



Environmental Community Investment Agreement (ECIA) Transit & Transportation Committee

**Monday, January 13, 2025
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

Richmond City Hall – Richmond Room | 450 Civic Center Plaza | Richmond, CA 94804

MEETING AGENDA

ECIA Committee Members:

Richard Johnson - Chair
Darlene Drapkin – Vice Chair
Steve Birnbaum – Member
Vacant Seat – (4) ECIA Committee Member
Vacant Seat – (5) ECIA Committee Member

City Council Liaison: Councilmember Cesar Zepeda

City Staff Liaisons: LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager, Junne Garcia, Assoc. Administrative Analyst

Meeting Agenda:

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions**
- 2) **Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda** (*2 mins max per speaker*)
- 3) **Approval** of September 11, 2024, ECIA Committee Minutes
- 4) **Presentations/Discussion/Action:**
 - a) **RECEIVE** a presentation from Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) staff about the e-bike lending library
 - b) **DISCUSS** the role of transportation in improving economic development project within the City with a focus on how to make business areas such as San Pablo Ave. more walkable and bikeable
 - c) **RECEIVE** an update on the City's approval of the use of funds on the Electric Bike share program
- 5) **Adjourn**

Agendas regarding this Committee can be found online at:

www.ci.richmond.ca.us

Meeting materials will be made available for public inspection, during business hours at
Richmond City Hall, 440 Civic Center Plaza, 2nd Floor, Richmond, CA 94804
within 72 hours of the meeting date and time.

*The City of Richmond ECIA Committee and staff shall provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee's meeting. Please call or e-mail the following Committee staff person at least 24 hours before the meeting:
LaShonda White – Deputy City Manager, City of Richmond, lashonda_wilson@ci.richmond.ca.us*



SPECIAL Environmental Community Investment Agreement (ECIA) Transit & Transportation Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, September 11, 2024
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

Richmond City Hall – Richmond Room | 450 Civic Center Plaza | Richmond, CA 94804

MEETING AGENDA

ECIA Committee Members:

Richard Johnson – Chair

Darlene Drapkin – Vice Chair

Steve Birnbaum – Member

Vacant Seat – (4) - ECIA Committee Member

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City Council Liaison: Councilmember Cesar Zepeda

City Staff Liaisons: LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager

Lori Reese-Brown, Project Manager II

Junne Garcia, Associate Administrative Analyst

Alexis Grace, Administrative Student Intern

Guests/ Presenters: Daniel Chavarria, Public Works Director

Mike Owyang, Public Works Assistant Engineer

Beatrice Guerrero, TCC Project Coordinator

Matias Eusterbrock, TCC Grant Associate Admin

Cordell Hindler, Community Activist

MEETING AGENDA

1) Welcome and Introductions

The Committee Meeting was called to order at 3:34 PM by Chair Johnson, with all three committee members in attendance. Also present were Councilmember and Committee Liaison Cesar Zepeda, along with the City Staff Liaison team, led by Deputy City Manager LaShonda White. The presenters were invited to introduce themselves, starting with Daniel Chavarria, Public Works Director, and Mike Owyang, Public Works Assistant Engineer, who were scheduled to present and seek the committee's endorsement for the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Fleet and Infrastructure Transition Plan. Following their introductions, Beatrice Guerrero, Transformative Climate

Communities (TCC) Project Coordinator, and Matias Eusterbrock, TCC Grant Associate Administrator, who were set to present on the Richmond Rising initiative, introduced themselves. Additionally, Cordell Hindler, a Richmond resident, introduced himself as a public speaker for the open forum.

2) Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda (2 mins max per speaker)

There was one (1) speaker from the public. Cordell Hindler, a Richmond resident, spoke about the following topics: (a) Vacant ECIA Transportation Committee Membership positions – Mr. Hindler expressed support for filling the vacant positions; (b) The Contra Costa Mayors’ Conference on October 3, 2024, at 6:30 PM, which will be hosted by the City of Richmond – Mr. Hindler extended an invitation to the committee members to attend, noting that the dinner cost would be \$70.00 per person; (c) Request to revisit the transportation budget – Mr. Hindler suggested that revising the transportation budget be included in the agenda for future meetings.

3) ACTION Item #1: APPROVAL of June 10, 2024, ECIA Committee Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous special meeting was moved by Committee Member Birnbaum and seconded by Committee Member Drapkin. With all members voting in favor, the Committee approved the minutes of the previous special ECIA Committee meeting held on June 10, 2024.

4) ACTION Item #2: RECEIVE a PROPOSAL from City of Richmond’s Public Works (PW) department on the Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Fleet and Infrastructure Transition Plan and RECOMMEND the PW department enter a consulting services contract with Arup US, Inc.

Daniel Chavarria led the presentation starting off with a background of the existing fleet of the City of Richmond. There were discussions on the state’s requirement to transition to electric vehicles vis-à-vis the infrastructure to power said vehicles. The presenters emphasized on the importance of the conduct of a study of the current fleet and infrastructure before the purchase of electronic vehicles. Arup US, Inc., the chosen consultant is asking for a little short of \$200,000 but City staff is requesting for \$250,000 for contingency. The duration of the conduct of the study is 12 months but can extend based on additional tasks.

Chair Johnson asked if the State could provide funding for the ZEV fleet and infrastructure transition plan, to which the presenters indicated that it could not.

Chair Johnson also inquired about the ZEV fleet and infrastructure transition plan’s net impact on Greenhouse Gases (GHG) reduction highlighting that the goal of the ECIA fund is for the reduction of said gases. The presenters could not provide data on the net impact on the reduction of GHG with the conduct of the ZEV Fleet and Infrastructure Transition Plan. Council Member Zepeda explained that the study to be conducted by Arup US Inc. could serve as a tool for gathering the data requested by ECIA Transportation Committee.

It was then discussed that the conduct of the Arup US, Inc. study is a policy decision of the City Council and that the ECIA Transportation Committee, which serves an advisory body to City Council, may provide recommendation and advice regarding the matter. The committee was informed that it was City Council who instructed staff to look into the ZEV Fleet and Infrastructure Transition Plan.

A motion to recommend that ECIA funds amounting to \$250,000 be used for the ZEV Fleet and Infrastructure Transition Plan, provided that the chosen consultant, Arup US, Inc. is instructed to attempt to calculate the net GHG reduction benefit through their services, was moved by Chair Johnson moved and seconded by Committee Member Drapkin. With all members voting in favor of the motion, the Committee approved the motion.

5) DISCUSSION ITEM #3 RECEIVE a presentation from Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Richmond Rising regarding projects funded by ECIA.

Beatrice Guerrero gave the presentation by introducing Richmond Rising as being led by the coalition of the City of Richmond and six (6) local organizations. With a 35 million dollar grant from the California Strategic Growth Council's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Program, this 5-year grant endeavors to bring health, economic and environmental benefits to Iron Triangle, Santa Fe, and Coronado neighborhoods. Richmond Rising projects and plans focus on transit access and mobility, solar installation, energy and water efficiency, urban greening and infrastructure, and health and well-being through parks.

The ten (10) current Richmond Rising projects were discussed with highlight on the E-Bike Share project as \$77,390.80 is from the ECIA fund. Through said funding, the E-Bike Share project will expand by adding 70 bikes across 5 access points and offering free memberships. The committee asked if there were challenges experienced at the moment, which the Richmond Rising team responded that there are none. In addition, the team stressed that 8 out of the 10 projects have carbon measuring. The ECIA Committee commended Richmond Rising and stated its willingness to work with Richmond Rising to fund other projects aimed to reduce GHG.

6) Adjourn

Meeting is adjourned at 5:10pm

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For regular Meetings – within 72 hours of the meeting date and time and
For Special Meetings – within 24 hours of the meeting date and time

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Lori Reese-Brown – Project Manager, City of Richmond, (510) 620-6512, lori_reese-brown@ci.richmond.ca.us

DATE: January 13, 2025

TO: Members of the Richmond ECIA Transit & Transportation Committee

FROM: Beatriz Guerrero, Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Project Coordinator – Community Development
Matias Eusterbrock, Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Project Analyst - Community Development

SUBJECT: The Electric Bike Lending Library (eBLL)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE a presentation from Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) staff about the e-bike lending library project

DISCUSSION:

On June 21, 2022, the City Council authorized an application for a Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Round 4 Implementation Grant from the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC) for the Richmond Rising: *Healthy, Connected, and Climate Strong* project. The City's proposal included five Co-Applicants: Groundwork Richmond, GRID Alternatives, Rich City Rides, Trust for Public Land (TPL), and Urban Tilth. As described in additional detail below, Richmond Rising includes Project and Transformative Plans which provide environmental, health, and economic benefits in the Iron Triangle, Santa Fe, and Coronado neighborhoods (Project Area) through the year July 2028, with a focus on the following areas:

- Transit access and mobility
- Solar installation, energy efficiency, appliance electrification
- Water efficiency
- Urban greening and green infrastructure
- Health and well-being through parks and healthy food

The Electric Bicycle Lending Library

Project Goals: The Electric Bicycle Lending Library (e-BLL) at Unity Park will offer free access to electric bicycles, as well as courses in safety, maintenance/repair, and community engagement.

Project Status: Rich City Rides has hired a Project Manager to foster community engagement and manage construction and operation of the eBLL. Rich City Rides has presented building designs at multiple study sessions of the City's Design Review Board, has submitted plans for

permit approval to begin construction in 2025. The Electric Bike Lending Library (eBLL) is a proposed structure in Unity Park that will offer free access to electric bicycles, as well as courses in safety, maintenance/repair, and community engagement.

The eBLL is part of the City's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) grant award (also known as "Richmond Rising") and is focused on supporting community members in integrating e-bikes into their lives, which supports the community's effort to improve Richmond's growing zero-carbon-based transportation infrastructure. This includes development and operation of a new long-term e-bike share program where community members can check out e-bikes free of charge, as well as free offerings of class and direct support to help community members learn to use and maintain the e-bikes. Additionally, the eBLL will create a (VTM) Volunteer, Training, Maintenance road-to-ownership program which will allow community members to receive an e-bike upon completion of the VTM program. The VTM program includes mandatory training on safety, as well as a community engagement component to help other interested community members learn about the benefits of e-bikes for commuting and recreation. All community members that engage with the eBLL will complete surveys to ensure community needs are understood, and that eBLL programming successfully addresses these needs while continuing to lower greenhouse gas emissions in disadvantaged neighborhoods of the City.

Although partial funding has been included as part of the City's TCC grant award, additional funds are needed to support construction and operations, including LEED-certified design and certification, project bidding and construction, and ongoing operational costs.

DATE: January 13, 2025
TO: Members of the Richmond ECIA Transit and Transportation Committee
FROM: LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager – Community Services
Junne Garcia, Assoc. Administrative Analyst – Public Works
SUBJECT: Role of Transportation Improving Economic Development

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

DISCUSS the role of transportation in improving economic development project within the City with a focus on how to make business areas such as San Pablo Ave. more walkable and bikeable

DISCUSSION:

With projects like the Yellow Brick Road being funded to community-identified barriers, issues, and opportunities in the public right-of-way to create a safe, pleasant, artful, and walkable network that connects community-identified key assets in the neighborhood, including local elementary schools, parks, and transit. The Committee wanted to discuss how transportation can influence and improve economic development that focuses on safety, security and desirability of walking for transportation and health in this business area and local neighborhoods.

DATE: January 13, 2025
TO: Members of the Richmond ECIA Transit & Transportation Committee
FROM: LaShonda White – Deputy City Manager – Community Services
Junne Garcia – Assoc. Administrative Analyst – Public Works
SUBJECT: Update on the Electric Bike share program

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

RECEIVE an update on the City’s approval of the use of funds on the Electric Bike share program

DISCUSSION:

The Committee will receive a verbal update on the City’s approval of using funds in support of the Electric Bike share program. The e-bike program at this time is offering a free voucher program for individuals who live, work, or study in the Richmond Rising project areas, which include the Iron Triangle, Coronado, and Santa Fe neighborhoods. The partnership between Today and the City had a soft launch in September 2023 which created 4 hubs, and 27 bikes being deployed. To date there have been an additional 9 hubs, of which 6 of these are located in the TCC Project Areas mentioned earlier.

During the last ECIA Transit and Transportation Committee, the Committee recommended to City Council to gap funding for amount not to exceed \$80,000 over an 8-month span to support the Electric Bike Share program. It is anticipated that the amended contract with Ride Today will be brought to City Council on January 28, 2025 or February 4, 2025.

PROJECT GOALS:

The plan includes expanding hub locations and increasing the number of deployed bikes beyond the initial 2024 targets to enhance accessibility and meet growing demand. Efforts will focus on securing key partnerships, such as a title sponsor, lead safety sponsor, and additional sponsorships, to support program growth and sustainability. Additionally, the funding will prioritize pursuing grant funding opportunities while implementing strategies to boost ridership and maximize bike utilization, fostering a more connected and sustainable transportation network.