

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, July 21, 2020

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 4:14 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt via teleconference.

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom have issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom has issued executive orders that allow cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing. Both <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/> and <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3914/Richmond-Coronavirus-Info> provide updated coronavirus information.

DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, attendance at the City of Richmond City Council meeting was limited to Councilmembers, essential City of Richmond staff, and members of the news media. Public comment was confined to items appearing on the agenda and was limited to the methods provided below. Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting utilized teleconferencing only. The following provides information on how the public participated in the meeting.

The public was able to view the meeting from home on KCRT – Comcast Channel 28 or AT&T Uverse Channel 99, or live-streamed online at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3178/KCRT-Live>.

Written public comments were received via email and eComment. Comments received by 3:00 p.m. on July 21, 2020, were put into the record and considered before Council action and were submitted by email to cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us. Comments received via email during the meeting and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item closed, were read into the record. Comments were also received via telephone during the public comment period.

Attached herewith all written public comments received.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ben Choi, Jael Myrick, Melvin Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Demnlus Johnson III was absent the entire Closed Session and Councilmember Eduardo Martinez arrived after the Council adjourned to Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The city clerk announced that the purpose of the Open Session was for the City Council to hear public comments on the following items to be discussed in Closed Session:

CITY COUNCIL

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY
NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8):

Property: Point Molate

Agency negotiators: Laura Snideman
Negotiating parties: Winehaven Legacy LLC (SunCal)
Under negotiations: price and terms of payment

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

San Francisco Baykeeper and West County Toxics Coalition v. City of Richmond

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

One Case

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957.6):

Title: City Attorney

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6):

Agency Representatives: Jack Hughes
Employee organizations:

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

The following individuals gave comments via telephone or e-mail regarding Point Molate: Michael Glikshon, Dorothy Gilbert, Lisa Park, Jeffrey Kilbreth, Jeanne Kortz, Gayle McLaughlin, and Louis Beaty.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 4:27 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Martinez, Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

Items G-10 and G-17 were withdrawn from the agenda.

REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY ON FINAL DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION

Acting City Attorney Rachel Sommovilla stated there were no reportable actions.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman had no report.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals submitted the following comments via email or telephone:

Ana Gonzalez, Elsa Stevens, Cristina Lorenzana, Eliza Castro, Astrid Jerez, Juan Jose Gutierrez, Fernando Avalos, Elsa Stevens, Jose Alfredo Palma, Reymundo Venegas, and Edith Pastrano gave comments regarding concerns about the City budget, potential layoffs, and possible elimination of vital City services.

Jovanka Beckles, Gayle McLaughlin, and Mike Parker spoke in support of Local 1021 union members and urged the City Council to not make any cuts or furlough employees. If cuts were necessary they should be taken from the highest paid employees and with the option of using the City's reserves.

Iiona Clark stated that the affordable housing rent program fee increased by 150% from \$50 to \$124 per unit, which could not be passed through to renters.

Tarnel Abbott stated that decisions and negotiations made regarding the development of Point Molate should be made in public. Ms. Abbott also spoke against furloughs, partial layoffs and service cuts.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, the items marked with an (*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council:

***G-1.** Approved a recommendation from the City Council Ad Hoc Committee to award \$30,000 in FY 2020-21 Environmental Community Investment Agreement (ECIA) Grant funds (Category 3 - City Council Approved Award) to three (3) Richmond-serving non-profit organizations and authorized the City Manager to negotiate and execute Grant Service Agreements with approved grantees.

***G-2.** Approved funding for a month to month lease with North Richmond Properties, Inc. for both trailers and to continue leasing space to store containers and landscaping equipment, in an amount not to exceed \$29,700.

***G-3.** Approved a two-year contract with All Star Glass, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 per fiscal year, plus two one-year extension options.

***G-4.** Approved the cost to outfit the two newly purchased fire apparatus-pumpers from Hi-Tech in an amount not to exceed \$17,252.68 and appropriated the budget from the Equipment Services fund balance.

***G-5.** Approved a contract with Wadsworth Glass Inc. to supply window supplies and services for City buildings on an as-needed basis in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 over a three-year period, with an option to extend two years.

***G-6.** Approved an appointment to the Workforce Development Board; appointed John Short, re-appointment, seat #21, business representative, term expiration date March 1, 2024.

***G-7.** Approved appointments to the Planning Commission: appointed Nancy Baer re-appointment, seat #1, term expiration date June 30, 2022; Jen Loy re-appointment, seat #2, term expiration date June 30, 2022; Michael Huang re-appointment, seat #5, term expiration date June 30, 2022.

***G-8.** Approved an appointment to the Youth Council: APPOINT Jocelyn Khansouvang, appointment, seat #3, term expiration date October 1, 2020.

***G-9.** Approved an appointment to the Commission on Aging: appointed Timothy Walker, re-appointment, seat #10, term expiration date May 19, 2024.

G-10. Withdrew the matter to approve an appointment to the Citizens Police Review Commission; Joseph Schlemmer, new appointment, seat #5, filing an unexpired term with an expiration date November 1, 2021.

***G-11.** Adopted **Ordinance No. 17-20**, establishing certain fees for the proposed Master Fee Schedule and after the second reading of the ordinance, adopted **Resolution No.75-20**, setting the dollar amount for the new fees and adjusting the dollar amount for current fees.

***G-12.** Approved the City Manager's response to Grand Jury Report No. 2004 entitled, "Police Department Staffing," and submittal to the 2019-2020 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury.

***G-13.** Approved the City Manager's response to Grand Jury Report No. 2007 entitled "Wildfire Preparedness in Contra Costa County", and submittal of the response to the 2019-2020 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury.

***G-14.** Approved a First Amendment to the contract with the Local Government Commission for one (1) AmeriCorps CivicSpark fellow to support citywide greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and climate action efforts increasing the amount of the contract by \$32,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$58,000 funded by the ECIA CAP budget.

***G-15.** Approved amendment No. 5 to the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Richmond and the West County Wastewater District as members of the West County Agency, which authorizes a contract with Carollo Engineers, Inc. for the design and construction of the Sodium Bisulfite facilities located at the Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$4,900,000 (which includes a 10% cost contingency), for which the City's obligations would be 65% or \$3,185,000 and West County Wastewater District's obligations would be 35% or \$1,715,000, and adopted **Resolution No.76-20**, to ratify the budget for the West County Agency for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and to approve the City of Richmond's contributions as specified herein.

***G-16.** Approved the minutes of the June 16, and 23, 2020, and July 7, 2020, Regular City Council Meetings and June 30, 2020 and July 2, 2020, Special City Council Meetings.

G-17. Withdrew the matter to designate Mayor Tom Butt as voting delegate and Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates as an alternate to represent the City of Richmond at the Annual Business Meeting of the League of California Cities' 2020 Annual Conference, to be held at the Convention Center in Long Beach, Wednesday, October 7 through Friday, October 9, 2020.

RESOLUTIONS

H-1. The matter to adopt a resolution ratifying the Director of Emergency Service's Fourth Supplemental Order by extending timelines for certain eviction issues related to COVID-19 until the City Council takes action to extend the Order to a date certain, or, in the alternative, decline to ratify and extend the Order, thereby terminating the Order and allowing County Order (Ordinance No. 2020-20) to apply in its entirety to the City of Richmond was presented by Attorney Shannon Moore. Mrs. Moore presented a PowerPoint, which highlighted the following: First to Fourth Supplemental Orders; Executive Order 71-20; Richmond Order; County Ordinance 2020-20; and key differences between County and City eviction orders. Discussion ensued. Sara Cantor gave comments via e-mail. A motion was made by Councilmember Willis, seconded by Councilmember Myrick, to approve Option 1 and extend the moratorium until September 30, 2020. Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Mayor Butt, made a substitute motion to support the County's measure, and request that county & state congressional legislators enact relief action for landlords. The substitute motion failed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Vice Mayor Bates and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Martinez, Myrick, and Willis. The original motion passed and **Resolution No. 77-20**, was adopted by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson III, Martinez, Myrick, and Willis. **Noes:** Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

I-1. The matter to review and provide direction on the draft resolution for the November 3, 2020, ballot which would amend the City's business tax rate structure to authorize the City to tax businesses based on a range from 0.075% to 1.395% of gross receipts instead of charging based on the number of employees was presented by Assistant City Manager, LaShonda White, Lift Up Oakland, Jim Ross, Lucia Del Puppo, and Revenue Manager, and Antonio Banuelos. The new methodology would charge the highest rates on businesses with the most gross revenue, with exemptions for small businesses with gross receipts under \$250,000, and was estimated to generate \$4.9 million in additional revenue until ended by voters. Based on City Council's feedback, staff would return with the final proposed ballot measure on the July 28, 2020, City Council meeting. A Powerpoint highlighted the following: Revenue Measure Polling Presentation; Gross Receipts Tax Overview; Richmond voter attitudes toward proposed finance measures; survey approach; gross receipts tax; vacant property tax; and real estate transfer tax. Discussion ensued. The following individuals gave comments via telephone or e-mail: Ilona Clark, Katrinka Ruk, and Paul Ibanez. A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Willis to approve the item; recommend the Oakland model; direct staff to

engage the business community and Council of Industries; and return the matter to the July 28, 2020, City Council meeting or at a special meeting in August, if necessary, passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

I-2. Continued to a future City Council meeting, the matter to amend the Fiscal Year 20/21 budget to reduce the Office of Neighborhood Safety budget by two Neighborhood Change Agents in the amount of \$227,694 and vote to apply the funding to the overall budget reduction.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS: REFERRALS TO STAFF, AND GENERAL REPORTS (INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

Mayor Butt requested responses from Councilmembers interested in being appointed to observe the Veolia mediation on September 3, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m., in memory of civil rights leaders Corey Vivian and John Lewis, and City of San Joaquin Councilmember, Jose Ornelas, to meet again on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 8:19 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE CLOSED SESSION

hello Sabrina, i have a comment before closed session.

for the next city attorney, is that he/she would have the experience in representing the city in court or grievance hearings

also that would give advice to boards and commissions

sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sara Sunstein <sarasun18@humboldtmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:54 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Ben Choi; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Melvin Willis
Subject: Public Comment--Closed Session, Conference with Real Property Negotiator

I don't know if I'm allowed to comment on Closed session meetings, but as a resident of Richmond, I believe it's within the scope of my rights.

I urge you to not take any action regarding sale of Pt Molate to Winehaven LLC/SunCal or any other entity until the in-process litigation is settled and until an updated EIR addressing potentially 1000-2000+ cars onsite as well as traveling Stenmark drive daily.

Stop putting the cart before the horse!! The Council's actions re: Pt Molate has become totally out of bounds and in the direction opposite the majority of residents' wishes.

Please reconsider what you're doing before it's too late for everyone, including Richmond's financial well-being (but perhaps not SunCal's).

Respectfully,
Sara Sunstein
1664 San Benito

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 8:29 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

hello Sabrina, i have some comments to go into the Record

1. i am in support of G-6- G-10 because it is nice to see people that are stepping up to be on Boards and Commissions.
2. The Mayor should not have to ask Council Members if they had spoken with staff in regarding the items on the Consent Calendar, if i can email staff on an item, the Council should do the Same Thing.
3. i am working on a couple of Projects that i think would be a good fit for Richmond, i will unveil it when i Return.

sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: Andrea Mullarkey <andrea.mullarkey@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:59 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item G-10.

Good afternoon councilmembers,

My name is Andrea Mullarkey. I am a Richmond resident who is deeply concerned about policing in my city. Tonight you consider an appointment to the CPRC of a person who is a recently retired Richmond police officer. The whole point of a citizen police review commission is to oversee and review the action of police. It is essential that these folks be independent. I simply do not see how that is possible for a recently retired officer. We are currently in a community-wide reckoning about policing and accountability and the CPRC needs to be the first-line of defense for residents demanding reform. Whether we are concerned about racism, abuse, excessive force or other police misconduct (I am concerned about ALL of these), it does not make sense to appoint a former police officer, especially a recently retired one to this position. There will be personal ties, professional ties, and it would be particularly problematic given the culture of deference to hierarchy in policing.

For these reasons I urge you NOT to appoint Joey Schlemmer to the CPRC.

Thank you,
Andrea

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:43 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Fwd: Item G-10, Police Review Committee

Item G-10

Please either read my comment at the appropriate time or post it before 3:00 pm. (I get confused over what to send when, but either is ok.) Thank you, Debbie Bayer

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

The proposed appointment of Captain Schlemmer to the Community Police Review Committee (CPRC) is inappropriate. The CPRC was set up to as a safe place for Richmond residents to file complaints about perceived unprofessional police behavior, whether harrassment, discrimination, or excessive force. At times the complaint may be valid, at times it may not be, but the person making the complaint has the right to expect a neutral body to listen and invesitgate the alleged incident. The surest way to keep someone from NOT complaining about the police, is to send that person to the police to make the complaint.

Captain Schlemmer, was not only a long-time police officer but in his union capacity, an advocate on behalf of his fellow officers. It is hard to imagine him maintaining a neutral attitude while reviewing a dispute between the RPD and the citizenry.

This is not to impugn Capt Schlemmer's integrity or willingness to serve the Richmond community, but his viewpoint has to have been colored by his years-long experience as an officer. The RPD, like most police forces, is in the habit of trying to protect officers from public scrutiny and rebuke. The murder of Pedie Perez is an example of the RPD closing ranks and

obstructing his family from seeking justice or even a clear history of what happened.

Please appoint Captain Schlemmer to a different city commission, but withdraw his name from the appointment to the CPRC. I ask at the least that Item G-10 be pulled from the consent calendar, so the issue can be discussed by the Council.

Thank you, Debbie Bayer, Richmond resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: Diana Wear <diana4richmond@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 5:32 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Item G-10 Police Review Commission

Diana Wear
Richmond resident

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

The proposed appointment of Captain Schlemmer to the Community Police Review Committee is not an appropriate choice. Captain Schlemmer, was a long-time police officer in a role with the union, which means he was an advocate for his fellow officers. He will hardly be able to be neutral when reviewing disputes between the RPD and the citizens of our fair city.

This doesn't mean he isn't a person of goodwill, but it's just not prudent to put him in this position. The times have changed and we need to look to a new chapter of policing—not with people who spent decades with one lens on the department.

You might consider appointing Captain Schlemmer to another city commission given his commitment and experience with our city. But respectfully, I request that you withdraw his name from the appointment to the CPRC. Item G-10 should be pulled from the consent calendar.

Respectfully,

Diana Wear

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jacqueline Thalberg <valleymountain2012@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:36 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item G-10

One of the responsibilities of the Community Police Review Commission (CPRC) is to be an independent review Board overseeing the local Police Department. As such, it also receives complaints from Citizens about the Department. It is part of the CPRC's roles that its members be independent of and objective about the Police Department itself. You wouldn't have an ex-executive of a company be part of an oversight- and review body of that same company. Mayor Tom Butt's efforts to put a recently retired Richmond Police Officer, Mr. Schlemmer, on the CPRC, is a blatant jeopardising of that independent oversight role. A man who has worked within and supervised that Police Department cannot be considered independent nor objective.

The CPRC is also the main way Citizens can hold the police accountable, through receiving complaints from the Community about police behavior and -actions. Appointing a retired Police Officer from that same police force to be a member of an oversight board is a slap in the face of Richmond citizens and a power grab by this Mayor.

Jacqueline Thalberg
32nd Street
Richmond, CA

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jim Hite <umbrella27@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:20 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments - Agenda item G-10

My name is Jim Hite, Richmond resident. Regarding the appointment of a former police officer to the Community Police Review Commission, I must say, Mayor Butt, you continue to amaze me, attempting to put a fox in the hen house. Wow. Our current President can look to Richmond leadership for inspiration. Thank you

Sabrina Lundy

From: Michelle Chan <michellechansf@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:15 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item G-10

Dear Councilmembers,

I am a Richmond resident, homeowner and mom.

I am surprised and concerned to see that an ex-cop, Joey Schlemmer, has been nominated to the Community Police Review Commission.

How can someone who was recently on the force be expected to properly hold his former colleagues and co-workers accountable? This simply spreads the public distrust of the police to the CPRC -- the exact opposite of what the Commission is supposed to do. It will prevent residents who have legitimate complaints about excessive force or racially abusive activities from coming forward, and undermine police accountability.

The timing of this nomination is particularly shocking. The country is in the middle of a racial justice uprising, centered around police accountability. In Richmond thousands of people have stood up, led by our youth. If the Council approves this nomination, it will be tone-deaf at best, and a betrayal of Richmond residents, especially Black and brown communities.

Please do not confirm Joey Schlemmer or any former police to the CPRC.

Thank you,
Michelle Chan
Richmond North and East resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: narvold@sunset.net
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:26 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment at council meeting -

Do NOT put Joey Schlemmer on the Police oversight board – how could that POSSIBLY be reasonable or ethical – that board needs to be far more disinterested than that – even if he has retired, he has been “trained” by the culture for the years of his profession.

Do not do that.

Dr. Nancy Arvold, PhD, MFT

Atchison Village

Richmond, 94801

Sabrina Lundy

From: Cordell Hindler <cordellhindler@ymail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 9:48 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: G-17 DESIGNATE Mayor Tom Butt as voting delegate and Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates as an alternate to represent the City of Richmond at the Annual Business Meeting of the League of California Cities' 2020 Annual Conference

hello Sabrina, the reason that G-17 should be removed from the consent calendar is for the following Reasons.

1. i am concerned about the well being of our Mayor while the CO VID is spreading.
2. also the cost of the Conference

i am suggesting that the item to be tabled for Next Tuesday for those reasons that i had mentioned

sincerely
Cordell

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sara Sunstein <sarasun18@humboldtmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:36 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment: Agenda #H-1 7/21/2020

To City Clerk and City Council,

I urge you to pass/adopt the proposed resolution, #H-1, to approve of Richmond's emergency announcement that pandemic-related unpaid rents shall not be penalized, nor tenants evicted, until the Council takes action on this matter.

Therefore, I also urge you to take up this issue on its own asap. Apparently Richmond is its own entity within Contra Costa County concerning rent. Currently Contra Costa has September 30 rent non-payment deadline and January 31, 2021 payment deadline. Though appreciated, these are not adequate.

I assume I am not the only one in Richmond still waiting for the state to send my unemployment benefits, retroactive to March! I assume I am not the only one in a rent-controlled unit with a landlord hounding me—regardless of the law—about when will I pay July rent (the only month I didn't pay, having dived into savings for 3 months previous).

Please consider those of us out of work without income, who do not want to join the unhoused population, who might die if we were evicted, those of us who see no work in sight, given our training, the lack of jobs, or timeline for our field/business to re-open.

Please take positive action to serve us low-income renters during this ongoing pandemic.
Thank you.

Sara Sunstein
1664 San Benito

Sabrina Lundy

From: Eli Bildner <eli@rivetschool.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment for Closed Session

Greetings,

I write in opposition to the city's proposal to amend the business tax rate structure one based on gross receipts.

Especially now, business and capital are mobile. This is not a time when the city can afford to take measures to make itself a less competitive business climate. This measure will incentivize employers (and larger employers, in particular) to shift operations away from the city, and to friendlier business climates. Without seeing the specifics of the financial modeling, I'm skeptical that the \$4.9M projected raise will reach that level given dynamic effects, and the deleterious impact this could have on Richmond's attractiveness to current and future employers.

Again, as the operator of a Richmond-based organization, I state my opposition to the proposed measure.

Eli Bildner

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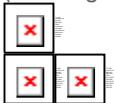
Eli Bildner | Co-Executive Director, [Rivet School](#)
pronouns: he/him

973.216.8261 | [Book a meeting](#)



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Sabrina Lundy

From: James Lee <james@rcoc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:49 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments Item #I-1 Draft resolution for the November 3, 2020, ballot which would amend the City's business tax rate structure

My name is James Lee, and I am the president of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce. I am writing on behalf of over 300 members of the business community in Richmond. We strongly encourage the council to provide the businesses enough time to review an ordinance that will have a dramatic impact on businesses that are already impacted by the current pandemic. We understand we are in unpresidential time, but taxing local businesses is not the answer. By changing the tax structure, a small business could pay up to three times more in business tax than the current year. It is already challenging to generate income due to the pandemic and may take months, if not years, to bounce back for some of our members.

Sincerely,

James Lee

President/ CEO

Richmond Chamber of Commerce

[510-234-3512](tel:510-234-3512)

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | www.rcoc.com

*Profitability For Our Members Today and
Prosperity for Our Community Tomorrow*

Sabrina Lundy

From: Megan Zapanta <megan@apen4ej.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 2:57 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comments – agenda item #I-1

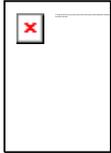
Support for Item #I-1

My name is Megan Zapanta and I am the Richmond Organizing Director for the Asian Pacific Environmental Network. I am writing today to urge you to update Richmond's Business Tax. The working class immigrants and refugees we work with - including youth and seniors - need city services like parks and libraries, to survive and thrive. It is imperative that Richmond finds new revenue streams like the Business Tax to maintain our city services and adequately compensate city staff.

Thank you for considering this measure.

Megan Zapanta
Richmond Organizing Director
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

--



Megan Zapanta
Pronoun: She, Her
Richmond Organizing Director, Asian Pacific Environmental Network
p: 510-236-4616 X 331 **a:** 12818 San Pablo, Richmond, CA 94805
426 17th Street, #500 Oakland, CA 94612
s: apen4ej.org **e:** megan@apen4ej.org,



Sabrina Lundy

From: Sandy Saeteurn <sandy@apen4ej.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment-agenda item #I1

Hi Council,

My name is Lio Sandy Saeteurn. I'm a long time Richmond resident, and a member of the Lift Up Richmond coalition. I'm writing in support of, and urging the city council to take into further consideration updating Richmond's Business Tax.

Our local public hospital with an emergency room is no longer here in Richmond. Many of our neighborhood libraries have been closed, and our after school and summer programs cut. Enough is enough! These cuts and closures of vital family services have affected me and our community drastically and we can longer bear the burden of continued cuts.

You must act now to find solutions to rebuild Richmond. I believe that updating the business tax is one of many solutions towards solving our budget issues.

Thank you for your consideration!
Lio Sandy Saeteurn

--

Lio Sandy Saeteurn
APEN Local Political Coordinator
510.236.4616 x332

Sabrina Lundy

From: Rahmani Salaam <rsalaam1975@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 12:45 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comment on agenda item# I-2 ONS Budget

Hello I'm Naimah Salaam an I'm a Community Mom in Richmond an the ONS program has been a Big Support to Me and my family and My Community for many years. The program has stepped up in many areas mentoring my son,,,supporting him in school and at meeting such as IEP's,, supporting him with work experience,,and also taking him on trips to experience life outside of Richmond very great experiences for my son and his friend. As you all know that we are dealing with a Worldwide Pandemic here lately and ONS never failed us they have been a big part of us surviving through this tuff time checking on us weekly to assist in any way possible delivery groceries and household essentials and gift cards as well, I truly don't know what we would do without the team of ONS workers. We truly appreciate you all and are blessed to have your support. Please don't cut their budget we need them to keep blessing us and our community.

Council Meeting - 7/21/2020

Meeting Time: 07-21-20 18:30

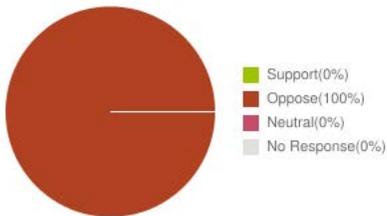
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Council Meeting - 7/21/2020	07-21-20 18:30	48	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Council Meeting - 7/21/2020

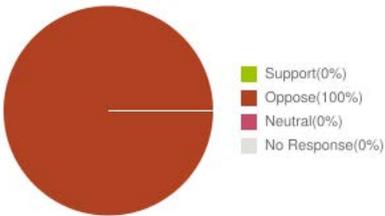
07-21-20 18:30

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
I-2. AMEND the Fiscal Year 20/21 budget to reduce the Office of Neighborhood Safety budget by two Neighborhood Change Agents in the amount of \$227,694 and vote to apply the funding to the overall budget reduction - Councilmember Eduardo Martinez (620-6593) and Vice Mayor Nat Bates (620-6743).	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

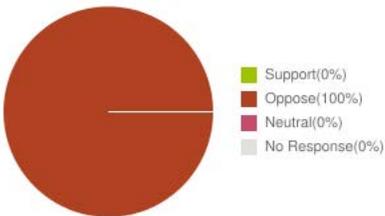
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for I-2. AMEND the Fiscal Year 20/21 budget to reduce the Office of Neighborhood Safety budget by two Neighborhood Change Agents in the amount of \$227,694 and vote to apply the funding to the overall budget reduction - Councilmember Eduardo Martinez (620-6593) and Vice Mayor Nat Bates (620-6743).

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 9:10pm 07-16-20

I absolutely oppose taking money away from ONS as our city is in the process of defunding the police department and allocating that money to social service and crime prevention programs such as ONS. If you want to save further money deduct from the exorbitant police budget.

Council Meeting - 7/21/2020

Meeting Time: 07-21-20 18:30

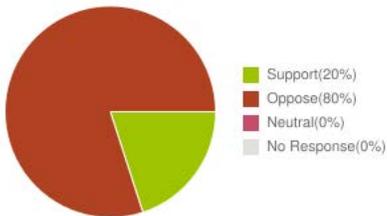
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Council Meeting - 7/21/2020	07-21-20 18:30	48	5	1	4	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Council Meeting - 7/21/2020

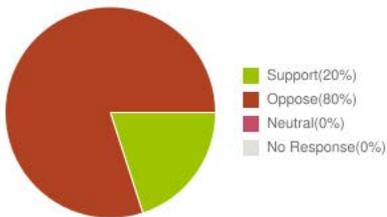
07-21-20 18:30

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Deleted Agenda Item	1	0	1	0
H-1. ADOPT a resolution ratifying the Director of Emergency Service's Fourth Supplemental Order by extending timelines for certain eviction issues related to COVID-19 until the City Council takes action to extend the Order to a date certain, or, in the alternative, decline to ratify and extend the Order, thereby terminating the Order and allowing County Order (Ordinance No. 2020-20) to apply in its entirety to the City of Richmond - Community Development Department (Lina Velasco 620-6706).	1	1	0	0
I-2. AMEND the Fiscal Year 20/21 budget to reduce the Office of Neighborhood Safety budget by two Neighborhood Change Agents in the amount of \$227,694 and vote to apply the funding to the overall budget reduction - Councilmember Eduardo Martinez (620-6593) and Vice Mayor Nat Bates (620-6743).	3	0	3	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

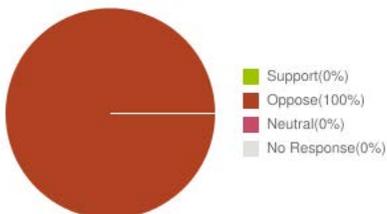
The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for Deleted Agenda Item

Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:

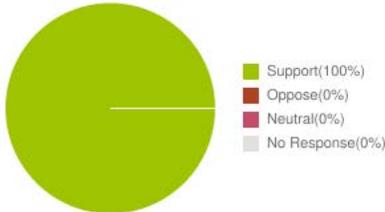
Submitted At: 9:10pm 07-16-20

I absolutely oppose taking money away from ONS as our city is in the process of defunding the police department and allocating that money to social service and crime prevention programs such as ONS. If you want to save

further money deduct from the exorbitant police budget.

Agenda Item: eComments for H-1. ADOPT a resolution ratifying the Director of Emergency Service's Fourth Supplemental Order by extending timelines for certain eviction issues related to COVID-19 until the City Council takes action to extend the Order to a date certain, or, in the alternative, decline to ratify and extend the Order, thereby terminating the Order and allowing County Order (Ordinance No. 2020-20) to apply in its entirety to the City of Richmond - Community Development Department (Lina Velasco 620-6706).

Overall Sentiment



Sara Cantor

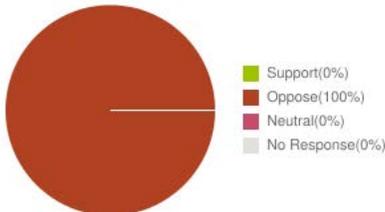
Location:

Submitted At: 1:33pm 07-21-20

I support this resolution. Keeping our residents housed is an important part of public safety! Not only will extending this order prevent residents from being displaced, it also extends the amount of time renters have to re-pay any unpaid rent, since the 12 month timeline only begins when the order is rescinded. Thank you for this resolution and the plan to adopt it!

Agenda Item: eComments for I-2. AMEND the Fiscal Year 20/21 budget to reduce the Office of Neighborhood Safety budget by two Neighborhood Change Agents in the amount of \$227,694 and vote to apply the funding to the overall budget reduction - Councilmember Eduardo Martinez (620-6593) and Vice Mayor Nat Bates (620-6743).

Overall Sentiment



Sara Cantor

Location:

Submitted At: 1:26pm 07-21-20

You had it right when you re-allocated the funds to ONS. ONS is an important part of our neighborhood safety, and their method works to keep us safe. Keep the funds with ONS - we want 2 more Neighborhood Change Agents!

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 11:50am 07-21-20

The de-fund movement is an effort to re-allocate funds from the police force into more appropriate departments to better serve our communities. If you re-allocate then cut you place all the burden back on RPD with less resources. The de-fund movement isn't an excuse to balance your budgets.

Sadie Egan

Location:

Submitted At: 10:54pm 07-20-20

The point of defunding RPD is not to balance the budget! We need those funds to be invested in community safety and social services. Especially now. Angry and disappointed this is even being discussed. If ONS doesn't want the funds, find another social service that needs the money or fund the task force created by the city council to transition services away from RPD.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Deborah Bayer <dbayer49@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:35 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Forum

To the City Council:

My name is Debbie Bayer and I am a Richmond resident. I intended to address the Council before you went into closed session regarding the sale of Point Molate, but my request got lost and I was unable to do so. Instead, I am addressing the issue in Public Forum, and hope it is not too late. the sale of Pt Molate.

Point Molate is the last open headland on the East side of the Bay. Selling Pt Molate to SunCal is like turning over the last of the redwoods so they can be made into decking.

Builldozing into the hillsides, as SunCal will have to do to fit in over 1400 residential units, will likely destroy the healthiest stand of eel grass in the Bay. Eelgrass needs a specific set of conditions to grow, including clear water, free of the kind of sediment and chemicals that get washed down the hill during and after construction. Marine life such as crabs and spawning fish depend on eel grass as do the shore birds who hunt there, so it is an important habitat.

SunCal is NOT providing 70% open space as they agreed to and as the Mayor has been continuing to tell the public. The City Council is colluding with SunCal if you go along with that lie.

The City has estimated that the cost of each housing unit in the proposed development will average about \$1.3 million, requiring household incomes between \$240,000 to \$280,000 per year. The median household income in Richmond is \$61,000 per year, so housing at Point Molate will clearly be out of the range of most Richmond residents, and will not solve the need we have for low, middle, and affordable housing in Richmond. This sale will not benefit us. You are

exchanging something beautiful and irreplaceable for a bit of cash that will soon be spent. This is short term thinking of the worst kind. We can do better than that.

. The judge overseeing the lawsuit against the City as a Brown Act violation is set to issue a final judgment in September. At the very least you could wait until that lawsuit has been settled before you proceed. Better yet would be to place the issue of Point Molate on the City ballot in November so the people of Richmond can decide for ourselves how we want use our public land.

Thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Dorothy Gilbert <mariesnicewerewolf@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:01 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Eduardo Martinez; jael_myrick@ci.richmondca.us; Tom Butt - external; Demnlus Johnson; Ben Choi; Lina Velasco; Nat Bates
Subject: Public Comment on Closed Session (Point Molate)

Dear Members of the Richmond City Council:

I write in shock and outrage at the latest attempt by SunCal to have their way with the Richmond citizens in their shifting designs on Point Molate. From the first, this attempt to take possession of Point Molate has been marked by chicanery and dishonesty.

Decisions regarding Point Molate were initially made by SunCal and a closed Council session, instead of a required public process, and are thus illegal. Now a Plan Area (PA) has been designated by SunCal that greatly distorts the previous understanding, that 70% of the area was to be Open Space. Open Space of a sort it may be, but it is hardly 70%; what remains is not for us. It's very steep slope of the 400-500 hills behind Point Molate, plus known toxic areas. Public access would be only available by the Bay Trail and even that looks doubtful, as all of the entrance is on land designated for private dwellings. The Beach Park, cherished by Richmond residents for many years and, like much the general area, home to valuable and rare plant species, would become the sewer for the complex.

We now have an attempt to rush into this settlement agreement. SunCal is delaying the provision of project information to the Design Review Board. They hope to use the current settlement timeline to force a vote that goes their way, even though it does not give the DRW sufficient time to obtain a viable EIR. A decision would be made based on an incomplete and inadequate EIR used by SunCal. The settlement timeline has been changed already, and can be changed again. It surely must be, if a responsible decision is to be made.

It has been said over and over, by many people; the loss of this land to the public would be nothing less than a tragedy --indeed, several tragedies. Point Molate is, we all know, home to many historic treasures. It is Ohlone land, still treasured by Ohlone people who wish to use it for ceremonies. It is the home of the old Chinese Shrimp Camp, the once famous Winehaven facility, and near the old whaling station. Environmentally it is immensely valuable, home to rare species of plants, of bees and bats, and of once-rare ospreys, of in all 200 species of birds. Much of this wildlife is extremely valuable to science. There are the memories, referred to above, of people who have cherished the Beach Park for many years. In the current plan--that developed by citizens-- there are facilities for sports and recreation--by the public!

Also said many times -- of critical importance!--development of this area would create a dwelling complex extremely dangerous and extremely expensive--for the citizens of Richmond. The danger of an area with one main road, with one entrance/exit to the freeway, with no room for expanding, has been thoroughly discussed; the possibility of earthquake and fire, the proximity of the Chevron facility to living quarters (stoves, heaters) are considerations. Realtors have said that the knowledge of these matters will mean that sales of these condos (dwellings for wealthy people) will be poor, possibly disastrously so.

Dear Council Members, you must give the Design Review Board time to assess fully this situation. Thank you so much for your attention.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Gilbert, Richmond resident
Former Member, Point Molate Community Advisory Committee

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jeannette Kortz <jeannekortz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:07 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Fwd: Public Comments-Closed Session-Point Molate Price and Terms of Payment

Dear City Clerk,

Below are my comments for closed session. Hopefully it's not too long.

Thank you very much!

Jeanne

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jeannette Kortz <jeannekortz@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jul 20, 2020 at 6:22 PM

Subject: Public Comments-Closed Session-Point Molate Price and Terms of Payment

To: Ben Choi <ben_choi@ci.richmond.ca.us>, Eduardo Martinez <eduardo_martinez@ci.richmond.ca.us>,

Melvin Willis <melvin_willis@ci.richmond.ca.us>, Nathaniel Bates <natbates@comcast.net>,

demnlus_johnson@ci.richmond.ca.us <demnlus_johnson@ci.richmond.ca.us>, jael_myrick@ci.richmond.ca.us <jael_myrick@ci.richmond.ca.us>

CC: Lina Velasco <Lina_Velasco@ci.richmond.ca.us>, laura_snideman@ci.richmond.ca.us

<laura_snideman@ci.richmond.ca.us>

Dear Members of the Richmond City Council,

I want to express my dismay, even my outrage, that the City is negotiating the "price and terms of payment" for public/Ohlone land based on the terms and conditions of an illegal settlement deal that has not yet been heard and judged in court.

It is in the public interest to be consistent with the General Plan, and other planning documents that guide the development of Point Molate.

We should, instead, make plans for a world-class Regional Park for Richmond youth and families, the region and future generations. The East Bay Regional Park District has set aside over \$4 million to turn the south watershed of Point Molate into a regional park.

Sustainably develop the Winehaven Historic District, but please leave the environmentally sensitive south watershed undeveloped for the benefit of all Richmond residents, and residents of the greater Bay Area. Please do not make the south watershed a private enclave for the wealthy, which will also turn the Point Molate Beach Park into a sewer facility for these homes. How is this plan a socioeconomic justice plan?

Richmond must focus on developing the inner part of the City. The Planning Department should put out a call for developers to come to Richmond to build affordable housing, provide commercial enterprises that would bring much needed money to Richmond's coffers, and bring job opportunities. Richmond has plenty of empty, blighted lots that could be turned into the reality such as what I mentioned above. The Point Molate plan is a

plan that belongs back in the 1980's/1990's. Most cities are building affordable housing near transportation, amenities, and where infrastructure already exists. These cities are creating thriving downtowns. Richmond's downtown is abysmal.

I do hope you listen to your constituents. For some reason you never do. Please do not be pressured by the developer, and legal threats. If you vote to sell Point Molate, you will be on the wrong side of history. You will be voting for something you will truly regret, and will create a negative cash flow for the City for years to come.

Thank you for your time,

Jeanne Kortz
Richmond Resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: Lisa Park <lpark@sonic.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:02 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Demnlus Johnson; Jael Myrick; Laura Snideman; Lina Velasco; Ben Choi; Eduardo Martinez; Melvin Willis; Tom Butt - external; Nat Bates
Subject: Public comments - Closed session (Point Molate) July 21, 2020

Dear Mayor Butt and Council Members,

Regarding Point Molate:

I object that the City is negotiating the price and terms of payment for public Ohlone land based on the terms and conditions of an illegal settlement deal that has not yet been heard and judged in court.

The City is negotiating a deal that amounts to gifting public Ohlone land without public or Ohlone consent for the profit of a failed casino developer, a Tribe that has no connection to Point Molate, and an out-of-town real estate developer at the expense of the Richmond public and taxpayer.

The City's financial analysis of the SunCal project proves everything the Point Molate Alliance has argued and the Hatch financial analysis shows — the project as planned will cost Richmond taxpayers at least \$5 million/year. Please closely review for yourselves the financial risks to the City.

The proposed project violates the General Plan and all the City's planning documents that guide the development of Point Molate. Public access, active recreation and protecting biodiversity and Native American sacred heritage sites are core elements in our General Plan and all the City documents that guide the development of Point Molate.

Thank you,

Lisa Park

5626 Bayview Avenue

Richmond, CA 94804

--
Lisa C Park

Sabrina Lundy

From: Michael Gliksohn <mgliksohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:01 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments – Closed Session (Pt Molate)

Dear Mayor Butt and City Council Members,

I'm writing to urge you to put a hold on your sale negotiations with SunCal. The development that SunCal has proposed is a bad deal for Richmond and it is not what the citizens of Richmond want.

The City's financial analysis of the SunCal project proves everything the Pt Molate Alliance has argued and the Hatch financial analysis shows — **this project as planned will cost Richmond taxpayers at least \$5 million/year**. Please closely review for yourselves the financial risks to the City.

The proposed project violates the General Plan and all the City's planning documents that guide the development of Pt Molate. Public access, active recreation and protecting biodiversity and sacred/cultural heritage sites are core elements in our General Plan and all the City documents that guide the development of Pt Molate.

Thank you for your consideration,
Michael Gliksohn
Richmond resident

Sabrina Lundy

From: claudia jimenez <jimenez.claudia78@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:51 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comment agenda Item G-10

Hello City Clerk,

I want to make public comment on Item G-10. Please read my statement. Thank you so much

Good evening City Council Members and Major, my name is Claudia Jimenez, a Richmond resident. Tonight I want to publicly oppose the appointment of a retired police officer to the Community's Police Review Commission. The Community's Police Review Commissions provides valuable community oversight over the police. It does not make sense for a member of the police to sit on such a body. This is not about Joseph Schlemmer's record, this is about the basic functions and structures of an institution meant to serve a very specific purpose. This commission provides an opportunity for the community to weigh in on matters related to policing. There are plenty of other venues where police officers can weigh in as well--this is not the place. It is not appropriate to appoint Joseph Schlemmer. This is another attempt to weak the Community's Police Review Commission at a time where residents are outcrying to make sure the police is more accountable to our communities. This important commission needs to be strengthen to be able to investigate all cases that community members complaint about. We need Richmond residents who wants to make serious and structural changes in the Police Department.

--

Claudia Jimenez

“If you have come to help me you are wasting **your** time. But if you have come because **your liberation is bound** up with mine, then let us work together.”

Aboriginal rights activists from Queensland, Australia in the 1970s.

"Todos los días hay que luchar porque ese amor a la humanidad viviente se transforme en hechos concretos, en actos que sirvan de ejemplo de movilización" Che Guevara

Sabrina Lundy

From: Jessica Peregrina <jp.westcountyconciolalino@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:02 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item G-10

My name is Jessica Peregrina and I want to express disapproval at the appointment of an ex-police officer of this city for the community police review commission, which represents a conflict of interest on the part of the person appointed for having close ties with the organization that he is supposed to review! This is unethical and inappropriate, please find another more appropriate individual, if this commission is to be fair, objective and effective in purposeful.

Jessica

Sabrina Lundy

From: Tracy Rosenberg <tracy@media-alliance.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:51 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public comments - Agenda Item G-10

Dear Mayor Butt and Honorable Council Members,

I write to you today to request that the City Council not confirm the nomination of Joey Schlemmer to the Richmond Community Police Review Commission (CPRC). I don't make this request due to any concerns about Mr. Schlemmer personally; I have never met him and I have no reason to doubt that he wishes to serve in order to increase oversight.

But the independence of the CPRC from the Richmond Police Department is absolutely integral to its mission. If we replicate the dynamics of an internal affairs investigation, then there is no reason for a CPRC. A recently retired officer, no matter how wonderful, is simply not a qualified candidate for the Community Police Review Commission. By definition, members of a lay citizen oversight board should not have been recent coworkers with some of the officers they may need to investigate and should not be a recent employee of the exact department the CPRC is charged to oversee.

Please protect the independence of the CPRC. Richmond is filled with residents who are not recently retired from the Richmond Police Department. The purpose of the oversight board is not to refract the point of view of the Richmond Police Department itself. It is to bring the perspective of non-police members of the community into the dialogue and identify when there are misalignments so public safety is improved.

Thank you.

Tracy Rosenberg
ED, Media Alliance (a regional advocate) and coordinator, Oakland Privacy (for ID purposes only).

--

Tracy Rosenberg
Executive Director
Media Alliance
2830 20th Street Suite 201
San Francisco, CA 94110
www.media-alliance.org
415-746-9475
510-684-6853 Cell
Encrypted email at tracy.rosenberg@protonmail.com
Text via Signal

-



Virus-free. www.avg.com

Sabrina Lundy

From: edward@accurateautobodyinc.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 3:54 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: tiffany@accurateautobodyinc.com
Subject: Public comment for Closed Session

To whom it may concern,

During these trying times, it is very difficult to make a profit. Our sales have dropped by 40% and we are having difficulty staying in business. We have 14 employees that we are trying to keep on payroll. Raising the taxes on business is not sound economics. Businesses will either close or move out of town. Richmond needs to attract more business and will not be able to do so by raising taxes. This is too drastic of a measure and should be reconsidered.

Sincerely,

Edward Cichon

Edward Cichon

Owner

edward@accurateautobodyinc.com



3001 Richmond Parkway, Richmond,
CA 94806
510-243-1414
Monday-Friday 7:30am to 5pm
accurateautobodyinc.com

Family Owned and
Operated Since 1984



Sabrina Lundy

From: Szymon Bernaciak <Szymon@onlinebindery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 5:39 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Ernest Lompa
Subject: public comment for Closed Session

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to you hoping that you will thoroughly evaluate the discussed proposal before passing this resolution. I trust that the council members will consider the long-term implications of such changes, instead of acting upon emotions based on the present circumstances, in light of COVID-19.

As a life-long entrepreneur and a Richmond business owner of 30 years, I call for the decision to be made based on the voices of our local community, people running their businesses day in and day out, and not a theoretical approach that might or might not work. I believe in the people of Richmond, thus I trust that the future course of action will focus on the wellbeing of the local businesses, not addressing a budget deficit.

Therefore, I ask you to reconsider this proposal, as it is my personal belief that it will not accomplish its desired effects. Contrary, it could create a situation where many businesses are being penalized with a higher tax for working day and night, to keep their families fed.

Sincerely,

Ernest Lompa, On Line Bindery President

Sabrina Lundy

From: Louis Buty <loubuty@americantex.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:07 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment for closed session

The proposed tax can be anywhere from 33% of a company's net profit to over 50%. What about years a company has no profits or loses money? The rate(s) proposed is severely penal and unrealistic for businesses to absorb. In this current environment of tremendous unknowns in the economy, this will bankrupt or force businesses to move. In a good economy this is an absurd amount.

I assume the council is after big business yet small business suffers the most. Property values (Industrial & Commercial) will decrease as few businesses will move here and many will leave. When other states and cities are vying to get businesses (other than retail) this makes no economic sense. The proposed method is an astronomical increase compared to current method. There must be a better answer to nominally raise funds for the city, assuming the city really needs more funding.

Lou Buty
American Textile & Supply, Inc.
Environmental Grime Solutions™
(510) 236-7424
3439 Regatta Boulevard
Richmond, CA 94804
www.americantex.com

We were on the **"World's Greatest!" Episode 286**, 22 min mark [click here!](#)

Connect with the **GRIME TEAM:**   

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Sabrina Lundy

From: Edith Pastrano <epastrano@calorganize.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:31 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: General Public Comment

The following are public comments from ACCE members in support of city workers.

Ana Gonzalez - I live in Richmond and I'm an ACCE member, I have 3 children and I have been very concerned about services being cut that would impact me and my family as well as city workers. My main concern is around health services, libraries, and traffic safety, the city must be advocates for healthcare and stopping the county from closing the hospital, we need you to be advocates for us, our children and our city workers. Tom, and members of the council, realize that this is the time to utilize what money is locked away for emergencies. We are in a crisis and you will not be able to fix it by slashing city workers and their paycheck which they desperately depend on to survive while there is money available. Thank you for your time.

Elsa Stevens - It is my personal opinion that "furlough" is just another word for partial LAYOFF. The City Workers who work the hardest and get paid the least -- the folks we now call ESSENTIAL WORKERS, they should not be asked, yet again, to sacrifice the most. With buying power that shrinks every year and the Bay Area Cost of Living going through the roof, most are not surviving. The City has record "Rainy Day" reserves. Now is the time to MAKE IT RAIN! MAKE IT RAIN MONEY FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS. They deserve it. This go round, let the folks who make 100 200 \$300,000 or more try THEIR hands at sacrificing for the City of Richmond. Front line workers who risk their lives for all of us on a daily basis are DONE.

Cristina Lorenzana, Richmond Resident and ACCE member, I am writing to you today because I have been very concerned with the decisions this council might end up making about the city budget. As someone who cares for an elderly person, I am concerned that services for her might be slowed because of the lack of resources. We can't afford to take these resources away at the cost of also doing away with workers salaries who are the worst paid. Please think about this decision in a manner that reflects your values as a council and as elected leaders. Your responsibility is to serve the community not take away what we depend on to thrive as a community.

Eliza Castro - I'm a Richmond resident and in many years of living here and raising a family I couldn't be more thankful for the programs my children were a part of in the City of Richmond. My eldest daughter has developed social skills thanks to her opportunity to volunteer at the city events. I have my younger ones that like going to the library. I believe that there is more this city could do for its community and it's workers. Put your priority with your workers!

Astrid Jerez 510-253-7428 I am a Richmond resident and I write to you all, members of the council, in solidarity with SEIU City workers. I have many concerns with the pandemic that we are under. One of the biggest concerns of mine is city services like the libraries, and health services. As a senior I depend on services that the city provides, I depend on the library and would like for it to not close. Recreation centers and parks are what makes a community. If we do not look for other ways to balance the budget we will dig the community into a deeper hole that can be avoided if the city uses the resources it has. We can secure the safety of our streets, the access to libraries and safe parks. We still have to go on walks and we still need city workers. Please give them the respect they deserve. Thank you.

Cristina Lorenzana - Good evening members of the council, I am writing today in solidarity with City workers. As someone who cares for an elderly person I am concerned that places like the senior center and the library will take a hit if the city decides to layoff workers or asks them to take furloughs. The previous meetings there was an outcry for the city to reduce the budget for the police department. In a time when services are very much needed we need you to make a leveled decision and keep the budgets for these services as robust as possible, meaning don't ask workers to accept any furloughs. Take the reserves you all are sitting on and make something work out without messing with people's livelihood.

Juan Jose Gutierrez- Hello members of the council, I think we have the best City in the Bay Area and we need the Council to reflect the values of our community when deciding how to manage city business, I'm not a city worker, but I know what it's like to not have consistent work. If the city has the power to use the money from the reserves. \$20million is more than enough to figure out some numbers but don't mess with people's work and means to put food on the table while maintaining our community safe and beautiful.

Fernando Avalos - I'm an ACCE member and Richmond resident and today I am showing my support for our city workers.. We depend on their services to the community to make sure that we have a safe city for our children, our seniors and for everybody. Please don't hesitate to use the money for emergencies that you have. We are in a pandemic that our generation has never seen before and you all are responsible for making responsible decisions. Thank you for doing your job, please let the SEIU workers do theirs.

Jose Alfredo Palma - Hello members of the city council, I live in Richmond and I am afraid for what is happening now with the COVID pandemic. I fear what is going to happen to renters and tenants and what will happen to workers who are essential to the city of Richmond? Some of us like myself have lost our jobs because we had no choice, our employers laid us off, you all have a responsibility to do right by us, the community and your workers. No Cuts! No Furloughs! Please do right.

Reymundo Venegas - I'm a Richmond resident and a member of ACCE. I have no idea why the city is sitting on \$20 million dollars that can be used in this time of emergency, what are you waiting for? We need this money NOW so you don't have to do the unthinkable which is cutting salaries for your workers and starving the community of services that we desperately need. The disrespect is shameful, I expect more from all of you.

Edith Pastrano- Lifelong Richmond resident. This council can and needs to do more. City workers are making sure that our city literally doesn't crumble. I had no idea that the city was holding out on \$20 million that can be used effective immediately. But now I know, thanks to the workers. What you all don't realize is that City workers have back up and we are not going to sit still and watch you bully them. Every single one of you is tasked to serve us. Listen to your constituents and show some respect to your workers. Show some respect, period.

Sincerely,

RICHMOND ACCE

Edith Pastrano
Community Organizer
Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment
(ACCE)
C. 510.672.6261

Sabrina Lundy

From: Al M <alix.mazuet@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:30 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Cc: Tom Butt - external; Nat Bates; Eduardo Martinez; Melvin Willis; Demnlus Johnson; Ben Choi; Jael Myrick
Subject: City Council Meeting, July 21, 2020. Item #G-10

Dear City Council:

Item G-10 would allow Mayor Butt to appoint a retiring police captain from the RPD, Jack Schlemmer, to a seat on the Community Review Police Commission (CRPC). I believe it is inappropriate to appoint a current or former member of the police to serve on a committee which primary goal is to review public complaints about the police.

Schlemmer having played a determinant role in the police union as an activist and having so many ties with the RPD, he is far from an objective, truly neutral party.

As far as I know, the purpose of the CRPC is not to be an internal police review commission between management and workers. It is a place for Richmond residents to bring complaints about police misconduct and have their complaints heard and objectively assessed.

It is very difficult to imagine a stronger and more efficient way to intimidate Richmond residents into NOT going to the Police Review Commission than to appoint a retiring captain, police union activist as member of the CRPC.

Cordially,

Alix Mazuet

Sabrina Lundy

From: Laura Mangels <laura.mangels@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:04 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: G-10

The Citizens' Police Review Commissions provides valuable community oversight over the police. It does not make sense for a member of the police to sit on such a body. This is not about Joseph Schlemmer's record, this is about the basic functions and structures of an institution meant to serve a very specific purpose. This commission provides an opportunity for the community to weigh in on matters related to policing. There are plenty of other venues where police officers can weigh in as well--this is not the place. It is not appropriate to appoint Joseph Schlemmer. Thank you for your consideration.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Randy Joseph <rfjoseph23@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:26 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments Item G-10

Here are my comments:

My name is Randy Joseph I am a resident of Richmond and I am one of the Police Commissioners on the Community Police Review Commission. I am writing in opposition of the Mayor's appointee Joseph Schlemmer. I believe it would be a huge conflict of interest to have Joseph on the Commission due to the fact that he just retired recently from the Richmond Police Department and he was a former board member on the Richmond Police Officers Association. We need a board of community members on the board to enact change, not one looking to keep the status quo as is. That will not help the CPRC in any way complete it's duty.

Thank you

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sara Cantor <secantor@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:59 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment - item G-10 (moved to end of meeting)

I am a resident of Richmond and I oppose the appointment of Joseph Schlemmer to the Community Police Review Commission. It is essential that this commission remain independent from the police, and appointing a retired officer is a conflict of interest. Mayor Bates, you were trying to tell us that we didn't need a task force to explore police alternatives because we already had the commission to hold the police accountable. We can't trust any review commission that contains current or former officers.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sara Cantor <secantor@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 7:05 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment - items H-1 and I-2

H-1: I support the motion to extend the eviction moratorium. This is an important way to support our residents. Ensuring that people stay housed is a vital part of public safety.

I-2: I urge you to vote NO on this item. The Office of Neighborhood Safety is one of the most important services in keeping our communities safe, and we need more Neighborhood Change Agents. In order to keep us safe, we need to invest in community alternatives to police, and ONS is a great example. We support ONS and urge you to keep those positions on the books.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Paul Ibanez <pauli@omegapacific.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:49 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comments - Agenda Item # I-1.

Dear City Council,

As a small business owner with operations in Richmond, I and my partners are vehemently opposed to the gross receipts tax proposal change being proposed for the November ballot and up for discussion on tonight's City Council meeting.

The proposed change to the tax rate would have a significant negative impact on our ability to maintain operations in the City of Richmond.

Our lease for our current facility in Richmond is up in December of this year and if this gross receipts tax proposal were to go into effect, it is very likely we would seriously consider not renewing our lease for the same property or for any property in the City of Richmond.

Omega Pacific has had a very long & successful local business relationship with the City of Richmond and we would hate to have it come to an end over this proposed tax change.

I AM AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT VIA TELEPHONE. PLEASE REACH OUT TO ME AT (510) 679-1529

Paul Ibanez
President/C.O.O.

Omega Pacific Electrical Supply, Inc.
Ph: (415) 642-2195 Fx: (415) 642.2198 | San Francisco, CA
Ph: (510) 236-8520 Fx: (510) 236.6188 | Richmond, CA
Mobile: (707) 779-2770



Sabrina Lundy

From: Jin Zhu <killeryellow@berkeley.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:31 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment - item 1-2

Hi,

I am a resident of North and East, and I do not support the allocation of \$227,000 back to RPD after it was promised to the Office of Neighborhood Safety. It's important to explore alternatives to policing given everything that has come to light in the country and I believe that ONS' approach of community based conflict mediation, gun violence interruption and street outreach is worth supporting. Please vote to allocate the money to ONS rather than RPD!

Thank you for your time,
Jin Zhu

Sabrina Lundy

From: Randy Joseph <rfjoseph23@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:26 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: Public Comments Item I-2

Here are my comments:

Hello my name is Randy Joseph and I am writing in opposition of the idea of reducing the staff of the Office of Neighborhood Safety. In order to keep communities safe, programs like ONS need to have all the staff they need to do their jobs. Their jobs are very important to making sure that there is reduced violence and death in this city. Their jobs are essential to turning around people's lives in this city. When people talk about reimagining public safety, programs like ONS are the shining light. To reduce their budget and staff, would be the opposite of having the public's safety in the foreground. Vote this down.

Thank you.

Sabrina Lundy

From: Sadie Egan <sadierubye@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:31 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment- item I-2

I am extremely opposed to this agenda item and frankly annoyed that this is being proposed. The point of the defunding RPD is not to balance the budget! We need to invest that money into community health and safety programs and services. If ONS says they don't want extra funding (which I find highly unlikely) then how about you invest that money into funding the community task force created to transition towards community safety programs in Richmond? I understand that there are city employees facing furloughs, but how dare you continue to slash money when there are people working for the city making over 150 k? If your intent is to save city jobs, why not cut pay for the people making the most? As a public school teacher and a Richmond resident I am not accepting the "we don't have funds rhetoric" anymore. We need to invest in what we believe in even when it hurts.

Sadie Egan

Sabrina Lundy

From: Taylor Kennedy <taylorknnd2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 6:34 PM
To: City Clerk Dept
Subject: public comment - Item I-2

I am incredibly frustrated to see this item on tonight's agenda. Richmond residents have had a clear message. Defund the Police and invest those funds in our community. Through multiple frustrating city council meetings where it seemed the city council wasn't hearing their residents demands we finally had some progress to give some of the funds that would have gone to RPD to instead be invested in The Office of Neighborhood safety. Now weeks later here we are again with City Council once again not listening to their residents and trying to take away the progress we've made. I shouldn't have to waste my breath saying this because City Council already knows this is wrong. Do not take the promised \$227k away from The Office of Neighborhood Safety. If you are looking for funds to cut to ensure public employees are not furloughed, look no further than RDP's \$71 million dollar budget from last year, our city planners \$300k salary or as previously proposed by Council Member Willis anyone making above \$150k.

Thank you

Taylor Kennedy