



RICHMOND RISING
COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE (CSC)
MEETING MINUTES
November 13th, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

At 6:10 P.M. Committee member Guerrero calls the meeting to order, greets attendees, and declares the availability of live Spanish interpretation, free childcare, and refreshments.

Roll Call:

- Present: Project lead for City: Beatriz Guerrero
- Present: Project lead for GRID Alternatives: Ambessa Cantave
- Present: Project lead for Trust for Public Land: Annie Youngerman (alternate)
- Present: Project lead for Urban Tilth: Chinue Fields (alternate)
- Present: Project lead for Rich City Rides: Mayeli Rico (alternate)
- Present: Project lead for UC Berkeley: Alice Bruno (alternate)
- Present: Project lead for Groundwork Richmond: Lorena Castillo
- Absent: Community member: Tomasa Espinoza
- Present: Community member: Juana Hernandez
- Present: Community member: Montserrat Gonzalez
- Present: Community member: Judith Rocha
- Present: Community member: Curtis Rice

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Committee members read the Richmond Rising Land Acknowledgment.

3. RICHMOND RISING AND COLLABORATIVE STAKEHOLDER STATEMENT

Committee member Guerrero gave a brief introduction on Richmond Rising initiative and Collaborative Stakeholder committee.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No public comment received.

Committee member Cantave motions to add an agenda item for Committee member Bruno to present on upcoming data requests; Committee member Rice seconds the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the motion.

5. REVIEW AND APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Committee member Cantave makes a motion to approve meeting minutes from September 2024; Committee member Rice seconds the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the motion.

6. PROJECT STATUS REPORTS

Project Leads presented project status reports for each project and Transformative Plan of the Richmond Rising collaborative, including up-to-date financials and grant expenditures to date. The following additional comments were made:

Workforce Development and Economic Opportunities Plan

Committee member Fields: Can you clarify what IBT 200 training is?

Committee member Cantave: IBT stands for 'Installation Basics Training'. This is an approximately 200 hour training which includes lecture settings and field training working directly with construction installation programs.

Resilient Homes

Committee member Rice: Given the pending change in US President, does GRID anticipate a challenge getting climate supplies in the future?

Committee member Cantave: No; the grants that GRID has already received will not be affected by the change in the Presidential administration. This may be an issue with subsequent grants; however, this will not be a problem for TCC-funded projects.

Member of the Public: Can you clarify what GRID Alternatives does in Richmond? Can people who live in multifamily apartments get the solar panels and thereby lower utility their bills?

Committee member Cantave: Overall, GRID installs solar for low-income families at no cost, as well as training programs. Some regions are more active than others.

Currently, GRID primarily provides this service for low-income homeowners, though there is a possibility to install solar for renters in single family homes. However, this is not currently a possibility for multi-family units. GRID is exploring this option, but for now the multifamily program is very limited.

Member of the Public: Is the solar panel program only for homeowners, or is it also for renters?

Committee member Cantave: Our program is primarily for homeowners, but we can provide solar to low-income renters in single family homes. For renters, we need permission from the homeowner; we also need to look at the income of the owner and the renter, and would use the income that is less.

Member of the Public: As renters, what are the benefits if you have solar panels?

Committee member Cantave: The benefit to the renter is that the costs of utility bills

would go down. The owner would get the solar tax credits. GRID is also looking at battery storage, which could also benefit renters by allowing to save on utility bills and also save the solar energy for when it's most needed.

Member of the Public: A lot of the people here are low-income renters; how do they qualify to get solar panels if they are renters?

Committee member Cantave: It is on a case-by-case basis; your landlord would have to sign off on it. I can talk to anyone who is interested in the next steps, since it seems like a lot of people here are interested. The general qualification is roughly 80% of AMI.

Member of the Public: Is this based on salary? There are homeowners whose income is not considered low-income, but their mortgage is very high – does Resilient Homes consider this?

Committee member Cantave: Unfortunately not; the main consideration is the overall salary, not taking into account what payments have to be made.

7. REPORT ON COMMUNITY QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

No community questions or comments were reported.

8. COMMITTEE BUSINESS ITEMS

8.1 Universally Accessible Garden Design Presentation

Urban Tilth Community Engagement Manager Arleide Santos presented on the Universally Accessible Garden (formerly known as ADA Garden), including the community engagement process for developing the design. Engagement included numerous sessions with seniors and people with mobility issues, and over 100 community members were engaged in this process. The plans have been submitted to the Community Development department, and construction is anticipated to begin in 2025

Member of the Public: Where will the garden be located?

Community Engagement Manager Arleide Santos: The garden will be located at Unity Park, next to the Edible Forest, and is less than a 10 minute walk from the Nevin Community Center.

8.2 Youth Fellows Coordination with Projects and Training

Youth Fellows Project Manager Gabriela Zacarias Lopez presented an overview of the Youth Fellows program. Each of the 4 different learning modules (Climate Equity, Richmond Rising Projects and Plans, Community Engagement, and Organizing) were described. Fellows will also be engaged in topics including job

training and employment as well as professional expectations and responsibilities.

Member of the Public: Is the program 10 hours/month or a 10 hours/year?

Youth Fellows Project Manager Gabriela Zacarias Lopez: The program would be 10 hours/month.

Member of the Public: How can I learn more about the program?

Youth Fellows Project Manager Gabriela Zacarias Lopez: You can reach out to me by e-mail, or you can use the QR code.

Committee member Castillo: A lot of the Partners, including Groundwork Richmond, have youth programming and education as part of our projects. I'd like to discuss how attendance and participation has been, and how job placement efforts are going. Groundwork is currently in the 3rd cohort of a workforce development program so we'd like to know how it's going for others.

Youth Fellows Project Manager Gabriela Zacarias Lopez: At Rich City we have a staff member who connects with different school principals and other educational administrators from local schools, and what we've heard is that there is a lack of internships that prepare youth for the workforce. Therefore, the emphasis of our Youth Fellows program is to get youth beginning to engage in their community.

Committee member Guerrero motions to continue the topic of youth engagement and workforce development in a separate meeting; Committee member Fields seconds. The committee votes unanimously to approve the motion.

8.3 Richmond Wellness Trail (RWT) Site Walk Summary

Committee member Youngerman presents on the October 26, 2024 sitewalk of the Richmond Wellness Trail Phase 1 and proposed Phase 2. The event was well attended by community members, including important feedback on design of Phase 2. No comments or questions were received from Committee members or members of the public.

8.4 UC Berkeley Upcoming Partner Data Request

Committee member Bruno announced that the Indicator Tracking Plan team will begin to collect data for the first annual report. No comments or questions were received from Committee members or members of the public.

8.5 Rescheduling January 2025

Given that the first Wednesday of January 2025 falls on a holiday (January 1/New Years Day), the Committee discussed changing the date. Committee member Rice motions to move the January meeting to January 8th, 2025; Committee member Youngerman seconds the motion. The Committee votes unanimously to approve the motion.

9. AGENDA REQUESTS FOR NEXT MEETING

Committee would like to invite the Public Works team responsible for maintenance of the Richmond Wellness Trail to attend a Committee meeting to report on the process.

10. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee member Martinez shares an update on UCSF Climate and Community Stakeholder Group regarding the health impacts of wildfire smoke and extreme heat, and invites any Partners that works in this topic to join the group.

Committee member Guerrero invites attendees to the Neighborhood Complete Streets townhall meeting on November 16th from 12-2pm.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting is adjourned at 7:37pm.