

Meeting of the North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee Joint Expenditure Planning Committee

Friday, May 31, 2019
2:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Richmond City Hall – Council Chambers | 440 Civic Center Plaza | Richmond, CA 94801

Members:

Edwardo Martinez, Chair - Richmond City Councilmember
Beverly Scott, Vice Chair - NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Demnlus Johnson, Member – Richmond City Councilmember
Nathaniel Bates, Member - Richmond City Councilmember
John Gioia, Member - Contra Costa County Supervisor
Dr. Henry Clark, Member - NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Annie King-Meredith – Richmond Incorporated Area Resident

Members Present:

Edwardo Martinez, Chair - Richmond City Councilmember
Beverly Scott, Vice Chair - NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Nathaniel Bates, Member - Richmond City Councilmember
Robert Rogers, Member - Contra Costa County Supervisor
Dr. Henry Clark, Member - NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Annie King-Meredith – Richmond Incorporated Area Resident

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Eduardo Martinez called the meeting to order at 2:05pm. Dr. Clark arrived at 2:40.

2. Public Comment on any item not on the agenda (*not to exceed 3 minutes*).

Cordel Hindler shared information about upcoming chamber of commerce event.

3. *APPROVE* the November 9, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

Rogers Motioned to approve the minutes. Scott seconded. Motion approved unanimously (5 ayes)

4. *RECEIVE* the following reports:

- a. Committee Board Advisory Body Annual Report – 2018

- b. Actual Tonnage & Revenue Update – 2018/2019

Staff mentioned that the mitigation fee is collecting funds at a rate that is less than projected (\$2,000 less a month). Staff indicated the contingency line item is established to address for shortfalls like this. Martinez asked what are done with biosolids and Staff indicated those are taken to a place for processing in Central County. King-Meredith shared concerns about appliance, tires & other bulk materials not being picked up. Staff clarified that tires are classified as solid waste. Jose from Public Works clarified that many tires are picked up, but there are problems with commercial businesses dumping tires. Martinez asked how it is decided if something is landfilled or not. Staff clarified that items that don't have a market are landfilled. If a market is available those items are not landfilled.

c. Tonnage & Revenue Projection – 2019/2020

See above. Projections are very close to what were provided in 2018-19

d. Right-of-Way Clean-up Tonnage from Hot Spot Crew

Staff provided a chart that shows the total and average daily tons collected during the last few years. Rogers asked about annual totals for the last four years and noted that numbers are plateauing. Rogers would like to see more progress in preventative/other measures to combat that stagnant number and continue to see it increase. Staff agreed with Rogers, but was unsure what other preventative measures could be implemented. Martinez asked how much debris is left that isn't included in the numbers. Staff clarified that it wasn't so much a capacity issue, rather more items continue to be generated each day.

5. *RECEIVE* report regarding new "Strategy 9 – Community Based Projects" approach planned for 2020/2021 and elimination of the Request for Funding Proposal process. Staff summarized there is an issue with Strategy 9 and is currently unsustainable. The current approach is very costly and a cause of frustration for the recipients. The narrow scope of the use of funds provides minimal flexibility, while the RFP process gives the impression of greater flexibility. Based on these frustrations, staff believes a redesign is in order. This change would take effect after the current projects continue with their second year of funding. Martinez asked staff to have something more concrete for discussion at the October 2019 meeting.

6. *DISCUSS* and *APPROVE* the 2019/2020 Expenditure Plan to be recommended for adoption by the Richmond City Council and County Board of Supervisors, which includes:

a. Funding allocations for each Strategy within the Expenditure Plan;

Bates asked about the amounts we pay towards Code Enforcement and the Sheriff position. Staff indicated Code Enforcement funds are for the enforcement of private property and the Sheriff funds are for a deputy out in Richmond focusing on monitoring litter, and other waste related activities (i.e. if address information is found at an illegal dump site). Bates asked if the sheriff goes beyond the unincorporated area. Staff indicated no. Staff also indicated the sheriff normally patrols during the day, but hours are flexible and can be during night. Bates feels that patrols during the night would be more effective. Bates showed interest in having a similar amount allocated to the City for the same type of position. Rogers shared Bates concern and would like to hear from the Deputy. The Deputy was not in attendance at the meeting. Rogers indicated he believes the Deputy has a strong presence in the community. Martinez was concerned with the Sheriff and the amount billed. Staff clarified this was billing for the first three quarters of the fiscal year. Bates asked about the amount spent in staff time. Staff clarified this was City and County staff time used to implement all the various expenditure plans.

Pam Bilbo spoke and indicated she sees dumping every other day near her office. Rogers indicated he has heard about this and asked if the site was public right-of-way or private property. Pam indicated it was in the right-of-way. King-Meredith indicated there was funding for Strategy four to collect that dumping in the right-of-way. King-Meredith was curious if it was the neighborhood residents doing the dumping considering the frequency of occurrence. Staff indicated that strategy four and other strategies could be used concurrently, like cameras, to help catch vehicle information and other perpetrator information.

Staff indicated there was more funding in Strategy 7 for cameras. Staff would like to work more with the Deputy and Jose from the County's public works department to put these cameras in areas to prevent and potentially capture offender. Bates wanted cameras to be deployed because they can catch illegal dumping in the act and provide solid evidence. Jose spoke about the Cameras and indicated they are solar cameras without live feed. He also said we need search warrants from the County to post cameras. These warrants only last 10

days and he must go back on the ninth day to ask for an extension. Jose is looking to getting live feed cameras in addition to the ones we have now and is hoping to post cameras starting July. Jose spoke about recent success at Soto Street connected to the Railroad in preventing reoccurring dumping at this location. He indicated teamwork with other agencies to address all issues at a specific property is the most successful way to preventing future dumping. King-Meredith thanked Jose for his update and asked how many cameras we have. Jose indicated there are 6 cameras and one does not work. He also thought the FlashCams are outdated and need to be updated. Bates asked what the cost for the County Public Works to put cameras up. Jose indicated it costs about \$300 and he posts cameras throughout the Mitigation area. Bates showed concerns why the City isn't getting cameras. Staff indicated the Mitigation area includes part of the City and the County. Bates felt like the City should be receiving more services. Scott indicated that the City had funded a code enforcement position, but the City decided to opt out. City staff wanted to have City code enforcement attend to provide clarification as to why they were no longer receiving funding. Dr. Clark mentioned a site on Venon Street that continues to be a problem. He would like to see more preventative measures (like Cameras) be enforced in this area. He also had concerns about potential squatters in that area, which may be contributing to the dumping problem. Tania indicated her and the task force has patrolled this area multiple times, yet it continues to be a dump site. She thinks a camera would be very beneficial for this site and that installing a fence could also be a good preventative measure. Pam Bilbo spoke that the lot on Vernon was a site they cleaned for their project for Strategy 9 and dumping came back the next day. She thinks it is residents on that block that are the ones dumping. Jose mentioned the reason why the owner of these lots are not held accountable immediately is because of due process. Martinez asked Jose to consider this a primary spot for cameras.

Dr. Clark spoke about issues with flooding on Battery Street. The street is raised so water drains off and into the private properties causing flooding. Martinez indicated this is Chevron property and that the City or County needs to contact Chevron. Jose indicated he has a contact as Chevron and will reach out to him. Jose also wanted to credit Deidra, Tania, and Robert for all their hard work in the Community.

Rogers motioned to approve the 2019/2020 Expenditure Plan to be recommended for adoption by the Richmond City Council and County Board of Supervisors. Seconded by Annie King- Meredith. Motion approved unanimously (6 ayes) (1:04)????

- b. Funding allocations for previously selected organizations/agencies for Strategy 9 & 12, including requests for advance payments;

Staff indicated the allocations for these strategies is included in Attachments 2 & 3.

- c. All remaining elements of the 2019/2020 Expenditure Plan.

6. *RECEIVE* presentation(s) – Verbal update(s) about mitigation funded strategies from program implementers and others.

Princess – Water is life: She voiced frustration with the contracting process. Once in contract, a variety of meetings and activities were held, surveys distributed to help get feedback about the Wildcat Creek visioning project. Princess also noted that with new technology, it is easy to install an app on the phone to help keep people in communication on potential dumping issues.

Myrna Ortiz & Tania Pulido – Y-Plan: Tania spoke about the relationship with Y-Plan and Verde elementary. Myrna brought posters and indicated the focus of the project was to keep the neighborhood clean, green and show Richmond pride. The posters show the efforts of the students and they hope to have the Japanese sister city visit to help implement the student's ideas. Projects involved clean-ups and themes for each street. King-Meredith asked if they had talked to the residents to see if they want these improvements placed on their street.

Tania indicated outreach to residents and permitting requirements are their next step. Myrna wants to work with Princess and the Wildcat Creek Visioning Project.

Juliana – Watershed Project: Juliana indicated they have recruited residents and are cleaning up/ installing garden retrofits in front of houses throughout the community. She hopes to look at green infrastructure in the right-of-way and would like to have this be an on-going maintenance project. She also indicated they are working with Urban Tilth and hope to do some park improvements to supplement the wildcat creek visioning project.

Eleanor Thompson – Social Progress: Eleanor voiced frustration about her proposal not matching her agreement. She also echoed Pam and said that once they cleaned a site, dumping would occur again. She also voiced frustrations with the administrative process when submitting invoices. Eleanor felt like she didn't receive enough help from CHDC and is concerned about not receiving payment in a timely manner. Eleanor voiced frustration that CHDC still gets paid even when she isn't receiving her allocated amount of funding. She also indicated a parade would be on the fourth of July. King-Meredith asked what it would take to amend an MOU. Staff indicated it takes a fair amount of administrative work to amend a contract. City staff indicated they would seek the counsel of their city attorneys to see how contracts can be amended. Staff indicated they would like to hear from CHDC about their process for amending contracts. City staff indicated they think training from CHDC for those applying for funding would be beneficial.

Dr. Clark raised previous concerns about advance funding. Staff indicated advanced funding is available and up to 10% of the implementer amount can be awarded. King-Meredith wanted to make sure this is clarified for the non-profits awarded during 2019-2020.

Pam Bilbo – Men and Women of Valor: Pam echoed concerns about the process for implementing projects. Pam felt that the project didn't reflect the proposal she submitted. She also voiced concerns about the invoicing process. Rogers asked staff how much Men and Women of Valor have been paid this year. Staff indicated they have been paid \$6,531.84 so far. City staff would like to meet with their attorneys to see if they can pay late invoices.

Maria – Urban Tilth: Maria and Yvonne Marroquin provided an update about the garden at 1st street. A variety of plants and trees has been added to the garden. Other garden improvements have been installed like chicken wire and soil. They plan to host events on Saturdays in June. Rogers praised Maria for her work.

Tania – CSC: provide an update about her efforts for strategies 8, 10 & 11. She has also assisted with Neighborhood clean-ups and updating the North Richmond Green website. Dr. Clark spoke about the basketball program and noted Stephen Curry has a foundation that helps disadvantaged communities and he is hoping Tania can reach out to them. King-Meredith asked about the ditches. Tania indicated they have been cleaned three times since and that she heard from John Streere, with the County, that there are plans to fill the ditches in. Rogers and Martinez wanted to thank everyone for their efforts.

7. *ADJOURN* to next meeting – October 18, 2019

Martinez called the meeting to a close at 4:22pm.

Agendas, meeting notes and other information regarding this committee can be found online at:

www.cccounty.us/nr

Meeting materials will be made available for public inspection, during business hours at 450 Civic Center Plaza in Richmond, within 96 hours of meeting date and time.

*The North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee Joint Expenditure Planning Committee will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee's meeting. Please call or e-mail the following Committee staff person at least 72 hours before the meeting:
Lori Reese-Brown - City of Richmond, (510) 620-6869, lori_reese-brown@ci.richmond.ca.us*

