

## **City Manager's Weekly Report**

### **Mayor and Councilmembers:**

This is the weekly report for the week ending June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

#### **1. Meeting Notes**

The next City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy the week off.

*Editor's note: At the City of Richmond, it is my privilege to work with a group of talented, dedicated, and community minded people. This week I learned of the following three examples of the type of person that infuses this organization with values and work ethic on a daily basis, and I am happy to pass them on to you.*

#### **2. Everett Jenkins Receives Fred Breen Humanitarian of the Year Award**

Last night, Everett Jenkins, Senior Assistant City Attorney, was presented with the 2010 Fred Breen Humanitarian of the Year Award by the West Contra Costa YMCA. The award was presented at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the West Contra Costa Branch of the East Bay YMCA held at the Richmond Country Club. The Fred Breen Humanitarian of the Year Award is presented to those members of the West Contra Costa YMCA who have provided over ten years of significant service to the programs and goals of the YMCA. Everett's service to this outstanding organization has now spanned over twenty years. Before the award was handed out, Councilmember Maria Viramontes, on behalf of the Richmond City Council, presented Everett with a Letter of Recognition plaque congratulating him on his receipt of the award along with an engraved pen commemorating the event.

Everett conveyed his sincere thanks and gratitude to all those who attended the event and to the City Council for helping to make the evening one that he will never forget.

Congratulations Everett!



3. **Tracey Lovely Receives Scholarship**

Tracey Lovely, Investment Analyst in the Finance Department, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship from the Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada (APTUS&C) to attend its upcoming conference in Charleston, South Carolina. While at the conference, Tracey will be recognized for completing the requirements to become a Certified Public Fund Investment Manager (CPFIM) earlier this year. Also while in Charleston, Tracey will be interviewed for a position on the APTUS&C's Board of Directors.

Congratulations Tracey!



4. **Leah Clark Hosts Academy Awards**

This past Tuesday, Leah Clark, Budget Analyst I, was the Mistress of Ceremonies at the West Contra Unified School District's (WCCUSD) Linked Learning Pathways Academy Awards. The awards ceremony took place at the Craneway Pavilion with over 100 guests in attendance, including WCCUSD faculty, family, and friends. The WCCUSD Linked Learning Pathways Program combines strong academics, demanding technical education, and real world experience to help students gain an advantage in high school, post secondary education and their chosen career. Leah presented awards to 44 Academy students in various categories ranging from Meritorious Service Award to Best Animator Award. Leah also received a certificate of appreciation from the WCCUSD Linked Learning Pathways Program in recognition for her work as an Academy Advisory Board Member for Pinole Valley High School's Environmental Studies Academy.

Great job Leah!



5. **Large Crowd Expected at WCCUSD Honor Roll BBQ**

At its most recent meeting, the City Council voted to co-sponsor a barbecue being held by the West Contra Costa Unified School District to honor the 2,000 students in middle schools and high schools who made the honor roll for three quarters this year. The event is for the students and their family members, with BBQ to be provided by Jones' BBQ. More than 2,000 attendees have indicated that they plan to attend.

Along with the City of Richmond, the cities of San Pablo, Pinole, Hercules, and El Cerrito are co-sponsors along with Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia. Chevron, Levin Richmond Terminal, Upstream Point Molate, and Mechanics Bank have also committed to sponsor the event.

6. **Via Verdi Sinkhole Update**

- The monitoring data from May 24<sup>th</sup> (at monitoring point # 9, located near the curb and gutter on the cemetery side of Via Verdi between the temporary bridge and the intersection with El Portal) indicated a shift 0.041 feet in elevation (just under ½ inch). The subsequent June 1<sup>st</sup> monitoring report indicated that shifting was gone. The surveyor noted that shift changes of such small magnitudes may be attributable to moisture content or traffic. This location will be closely checked at each monitoring event.
- Nichols Consulting has started planning the investigation phase for determining what initially caused the sinkhole, including submitting an application to the County for drilling boreholes, and reviewing archival soils and background investigation materials.
- Negotiations with the cemetery trust for “permission to enter” for construction of the emergency two-lane access road are ongoing. Start of construction on this access road project is contingent on finalizing this agreement with the cemetery trust.

7. **Public Works Updates**

- The new Bay View library floor is complete and this facility is scheduled to re-open next Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Work continues on the Main Library roof parapet to prevent water leaks.
- The streets paving crew completed the grinding of Macdonald Avenue from Garrard Boulevard to 6<sup>th</sup> Street this week. Public Works will clean up all grinded materials from the streets early next week. The paving of Macdonald Avenue will start on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

## 8. **Seed Lending Library Opens**

A free seed lending library has recently opened in the main branch of the Richmond Library through a collaborative effort by the Richmond Public Library and the Richmond Rivets. Rebecca Newburn is the founder and co-coordinator of the Richmond Grows Seed Lending Library.

Basically, people can "borrow" seeds from the library any time it's open after they attend a half-hour orientation. The program lends seeds for a wide collection of edibles, including dozens of varieties of tomatoes, beans, squash and peppers, as well as seeds of herbs, flowers, California natives and ornamental plants. At the orientation, borrowers will learn about how the library is organized, what it means to "borrow" seeds and why a free seed library is valuable to the community. The hope is that people will start to learn how to save seeds and return a portion to the library to keep it self-sustaining.

The organizers will be providing education on gardening and seed saving as part of this interesting new project. Future orientation programs remaining during the month of June are listed below. You can sign up by clicking on the following links:

- [Wed., June 9th from 6-6:30 pm](#)
- [Sat., June 12th from 2-2:30 pm](#)
- [Fri., June 18th from noon-12:30 pm](#)
- [Tues., June 22nd from 6-6:30 pm](#)