

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**

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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 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.

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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.

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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).

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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

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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

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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.

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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**

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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.