

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, June 18, 2024

Community Services Building
440 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

A. OPEN SESSION TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez.

(Mayor Martinez appointed Vice Mayor Jimenez to chair the meeting due to his illness. Mayor Martinez participated in the meeting via teleconference in accordance with the "Just Cause" provision outlined in Assembly Bill 2449, regarding remote participation in legislative body meetings).

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Soheila Bana, Gayle McLaughlin, Doria Robinson, Melvin Willis, Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez (via teleconference). **Absent:** None.

C. CLOSED SESSION

**C.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
(paragraph (1) of Subdivision [d] of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- Wu v. City of Richmond, et al.
- Winehaven v. City of Richmond
- Guidiville Rancheria of California, et al. v. United States of America, et al.
- North Coast Rivers Alliance et al./Point Molate Alliance et al. v. City of Richmond

**C.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of
Subdivision (d) [as applicable] of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- One Case

**C.3 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of
Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- One Case

D. PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION (limited to items on the Closed Session agenda only)

There were no public comments.

E. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 4:35 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

F. JOINT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RICHMOND HOUSING AUTHORITY / RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

The Joint Special Meeting of the Richmond Housing Authority / Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:27 p.m. by Vice Chairperson/Mayor Claudia Jimenez.

(Chairperson/Mayor Eduardo Martinez appointed Vice Chairperson/Mayor Jimenez to chair the meeting due to his illness. Chairperson/Mayor Martinez participated in the meeting via teleconference in accordance with the "Just Cause" provision outlined in Assembly Bill 2449, regarding remote participation in legislative body meetings).

G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chairperson/Mayor Jimenez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

H. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners/Councilmembers Soheila Bana, Gayle McLaughlin, Doria Robinson, Melvin Willis, Cesar Zepeda, Vice Chairperson/Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Chairperson/Mayor Eduardo Martinez (via teleconference). **Absent:** Housing Authority Tenant Commissioner Jaycine Scott arrived after the roll was called.

I. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

J. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Interim Richmond Housing Authority (RHA) Executive Director Gabino Arredondo announced that the Contra Costa County Housing Authority's affordable housing waitlists were open until June 27, 2024. Mr. Arredondo advised that the city's RHA staff was providing support at City Hall for applicants to apply on June 21, 24, and 25, 2024.

K. AGENDA REVIEW

None.

L. HOUSING AUTHORITY CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Commissioner/Councilmember Zepeda
Seconded by Commissioner/Councilmember Willis

To approve both items on the Housing Authority Consent Calendar.

Ayes (8): Commissioners/Councilmembers Bana, McLaughlin, Robinson, Willis, Zepeda, Vice Chairperson/Mayor Jimenez, Chairperson/Mayor Martinez, and Housing Authority Tenant Commissioner Scott.

Absent (0): None.

Passed (8 to 0)

L.1 Edrington Schirmer & Murphy LLP Contract Amendment #3

ADOPT a resolution authorizing Richmond Housing Authority's Executive Director to enter into a third contract amendment with Edrington Schirmer & Murphy LLP for as needed lease enforcement and unlawful detainer legal services for an increased contract amount of \$75,000 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$450,000 with a new term ending December 31, 2024 – Richmond Housing Authority (Gabino Arredondo 620-6606/Shannon Moore 621-1309).

Adopted Resolution No. 2196

L.2 Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program Application for Richmond Village.

ADOPT a resolution authorizing the Richmond Housing Authority to submit a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) application and any Section 18 Disposition application elements required to support blending RAD and Section 18 Disposition programs to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for Richmond Village - Richmond Housing Authority (Gabino Arredondo 620-6606).

Adopted Resolution No. 2197

M. JOINT RICHMOND HOUSING AUTHORITY / RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL BUDGET SESSION

M.1 Proposed Richmond Housing Authority Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025

ADOPT a joint resolution approving the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Richmond Housing Authority (RHA) budget, with total estimated revenues of \$4,319,879 and total estimated expenditures of \$4,671,805.57; and APPROVE an RHA subsidy from the City of Richmond General Fund in the amount of \$351,926.57, which will provide sufficient revenue to match anticipated expenditures and balance the RHA budget to \$4,671,805.57 in estimated revenues and \$4,671,805.57 in expenditures - Richmond Housing Authority/Finance Department (Gabino Arredondo/Rita Martinez 510-621-1300).

City Manager Shasa Curl introduced the matter. Interim RHA Executive Director Gabino Arredondo and Senior Accountant Rita Martinez presented a PowerPoint that highlighted the following: RHA proposed amended budget; revenue and expenditures; asset repositioning; and financial audits. Discussion ensued. The council requested additional information concerning the expenditures for the RHA rental truck.

Motion by Commissioner/Councilmember Zepeda

Seconded by Housing Authority Tenant Commissioner Scott

To adopt said joint resolution.

Ayes (8): Commissioners/Councilmembers Bana, McLaughlin, Robinson, Willis, Zepeda, Vice Chairperson/Mayor Jimenez, Chairperson/Mayor Martinez, and Housing Authority Tenant Commissioner Scott.

Absent (0): None.

Passed (8 to 0)

Adopted Resolution Nos. 2198 and 53-24

N. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

O. REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:49 p.m. by Vice Mayor Jimenez.

(Mayor Martinez appointed Vice Mayor Jimenez to chair the meeting due to his illness. Mayor Martinez participated in the meeting via teleconference in accordance with the "Just Cause" provision outlined in Assembly Bill 2449, regarding remote participation in legislative body meetings).

P. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bana, McLaughlin, Robinson, Willis, Zepeda, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez (via teleconference). **Absent:** None.

Q. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

R. AGENDA REVIEW

Items T and U (report from the city manager and reports of officers) were postponed to the June 25, 2024, City Council meeting.

Item W.1.a. (Point Molate Alliance and North Coast Rivers Alliance settlement agreements) was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion after the Open Forum.

Item W.5.a (Raftelis workforce analysis) was continued to the June 25, 2024, City Council meeting.

S. REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION

Item C.1 (existing litigation), the Wu matter was discussed and direction was given to the city's negotiators to work on a settlement. The Winehaven, Guidiville Rancheria, and North Coast Rivers Alliance/Point Molate Alliance matters were not discussed.

Item C.2 (anticipated litigation-significant exposure), a status report was given and no reportable action was taken.

Item C.3 (anticipated litigation-initiation), was not discussed.

T. REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER (public comment allowed under Open Forum)

Postponed to the June 25, 2024, City Council meeting.

U. REPORTS OF OFFICERS: REFERRALS TO STAFF, AND GENERAL REPORTS (INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS)(limited to two minutes per Councilmember)(public comments allowed under Open Forum)

Postponed to the June 25, 2024, City Council meeting.

V. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

(public comment on items that remained on the Consent Calendar or items not on the agenda – were limited to 2 minutes unless otherwise specified - Back and forth dialogue with the Council was prohibited)

The following individuals gave comments in person:

Cordell Hindler expressed concerns regarding safety along 23rd Street. Mr. Hinder recommended creating a vibrant community by encouraging volunteers to pick up litter and installing parking meters to increase city revenue.

Rosemary Crawford-Henry expressed concerns regarding the cost of Richmond property taxes and city services. Ms. Crawford-Henry inquired about the status of street sweeping on South 18th Street, bonds for Doctor's Hospital, and funding for sewer replacement.

Daniel Nathan-Heiss gave comments regarding the city's potential to be an enviable economy in the Bay Area and beyond. Mr. Heights encouraged the community to work together to improve economic development.

Mark Wassberg gave comments regarding youth transgender identity. Mr. Wassberg expressed concerns regarding the council's position on Chevron. Mr. Wassberg also gave comments regarding Richmond Progressive Alliance.

Andrea McKelvy acknowledged Chevron for providing to the unhoused. Ms. McKelvy inquired about the city's funding that was allocated for unhoused assistance and permanent housing.

Oscar Garcia objected to the council's late-hour discussions on agenda items concerning businesses on 23rd Street. Mr. Garcia also expressed concerns regarding the council meeting's attendee overflow area located in the Richmond Memorial Auditorium as a potential Brown Act violation.

W. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

(All items placed under the Consent Calendar were considered to be routine and noncontroversial. The items were enacted upon together with a motion and second, without discussion, of any member of the City Council, and each item was deemed to have received the action recommended.)

Motion by Councilmember Willis

Seconded by Councilmember Zepeda

To approve all items on the Consent Calendar except Items W.1.a (settlement agreements) and W.5.a (Raftelis workforce analysis).

Ayes (7): Councilmember Bana, Councilmember McLaughlin, Councilmember Robinson, Councilmember Willis, Councilmember Zepeda, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez

Passed (7 to 0)

W.1 City Attorney's Office

W.1.a Settlement Agreements with Point Molate Alliance and North Coast Rivers Alliance

APPROVE proposed agreements with Point Molate Alliance and North Coast Alliance to settle attorney fees claims in North Coast Rivers Alliance v. City of Richmond, Contra Costa Co. Sup. Ct. Case No. N20-1528 (Consolidated with Case No. N20-1474) for a total of settlement amount of \$1,225,000 – City Attorney's Office (Dave Aleshire, 510-620-6509).

City Attorney Dave Aleshire introduced the matter and gave an oral report. Don Gosney gave comments. Discussion ensued.

Motion by Councilmember McLaughlin

Seconded by Councilmember Willis

To approve said settlement agreements.

Ayes (7): Councilmember Bana, Councilmember McLaughlin, Councilmember Robinson, Councilmember Willis, Councilmember Zepeda, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez

Passed (7 to 0)

W.2 City Clerk's Office

- W.2.a Placing Richmond Election Reform Act (RERA) Initiative on the November 5, 2024, General Election Ballot

ADOPT a resolution to submit to the City of Richmond electorate at the General Municipal Election to be held on November 5, 2024, an initiative to amend the Charter to hold a primary election for Councilmembers before the general election each election year – City Clerk's Office (Pamela Christian 510-620-6513).

Adopted Resolution No. 54-24

- W.2.b City Council Meeting Minutes

APPROVE the minutes of the special April 23, 2024, and regular May 21 and May 28, 2024, meetings - City Clerk's Office (Pamela Christian 510-620-6513).

W.3 Community Development

- W.3.a Contract Amendment No. 2 with Macias Gini & O'Connell, LLP

APPROVE a second contract amendment with Macias Gini & O'Connell, LLP to increase the contract limit by \$9,900, for a total amount not to exceed \$35,150, and to extend the term to December 31, 2026, with two additional one-year options not to exceed an additional \$9,900 per extension to potentially increase the total not-to-exceed contract amount up to \$54,950, to continue assisting in preparing federal and state income tax returns for 2023-2025 for the Richmond Neighborhood Stabilization Corporation – Community Development Department (Lina Velasco 510-620-6706).

- W.3.b San Francisco Foundation Grant for Housing Fellow

ACCEPT and APPROPRIATE \$16,600 in grant funds; AUTHORIZE the city manager to execute a grant agreement with San Francisco Foundation; and APPROVE a sole source contract with Kaitlyn Quackenbush Consulting, in an amount not to exceed \$16,600, for the term June 1, 2024, through August 31, 2024, to support the City in implementing its recently adopted Equitable Land Disposition Policy – Community Development Department (Lina Velasco/Jesus Morales 510-620-6649).

- W.3.c Contract with Oliver's Tow, Inc. to remove Recreational Vehicles (RVs)

APPROVE a contract amendment no. 1 with Oliver's Tow, Inc., for additional \$50,000, for a total not-to-exceed contract amount of \$100,000, to support the removal and dismantling of Recreational Vehicles relinquished at the citywide encampments by those placed in housing - Community Development Department (Lina Velasco/Jesus Morales 510-620-6649).

W.3.d Homekey Purchase and Sale Agreement Amendments and Funding Resolution

ADOPT a resolution ratifying the city manager's administrative amendments to the Purchase and Sale Agreement to acquire the Motel 6 located at 425 24th Street for Permanent Supportive Housing, and restating the City's funding commitments and Project Co-applicants, Novin Development Corporation and Trinity Center Walnut Creek – Community Development Department (Lina Velasco 510-620-6841/Jesus Morales 510-620-6649).

Adopted Resolution No. 55-24

W.3.e Amendment No. 2 to Contract with Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB) for Rapid Rehousing and Housing Navigation Services for the Castro Encampment Resolution Funding Round 1 Project

APPROVE an Amendment No. 2 to the contract with Housing Consortium of the East Bay to increase the contract amount by \$300,000, for a total not to exceed contract amount of \$2,498,686, for a term through July 31, 2024, to pay anticipated costs related to services provided at the Castro Encampment – Community Development Department (Lina Velasco/Jesus Morales 510-620-6649).

W.4 Finance Department

W.4.a Fiscal Year 2024-25 Annual Appropriations Limit

ADOPT a resolution approving the Fiscal Year 2024-25 appropriations limit for the City of Richmond pursuant to Article XIII B of the Constitution of the State of California – Finance Department (Andrea Miller 510-620-6790/ Mubeen Qader 510-412-2077).

Adopted Resolution No. 56-24

W.4.b Investment and Cash Balance Report and Monthly Overtime Reports for the Month of April 2024

RECEIVE the City's Investment and Cash Balance Report and Monthly Overtime Reports for the month of April 2024 – Finance Department (Andrea Miller 510-620-6740).

W.4.c Contract with BerryDunn for Recreation Fee Study

APPROVE a contract with BerryDunn, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, to provide a Recreation Department Fee Study with a term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025 – Finance Department (Andrea Miller/ Antonio Banuelos 510-620-6741).

W.5 Human Resources

W.5.a Final Written Report of the Raftelis Workforce Analysis and PowerPoint Presentation

RECEIVE the final written report from Raftelis Financial Consultants regarding their workforce analysis – City Manager's Office/Human Resources Department (Nickie Mastay/Sharrone Taylor 510-620-6602). This item was continued from the May 28, 2024, and June 4, 2024, meetings.

W.6 Library and Community Services

W.6.a Booker T. Anderson Jr. Community Center Fitness Equipment Purchase

APPROVE a contract with Gym Doctors for the purchase and installation of fitness equipment at Booker T. Anderson Community Center in an amount not to exceed \$60,000, for a term beginning June 18, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2025 - Community Services Department (LaShonda White 510-620-6828/Ranjana Maharaj 510-620-6972/Tetteh Kisseh 510-620-6919).

W.6.b Production Agreement Contract with Pyro Spectacular North Inc. for 3rd of July Fireworks Display

APPROVE the Production Agreement contract with Pyro Spectaculars North Inc. to provide a fireworks display show for Richmond on July 3, 2024, at the Richmond Marina in an amount not to exceed \$103,185, and for a term beginning June 1, 2024, ending on December 31, 2024 – Community Services Department (LaShonda White 510-620-6828/Ranjana Maharaj 510-620-6972/Kymberlyn Carson-Thrower 510-620-6789).

W.7 Mayor's Office

W.7.a Reappointment of Lily Rahnema to the Environment Community and Investment Agreement (ECIA) Grant Review Ad Hoc Committee

REAPPOINT Lily Rahnema to the ECIA Grant Review Ad Hoc Committee, term expires, March 31, 2026 – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

W.7.b Juneteenth Proclamation

PROCLAMATION recognizing June 19, 2024, as Juneteenth in the City of Richmond – Mayor Eduardo Martinez (510-620-6503), Councilmembers Melvin Willis (510-620-2050), and Doria Robinson (510-620-6568).

W.8 Police Department

W.8.a Richmond Police Department's County Operated Child Interview Center (CIC) Services.

APPROVE the sole-source contract with Contra Costa County on behalf of its Employment and Human Services Department for the contract term July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 – Police Department (Chief Bisa French 510-621-1802).

W.8.b Sole Source Contract with Chaplin & Hill Investigative Services LLC.

APPROVE a sole source contract with Chaplin & Hill Investigative Services LLC, for an amount not to exceed \$50,000, for the term June 19, 2024, to June 30, 2027 – Police Department (Chief Bisa French 510-621-1802).

W.9 Public Works

- W.9.a Approve a Contract with Lorbel Inc. for Generator Inspections, Testing and Maintenance of all City Emergency Generators

ADOPT a resolution to award a contract with Lorbel Inc. for inspections, testing and repair services of all emergency generators for all City of Richmond Facilities for a period of three years for total contract amount not to exceed \$150,000, with two, one-year options to renew for \$40,000 per year - Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Tawfic Halaby 510-620-5482/Carl Capistrano 510-620-6896).

Adopted Resolution No. 57-24

- W.9.b Adoption of Amendments to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC) and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute Necessary Documents.

APPROVE a resolution to approve the amendments to the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) for the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC) and authorize the City Manager to execute any necessary documents pursuant to the approval of the JPA amendments – Public Works (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478 / Robert Armijo 510-620-5477).

Adopted Resolution No. 58-24

- W.9.c Marina Bay Parkway Force Main Relocation Project Completion

ADOPT a resolution to accept the Marina Bay Parkway Force Main Relocation Project as complete to enable the City to release the contractor's bonds and retention payment; and ALLOCATE and APPROPRIATE the necessary funds from the Wastewater Fund in the amount of \$356,786 for the two change orders that were necessary for addressing unforeseen project conditions – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Robert Armijo 510-620-5477).

Adopted Resolution No. 59-24

- W.9.d Contract Amendment #1 with Mack5 for Project and Construction Management of the Shields-Reid Park Improvement Project

APPROVE contract amendment number one with Mack5 for the Project and Construction Management Services under the Shields-Reid Park Improvement Project (#23028) in the amount of \$78,300 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$629,700, with an existing contract term ending December 31, 2025 – Public Works Department (Robert Armijo 510-620-5477/Josel Munoz 510-672-2407).

- W.9.e Grit and Aeration Project, Issuance of a Task Authorization for Additional Unforeseen Work

ADOPT a resolution approving a task authorization for additional unforeseen work for the Grit and Aeration Basin project located at the Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$4,875,580, for a new total amount not to exceed \$50,482,068, for the period expiration of December 31, 2024 – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Jeffrey Barich 510-412-2009).

Adopted Resolution No. 60-24

W.9.f Purchase of a Vehicle Alignment Machine

APPROVE the purchase of a wheel alignment machine from Mohawk Lifts, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Dee Karnes 510-231-3044).

W.9.g Sole Source Contract with Bosco Oil dba Valley Oil for Bulk Fuel Delivery

APPROVE a six-month sole-source contract with Bosco Oil dba Valley Oil, beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Dee Karnes 510-231-3044).

W.9.h Purchase of Thermoplastic Equipment

APPROVE the purchase of trailer-mounted thermoplastic equipment from Dispensing Technologies Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$124,000 – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Dee Karnes 510-231-3044).

W.9.i Contract with Pablo Restorations Roofing and Waterproof

APPROVE a contract with Pablo Restorations Roofing and Waterproof to waterproof and perform spot repairs on the roof of Fire Station 63, in an amount not to exceed \$73,385.70, from May 22, 2024, to June 30, 2026 – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Carl Capistrano 510-620-6896).

W.9.j List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2024-25 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account Funding Under Senate Bill 1

ADOPT a resolution approving the project list for Senate Bill 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account funding for Fiscal Year 2024-25 – Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478/Tawfic Halaby 510-620-5482).

Adopted Resolution No. 61-24

W.9.k Groundwork Richmond Contract Amendment to Support Urban Forestry

APPROVE a contract amendment No. 1 with Groundwork Richmond to increase the contract amount by \$686,889, for a total not to exceed amount of \$1,031,889, for a term beginning July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026, to continue administering the City's urban forestry program to be funded by the Environmental and Community Investment Agreement urban forestry funds – Community Development Department/Public Works Department (Lina Velasco 510-621-1231/Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478).

W.9.1 Approval to Award Richmond Art and Lighting Project Bids and Authorize Change Orders During the City Council Recess

APPROVE a resolution granting the City Manager or designee the authority to accept bids for the Richmond Art and Lighting Project up to the budgeted amount of \$3.3 million and authorizing the Director of Public Works to approve change orders up to 10% of the construction costs, provided these change orders remain within the overall project budget – Public Works (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478 / Robert Armijo 510-620-5477).

Adopted Resolution No. 62-24

X. NEW BUSINESS

X.1 Consideration of an Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure for November 5, 2024, Election

ADOPT a resolution submitting the Proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure to the voters at the November 5, 2024, election and AUTHORIZE the City Attorney's Office and staff to finalize any necessary documents relating to the ballot measure – City Attorney's Office (Dave Aleshire 510-620-6509).

Mayor's Office Chief of Staff Shiva Mishek introduced the matter. Kerry Guerin, Attorney for Communities for a Better Environment Action and Asian Pacific Environmental Network Action, presented a PowerPoint that highlighted the following: need for new revenue; opportunities in Richmond Refining Business License Tax; negative public refining impacts; general tax vs. special tax; proposed tax and examples; Measure T (2008) oil refineries tax; Measure U (2020) gross receipts tax; 50-year tax automatic expiration; and proposed ordinance. The following individuals gave comments in person: Lejon Reese, Jim Hollis, Aisiyeh Zakerrmosala, Patrick Scott, Kevin Taylor, Jason Christianson, Greg Bosworth, Rafael Castro-Chavez, Sandrine Demathieu, Richelle Ledesma, Katherine Lee, Harsheet Subedi, Brandon Dawkins, Jose Luis Abastida, Alma Gutierrez, Todd Osterberg, Orin Wakefield, Luisa Laracuent, Kristin Frost, Elsa Stevens, Karen Duran, Martine Johannessen, Keala Uchoa, Isa Flores-Jones, Andrew Parrino, Daniela Dickey, Israel Leon, Theresa Matthews, Ken Wohlgeschaffen, John-Paul Fredeluces, Stephen Dole, James Ashcroft, Anthony Vescuso, Khaled Turkmani, Sam Parino, Anna Morgan, Lekha Thomas, Sue Wilson, Lazuli Trujano, Aaloni Chess, Kat Ramos, Anna Curtis, Angel Gonzalez, Raully Butler, Jane Perry, Kandice McDonald, Timothy Jefferies, Connor Dickey, Jay Perrette, Thomas Holman, Kelly Colomb-Jennings, Mark Hughes, Kris Battleson, Zack Ziegler, Tolly Graves, Ernest Lompa, Mauricio Molina, Jesus Castillo, Greg Reed, Ken Mertes, Brady Boswell, Reina Wright, Hamed Eksivi, Daniel Vise, Brian Peacock, Linsi Crain, Byron Smith, Logan Czujko, Cliff Wiest, Linda Overra, Theo Lequesne, Tristan Cunanan, Gloria Johnson, Janet Johnson, Sam Smith, Jose Abastido, Rocky Chau, Andrea Zuniga, Michael Barglow, Paul Cochran, Denise Wong, Amy Zhou, Jesus Castillo, Chris Leman, Zenaída Gomez, Jason Gallia, Lucky Hoey, Rennae Ross, Angel Greer, Mark Orcutt, Felicia Harper, Alma Gutierrez, Laurie Mintzer, Mark Wassberg, Kristiana Lompa, Randy Joseph, Oscar Garcia, Mike Dreiling, and Janet Johnson. The following speakers gave comments via teleconference: Clair Brown, Woody Hastings, Sara Cantor, Isabella Zizi, Benjamin Therriault, Michael Gilksohn, Jovanka Beckles, Jamin Pursell, Sara Theiss, Laura (last name not stated), Jane Courant, Selena Perez, Carolyn (last name not stated), Theresa Dixon, Rona

Fernandez, Sylvia A., River (last name not stated), and Emily Ross. Discussion ensued.

(At 10:58 p.m. - a motion by Mayor Martinez calling the question to end the discussion and vote on the matter died for the lack of a second).

(At 11:00 p.m. - a motion by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Vice Mayor Jimenez, to extend the meeting until the end of Item X.1, passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council).

Motion by Councilmember Willis

Seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin

To adopt said resolution and authorize staff as recommended with the understanding per the proposed ordinance, Section 13.58.280 (City Council Authority to Amend), "the City Council has the right and authority to amend this Chapter, to further its purposes and intent (including but not limited to amendment for more efficient administration as determined by the City Council), in any manner that does not increase a tax rate, or otherwise constitute a tax increase for which voter approval is required by Article XIII C of the California Constitution, pursuant to Section 9217 of the California Elections Code. However, the City Council shall not have the authority to decrease the tax imposed by this Chapter and any such decrease in the tax imposed by this Chapter shall require the approval of a majority of the City's voters voting on such a measure".

Ayes (7): Councilmember Bana, Councilmember McLaughlin, Councilmember Robinson, Councilmember Willis, Councilmember Zepeda, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez

Passed (7 to 0)

Adopted Resolution No. 63-24

Y. BUDGET SESSION

Y.1 Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Proposed Operating Budget and FY 2024-25 to 2028-29 Proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Budget

ADOPT resolutions approving: (1) Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Proposed Operating Budget, and (2) FY 2024-25 to FY 2028-29 Proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan Budget – City Manager's Office/Finance Department (Shasa Curl 510-620-6512/ Nickie Mastay 510-620-6609/ Andrea Miller 510-620-6790/Mubeen Qader 510-412-2077).

Continued to the June 24, 2024, City Council meeting.

Z. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. to hear Item Y.1 (budget session).

Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of
Richmond

Eduardo Martinez, Mayor

From: [Ali Faridi](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 10:41:18 PM

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This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

This measure was written by special interests and the Richmond Progressive Alliance. Chevron did not have an opportunity to provide input as a major stakeholder affected and any input sought appears to be one sided.

The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Ali Faridi
8049 Somerset Blvd
Paramount, CA 90723-4396

From: [AMANDA MATA](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:33:30 PM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
AMANDA MATA
1132 Courtland Ct
Fairfield, CA 94534-7444

From: [Autumn Martin](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:13:54 AM

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

This measure was written by special interests and the Richmond Progressive Alliance. Chevron did not have an opportunity to provide input as a major stakeholder affected and any input sought appears to be one sided.

The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Autumn Martin
1806 Keesling Ave
San Jose, CA 95125-5332

From: [Brain Pattillo](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 4:01:17 PM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Brain Pattillo
2675 Kingston Ct
Fairfield, CA 94533-1337

From: [Bram Begonia](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item X.1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 12:10:40 AM

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Dear Richmond City Council,

As dedicated frontline community workers, we are writing to express our profound concern regarding the proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax. While we fully recognize the necessity of responsible taxation to support community initiatives, we are worried that this specific measure could have unintended consequences, particularly for the Chevron Richmond Refinery, a vital contributor to our community.

Over the past decade, Chevron has provided more than \$48 million in direct funding to local non-profits, including the Bay Area Rescue Mission (BARM). Their commitment to positive social initiatives has significantly empowered the most vulnerable members of our community. With Chevron's support, we offer crucial services such as emergency assistance, emergency shelter, life transformation programs, vocational training and educational classes, life skills, and transitional housing for graduates. With Chevron's strong support, our well-stocked food pantry and distribution center provided over 1.8 million meals to families in crisis, addressing food insecurity in Richmond.

Additionally, Chevron's employees have shown exceptional dedication by volunteering countless hours to support BARM and other community initiatives. Their enthusiastic involvement reflects a genuine commitment to the well-being of Richmond residents. For example, through Chevron's sponsorship, BARM distributes 1,000 backpacks filled with school supplies to underserved children in our neighborhood and shelter, ensuring they are well-prepared for the school year.

Our concern lies in the Richmond Refining Tax Act's potential impact on long-term initiatives. Prioritizing short-term financial gains may hinder sustained investments that benefit Richmond residents. BARM firmly believes that collaboration between Richmond City leaders, the refinery, and community members - conducted openly and transparently - serves the best interests of everyone. This tax does not seem to have been developed in this spirit. Therefore, we urge you to vote against this refining tax.

We advocate for policies that enhance the quality of life for all Richmond residents and support continued community growth and thriving partnerships. We must carefully consider the broader implications of this tax and ensure that it aligns with our collective goal of improving the community's well-being without increasing the cost of living for our residents.

In light of these concerns, we urge you to engage in further dialogue and reconsider the

implications of the proposed refining tax. Our shared objective should be to foster an environment that sustains and enhances the vibrant community support structures that organizations like Chevron help to build.

Sincerely,

Bram Begonia | CEO / President
Direct: 510.215.4878 | Cell: 808.347.8177
2114 Macdonald Ave, Richmond, CA 94801

www.BayAreaRescue.org

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This communication, as well as its attachments, may contain confidential and protected information that is intended for the exclusive use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This information may be proprietary, privileged, confidential, and/or exempt from disclosure. The recipient is prohibited from using this information for purposes other than intended and prohibited from disclosing this information to any other party unless required to do so for business or by law or regulation. If you are not the intended recipient (or an agent responsible for delivering this communication to the intended recipient), you are hereby notified that any disclosure, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this information is strictly prohibited and may be subject to restriction. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender and delete this message completely from your system. This is not a contract.

From: [Charles Pagett](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:22 AM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Charles Pagett
133 Power Dr
Apt B
Vallejo, CA 94589-3414

From: [Christina Ochoa-LaMar](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:30:17 PM

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Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

A year ago, my Father In-law passed away; he was a proud Richmond resident of over 50 years; My Mother In-law is still currently living in their Richmond home and as an elderly widow living in the already expensive Bay Area, she cannot afford this extra tax! please do not impose this additional tax on life-long Richmond residents!! This measure was written by special interests and the Richmond Progressive Alliance. Chevron did not have an opportunity to provide input as a major stakeholder affected and any input sought appears to be one sided.

The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Christina Ochoa-LaMar
1280 Page Ct
Pinole, CA 94564-2724

From: [Christopher Clark](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:14:45 AM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Christopher Clark
167 Verde Mesa Dr
Danville, CA 94526-1636

From: [Christopher Cole](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 9:19:32 AM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Christopher Cole
230 Tewksbury Ct
San Ramon, CA 94582-5271

From: [Clay Richard](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:22 AM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Clay Richard
401 W J St
Benicia, CA 94510-3042

From: [Daniel Barth](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item X.1
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 3:43:34 PM
Attachments: [2024.06.17 Chevron.City Council.docx](#)

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Please see attached letter for submission as a public comment on Agenda Item X.1.

Thank you!
Daniel

--



Daniel Barth | Executive Director

he/him

510.990.2686

Mail: 23 Maine Ave. #16, Richmond, CA 94804

www.sos-richmond.org

Neighbor Care Line 510.806.8650





June 17, 2024

Dear City Council members,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Chevron and their ongoing support of Safe Organized Spaces Richmond. Along with the City of Richmond, Chevron distinguished itself from SOS's inception by paying for West County's only mobile shower trailer that launched Shower Power during COVID. Chevron later supported neighborhood cleanups in North Richmond at encampments near their fence line. Now, Chevron will help pilot SOS's new program, The Warm Hand Wellness and Resource Center.

With Chevron funding, SOS will start a 4th pop-up wellness center location for North Richmond to help people from encampments along the creeks, train tracks, Richmond Parkway, and the unhoused individuals who are still homeless after the closure of the Castro Encampment. The Warm Hand will help people on the journey from tent to home and support people's housing sustainability. Along this journey, the complications of addiction, chronic health issues, immigration legal status, eligibility for housing resources, and job readiness to obtain income self-sufficiency can best be addressed in a peers-helping-peers approach.

We look forward to a thriving relationship with Chevron as we continue to support the improvement of our Richmond and West County communities and provide a unique missing piece in addressing homelessness. The private sector of community anchors like Chevron need to support such efforts, since the public sector can only provide so much. New efforts, like The Warm Hand and SOS's 90 Day Job Readiness program must be inspired and sustained with diverse ongoing support.

This year's funds from Chevron will, for example, pay for a cost-sharing partnership with a community-based organization the Fountain Project to provide Eastern/Western wellness services – beginning with massage and acupuncture, which will complement new peer-based care management services. Just like SOS's unique status, no one else could deliver services in a pop-up environment like a wellness center for unhoused individuals.

Let's keep building for strong private/public/nonprofit collaboration to respond to wicked problems like homelessness with robust care and for true sustainability.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Barth'.

Daniel Barth
Executive Director, SOS Richmond



Mail: SOS Richmond
23 Maine Ave #16
Richmond, CA 94804



Physical: 410 S. 2nd St.
Richmond, CA 94804
(under 580 freeway)



sos-richmond.org



Neighbor care line
510.806.8650

From: [David Stevens](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public comment agenda item X.1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 12:39:46 PM

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

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My name is David Stevens.

I am a long-time Richmond resident.

I am a 75-year-old Navy veteran.

In the 47 years that my wife and I have been married, we have never missed an opportunity to vote.

You can count on both our "YES" votes for the "Make Polluters Pay Tax" this coming November if you do the right thing and put this on the ballot.

God bless this City Council for protecting the people of Richmond.

From: [David Tishler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 1:41:57 PM

This email originated from outside of the City's email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

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Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

The Chevron Richmond Refinery has been a leader in minimizing emissions both on and off the roadway.

Every gallon of diesel sold by Chevron in northern CA goes through the Renewable diesel injection blending system I designed. We lead the way with that design.

All new gasoline and other light end tankage tanks that I built up to and including the ones finished after my retirement have new Aluminum domes.

This additional item is expensive and isn't necessary for safe product storage. It will help reduce product storage emissions greatly.

I also domed other older tanks to offset emissions from other expansions made to the plants.

The latter part of my career was involved with new renewable projects, and emission prevention.

These project's cost chevron over \$100 million in investments that didn't improve profits or increase production. All this was done for the community.

I even spent hours/days in meetings with the air district board's representatives discussing/teaching how to dome and retrofit older tanks.

Making them pay an additional tax burden could affect the company's plans for the future of the Richmond refinery.

There has been occasional talk of it being reduced to a storage facility.

That alone would devastate the counties job market, reduce union labor and starve local community labor who all survive by working at the refinery. It would affect many contractors, plant security personnel, suppliers, and their offspring.

The refinery's tenants are Do it right or not at all. They are the envy of all the other refineries in regards to their stand and the safety of its employees and the community. A vote for this new tax burden is a vaote against everthing I have mentioned above.

David Tishler
Retired Senior Project Manager Chevron.

Sincerely,

David Tishler
3 Brentwood Dr
San Rafael, CA 94901-1404

From: [Edwin Niccolls](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 1:57:48 PM

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Dear Public Docket,

Dear Councilmembers Robinson, Willis, and Zepeda,

Having lived in the Bay Area for decades (my sister-in-law was a Richmond Council member years ago) I appreciate your efforts and the progress made in Richmond. At the same time, it seems counter-productive to force any one business to pay a disproportionately large tax.

The East Bay Times calls the potential tax a "Chevron tax". Chevron has been a good (not always perfect) partner which has helped Richmond in so many ways. I urge that with your leadership you can find ways to help Richmond and Chevron thrive.

The Refining Tax Act would be harmful to Richmond, Chevron, and especially to lower wage earners.

Sincerely,
Edwin Niccolls
58 Saddle Rd
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-2743

From: [Elaine Yamaguchi](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item X.1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 8:47:10 AM

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CALIFORNIA SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

2950 MERCED STREET, SUITE 225
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA 94577-5669
(510) 351-9922 fax: (510) 351-9923
office@calacs.org www.calacs.org

Dear Richmond City Council,

As a representative of a nonprofit organization (American Chemical Society (ACS)) in our community, I express my group's opposition to the Richmond Refining Tax Act. While I acknowledge the importance of responsible taxation, we believe this specific measure unfairly targets Chevron, a vital contributor to our community.

Chevron has been a partner of the ACS and its Project Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged (SEED) internship program since the late 80s. This nine-week paid internship places Richmond high school chemistry students in labs to perform meaningful scientific research under the mentorship of a Chevron scientist. The program provides young people in our community not only a paid summer experience, with high quality mentoring, but also a sense of Chevron's cutting-edge research to develop energy solutions. To date, the program has supported over 200 high school students. This opportunity is so valuable because it allows chemistry students from the West Contra Costa schools to experience full time work, most for the first time. After a rigorous interview process, drug testing, and onboarding, these students meet their individual mentors. According to ACS rules, the student must be supervised at all times, and Chevron management allows for this time investment. In addition, Chevron pays all the student fellowships. How else could students under the age of 18 work in a Chevron facility? Currently, there are two former SEED students working in the Richmond Technology Center after graduating from college in technical fields.

This is just one of the education programs that Chevron funds. Since 2012, they have contributed over \$48 million to community programs as well as provided an additional \$35 million in seed funding for the Richmond Promise, ensuring every Richmond high school graduate has access to college scholarships. In this regard, one former SEED student from Richmond High School won this scholarship and graduated from UC Santa Cruz. Chevron's overall commitment has made a significant impact, from enhancing STEM education in WCCUSD schools to supporting workforce development and aiding those experiencing homelessness.

Furthermore, Chevron's employees actively engage with the community, volunteering countless hours to local efforts, such as SEED. I have coordinated the ACS SEED program in northern CA for over 40 years, while employed as a chemist for Chevron Oronite and in retirement. I reached out to students, teachers, and parents in a wide area far beyond Richmond and was proud to tell these folks that Chevron is the

only industrial worksite in our SEED program. Chevron employees' dedication and willingness to lend a helping hand demonstrate genuine investment in Richmond and beyond. I believe punitive policies targeting Chevron will harm our community. Therefore, I urge you to vote against the Richmond Refining Tax Act.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. S. Yamaguchi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "E".

E. S. Yamaguchi
Fellow, ACS
Fellow, Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineering
Coordinator, CA Section ACS SEED program

Dr. Elaine S. Yamaguchi ~ [1741 Wesley Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530 ~ 510-234-0938 ~ eyamaguchi08@gmail.com](mailto:eyamaguchi08@gmail.com)

From: [Elizabeth Evans](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:30:50 PM

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The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Evans
PO Box 10046
American Canyon, CA 94503-0046

From: [Dante Patrick Lejon 1hundredyears](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item X.1
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 7:46:03 PM

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Dear Richmond City Council,

We hear a lot of talk about what Richmond needs. But did the backers of this proposal actually engage with the community? Did they consult the organizations that serve our community to understand their needs? Unfortunately, the answer is no. We believe in collaborative decision-making and equitable resource distribution to benefit the people in Richmond who require the most support. This proposed tax doesn't seem to address those critical issues. Our focus should be on policies that enhance the quality of life for all Richmond residents without negatively impacting the cost of living. Therefore, we strongly urge you to vote against the Oil Refining Business License Tax.

1 Hundred Years Enterprise Foundation has significantly benefited from Chevron's support. Through the ECIA grants, which Chevron established with \$6 million for the City of Richmond, we've received funding for our work rooted in transformative justice, healing of youth and other vulnerable populations. Additionally, we've gained mentorship and a place of business at CoBiz, an establishment Chevron has provided with over \$3 million to promote economic development in downtown Richmond. Furthermore, we're proud to be direct recipients of the Richmond Refinery's social investments, which supports our work at Sylvester Greenwood Academy. This WCCUSD school faces significant resource challenges, and many students encounter difficulties beyond the norm. Chevron was the pioneering funder of our mission to engage these youth as credible messengers, guiding them toward positive paths and often disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline.

1 Hundred Years Enterprise Foundation firmly believes collaboration between Richmond City leaders, the Chevron Richmond Refinery, and community members—conducted openly and transparently—serves the best interests of everyone. This tax does not seem to have been developed in this spirit. As dedicated frontline community workers, we have significant concerns regarding its potential negative long-term impacts. We advocate for policies that improve the well-being of all Richmond residents, without risking an increase in living expenses. We encourage you to vote against the Oil Refining Business License Tax.

Sincerely,

Lejon Faheem Reese

Patrick Scott

Dante Gaines

Founders of 1 Hundred Years Enterprise Foundation

From: [George Smith](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 1:42:14 PM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
George Smith
52 Briargrove Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94597

From: [Jeff Massey](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:24 AM

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Sincerely,
Jeff Massey
76139 S 300 Rd
Wagoner, OK 74467-9461

From: [Jered Burns](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:39:08 AM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Jered Burns
815 Dodd Ct
Bay Point, CA 94565-6759

From: [Jesse Rodriguez](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 12:21:35 PM

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Sincerely,
Jesse Rodriguez
3901 Nevin Ave
Richmond, CA 94805-2236

From: johnz@mahays.com
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comments Agenda Item X.1
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 3:16:42 PM
Attachments: [2829_001.pdf](#)

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John W. Ziesenhenne
M.A. Hays Co. Lic. #0675383
232 Broadway. Richmond, Ca. 94804
510-235-0353 x 114

From: Canon <mahaysinsurance@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 3:15 PM
To: John Ziesenhenne <johnz@mahays.com>
Subject: scans

June 17, 2024

Mayor E. Martinez

Richmond City Council

Dear City of Richmond Elected Officials,

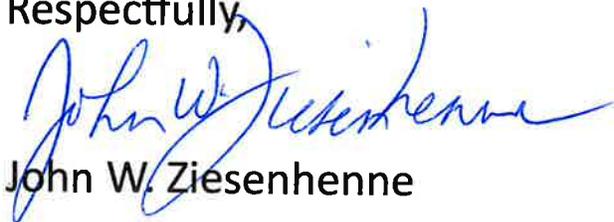
As a life long resident and business owner, I am opposed to the Richmond Refining Tax. The Richmond Refinery is the largest employer and taxpayer. The Refinery is an economic engine for the City of Richmond and has been for over 100 years.

In addition, the Refinery has donated more than \$48 million in needed funding to local non-profits, which are part of the fabric of our city.

Thirdly, singling out a specific business and taxing them, I believe, is illegal. City Hall and its elected officials should be a partner of the business community.

I urge all of Councilmembers and Mayor to vote "No" on the Refinery Tax.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John W. Ziesenhenn".

John W. Ziesenhenn

From: [Joseph Teixeira](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:24 AM

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Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

This measure was written by special interests and the Richmond Progressive Alliance. Chevron did not have an opportunity to provide input as a major stakeholder affected and any input sought appears to be one sided.

The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Joseph Teixeira
15600 Byron Hwy
Byron, CA 94514-1626

From: [Josh DePatta](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:21 AM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Josh DePatta
809 S McDowell Blvd
Petaluma, CA 94954-4438

From: [Larry Hopkins](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:27 AM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

I am a 2nd generation Chevron employee & have over 34 years with this company as both a contractor & a Chevron employee. I have multiple family members that work at the facility both for Chevron & as contractors. I have seen multiple changes in the refinery over the years in regards to safety measures taken & system upgrades in order to improve not only the safety of the workers inside the refinery, but also those in the surrounding communities. We strive for incident free operations & are always looking to improve on keeping our incidents to a minimum with little to no public impact, this includes flare minimization.

I ask once again Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Larry Hopkins
1031 Orchid Dr
Brentwood, CA 94513-6101

From: [Larry Lewis](#)
To: [Mayors Office](#); [Soheila Bana](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Gayle McLaughlin](#); [Melvin Willis](#); [Doria Robinson](#); [Cesar Zepeda](#); [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Cc: johnz@mahays.com; bobbycret@gmail.com; [Jill Rodby](#); [Donna Newton \(dnewkidd@gmail.com\)](mailto:dnewkidd@gmail.com)
Subject: Richmond Refining Tax Act
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 1:47:11 PM
Attachments: [Richmond Refining Tax Act.pdf](#)

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Mayor Martinez and Richmond City Council members,

Please find a letter from Richmond PAL regarding our thoughts about the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act and Chevron's community support of Richmond and its youth.

Best,

Larry Lewis, ED
510-685-1894



Richmond Police Activities League
2200 Macdonald Avenue
234 - 22nd St.
Richmond, CA 94801

Phone: 510 621 1221
Fax: 510 215 8085
www.rpal.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 16, 2024

JOHN ZIESENHENE, PRESIDENT
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LT. JOSEPH SCHLEMMER VICE
PRESIDENT
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MIKE BOOKER, LIEUTENANT
RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Allwyn Brown, Police Chief
Richmond Police Department

ROBERT CONNOLLY
THE MECHANICS BANK

Michael Davenport
DP Security

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WCCUSD

JERROLD HATCHETT
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TERRY HUDSON
RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT
RETIRED CAPTAIN

ART JOHNSON
RICHMOND POLICE DEPT.
CAPTAIN, RETIRED

Randy Riddle
Renne, Sloan, Holzman & Sakal

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HONORARY MEMBERS

CHRIS ARDISSONE
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GEORGE MILLER
US REPRESENTATIVE
CALIFORNIA 7TH DISTRICT

C.A. ROBERTSON
RICHMOND PAL, FOUNDER
POLICE OFFICER, RETIRED

Mayor Eduardo Martinez
Richmond City Council Members

Dear Honorable Mayor Martinez and Richmond City Council,

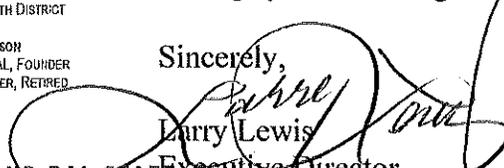
As a lifetime Richmond resident, retired RPD Peace Officers and a dedicated frontline Richmond community worker, I write to express our opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act. While we acknowledge the necessity of responsible taxation, we firmly believe this specific measure unfairly singles out Chevron—a vital contributor to our community.

Did you know over the past decade, the Chevron Richmond Refinery has provided more than \$48 million in funding to local non-profits? RPAL is one of many that has benefited from Chevron's commitment to social impacts. Their partnership currently empowers Richmond girls in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). The refinery's contribution fosters confidence, celebrates individuality, and connects youth with positive mentors. Additionally, Chevron's backing of RPAL's culinary center is essential for teaching real-world knowledge and skills around food and nutrition, especially in a food desert like Richmond.

Chevron's employees actively engage with our community and have volunteered countless hours to support RPAL. Chevron employees have saved RPAL thousands of dollars by resurfacing our gym floor every year since we opened. The human energy they bring reflects their employees' dedication and genuine investment in Richmond's well-being. And every year, we can count on them to sponsor community events like the city's annual Juneteenth celebration, National Night Out, and Cinco de Mayo.

Our concern lies in the Richmond Refining Tax Act's potential impact on long-term initiatives. Prioritizing short-term financial gains may hinder sustained investments that benefit Richmond residents. RPAL firmly believes that collaboration between Richmond City leaders, the refinery, and community members—conducted openly and transparently—serves the best interests of everyone. This tax does not seem to have been developed in this spirit. We want to see policies that enhance the quality of life for all Richmond residents, not potentially impact cost of living. Therefore, we urge you to vote against this refining tax.

Sincerely,


Larry Lewis
Executive Director

RICHMOND PAL STAFF

Larry Lewis, Executive Director · Pandora Turner, Assistant Executive Director · Jerry Anderson, Operations Manager · Shantina Jackson, Mentoring Program Coordinator · Sharon Scott, Grant Coordinator · Beatrice Ross, Youth Program Leader · Brandon Davis, Youth Program Leader · Courtney Cumming, Outreach Coordinator · Teyona Galloway, Marketing Coordinator · John Island, Boxing Coordinator

From: [Levi Shaner](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:28:54 PM

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The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Levi Shaner
1966 Market Place Sq
Rio Vista, CA 94571-5179

From: [Mark Hughes](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item X-1 (Proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax - June 18, 2024 City Council Meeting)
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 3:40:54 AM
Attachments: [IACCC Letter to the Richmond City Council re Oil Reining Business License Tax.doc.docx](#)

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Pamela Christian,

I'm submitting the attached letter related to Item X-1 on the June 18, 2024 City Council agenda, and ask that you incorporate it into the official public record. I also sent this letter to Mayor Martinez and the rest of the City Council.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.,

Mark Hughes

Mark Hughes
Executive Director
Industrial Association of Contra Costa County
(707) 656-1765



THE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION
OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Richmond City Council
440 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804
June 12, 2024

Dear Richmond City Council,

The Industrial Association represents a wide coalition of industrial, manufacturing, labor, and other businesses. We work to bring stakeholders together to grow the economic vitality within the Bay Area. We are concerned with the City's proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax and urge you to vote NO on Agenda Item X-1.

Richmond has a storied history of manufacturing and industry of all types. As the City has grown and evolved, so have the economic engines that provide the pillars of support for our shared economy. The City of Richmond should work to encourage growth of existing and new businesses. Unfortunately, this proposal achieves the opposite effect. Moreover, a sustainable city budget is one that is diversified and resilient so that government services are not reliant on one single company or industry for revenues and contributions.

We are concerned that this proposal puts the city at risk and will have broad negative impacts on our local and regional economic activity. The fact is, there has been no attempt at an analysis to understand how this proposed tax may impact other revenue streams within the region, in addition to general economic growth. The cost to do business in Richmond is already expensive, especially with the recent passage of Measure U which raised business license taxes considerably. Over-taxing a facility that accounts for 20 percent of the fuel in our region's cars and trucks and 60 percent of the jet fuel at our airports will have impact on the cost of energy for all of in the Bay Area. Extreme tax burdens disincentive investment and drive potential businesses away. This is no way to grow the Richmond economy.

We urgently ask you to not proceed with this proposal. Please vote NO on Agenda Item X-1 related to the proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax.

Sincerely,

Mark Hughes
Executive Director
Industrial Association of Contra Costa County

From: [Mark Orcutt](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 8:41:23 AM
Attachments: [Richmond Refining Tax - June 2024.pdf](#)

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Richmond City Clerk:

Please see attached comments from the East Bay Leadership Council related to the proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax.

Best,
Mark Orcutt

Mark Orcutt | He/Him
President & CEO | East Bay Leadership Council
O: 925-246-1880 | C: 415-312-1394
www.eastbayleadershipcouncil.com



June 18th, 2024

Richmond City Council
440 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

Submitted via email: cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us

Richmond City Council Members:

For nearly 90 years, the East Bay Leadership Council (EBLC) has been on a mission to strengthen the economy and improve the quality of life in our region. As a prominent public policy advocacy organization representing hundreds of employers across Contra Costa and Alameda Counties, the EBLC understands the profound impact that local policy decisions have on the health of the regional economy. Ensuring that Richmond remains a city where businesses and residents thrive is essential to delivering on our mission.

That's why EBLC urges you to reconsider the Oil Refining Business License Tax, which fails to strike a just balance between equitable economic progress and fiscal responsibility. An additional \$100 million-per-year tax would not only impact Chevron Richmond's ability to continue investing in its facility, but it also risks destabilizing our local and regional economy.

Chevron is an essential provider of the energy needed to fuel the Bay Area economy. The facility provides 60 percent of all the jet fuel used at all Bay Area airports, 20 percent of the automobile gasoline for our region, and serves as a major research and development hub for the energy industry's future. Simply put, Chevron has put the East Bay on the map as a national model for an all-of-the-above energy future.

Focusing substantial taxes on a single employer can lead to economic instability. When a city relies heavily on revenue from one source, it becomes vulnerable to fluctuations in that industry, potentially leaving Richmond increasingly susceptible to cuts in vital services and infrastructure projects. This lack of diversification in revenue sources is not sustainable.

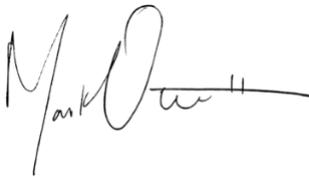
Additionally, we fear this tax increase may threaten Chevron's long-term viability in Richmond. If the tax burden becomes too heavy, Chevron might consider relocating operations to more tax-friendly regions. This would result in significant job losses and increased energy costs for East Bay residents, further exacerbating the economic challenges faced by lower-income East Bay residents.

The manufacturing sector, including Chevron, has a significant multiplier effect on job creation. For every job created within the manufacturing sector, additional jobs are generated in related industries such as supply chain, retail, and professional services. This ripple effect supports the broader local economy and contributes to its vibrancy. Moreover, Chevron provides good-paying union jobs that support families and sustain the middle class. A tax that drives Chevron out of town would put these jobs at risk, causing economic harm to many working families and reducing the overall quality of life in the region.

The East Bay's regional economy and quality of life depend on companies like Chevron delivering affordable energy to the region. EBLC urges you to carefully consider the many harmful consequences of this measure before placing it on the ballot. We believe that a more balanced approach would better support the region's well-being and the fiscal health of Richmond.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Orcutt", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Orcutt
President & CEO
East Bay Leadership Council

From: [Michael Davis](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:22 AM

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Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

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The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Michael Davis
77 Upper Fremont Dr
San Rafael, CA 94901-2613

From: [Miriam Wong](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: public comments agenda item X.1
Date: Friday, June 14, 2024 6:50:22 PM
Attachments: [tlcJune 12.pdf](#)

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Good afternoon,
Please see the attached letter.
Thank you,

Miriam Wong
Executive Director
The Latina Center
mwong@thelatinacenter.org



THE LATINA CENTER

3701 Barrett Ave. Richmond, CA 94805 (510) 233-8595 info@thelatinacenter.org

The mission of The Latina Center is to improve the quality of life and health of the Latino community by providing leadership and personal development opportunities for all Latinas

June 12, 2024

Dear Richmond City Council,

As representatives of nonprofit organizations and frontline workers in our community, we express our opposition to the Richmond Refining Tax Act. While we acknowledge the importance of responsible taxation, we believe this specific measure unfairly targets Chevron, a vital contributor to our community. Chevron has been a partner of Latina Center since 2014, with funding that works to improve economic self-sufficiency for in the community. Chevron in the only business sponsor of this project, nurturing microenterprises for Latinx immigrant women to promote empowerment and create and sustain jobs in Richmond. The independence that comes with financial self-sufficiency is even more critical for the communities that the Latina Center supports due to the pandemic.

Chevron has been an integral part of Richmond, providing substantial support through various initiatives. Since 2012, they have contributed over \$48 million to community programs as well as provided an additional \$35 million in seed funding for the Richmond Promise—ensuring every Richmond high school graduate has access to college scholarships. Their commitment has made a significant impact, from enhancing STEM education in WCCUSD schools to supporting workforce development and aiding those experiencing homelessness.

Furthermore, Chevron's employees actively engage with the community, volunteering countless hours to local efforts. Their dedication and willingness to lend a helping hand demonstrate genuine investment in Richmond. We believe punitive policies targeting Chevron will harm our community. Therefore, we urge you to vote against the Richmond Refining Tax Act.

Let us continue to foster a collaborative environment where businesses and community members work together for the betterment of Richmond.

Sincerely,

Miriam Wong
Executive Director
The Latina Center

From: [Monica Roach](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:22 AM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Monica Roach
4596 Cove Ln
Discovery Bay, CA 94505-1300

From: [Patricia Weeden](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:33:03 PM

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Patricia Weeden
100 Chevron Way
Richmond, CA 94801-2016

From: [Pratima Patel](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 5:34:41 AM

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Dear Public Docket,

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Pratima Patel
4816 Skyhawk Dr
Richmond, CA 94803-2140

From: [Quanah Brightman](#)
To: [Melvin Willis](#); [Gayle McLaughlin](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Soheila Bana](#)
Cc: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: United Native Americans supports the Proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure to the voters at the November 5, 2024, election. #polluterspay.
Date: Saturday, June 15, 2024 10:39:15 AM
Importance: High

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RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL
June 18, 2024
Agenda Item X.1

"Consideration of an Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure for November 5, 2024, Election."

We as United Native Americans fully supports the Proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure to the voters at the November 5, 2024.

We as United Native Americans asks that the Richmond City Council Votes Yes on passing a historic Polluters Pay measure in order to Help Save Our Mother Earth and All Life that is Sacred.

UNA's Legacy servicing all Indigenous Tribal Nations and Tribal Citizens in California and Globally since being Founded in 1968 in the San Francisco Bay Area.

We hope that the Richmond City Council moves forward to Protecting its residence's safety and begin promoting the health of California's economy by **granting voters the chance to pass the**

Proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure.

Sincerely,

Quanah Parker Brightman
Executive Director of
United Native Americans
(510) 672-7187
linktr.ee/unitednativeamericans



PLEASE MAKE A CONTRIBUTION 🖱️
HTTPS://CASH.APP/\$QUANAHBRIGHTMAN



<https://linktr.ee/unitednativeamericans?fbclid=IwAR24I-yvulUNAF9LhDZ5Z161ocaQICsY7rd2oAKm-haxHUeajr1ENbohoRQ>

From: [Randy Thomas](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 4:00:19 PM

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Dear Public Docket,

My name is Randy Thomas and I am the Business Manager/ Secretary Treasurer of Boilermakers Local 549 in Pittsburg, Ca. I represent just under 1000 Skilled and Trained Union Boilermakers, many that live in this community and earn their living at this Refinery.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

This measure was written by special interests and the Richmond Progressive Alliance. Chevron did not have an opportunity to provide input as a major stakeholder affected and any input sought appears to be one sided.

The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

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Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Randy Thomas
2191 Piedmont Way
Pittsburg, CA 94565-5017

From: [Rauly Butler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item # X.1 Oil Refining Tax
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 10:22:03 AM
Attachments: [Richmond Refining Tax 06182024.docx](#)

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Please see attached for tonight's city council meeting

Council of Business and Industries
Rauly Butler, Executive Director
PO Box 70088
Richmond, CA 94807
Mobile 510-215-9325
Email rauly@councilofindustries.com



COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIES
P.O. BOX 70088, PT. RICHMOND, CA 94807
(510)215-9325

In Opposition

Item X.1 Oil Refining Business License Tax

Richmond City Council
440 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, CA 94804

June 18, 2024

Dear Richmond City Council,

The Board of Directors of the Council of Business and Industries "COI" urges you to vote NO on the proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax. Instead, we ask the City Council to appoint appropriate representatives to work toward a mutually beneficial agreement that addresses revenue concerns from the expiration of the current agreement in July 2025.

The current proposal puts the City of Richmond and the communities in Northern CA. at risk as it will have broad negative impacts on economic activity. The cost of living is already expensive in both Richmond and California as a whole. This tax will only further drive up prices for consumers, businesses, and municipalities.

COI membership has several concerns regarding the proposed tax ordinance:

1. **No Outreach:** First is that no outreach to Chevron was made. The Chevron refinery is the largest employer in Richmond and it is also the City's largest taxpayer. The lack of outreach means that this tax proposal does not have input from key stakeholders and does not represent Richmond as a whole. This ordinance was created by others, in a vacuum, and does not represent a balanced approach.
2. **Financial Impact:** There is significant concern regarding the impact to consumers and businesses. The proposed tax applies at the crude oil level, and as is obvious, not every gallon of crude oil results in a gallon of fuel. Thus, the impact will be even greater at the retail level.
3. **Financial Risk:** Richmond will see significant increases in revenue if this proposal takes effect. It is estimated that the City of Richmond may ultimately rely on Chevron for over 50% of its budget revenue. This concentration of revenue is not prudent and could create financial risks for the city if the refinery were offline for any period of time or if production is shifted to lower cost sites.
4. **Regulatory Risk:** If enacted, the costs of energy and refinery products will rise in cities and counties throughout Northern CA; Richmond will also see those costs rise but will experience huge revenue increases that other cities will not. These negatively impacted communities may seek statewide regulation which provides relief from increased costs, which could eventually lead to limits or reductions placed on the City of Richmond.



COUNCIL OF INDUSTRIES
P.O. BOX 70088, PT. RICHMOND, CA 94807
(510)215-9325

We do not need new taxes developed by others. What is necessary is communication and collaboration which results in policies that bring additional businesses to Richmond and that allow those businesses to thrive.

Let us put Richmond First. We urgently ask you to reconsider the proposed new tax and to begin a dialogue with Chevron.

Sincerely,

Rauly Butler

Rauly Butler

Executive Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors

From: [GNADE GNADE](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Richmond Chamber requesting a NO vote on Barrel tax
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 11:41:14 PM
Attachments: [Letter to Richmond City Council regarding a barrel tax on Oil Refining - 6.18.24.pdf](#)

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You don't often get email from gnadellc@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear City Clerk,

Can you please submit this letter to the council members for tonight's meeting?
Please confirm,

Thanks, Rich Doellstedt
Chair, Richmond Chamber of Commerce



Board of Directors

Subject: Public Comments – Agenda Item X.1

Board of Directors

*Chair Doellstedt, Rich
(Richmond Wholesale
Meat)*

*Chair-Elect Wally,
Sarah (PLANN-A
Development, LLC)
Operations*

*Ziesenhennel, John
(M.A. Hays Insurance
Co.)*

*Past Chair: Hakim
Johnson (Chevron)
Vice Chair: Whitmore,
Vernon (Whitmore &
Majors*

*Brown, Kevin (Riggers
Loft Wine Company-
R&B Cellars)*

*Burrell, Y'Anad
(EBMUD)*

*Butt Daniel (Law
Office of Butt)*

*Handoush, Zee (7
Stars)*

*Lau, Ryan (AC
Transit)*

*Lightner, Robert (East
Brother Beer
Company)*

*Ochoa, Gonzalo (GO
Tires)*

*Portillo-Knowles
Andrea (Richmond
Main Street)*

*Robinson, Willie
(NAACP)*

*Rodby, Jill (Sims
Metal)*

Staff

*James Lee
(President/CEO)*

*Sofia Lopez
Membership*

Director

Dear Richmond City Council,

The Richmond Chamber of Commerce urges you to vote NO on the proposed Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure (Agenda Item X.1) being discussed on Tuesday, June 18th.

We feel that further targeting businesses for the city's revenue stream is the wrong approach to long-term economic vitality. The city has already increased revenues above its projections by passing the Measure U business license tax.

We need policies and incentives that encourage businesses to operate in our city. This proposal puts the city at risk and will have broad negative impacts on our local economic activity. The cost of living is already expensive in Richmond and this tax will only further drive-up prices for consumers.

We urgently ask you to reconsider the direction you are taking. Put the good of Richmond, and the businesses that support our community, first.

Thank you,

The Board of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce
Sincerely, Rich Doellstedt, chair

From: [Ronald Riker](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2024 9:20:39 AM

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Dear Public Docket,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Richmond Refining Tax Act.

This measure was written by special interests and the Richmond Progressive Alliance. Chevron did not have an opportunity to provide input as a major stakeholder affected and any input sought appears to be one sided.

The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Ronald Riker
851 Camellia Way
Vacaville, CA 95688-6903

From: [Sarah Taliaferro](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:53:19 AM

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Dear Public Docket,

Hello,

I am a resident of Richmond and also an employee of the Richmond Refinery.

This is a letter to share my opposition to the Richmond Refining Tax Act.

As a community member, I listen to my neighbors. The complaints are clear: The RPA does not support the long- or short-term interests of Richmond. They have continually mucked up legislation and misspent funds, hampering progress in Richmond. We have crime, trash, potholes that wreck your car, growing homeless population, you can't throw a rock and not hit a liquor store or payday loan shop. Yet we have a skewed tax system on our businesses and an unclear path for where that money ends up.

As an insider to the refinery, this facility pays more than it's share to the city of Richmond in the forms of taxes and fees.

Not only will this tax drive up the cost of gasoline and diesel (and all hydrocarbon-based fuels) in the bay area, but it will also detract from the available pool of money to make improvements in the refinery and facilities. I just want to play rec soccer and softball on a nice field not full of yard-high weeds and ankle-breaking gopher holes.

The oil industry is not one giant, uniform cash cow. Refining is a slim margin business - it is high risk, low reward. Chevron spends a mind-boggling amount of money on safety measures to mitigate that risk. This is the first priority. My soccer field is the last priority when it comes to funds dedication.

People live in Richmond not because it's nice but because it's cheap. They want community betterment. They want clean facilities and public spaces. They want SAFETY. They want healthcare. They want childcare so they can work. The city council needs to spend time on these initiatives instead of brainstorming new ways to tax the refinery. Another business tax will drive out further investment by new business interests. They will see an overburdened tax & fee system in an undesirable city. Why invest in Richmond when you risk continuous break-ins, drive-byes, graffiti, and excessive taxes that appear to go nowhere?

Please do not put the Richmond Refining Tax Act on the ballot.

Thank you,

Sarah

Sincerely,
Sarah Taliaferro
4716 Meadowbrook Dr

Richmond, CA 94803-2030

From: [Shad Young](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:50:45 AM

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The proposed tax increase will threaten to significantly raise the already high cost of living, burdening families who struggle to afford essentials like energy, housing, health and childcare. This proposal is the wrong approach to solving the challenges Richmond faces. We want Richmond to thrive, but not at the expense of its residents.

Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Shad Young
172 Brookdale Dr
Vacaville, CA 95687-6208

From: [Thom Leeds](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 7:47:13 PM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Thom Leeds
548 Star Lilly Dr
Vacaville, CA 95687-7759

From: [Wesley Lo](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept User](#)
Subject: Public Comments Agenda Item #X-1
Date: Tuesday, June 18, 2024 9:14:29 AM

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Don't let the special interests jeopardize Richmond's future. I urge you to work with all Richmond residents and businesses in an open and transparent manner to find real, sustainable solutions that do not increase Richmond's fiscal dependence on one company and burden the community.

Do NOT place the Richmond Refining Tax Act measure on the ballot.

Sincerely,
Wesley Lo
186 Hampshire Ave
Daly City, CA 94015-2836



Portal



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Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Name	Email	Comment	Position	Status
City Council						
6/18/2024 4:30 PM	Consideration of an Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure for November 5, 2024, Election	Lucinda Young	luyoung1313@gmail.com	I strongly support the Council's adoption of this resolution to submit this measure to voters for consideration.	For	Appro
6/18/2024 4:30 PM	Consideration of an Oil Refining Business License Tax Ballot Measure for November 5, 2024, Election	Terry Palumbo	atp39@yahoo.com	Hello, let's first start with state. Gavin Newsome signed California Assembly Bill 1228 into law which raised the minimum wage to \$20 an hour. What is the result? 9,500 fast food jobs have been lost since September 2023. Richmond had already lost both Pixar and the emergency call center to Emeryville. Both due to high costs. Now comes the very short-sighted plan to tax one company. For now, let's leave out the name of the company, but this we know, the	Against	Appro

company is a major part of the City of Richmond's tax base. What do you think would happen if that company said, you know what, we can't stay in business just like the fast-food industry? Do you think the other industries are going to make up the difference? Do you think any new business would come to Richmond? Well, they taxed this one company, what would prevent them from taxing us they would ask? Could the city really say, no we would never single you out? But you just did with this company they would say. There are always consequences for short-sighted plans. This is a very not well thought out proposal, because once the

impact has happened, you do not return back to the way it was if it is a disaster. Do not be fooled that this proposal solves your money issues. It will create a business flight out of the city. Vote no to this proposal. Thank, you.
