

Resolution No. 11-06

A resolution supporting the California State Treasurer's Office Green Wave Initiative Economic Development Roundtable in the City of Richmond February 24th 2006

Whereas; The Richmond City Council recognizes that economic opportunity, environmental integrity and societal equity are the foundation upon which sustainable cities can build a better quality of life for its residents, and;

Whereas; A sustainable community seeks to improve public health and a better quality of life for all its residents by limiting waste, preventing pollution, maximizing conservation, promoting efficiency, and developing local resources to revitalize the local economy, and;

Whereas; Elements of sustainable communities include:

- **Ecological Integrity:** including satisfying basic human needs such as clean air and water, protecting ecosystems and biodiversity; pollution prevention strategies.
- **Economic Security:** including local reinvestment; meaningful employment opportunities; local business ownership; job training and education.
- **Empowerment and Responsibility:** including respect and tolerance for diverse views and values; viable non-government sector; equal opportunity to participate in decision-making; access to government.
- **Social Well-Being:** including a reliable local food supply; quality health services, housing and education; creative expression through the arts; safety from crime and aggression; respect for public spaces and historic resources; a sense of place making a contribution to the community, and;

Whereas; Sustainable development is defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations and that connects government, business, and residents in a participatory process emphasizing balance among economic, environmental and social needs, and;

Whereas; Cities have a role in promoting an environment for sustainable development by protecting, promoting and creating a context in which such opportunities can exist, and;

Whereas; As locally elected representatives, council members have a significant responsibility to provide leadership seeking community based solutions to strengthen our city, and;

Whereas; The City of Richmond recently passed a resolution making violence prevention and youth investment the City's number one priority, and a sustainable economy is vital to addressing those needs, and;

Whereas; Our vision for Richmond is a community in which every resident has access to affordable housing, and reliable public transit connecting to living wage jobs, quality education, a safe and clean environment, health care and other essential services. A place where urban revitalization provides opportunities for local business to thrive; where community-driven economic development prioritizes the welfare of residents; and where local policies are part of a regional plan for achieving an equitable and sustainable Bay Area, and;

Whereas; A November 2005 report by CleanEdge, Inc., a San Francisco based research and publishing firm which tracks and analyzes clean-tech markets, trends, and opportunities reports San Francisco Bay Region is uniquely positioned to capture the clean technology market which has risen to become the sixth-largest venture investment category in the U.S. and Canada. More than \$339 million was invested in California

clean-tech companies in 2003, representing 29% of all North American clean-technology investments, and;

Whereas; A 2004 study by the National Resources Defense Council predicts clean technology companies could create 52,000 to 114,000 high-paying jobs and generate \$11 billion to \$25 billion in annual revenues in the state by 2010, and;

Whereas; A December 2005 Stanford University study calculated California consumers and businesses have saved \$56 billion through gains in efficiency since the first major oil price spike in the 1970s. Looking forward, current state policies to promote the use of renewable energy, combined with the growth of the renewable energy sector, is projected to create an estimated 201,000 person-years of employment through 2017, with payroll benefits of \$8 billion, and;

Whereas; There is enormous potential for the City of Richmond to leverage public policy and smart land use planning to attract a portion of “green economy” activity to the city, thereby providing economic opportunities to its residents, and;

Whereas; Richmond has many assets attractive to green economy investors, entrepreneurs and enterprises including:

- Significant quantity of attractive real estate at comparatively low cost strategically located with major freeways connecting to San Francisco, the Silicon Valley (South Bay), Marin County (North Bay), the East Bay and Sacramento.
- A regional public transportation network provided by AC Transit bus service connecting with Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) light rail service covering most of the Bay Area, with stations conveniently located in Richmond nearby El Cerrito.
- Air travel serviced by Oakland and San Francisco International airports as well as Buchanan Field in Concord all within a 30 mile radius.
- Seven nearby shipping ports including the Port of Richmond, California's third largest in annual tonnage which is developing and expanding existing facilities and creating additional infrastructure including more berths with direct rail connections.
- Several properties offering direct rail access.
- Seven four-year schools and six two-year colleges offering programs in biotechnology, business management and marketing, information systems, electronics, industrial technology, welding, and refrigeration and appliance repair including California State University, East Bay and UC Berkeley, just 5 miles south, a world-renowned institution offering undergraduate and graduate studies up to the doctoral level.
- Over 25 vocational schools providing specialized education in Contra Costa County; five public programs oriented to adult education; a Workforce Investment Board (WIB) offering career training and hiring services to residents and businesses, and;

Whereas; With its existing and potential workforce, equal proximity to Silicon Valley and Sacramento, available land at comparably lower costs, the City of Richmond is a particularly good fit for “green economy” manufacturing, warehouse and distribution companies, and;

Whereas; The City of Richmond supports the effort of the State Treasurer’s Office to create new opportunities in an green economy, and to that end, the City of Richmond sees the Economic Development Roundtable as an opportunity to build out its economic base

to attract new employment opportunities and strengthen its economic vitality by revitalizing and diversifying its economy, and;

Whereas; The City of Richmond will join other Bay Area communities in growing a “green economy” network of suppliers of materials, instruments, tools and services supporting a range of clean technology activities connected to the manufacture, assembly, repair of technologies related to renewable energy, solar panels, clean air, advanced vehicles, fuel cells, recycling of goods and materials, and non polluting bio-fuels.

Therefore be it resolved, the City of Richmond applauds the efforts of California State Treasurer Phil Angelides and supports the partnership established to promote Green Wave Investment opportunities in the City of Richmond through the upcoming Economic Development Roundtable.

I certify that the foregoing was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond, California at a regular meeting held on February 7, 2006, and passed by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Griffin, Marquez, McLaughlin, Rogers, Thurmond, Viramontes, and Mayor Anderson
NOES:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None
ABSENT:	None

DIANE HOLMES
Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

APPROVED:

IRMA L. ANDERSON
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN EASTMAN
City Attorney

State of California	}	
County of Contra Costa	:	ss.
City of Richmond	}	

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 11-06, finally passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at regular meeting held on February 7, 2006 and published in accordance with law.