

Mayor and Councilmembers:

This is the weekly report for the week ending June 15th, 2012.

1. Meeting Notes

The next meeting of the City Council is Tuesday, June 19th, beginning with a Closed Session at 5:00 PM and with the regular agenda starting at 6:30 PM.

2. Upcoming Housing Element Workshop

On Thursday, June 28, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the Richmond City Hall Council Chambers, Planning and Building Services Department staff will host a workshop to inform residents about the City's update to its General Plan Housing Element.

The Housing Element is an important planning document required under State law. The purpose of the Housing Element is to establish key policies, programs, and objectives for achieving a diverse range of housing needs in the community. Housing Elements must include an assessment of existing and future housing needs, an inventory of sites available for housing development, an analysis of constraints to local housing production, and a set of programs and quantified objectives designed to help meet identified needs.



We invite you to join us at this upcoming public workshop to learn more about Richmond's Housing Element Update, share your thoughts about the City's existing housing programs, and identify housing opportunities and challenges facing our community.

Light refreshments and Spanish translation services will be provided.

If you have any questions about Richmond's Housing Element Update or are unable to attend the workshop, but would still like to provide your comments, please email Hector Rojas, Associate Planner at hector_rojas@ci.richmond.ca.us.

More information is available at www.ci.richmond.ca.us/housingelement

3. **Magical Experiences at the Library**

To celebrate the first day of the annual Summer Reading Game, on June 13th, the Main Library Children's Room presented a magic show by young magician Perry Yan. Perry has been performing magic for five years, and he entertained the children with his sense of humor and his excellent playing card manipulation, disappearing water, and magic coloring book tricks. Children from the audience assisted with some of the tricks. Over 130 people attended this 40-minute program, and all the children received a "magic dollar bill" afterwards. Funds for this program were provided by the Friends of the Richmond Public Library.



4. **Stormwater Training**

On June 7th, Engineering Services Department's Stormwater Program hosted training for those who conduct stormwater inspections at businesses throughout Contra Costa County. The training, coordinated by the Clean Water Program, included a presentation on food ware bans, sources of mercury and copper from businesses, recent stormwater cases prosecuted by County District Attorney, and a field trip to an auto dismantler company in Richmond. Special thanks to Pick and Pull, an auto dismantler facility, for providing the opportunity for 40 inspectors to learn about their operations.

5. **Regional Agency Construction Projects Posted on Engineering Website**

The Engineering Services Department has created a new webpage that has information and links to several transportation projects affecting the City of Richmond that are being conducted by regional and neighboring agencies. To find the most current information on these construction projects, go to the webpage at [Regional Agency Projects](#). You will find information on the following projects:

I-80 Central Avenue Interchange Improvements: The I-80 Central Avenue Interchange Improvements project will provide relief to traffic congestion at

the cluster of intersections along Central Avenue near the I-80 freeway ramps.

I-80 San Pablo Dam Road Interchange: The reconstruction of the I-80/San Pablo Dam Road Interchange will improve traffic operations, reduce traffic congestion, provide efficient and safe bicycle/pedestrian access at the interchange, and accommodate future traffic volumes on San Pablo Dam Road.

I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM Project): The Interstate 80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM) Project will integrate the transportation management systems of the I-80 corridor and the San Pablo Avenue corridor in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The project will employ State-of-the-Practice Intelligent Technology System (ITS) tools to improve safety, mobility and trip reliability for all users.

I-580 Scofield Avenue Bridge Deck Replacement: The construction for a 0.6 mile new bridge deck replacement on I-580 in the City of Richmond, just east of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge at Western Drive and Scofield Avenue is included in the Caltrans' State Highway Operations and Protection Program. This bridge rehabilitation project will improve safety and preserve California's transportation infrastructure.

6. **Pavement Rehabilitation Program**

Engineering Services Department's Pavement Rehabilitation Program will complete slurry sealing streets throughout the city the week of June 18th. Bond Blacktop, Inc., a subcontractor to Ghilotti Brothers, Inc., is currently scheduled to complete this work on June 18th and 19th. Unforeseen events could shift the schedule a day or so however the sequence shown will generally remain the same. The streets listed below will be affected as noted; some over a period of two days in order to maintain traffic flow as much as possible. No parking will be allowed in these areas on the days listed. Depending on weather/temperature, the slurry areas should dry and be open to traffic approximately 4 hours after application. The slurry will be allowed to cure for an additional 10 days, and the new striping will be installed by the first week of July.

Any questions should be directed to Jim Bissell, construction manager, at 620-5417. During construction, you may also contact the city's on-site inspector, Keith Lawson at 385-4047.

Monday, June 18	
Rheem Avenue	23 rd Street to 29 th Street
Clinton Avenue	39 th Street to Wilson Avenue
Ohio Avenue	S. 37 th Street to S. 42 nd Street

So. 39 th Street	Florida Avenue to Wall Avenue
Waller Avenue	S. 37th Street to S. 39th Street
Tuesday, June 19	
Rheem Avenue	29th Street to 36 th Street
Wilson Avenue	Garvin Avenue to Clinton Avenue
Solano Avenue	39th Street to Wilson Avenue
S. 35 th Street	Ohio Avenue to Wall Avenue
Wall Avenue	S. 37th Street to S. 39th Street
Cutter Lane	Carriage Drive to end

7. **Via Verdi Project Update**

A few weeks ago a pair of Black Phoebes nested near the creek and laid several eggs. The construction team came up with the innovative idea of erecting a temporary straw bale wall in the vicinity of the nest to protect and minimize disturbance to the nest. After receiving concurrence from the California Department of Fish & Game, the on-site biologist oversaw this work. The eggs hatched, and the fledglings recently flew off.

A temporary dam made of sand bags was built in the creek just upstream of the existing culvert headwall. A temporary dirt access road was installed from Via Verdi down to the existing culvert headwall, and bypass pumps were placed near the headwall. These pumps will bypass creek water from the temporary dam into a storm drain that flows back into the creek just downstream of the construction area, in order to keep the creek bed dry for the duration of the metal culvert excavation and concrete culvert construction phases of the project. The regulatory agencies reviewed and approved the temporary dam and pumping system design before construction began, and a biologist is ensuring that construction of this temporary dam and pumping system conforms to the approved regulatory permits for this project. At the conclusion of the project, the temporary dam and pumping system will be removed, and the creek will flow through the newly constructed concrete culvert.

The utility lines along Via Verdi are being temporarily detoured in order to provide the Sobrante Glen neighborhood with uninterrupted utility service. The PG&E work is complete, and the AT&T and Comcast work will be completed soon. A temporary 1.5-inch water line was installed to provide uninterrupted service to the El Portal Church of Christ.

Any questions should be directed to Bob Addiego, construction manager, at (925) 270-5636.



A regulatory agency approved the temporary dam and pumping system that will bypass creek water around the construction area to keep the creek bed dry during the culvert removal and construction phase.

8. **Five-Year Financial Plan**

The Draft Five-Year Financial Plan (the “Plan”) will be presented to the City Council at its June 26th meeting. The Plan has been in development since June 2010, with personnel from several different city departments involved in the process. The Plan was most recently received and reviewed by the Finance Committee at its May 4th meeting.

9. **Public Works Updates**

Facilities Maintenance Division: The carpenters began the fabrication of bookshelves for the Main Library; installed a security mirror in Building Regulations; installed of the a safety hand rail to the boiler room of the Recreation Complex; and prepared for the installation of television mounts in eight community centers.

The painters prepared Fire Station 68 for painting and have created a checklist for touch ups at the Richmond Auditorium.

The stationary engineers began the construction of a filter cage for the fan rooms at the Employment and Training/Senior Center for installation.

The utility section completed the light bulb replacement of the walkways at the Civic Center Plaza.

The electrical shop repaired two traffic lights struck by a truck on Macdonald Avenue; re-lamped various street lights on Harbour Way, Barrett Avenue and Cutting Boulevard; reset the traffic controller at San Pablo Avenue and Esmond Avenue; and restored the lighting of the parking lot at the Booker T. Anderson Community Center.



Parks and Landscaping Division: Parks crews continued with general maintenance in the Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFSZ) of El Sobrante, and completed the maintenance along the Richmond Parkway.



Maintenance of Richmond Parkway Medians

Equipment Services Division: The Equipment Services Division removed eight vehicles from the fleet; prepared for the inspection of the Police Command Van; placed Ford Fusions in service for the Fire Department; placed the new Police fleet in service; and added a new truck in service. All street sweepers were in service this week.

Streets Division: The Pavement Maintenance crew prepared and paved patches on Williams Drive, Jenkins Way, Johnson Drive, Harrison Drive and Griffin Drive, and continued patching potholes throughout the rest of the city.



The Traffic Signs and Lines shop installed signs; painted the pavement in the parking lot at City Hall; fabricated various signs; and completed markings and sign replacement throughout the city.



City Hall Parking Lot

The Street Sweepers' regularly-scheduled commercial and residential routes for the second Monday through Thursday and the third Friday are Clinton Hill, Santa Fe, Coronado, Marina Bay and Point Richmond Neighborhood Council areas.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments about these or any other items of interest to you.

Have a great week!

You can sign up to receive the City Manager's weekly report and other information from the City of Richmond by visiting:

www.ci.richmond.ca.us/list.aspx