

# North Richmond

## Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee Joint Expenditure Planning Committee

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

3:00 pm –5:00 pm

Richmond City Hall Chambers | 1401 Marina Way South | Richmond, CA 94804

### Members:

Richmond City Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, **Chair**  
 Incorporated Area NRMAC Representative Lee Jones, **Vice Chair**  
 Unincorporated Area NRMAC Representative Dr. Henry Clark  
 Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia  
 Richmond City Councilmember Jim Rogers  
 Richmond City Councilmember Maria Viramontes  
 Unincorporated Area NRMAC Representative Joe Wallace

### Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Public Comment on any item not on the agenda (not to exceed 2 minutes)
3. *Action* – Consider approving October 27, 2008 Meeting Minutes
4. *Receive Staff Report* – April Expenditure Plan Implementation Update  
Tonnage & Revenue Update
5. *Discussion* – Proposed process for developing 2010-2011 Expenditure Plan
6. *Action* – Provide direction regarding the Community Gardens Project proposal
7. *Discussion* – Consider City of Richmond Police Department's camera request
8. *Action* – Establish meeting schedule for 2009  
[Meetings had been scheduled for the 4th Mondays of January, April, July, and October]
9. *Receive Presentation(s)* – Verbal update(s) about mitigation funded strategies
10. *Adjourn* - Next meeting date to be scheduled

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

[www.cccounty.us/nr](http://www.cccounty.us/nr) -or- [www.ccrecycle.org/committee](http://www.ccrecycle.org/committee)

Meeting materials will be made available for public inspection, during business hours at 1401 Marina Way South in Richmond, within 72 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 Committee Staff (LaShonda Wilson, City of Richmond, (510) 620-6828, [lashonda\\_wilson@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:lashonda_wilson@ci.richmond.ca.us)) at least 72 hours before the meeting.*

**North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee  
Joint Expenditure Planning Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

Monday, October 27, 2008  
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Richmond City Hall Chambers  
1401 Marina Way South  
Richmond, CA 94804

Members in Attendance:

Richmond City Councilmember Nathaniel Bates, **Chair**  
Incorporated Area Representative Lee Jones, **Vice Chair**  
Richmond City Councilmember Maria Viramontes  
Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia  
Unincorporated Area Representative Dr. Henry Clark  
Richmond City Councilmember Harpreet Sandhu  
Unincorporated Area Representative Joe Wallace

Members Absent:

None

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**1. Welcome and Introductions**

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Action - Review and Approve February 25, 2008 Meeting Notes/ Minutes**

Minutes from the meeting were approved.

**4. Action – Nominate and Elect Chairperson & Vice-Chairperson, pursuant to the Terms of Committee Bylaws**

Staff presented the Staff Report to the Committee Members. Committee Member Gioia suggested re-election of the current Chairperson and Vice-chairperson for a second term of two-years.

*The Committee unanimously approved re-election of the current Chair and Vice-Chair.*

**5. Action – Consider approving the 2008/2009 Second Amended Expenditure Plan**

Staff presented the Staff Report to the Committee Members outlining changes proposed in the 2008/2009 Second Amended Expenditure Plan. Among the changes proposed were suggested funding increases to certain strategies in response to community feedback. To offset funding increases while still balancing the budget, staff recommended a reduction in funding for strategies that were being underutilized. Lastly, there were minor text changes made to some strategies for

the purpose of improving accuracy or providing clarification. Committee Member Gioia recommended an additional change to the budget, namely an increased allocation in the amount of \$60,000 for Strategy 13, "Increase Nighttime Patrols", to provide increased law enforcement presence during nighttime hours through 2009. The new recommended total allocation for Strategy 13 is \$100,000. Committee Member Viramontes suggested that this funding come from Strategy 17c, "North Richmond Greening Project", since none of the \$150,000 allocated had been spent to date and only a portion of the funds would likely be spent through 2009. Supervisor Gioia said he had a meeting with the Sheriff about the need for additional patrols in North Richmond at night. It is possible that the additional patrols could become the responsibility of a second Resident Deputy dedicated to North Richmond if adequate supplemental funding could be identified or secured to cover the remainder of the cost. Committee Member Jones voiced concern about additional mitigation funds being diverted to cover staff costs instead of using those funds for beautification efforts.

*The Committee approved changes to the 2008/2009 Second Amended Expenditure Plan recommended by staff. All Committee members, except for Committee Member Jones, approved the reallocation of funds suggested by Committee Members Gioia and Viramontes.*

**6. Receive Staff Reports – Tonnage & Revenue Update and October Expenditure Plan Implementation Update**

Staff presented the Tonnage and Revenue Update to the Committee Members. Staff also presented a revised Tonnage and Revenue Update that reflected a change in the October amount received. The change was from \$72,808.50 to \$52,472.13.

Staff presented the October Expenditure Plan Implementation Update to the Committee Members. Staff outlined each strategy and explained how it would be implemented during the 2008/2009 calendar year.

**7. Receive Presentation(s) – Verbal updates from one or more mitigation funded staff**

Deputy Monroe reported that he has issued approximately 200 citations since he began in April 2007; they have ranged from unsecured and uncovered loads to illegal dumping of trash. He also explained that there has been an increase in illegal waste transfer stations being established on property in North Richmond, in which hauling companies are taking predominantly construction & demolition waste they collect for processing. They are then sorting through the waste to remove recyclables and then illegally dumping the non-recyclable materials, which unfortunately rarely has any identifying information to indicate its origin or potentially responsible parties.

Deputy Monroe provided a summary of a recent felony case that all started thanks to a report from a local community member. This individual contacted the Deputy to report they witnessed staff from a construction hauling company that used their

truck to ram down a gate and then illegally dumped 7.1 cubic yards of construction debris (including some asbestos-containing waste) on private property belonging to AT&T on Brookside Drive. Deputy Monroe contacted the hauling company and responsible individual, who eventually admitted to the dumping. Deputy Monroe presented the case, which is considered a felony due to the hazardous nature of asbestos, to Deputy District Attorney Butts. The District Attorney's Office will file the case and the construction hauling company will be liable for the cost of the clean-up. Once the case is adjudicated properly, Deputy Monroe is hopeful that it will serve as a warning to similar establishments.

**8. Set possible Agenda for Next meeting and Adjournment**

Committee member Viramontes requested a staff report regarding the North Richmond Community Gardens Project. She requested that staff work with CHDC staff to identify potential garden locations (permanent and temporary). In addition, she requested that staff review the potential for securing grants for the community gardens project.

The Committee adjourned the meeting at 4:15pm.

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**IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE**  
**2008/2009 North Richmond Waste & Recovery**  
**Mitigation Fee Expenditure Plan**  
**- April 2009 -**

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The funding allocation amounts shown below are for the two-year 2008/2009 Expenditure Plan period unless otherwise identified. Some of the strategies and related activities listed were initiated prior to January 2008 under the 2006/2007 Expenditure Plan.

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***PREVENTION & EDUCATION***

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**Strategy 1 - Bulky Clean-ups** **\$5,000**

Bulky Clean-ups are used in conjunction with the Disposal Vouchers (Strategy 3) which were both launched on May 18, 2007. The Community Services Coordinator (CSC) will serve as the community's primary point of contact for this program and will handle requests on an appointment basis following prescribed procedures. The CSC will provide Committee Staff from the County and City (Staff) with documentation on monthly basis. Bulky Clean-ups are available to residents with an active residential account with Richmond Sanitary Service (RSS), are limited to one per household per year, and will be disbursed on a first come first served basis.

There has been limited interest in this program, only 3 community members have requested a Bulky Item Pick-up since the program was launched (only 1 within the 2008/2009 Expenditure Plan cycle). Staff, the CSC and Bilingual Outreach Services Coordinator (BOSC) continues seeking new and different strategies to better inform local residents about this program.

**Strategy 2 - Neighborhood Clean-ups** **\$25,000**

On Saturday, October 25, 2008, the second community-wide Neighborhood Clean-up took place. Approximately 66 tons of household trash was collected. The City, County and Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC) worked with RSS, Sims Metal, Hi-Tech Recycling and others in the community to ensure the success of the clean-up. There were 5 drop-off locations throughout the North Richmond area. Community youth from YouthBuild and the Young Adult Empowerment Center (YAEC), as well as senior volunteers helped staff each location. Volunteers distributed handouts in English and Spanish with information about local disposal and recycling resources, including details about the Mitigation Fee funded Disposal Voucher & Bulky-Item Pick-up programs and what they should and should not place in their green waste containers at home to address problem of increased contamination found in local residential green waste containers (copies of both are attached). The CSC/BOC coordinated the volunteer activities. Volunteers from UPS also participated in the community clean-up by picking up trash along neighborhood streets.

**Strategy 3 - Voucher System** **\$7,500**

The Disposal Voucher program officially began on May 18, 2007. The Community Services Coordinator (Strategy 4) serves as the community's primary point of contact for this program. The CSC distributes vouchers on an appointment basis and provides Staff with documentation as needed for verification at the time payments need to be processed.

Households are limited to twelve Disposal Vouchers (\$5 each) per year. Disposal Vouchers will be disbursed on a first come first served basis and will expire six months following issuance.

To date, 26 requests for vouchers have been made (totaling approximately 312 vouchers). A total of 154 vouchers have been redeemed at Republic's Golden Bear Transfer Station on Parr Boulevard (about 41 have been redeemed within the current 2008/2009 Expenditure Plan cycle and the remaining 113 in 2006/2007)..The majority of the vouchers requested have been by residents that are referred through code or law enforcement staff.

**Strategy 4 - Community Services Coordinator \$144,262**

Saleem Bey, the Community Services Coordinator (CSC), is responsible for illegal dumping/blight referrals and tracking, public outreach, and illegal dumping prevention and acts as a liaison between the community, the City and County. The CSC is employed through CHDC of North Richmond. The CSC is diligently working on community outreach efforts, informing the community of mitigation funded programs, assisting Mitigation Staff with implementation of specific strategies, and educating residents about other local issues related to illegal dumping and blight. The CSC, along with the BOSC, attends numerous community meetings and meets individually with numerous community leaders.

The CSC has worked on creating a newsletter, the October 2008 Neighborhood Clean-up Flyer and various other public outreach materials. He disburses disposal vouchers, processes requests for bulky clean-ups, works with YouthBuild students involved in Mitigation Fee funded stipend programs, and staffs the Keep North Richmond Beautiful (KNRB) Committee. Mr. Bey has been the central force in developing and building support for the North Richmond Green Campaign In 2009 This outreach campaign is intended to facilitate positive changes within and for the benefit of the North Richmond community. The driving force behind this campaign and its plan of action has been the community itself.

**Strategy 5 - Bilingual Outreach Services/Coordinator \$56,000**

Carla Orozco, the Bilingual Outreach Services Coordinator (BOSC), assists the CSC with illegal dumping referrals/tracking and public outreach by serving as a link between the Spanish speaking members of the community of North Richmond and the City and County. The BOSC is also employed through CHDC of North Richmond. Ms. Orozco is dedicated to identifying and pursuing opportunities to outreach to the Latino community. For example, she regularly attends and distributes information at the North Richmond flea market, which is mostly attended by Latino residents. Ms. Orozco prepares and

translates into Spanish various outreach and resource materials for community-wide distribution to Latino community members, including the Spanish versions of the Newsletter and Neighborhood Clean-up Flyers developed by the CSC and the handouts distributed at the October 2008 Clean-up (described under Strategy 2 above).

**Strategy 6 - Public Outreach Campaign** **\$50,000**

Mitigation staff, the CSC and the BOSC assists with the development of public outreach materials to help educate the North Richmond community about various mitigation strategies. The following are examples of outreach conducted in the community:

- Word of mouth is a very effective means of informing community members about mitigation strategies. The CSC and BOSC continue to work at street level to educate community members on available resources and to increase awareness.
- The CSC and BOSC meet with a variety of people and organizations within the community, such as Project Pride, The Young Adult Empowerment Center, Verde Elementary School, Head Start, and HEAL to discuss strategies to prevent illegal dumping, to inform members about current beautification efforts and developments, and to discuss environmental concerns in the community.
- The CSC and BOSC have begun development of an outreach campaign called "North Richmond Green" intended to build recognition for mitigation funded beautification projects as well as help build pride and rally community support around all beautification efforts. The CSC, BOSC and Mitigation Fee staff has registered a new website ([www.nrgreen.org](http://www.nrgreen.org)) to replace [www.stopdumping.org](http://www.stopdumping.org) in order to build upon this theme as a means of providing residents with an online resource for Mitigation Fee supported programs and services which are intended to compliment the printed outreach materials created.
- A variety of flyers and resource materials has been developed and will be reviewed for distribution in the upcoming months.
- The next community newsletter is expected to be completed and distributed in May 2009. The newsletter provides the North Richmond community with updates related to the implementation of Expenditure Plan strategies and other important information related to illegal dumping/blight in the community. The newsletters are created by the CSC, edited by Mitigation Fee Staff and translated into Spanish by the BOSC. The newsletter will be mailed out to all North Richmond residents, and the CSC and BOSC will also distribute some door-to-door.
- The Keep North Richmond Beautiful (KNRB) Steering committee meetings occur during the first Thursday of every month. Through the dedicated efforts of the CSC and BOSC, the KNRB meetings experience greater community participation. Staff is proposing to hold steering committee meetings during the day and conduct quarterly evening meetings with community residents.

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***ABATEMENT & ENFORCEMENT***

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**Strategy 7 - City/County Pick-up from Right-of-Way** **\$120,000**

The City Public Works Illegal Dumping Abatement Crew receives work requests to pick-up materials that are not suitable for collection by Republic Sanitary Service's Hot Spot Crew such as tires, electronics, and unidentified liquids. The increase in illegally dumped tires is still a major issues and the City's Abatement Crew desires to work with enforcement entities to collectively solve the problem. The Abatement Crew supervisor provides monthly invoices and reports to the City for reimbursement of staff costs, equipment usage and mileage. The City Public Works Abatement Supervisor is working closely with the CSC and Staff to ensure the effective implementation of this strategy.

**Strategy 8 - Vacant and Abandoned Lot and Properties Clean-up \$40,000**

This strategy includes the clean-up of abandoned lots and properties within the Mitigation Area. CHDC staff is interested in utilizing some of the vacant lots for community gardens (See Strategy 16A update). Although no funds have been expended to date, City Code Enforcement has plans to utilize a portion of the available funding to abate a City-owned parcel in May 2009. Currently, the City does not have sufficient funds in place to pay for the abatement of the property and is therefore utilizing mitigation funds to cover the associated costs. In the meantime, Code Enforcement staff is working to set up a system by which these funds can be utilized more effectively. The County already has a system and funds in place for vacant lot clean-ups but they also have access to a portion of the funds if needed.

**Strategy 9 – Vacant and Abandoned Lot Fencing \$57,000**

Although no funds have been expended to date, City Code Enforcement plans on utilizing a portion of them in the upcoming months to repair a fence in the incorporated area surrounding a problem vacant lot. City Code enforcement is currently in the process of soliciting bids. The County also has access to the funds if needed.

**Strategy 10 - Code Enforcement Staff \$313,514**

Effective March 10, 2009, Eduardo Franco began filing in for Conrad Fromme the County Building Inspector officially assigned to the dedicated Code Enforcement position who is out on medical leave for several months. The monthly status report submitted by Mr. Fromme and Mr. Franco for March 2009 indicated they had opened 3 cases, closed 18 cases and had 61 total cases active. Mr. Franco works with the Illegal Dumping Officer, City Code Enforcement and Contra Costa County Environmental Health staff to create a more comprehensive code enforcement system to address the illegal dumping problem in the North Richmond community.

**Strategy 11 - Graffiti Abatement \$58,240**

The City Public Works Graffiti Abatement Crew cleans graffiti visible from the public right-of-way located within the incorporated and unincorporated portions of the North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee Primary Funding Area. Although reports show that graffiti incidents are very nominal in the community, the City's Graffiti Abatement Crew is very responsive to requests for abatement in order to ensure that the needs of the community are met in a timely manner.

**Strategy 12 - Illegal Dumping Investigator/Officer \$274,808**

Recent lay-offs forced by the current budget crisis resulted in vacancies which the Sheriff's Office was obligated to fill using existing Deputies. Unfortunately, Felipe Monroe will no longer be serving as the Illegal Dumping Officer due to circumstances involving the mandatory criteria the Sheriff's Office has to use when filling certain vacancies. Sheriff Deputy Felipe Monroe served as the Illegal Dumping Investigator/Officer from April 30, 2007 to April 23, 2009. Deputy Monroe made a significant impact in the area in the relatively short amount of time he filled this position. Deputy Monroe worked very closely with the Illegal Dumping Prosecutor, the CSC, the Code Enforcement Officer, City & County Public Works, County Environmental Health and Richmond Sanitary Service. He attended certain community meetings to build relationships with and increase awareness of the residents of North Richmond.

Deputy Monroe issued approximately 226 citations for everything from unsecured and uncovered loads to illegal dumping of trash and/or tires. Deputy Monroe towed numerous vehicles from the streets that are laden with trash or are in disrepair. On average Deputy Monroe spent about 10 hours of overtime per month. When conducting surveillance one night, Deputy Monroe caught 2 individuals that go door to door and ask for work collecting and disposing of construction debris or other garbage. The individuals were paid to haul construction debris from a house and proceeded to dump it at a known dumping location a block away. Both individuals received a citation and were required to properly remove and dispose of the construction debris.

Deputy Monroe found that issuing verbal warnings can be very effective if done properly that can really help establish accountability among residents that illegally dump their trash on the streets. He usually instructs residents to pick up trash in front of their house within specific timeframe (often 24 hours) in order to avoid receiving a citation, and in most cases the illegally dumped materials are removed within the specified time period.

Some examples of Deputy Monroe's accomplishments include:

- Caught a man dumping a load of yard waste on Pittsburg Ave. (by Action Metal) and was able to immediately issue him a citation
- Gathered enough evidence, including information found inside the illegally dumped material which linked back to one individual, to file a case against two individuals from San Pablo who dumped 3-4 cubic yards of construction materials on Brookside Drive.
- Appeared in court 9 times for people who attempted to contest fines received from the issuing of citations. The Court Commissioner that presided over these cases initially found defendants not guilty for the violations. However, the Commissioner began to find people guilty in 2008 after Deputy Monroe met with him to explain the purpose of the Mitigation Fee funded enforcement work in North Richmond and the reasons for the violations.

Issues/trends involving ongoing collaboration between law and code enforcement staff:

- *Waste tire hauling/dumping.* Illegal tire dumping has become quite rampant and suspected of coming from various sources. Action Metal, which accepts

scrap metal for recycling, receives numerous rims however they do not accept tires so often they are dumped (without rims) throughout North Richmond. There are also several vehicle “chop shops” throughout the Mitigation Funding area. Additionally, those that illegally haul waste tires are suspected sources of illegally dumped tires within the Mitigation area. The law and code enforcement team will continue exploring possible strategies to help manage this problem effectively.

- *Abandoned shopping carts.* There is a section in the Penal Code that states that being in possession of a shopping cart with out permission from the cart’s owner (stores) is a misdemeanor. Unfortunately, it has been difficult to make any progress enforcing this law because 90% of stores do not want to press charges leaving no basis upon which to file a case.
- *Illegal transfer stations.* There are numerous illegal transfer stations in the North Richmond area, which have proven to be real enforcement challenges. Expect to use what is learned from the first successful enforcement action/conviction to help deal with other illegal transfer stations.

Although Deputy Monroe is no longer working as the dedicated illegal dumping officer in North Richmond, the Sheriff’s Office remains committed to providing excellent service to the community and is actively implementing changes recommended by Supervisor Gioia intended to maximize law enforcement resources in North Richmond using a new Resident Deputy Team approach.

The Resident Deputy Team approach was officially launched in North Richmond on April 27, 2009. The Team consists of three pairs of deputies assigned to one of three shifts, either the Day Shift (Mon-Thu, 7a -5p), Swing Shift (Tue-Fri, 2p-12a) or Weekends (Fri, 7a-7:30p / Sat & Sun, 2p-12:30a). All 6 deputies will have the same overall “Roles & Responsibilities” which include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Conduct illegal dumping surveillance and investigations.
- ✓ Build & file cases specific to instances of commercial dumping which are suitable for prosecution.
- ✓ Conduct sting operations to catch illegal dumpers.
- ✓ Target specific locations and/or time frames where illegal dumping occurs most regularly.
- ✓ Attend and/or participate in community meetings and events.
- ✓ Exchange accurate information with residents about crime, the community and the goals of policing.
- ✓ Develop and/or assist in youth programs and activities.
- ✓ Develop operations to combat crime in North Richmond.

There are two Resident Deputies assigned to the Day Shift that will be working the same schedule as Deputy Monroe, which is Monday through Thursday from 7am to 5pm. Both are expected to work exclusively in North Richmond and will routinely patrol the entire North Richmond Mitigation Funding Area as well as conduct investigations and surveillance to address illegal dumping.

Over the next month or so, Deputy Monroe expects to complete a handbook (written procedures/guidelines) to serve as a tool for the newly assigned Resident Deputies based upon the knowledge and experience he gained over the past two years serving as the Illegal Dumping Officer in North Richmond. He intends to document his overall approach as well as relevant tips/techniques, resources/contacts and other details he has found to be most effective in the fight against illegal dumping.

**Strategy 13 - Increase Nighttime Patrols & Investigation \$100,000**

Increased nighttime patrols are intended to complement the work of the Investigator/Officer (Strategy 12). At the meeting on October 27, 2008, the Committee voted to approve some changes to the 2008/2009 Second Amended Expenditure Plan and Budget which included Committee Member Gioia's suggestion to allocate an additional \$60,000 to Strategy 13 "Increase Nighttime Patrols & Investigations" in order to fund increased law enforcement presence during nighttime hours through 2009. Supervisor Gioia reported that there was a growing need for additional patrols in North Richmond which he and the Sheriff had just discussed at a meeting. Since that meeting, Supervisor Gioia has successfully helped secure enough funding from other sources, when combined with this \$100,000, to cover the cost of additional Resident Deputies dedicated to North Richmond. At least two of six Deputies that comprise the Resident Deputy Team launched on April 27, 2009 (see Strategy 12 above) will be working until midnight every Tuesday through Sunday (coverage provided by the two pairs assigned to Swing Shift & Weekends). The Deputies working at night have the same overall "Roles & Responsibilities" which include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Conduct illegal dumping surveillance and investigations.
- ✓ Build & file cases specific to instances of commercial dumping which are suitable for prosecution.
- ✓ Conduct sting operations to catch illegal dumpers.
- ✓ Target specific locations and/or time frames where illegal dumping occurs most regularly.

**Strategy 14 - Surveillance Cameras \$260,000**

The Mitigation Committee allocated funds for the purchase and installation of eight (8) surveillance cameras in the Mitigation Area via the City's contract with ADT Security Systems to help combat illegal dumping. As need, the mitigation funds will be used to repair, maintain and move cameras and associated mounting kit/accessories but also to maintain the coverage network, purchase needed software and additional deterrent mechanisms.

Camera installation was completed in spring 2008. North Richmond's dedicated illegal dumping officer, Deputy Felipe Monroe, worked closely with the City's Police Department and ADT staff to set up the camera views and analytics and to gain access to the camera footage. The 8 camera locations were initially selected because they were considered illegal dumping "hot spots." Based on conversations with Deputy Monroe, the cameras in those locations have helped deter illegal dumping. There are other areas within the Mitigation Area that have been identified as locations for new or

relocated cameras. Mitigation staff is awaiting information from ADT regarding cost estimates and the feasibility of moving and/or placing cameras in specific locations. Once information is received, Staff will continue to explore the technical, operational and financial feasibility of using future allocations to move cameras and/or expand the coverage network so that the entire Mitigation Area is covered which would provide maximum flexibility when moving cameras based on changes in illegal dumping hot spots.

**Strategy 15 - Illegal Dumping Prosecutor** **\$65,149**

The Illegal Dumping Prosecutor works closely with the City Police Department and the North Richmond Illegal Dumping Officer to discuss various strategies and important information needed to prosecute illegal dumping cases. The allocated funds cover 15% of the full-time salary for 2 years. Derek Butts was assigned to this Prosecutor position from January 2, 2007 to August 15, 2008. The Illegal Dumping Prosecutor has filed cases on individuals found guilty of violating codes related to illegal dumping which have resulted in fines, jail time, and community service (details regarding some cases are included under Strategy 12). As of August 18, 2008, Mark Eichman replaced Mr. Butts as the Illegal Dumping Prosecutor.

- In late 2007/early 2008, the Illegal Dumping Prosecutor was successful at charging two individuals with a misdemeanor resulting in one defendant receiving 10 days of jail time and the other a \$2,000 fine. Both individuals were required to do community service as part of their probation.
- In late 2008, the Illegal Dumping Prosecutor began working with Deputy Monroe on a case involving a construction hauling company witnessed illegally dumping 7.1 cubic yards of construction debris containing dry wall and asbestos. This company was also operating an illegal transfer station. A community member informed Deputy Monroe that they witnessed a hauling company employee dump the debris on private property belonging to AT&T on Brookside Avenue. When approached by Deputy Monroe, the person responsible admitted to the dumping. The District Attorney's Office filed a felony case against the owner of the company, a \$20,000 warrant was issued and the owner has since been arrested at his place of business in front of his peers.

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**COMMUNITY INVESTMENT**

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**Strategy 16 – Beautification**

**A. Neighborhood Landscaping & Gardening Projects** **\$68,000**

The CSC, in collaboration with the Keep North Richmond Beautiful Steering Committee and the community, identified the need to implement a community gardening project to efficiently utilize vacant lots and turn them into community assets. CHDC has partnered with Iyalode Kinney of Communities United Restoring Mother Earth (CURE) and Urban Tilth to develop proposal for the "Lots of Crops" Gardening Program. The proposal is included in the Committee's agenda packet for consideration at the May 2009 meeting

to address Committee member Viramontes' request at the last meeting asking for a report about the North Richmond Community Gardens Project

In addition to funding for the community gardening project, CHDC will be compensated for certain costs associated with neighborhood landscaping projects. Funding is to be expended exclusively for plants/materials needed for pre-approved landscaping projects (labor to be provided by YouthBuild Participants funded through Strategy 17). The CSC and the Young Adult Empowerment Center (YAEC) staff are also discussing possible landscaping projects to ensure collaboration and reduce duplicative efforts.

**B. Servicing, Maintenance and Moving/Removal of Street Cans **\$3,962****

In 2007, four (4) street cans, covered in tile art created by Verde Elementary School children, were located at the following sites within the Mitigation Area:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> & Market Ave
- 5<sup>th</sup> & Market Ave
- 6<sup>th</sup> & Market Ave
- Giaramita & Verde

Republic Sanitary Services (RSS) provided weekly collection service for all four street cans. However, due to increasing problems with the street cans in these locations, including substantial vandalism/damage (e.g. parts removed, turned over, burned, etc.) and misuse (e.g. overstuffed with household garbage rather than litter), the cans are no longer useable. As a result, Mitigation staff requested and RSS staff concurred, that service to these street cans would be terminated, unless needed. Instead of disposing of the street cans, CHDC staff was able to secure new locations for them at Verde Elementary School. City staff is working with City Public Works staff to move the cans to their new location in May/June 2009.

**Strategy 17 - Community Involvement**

**A. Stipends and Mentorship Program **\$118,000****

Mitigation Fees are now allocated to fund stipends to West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Transition Program students, YouthBuild and Young Adult Empowerment Center (YAEC) participants, and other groups as identified and approved by Committee staff for illegal dumping abatement and beautification programs.

As part of its contract with the City, CHDC is compensated for stipends provided to WCCUSD Transition Program Students and YouthBuild participants for conducting agreed upon activities related to trash and beautification. Since fall 2008, the WCCUSD decided not to allow their students to participate in Mitigation funded activities.

YouthBuild participants clean different areas of the Mitigation Area at least once per week, as part of their responsibilities under CHDC's contract with the City. They helped support the October 25<sup>th</sup> Neighborhood Clean-up by conducting door-to-door distribution of the bilingual flyers, monitoring debris boxes, assisting seniors and disabled residents with pick-up, and assisting other residents unloading materials into

debris boxes. CHDC and Mitigation Fee staff is exploring ways to more efficiently utilize YouthBuild staff to support Mitigation-funded projects.

In October 2008, the County entered into contract with the County Housing Authority in the amount of \$24,978 to administer the Young Adult Empowerment Center (YAEC) Advisory Council Stipend Program. The purpose of the YAEC Advisory Committee is to provide a meaningful experience to each Member through service leadership, while establishing a valuable community resource that focuses on issues and projects intended to enhance the quality of life of all North Richmond residents. Members of the North Richmond YAEC Advisory Committee are between the ages of 17-25. The Stipend Program covers time spent by Members undertaking activities which are directly related to planning and conducting trash abatement and beautification activities on public property within the Mitigation Fee Primary Funding Area (activities can also be conducted on private property but only with pre-authorization from Committee staff).

Supervisor Gioia's Office and County staff are working with the County Housing Authority to the draft proposal for their Young Adult Empowerment Center (YAEC) Mentorship Program which has been designed to incorporate efforts to address and combat illegal dumping and blight in the community.

**B. Parks Rehabilitation Initiative **\$175,000****

The City of Richmond Parks and Landscaping Division requested and received proposals on March 25, 2009, for the creation of redesign and construction contract documentation for Shields-Reid Neighborhood Park. The Parks Division asked respondents to consider the following options when creating the redesign and construction documents:

- Adult size soccer field and youth soccer practice area;
- Edible garden;
- Reconfigured baseball diamond;
- Skate park;
- Play lots; and
- Other important features.

The Parks Division plans on encumbering the allocated Mitigation funds prior to the beginning of July 2009. The Parks Division is also currently engaged in a variety of renovation projects at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Ball Park.

**C. North Richmond Greening Project **\$90,000****

The North Richmond Greening Project consists of working with community stakeholders to create a greening plan for the area and installing and maintaining the selected plan. To-date, no funds have been allocated to any phase of this project. County staff has been approached by the County Redevelopment Agency to explore whether any of this funding could be used for certain streetscape improvements that the community has expressed interest in pursuing.

**D. New Street Can and/or Tile Art Project **\$8,000****

The new street can project is currently on-hold due to the current issues, effectiveness and utilization of the four street cans. The tile art project was added to this strategy and approved in October/November 2008. The tile art project started in January 2009. Hand-painted tiles, based on themes of anti-littering and environmental stewardship, will be created by Verde Elementary School students. The plan is to place the tiles in appropriate places throughout the community (such as benches).

**E. Senior Center Improvements **\$15,000****

Staff attended a bidder's job walk-through with potential contractors on March 13, 2009 for proposed exterior improvements to the Senior Center. The two contractors present were Marvin Collins Construction of Hercules and Baines Group of Oakland. The walk-through was conducted by Charles Moore and Pamela Neyland from the Neighborhood House of North Richmond and Brenda Kain from the Contra Costa County Redevelopment Agency.

Staff from Neighborhood House outlined the proposed exterior improvements with the two contractors as follows: Remove and Replace 80' x 50' existing asphalt parking lot (includes new parking stalls and code compliant ADA parking stall and ramp to access senior center), replace or modify existing pole lighting in parking lot, replace wall mounted lighting in courtyard with new security lighting, remove and replace ½ of existing concrete driveway entrance, add new wrought iron gate and associated fencing over driveway and add new fence and gate in back of Senior Center along 5<sup>th</sup> Street, install new irrigation in front with drought resistant plants.

The exterior improvements are being jointly funded through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) obtained by the Contra Costa County Redevelopment Agency and the North Richmond Mitigation Fee. At this point, it appears that this \$15,000 funding will be used for the instillation of the new wrought iron gate and fencing.

**F. Safe Routes Program & Community Mural Project **\$15,000****

Both the Safe Routes Program and Community Mural Project are being implemented by Harold Beaulieu, founder of a nonprofit organization that coordinates community based art projects in the Bay Area and administered under contract between CHDC and the City. Mr. Beaulieu submitted budget/work plan for the Community Mural Project at the Young Adult Empowerment Center in second quarter of 2008 and began work during the third quarter of 2008. In April 2009, Mr. Beaulieu submitted a budget/work plan for the Safe Routes to School Project and will likely begin planning, outreach, recruitment and training on this project in the upcoming months.

**G. West County Watershedz Program **\$15,000****

The Urban Creeks Council submitted a proposal to fund the design and implementation of a rehabilitation project within the Wildcat Creek riparian zone and trail corridor near Verde Elementary School. The proposed project would have employed North Richmond youth and was part of a larger environmental project in the North Richmond area. In March 2008, Committee staff went on a tour of the riparian zone and trail corridor with

Josh Bradt, the project leader from the Urban Creeks Council. Mr. Bradt left his position prior to submitting a detailed scope of work. As of late 2008, the new point of contact at the Urban Creeks Council is Doria Robinson. In early 2009, Ms. Robinson submitted a proposal entitled "Native Habitat Restoration Along the Wildcat Regional Trail" covering design, installation and short-term maintenance of native vegetation adjacent to the walking trail along Wildcat Creek between Giaranita Rd and 3rd Street. The proposal acknowledges that ongoing maintenance of a restoration project located on a small, heavily disturbed urban site like this is critical to the project's long-term success. Therefore, they are partnering with the County Flood Control District to solve this problem through development of a comprehensive management program for lower Wildcat (below the San Pablo city limit), which will include the site to be restored with this funding.

**H. Wildcat and San Pablo Creek Enhancements **\$20,000****

The Contra Costa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District submitted a proposal requesting funding for at least a portion of three creek-related projects. These projects would enhance either fish passage, water quality or habitat preservation along Wildcat and/or San Pablo Creeks. The funding allocated was significantly less than the amount requested and therefore not adequate to fund a portion of all three creek projects. No funds have yet been spent because the District staff is currently exploring opportunities to provide the most effective enhancements to these creeks, including possible partnership with the Urban Creeks Council related to Wildcat Creek management program mentioned above under Strategy 17g.

**I. Capital Improvement Projects **\$103,707****

Committee members recommended capital improvement projects to be considered should include fencing or alternate barriers, and street/sidewalk improvements related to railroad crossings. The City and County have flexibility to split the funds for separate projects or combine some or all of the funds for use on one joint project that benefits the entire community. No funds have been allocated to specific capital improvement projects because City and County staff still need to determine the most efficient and effective use of the allocated funds within the Mitigation area. County staff has been approached by the County Redevelopment Agency to explore whether any of this funding could be used for certain improvements that the community has expressed interest in pursuing.



# North Richmond Community Clean Up



**\*\*Free Disposal Drop Off\*\***

**Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

**Clean Up Begins At 8:00 A.M. & Ends At 12:30 P.M.  
Or When Dumpsters Are Full**



NeighborWorks  
CHARTERED MEMBER

**This is NOT a curbside collection event**



**Please bring acceptable materials to the following locations during the hours listed above:**

**Shields Reid Park  
2<sup>nd</sup> & Market  
Giaramita between Verde & Market**

**Sanford & York  
4<sup>th</sup> & Grove**

**Only residents who live in North Richmond and Triangle Court will be allowed to drop-off materials, so bring your current photo identification and utility bill or car registration with matching address.**

For more info about the clean-up, please call the Community Services Coordinator at 510-215-9937.

**Seniors and disabled residents who need assistance must call Soco at 510-620-6512 no later than Friday, October 24th at 12:00 pm to make an appointment to have materials picked up.**

Appointments are available on a first come, first served basis (limit of 50).



## **WILL ACCEPT AT ALL 5 LOCATIONS:**

Household Trash (Please Bag) • Glass • Wood • Metal • Chairs • Tables • Couches • Broken Toys  
Clothing • Box Springs • Mattresses • Small Appliances • Rugs/Padding • Yard Waste (Please Bag)

## **PLEASE SEPERATE APPLIANCES & ELECTRONICS (only accepted at Shields Reid Park location)**

Dishwashers • Refrigerators • Ovens/Stoves • Washers/Dryers • Small Appliances • Televisions  
Computers • Monitors • Laptops • Copy & Fax Machines • Printers • Scanners • Digital Cameras  
Video Game Consoles & Games • House & Cell Phones • Cables • Microwaves



## **WILL NOT ACCEPT**

Oil • Tires • Batteries • Paint • Chemicals (Bug Spray, Oven Cleaner, etc.) • Fluorescent Lights  
Propane Tanks • Hazardous Materials • Concrete

**The items that will not be accepted at the clean up event can be brought to the West County Household Hazardous Waste Facility located at 101 Pittsburg Avenue (except Tires & Concrete). Call 1-888-412-9277 or visit [www.StopDumping.org](http://www.StopDumping.org) for hours & materials accepted.**

***NO ILLEGAL DUMPING - VIOLATORS WILL BE CITED***

*Funded by the City of Richmond and Contra Costa County*

*Donations and support provided by Community Housing Development Corporation of North Richmond, North Richmond Municipal Advisory Council, Shields Reid Neighborhood Council, Richmond Sanitary Service, Sims Metal, Hi-Tech Recycling, Keep North Richmond Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful*



# Gran Limpieza Americana del Norte de Richmond



## Lugar Gratis Para Tirar su Basura

Sábado, 25 de Octubre del 2008

La limpieza empezará a las 8:00 a.m. y terminará a las 12:30 p.m.  
o hasta que los contenedores estén llenos



NeighborWorks  
CHARTERED MEMBER

Esta colección **NO** es en las esquinas



Traiga por favor los artículos aceptables para tirar en las siguientes locaciones:

Shields Reid Park  
2<sup>nd</sup> & Market  
Giaramita entre Verde & Market

Sanford & York  
4<sup>th</sup> & Grove

Solo pueden participar residentes del Norte de Richmond y Triangle Court.  
*Los residentes deben proveer reciente identificación con foto y un recibo de utilidades reciente o registración de su auto que pruebe elegibilidad.*

Para más información llame al 510-215-9937.

Para personas mayores o discapacitados que necesiten ayuda, deben hacer una cita para que sus artículos sean recogidos. Por favor de contactarse con Soco al 510-620-6512 antes del Viernes, 24 de Octubre al mediodía.  
(El límite es 50 personas)



### SE ACEPTAN

Basura (en bolsas) • Vidrio • Madera • Ropa • Metal • Sillas • Mesas • Sillones  
Juguetes Rotos • Cajas de Resortes • Colchones • Pequeños aparatos • Alfombras/Relleno  
Basura de Yarda (en bolsas)

### SE ACEPTAN PERO PORFAVOR SEPARARLOS (Estos artículos aceptables solo pueden ser llevados al Parque de Shields Reid)

Televisiones • Monitores de Computadora • Computadoras • Lavadora de platos • Refrigeradores  
Hornos/Estufas • Machinas para hacer copias o faxes • Impresoras • Escáners • Videojuego  
consoles y juegos • Celulares y telefonos de la casa



### NO SE ACEPTAN

Aceite • llantas • Productos para matar insectos • Llantas • Baterías • Pintura  
Concreto • Luces fluorescentes • Materiales Tóxicos

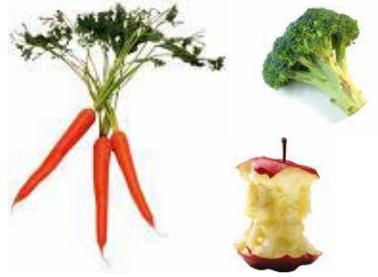
Los artículos que no son aceptados en esta limpieza, pueden ser llevados a West County Household Hazardous Waste Facility situada al 101 Pittsburg Avenue excepto (llantas y concreto). Llamar al 888-412-9277 o visite [www.StopDumping.org](http://www.StopDumping.org) para los horarios y materiales que aceptan.

## NINGÚN DESCARGAR ILEGAL

Financiado por la Ciudad de Richmond y el Condado de Contra Costa  
Donaciones y ayuda proporcionada por Community Housing Development Corporation, Consejo de la Vecindad de Shields Reid, North Richmond Municipal Advisory Council, Richmond Sanitary Service, Sims Metal, Hi-Tech Recycling,  
Keep North Richmond Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful

# GREEN WASTE GUIDE

 **YES** (Put in green waste cart)

<p>Leaves, grass clippings</p> 	<p>Flowers, weeds, yard trimmings, pine needles</p> 	<p>Unpainted wood</p> 	<p>Uncooked fruits &amp; vegetables</p> 
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 **NO** (Do not put in green waste cart)

<p>Treated wood, metal, glass, inert rubble</p> 	<p>Plastic, paper</p> 	<p>Garbage, pet manure</p> 	<p>Palm fronds, bamboo, ivy, lawn sod, dirt, sand</p> 
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Sponsored by the West Coast Integrated Waste Management Authority, the West County Resource Recovery Facility, Contra Costa County, City of El Cerrito, City of Hercules, City of Pinole, City of Richmond, and City of San Pablo

# LA GUÍA VERDE DE RECICLAJE



**SÍ** (Ponga en el bote verde de reciclaje)

Hojas, pasto cortado



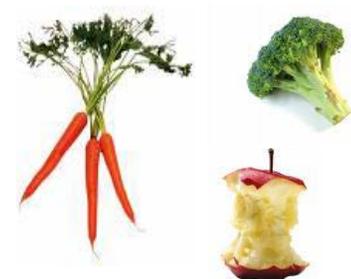
Flores, hierba, grama cortada de la yarda, pino needles



Madera que no está pintada



Frutas y verduras crudas



**NO** (No Ponga en el bote de reciclaje)

Madera que tiene químicas, metal, vidrio



Plástico, papel



Basura, excremento de mascotas



Hojas de Palmera, bambú, hiedra, tierra, arena



Patrocinado por El Oeste del Condado Integrated Waste Management Authority, El Oeste del Condado Resource Recovery Facility, El Condado de Contra Costa, La Ciudad de El Cerrito, La Ciudad de Hercules, La Ciudad de Pinole, La Ciudad de Richmond, La Ciudad de San Pablo.

# RECYCLING & DISPOSAL RESOURCES IN RICHMOND AREA

*(Always call first to verify acceptance, and for fees and hours of operation)*

**\*\* Disposal Vouchers / Bulky Item Pick-ups \*\***  
 available for free to eligible residents of  
**North Richmond.**

For a limited time only, to learn more call the  
 Community Services Coordinator at  
**(510) 215-9937** or visit [www.stopdumping.org](http://www.stopdumping.org)

### Free On-Call Pick-Up for Non-Bulky Items

Standard household garbage service provided by RSS includes **two on-call pick-ups per year of up to fifteen (15) 30-35 gallon bags, equivalent to two cubic yards, at no extra charge.** For details regarding items accepted or to schedule an on-call pick-up, please call RSS at 510-262-1600.

## **Hazardous & Toxic Household Items** (Oil • Batteries • Paint • Household Chemicals • Fluorescent Lights • Propane Tanks • Electronics / TVs / Computer Monitors • Syringes/Needles)

West County Household Hazardous Waste Facility  
 101 Pittsburg Avenue, Richmond  
 1-888-412-9277

**\*\* Free Drop-off for West County Residents Only \*\***

Hours: Thursdays, Fridays & 1st Saturdays of the Month (9am - 12pm / 12:30pm - 4pm)

## **Tires** (locations accept during business hours for a Fee)

Big O Tires 12952 San Pablo Ave, Richmond 510-234-1721	J & O Commercial Tire Center 533 South 13 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond 510-237-6344
FS Tire Recycling 113 13 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond 510-236-7493	Richmond Tire 1608 Market Street, Richmond 510-237-2712
Firestone Store 1001 Hilltop Mall, Richmond 510-222-4422	Golden Bear Transfer Station Foot of Parr Blvd., Richmond 510-236-8451

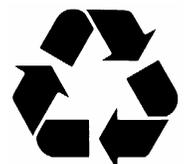


## **Large Appliances** (note whether location accepts drop-off of Appliances containing Freon, fees may apply)

<b>Freon</b> = Refrigerators, Freezers & Air Conditioners	Action Metal Recycling 385 Pittsburg Avenue, Richmond 510-236-2488 <b>Non-Freon Only</b>
<b>Non-Freon</b> = Stoves, Dishwashers, Washers, Dryers, etc.	
American Iron and Metal 1050 Brookside Drive, Richmond 510-233-0440 <b>Non-Freon &amp; Freon</b>	JACO Environmental 800-741-0172 Pick up – <b>Non-Freon &amp; Freon</b>
REN Salvage and Recycling 255 Parr Blvd., Richmond 510-235-8021 <b>Non-Freon Only</b>	Sims Metal 600 South 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond 510-412-5300 <b>Non-Freon Only</b>



For additional reuse, recycling and disposal options please visit [www.cccrecycle.org](http://www.cccrecycle.org) or call the County Recycling Hotline at 1-800-750-4096.



*This program is jointly funded by the City of Richmond and Contra Costa County.*

# RECICLAJE Y RECURSOS DESECHABLES En EL ÁREA DE RICHMOND

(Siempre llame primero para asegurarse de las horas de negocio y para ver si aceptan sus artículos, y clase de pagos.)

Residentes del Norte de Richmond pueden deshacerse de su exceso de basura gratis por un tiempo limitado gracias a un programa especial. Para saber acerca de este programa, llame al Coordinador de Servicios Comunitarios al teléfono (510) 215-9937, o puede visitar la página del Internet [www.stopdumping.org](http://www.stopdumping.org).

## Puede llamar gratis para que recojan sus artículos que no caben en el bote de basura.

El servicio de basura doméstico que está ofrecido por RSS puede recoger su basura a no costo **dos veces por año**. Debe ser acerca de **quince (15) a 30-35 galones de basura que es igual a dos yardas cúbicas**. Para detalles sobre cuáles cosas son aceptadas o para que recojan la basura puede por favor llame al 510-262-1600.

**Artículos Domésticos que son Tóxicos** (Aceite • Baterías • Productos para limpiar • Propane Tanques de petróleo • Electrónicos / Televisores / Monitores de computadora • Jeringuillas/Agujas)

West County Household Hazardous Waste Facility  
101 Pittsburg Avenue, Richmond  
1-888-412-9277

*\*\* Es gratis para residentes del condado del oeste \*\**

Horario: Jueves, Viernes y los primeros Sábados del mes (9am - 12pm / 12:30pm - 4pm)

**Llantas** (Los siguientes lugares aceptan las llantas durante las horas de negocio por un costo)

Big O Tires 12952 San Pablo Ave, Richmond 510-234-1721	J & O Commercial Tire Center 533 South 13 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond 510-237-6344
FS Tire Recycling 113 13 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond 510-236-7493	Richmond Tire 1608 Market Street, Richmond 510-237-2712
Firestone Store 1001 Hilltop Mall, Richmond 510-222-4422	Golden Bear Transfer Station Foot of Parr Blvd., Richmond 510-236-8451



**Aparatos Grandes** (note si el lugar acepta aparatos que contienen Freon, cargos pueden aplicar)

<b>Freon</b> = Refrigeradores, Congeladores & Aire acondicionado	Action Metal Recycling 385 Pittsburg Avenue, Richmond 510-236-2488
<b>Non-Freon</b> = Hornos, Lavadora de platos, Lavadoras, Secadoras, etc.	<b>Non-Freon Only</b>
American Iron and Metal 1050 Brookside Drive, Richmond 510-233-0440	JACO Environmental 800-741-0172
<b>Non-Freon &amp; Freon</b>	Pick up – <b>Non-Freon &amp; Freon</b>
REN Salvage and Recycling 255 Parr Blvd., Richmond 510-235-8021	Sims Metal 600 South 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Richmond 510-412-5300
<b>Non-Freon Only</b>	<b>Non-Freon Only</b>



Para reutilizar, reciclaje y opciones desechables, visite [www.ccrecycle.org](http://www.ccrecycle.org).



*This program is jointly funded by the City of Richmond and Contra Costa County.*

## North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee Payments

Date Received	Time Period	Amount Received	Processible Tons	MSW Tons
2/25/2008	Jan-08	\$ 55,861.70	3,243	17,501
2/24/2008	Feb-08	\$ 52,518.79	3,471	16,340
4/18/2008	Mar-08	\$ 55,567.01	3,475	17,341
5/19/2008	Apr-08	\$ 55,278.11	4,612	16,939
6/16/2008	May-08	\$ 55,269.46	3,532	17,228
7/22/2008	Jun-08	\$ 52,402.14	2,803	16,482
8/19/2008	Jul-08	\$ 57,784.11	2,032	18,460
9/16/2008	Aug-08	\$ 52,759.81	1,694	18,592
10/17/2008	Sep-08	\$ 52,472.13	3,412	16,340
11/13/2008	Oct-08	\$ 56,883.78	3,667	17,723
12/15/2008	Nov-08	\$ 45,581.20	2,459	14,330
1/20/2009	Dec-08	\$ 46,769.68	2,328	14,757
2/20/2009	Jan-09	\$ 46,605.60	2,578	14,003
3/23/2009	Feb-09	\$ 43,473.96	2,097	13,145
4/21/2009	Mar-09	\$ 48,588.09	3,072	14,494
	Apr-09			
	May-09			
	Jun-09			
	Jul-09			
	Aug-09			
	Sep-09			
	Oct-09			
	Nov-09			
	Dec-09			

Total - Actual YTD (2008)	\$ 777,815.57	44,475	243,675
Total - Actual YTD (2009)	\$ 138,667.65	7,747	41,642
<b>Total - Actual YTD (2008/2009)</b>	<b>\$ 777,815.57</b>	<b>44,475</b>	<b>243,675</b>
<b>Monthly Average - Actual</b>	<b>\$ 51,854.37</b>	<b>2,965</b>	<b>16,245</b>

Total - Projected (2008)	\$ 680,727.81	54,023	209,352
Total - Projected (2009)	\$ 680,727.81	54,023	209,352
<b>Total - Projected (2008 + 2009)</b>	<b>\$ 1,361,455.61</b>	<b>108,045</b>	<b>418,703</b>
<b>Monthly Average - Projected</b>	<b>\$ 56,727.32</b>	<b>4,502</b>	<b>17,446</b>

**STAFF REPORT**  
**North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee**  
**Joint Expenditure Planning Committee**

**MEETING DATE:** May 6, 2009

**AGENDA ITEM:** 6

**SUBJECT:** Community Gardens Project proposal

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**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

CONSIDER and PROVIDE direction regarding the Community Gardens Project proposal.

**BACKGROUND:**

At the committee meeting in October 2008, Committee member Viramontes requested that a report regarding the North Richmond Community Gardens Project be provided for the next meeting. She asked that the report include details about potential garden locations (permanent and temporary).

The CSC has partnered with Iyalode Kinney of Communities United Restoring Mother Earth (CURE) and Doria Robinson of Urban Tilth to develop the attached proposal for the "Lots of Crops" Gardening Program. This community gardening project is intended to build upon the Verde Elementary School Garden Project.

Iyalode Kinney helped develop and run the long standing and productive community garden at Verde Elementary School and would serve as the program administrator. She has extensive experience in teaching and managing youth and adult community members in garden projects. She will be responsible for administering all aspects of the "Lots of Crops" Gardening Program, up to and including management of youth and community participants. She would also be responsible for documentation and reporting, including community contractual agreements and time sheets. Ms. Kinney would facilitate expansion of the program as well as provide verbal and written reports as required.

Attached is a summary comparing the proposed annual budget for the overall Gardening Program to the budget for Phase I including cost to set-up and maintain the first Garden site on a vacant lot on 3rd Street for one year.

<b>Community Gardening Program</b> (Material, labor and administrative start-up costs)	<b>Program</b> <b>(Multi-Site)</b>	<b>Phase I</b> <b>(Single Site)</b>
<b>Projected Budget - Year One</b>	<b>\$ 56,600</b>	<b>\$30,953</b>
<b>Supplies &amp; Materials (Set-up)</b>	<b>\$ 13,200</b>	<b>\$ 5,053</b>
Wood	\$ 7,000	\$ 4,850
Metal Rebar and Support	\$ 1,000	\$ -
Soil	\$ 3,000	\$ -
Tools	\$ 1,700	\$ -
Screws & screens	\$ -	incl. w/Wood
Portable Water Tank	\$ 500	\$ -
Irrigation Supplies & Water Meter*	\$ -	\$ 203
Plants and/or seeds	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Labor (Set-up)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,500</b>
<b>Water Supply (Operations)</b>	<b>\$ 1,800</b>	<b>\$ 400</b>
<b>Transportation (Operations)</b>	<b>\$ 17,600</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
Used Truck / Lic. Registration, Insurance	\$ 15,000	\$ -
Gas (\$50/wk)	\$ 2,600	\$ -
<b>Garden Maintenance (Set-up &amp; Operations)</b>	<b>\$ 24,000</b>	<b>\$ 24,000</b>
Expanded responsibilities of Verde Community Garden		
Weekly Maintenance of multiple Sites		
Administrative duties		
Training program		
Management of Stipend program participants		
<b>Difference (Remaining Program Budget after Phase I)</b>		<b>\$25,647</b>

\* Water would be supplied by property located directly to the right of the lot, thanks to the generous neighbors willingness to allow use of her water supply. In order to accurately calculate water usage and cost, they propose to place a meter between her water source and the Community Garden.



**Community Gardens**

## **Community Garden Project:**

### **Community Input**

The overwhelming input and response of the community is positive toward this project. This support was developed from numerous community meetings held with major stakeholders. All of the major community groups, including the MAC and KNRB steering committee, are strongly in favor of the implementation of this project. They let us know that this is something they have wanted for a long time. We also spoke with many residents in the community. Our outreach efforts thoroughly covered both the Black and Latino sides of the community. The older generation of Black residents have a close connection to an agriculture background. They were very excited about having the opportunity to introduce the younger generation on how to grow their own food. The seniors in the community say they look forward to working and socializing in the gardens. The younger generation was excited about the potential of cleaning up the neighborhood through this beautification project. They have also voiced strong support for finding a lasting solution to the blight and illegal dumping that the empty lots have continued to generate. Conversely, in the Latino side of the community, we found a high level of excitement and support across varying generations because of their closely related agricultural background. Overall, multiple residents have committed to “adopting” lots on their blocks. In addition, many have expressed interest in expanding this project into their home yards with planter boxes. The benefit for North Richmond, is that it will be a greener place to live with better air quality,

### **Research**

We have thoroughly researched the benefits of community gardens on communities that are similar to North Richmond. We have found numerous programs from Flint Michigan and Chicago, to the South Bronx, that are already reaping the benefits associated with greening their communities. We have also looked at current community garden projects up and running right here in Richmond. All show us that success is in the sustained effort that it takes to make this project a reality.

Currently our study shows that there is no fresh quality produce in walking distance of the mitigation zone. The quality of produce that is within walking distance is sub-par and not fit for human consumption. The level of produce available to this community would not be tolerated in other communities inside the county.

As such our research clearly shows that this is needed immediately and will have a positive effect on the overall mental and physical health of the community and directly impact illegal dumping in the mitigation zone.

### **Community Impact**

The impact on the community will be overwhelmingly positive and apparent immediately, pretty gardens that produce fresh healthy vegetables and fruits.. That will result in the greatest impact will be on the psyche of the community, The beautification impact will start the inertia needed to change the

mentality of North Richmond. Another hugely positive impact is a direct affect on air quality, the more plants in an area the more carbon monoxide converted to fresh oxygen.

The other most apparent impact on the community will be the reduction in illegal dumping on vacant lots in the community. Illegal dumping on vacant lots has the longest lasting negative impact in regards to blight in the community. The reason behind this statement is, if trash is dumped one inch inside the property line this triggers “due process”. RSS will not pick up the trash on private property, therefore code enforcement has to follow the law of due process which involves writing letters and waiting on responses from the owner. This can take upwards of 90 days and result in the county contracting outside businesses to come into North Richmond and clean the lot for exorbitant fees. This has a multiplying negative effect by taking resources out of the community and allowing trash to “fester” for up to three months before removal, resulting vermin, insects and disease. We have found that lots with something on them are 99% less likely to be dumped on than empty lots. This includes empty lots with fencing. We have found that fencing alone is not sufficient enough a deterrent and most commonly results in hazardous conditions involving portions of sharp fence laying across the sidewalk endangering pedestrians and especially young children, tempted to “explore” a forbidden place.

## **Objectives**

The Objective of the Community Garden Project is to combat the empty lot crisis that is negatively impacting the community. The huge number of empty lots directly contribute to the largest percentage of overall blight and illegal dumping inside the community. By utilizing vacant lots in a constructive manner, the positive effect will be four fold; First, it will eliminate the blight of an empty lot. Second, it will deter dumping on the empty lot. Third, it will beautify and green the community. Fourth the high visibility will allow us to dramatically increase community education through outreach. The bonus effect of utilizing empty lots as community gardens will be increased economic development and community pride.

We will partner with the Verde Elementary School Garden Project to expand The Community Garden Project into the community. The knowledge base already in place, will allow us to rapidly convert empty lots into community gardens, once owners sign off on usage waivers. These waivers are a benefit to the lot owners because they will not have to worry about being charged for the illegal dumping or forced fencing on their empty lot. It is also a benefit for Youth Build. The youth from this program in North Richmond will be used to clean off and prepare each lot with beautification dollars already in place and allocated through the mitigation fund. The Youth will assist in building and planting the Gardens. We will then use the Youth to help with cleaning and maintenance of the gardens. This will ensure a stable labor force for the project. This will eliminate the need to rely on community volunteers which have in the past led to the demise of previous community garden projects. The ultimate aim is to make this operation self sufficient so mitigation funds can then be redirected toward starting other self sufficient operations in the community.

## **Plan of Action**

The organizational structure will be a hybrid between the City of Chicago “Green Corps” program and the standard community centered garden. This will address multiple traditional failing points in standard community garden programs.

The basic premise of the plan will be to create raised bed gardens ( gardens that are grown out of elongated planter boxes that sit on top of the ground ) on empty lots. This allows the operation to be easily moved to another location when the owner is ready to use it. Thereby, freeing the land for a different use without the need to tear down permanent structures.

We will grow fresh produce on these lots. The results of the harvest will be taken to a large community space that will serve as a produce stand and commerce hub. The anchor will be a produce stand run by school age children to benefit the Verde Garden Project. The residents and outside community members can patronize this stand for fresh fruits and vegetables, which are the basic staples that are missing in this community. The extended idea is to utilize a larger lot so that other small vendors can lease space and setup stands. This will create an open air market in the heart of the community.

## **Permanent Gardens**

The Community Garden Project is happy with the temporary garden aspect that directly impacts the blight and illegal dumping on empty lots that is affecting the community. However, we are looking for long term permanency for the incorporation of producing food in the community. As such, we are looking to acquire as many large tracts of land that can be permanently dedicated to this project. Currently, in North Richmond, there are large tracts of land that are sitting un-used, especially land that was traditionally used by Color Spot and other Agri-businesses in the area. We see an opportunity to turn this land into a productive part of the community.

This will serve multiple benefits to the community including but not limited to; It will Green the community, it will clean the air in the immediate community, it will produce large amounts of local produce to feed the community, it will create employment opportunities in the community, it will serve as an educational tool to the community, it will have a positive economic impact on the community, and it will serve as a positive image of self reliance in the community.

These are just a few of the benefits that permanent community gardens will have. We believe that any resources put towards making this happen will be returned exponentially.

## **Community Gardens Training Facility**

We will create a community garden training facility that will train community members on eco-friendly gardening techniques. We will also hold ongoing gardening workshops that encourage the sharing of knowledge amongst community members. Additionally, we will use this opportunity to build and strengthen neighbor relations to encourage community unity.

We will use this space to bring community garden block supervisors who have agreed to enhance responsibilities for the gardens located on their blocks. This space will also be used as a lab to develop and study crops that flourish in the immediate area. The children and young people from the community and local schools will be invited to learn about sustainable gardening. In addition, there will be training offered for community residents to develop and support gardens located on their private property.

The Community Gardens Project will promote us with insight into exact costs and responsibilities of deploying remote lot gardens in the community. This will give us the clearest picture of how to expand the garden project in the most practical and cost efficient manner. This includes ascertaining how the maintenance and administrative functions will be executed best while going forward.

## **Economic Impact**

### **Community Youth Participation**

The Garden project was created under mitigation funding to directly reduce the illegal dumping and blight that results from trash being dumped on empty lots. The mitigation fund also funds aspects of the community beautification goals laid out in the expenditure plan. As a result there is ample opportunity to integrate Youth participation through the existing stipend program.

### **Permanent Job Creation**

One of the goals of this project is to create permanent jobs for community members. These positions will be created to administer, grow, and maintain the project. As the program grows so will the employment opportunities. We also anticipate developing skill sets that can transfer into the general job market. There is an opportunity to create vertical markets that will support this project, which will increase the economic impact that it will have on the community.

### **Entrepreneurs Program**

We will incorporate instruction that will teach people the basics of running a business. This will allow students to develop skill sets that can be universally transferred into running successful businesses of their own for the community.

### **Sustainable Food Program**

One of the major goals of the Community Garden Project is to feed the community fresh nutritious produce grown locally by people known in the community. We are looking to produce as much healthy food as we can. This will give residents pride as they see something tangible being produced right in their community.

### **Community seniors**

A major problem in the North Richmond Community is the availability of quality fresh produce for seniors. The problem of mobility and easy access to food sources has plagued this community for

decades. This program will make low cost as well as free food available to community seniors that have issues with mobility and transportation. In addition, we will provide easy access for seniors to come to our produce stand/store. This will encourage seniors to be active in the community, which serves to stimulate their livelihood. It is a known fact that a healthy diet contributes to healthy life expectancies, and the well being of the general population. We will provide delivery services for seniors and disabled members of the community, to ensure all residents benefit from the program.

### **Struggling Community Families**

The down turn in the national economy has especially impacted the lower end of the economic scale disproportionately. There is a concern for this population in having the ability to afford nutritious foods. This project will incorporate access to fresh, healthy, and affordable produce for struggling families in our community.

### **Community Produce**

Simply put, our goal is to locally produce the largest percentage of healthy food, that will be consumed by this community. The final aspect of this project will be to make fresh produce available for the community at a much lower cost than traditional markets would sell the same volume of food for. In addition, there will be an added benefit from food grown in the community because it will be fresh, nutritious and healthy. Furthermore, we see this positively impacting the diets for the children of this community. The produce placed in grocery stores in our community has traditionally been sub par older produce, which has less nutritional value. This has had a negative impact on the mental and physical growth of the children in our community. This project will address, and improve these conditions.

### **Health Benefits**

The health benefits to the community are as follows:

Improved nutrition – fresh produce will have a direct positive impact on the well being of residents that are deficient in vitamins and nutrients absent in their current diets. This is especially beneficial to young children and senior citizens in the community.

Medicinal – The management of the program is an expert in the medicinal qualities of the plants we will be growing and we will run educational classes to impart the knowledge to the community.

Air Quality – Increasing the amount of green plants in a concentrated area will improve the air quality by directly reducing the carbon dioxide in the air., thus producing cleaner air to breathe

Mental and Physical health – There are a plethora of studies that have proven that gardens have a direct positive impact on the psyche of the community around them as we as a calming effect on person participating resulting in lower blood pressure and less stress. Elderly participants will experience an increase in range of motion and oxygenated blood flow.



These are examples of produce stands that we will develop to integrate economic development and entrepreneurial skills in participants of the project. We see these as an opportunity to showcase the positive success of the program to the community and wider area audience.

<b>Year One Projected Budget</b>			
<b>Community Garden Sites</b>			
Material, labor and administrative start-up costs			
<b>Materials</b>			
Wood		\$7,000	
Metal Rebar and Support		\$1,000	
Soil		\$3,000	
Tools		\$1,700	
Portable Water Tank		\$500	
Used Truck		\$15,000	Lic. Registration, Insurance
Gas	\$50/wk	\$2,600	
Water		\$1,800	
		<b>\$32,600</b>	Sub-total
<b>Multi-Site Garden Maintenance</b>			
Expanded responsibilities of Verde Community Garden			
Weekly Maintenance of multiple Sites			
Administrative duties			
Training program			
Management of Stipend program participants			
		<b>\$ 24,000.00</b>	
	Approximate total	<b>\$ 56,800.00</b>	

This initial outlay will ensure a strong start to the project and will allow it to gather its resources and strength to bring other resources to the tables both partner and financial wise.

## **Garden Project Administration**

### **Community Vetting Process**

Numerous members of the 5% coalition regularly participate on many committees within the North Richmond Mitigation zone. As such their credibility with the community is set in stone. The community regularly leans on them for their expertise in not only gardening but running gardening related programs associated with community youth and community members in general.

We chose the 5% coalition to alleviate the need for “micromanagement “ of the Garden program becoming bogged down in government bureaucratic questioning, doubts and second guessing that have derailed and delayed the implementation of a program that promises huge community returns. Their track record speaks for itself they know gardening and they know the community.

### **5% coalition**

Collectively the 5% coalition has more urban gardening experience than any other group or individual in Richmond. They are the perfect choice as a fiduciary agent for this new program.

### **Administration**

Iyalode Kinney has extensive experience in teaching and managing youth and adult community members in garden projects. She has helped develop and run the long standing and productive community Garden at Verde elementary school with Cassie Scott. She also managed the School district’s special needs garden program. She has a educational curriculum ready to integrate into a training program for all garden participants. She will be the contact person for the project and all site issues.

This expertise translates directly to turnkey gardening sites. They have the wealth of experience to know what to plant, how to plant and when to plant. This will eliminate the need to re-invent the wheel in starting a community gardening project.

### **Labor**

Youth Build and YAEC members will provide the core the labor for the program and will be managed by Ms Kinney. We will pay their salary through the mitigation stipend program. Ms Kinney will choose who will participate and coordinate their schedule and provide instruction and management while participating in the program.

### **Job creation**

The usual trepidation behind community gardens revolves around depending on a volunteer labor force to be successful. History has proven that this model is directly dependent on the sustained motivation of individuals who live near the specific garden

sites. To ensure a consistent labor force nondependent upon volunteers for success we will use Youth Build, YAEC and School district students under the current stipend program in a win win situation. These young people will get paid, learn to grow food, be a positive visible image for the community and reap the proven mental and physical benefits of gardening. As the program gains strength it will result in creating permanent urban agriculture green jobs

### **Garden Design**

Each garden will be laid out according to its location and its relation to the path of the sun. Ms Kinney has designed hundreds of gardens to date and will work with everyone in the project to design the most aesthetically pleasing setting with curb appeal to fulfill one of the main objectives of the program “Beautification”. We will incorporate community related Art and seating at each site for peaceful gathering.

### **Lot Waiver Program**

The owners of empty lots can sign a “hold harmless” waiver with the program agency. This allows the garden program to use their property for raised bed gardens which are non permanent structures. The property owner can notify the garden project at anytime and for any reason in writing 30 days before they want their property returned.

### **Community Participation and Outreach**

The community is welcome to participate in the garden program. Ms. Kinney has developed a “plot contract” that the individual will sign agreeing to use a designated portion of the garden. Every garden will have posted standard hours of operation. She has successfully used these contracts and rules at other urban community garden sites. A copy of the final contract associated with this program will be forwarded when finalized. An outreach program will be coordinated through Keep North Richmond Beautiful, NRMAC, Shields – Reid and other community organizations as well as door to door on the street to educate community members about the garden program and recruit participation.

### **Disabled Access**

Every garden will take into account the needs of disable community members having access to either participate directly in growing or to just have general access to the garden areas. In some special cases where terrain is non conducive to universal disabled access we will direct those participants affected to the next nearest accessible garden site.

### **Garden Security**

We will employ numerous methods that collectively will deterred vandalism and theft at each garden site. Each site will have a fence to provide clear definition of the site. Each site will have solar lighting that will keep the garden illuminated at night. Each garden will have a 10 foot pole with a sign and a camera on it. We will also incorporate community members that have garden stakes to keep an eye on them. We will integrate art by community

children into the gardens this will increase the protective nature of the community. By developing an overall ownership mentality in the community they will self police each site.

### **Organizational Partnerships**

Groups interested in partnering with this program will be invited to the monthly steering committee meeting. At this meeting we will brainstorm on available resources and how to increase access to additional resources. We will not depend on partnership participation for a successful program it will just be an added benefit to make the program stronger

### **Produce Distribution**

We will develop a methodology for getting the fresh food to the community. The exact nature of this methodology will be worked out before the first harvest. We are looking at sliding scale costs based upon age and income. We anticipate working with the county health department to develop a “whole Foods” type stand or storefront as production increases.

This will in turn create more economic development and raise the profile of the program simultaneously. We will use the increased media and industry attention to our advantage to increase grant and fund revenue, which will directly translate into increased job creation, land acquisition and therefore food production.

### **Additional Community Services**

Violence Prevention Programs

Nutritional Programs

Holistic Healing Programs

Rehabilitation Programs

Home Gardening Programs

Green Vocational Training Programs

# **Phase I - Garden Startup Details**

**Lot Location - 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**

**Lot Size - 50 x 100**

## **Material and Labor**

### **1. Planter Boxes**

- a. Configuration - 4 x 20**
- b. Number - 20 Planter Boxes**
- c. Labor build 20 boxes - Cost \$1500**
- d. Material - Wood, screws & screens - Cost \$4,850**

### **2. Total \$6,398**

## **Water/year**

Water will be supplied by the neighbor to the immediate right side of the Garden. She has agreed to allow the program to use her water supply. We will place a meter between her water source and the Community Garden to accurately calculate water usage and cost.

- 1. water meter \$110.00**
- 2. Irrigation material \$93.00**
- 3. One year water cost \$400.00**

## **Garden Management**

Iyalode Kinney is the program administrator, she will be responsible for all aspects of the administration of the Lots of Crops garden program up to and including management of Youth and community participants. She will be responsible for reporting and all paperwork, including community contractual agreements and time sheets. Ms. Kinney will develop and document expansion of program and make verbal reports as required.

**\$24,000/year**

## **Partners**

1. Iyalode Kinney – CURE ME
2. Verde Community Garden Project
3. Richmond LOC MMM
4. Urban Creeks
5. Eco-Village
6. Urban Tith
7. 5% Local Coalition
8. HEAL
9. C.C.C. Community Services Bureau
10. North Richmond Senior Center
11. C.C.C. Health Center
12. Project Pride
13. C.C.C. Family Service Center
14. West County Toxics Coalition
15. Shields-Reid Neighborhood Council
16. North Richmond MAC
17. U.C. Davis Ecology Department
18. U.C. Berkeley Ecology Department
19. Supervisor John Gioia's office
20. City of Richmond
21. Urban Releaf

These organizations have committed to participate in the North Richmond Garden project by adding resources of intellectual, active hands on participation and bringing their own funding sources. This combination of initial resources will strengthen the long term success of this project.

KNRB will serve as the hub of these organizations by convening regular monthly meetings of stakeholders to keep a cohesive group while meeting with Maintenance contractor to ensure growth and continuity of overall project.



Gardens can double as Art further beautifying the community. This will also discouraging damage and dumping as the community takes pride and ownership in the gardens located on their block and produced by their children.



## EXAMPLES OF RAISED BED GARDENS

### YOUTH BUILD



Youth Build will serve as the labor to clear off and maintain the lots, getting paid under the stipend program.

The Youth will benefit by beautifying their community and learning urban gardening techniques. We will be doing permanent hiring of Youth out of Youth Build and YAEC. We will thin be able to replace them in the stipend program and add additional young people who want to participate

**STAFF REPORT**  
**North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee**  
**Joint Expenditure Planning Committee**

**MEETING DATE:** May 6, 2009

**AGENDA ITEM:** 7

**SUBJECT:** North Richmond Surveillance Cameras

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**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

- 1) CONSIDER request from City of Richmond Police Department staff regarding possible usage of six of North Richmond's eight Pan-Tilt-Zoom cameras; and
- 2) PROVIDE direction regarding City of Richmond Police Department's request, including whether or not staff should explore future needs, alternatives and/or related issues prior to implementation.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Mitigation Committee allocated funds for the purchase and installation of eight (8) Pan-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) surveillance cameras in the Mitigation Area, via the City's contract with ADT Security Systems to help combat illegal dumping. The Mitigation Committee requested and allocated funding to pay for PTZ cameras for all 8 locations. Currently, the cameras are fixed on specific locations prone to illegal dumping and the PTZ functions are under-utilized.

However, due to a recent staffing reassignment within the County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Felipe Monroe is no longer assigned to serve North Richmond as the Illegal Dumping Officer. In anticipation of this change, details such as who views the cameras and how they plan on utilizing them have yet to be defined by the Sheriff's Office. Furthermore, Mitigation Fee staff has not yet had an opportunity to identify whether the new Deputies assigned to the Mitigation Fee area by the Sheriff's Office would begin relying more upon the PTZ camera function for daytime or nighttime operations.

Deputy Chief Ed Medina from the City of Richmond's Police Department (RPD), recently asked Mitigation staff about the possibility of switching out 6 of North Richmond's 8 PTZ cameras for fixed (non-movable) cameras, viewing the same exact illegal dumping locations. Deputy Medina stated that the RPD believes they have a greater need for the PTZ cameras in the City's existing network and could better utilize the PTZ abilities in high crime areas where RPD is currently limited by a fixed camera view.