Hon. Mayor and Members of the City Council:

This is the report for the week ending December 22, 2023.

1. **Meeting Notes**

   The next City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Enjoy the upcoming weeks off!

2. **City Hall – Holiday Closure**

   As a reminder, Richmond City Hall and other programs and facilities will be closed during the week between the Christmas holiday and the New Year’s holiday (Monday, December 25th through Monday, January 1st). During this period, there will be substantially reduced service levels. As always, City staff members will be available to respond to emergencies.

3. **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Updates**

   The following information is an ongoing list of resources and significant updates regarding COVID-19. Please click on the images or visit the hyperlinks below for further information.

   - **Impact to City Services and Facilities**
   - **Health Information and Community Resources**
   - **Contra Costa County Coronavirus Updates**
4. **Upcoming Events**

**Neighborhood Public Art (NPA) Mini Grant Application Opens on December 22nd!**

The Richmond Arts and Culture Commission (RACC) is excited to announce the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Neighborhood Public Art (NPA) Mini Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) and Application. The purpose of this grant is to encourage Richmond residents to enhance the arts and culture of their neighborhood using a variety of methods.

There will be a Mandatory Orientation via ZOOM on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. (Link TBA), to provide information about the grant program and answer any questions that you may have. Please visit the following link to access the [RFP](https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/FormCenter/Arts-Culture-Division-20/FY-2425-Neighborhood-Public-Art-NPA-Mini-202) and application for the grant program.

The deadline to submit an application is February 18, 2024, at 11:59 P.M.

**Winter Break Camp for K-8 the week of December 26th**

Embark on a winter adventure with our Winter Camp for K-8 students. The camp will be at the Richmond Recreation Complex. Activities include exciting winter-themed crafts, fun and interactive games, enriching educational activities, holiday-inspired projects, supervised playtime, and a chance to make new friends and lasting memories!

- **Dates:** December 26-29, 2023
- **Location:** Richmond Recreation Complex, 3230 Macdonald Ave, Richmond, CA
- **Age Group:** K-8

Secure your child's spot by registering online at [tinyurl.com/richmondrecreation](http://tinyurl.com/richmondrecreation).
Bayview Branch Craft Program Creating Vision Boards on January 8th

Vision boards are powerful tools for visualizing goals and dreams. It can help you stay focused, motivated, and inspired throughout the year!

Join us for an afternoon of creativity and inspiration as we create vision boards!

Date: Monday, January 8, 2024
Time: 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Location: Bayview Branch Library
5100 Hartnett Avenue, Richmond CA

Registration is not required, but space is limited, so please arrive early. All materials will be provided by the Bayview Branch Library, but you are welcome to bring your own images. This event is free and open to all ages.

For more information or inspiration, call the Bayview Branch at (510) 620-6566.
Adult Art Classes at West Side Branch Library on January 8th & January 22nd

Come to a free workshop and create your own pet portrait! We will cover the basics of drawing and painting.

Date: Monday, January 8, 2024 & Monday, January 22, 2024
Time: 4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Location: West Side Branch Library
135 Washington Avenue, Richmond CA

Bring a clear photo of your bird or animal to class. All other materials will be provided!

For additional information call (510) 620-6567.

How to Do Business in Richmond - Vendor Workshop on Thursday, January 18th

The City will host a “How to do Business in the City of Richmond – Vendor Workshop!” Join us to learn about business opportunities with the City of Richmond, UC Berkeley, Lawrence Berkeley Lab, CalTrans, Chevron and WCCUSD. Discussion will be interactive and expertly led. This workshop will take place on:

Date: Thursday, January 18, 2024
Time: 9:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Location: Richmond Council Chamber
440 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond
Or
Join via Zoom at: www.Zoom.us/join; Webinar ID: 973 6698 4242

Reserve your spot now (seats are limited). For more information, to RSVP, or request interpretation services, contact: Purchasing@ci.richmond.ca.us.
Puzzle Swap at the Main Library on January 29th

The Richmond Public Library is excited to celebrate “National Puzzle Day” on January 29th with a free puzzle swap program for adults. This is a great opportunity to meet other puzzle enthusiasts and exchange your favorite puzzles.

Date: Monday, January 29, 2024
Time: 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. & 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.
Location: Main Library – Community Room
325 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond CA

To participate, simply bring a puzzle to exchange and take a puzzle home. For more information call (510) 620-6561.

5. City Council

Mayor's Office

Join Richmond's Future: Serve on a City Board or Commission!

Become a leader and voice in shaping our city. Richmond is seeking passionate residents to join its boards, commissions, and committees.

From championing the arts and preserving our history to steering economic growth and nurturing our youth, Richmond's array of boards and commissions offers many ways for you to make a mark. Dive in and discover where you fit best!
6. **City Manager’s Chronicles**

Meetings and events of note in the past week include the following:

- Attended the year’s final Closed Session and Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council on December 19th;
- Met with Consultant Raftelis regarding the Workforce Analysis;
- Participated in the training session focused on agenda report writing to support continuous improvement;
- Participated in the monthly financial meeting alongside Finance staff to discuss and review financial analysis;
- Attended holiday appreciation events;
- Attended Richmond’s 2nd Annual Snow Day event at Nicholl Park;
- Attended Pogo Park’s Winter Wonderland event; and
- Documented several locations throughout the City regarding illegal dumping, potholes, and dilapidated vehicles, and forwarded them to appropriate staff members to address in a timely manner.

Continued one-on-one weekly meetings with members of the City Council, community members, the Management Leadership Team, Department Heads in our one-on-one check-ins, City Attorney’s Office, and various City staff members.

7. **City Manager’s Office**

**2023 Richmond Community Survey – DUE DATE Extended to December 31, 2023**

Since 2007, every two (2) years, the City of Richmond conducts a community survey to help evaluate services, measure resident satisfaction with current services, and help plan for Richmond’s future.
The online survey is available in English and Spanish. To complete the survey online, please copy the below link into a browser address bar or scan the QR Code. The open participation survey will be available through the end of December 2023.

Resident participation in the survey is very important and we look forward to hearing from you! If you would prefer a paper copy of the survey and/or have any questions, please contact us at (510) 620-6512.

The survey may be accessed online at: https://polco.us/n/res/vote/richmond-ca/the-city-of-richmond-2023-2?pn-method=open

FY 2024-2025 ECIA Competitive Grant Program and the Community Services Department (CSD) Mini Grant Program Applications are Available!

In 2014, the Richmond City Council approved the Chevron Environmental and Community Investment Agreement (ECIA), which invests $90 million dollars into the Richmond community over 10-years. Six million of those dollars have been set aside for a competitive grant program, designed for non-profits serving Richmond in the areas of community, youth, and youth sports. The ECIA has grant awards that range from $5,000, up to $50,000.

To kick-off this opportunity, the city has scheduled two (2) virtual Information and Grant Writing Sessions to be held on the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 17, 2024, from 5:15 P.M. to 6:45 P.M. (Link TBA)
- Thursday, January 18, 2024, from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. (Link TBA)

The deadline to apply is Friday, February 9, 2024, at 11:59 P.M.

To access the ECIA grant application, guidelines, and more check out the ECIA Grants webpage at: www.ci.richmond.ca.us/eciagrants.
This month, Kaiser Permanente launched the Community Health Care Program (CHCP) in California for people who do not have access to any other health coverage. Individuals do not need to be U.S. citizens to qualify.

CHCP members will get the Kaiser Permanente Platinum 90 HMO plan. Monthly premiums for comprehensive coverage are subsidized, and members do not have to pay copays for out-of-pocket costs for most care.

The deadline to apply for CHCP is January 31, 2024, and space is limited. Information about eligibility, how to apply, and a list of organizations helping individuals to apply can also be found online or by calling 1-800-464-4000 (TTY 711).
Reporting Complaints to CalTrans

The City Manager’s Office, Economic Development encourages residents to use Caltrans’ Customer Service Reporting to notify Caltrans of illegal dumping, trash, missing or damaged fencing, or graffiti on State highways, bridges, and right-of-ways.

Reporting Options:

1. “CT Service” Smartphone App:
   When first opening the app, exit out of the pop-up window to report without registering.
2. Online at https://csr.dot.ca.gov/: Use the map to report the location of your concern. To set the marker on the site of your concern within the California State Highway System, click anywhere on the map or drag it.
3. By phone: 510-286-6173
4. By email: CALTRANS.D4CALTRANS.D4@DOT

8. Community Development

The Building Division is one of the four divisions within the Community Development Department. The Building Division is the lead in ensuring construction conforms to the California Building Standards Code, as adopted by the City. This includes reviewing construction plans prior to issuance of a building permit and conducting required inspections on construction projects after the building permit has been issued to ensure compliance with the code and the approved plans. Building Division staff also investigate habitability complaints and other building code violations, including work without permits. The primary focus of this division is protecting public health and safety.

Below is a summary of the Building Division’s Activities for the month of November 2023:

- 414 Plan Checks Completed
- 283 Permits Issued
- 1195 Inspections Completed
- 34 Building Code Enforcement cases opened and followed up on.
- 20 Building Code Enforcement cases closed.

To learn more about the Building Division, please visit our webpage at https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/2099/Building-Division
9. **Economic Development**

**Support Small Businesses for the Holidays**

Support small businesses during the holiday season and beyond? Here are some ideas to get you started! During the holidays and into the busy new year beyond, consider a few of these ideas to help support Richmond community’s small businesses this holiday season. Here are 5 ways to Support Small all season long:

1. Shop small
2. Like a post
3. Leave a comment
4. Tell a friend
5. Write a review

The City of Richmond’s economy will benefit from keeping dollars local.

10. **Community Services**

**Employment & Training**

City of Richmond’s Minimum Wage increases to $17.20 Per Hour

**Effective January 1, 2024**

The minimum wage requirement set forth in the Richmond Minimum Wage Ordinance 11-14 N.S., codified in Richmond Municipal Code Chapter 7.108, applies to adult and minor employees who work two (2) or more hours a week for a covered Employer.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact: Tamara
Building Bridges 2 Career Opportunities Program (BB2CO)

Richmond Youthworks presents the Building Bridges 2 Career Opportunities Program (BB2CO) beginning January 2024!

Richmond High School Juniors and Seniors are eligible to apply. The program will provide:

- Educational Workshops & Academic Support
- College and Career Planning
- College Tours
- Career Exploration & Workshops
- Skills Development & Training
- Workplace Readiness & Paid Internships
- Mentorship
- Counseling & Support
- Participation Incentives & Scholarships

For more information or to apply, contact Richmond YouthWORKS at 510-412-2044.
Recreation

The North Richmond Mobile Tool Library is Hiring & Modified December Services

The North Richmond Mobile Tool Library is looking for someone skilled and versatile to join our team! Help lead the Mobile Tool Library’s community engagement efforts, as well as supply the community with tool rentals for their home and community projects. This position is funded by the North Richmond Mitigation Fee Fund, $21.04 - $25.57 hourly rate. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply at: tinyurl.com/MTLSpecialist.

The month of December will have modified hours and services. To rent tools during this time, place a reservation at least 24 hours prior to the 1st or 3rd Saturday. This can be done through your online MyTurn account, email, or phone. Email us at mobiletoollib@ci.richmond.ca.us or call (510) 672-3877. Return services will be unaffected.
Visit us at 1401 Fred Jackson Way on the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} Saturday of December! Our modified hours will be 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. We hope to work with you soon!

If you would like to know more about our service or view our inventory online visit our website at richmondmobiletoollibrary.myturn.com

Stay updated on the North Richmond Mobile Tool Library:
- **Subscribe to our e-newsletter!**
- **Follow us on Facebook**

Zumba with Oscar every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

Dance your way to fitness with Oscar at energetic Zumba classes! Whether you're a Zumba enthusiast or a beginner looking to spice up your fitness routine, Oscar's classes are designed for everyone. Don't miss out on the chance to groove, sweat, and have a blast while becoming a healthier and happier you!

Secure your spot by pre-registering for the classes at tinyurl.com/richmondrecreation Visit the registration link for comprehensive details on class schedules, locations, dates, and times.
Lifeguard Bootcamp begins January 9, 2024

Do you know anyone who is interested in becoming a Lifeguard? We can help! Lifeguard Bootcamp is for people who are competent swimmers, but need some assistance to help pass the Lifeguard Pre-course skills.

Our goal is to help each participant pass the pre-course skills, join the Lifeguard course, then start working as a Lifeguard at City of Richmond pools. The class is open to anyone who can pass the basic skills requirement and wants to be a Lifeguard for the City of Richmond.

To qualify for paid training, participants must be 16-30 years of age and live in Richmond.
HIGHLIGHT:

Senior Annual Holiday Celebration

On December 15th, the Richmond Annex Senior Center hosted the Annual Holiday Celebration, with 45 seniors in attendance. A highlight of the celebration was the much-anticipated arrival of Santa Claus! The seniors were delighted to receive presents from him.

The holiday celebration was a great success, featuring good food, lively engagement of seniors, dancing, and a memorable occasion that brought the community together.

Library

Library Holiday Hours December 25th – January 1st

All library branches will be closed Monday, December 25th, and Tuesday, December 26th.

The Main Library (325 Civic Center Plaza) will be open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM Wednesday, December 27th through Friday, December 29th.

All branches will be closed Saturday, December 30th, through Monday, January 1st. Regular hours at all branches will resume January 2nd.
December Adult Craft Kit

This month’s kit is all about snowflakes and is perfect for those who love the winter season. Inside the kit, you will find materials (except glue) needed to create beautiful and unique snowflake decorations. Whether you are an experienced crafter or a beginner, this kit is perfect for all skill levels.

We invite you to pick up your limited-edition kit at the Main Library, located at 325 Civic Center Plaza in Richmond.

For more information, please contact the Main Adult Reference Desk at (510) 620-6561.

January Adult Craft Kit – Make it Happen with Your Vision Board

This kit will help you visualize your goals for the year ahead by putting your New Year’s resolutions on paper – things you would like to see happen for yourself in the coming
year. Inside the kit you will find a piece of cardboard, scrap booking paper (to cover the cardboard with if you like), magazines, an article with instructions, and a stick of glue. Read the article for explanations and inspiration. Kit available while supplies last at the Main Library (325 Civic Center Plaza). For more information or inspiration, call the Main Adult Reference Desk at (510) 620-6561. This free craft is recommended for adults. Best wishes to you in your endeavor of crafting a happy and healthy new year!

![Image of craft kit]

**Transportation**

**Electric Bikeshare Has Returned**

The Richmond Electric Bikeshare program is returning to a hub near you! On September 19, 2023, the Richmond City Council approved a contract with Today Bikes to relaunch and for citywide expansion of the city’s award-winning electric bike share program.

The Richmond Community will begin to see the rollout of the rebranded bikes to many of the most utilized bike hubs, while the Citywide expansion planning develops. The City of Richmond’s transportation staff and Today Bikes will be conducting community outreach to hear where residents would like to see the bike hubs. Stay tuned for more details regarding the January program relaunch event.

To register, scan the below QR code and download the App. You may also contact the Richmond Transportation department for more information at (510) 620-6869.
Drive Electric to your Next Holiday Event or to Shop

The Holiday Season is a great time to rent a Miocar electric vehicle to run your errands!

Have you tried the City’s Electric Carshare Program? Here is a list of the carshare hubs located throughout the city:

- Bay View Library
- Civic Center
- Hilltop Fire Station
- May Valley Fire Station
- 41st and Macdonald Avenue
- Parchester Village Recreation Center

To register, create a Miocar account at [https://miocar.org/](https://miocar.org/), or call (510) 319-2969. For more information, contact Richmond Transportation at (510) 620-6869.

Richmond Moves Holiday Closures

Please keep in mind that service will not be available on the following holidays:

- Monday, December 25, 2023 – Christmas Day
Monday, January 1, 2024 – New Year’s Day 2024

Rides may be booked with the free Richmond Moves app, or by calling (510) 937-3657 for assistance by phone. The service operates Monday through Friday from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Rides cost $2 per trip and are free for seniors and students ages 13 to 18.

For more information visit: https://city.ridewithvia.com/richmond-moves or call the Transportation Department at (510) 621-1718.

Blue indicates the original service area, and purple indicates the expanded service area.
11. Information Technology

KCRT DATANET FOR THE WEEK

Richmond Ferry Schedule Change
(starting January 2, 2024)

- A new weekday departure will be added at 11:20 AM.

- The weekday 12:15 PM departure from from Richmond will be moved back 15 minutes. This weekday trip will now depart at 12:00 PM.

www.sanfranciscobayferry.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
FROM THE CITY OF RICHMOND
PROGRAMMING:

New “NewsBytes” and Regular Series Episodes:
- New Holiday Specials: “Best of California” and “Get Healthy with Holly.” Other specials are “Baby Blue Arts Presents: Holiday Celebration,” three new “Sidewalks Entertainment” Holiday Specials, and “Ben and Kelly Holiday Special”
- New episodes of “The Jet Set,” “Creature Features,” “Smart Movie Show,” and “Sidewalks Entertainment.”

Some “NewsBytes” Segments or Specials Currently On-Air:
- Christmas Tree Lighting
- Sidewalk Food Vendor Workshop
- Ghost and Goblins – Richmond Police Department Halloween event
- Electric Vehicle Show
- Hacienda Groundbreaking
- Taste of Richmond
- El Sobrante Stroll
- Art of Peace
- Mexican Independence Day Flag Raising
- RFD Graduation
- Salmon Release 2023
- RichmondBUILD Graduation
- Juneteenth Highlights
- Ribbon Cutting of Hotel Mac’s restaurant (edited by Mayor’s Office’s Antonio Tamayo)
- Highlights of Cinco de Mayo
- Juneteenth/Pride Flag Raising
- Highlights of Women’s Day
- San Pablo’s 75th Anniversary.
- Nystrom Village Earth Day Clean-Up
- Literacy Festival
- Public Safety Awards
- Community Budget Meeting
- Transgender Flag Raising
- Black History Month Celebration
- Easter Egg Hunt
- The Fentanyl Crisis
- Other highlights include Osprey Installation, Spirit and Soul Festival, Richmond Health & Wellness Trail Ribbon Cutting and RichmondMOVES, and Mayor’s Office-produced videos of North Richmond Mobile Tool Library Opening, Tibetan New Year event at Kennedy High, and Richmond Art Center’s Art of the African Diaspora opening reception.
- Willie Mays’ Day
- Contra Costa County’s Mr. Funnelhead campaign (acquired piece)

You may find the full schedule at [http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3176/Schedule](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3176/Schedule)
12. **Public Works**

**ABATEMENT**

Abatement crews abated private property through a warrant from Code Enforcement. They removed tons of debris from homeless encampments, abated leaves from Downtown Macdonald Avenue, as well as illegally dumped debris throughout the city. Crews also removed graffiti from various locations.
**Encampments Abatement**

**Illegal Dumping & Graffiti Removal**

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

Electric shop crew serviced the left turn signal at Shane and Hilltop Drive after it was knocked down in an auto accident. They built a new signal indication and reinstalled it.
Stationary Engineers performed daily inspections and maintenance of the pool, boilers, circulating pumps, and sump pumps at the Civic Center Plaza. They replaced an aerator to the faucet in the men's locker room at the Plunge, repaired the freestanding range at Fire Station 66, and greased the circulating pump to the pool and all the dehumidifier fan motors at the Swim Center. They also cleared a clogged kitchen sink at May Valley Community Center, replaced a leaking p-trap in the men's restroom at the Recreation Complex, and replaced the mixing valve cartridge in the women's restroom at Fire Station 64.

Utility Workers cleaned and removed debris from inside and outer areas of 440 Civic Center Plaza, set-up for council meetings, deep cleaned gymnasium floors at the Recreational Complex on 3230 Macdonald Avenue, and provided maintenance repairs at 450 Civic Center Plaza. They also provided services to city-wide community programs, all recreation centers, sanitized, disinfected, and maintained various locations, including all common areas and 27 City-owned buildings.
ENGINEERING
The Santa Rita Road Stabilization project has started, and the city and consultants are tracking the progress closely. The team is taking every precaution to monitor the site during rain events and execute any erosion mitigation measures necessary. The contractor has started construction of the retaining wall to stabilize Santa Rita Road and started installation of concrete foundation and I-beams.
**Point Molate Cottages – Temporary Tarping**
Temporary tarping work continues at the Point Molate cottages to cover and protect the roofs during the winter months. The City’s on-call contractor, Bay Hawk, anticipates completing the work this week.

**PARK MAINTENANCE**
Mulch installation was done at Booker T. Anderson Park and weed abatement on Castro Ranch Road (Medians), Lamoine Park, Lucas Park, and Southside Park.

- Installing mulch at Booker T. Anderson Park
- Weed Abatement at Southside Park
- Coyote Brush removed from Lamoine Park
Marina District crews removed weeds and debris from the FM lot between the restaurant, Harbor Master, and HOA and from around and under roses and shrubs next to the restaurant.

Hilltop District crews performed weed abatement at Auto Plaza Monument. They also completed shrub and tree pruning on Atlas Road and Richmond Parkway.

**STREET MAINTENANCE**
The Pavement Maintenance crew performed storm patrol, surface cleaned drains to alleviate flooding throughout the city, made and delivered sandbags, and worked on pothole/hot mixed asphalt.
Installing traffic control on Canal Blvd for flood control

Street sweeping crews swept the following neighborhood council areas on the third Monday through Thursday and fourth Friday in: North Richmond, Iron Triangle, North Belding Woods, Atchison Village, South Belding Woods, Richmond Annex, Parkview, Panhandle Annex, and Eastshore. (Due to severe weather conditions some areas were not swept. Sweeping crew made sandbags for storm preparations during this time).

Traffic Signs and Lines crews continued installing new street signs on 23rd Street between Rheem and Brooks Avenue. They also delivered sandbags to senior/disabled residents and made several repairs to signs throughout the city.

Faded sign replacement on 23rd St. and new install on 32nd St.
The Streets Maintenance Division has two self-fill sandbag stations. One station is located at 10 Harbour Way at the back gate to the Corp Yard, and the second station is in the parking lot for the Bayview Library at 5100 Hartnett Avenue.

Seniors or disabled citizens can call Public Works at (510) 231-3011 for assistance with delivery. Sandbags are limited to 10 bags per person.

**WASTEWATER DIVISION**

**Richmond Treatment Plant Upgrades**

Veolia and its contractors are continuing with necessary steps to finish installing new odor control measures as part of the rehabilitation project at the Richmond wastewater treatment plant and nearing the end of the rehabilitation project as a whole.

Veolia, their contractors, and City of Richmond officials are monitoring the planning for this work as well as expected weather conditions. If neighbors notice any odor issues during this time, we ask them to notify Veolia at (510) 412-2001 as soon as possible to mitigate any complications.

For more information on reporting Air Quality and Odor Complaints to organizations such as Veolia or Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), please visit: [Air Quality and Odor Complaints | Richmond, CA - Official Website](https://www.cityofrichmond.net/).
Thank you for keeping up with the activities in the City of Richmond. Feel free to contact the City Manager’s Office if you have any questions or comments about these or any other items of interest to you.

Thank You!
Shasa Curl
City Manager
City of Richmond
450 Civic Center Plaza
Richmond, California 94804
(510) 620-6512

You can sign up to receive the City Manager’s weekly report and other information from the City of Richmond by visiting: www.ci.richmond.ca.us/list.aspx