

Mayor and City Councilmembers:

This is the weekly report for the week ending December 6th, 2013.

1. **Meeting Notes**

The next City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17th. Please enjoy the week off.

For planning purposes, please note that the December 17th meeting will be the last of the year. The first City Council meeting in 2014 will be Tuesday, January 14th – the second Tuesday of the month, allowing the agenda to be compiled after the holiday break (see item 2, below).

2. **Holiday Closure of City Offices**

As we have during the past several years, the City offices will be closed during the last week in December from Tuesday, December 24th until Thursday, January 2nd. Police and Fire will, of course, have regular service; maintenance services will be limited; all other non-safety departments will be on holiday, with employees using vacation or other accrued leave time.

3. **Street Light Improvement Initiatives**

On Monday, December 9th, the City of Richmond will begin a comprehensive, city-wide project to upgrade – and update – its street lights, with the very first phase of this effort to begin in Parchester Village. Over the next six months, all neighborhoods in the city will be receiving both LED upgrades of existing street lights, and installation of new LED street lights on select wood poles that currently do not have street lights. During this time, approximately 9,000 new LED street light fixtures will be installed as upgrades to existing fixtures or as new fixtures. The street light upgrades will improve community safety and quality-of-life with brighter streets and sidewalks, while at the same time reducing operating costs and greenhouse gas emissions. The new LED street lights use on average 50 percent less electricity than existing high pressure sodium lights.

It should be noted that the streetlight upgrade project requires a series of closely choreographed steps within each neighborhood, and requires significant coordination between the City's electrical contractor and PG&E. There will be no disruption of existing street lighting levels, although residents will observe the upgrades taking place in the discrete components outlined below.

New Street Light Connection Process to Empty Wood Poles: First, the City's contractor will be installing new street lights and arms on select wood poles that currently do not have street light fixtures and that meet PG&E's power, spacing and pole condition requirements. Subsequent to the installation of the arm and light to

the pole, PG&E will connect and energize the new lights to the high voltage lines. There will be a brief amount of time when the new fixtures are attached to wood poles, but will not be energized until PG&E personnel complete the connections. Existing street lights will still be operable during this time and there will be no disruption of existing street lighting levels. We appreciate the community's patience as we coordinate the installation and connection of these new street lights.

Temporary Difference in Lighting Technology: As a separate step, existing street lights will be upgraded by the City's contractor to LED fixtures. As a result, there will be a period of time where some lights will be newer LED technology and others will be the current lighting technology (high pressure sodium). Rest assured that all street lights will soon be upgraded to LED technology and there will be no disruption or reduction in community lighting levels.

Please contact the City's Project Manager, Joel Camacho at joel_camacho@ci.richmond.ca.us or 620-5482 with any questions related to the street light upgrades.

4. **Officer Bradley A. Moody Memorial Underpass Project Update – Night Work Tentatively Scheduled for December 14th – 15th**

The Bradley A. Moody Memorial Underpass Project involves the construction of a roadway underpass on Marina Bay Parkway between Meeker Avenue and Regatta Boulevard, and is intended to resolve long-standing access limitations to the Marina Bay area caused by frequent train crossings. In early September 2013, Marina Bay Parkway was closed to traffic. This closure will remain in place for approximately 18 months.

On November 25th, a major project milestone was reached with the completion of all Deep Soil Mix ("DSM") wall construction. During the week of December 2nd, the DSM equipment was dismantled and removed from the site. The next major phase of the project includes excavation of the roadway and installation of drilled tie-backs through the DSM walls. This work will be completed in phases and will take 2-3 months to complete.

On December 13th, 14th and 15th, the third of up to six weekend, 24-hour a day closure windows has been tentatively scheduled. During this weekend closure, the contractor will be installing the steel railroad bridge atop the precast abutment shells that were placed during the prior weekend closure in November. Community members can expect work on the project to continue for 24 hours a day, from 8:30 AM on December 13th to 8:30 AM on December 15th. While disruptive, these weekend work shifts are necessary to complete the project, and the project team appreciates the community's patience.

For additional information and to be added to the project update contact list, please see the project website at www.moodyup.com. You can also follow the project on twitter: @moodyunderpass, or contact the project's public outreach coordinator Jacqueline Majors at (925)-949-6196.



Photo of a section of completed DSM wall. The vertical steel I-beams extend below grade approximately 60 feet and are encased in a hardened concrete mixture.

Please continue to support your Marina Bay businesses during this construction period!

5. **Richmond Bay Campus Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**

The University of California has announced the completion of the draft environmental review documents for the proposed Richmond Bay Campus (RBC) at the Richmond Field Station (RFS) and adjacent Regatta Property.

The proposed 2014 Long Range Development Plan for the Richmond Bay Campus has been prepared by UC Berkeley and UC Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to guide development of up to 5.4 million square feet of research, office and support facilities through 2050.

UC Berkeley is the Lead Agency for the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that analyzes the environmental impacts from the Richmond Bay Campus under the California Environmental Quality Act. The Draft EIR identifies impacts associated with development under the Long Range Development Plan in such categories as air quality, cultural resources, greenhouse gas emissions, and transportation. The Draft EIR is being circulated for public review and comment over a 60-day period

ending January 13, 2014. Comments on the Richmond Bay Campus Long Range Development Plan Environmental Impact Report may be emailed to rbc@lbl.gov.

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act, there will also be a public hearing on the Richmond Bay Campus EIR on Wednesday, December 11th (next week) from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the Richmond City Council Chambers at 440 Civic Center Plaza.

The activities identified in the Draft Removal Action Workplan (RAW) - to evaluate soil clean-up alternatives at the RFS - are also outlined and analyzed in the Draft EIR.

The Richmond Bay Campus Long Range Development Plan EIR, the draft Long Range Development Plan itself, and related documents and information are provided at: http://richmondbaycampus.lbl.gov/environmental_documents.html.

For more information on the RAW, please visit the RFS Environmental Website <http://rfs-env.berkeley.edu> for updates.

6. **Jazz in the Neighborhood**

The East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, along with Jazz in the Neighborhood, are proud to present a concert celebrating the rich cultural heritage of jazz on Saturday, December 7th at 8:00 PM at the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts at 330 11th Street in Richmond. The East Bay Center invites you to a fantastic evening featuring music of the Count Basie and Duke Ellington Orchestras. The program is a collaboration between Jazz in the Neighborhood's 17-piece Big Band, with featured vocalist Faye Carol, and Center students in the Richmond Jazz Collective under the direction of Howard Wiley.

In addition to Faye Carol, local jazz artists who will be performing include Howard Wiley, Marcus Shelby, Erik Jekabson, Mike Olmos, and Melccio Magdaluvo, as well as Harold Jones who, according to "Drummerworld," is one of the legends of the straight ahead style of big band drumming. Mr. Jones worked and toured with the Count Basie Orchestra for five years, cutting 15 albums in that time span. He also toured with Sarah Vaughn and Natalie Cole.



7. **City Manager Chronicles**

I have listed below some of the topics for meetings that I have recently attended in the hope that it provides an idea of the varied issues with which our organization deals routinely.

Activities and meeting topics during the past week have included:

- Discussed with staff ways in which to promote enrollment for Covered California, under the Affordable Care Act;
- Attended the regular Richmond Bay Campus project coordination meeting among City staff, and staff from UC Berkeley and the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab;
- Continued discussions among City staff and representatives from Richmond Sanitary Services proposed changes to the franchise agreement;
- Met with City staff and staff representatives from HUD Region 9 to discuss ways to improve the City's administration of CDBG, HOME, NSP and other grant programs;
- Attended and provided the program for the monthly Chamber of Commerce Breakfast for Business convening;
- Met with department heads involved in community and economic development activities to review the status of development projects;
- Attended a meeting of various community stakeholders to receive a status report and discuss the Richmond Bay Campus development;
- Attended the public meeting on the Removal Action Workplan (RAW) for the Richmond Field Station.

These meetings were in addition to attending the regular management staff meeting, agenda planning, reviewing staff reports to the City Council, doing department head "check-ins," having discussions on various personnel matters, and

having short discussions with staff, community members, members of the press, etc.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the substance of these or any other topics.

8. **Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) Open Enrollment Now Available**

Open Enrollment for Covered California began October 1, 2013. To begin your enrollment, please call the Covered California's telephone help line at 1-800-300-1506 or visit the Covered California website at <https://www.coveredca.com/>. Interpreters in multiple languages are available on the telephone help line.

A few important things to know:

- Open enrollment is October 1 – March 31; coverage can begin January 1, 2014.
- Coveredca.com will allow consumers to make apples-to-apples comparisons of plans before enrolling, including premiums, deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses.
- Many Californians will qualify for financial assistance to help make premiums more affordable.
- Covered CA recommends having the following household information available when enrolling: contact information for all household members applying for coverage, ID numbers such as social security or immigration information, income and tax filing status.
- **You must enroll by December 23, 2013 for coverage to start January 1, 2014.**

Affordable Care Act Frequently Asked Questions addressed by Contra Costa Health Services can be found at <http://cchealth.org/aca/faq.php>.

Please consider these other Affordable Care Act resources for Richmond and Contra Costa County residents:

Resource	Website	Phone
Contra Costa Health Services: Health Care Reform and Contra Costa Residents	http://cchealth.org/aca/	(925) 313-6166
Community Clinic Consortium: Morgan Westfall or Jennifer Arevalo	http://clinicconsortium.org/	(510) 233-6230
Lifelong Medical Care: Enrollment Department	http://www.lifelongmedical.org	(510) 231-9816



9. Food Justice Film Series: Soul Food Junkies

Join the Richmond Food Policy Council for an evocative evening of deep conversation, great food and film! The next film in the Food Justice Film Series is entitled "SOUL FOOD JUNKIES" and is by Byron Hurt.

Soul Food Junkies explores the history and social significance of soul food to black cultural identity and its effect on African American health, good and bad. Soul food will also be used as the lens to investigate the dark side of the food industry and the growing food justice movement that has been born in its wake. Visit the Richmond Food Policy Council Facebook page to view the trailer and find out more information.

When: Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Where: Building Blocks for Kids Collaborative 312 9th St, Richmond, CA 94801
Conference Room

A \$5 dinner donation is appreciated!

The Richmond Food Policy Council & Nutiva present:


SOUL FOOD JUNKIES


Richmond Food Justice Film Series

Join the **Richmond Food Policy Council** for an evocative evening of deep conversation, great food and film!


Soul Food Junkies explores the history and social significance of soul food to black cultural identity and its effect on African American health, good and bad. Soul food will also be used as the lens to investigate the dark side of the food industry and the growing food justice movement that has been born in its wake.

CHECK OUT THE TRAILER & MORE INFO ON FACEBOOK:

 RICHMOND FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

 A \$5 dinner donation is appreciated!

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 10th
Time: 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
Where: Building Blocks for Kids Collaborative
312 9th St,
Richmond, CA 94801



10. 2013 Community Survey Available to All Richmond Residents to Complete

If your household was not one of the 3,000 households selected to receive the survey, but you would like to provide feedback to the city, then now is your chance. The 2013 Richmond Community Survey can now be completed by ALL Richmond residents by accessing the links below.

- English: <http://www.n-r-c.com/survey/richmond2013survey.htm>
- Spanish: <http://www.n-r-c.com/survey/richmond2013encuesta.htm>

Feel free to contact LaShonda Wilson-White in the City Manager's office at (510) 620-6828 with questions, comments, or to obtain a paper copy of the survey. Your input can help make the City of Richmond a better place to live, work and play. We currently have over 400 surveys submitted and we look forward to receiving your feedback! Time is running out to respond so please take time to complete your survey today!

11. Recreation Highlights

Celebrations

On Monday, December 2nd, the Bay View YMCA held their annual Musical "Twas the Night" at the Richmond Memorial Auditorium. 150 children participated and 600 families enjoyed the festivities. Each child received a gift wrapped cupcake and a sugar tree cookie.

Disabled People's Recreation Center

Adult Morning Program Participants of the Disabled Peoples Recreation Center participated in an alternative Hip Hop dancing fitness activity where they showed each other their favorite moves. They also worked on computers to finalize their Thanksgiving menu which included a yummy caramel brownie dessert. Instead of the normal holiday turkey meal, they cooked a ham and made their own glaze that was delicious. The entire meal was a feast fit for a king. Afterwards, everyone, including the younger participants, did a fabulous job cleaning the facility before the long holiday weekend.

Chinese New Year Celebration

Tickets for the 2014 Chinese New Year Celebration are on sale at the Richmond Senior Center. The event will be held on January 25, 2014 at the Richmond Memorial Auditorium. Tickets are \$20 or \$15 depending on your seating selection. For ticket information contact the senior center at (510) 307-8087.

12. Public Works Updates

Facilities Maintenance: Carpenters built and installed new cabinets at the Police Department, replaced broken glass panel in the Information Technology Department, installed a new ADA door in the City Attorney's office, installed carpet in the Men and Women of Valor Building, and installed plaques recognizing contributors to the Plunge.



ADA Door in City Attorney's Office

Painters restriped the gym floor at the Recreation Complex, painted the registration office in the same building, painted the kitchen at Fire Station #67, refinished a large bookcase for the Children's Library, and finished the top coats of polyurethane finish to the gym floor at the Recreation Complex.

Stationary Engineers repaired the starting blocks at the Plunge, repaired the chemical feed pump at the Swim Center, repaired the boiler in the Employment and Training building, performed maintenance to the restrooms at 440 Civic Center Plaza, repaired the air vent at the Booker T. Anderson Community Center, fixed the leak at the Richmond Museum, serviced the heating system at the Richmond Recreation Complex, replaced the water heater at the Senior Annex Center, and repaired the chemical feed pumps at the Plunge.



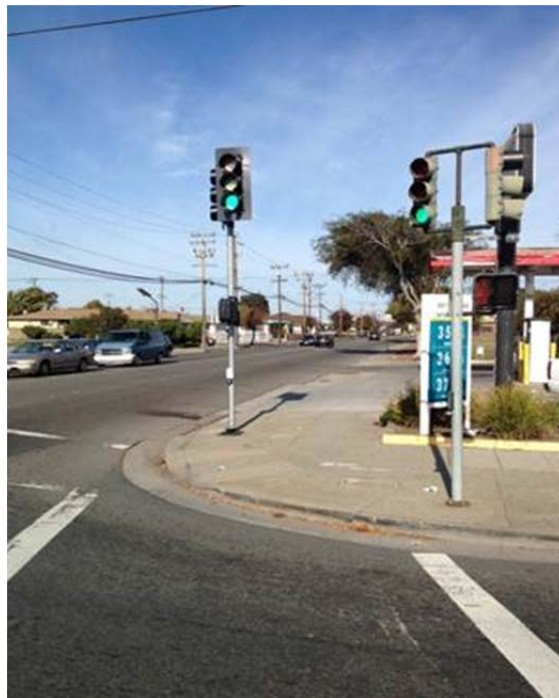
Boiler Repairs at Employment and Training

Utility workers serviced 29 City owned buildings, removed hazardous materials from Pt. Molate, replaced light fixtures at multiple community centers, and waxed floors at the Police Department and City Hall.



Waxed Floor in the City Hall Lobby

Electricians supported the alarm change over for most city buildings, tested LED lights in the Richmond Auditorium attic, repaired circuits to the street lights near Memorial Park and on 22nd Street and Bissell Avenue, installed a temporary traffic signal at Cutting Boulevard and Harbour Way, and replaced lighting fixtures in the Council Chambers.



Temporary Signal at Cutting Boulevard and Harbour Way

Parks and Landscaping: Crews continue to work on the Elm Play Lot renovation, installed chain link fences at Belding Garcia and Lucas Parks, installed holiday

lights in Civic Center Plaza, performed weed abatement on the Richmond Parkway, installed irrigation at Solano Play Lot, continued with the rock wall project in the Hilltop area, performed landscape maintenance on Blume and Hilltop Drives, installed solar lighting in the Hilltop area, performed vegetation maintenance at May Valley Community Center, and removed logs from Pt. Molate.



Fence Installation at Lucas Park

Tree crews trimmed, cut or ground trees around: Nicholl Park, Nevin Avenue, Barrett Avenue, 6th Street, 21st Street, Washing Avenue, Park Place, Blume Drive, Canal Boulevard, Ohio Avenue, Carlson Avenue, Cutting Boulevard, Macdonald Avenue, San Pablo Avenue, Orchard Avenue, and Wiswall Drive.

Streets Division: Crews prepared the Fire Training Center for paving, hauled grindings from paving jobs, and worked from the outstanding pothole and sidewalk list.



Paving at the Fire Training Center

Street sweeping performed commercial and residential sweeping services for the first Monday through Friday in the Parchester Village, Hilltop Bayview, Hilltop Green, Fairmede/Hilltop, Carriage Hills North Side, El Sobrante Hills, Greenbriar, Hansford Heights, Via Verda, San Pablo Dam Road, Bristole Cone, May Valley, Vista View, and Clinton Hill I neighborhood council areas.

Signs and Lines crews fabricated signs, installed 13 new signs, placed over 1200 feet of painted markings, and repaired 27 signs and poles throughout the City.



Placing Thermoplastic Crosswalk

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments about these or any other items of interest to you.

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