



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

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

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

## **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 the importance of conducting 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 \$250,000 for contingency. The estimated time to conduct 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 an emphasis on the E-Bike Share project, which has received \$77,390.80 in ECIA funding. 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

**Agendas regarding this Committee can be found online at:**

[www.ci.richmond.ca.us](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us)

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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

*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 (for special meetings) and 72 hours (for regular meetings) before the meeting:*

*Lori Reese-Brown – Project Manager, City of Richmond, (510) 620-6512, [lori\\_reese-brown@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:lori_reese-brown@ci.richmond.ca.us)*