

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, September 24, 2024**

Community Services Building  
440 Civic Center Plaza  
Richmond, CA 94804

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**A. OPEN SESSION TO HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION**

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 4:31 p.m. by Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

**B. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Soheila Bana, Gayle McLaughlin, Doria Robinson, Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez. **Absent:** Councilmember Melvin Willis.

**C. CLOSED SESSION**

**C.1 LIABILITY CLAIMS (Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- Claimant: Khala Finley  
Agency claimed against: City of Richmond
- Claimant: Mark Hall  
Agency claimed against: City of Richmond

**C.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (paragraph (1) of Subdivision [d] of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- Richmond Shoreline Alliance v. City of Richmond
- Winehaven v. City of Richmond
- Thomas Butt v. Eduardo Martinez
- Thomas Butt v. Gayle McLaughlin

**C.3 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.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957)**

- Title: Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer

**C.5 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8)**

- Property: Point Molate (site of former Naval Shipyard Depot)  
Agency Negotiator: Dave Aleshire  
Negotiating Parties: East Bay Regional Park District & Tribe & Upstream Pt. Molate LLC  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**C.6 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6)**

- Agency Representatives: Sharrone Taylor and Jack Hughes

Employee organizations:

1. SEIU Local 1021 Full Time Unit and Part Time Unit
2. IFPTE Local 21 Mid-Level Management Unit and Executive Management Units
3. Richmond Police Officers Association RPOA
4. Richmond Police Management Association RPMA
5. IAFF Local 188
6. Richmond Fire Management Association RFMA

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

Cordell Hindler gave comments in person. Ben Therriault gave comments via teleconference.

**E. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 4:39 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

**F. REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL**

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Martinez.

**G. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Martinez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**H. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Soheila Bana, Gayle McLaughlin, Doria Robinson, Melvin Willis, Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

**Absent:** None.

**I. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**J. AGENDA REVIEW**

Item N.8.h (*Appointment of Oscar Flores to the Community Police Review Commission*) was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

A correction was made to Item P.2 (*Chevron Settlement Fund Intentions*). *The following revisions were made to Section 2, subsection f of the proposed resolution:*

Ensuring the availability of robust and fully supported City infrastructure and personnel resources, ~~essential to carry out the objectives of this section~~ **and well-staffed union jobs in services such as parks, job training, housing and homelessness, youth programs, libraries, senior centers, and essential services impacted by climate change like fire protection and fire prevention.**

Items P.1 (*Direct Staff to Conduct an Assessment, Study and Community Outreach on the Usage of Chevron's \$550 Million Payment Over the Next 10 Years*) and P.2 (*Chevron Settlement Fund Intentions*) were combined to be heard together.

A correction was made to item P.4 (*Discussion Regarding Proposed Amendments to Ordinance on Political Affiliates and Democratic Representation for Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces*). Section 1 of Attachment 1 was removed.

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

**C.1 LIABILITY CLAIMS (Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- Claimant: Khala Finley

- Agency claimed against: City of Richmond
- Claimant: Mark Hall
- Agency claimed against: City of Richmond

*Direction given to staff to proceed with settlement of both matters.*

**C.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (paragraph (1) of Subdivision [d] of Government Code Section 54956.9)**

- Richmond Shoreline Alliance v. City of Richmond
- Winehaven v. City of Richmond
- Thomas Butt v. Eduardo Martinez
- Thomas Butt v. Gayle McLaughlin

*Status report given on Richmond Shoreline Alliance v. City of Richmond; no reportable action. Winehaven v. City of Richmond was discussed during C.5. The other matters were not discussed, however the City Attorney announced that the City had won tentative victories in those cases.*

**C.3 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

*Discussed. No reportable action.*

**C.4 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957)**

- Title: Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer

*Discussed. No reportable action.*

**C.5 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8)**

- Property: Point Molate (site of former Naval Shipyard Depot)  
Agency Negotiator: Dave Aleshire  
Negotiating Parties: East Bay Regional Park District & Tribe & Upstream Pt. Molate LLC  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

*Status report given. No reportable action.*

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

Deputy City Manager Nickie Mastay presented a PowerPoint highlighting the following: Mobile Vendor Program scheduled for Thursdays and Saturdays at 1401 Macdonald Avenue from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Community Police Academy scheduled on Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (October 3 through November 21, 2024) at 1701 Regatta Boulevard; Wings Lift-Off Cohort scheduled for Fridays, October 4 through November 8, 2024, virtually and at the Family Justice Center; Greater Richmond Interfaith Program Harmony Walk scheduled for October 5, 2024, at Nicholl Park from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; and the Community Services Department's Fall activity guide.

**M. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

**(public comment on items that remain on the Consent Calendar or items not on the agenda - limited to 2 minutes unless otherwise specified - Back and forth dialogue with the Council is prohibited) - PLEASE KEEP YOUR COMMENTS RESPECTFUL!!**

The following individuals gave comments in person:

Cordell Hindler gave comments regarding street conditions and the need for an increase in police presence.

Naseem Essa gave comments in support of Richmond Police Officer Bashan.

Rick Perez gave comments regarding the Community Police Review Commission's limitations. Mr. Perez expressed concerns regarding police accountability.

Diana Wear announced that Taste of Richmond was scheduled for October 7, 2024, through October 13, 2024, at restaurants across the city. Ms. Wear invited the council to attend.

Mark Wassberg gave comments on the Proclamation recognizing August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness month.

Daniel Barth gave comments regarding suicide awareness, the Community Crisis Response Program's upcoming work, and transitional villages.

Veronica Ramos gave comments in support of local animal rescue Jelly's Place. Ms. Ramos spoke of the closure Jelly's Place is facing.

Julie Bainbridge gave comments regarding the potential closure of Jelly's Place. Ms. Bainbridge shared details on the work Jelly's Place does for the animals in the community.

Musa Tariq gave comments regarding the Proclamation recognizing August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness month and thanked the city for the recognition.

Harry Wiener gave comments congratulating the City Council on their successful negotiations with Chevron.

Jamin Pursell gave comments regarding pride events. Mr. Pursell suggested using Human Resources department budgeted funds to assist the Police department with personnel matters.

Monroe introduced himself to the audience.

Councilmember Cesar Zepeda announced that Jelly's Place had puppies available for adoption.

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference:

Keri Sullivan thanked the City Council for considering her to serve on the Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board.

Elsa Stevens gave comments in support of Councilmember Melvin Willis.

Hakeem Johnson invited the community to the annual Chevron Richmond Refinery Community Tour Day and car show on October 5, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Deborah Smalls gave comments in support of the Community Crisis Response Program and Councilmember Melvin Willis.

## **N. CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**Motion by** Councilmember Melvin Willis

**Seconded by** Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez

To approve all items on the consent calendar excluding item N.8.h (Appointment of Oscar Flores to the Community Police Review Commission).

Ayes (7): Councilmember Soheila Bana, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Councilmember Doria Robinson, Councilmember Melvin Willis, Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Passed (7 to 0)

#### **N.1 City Attorney's Office**

N.1.a Fifth Amendment to the Legal Services Agreement with Newdorf Legal

APPROVE a fifth amendment to the legal services agreement with Newdorf Legal for \$150,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$400,000 and term ending June 30, 2025 – City Attorney’s Office (Shannon Moore 510-620-6509).

N.1.b Legal Services Agreement with the City, Bradley Miller and Keller Rohrback LLP to evaluate claims on interest rate swap transactions

APPROVE a contingency fee representation agreement with Keller Rohrback L.L.P. and R. Bradley Miller, Esq. for legal services in a matter involving financial and other advice provided to the City by various parties regarding swaps and derivatives and AUTHORIZE the city attorney to make any necessary technical modifications to agreement before final execution - City Attorney’s Office (David Aleshire 510-620-6509).

#### **N.2 City Clerk's Office**

N.2.a Carahsoft/DocuSign Agreement

APPROVE a fourth contract amendment with Carahsoft/DocuSign piggybacking on CMAS contract #3-20-70-2247G between the State of California and Carahsoft/DocuSign for the term of September 30, 2024, to September 29, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$15,170.70 - City Clerk's Office (Pamela Christian 510-620-6513).

#### **N.3 City Council**

N.3.a Proclamation recognizing August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness as designated by the State of California

PROCLAMATION recognizing the month of August as American Muslim Appreciation and Awareness Month as designated by the State of California, and commending Muslim communities in California for the positive impacts they have made towards the advancement of our city and country - Councilmember Soheila Bana (510-620-6743) and Mayor Eduardo Martinez (510-620-6503).

N.3.b Proclamation to declare the month of September as National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month

PROCLAMATION declaring the month of September as National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month in the City of Richmond - Councilmember Soheila Bana (510-620-6743).

#### **N.4 Community Development**

N.4.a Repeal of Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 9.64 - Prohibition of Natural Gas Infrastructure in Newly Constructed Buildings

INTRODUCE an ordinance (first reading) repealing Chapter 9.64 to the Richmond Municipal Code (RMC), which bans natural gas infrastructure in new construction - Community Development Department (Lina Velasco/Avery Stark 510-620-6714).

- N.4.b Final Third-Party Review Report of the Chevron Richmond Refinery February 9, 2021, Oil Spill Incident Investigation

RECEIVE the written Final Third-Party Review Report of the Chevron Richmond Refinery February 9, 2021, Oil Spill Incident Investigation – Community Development Department (Lina Velasco 510-620-6841).

## **N.5 Economic Development**

- N.5.a Resolution to Approve Final Payment to WR Forde Associates, Inc. for Services Rendered for Leak Repair in 2020

ADOPT a resolution to approve the final payment of \$16,290.08 to WR Forde Associates, Inc. for services rendered for the Leak Repair Project in the year 2020; and ACCEPT the completed project and formal close out the project; and AUTHORIZE the city manager, or their designee, to execute any necessary documentation to process the final payment and close out the agreement – Economic Development Department (Charles Gerard 510-829-2253/Lizeht Zepeda 510-620-6653/Kyle Lam 510-620-6802).

**Adopted Resolution No. 103-24**

## **N.6 Finance Department**

- N.6.a Investment and Cash Balance Report, Monthly Overtime Reports, and Documentary Transfer Tax Report for the Month of July 2024

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

## **N.7 Fire Department**

- N.7.a Service Contract with Bauer Compressors, Inc. to Provide Preventative Maintenance and Repairs to Air Products and Air Compressor Systems

APPROVE a sole-source contract with Bauer Compressors, Inc for preventative maintenance and repair of the Fire Department's self-contained breathing apparatus systems in an amount not to exceed \$30,000, for a three-year term effective September 11, 2024, through September 10, 2027, with two one-year extension options not to exceed an additional \$20,000 for the total extended term – Fire Department (Chief Michael E. Smith 510-307-8041/Deputy Chief Aaron Osorio 510-307-8021/Battalion Chief Anthony Woodards 510-620-6989/Den Mark Marcelo 510-307-8038).

## **N.8 Mayor's Office**

- N.8.a Appointment of Kiara Kempfski Richmond Arts and Culture Commission

APPOINT Kiara Kempfski to the Richmond Arts and Culture Commission with a term that expires on January 31, 2027 – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.b Appointment of Michael Gliksohn to the Economic Development Commission

APPOINT Michael Gliksohn to the Economic Development Commission with a term ending March 30, 2025 - Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.c Appointment of Eric Moseley to the Commission on Aging

APPOINT Eric Moseley to the Commission on Aging with a term that expires on May 19, 2025 – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.d Appointment of Keri Sullivan to Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board

APPOINT Keri Sullivan to the Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board. The current term ending on December 31, 2025, serves as a placeholder. Terms will be established at a later date once a quorum has been appointed – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.e Appointment of Alice LoCicero to Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board

APPOINT Alice LoCicero to the Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board. The current term ending on December 31, 2025, serves as a placeholder. Terms will be established at a later date once a quorum has been appointed – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.f Appointment of Rosie Rendon to Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board

APPOINT Rosie Rendon to the Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board. The current term ending on December 31, 2025, serves as a placeholder. Terms will be established at a later date once a quorum has been appointed – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.g Appointment of Sahai Burrowes to Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board

APPOINT Sahai Burrowes to the Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board. The current term ending on December 31, 2025, serves as a placeholder. Terms will be established at a later date once a quorum has been appointed – Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

N.8.h Appointment of Oscar Flores to the Community Police Review Commission

APPOINT Oscar Flores to the Community Police Review Commission with a term that expires on November 1, 2027 - Mayor's Office (Mayor Eduardo Martinez 510-620-6503).

Mayor Martinez introduced the item. Mayor Martinez gave background information on the appointment process and why the choice was made to appoint Oscar Flores. Ben Therriault and Deborah Smalls gave comments via teleconference. Discussion ensued.

**Motion by** Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez  
**Seconded by** Councilmember Melvin Willis

To appoint Oscar Flores to the Community Police Review Commission with a term that expires on November 1, 2027.

Ayes (6): Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Councilmember Doria Robinson, Councilmember Melvin Willis, Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Abstentions (1): Councilmember Soheila Bana

Passed (6 to 1)

## **N.9 Public Works**

### **N.9.a Abatement Report from the Director of Public Works**

RECEIVE written abatement reports from the Director of Public Works for the months of June, July, and August - Public Works Department (Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478).

## **O. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **O.1 Renaming the Section of Spring Street South of Cutting Boulevard to Pedie Perez Avenue to Memorialize the Life of Richard “Pedie” Perez III**

HOLD a public hearing to rename the section of Spring Street South of Cutting Boulevard to Pedie Perez Avenue to memorialize the life of Richmond “Pedie” Perez III - Councilmember Soheila Bana (510-620-6743).

Councilmember Bana gave an overview of the item. Mayor Martinez opened the public hearing. Cordell Hindler, Patricia Perez, Rick Perez, Karen, and Jamin Pursell gave comments in person. Davjane, Emily Ross, and Marisol Cantu gave comments via teleconference. Mayor Martinez closed the public hearing.

A motion was made to approve the item. Councilmember Bana invited the community to the unveiling of the street's new name on October 26, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

**Motion by** Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez  
**Seconded by** Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin

Ayes (7): Councilmember Soheila Bana, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Councilmember Doria Robinson, Councilmember Melvin Willis, Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Passed (7 to 0)

**Adopted Resolution No. 104-24**

### **O.2 Appeal of Encroachment Permit (#EN23-00843) Denial for Up and Under Pub & Grill BBQ Smoker**

ADOPT a resolution denying the appeal and upholding the City Engineer’s decision to deny encroachment permit application #EN23-00843 submitted by Nathan Trivers, owner of Up & Under Pub & Grill, to place a BBQ smoker on the public sidewalk/street in front of 2 West Richmond Avenue based on fire safety concerns, municipal code violations, community complaints, public right-of-way issues and failure to comply with other applicable state and local regulations – Public Works Department (Robert Armijo 510-620-5477/Daniel Chavarria 510-620-5478).

Deputy Public Works Director Robert Armijo introduced the item. Mr. Armijo presented a PowerPoint highlighting the following: background; city engineer's reasons for denial; denial point 1- incomplete application; denial point 2 - fire code compliance; denial point 3 - municipal code violations; denial point 4 - community complaints; denial point 5 - public right of way management; denial point 6 - planning division comments; denial point 7 - building division comments; staff analysis; and staff recommendation. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Martinez opened the public hearing. Appellant Nathan Trivers gave a statement. Deputy Public Works Director Armijo and Fire Marshall Eric Munson gave a statement.

Cordell Hindler, Carol Burdick, Ashley Skinner, Goodarz Abolghasem, Kerri Smith, Jaclyn Brewer, Gerry Mcavoy, Tony Carreci, Josh Wilson, and Marche Ciello gave comments in person. Katie Carter, Daniel Butt, Shawn Dunning, and Lynne Therriault gave comments via teleconference.

Mr. Trivers gave a rebuttal statement. Deputy Public Works Director Armijo gave a rebuttal statement. Discussion ensued. Council suggested staff try working with the appellant on a solution that allows the BBQ smoker to be kept but also become compliant with City regulations.

Mayor Martinez made a motion calling the question to end the discussion and vote on the matter. The motion died for lack of a second. A motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Vice Mayor Jimenez, to continue the item for 60 days. Councilmember Robinson offered a friendly amendment that after the 60 days, an agreeable plan must be brought forth to address all issues that were presented by the City, in addition to issues with the parklet, and if no agreeable plan was brought forth within the 60 days, the smoker was then to be removed. Councilmember Willis and Vice Mayor Jimenez accepted the friendly amendment and amended the time frame to continue the item to December 3, 2024.

**Motion by Councilmember Melvin Willis**  
**Seconded by Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez**

To continue the item to December 3, 2024, and at that time an agreeable plan must be brought forth to address all issues that were presented by the City, in addition to issues with the parklet, and if no agreeable plan was brought forth by then, the smoker was to be removed.

Ayes (7): Councilmember Soheila Bana, Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Councilmember Doria Robinson, Councilmember Melvin Willis, Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Passed (7 to 0)

## **P. STUDY AND ACTION SESSION**

### **P.1 Direct Staff to Conduct an Assessment, Study and Community Outreach on the Usage of Chevron's \$550 Million Payment Over the Next 10 Years**

DIRECT staff to issue a request for proposals, IDENTIFY a funding source and ALLOCATE up to \$100,000 to hire consultants to facilitate community outreach efforts and conduct assessments, and to DIRECT the city manager and appropriate staff to design and implement comprehensive community outreach to gather input on enhancing public safety and quality-of-life services, support and assist with the assessment of the City's unmet infrastructure needs, and assess the City's unfunded obligations and develop a strategy to reduce these within 10 years and to create a reserve fund to relieve future generations of debt burdens - Councilmember Soheila Bana (510-620-6743).

Items P.1 and P.2 were introduced to be heard at the same time. Councilmember Bana introduced item P.1 and gave background on the intention of the item. Councilmember McLaughlin, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Councilmember Robinson presented information regarding item P.2 highlighting sections of the proposed resolution and the intention of the item.

Cordell Hindler, Karen, Megan Zapanta, Mark Wassberg, Bella, Lujain Al-Saleh, Lazuli, Katherine Lee, Lejon Reese, and Don Gosney gave comments in person.

*(At 10:57 p.m. - a motion by Councilmember Zepeda, seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin, to extend the meeting to finish items P.1 and P.2 passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Bana, McLaughlin, Robinson, Zepeda, Willis, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None).*

Wesley Alexander, Mariana Moore, Myeshia Woodards, Yolanda Flores, Suilma Navarette, Alejandro Villegas, and Jamin Pursell gave comments in person.

*(At 11:18 p.m. - a motion by Councilmember McLaughlin, seconded by Vice Mayor Jimenez, to suspend the rules and extend the meeting to finish items P.1 and P.2 passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Bana, McLaughlin, Robinson, Willis, Zepeda, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None).*

John Varga, Michelle Milam, Elsa Stevens, Edith Pastrano, Shawn Dunning, Deborah Small, Jim Becker, Abtehal A., Joey Schlemmer, Cheryl Sudduth, Alya Alazani, Ben Therriault, and Jose Abastida gave comments via teleconference. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Councilmember McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Robinson, to decline item P.1, and approve item P.2. Further discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Mayor Martinez, seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin, calling the question to end the discussion and vote on the matter. The motion passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers McLaughlin, Robinson, Willis, Zepeda, Vice Mayor Jimenez, and Mayor Martinez. Noes: Councilmember Bana. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

**Motion by Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin  
Seconded by Councilmember Doria Robinson**

To decline item P.1, and approve item P.2., which was to adopt a resolution expressing City Council's overarching intention with respect to expenditure of the Chevron settlement funds, outlining types of expenditures that would be consistent with this intention, and prohibiting City employees from making alternative plans or commitments of the funds without first obtaining City Council consent.

Ayes (6): Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin, Councilmember Doria Robinson, Councilmember Melvin Willis, Councilmember Cesar Zepeda, Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez, and Mayor Eduardo Martinez.

Noes (1): Councilmember Soheila Bana

Passed (6 to 1)

**Adopted Resolution No. 105-24**

## **P.2 Chevron Settlement Fund Intentions**

ADOPT a resolution expressing City Council’s overarching intention with respect to expenditure of the Chevron settlement funds, outlining types of expenditures that would be consistent with this intention, and prohibiting City employees from making alternative plans or commitments of the funds without first obtaining City Council consent - Vice Mayor Claudia Jimenez (510-620-6565), Councilmembers Gayle McLaughlin (510-620-6636) and Doria Robinson (510-620-6593).

**P.3 Receive Performance Improvement Plan for the Measure J funded R-Transit Program and Lower the Cost Pool Rate for R-Transit**

RECEIVE a presentation regarding the Richmond Paratransit Audit commissioned by the Contra Costa Transportation Authority; APPROVE the City of Richmond’s responses to the Audit and the Performance Improvement Plan; and AUTHORIZE the reduction of the cost pool amount allocated to the Richmond Paratransit Program by \$351,000 in Fiscal Year 2024-25 which would increase the General Fund’s obligation by \$351,000 – Community Services Department (LaShonda White 510-620-6828).

**Continued to the October 1, 2024. meeting.**

**P.4 Discussion Regarding Proposed Amendments to Ordinance on Political Affiliates and Democratic Representation for Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces**

DISCUSS proposed amendments to Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 3.14 limiting the percentage of members of boards and commissioners that belong to any one political advocacy group or organization and DIRECT the City Attorney’s Office to prepare the amendments - Councilmember Soheila Bana (510-620-6743).

**Continued to the October 1, 2024. meeting.**

**Q. 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)**

The item was not heard.

**R. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:18 a.m., to meet again on October 1, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

Mayor

**From:** [Alice LoCicero](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public comments for open forum-consent calendar  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:48:24 PM

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## Consent Calendar Item N8e Appt of Alice LoCicero to Community Crisis Response Program Advisory Board

Mr. Mayor and Council Members

Thank you for considering me to be part of the advisory board for the Community Crisis Response Program. I consider myself to be very lucky to be a resident of Richmond, and I appreciate the opportunity to contribute my time and experience to the city. In my career in Massachusetts, before moving to the bay area, I worked closely with first responders at city, state, and federal levels in implementing and providing services in disaster and crisis mental health programs. I also taught Psychological First Aid to responders and participated in debriefing first responders after critical incidents. In addition, I had the privilege of teaching idealistic and energetic young students in criminal justice programs in college and university settings.

Once implemented, Richmond's Community Crisis Response program will be of great value to the community at large, and to the existing network of first responders. Once again, the city of Richmond is in the forefront of developing a program that has the potential to be an advantage for all, and will provide a model for other cities and towns in the future. The development of this program so far has been data-based and approached with care and concern for the community and the needs experienced by community members. I look forward to the opportunity to assist in the ongoing development of the program.

Sincerely,  
Alice LoCicero

**From:** [Roz Rendon](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comments for Open Forum- Consent Calender Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:03:44 PM

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Hello City Clerk, Richmond Mayor and Councilmembers,

My name is Rosie Rendon and I am excited and thankful to be appointed tonight to the Community Crisis Response Program's Community Advisory Board. As an active member of my community, I am looking forward to bringing my unique perspective, skills, and knowledge to this board. I hope to bring this much-needed program to fruition. I understand how critical our Crisis Response Program is and how it needs to center our residents' safety in Richmond. I look forward to collaborating with other board members, city staff, and the council liaison to ensure this program is successful. Thank you for the opportunity!

Forever In Community,  
Rosie Rendon

**From:** [Janet Johnson](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment on agenda item P1: oppose  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:59:27 PM

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Resolution P1 allows for city staff and consultants to design community engagement and evaluation processes instead of allowing residents and City Council to develop a public process. As written, this proposal is too vague. It calls for a study without defining what meaningful community engagement would look like.

For these reasons and others, I oppose this resolution.

Sincerely,  
Janet Johnson

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[Janet Scoll Johnson](#)  
pronouns: she/her

**Co-Chair, [Richmond Shoreline Alliance](#); Check out the Richmond Shoreline Alliance online toxic tour of the Zeneca site [here!](#)**

**Co-Coordinator, [Sunflower Alliance](#)**

**KM6NKD**

**From:** [Janet Johnson](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public comments agenda item #P.2: support  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:58:27 PM

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Dear City Clerk, City Council, and staff:

I'm writing as a local environmental leader in Sunflower Alliance and as a resident of Richmond for 43 years.

Sunflower Alliance supports the resolution brought by Vice Mayor Jimenez, Councilmember McLaughlin, and Councilmember Robinson. We're happy that this proposal will fund essential city services and advance a responsible plan ahead of refinery closure or transition.

We have an opportunity to use these funds in ways that benefit the community directly, and we hope the council will commit to using a portion of these funds to develop a robust local economy beyond Big Oil. We need to invest in healthy local businesses that undo the climate, environmental, and health harms caused by Chevron and other polluting industries. At the end of 10 years, we want to see a Richmond with healthier neighborhoods, cleaner air and better, family-sustaining jobs.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Janet Johnson

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[Janet Scoll Johnson](#)

pronouns: she/her

**Co-Chair, [Richmond Shoreline Alliance](#); Check out the Richmond Shoreline Alliance online toxic tour of the Zeneca site [here!](#)**

**Co-Coordinator, [Sunflower Alliance](#)**

**KM6NKD**

**From:** [BK](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Cc:** [Eduardo Martinez](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Doria Robinson](#); [Cesar Zepeda](#); [Gayle McLaughlin](#); [Soheila Bana](#); [Melvin Willis](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item P4 Sept 24, 2025  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:37:27 PM

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Dear **Richmond City Council Members**,

The attempt to identify affiliations of potential members to reduce the number of volunteers from certain groups is not a genuine interest in diversifying commissions.

As a frequent volunteer, I wonder why you would want to turn away volunteers who are willing to give their time and energy because they are associated with another group of volunteers? Why penalize people for being deeply engaged and wanting to do more?

What's next? Will you base decisions on the number of Black and Brown volunteers on a commission or board? Do you only need one Baptist member? Two LGBTQI members? What is too many?

The requirement for a prospect to disclose their "political affiliations" is a gravely bad idea and the collection of this additional and unnecessary data does not pass the democracy test.

In Solidarity,

B K Williams  
pronouns: She/Her

*Politics in itself is incomplete. It is through our humanity that it becomes complete.*

**From:** [Diana Wear](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment item P-4  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 12:59:51 PM

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Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Re: Public comments agenda item # P-4.

I am writing in opposition to item **P-4** on today's City Council agenda. This is not grounded in good common sense, nor should we discourage public participation in the political process, thus diminishing the already minimal powers of our mayor, and be logistically challenging.

The item's definition of a "political affiliation" is:

1. Political Affiliates include individuals who hold membership, have leadership roles, participate in setting policies, or actively engage in activities such as canvassing, fundraising, organizing events, or participating in election campaigns for political advocacy groups whose primary focus is at the city or county level.

First, we are told that boards and commissions are *advisory* so it's not as if our residents are making policy decisions.

We need recruitment of volunteer commissioners and board members. P-4 sends the wrong message to residents—if you are involved with election campaigns or other important city improvement groups, you cannot serve our City in this valued role.

If we really are about these civic bodies our focus should be on the following: expecting more from our board and commission volunteers to merely show up just over half the meetings each year. We should make efforts to instruct our volunteers on what it means to serve: to learn the mission statement of their board or commission, to set goals, deliverables, and to maintain levels of accountability. As it is, it is very difficult to even get volunteers to be active.

Boards and Commissions need education, oversight, and encouragement. Richmond residents of all types should be encouraged to join these civic bodies.

Sincerely,

Diana Wear

Chair, Economic Development Commission

**From:** [TARNEL ABBOTT](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk Dept User](#)  
**Cc:** [Eduardo Martinez](#); [Claudia Jimenez](#); [Doria Robinson](#); [Cesar Zepeda](#); [Gayle McLaughlin](#); [Soheila Bana](#); [Melvin Willis](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda Item P 4  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2024 11:47:18 AM

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Dear Richmond City Council Members,  
I urge you to reject item P4. It is flawed in many ways.  
Requiring people who apply to serve as volunteers on a city board or commission to disclose their "political affiliations" unless they are Democrats or Republicans is UN-democratic. This is very reminiscent of the McCarthy era in this country when people were harassed for their "political affiliations". The City of Richmond should NOT be allowed to ask, demand or keep track of in any way people's political affiliations. Volunteering for these positions should be encouraged not curtailed.  
Tarnel Abbott  
Richmond Resident



Portal



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Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Name	Email	Comment	Position	Status
<b>City Council</b>						
9/24/2024 4:30 PM	Discussion Regarding Proposed Amendments to Ordinance on Political Affiliates and Democratic Representation for Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces	Phillip Front	pjfront@gmail.com	To Mayor Martinez and Members of the Richmond City Council, I appreciate the council's efforts to promote transparency and fairness in our city's boards, commissions, and task forces, but I have concerns about the proposed ordinance that would limit the percentage of appointees who are affiliated with the same political advocacy group. First, I believe the disclosure requirements as written are too vague. For example, it's unclear what level of participation in a political group would require disclosure. Does volunteering once	Against	Appro

for a campaign count, or does it require a more active leadership role? Without clearer guidelines, this ordinance could be applied inconsistently, potentially resulting in unfair exclusions from civic participation. Second, and more importantly, I think the proposed 35% limit on political group affiliations raises significant First Amendment concerns. Courts have consistently upheld the freedom of association as a core constitutional right, and limiting someone's ability to serve on a government body based on their political affiliations could be seen as infringing on that right. This ordinance could create barriers to civic participation based solely on political involvement, which

is both illegal and contrary to the values of a representative democracy. While ostensibly, the intent is to prevent any one group from dominating these bodies, let's be honest here: this is meant to limit the influence of the Richmond Progressive Alliance. For people who oppose the RPA's ideology, this might seem like a good solution, but it's exactly the kind of restriction that the First Amendment was designed to protect against. If people think the RPA poses a political problem, then a political solution—through elections and public debate—is the appropriate path, not legislative limitations that infringe on constitutional rights. Thank you for considering my

concerns.  
Sincerely, Phillip  
Front

9/24/2024 4:30 PM	Discussion Regarding Proposed Amendments to Ordinance on Political Affiliates and Democratic Representation for Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces	Brittney Ross	rossbrittney@gmail.com	Dear City Council, I am appalled that this amendment is even on the table. Councilmember Bana, I urge you to withdraw it immediately. This is a blatant attempt to limit civic participation from the RPA -- which, by the way - - I am not affiliated with or a particularly strong advocate of. I am against this amendment as a matter of principle. The "definition of political affiliates" is laughably vague. Anyone "participating in election campaigns for political advocacy" is an affiliate? Are you kidding me? What if I reshare a candidate's post online? Is that "participation?" Furthermore, this is obviously unenforceable.	Against	Appro
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How on earth is the city supposed to monitor this? I'm angry that you are even considering wasting city staff time with this ridiculous idea.  
Brittney Ross

9/24/2024 4:30 PM	Discussion Regarding Proposed Amendments to Ordinance on Political Affiliates and Democratic Representation for Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Task Forces	Joe Puleo	joepuleo@hotmail.com	This is a misguided attempt tp limit the influence of people who support RPA goals. The calculation method is vague and it doesn't provide for any way to make a determination of who is a member of the proscribed or limited political group. If one doesn't like the RPA's influence on Richmond City government there is a way to change that; Elections!	Against	Appro
9/24/2024 4:30 PM	Direct Staff to Conduct an Assessment, Study and Community Outreach on the Usage of Chevron's \$550 Million Payment Over the Next 10 Years	Jennifer French	jnauts@berkeley.edu	I support Soheila Bana's P1 agenda item. It lays out in detail a proposal to solicit community input in spending the Chevron monies while evaluating how to maintain a strong	For	Appro

city budget. There is nothing wasteful in allocating some funds to really hear from the community, rather than relying on yearly surveys of the community. I might add I have never received a survey asking for my thoughts on how funds should be spent but I have received communication from Ms. Bana on activities related to my particular area of Richmond, Hasford Heights.

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