

North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee Joint Expenditure Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 15, 2013
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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

Members/Alternates in Attendance:

Dr. Henry Clark, **Chair** – NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Nathaniel Bates, Member – Richmond City Councilmember (*arrived during Agenda Item 4*)
Mayor Gayle McLaughlin, Member – Richmond City Councilmember
Luz Gomez, Alternate Member – Contra Costa County Supervisor
Johnny White, Member – Incorporated Resident (*arrived during Agenda Item 4*)
Beverly Scott, Alternate Member – NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area

Members Absent:

Joe Wallace, Member – NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Johnny White, Member - Incorporated Area Resident
John Gioia, Member – Contra Costa County Supervisor

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Dr. Henry Clark called the meeting to order at 2:06pm.

2. Public Comment on any item not on the agenda

No public comment was offered under this agenda item.

3. APPROVE the February 15, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Motion moved by Gomez to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Scott. *Motion was passed unanimously (4 Ayes).*

4. RECEIVE the following reports:

a. Revised Summary of Final Expenditures – 2012/2013 Expenditure Plan;

Staff discussed that all funds are anticipated to be accounted for (spent) by the end of the funding cycle.

b. Tonnage & Revenue Update;

Staff identifies a shortfall of currently \$24,862.32, however it is expected to be covered by the Contingency allocation line item in the budget.

c. Tonnage & Revenue Updates – 2012/2013

Gomez asked general questions regarding CBP status report updates, and requested information/clarification on illegal dumping evidence collected stats/procedures. Dr. Clark requested some clarification on how the Voucher program is administered. Ms. Holland (Prevention Services Coordinator) provided clarification on data collection and coordination/collaboration with other involved NRMF funded entities and also provided information on how the Voucher Program is administered.

Gomez asked about status of the PTZ/CCTV cameras and Deputy Monroe answered indicating that all of them are in currently installed/in-place.

Gomez asked about the number of citations/cases resulting from the surveillance cameras. Deputy Monroe answered that they've been more of a deterrent rather than tool for prosecution. However, Deputy Monroe indicated that he has issued several citations as a result of the cameras.

5. **DIRECT staff to prepare an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Richmond and Contra Costa County to address the Contra Costa County Auditor's Office "Examination of North Richmond Mitigation Fund" Report dated March 6, 2012, and associated "Summary of Non-Reportable Findings" released on April 26, 2012, to be considered for approval by the Richmond City Council and County Board of Supervisors.**

Staff referred to the Staff Report in the Committee packet which highlights findings contained in the Auditor's Office Report & Non-Reportable Findings. No findings that funding has been used in appropriately. However, there is a Recommendation that suggested change(s) be made to the MOU between the City and County. Staff explained that the Non-Reportable Findings included in the report be addressed to avoid potentially negative findings in any future Audit conducted. Staff suggest that City and County staff work with legal counsel representing City and County to prepare amendment to the MOU addressing the issues raised in both reports, hoping to have this process completed and proposed amendment to MOU ready by the next Committee meeting. *No action taken by the Committee on this item.*

6. **PROVIDE direction about the proposed development of the 2013/2014 Expenditure Plan (See Budget Table in Committee Meeting Materials Packet).**

Staff indicated the Projected Revenue for 2013/14 is reflected in the first Agenda Item 6 table, which is a decreased amount compared to the prior year.

Various discussion occurred by Bates, White, and Mayor McLaughlin regarding how to determine the effectiveness of all the strategies funded under the NRMF. Gomez stated that the subsidized enforcement services have really made a difference in/for the community and having Deputy Monroe out on the streets provides a good bang for the buck beyond just Illegal Dumping cases. Gomez clarified that County Code Enforcement budget has had to be cut substantially for several years now and as a result there are multiple layoffs which occurred.

Gomez suggested that one line item that may not need to continue to be funded is the Prosecutor position. Staff reminded the committee that the purpose of the NRMF is to help defray cost of illegal dumping for the City & County.

Staff summarized Draft 2013/14 Budget allocations.

Dr. Clark stated that he believes that Personnel (such as the Community Service Coordinator and Deputy Monroe) is doing a good job in/for the community, however only questions whether NRMF is the appropriate funding source. This is not new it is an ongoing issue, similar points have been raised years ago by those in the community.

Mayor McLaughlin suggested that staff provide a report/presentation at the next meeting about the results of each funded position/program. Gomez suggested that each funded entity be asked to provide summary report for the entire funding cycle (like 2 pages), staffing line items as well as community based projects.

Public Speakers:

Tim Higare explained how the 33,000 allocated for City Code Enforcement is used to cover salary (w/out benefits) for Donna Rayon who works exclusively in NR, unfortunately the funding allocation has been fully expended and so Donna has to be laid-off effective today. Also noted that summary of outcomes based on funding used is reported for right-of-way abatement as well as tagging abatement. Offer to take Committee members on a Blight Tour as was done for City Management/Administrators. Donna Rayon introduced herself and explained she sees need to strengthen collaboration between community based projects with City and County Code Enforcement.

Eleanor Thomson thanked Bates for raising the issue that if funding continues to be allocated for Code Enforcement and Law Enforcement there will never be enough to pay community based organizations for local programs. Eleanor Thomson agreed with the Mayor that the City and County are obligated to fund these areas of responsibility as would be the case without the NRMF funding.

Dr. Clark stated that he wanted to see these funding proportions in conjunction with a summary of outcomes in order to decide where cuts should come from. Dr. Clark suggested that the Committee make recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and City Council regarding budget decision so more enforcement cost be covered in City/County budgets and not come from NRMF funds. Dr. Clark asked if any members are willing to make such a motion.

- ***Motion was moved*** by McLaughlin that colleagues bring to the attention that City/County colleagues bring issue on the current costing of services to be budgeted by the separate agencies (i.e 30K in City Code Enforcement), and officials the desire to see how much more City/County enforcement program/staffing expenses may be able to be picked up by our respective agencies. *Motion was passed unanimously (6 Ayes).*

Bates requested that staff provide a brief summary of the effectiveness of the funded programs. Staff agreed to try and put together a table with available information which would likely only cover a portion of the funded strategies as there are not actually measurable outcomes associated with all strategies.

Gomez requested that staff attempt to obtain 2 page summaries from all funded entities in time for the special April meeting, suggest that they be advised of importance of doing so as they will be referred to by Committee in order to determine what budget allocation increases/decreases to recommend in the 2013/14 EP

Committee members agreed to participate in a Special Meeting to be held on Friday, April 12th from 2-4pm to review Budget and Categories, adjustment, cuts etc.

7. **APPROVE and ESTABLISH regular meeting schedule for two meetings per year that occur on the following dates/times: 3rd Friday in February (2pm – 4pm) & Last Friday in May (2pm – 5pm).**

No discussion or vote was taken on this item.

8. **Receive Presentation(s) – Verbal update(s) about mitigation funded strategies from the Community Services Coordinator and others.**

Carla Orozco made a presentation regarding budget request for the 3 strategies she's responsible for. She also indicated that she'd received suggestions (off the record) to pursue additional funding sources to help supplement NRMF funding, such as possible "sponsorships".

No discussion or vote was taken on this item.

9. **ADJOURN to next meeting.**

Motion moved by Chair Dr. Clark, seconded by Gomez. *Motion was passed unanimously (6 Ayes).*