

City Manager's Weekly Report

This is the weekly report for the week ending March 13th, 2009.

1. **Meeting Notes**

The next regular City Council meeting is Tuesday, March 17th, beginning with a Closed Session at 5:00 PM, and Redevelopment Agency items prior to the regular meeting convening at 7:00 PM.

2. **Marina Bay Parkway Grade Separation Fully Funded**

At its meeting in Sacramento this past Thursday, the California Transportation Commission added the Marina Bay Parkway Grade Separation Project to the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) and awarded \$18.975 million to this project. Deputy Redevelopment Agency Director Alan Wolken and Project Manager Chad Smalley represented the City/Redevelopment Agency at this meeting.

As you recall, the grade separation project is to construct a roadway undercrossing in place of an existing at-grade crossing at Marina Bay Parkway between Regatta Boulevard and Meeker Avenue in Richmond. This project is intended to resolve major health and safety issues for the Marina Bay area connecting with central Richmond. With increased rail activity in recent years, and forecasts for growth in the future, long trains are more frequently traversing Richmond grade crossings. In the South Richmond Shoreline area, low maximum train speeds result in traffic blockages for extended periods of time with no alternate access, as all north-south ingress and egress to this area is impacted at closely-spaced grade crossings.

The project, with the inclusion of the TCIF funds, is now fully funded at a total project cost of \$37,950,000. The additional funding sources are as follows: local county transportation sales tax (Contra Costa County, Measure J) will provide \$11.2 million in funding, railroad contribution \$3,795,000, developer fee (Pulte) \$2,955,000, Redevelopment Agency funding of \$1,025,000. Note that staff will continue to seek alternative funding sources to preserve both Measure J and Redevelopment Agency funds. Program scheduling has this project breaking ground during fiscal year 2010-2011.

3. **Richmond Equitable Development Initiative (REDI) Meeting**

This past Thursday evening, representatives of the Richmond Equitable Development Initiative (REDI) convened an extremely well attended public meeting at St. Mark's Church to raise concerns about the current foreclosure crisis. Mayor McLaughlin, Vice-Mayor Lopez, and Councilmembers Ritterman and Viramontes were all in attendance at the meeting, as well as several staff members, including Deputy Police Chief Ed Medina, Code Enforcement Manager Tim Higares, Housing Director Patrick Lynch, and myself. The meeting lasted nearly two hours through a pre-set agenda that raised a number of policy issues and proposals for the City, County and State representatives, and lenders that were in attendance. Organizers and other attendees were very effective in expressing concerns

regarding the current housing crisis and the ripple effects of this crisis in the community. I can assure you that City staff are actively working to address these issues and will keep them in front of the Council on a regular basis.

4. **Possible Tax Revenue Anticipation Note Financing**

Approximately 45 percent of the City's general fund revenue comes from property taxes which are received during the months of December, April, and June of each fiscal year. However, the regular operational disbursements happen consistently throughout the year, which puts a strain on the City's cash flow needs.

The California Statewide Communities Development Authority ("CSCDA") assists local governments with short term cash flow needs through its California Communities Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note ("TRAN") Program. City staff prepares and submits a cash flow analysis, along with other required documents, for the next fiscal year, showing its cash needs. If the City qualifies for the program, it will receive a tax exempt loan at the beginning of the fiscal year that is repayable at the end of the term specified. The loan amount is calculated using formulas and taking into account the City's payment capability. CSCDA has the necessary track record and experience to make it a trusted name in the capital market.

Finance Department staff is currently preparing and reviewing the required cash flow analysis, in order to determine if utilizing a TRAN is an effective way to finance short term cash flow needs for the fiscal year 2009-10.

5. **Recreation Highlights**

The following are highlights from the Recreation Department for the current week:

- **Basketball**: The Recreation Department had two teams participate in the Jr. NBA / Jr. WNBA Gatorade Championship Series Basketball Tournament at the Tice Valley Community Center in Walnut Creek on Saturday, March 7th. The under-13 boys team defeated Oakland during the final game and has been named the "Golden State Champions".
- **CPRS**: Recreation Department Supervisor Deborah Hernandez was installed on the California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) Aging Services Section Board as the Northern California Representative during the state conference held in Santa Clara on March 3 -6. She will serve in her position for a 1 year term.

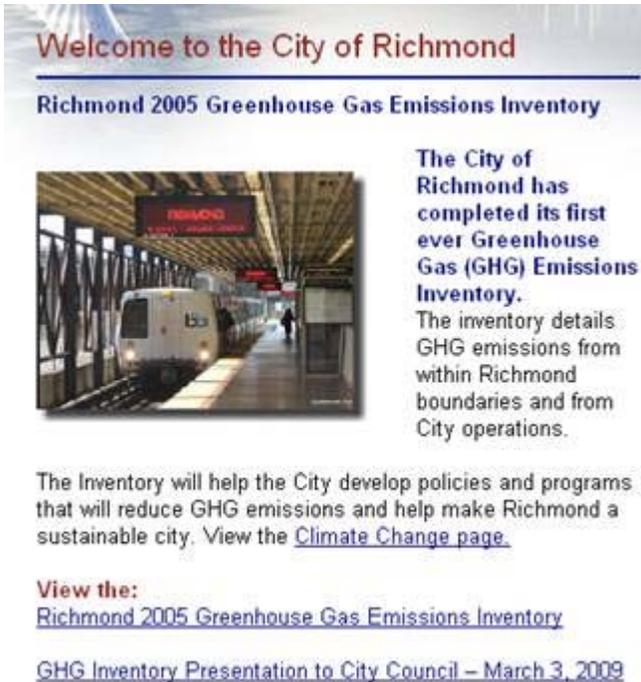
6. **E-Mail Subscription to the City Manager's Weekly Report**

As previously noted, this weekly report is provided directly to City Councilmembers, and is posted on the City's website. It is also frequently forwarded by recipients as e-mail to other interested community members.

If any of you are reading this “second hand” and would like to receive the weekly report e-mailed to you directly, please sign up at the City’s website, under E-services, City Manager’s weekly report: <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/list.asp>. If you visit this site, you may find other e-services of interest to you.

7. **Web Notes**

The City’s Environmental Team has provided a new home page for the 2005 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory:



Welcome to the City of Richmond

Richmond 2005 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory



The City of Richmond has completed its first ever Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory. The inventory details GHG emissions from within Richmond boundaries and from City operations.

The Inventory will help the City develop policies and programs that will reduce GHG emissions and help make Richmond a sustainable city. View the [Climate Change page](#).

View the:
[Richmond 2005 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory](#)
[GHG Inventory Presentation to City Council – March 3, 2009](#)