richmond can collaborate with, and not duplicate efforts being deployed by, Contra Costa Health Services’ (CCHS) Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime (A3) program. A3 provides timely and appropriate behavioral health crisis services to Anyone in Contra Costa County Anywhere at Anytime (A3), and is working to address the unmet behavioral health needs in Contra Costa County. CCHS is still implementing the A3 program and, as services are expanded, the A3 Miles Hall Crisis Center will provide 24/7 behavioral health support.

On Tuesday, June 20, 2023, City Staff received a draft report from USC. The draft document was not ready at the time of the agenda distribution for the Task Force's regular meeting on June 28, 2023; however, the June 28 meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The full draft report was shared via email with the Task Force members on July 8, and included in the agenda packet for the July 12, 2023 special meeting of the Task Force (shared via email on July 10). The draft report was briefly discussed at the special meeting, and it was determined that the CCRP item would be discussed at the August 23, 2023 regular meeting.

The Chair requested that all Task Force members review the materials thoroughly in advance of the August 23, 2023 regular meeting. The Chair also requested that Task Force members compare the proposal in the draft report to the original CCRP proposal put forth by the Task Force in 2021.

The draft report was discussed at the August 23, 2023 regular meeting. Task Force members agreed that more discussion was needed for members to be able to make and approve any recommendations for City Council consideration. Members voted to hold a special meeting on August 30, 2023 to continue discussion and approve any recommendations made.

During the Task Force meetings, members asked questions regarding, but not limited to, the following: timeline for implementation, training, constitution of teams, cost for service (including actual costs to hire staff within the city), police presence, interaction/coordination with A3, lessons learned and program models from other jurisdictions (with special focus on Antioch and Oakland), examples and descriptions of potential calls, etc.

At the August 30, 2023 Task Force meeting, the members voted to recommend to the City Council that CCRP be implemented within a new or existing department within the City of Richmond without any recommendation regarding length of time for the pilot.

The report initially was placed on the agenda for the July 11, 2023 City Council Meeting; however, the item was not heard. The report was reviewed and discussed at the September 12, 2023 City Council meeting (Agenda documents for this CCRP item, Y.1., can be found at [City Council - September 12, 2023 \(escribemeetings.com\)](https://www.cityofrichmond.com/council-meetings)).

On September 12, 2023, City Council voted to place CCRP under the leadership of the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS). City Council also directed staff to return in November with more specific guidelines for launching the program, begin recruitment to staff the program by December 15, 2023, and launch the program by August 2024. Lastly, City Council instructed City staff to work with the Task Force to help develop the proposal for the structure of the Community Advisory Board (CAB), including purpose, powers, and composition.

At the September 27, 2023 Task Force meeting, members began discussing a proposal for the purpose, powers, and composition of the CAB. The item was carried over to the October 25, 2023 Task Force meeting, during which a CAB working group was formed. The working group, which includes Task Force members Cantú, Pursell, Kilian-Lobos, and Bischoff, drafted the proposal in advance of the November 29, 2023 special meeting of the Task Force.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- Draft Bylaws for the Community Advisory Board

<u>I. Creation and Composition of the Board</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>A. Establishment of the CCRP Community Advisory Board (CAB)</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>B. Composition of the Community Advisory Board (CAB)</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>C. Formation in Advance of Implementation</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>II. Appointment and Qualifications of Members.</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>III. Compensation</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>IV. Terms of Office.</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>V. Absence from Meetings</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>VI. Officers</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>VII. Powers and Duties</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>A. Community Engagement and Education</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>B. Community Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>C. Volunteer Coordination and Community Networks</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>D. Program Development and Evaluation</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>E. Resource Management and Reporting</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>VIII. Meetings</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>IX. Rules and Records</u>	<u>8</u>

## I. Creation and Composition of the Board

### A. Establishment of the CCRP Community Advisory Board (CAB)

1. Purpose: An independent and committed Community Advisory Board (CAB) is a critical element in ensuring the successful and accountable operation of the Richmond Community Crisis Response Program (CCRP). The CAB's primary purpose is to promote and maintain community confidence, ensure the program's fidelity to its core values and program's transparency, and provide proactive opportunities to address programmatic challenges that may arise during the program's data-driven implementation and operation.
  
2. Oversight and Support: The CAB is established to provide oversight and support for the CCRP. It shall work closely with the program, ensuring its alignment with community needs and values while holding it accountable

for its actions and outcomes. It shall provide input and support in formulating annual and long-term goals.

3. Access to Information: The CAB shall have access to program information and data, including anonymized program data related to CCRP activities. This access is essential to facilitate informed decision-making and to evaluate the program's impact effectively.
4. Transparency: The CAB shall operate with a commitment to transparency. Meetings, reports, complaints, and data shall be made anonymous and public-facing to the extent possible, except for information containing identifying details. Transparency is a crucial mechanism to build trust in the CAB and to address any concerns regarding representation or the selection process for the board.

#### B. Composition of the Community Advisory Board (CAB)

1. Membership Selection: The CAB shall be composed of community members who are representative of the diverse demographics, backgrounds, and perspectives within the Richmond community. The membership shall comprise community members who have been impacted economically, legally, familially, or professionals and workers within the community support system. The Membership selection shall be conducted through a transparent and inclusive process, which may include open applications, interviews, and community input to ensure broad representation.
2. Independence: CAB members shall be independent and not direct employees or contractors with the City of Richmond, the CCRP, or any other organization that might create conflicts of interest. This independence is crucial to ensure unbiased oversight and support. Each CAB member shall complete an economic statement of interest.
3. Diversity: The CAB shall strive for diversity in its composition, including but not limited to age, gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and community affiliations. We aim to include members of impacted communities as the primary makeup of this board. This diversity will ensure that the board reflects the entire Richmond community.
4. Commitment: Members of the CAB shall demonstrate a solid commitment to the well-being and betterment of the Richmond community. Their

dedication to the CCRP goals, mission, values, and objectives is essential to fulfill their responsibilities effectively.

### C. Formation in Advance of Implementation

1. Pre-Implementation Formation: The CAB shall be formed 2-3 months prior to the launch of the CCRP. This proactive approach ensures that there is a structured mechanism for community engagement in the decision-making process leading up to program implementation. This ensures the CAB will be able to meet quorum prior to program launch.
2. Decision-Making and Input: The CAB shall actively participate in discussions and decision-making processes related to the development, design, operational aspects, and organizational expansion of the CCRP based on the Council's adoption of the USC report in September 2022 and the work done by the Reimagining Public Community Safety Taskforce. Their input and recommendations shall be considered during the planning stages/phases to align the program with community expectations.
3. Early Community Engagement: By creating the CAB in advance, the community has an opportunity to engage early in the process, voice concerns, and shape the program's direction to meet its needs effectively. The board shall promote the CCRP through educational forums prior to the launch date.

In conclusion, the establishment of an independent and diverse Community Advisory Board is essential for the success of the Richmond Community Crisis Response Program. This will play a pivotal role in fostering community confidence, addressing challenges, and ensuring the program's transparency and accountability. In forming the board, the program demonstrates its commitment to community engagement and responsiveness from the very beginning.

## II. Appointment and Qualifications of Members.

- A. The Board shall consist of at least nine (9) and at most thirteen (13) members, maintaining a body at an odd number, who shall not be officers or employees of the City of Richmond and who shall be appointed by the Mayor. The Mayor shall endeavor to appoint individuals representing diverse social, economic, and political interests and shall confer with the City Council concerning all

appointments. All members of the Advisory Board shall live or work or can display deep connections within the Richmond Community. All vacancies on the Advisory Board shall be filled by appointment by the Mayor for the unexpired period.

### III. Compensation

- A. Members of the Advisory Board shall serve without compensation, provided that the City Council may authorize the reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred by the members in the performance of their duties.

### IV. Terms of Office

- A. The term of each member of the Advisory Board shall be for three (3) years; provided, however, that of the members first appointed after the effective date of this section, four shall be appointed to serve for one year, four shall be appointed to serve for two years, and five shall be appointed to serve for three years as determined by lots by such members at the first regularly scheduled meeting following the adoption of this chapter. Each member shall continue to serve in such capacity until the member's successor has been duly appointed and is acting.

### V. Absence from Meetings

- A. The absence of any member of the Advisory Board from more than three regularly scheduled meetings of the Advisory Board within any twelve-consecutive-month period shall constitute an automatic resignation from the Commission. Such resignation shall not, however, disqualify an individual from subsequently being appointed to the same or any other city committee, board, or commission. In the event of any such resignation, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term of the appointee's predecessor in the manner prescribed in Section 3.54.020.

### VI. Officers

- A. The Advisory Board shall elect from among its members a chairperson and a vice chairperson who shall serve in such capacities for one year or until the successors are duly elected. In case of a vacancy in either of these positions, the Advisory Board shall elect a successor who shall serve the unexpired balance of the predecessor's term.

## VII. Powers and Duties

### A. Community Engagement and Education

1. Community Awareness, Engagement, and Education: The City Advisory BoardBoard will actively engage with the Richmond community through public events, listening sessions, community workshops, and outreach efforts to raise awareness about the (CCRP) and its objectives and services. Furthermore, the Board will help implement educational outreach plans and initiatives, including disseminating informational materials and conducting community training sessions to inform the community about the CCRP's mission, functions, and available resources. Board members will also serve as community ambassadors for the program, fostering connections and promoting community understanding.
2. Programs and Promote Positive Relations: The Board is responsible for advising and promoting programs that foster positive community relations. This includes initiatives aimed at preventing community conflicts, programmatic challenges, or city barriers by promoting inclusivity and strengthening community relationships and networks. This includes promoting language accessibility and culturally responsive programming. The Board shall ensure that CCRP services are accessible to all community members, including those from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. This may involve promoting accessibility and advocating for translation & interpretation services, culturally sensitive outreach, and engagement strategies.

### B. Community Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms

1. Community Forum for Community Concerns: The Board shall establish and maintain a community forum for community members to raise substantive concerns, offer suggestions, and share feedback related to

the CCRP's operations. This forum will serve as a platform for open dialogue and problem-solving.

2. Website for Complaints Outside of the Board: The Board shall ensure there is a dedicated section and survey on the CCRP website where community members can submit complaints, report incidents, or seek assistance outside of the formal community forum. The Board will regularly review community feedback submitted through the CCRP website. This will encourage community members to continually weigh in on programmatic goals.

### C. Volunteer Coordination and Community Networks

1. Volunteerism: The CAB shall promote opportunities for volunteerism with the CCRP. The Board shall give recommendations on volunteer opportunities and outreach events to recruit volunteers and collect volunteer feedback. The Board shall assist CCRP staff in training and engaging community volunteers to support CCRP activities.
2. Insight into Community Networks and Communications: The Board members, with their deep community connections, shall provide valuable insights into community networks and offer recommendations on how to enhance communication and engagement with local community members.

### D. Program Development and Evaluation

1. Design and Implementation of CCRP: The Board shall actively support the design and implementation of CCRP initiatives, ensuring they align with community needs and values. This includes feedback on expectations for and needs from the crisis response team, proposed call categories and phone access points, exclusionary response criteria, team composition, and overall organizational expansion.
2. Training Recommendations: The Board shall provide recommendations to maintain alignment with California and National standards for the training and professional development of CCRP staff to enhance their capacity to respond effectively to community crises. The board shall give input on the program's training curriculum, including cultural and population-specific training.

3. **Review and Evaluate Policies, Practices, and Procedures:** The Board shall review regular internal assessments of CCRP policies, practices, and procedures to identify areas for improvement and ensure alignment with the program's objectives, goals, and expansion plans. The Board shall work collaboratively with staff to research national best practices, trends, and policies to inform the CCRP.

#### E. Resource Management and Reporting

1. **Budget Oversight:** The Board is responsible for overseeing the budget allocated to the CCRP. This includes reviewing financial reports, making budget recommendations, and ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently to support the program's goals.
2. **Hiring Panels:** The Board shall review job descriptions and participate in hiring panels for CCRP leadership. The Board shall designate a CAB member to be involved in selecting and approving CCRP leadership. This ensures that hiring decisions align with the program's mission and values.
3. **Referral Network and Lists:** The Board shall recommend community resources and service providers to the CCRP to facilitate referrals for individuals in crisis. This list of community resources will be accessible to the public via the CCRP website.
4. **Review Success Metrics and Evaluations:** The Board shall regularly review success metrics and evaluation reports from staff, encompassing qualitative and quantitative data, to measure the program's impact and make recommendations for necessary adjustments. The Board members shall be part of the ongoing evaluations and audits.
5. **Reporting to Council:** The Board shall provide quarterly reports and, when deemed necessary, detail the CCRP's progress, challenges, and recommendations for improvement to the City Council.

These powers and duties shall guide the City Advisory Board's actions and responsibilities in overseeing the Richmond Community Crisis Response Program. The Board members will work collectively to fulfill these functions, ensuring the program's effectiveness in serving the Richmond community.

## VIII. Meetings

- A. The Advisory Board shall hold its first meeting within thirty days after all of its members have been appointed. At such meetings, the Advisory Board shall fix the time and place of regular meetings of the Commission, which shall not be less frequent than once each month. All meetings of the Advisory Board shall be open to the public and in accordance with the City of Richmond Boards, Commissions, and Committees Handbook.

## IX. Rules and Records

- A. The Advisory Board shall, in consultation with the City Manager and with the approval of the City Council, adopt rules for the transaction of business of the Commission, which rules shall, among other things, include the manner of calling and giving notice of special meetings and hearings and the appointment and powers of standing subcommittees. Said standing subcommittees may be formed to work on various topics within the scope of police activities. The Advisory Board shall keep records of its resolutions, rules, transactions, motions, and orders in accordance with the City of Richmond Boards, Commissions, and Committees Handbook.



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Social Host Ordinance

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

Richmond City Councilmember Melvin Willis suggested that the Task Force look into the Social Host Ordinance that was presented at the January 23, 2024 City Council meeting. The Task Force will discuss the Social Host Ordinance and make recommendations to City Council.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

DISCUSS the Social Host Ordinance and APPROVE recommendations to City Council.

**DISCUSSION:**

At the January 23, 2024 regular meeting of the Richmond City Council, councilmembers heard item Q.3 to receive a presentation from Nabila Sher-Oliver, Alcohol, Marijuana, and Prescription Drug (AMPD) Coalition Coordinator; and provide direction to staff regarding proposed Social Host policy, and timing for Council consideration/recommendations. The Social Host Ordinance would make it illegal for adults to provide an environment where underage drinking or drug use occurs.

During the discussion, Richmond City Councilmember Melvin Willis suggested gathering the insight of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force on the ordinance.

The staff report and presentation from the meeting can be found [online on eSCRIBE](#).



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Non-police Parking Enforcement

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

The Task Force will discuss non-police parking enforcement and related traffic safety concerns.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

DISCUSS non-police parking enforcement and related traffic safety concerns raised by Richmond City Councilmembers Gayle McLaughlin and Claudia Jimenez.

**DISCUSSION:**

Richmond City Councilmembers Gayle McLaughlin and Claudia Jimenez contacted Chair Small to request that the Task Force explore the feasibility of non-police parking enforcement and provide a recommendation to the City Council for consideration in fiscal year 2024-2025. Currently, parking enforcement is staffed through the Richmond Police Department.



**REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE**

**DATE:** February 28, 2024

**TO:** Members of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**FROM:** LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services, Task Force Staff Liaison

**SUBJECT:** Sunset of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force

**STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:**

At the October 25, 2023, regular meeting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force (Task Force), Task Force members voted to place an item on the agenda to discuss and vote on a recommendation to Richmond City Council to sunset the Task Force.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

DISCUSS the early sunseting of the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force and APPROVE recommendations and report to City Council.

**DISCUSSION:**

On June 30, 2020, Richmond City Council heard Item I-1 to direct staff to prepare a plan to transition from Richmond's current "community policing" model to a plan conducive to the reduced police force and return to City Council with the preferred policing model and a plan for implementation by the end of Fiscal Year 2020/2021. Following discussion on the item, the City Council directed staff to "create a transition accountability task force composed by members of the public, including community organizations, individuals who were impacted by law enforcement, and law enforcement."

City Council appointed twenty-one (21) members to the Reimagining Public Safety Community Task Force on October 6, 2020. The Task Force was initially set to sunset on June 30, 2021. On May 19, 2021, City Council extended the term of the Task Force to September 30, 2021. On September 14, 2021, City Council extended the term of the Task Force to June 30, 2024.

At the October 25, 2023, regular meeting of the Task Force, Task Force members voted to place an item on the agenda to discuss and vote on a recommendation to Richmond City Council to sunset the Task Force. Task Force members noted that the original goals of the Task Force will have been achieved upon completion of the Community Advisory Board proposal recommendation. Members also cited recent challenges to meet quorum.

Task Force member Cantú shared a presentation regarding sunseting considerations. Suggested topics and actions include a celebration, review of Task Force impact, thank you, community input, and next steps.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Presentation on Task Force Sunseting Considerations



# Reimagining Public Community Safety Taskforce

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## Sunsetting Considerations



# Topics and Actions to Consider

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- Celebration
- A Review of Taskforce Impact
- Thank you
- Community Input
- Next Steps

# Celebration

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- Catering if there is a possible budget
- Potluck if there is member capacity
- Snacks or cake as a lighter option

# A Review of Taskforce Impact

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- Invite all TF members (new and resigned)
- Invite City Council + Mayor
- Invite all Program Staff and Participants to share their experiences
- TF members work with staff to create a deck, video, review in photos of impact

# Thank yous

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- Write thank you letters to each other (TF members + staff)
- Give speeches on how this work has impacted you and our community
- Coordinate giving small gifts to each other + staff (White elephant, Secret Santa, etc, Winter Gift Exchange)

# Community Input

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- Invite the community to our final meeting
- Encourage public comments on various programs
- Share stories via public comment at City Council meetings of how this work has impacted the city

# Next Steps

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- Join another Board, Commission, Taskforce or Committee with the City of Richmond
- Present the finalized recommendation of the sunset to City Council with a community impact presentation
- Continue to advocate for programs, policies, and proposals that reimagine public safety