

Mayor and City Council:

This is the weekly report for the two weeks ending June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

1. **Meeting Notes**

The next City Council meeting is scheduled for this Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, beginning with a Closed Session at 5:00 PM, and with the regular agenda commencing at 6:30 PM.

2. **Dornan Drive Tunnel Repair Project**

This past January, the City of Richmond initiated a project to repair the concrete lining of the 100-year old Dornan Drive Tunnel, which connects the commercial area of Point Richmond with shoreline areas of Keller Beach Park, and the Brickyard Cove and Seacliff neighborhoods. The scope of work includes repairing cracked areas of the tunnel lining, adding of carbon fiber strips to strengthen this lining, and installing a new drainage system.

As you may recall, in February, soon after the project started, the contractor for this project, TPA Construction Inc., encountered an area on the top of the inside of the tunnel that showed significant concrete failure, which was causing large pieces of concrete to fall to the ground. Upon further investigation, the construction team, which includes TPA Construction Inc. and project manager Swinerton Management and Consulting, and City of Richmond engineering staff discovered a large void above the tunnel lining. Further visual inspection revealed that the void, which would be analogous to an attic crawl space above a ceiling in a house, is approximately 12 feet long by 10 feet wide with a 4 foot depth. The remaining concrete that separates the void from the inside of the tunnel is approximately 4-5 inches thick, without any structural reinforcement to keep it in place.

Last Friday and earlier this week, the contractor was preparing the final large void for repair. The process for repairing the voids is to first make sure that the area under the proposed repair is safe for the workers to perform the repair. During this preparation, fractured rock came pouring out of the area above the tunnel lining at an alarming rate and volume. (I've included a rather extraordinary video of the fractured rock that fell through the lining last Friday at <http://vimeo.com/68893968>.) The original plan to repair the tunnel lining at the void location is now being modified to address this situation. The engineers' solution is to design a concrete band to go under the tunnel lining at the void location. This concrete band will be designed to withstand any potential falling rock in that area of the tunnel. We have a geologist analyzing the debris to assist with our plans to stabilize the soil movement in order to finish the repair in a safe manner for our workers.

Unfortunately, the tunnel will not be reopening on June 30<sup>th</sup>, which was the revised target completion date. We are hopeful that a repair can be done quickly and will have a better estimate of when the tunnel will reopen next week.

Questions can be directed to either Melissa Tigbao or Alan Wolken in the Engineering Services Department at (510) 307-8091.

### 3. **Adopted Operating and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan Budgets**



This past Tuesday evening, June 25<sup>th</sup>, the City Council adopted Fiscal Years 2013-15 Biennial Operating Budget, Fiscal Years 2013-18 Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan, and Fiscal Years 2013-15 Biennial Capital Budget. The General Fund budget in the amount of \$144.5 million is balanced to within one-half of 1% with a projected deficit of \$699,000. (This deficit was further reduced the very next day based on a vote by the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Directors [see item 4 below] and now stands at \$381,507, equal to three-tenths of 1%). Staff will continue to evaluate options to structurally balance the budget.

This is the first year that staff has prepared a biennial (two-year) budget, which is an effective tool to improve the link between existing long-range and strategic planning processes. It also enables departments to take a longer-term approach to allocating financial resources. Another benefit to biennial budgeting is that it reduces staff time dedicated to the budget process. During the second year, staff dedicates its time to making minor budget adjustments and revisions.

The proposed budgets can be viewed and downloaded online at: <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/27147> and <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/27150>. The updated adopted budgets will be posted by the end of next week.

My thanks to the Finance Department budget team led by Andrea Miller, and to all those in the operating departments that helped on this important project.

4. **School Board Votes for Additional Financial Support for School Resource Officers**

This past Wednesday night, the day after the Richmond City Council approved its budget, the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Directors voted to provide an additional \$450,000 in support for the School Resource Officer program, which is a very successful partnership between the City and the School District. The program enhancement includes funding for a uniformed City of Richmond School Resource Officer at Lavonya DeJean Middle School, which was a high priority for both the City and WCCUSD, and funding for the expansion of the highly successful daytime curfew/truancy reduction program.

I am both personally and professionally gratified at the exceptional working partnership that is continuing to grow between the City and WCCUSD. Among the many joint projects between our two agencies are: providing City funds to keep schools open, including Kennedy High School; renovating the Richmond Swim Center; revitalizing the Nystrom neighborhood; working through the Richmond Health Equity Partnership to promote healthy neighborhoods; and developing shared use facility agreements. The benefits to both the City of Richmond and the West Contra Costa Unified School District from this partnership are tremendous, and I look forward to more opportunities to build on this highly successful working relationship.

5. **South Richmond Shoreline Specific Plan Community Kick-off**

On Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> the Planning Division held a community kick-off meeting for the South Shoreline Specific Plan project. The community meeting was attended by over 60 people representing area residents, businesses, and property owners. The event included visioning and mapping exercises.

The Specific Plan will facilitate the implementation of Richmond's new General Plan by establishing specific planning policies, regulations, and urban design guidelines for an approximately 220-acre area located in the City of Richmond south of Interstate Highway 580. The Specific Plan will focus on ways that Richmond can take advantage of the planned Richmond Bay Campus, future ferry service, and other area assets to create a sustainable shoreline district providing jobs, housing, transportation options, and opportunities for entertainment and recreation.

The City of Richmond was awarded a Priority Development Area Planning Grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to develop the Specific Plan. The next community meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 24, at 6:30 PM. The location is still to be determined. Visit [www.ci.richmond.ca.us/sssp](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/sssp) or contact Hector Rojas, Senior Planner at [hector\\_rojas@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:hector_rojas@ci.richmond.ca.us) for more information.



## 6. **Richmond Health Equity Partnership (RHEP) Meeting**

On Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) hosted the fourteenth meeting of the Richmond Health Equity Partnership (RHEP). The RHEP consists of representatives of the City of Richmond, CCHS, West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD), University of California, Berkeley Associate Professor Jason Corburn and multiple community based organizations. The RHEP aims to advance health equity for children and families in Richmond. At the meeting, CCHS provided an update on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), ACA outreach and education, Medi-Cal expansion, Covered California, and the Low Income Health Plan ([LIHP](#)). In addition, CCHS presented a draft for comment of the RHEP Health Equity and Data Report Card. You can view the meeting presentation slides, notes, and material [here](#). For more information on the RHEP and the City of Richmond Health Initiatives please visit [www.richmondhealth.org](http://www.richmondhealth.org).



## 7. New Neighborhood Public Art Mural Installation on June 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013

As you may know, a new Neighborhood Public Art mural is being installed on the Richmond Senior Center, 2525 Macdonald near the Library. The mural, a five-part history of the city, was painted by renowned artist, Judy Baca. The theme came from a series of Richmond community workshops where participants contributed family pictures, artifacts and stories. It begins with the Native Americans, travels through the land grants, railroads, and shipyards, and ends with scenes from the present into the future.

The artwork was initially painted on canvas, then digitally photographed and printed onto a biodegradable vinyl material for outdoor environments. The vinyl will be adhered to the wall with acrylic gel adhesive in a technique called marouflage. Installation should take 2-3 days.

The artwork will be 9 ½ feet off the ground, and will measure 10' high by 60' long. The lettering for the Richmond Senior Center will be moved to the west side of the doorway on Macdonald to make room for the mural. For more information, please contact Michele Seville, Arts & Culture Manager at (510) 620-6952 or [Michele\\_seville@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:Michele_seville@ci.richmond.ca.us).



## 8. MCE Clean Energy Program Updates

### What is the MCE Clean Energy Program?

MCE is a public agency and not-for-profit electricity provider that gives customers the choice of having 50% to 100% of their electricity supplied from clean, renewable sources such as solar, wind, bioenergy, and hydroelectric at competitive rates.

Community Choice Aggregation programs such as MCE allow cities and counties to offer their citizens and businesses another option for where to purchase electricity besides the current utility (PG&E). MCE's goal is to provide a greater support for renewable energy at competitive rates to Richmond residents and businesses. By choosing MCE, Richmond's electric customers help support the development of new in-state and local renewable energy generation.

A video recording of a recent MCE community meeting can be viewed online at the following [link](#). In addition to the MCE [website](#) and call center (1-888-632-3674), interested residents and business can attend one of the upcoming events in Richmond and obtain more information about the MCE program. Over the last four

months, MCE has participated in over 60 community events and will be hosting an informational table at the Asian Pacific Environmental Network's (APEN) Clean Fest on Saturday, June 29th, at the Richmond Memorial Auditorium (403 Civic Center Plaza).

### MCE Program Enrollment and Opt Out Notices

MCE sends five notices as part of its effort to help electric customers make an informed decision. The notices will inform customers of the electricity service choices they have with instructions on how to opt out or how to obtain more information about the program.

By now, all customers have received three enrollment notices. **Richmond electric customers will be enrolled with MCE service in July 2013, on their regularly scheduled meter read date unless they choose to opt out.** In July, all electric customers in Richmond will be enrolled in MCE's Light Green 50% renewable energy option unless they choose to opt out. Richmond customers have 3 electricity options:

- 1) MCE 'Light Green' 50% renewable energy (automatic enrollment and competitive rates with PG&E)
- 2) MCE 'Deep Green' 100% renewable energy (a penny more per kilowatt hour)
- 3) PG&E electric supply that is 20% renewable energy

After the July enrollment, a fourth and fifth notice will be mailed to remind customers of their account enrollment with MCE. For no charge, Richmond customers will have the option to opt out of the program beginning in April. Customers who choose to opt out after 60 days of service with MCE will be charged a one-time \$5 (residential) or \$25 (commercial) administrative fee.

In addition to the 5-enrollment notices, and as part of a mutual commitment to support your energy choice, MCE and PG&E have partnered to provide customers with a comparison of typical electric rates, average monthly charges and power supply contents. All Richmond electric customers will be mailed a postcard notice with this information. Look out for your mailer from MCE and PG&E in early July.

A rate comparison calculator is available on the MCE website - [www.mceCleanEnergy.com](http://www.mceCleanEnergy.com). Based on current rates for PG&E as well as MCE rates, MCE will cost Richmond residential customers about \$0.59 more per month on average, and commercial customers will see an overall cost savings. This rate comparison reflects a "snap shot in time" comparison. It is important to note that these rates are likely to change as PG&E typically changes rates three times per year. MCE changes their rates once per year in April.

Electric customers who 1) choose to opt out, 2) opt up to 'Deep Green' 100% renewable energy, or 3) would like more information, should call [1 \(888\) 632-3674](tel:18886323674)

or visit [www.mceCleanEnergy.com](http://www.mceCleanEnergy.com). The opt out instructions, phone number and additional information are also included in the enrollment notices.

9. **California Statewide Communities Development Authority**

At their meeting on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, the City Council adopted a resolution approving the issuance of tax-exempt debt by the California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA). Pacific West Communities, Inc. (Pacific West) has requested that the CSCDA serve as the issuer of multifamily housing revenue obligations in the amount of \$15,000,000, which will enable Pacific West to finance the acquisition and construction of senior residential rental facilities (the "Project"), located at 20 Harbour Way in Richmond, California. The Project will provide the City of Richmond with 62 new units of affordable housing for seniors in the community. 100% of the units at the Project will be reserved for tenants whose incomes are at or below 50 and 60% of the Area Median Income levels. The owners will record 55 year affordability covenants on the property.

10. **Residential Structure Fire**

On Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 PM, the Richmond Fire Department, along with units from Contra Costa County Fire and El Cerrito Fire, responded to a residential structure fire at 5224 Nevin Avenue. Engine 66 and Engine 71 were first to arrive on the scene and began attacking the fire which started on a deck behind the house. The response included four engine companies, one truck company, and five Chief Officers for a total of twenty personnel. The fire is currently under investigation by Deputy Fire Marshal Poindexter. Six animals were in the home at the time of the fire, four dogs and two cats. Unfortunately two dogs and one cat did not survive. There were no reported injuries to fire personnel or civilians.



Pictures taken by Milt Rayford of Public Works and Christian Wimmer of KCRT

## 11. **Recreation Highlights – For the Week Ending June 21, 2013**

### Disabled Peoples Recreation Center

The Adult Morning Program and the Therapeutic Interactive Recreation Program participants traveled to Monterey to visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium. They looked at all the aquarium life, observed two scuba divers feeding the fish and cleaning the two story tank, watched in awe the beautiful moon jelly fish, and touched starfish. Later, they had lunch at the wharf and conversed with one another about their incredible day. The ride home was quiet; they slept all the way back.

### Summer Day Camp

Kids 'N Motion Summer Day Camp started on June 10<sup>th</sup>! Youth have been participating in group games, art, crafts, swimming, and field trips. Camp is being hosted at Shields-Reid Community Center, Nevin Community Center, Parchester Community Center, Booker T. Anderson Community Center, May Valley Community Center, and the Recreation Complex. The fun begins at 10:00 AM and concludes at 4:00 PM. If participants wish to extend their day of fun, extended hours are available from 8:00 AM -10:00 AM and 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM. Children 5-12 years of age are welcome but all 5 year olds must have completed kindergarten in order to

participate. The cost for camp is \$30 per week and \$20 per week for extended care. Sign up today by calling (510) 620-6793 or online at <https://onlineactivenetwork.com/richmond>.



Arts & Crafts Time at Parchester Community Center



Dramatic play choice at Booker T. Anderson Community Center

### Booker T. Anderson Community Center Receives an Upgraded Computer Lab

Booker T. Anderson Community Center received new computers and the floors were shined! The City's Information and Technology Department and the Public Works Department were very instrumental in making this project happen. The

computer lab will be utilized for current programs and is looking for an adult computer instructor to conduct morning classes.



Booker T. Anderson Community Center Computer Lab

### Nevin Center Water Feature Operational

There will be much laughter and many smiles coming from the children who attend Nevin Community Center Summer Day Camp this summer! The City's Parks Department and the Electrical Department worked collaboratively to repair the current water feature at Nevin Center located just outside the playground. Water play will now be a part of the weekly curriculum!



Water Feature at the Nevin Community Center

## **Recreation Highlights – For the Week Ending June 28, 2013**

### Disabled Peoples Recreation Center

Many thanks to the Adult Morning Program and the Therapeutic Interactive Recreation Program participants who are helping staff prepare for summer activities. In addition to managing their regular activities, participants are taking responsibility in keeping the facility clean. By the end of June, the facility will be in top shape for the summer.

Therapeutic Interactive Recreation Program participants are attending high school or college classed during the summer school session which started June 17<sup>th</sup>. When the participants arrive at the community center they are ready for plenty of fun, snacks and socialization.

### Karaoke

Karaoke has begun at the Richmond Recreation Complex. Karaoke Fun Nights are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 PM for adults ages 18 and over, at a price of \$5 per visit. The first Karaoke Fun Night was on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. A fun time was had with participants dancing, singing, and jamming to the oldies. Tunes from Whitney Houston, Lionel Richie, Luther Vandross, and Willie Nelson, were among some of the favorites.

### Tennis

United States Tennis Association Team Tennis League play began on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, with Richmond as the host site for the Boys 18 and under division. The

Richmond Elites Boys defeated Heritage of Brentwood, 5-0. Girls opening play began on Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Orinda Country Club with Richmond Power Puffs Girls, 15 and under division, defeating Orinda Country Club 4-1.

## 12. Public Works Updates

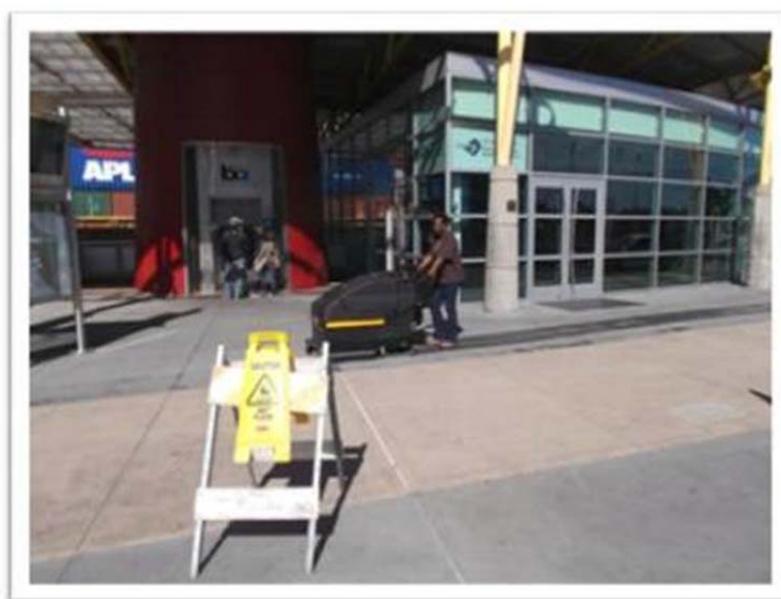
For the Week Ending June 21, 2013

Facilities Maintenance: Carpenters fixed the damaged ceiling at the May Valley Community Center, converted an office to a file room in the Human Resources Department, and resolved safety issues in various locations.

Painters completed the exterior restrooms at the Shields Reid Community Center, and painted walls in the new file room in Human Resources, the ceiling of the computer room at the May Valley Community Center, and the interior of office space at the Shields Reid Community Center.

Stationary Engineers repaired the apparatus exhaust system at Fire Station #67, repaired two drinking fountains at Booker T. Anderson Community Center, repaired the carbon dioxide tank at the Richmond Swim Center, and secured the water heater at the Booker T. Anderson Community Center.

Utility workers auto scrubbed and cleaned windows at the Transit Station preparing for the grand opening of the parking lot.



Auto Scrubbing at Transit Station

The Electricians repaired the lighting controls at Lucretia Edwards Park, trouble shot the traffic controller at Harbour Way and Macdonald Avenue, and repaired wire theft damage to street lights at Barrett Avenue and Marina Way.

Parks and Landscaping Division: This week crews completed irrigation repairs at Civic Center Plaza, repaired the water feature in Nevin Park, completed weed abatement along Carlson Boulevard, repaired the backflow cage in the North Richmond ball field, completed weed abatement along Atlas Road and Richmond Parkway, and prepared Nicholl Park for the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration.



Weed Abatement on Carlson

Tree crews completed work on the Humphrey Avenue, Cottage Avenue, 24<sup>th</sup> Street, 25<sup>th</sup> Street, 41<sup>st</sup> Street, Roosevelt Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Streets Division: Crews performed paving on 12<sup>th</sup> Street from Chanslor Avenue to the end and worked from the outstanding pothole and sidewalk list.

Street sweeping performed commercial and residential sweeping services for the third Monday through Friday in North Richmond, Iron Triangle, North/South Belding Woods, Atchison Village, Santa Fe, Coronado, Marina Bay and Point Richmond neighborhood council areas.

For the Week Ending June 28, 2013

Facilities Maintenance: Carpenters repaired the rear door at the Richmond Recreation Center, and reinstalled cabinet doors at the Shields Reid Community Center.

Painters completed the office areas of 440 Civic Center Plaza on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and restored the cabinets reinstalled at the Shields Reid Community Center.

Stationary Engineers secured the water heater and flush o' meters in the Employment and Training area.

The Electricians reset traffic controllers at various intersections along Harbour Way, provided power for the Juneteenth Celebration, replaced burnt wire to the traffic signal controller at Hilltop Drive, and assisted with conduit installation at South 47<sup>th</sup> and Carlson Boulevard.



Conduit Installation at So. 47<sup>th</sup> and Carlson Boulevard

Parks and Landscaping Division: Crews performed vegetation and tree maintenance along Castro Ranch Road, irrigation repairs at Hilltop Park, landscaping at the conservation garden near the Civic Center marquis, maintenance along the San Pablo Avenue medians, weeding along the 23<sup>rd</sup> Street grade separation, irrigation repairs at Marina Green Park, and weed abatement on the Richmond Parkway. Crews also continued work in the High Fire Severity Zones.

Tree crews completed work on McLaughlin Avenue, Florida Avenue, Creely Avenue and on Aberdeen Way, and Lancaster Drive.

Streets Division: Crews performed paving on Pennsylvania Avenue from Harbour Way to 12<sup>th</sup> Street and worked from the outstanding pothole and sidewalk list.



Paving on Pennsylvania Avenue

Street sweeping performed commercial and residential sweeping services for the fourth Monday through Friday in Santa Fe, Point Richmond, Marina Bay, Coronado, Metro Richmore Village, Pullman, Cortez/Stege, Park Plaza, Laurel Park, City Center, Richmond Annex, Parkview, Panhandle Annex and Eastshore neighborhood council areas.

### 13. Personnel Note

Jennifer Ly, who has been a stalwart member of the City Manager's office Environmental Initiatives team, is leaving the City of Richmond to pursue an advanced degree in Urban Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) beginning in the fall. Jennifer's last day in the office was today. During her tenure in Richmond, Jennifer had a tremendous, positive impact on projects that have made Richmond a more sustainable community. She will be missed here in the office, but much of her work will remain an enduring legacy. We wish her the best.

***Have a great week!***



***And don't forget the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July fireworks and  
East Bay Symphony concert at the Craneway Pavillion next  
Wednesday night!***

*Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments about these or any other  
items of interest to you.*

*You can sign up to receive the City Manager's weekly report and other information from the City of  
Richmond by visiting: [www.ci.richmond.ca.us/list.aspx](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/list.aspx)*