



CITY OF RICHMOND
Recreation & Parks Commission Meeting
AGENDA

Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 6:00 pm

Council's Chambers, 440 Civic Center Plaza

This meeting is held in a building that is accessible to people with disabilities.

Board Members: Joey Smith, Chair; VACANT, Vice Chair; Samantha Torres, Secretary; Maryn Hurlbut, Treasurer

Commissioners: Jennifer Koscielniak, Michael Warren

Staff Liaison: Ranjana Maharaj, Deputy Director for Community Services-Recreation

1. **Call to Order** (3 min.)

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Land Acknowledgement

2. **Mission and Roll Call** (2 min.)

3. **Welcome and Meeting Procedures** (2 min.)

*Individuals who would like to address the Recreation and Parks Commission on relevant matters not listed on the agenda or on Department Reports for Information items not pulled for discussion, may do so under **Open Forum**.*

Public comments may be made on agenda items when the item is discussed. The standard amount of time for each speaker, in either instance, will be two (2) minutes.

4. **Agenda Review and Adoption** (1 min.)

The order in which items will be heard may be adjusted by Commissioner vote at this time. In addition, items may be removed from or placed on the Consent Calendar at this time. Individual items may be removed from Department Reports for Information for discussion, explanation, or continuance to a future meeting. In addition, the order in which items will be heard may be adjusted at this time.

5. **Open Forum** (10 min.; 2 min. per speaker)

*Issues brought to the attention of the commission in **Open Forum** cannot result in discussion or action at this meeting. Individuals who would like to address the Recreation and Parks Commission on relevant matters **not** listed on the agenda or on Department Reports for Information items **not** pulled for discussion, may do so at this time.*

6. **Announcements through the Chair** (5 min.)

7. **Consent Calendar** (2 min.)

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered matters requiring little or no discussion and will be acted upon in one motion.

- APPROVE minutes of the June 5, 2024 Meeting

8. **Department Reports for Information** (10 min.)

Unless items were pulled for discussion during Agenda Review, all reports are considered received and accepted by the commission requiring no further action.

- a. Public Works: Parks & Landscaping and Facilities Divisions – Jason Lacey
 - Richmond Parks Master Plan Checklist Update
- b. Community Services Division: Recreation and Neighborhood Services – Ranjana Maharaj

9. **Presentations** (10 min.)

- a. None

10. **Ad Hoc Committee Reports** (20 min.)

- a. Sustainability and Climate Responsiveness Committee (Marvin/Samantha)
- b. Youth & Associate Commissioners Initiatives (Joey/Marvin)

11. **Discussions and Action Items** (20 minutes)

Following discussion of each item, the commission may vote to make recommendations to Commissioners, staff and/or to the City Council.

- a. Approve Memorial Bench for Pia Angela Gökürk (Approved by City Council November 19, 2024)
- b. Nominate Committee for Election of Officers

12. **Commissioner Liaison Reports/Comments** (4 min; 2 min. per member)

At 8:00 PM, any items remaining on the agenda that require immediate attention may be moved to this time. All other items will be subject to another meeting or the following commission meeting in order to make fair and attentive decisions. This meeting adjourns at 8:30 PM. The meeting may be extended by a majority vote of the commissioners.

13. **Agenda Setting for Next Meeting and Future Topics** (3 min.)

14. **Adjournment** (1 min.)

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

CANCELLED
Lack of Quorum

As presiding officer, the Recreation and Parks Commission Chair has the authority to preserve order at all Recreation and Parks Commission meetings, to remove or cause the removal of any person from any such meeting for disorderly conduct, or for making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, using profanity, or becoming boisterous, threatening or personally abusive while addressing said Commission, and to enforce the rules of the Commission. Any documents produced by the City and distributed to the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available at the Community Services/Recreation Division located at 3230 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, California during normal business hours.

Record of all public comments: Properly labeled public comments will be considered a public record, put into the official meeting record, available after the meeting as supplemental materials, and will be posted as an attachment to the meeting minutes when the minutes are posted: [Archive Center](#) • [Richmond](#) • [CivicEngage](#)

Procedures for Removing Consent Calendar Items from the Consent Calendar: Members of the public who request to remove an item from the consent calendar must first discuss the item with a staff member, by phone or a back-and-forth email discussion, and state the name of the staff member when requesting removal of the item from the consent calendar.

Any member of the Commission who would like to remove an item from the consent calendar must notify the appropriate staff person prior to the meeting. Although members of the Commission are encouraged to ask questions and share concerns with staff ahead of the meeting, they are not required to do so.

The Recreation Division staff must be informed of any requests to remove items from the Consent Calendar.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities: Upon request, the City will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services and sign language interpreters, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service, or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be emailed to recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us or submitted by phone at 510-620-6950. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility.



for
CITY OF RICHMOND
Recreation & Parks Commission
MINUTES

Wednesday, June 5, 2024, 6:00 PM
440 Civic Center Plaza

This meeting is held in a building that is accessible to people with disabilities.

Board Members: Joey Smith, Chair; Allison Blakeley, Vice Chair; Samantha Torres, Secretary; Maryn Hurlbut, Treasurer
Commissioners: Dani Lanis,

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order by Chair Joey Smith at 6:20 pm

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Joey Smith, Allison Blakeley, Maryn Hurlbut, Dani Lanis, Samantha Torres

Chair Smith provided a brief overview of the meeting procedures and the Mission of the Recreation & Parks Commission.

AGENDA REVIEW

Motion by Treasurer Hurlbut to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Secretary Torres, and carried unanimously by a voice vote.

OPEN FORUM

Email from Cordell Hindler was introduced inviting all to the Contra Costa Mayors Conference on October 3rd at 6:30 pm with location to be announced and the Richmond Rotary Club meeting on June 14th at 12:30 pm at the Richmond Country Club where Christy Chen will be presenting for the Peres Dental Clinic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS THROUGH THE CHAIR

- a.) Chair Smith advised the next Commission meeting will be held July 10, 2024
- b.) The balance of the Commission Trust Account is \$413.08
- c.) Commission Kaser submitted his resignation effective April 15, 2024; and Commission Rowden submitted his resignation effective June 4, 2024

CONSENT CALENDAR

Treasurer Hurlbut motioned to approve the minutes as presented for the April 3, 2024, meeting, seconded by Vice Chair Blakeley, carried with an agreed voice vote with Treasurer Torres abstaining.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Parks & Landscaping Division

Gregory Everetts, Interim Parks Supervisor, shared a verbal and visual report of the Parks and Landscaping updates and responded to the commission's questions and concerns. In addition, Greg Hardesty, Superintendent of Parks and Landscaping, continued to share the Richmond Parks Master Plan Checklist with no updates at this time.

Community Services Division – Recreation & Neighborhood Services

Ranjana Maharaj, Deputy Director for Community Services-Recreation, provided a detailed oral and visual report on upcoming and recent Recreation activities.

PRESENTATIONS

a) RECEIVE an Update on the ARPA Funded Projects

Marcia Vallier from CSW ST2, presented an update on the Richmond Field Assessment as to the ARPA funded projects, and she answered several questions from the panel.

In addition, LaShonda White, Deputy City Manager for Community Services, shared City Council approved on consent to authorize the Public Works Director to release bids and award contracts, if they fall within the approved council allocation in the amount \$7.7 million of ARPA funds for Shields-Reid, Wendell, and Martin Luther King Jr. Parks.

At this time (7:27pm), Commissioner Lanis asked if Action Items (10a and 11a) can be moved ahead of the Ad Hoc Committee Reports (Items 10a and 10b) due to time constraints. Chair Smith hearing no objections then called the Action Items to be presented.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

a.) Renaming of the Virginia Playlot

Brandon Evans, Carretha Walker, Luther Evans, and Charles Evans spoke on behalf of the family to support renaming the Virginia Playlot for Florida Evans who is currently 102 years old and a lifelong resident of Richmond. The family answered questions from the commission specifically as to the letters of support from the Coronado Neighborhood Council and others who support this change. In addition, Councilmember Robinson expressed her support of this item as she attended the neighborhood council meeting where the community was excited in honoring this matriarch.

Commissioner Lanis motioned to approve this item and Treasurer Hurlbut seconded and carried with a unanimous voice vote.

At 8:01 pm, Commissioner Lanis had to adjourn the meeting resulting in a lack of quorum and the remaining agenda items were not heard. Chair Smith expressed apologies to those in attendance and will look to schedule a special Meeting later in June.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine George
Executive Assistant

**Recreation and Parks Commission
2025 Meeting Attendance**

	Term	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	April 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	Aug 2025	Sept 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Total Absences
Joey Smith	Appt.: 5/2/17-10/26/19 Re-appt. 12/3/19-10/26/22 Re-appt. 11/01/22-10/26/25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				0
Maryn Hurlbut	Appt.: 3/15/16-10/26/19 Re-appt. 12/3/19-10/26/22 Re-appt. 11/01/22-10/26/25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				0
Samantha Torres	Appt.: 12/20/22 – 10/26/25	-	-			-	-	-	-	-				0
Michael Warren	Appt: 8/19/25 – 10/26/28									-				0
Jennifer Koscielniak	Appt: 9/22/25 – 10/26/26													0

CANCELED
(Lack of Quorum)

Legend

- P = Present
- A = Absent
- E = Excused Absence
- = No Meeting

Excused absences are:

1. Military and related military service leave
2. Bereavement
3. Attendance of Commission related conferences and meetings.

City of Richmond

Community Service Department/Recreation and Neighborhood Services Division
Parks and Landscaping Division

POLICY AND APPLICATION FOR NAMING OR RE-NAMING OF PARKS, FACILITIES, AND STREETS

*****NOTE: RED IS TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT**

BLUE DENOTES ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL OR EXPLANATORY NOTES

STATEMENT OF POLICY AND GUIDELINES:

This application form is used in conjunction with the [Statement of Policy and Guidelines for Naming and Renaming](#) or acquiring monument "kiosks" or benches of commemoration honoring families or luminaries and friends of Richmond. These Guidelines may be found on the below link:
<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/57679/2021---Renaming-Procedures-for-Parks-Facilities-or-Streets>

STEP 1 - TYPE OF REQUEST (Check one of the following):

- 1. Donating and dedication of new park benches, tables, and monuments. (X)
- 2. Temporary memorials on public thoroughfares or city property for up to 90 days.
- 3. Naming or re-naming of parks, facilities, and streets.
- 4. Naming or re-naming of overpass walkways, observation overlooks as well as subsets of parks or facilities (e.g. auditoriums or other rooms within a named facility, Baseball diamond or other individual field(s) within a named park).

STEP 2 – CLASSIFICATION OF REQUEST (Check of the following):

- 1. Recognition of a loved one's name as a gift is given to the city such as a new bench or table for a neighborhood park or a new garden for a Richmond designated park that will be enjoyed by all Richmond residents and guests. (X)
- 2. Recognition of special civic or monetary contribution to the city by a group or individual.
- 3. Recognition of a person or group living or having lived in the city of Richmond who have received recognition on a local, national, or international level thereby bringing honor to the City of Richmond (local heroes).
- 4. Those brave individuals who have lost their lives during their service to the City of Richmond.

STEP 3 – APPLICANT INFORMATION (Fill in each of the following items):

Applicant Name: Deniz Göktürk _____
Street 2363 Carquinez Ave _____
City, State, Zip El Cerrito, CA 94530 _____
Phone home _____ cell 510-717-8384 _____ office _____
Best time to reach: From 9 am or leave message or email _____
E-mail dgokturk@berkeley.edu _____

- Location of request (be specific if within a park or existing facility):
Shimada Friendship Park, Barbara and Jay Vincent Park, Marina Bay Park, or anywhere along the Richmond waterfront with a nice water view

- Specific area or room within the park or facility (if appropriate).

Rationale:

My mother Pia Angela Göktürk passed on March 9, 2020, at age the age of 92. She spent the last 8 years of her life with us in El Cerrito, and, at the very end, San Pablo. The shores of the East Bay were her favorite places to visit, even when she was wheelchair bound, especially Point Richmond and the area around Richmond Marina / Shimada Friendship Park / Rosie the Riveter. Water views always had a special place in her life – in Konstanz, Germany, where she was born in 1927 near the lake of Konstanz and the river Rhein, and Istanbul, Turkey, where she lived and taught for over fifty years, overlooking the waters of the Bosphorus. Therefore, we believe she would be best remembered with a memorial bench by the water. For more information about her see my essay:

<https://transit.berkeley.edu/2022/creative-remembrance-in-traveling-archives-gokturk-transit/>

Wording for Plaque:

Remembering Pia Angela Göktürk (born Lorenzi), 30 September 1927 to 9 March 2020. She loved water views – from Bodensee to Bosphorus to the Bay...

STEP 4 – SIGN, DATE, AND SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST:

1. Complete a petition of the residential and business owners on the street where the proposed name change is requested with names and signatures.
2. Submit to:
Via Email: recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us
Via Mail: Community Services-Recreation, 3230 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804

Deniz Göktürk

Date of Submission March 12, 2024 _____ Signature of Requestor

Once a request is received by the Community Services-Recreation Division, your request will be reviewed for further consideration. Any request for a new park, capital improvements to any facility, and a name change for any facility will be discussed with the Police, Fire, Public Works, Planning and any other departments that may be necessary. The City of Richmond's Municipal Code will be checked for compliance before further processing.

Upon recommendation by Department Heads, the request will be submitted for review and approval by the Recreation & Parks Commission. Upon their approval, the request will then require City Council approval before final actions can be taken.

APPLICANT - COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING STEPS AFTER SUBMITTING THE ABOVE APPLICATION

STEP 5- PRESENTATION TO RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION:

1. Present your request to your local Neighborhood Council. Ask for a vote of approval and letter from them. For a contact list of Neighborhood Councils, click on the below link: [City of Richmond Neighborhood Councils 2021-08-17.xlsx](#)
2. Conduct a walk through with the Parks and Landscaping Division staff at the desired site, if applicable to a park facility.
3. Submit the approval letter of support from your local Neighborhood Council to Community Services-Recreation to request a date to present to the Recreation and Parks Commission: Via email at Recreation@ci.richmond.ca.us OR drop off at Community Services-Recreation's Registration Office at 3230 Macdonald Avenue, Richmond, CA. To contact the Registration Office, call (510) 620-6733.
4. Acquire sponsorship of a City Official or City Department.

STEP 6 – RESOLUTION OF INTENT:

If approved by the Recreation and Parks Commission, work with your City Official or City Department sponsor to place this item on the City Council agenda, to adopt a **Resolution of Intent** and to schedule a **Public Hearing**.

This action is taken in order to:

- Notify residents, businesses, and property owners of the **Resolution of Intent** and **Public Hearing** date (Note: All costs incurred for postage shall be the burden of the individual group or organization submitting the proposed name.)
- Notify the postmaster and/or all local post offices of **Resolution of Intent** and **Public Hearing**
- Consult with City Clerk to determine a date for the **Public Hearing** and request public notice disseminated **10 days prior** to the scheduled **Public Hearing**
- Request a response from Richmond Police Department and Richmond Fire Department about possible safety issues that may arise due to the proposed name change
- Request a response and cost analysis from Public Works

Attachments needed for this Agenda Item

- Minutes from the Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting
- Redacted application to request the name change
- Map of area
- Resolution of Intent

Date of Public Hearing: _____

STEP 7 – PUBLIC HEARING:

Work with your City Official or City Department sponsor to place this item on the City Council agenda to **Hold a Public Hearing** and adopt a resolution to change the name.

This action is taken in order to:

- Acquire an approved Resolution to indicate background, steps taken, authority of the council and direction to further notice Public Works to execute.
- Allow the City Clerk to notice appropriate agencies

Attachments needed for this Agenda Item

- Minutes from the City Council meeting adopting the **Resolution of Intent**, if available
- Minutes from the Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting
- Map of Area
- Resolution authorizing the name change

Outcome of Hearing: _____ **APPROVED / DENIED** _____

STEP 8 – FINAL STEPS WITH PUBLIC WORKS:

Contact the Public Works Department for payment and execution of the required actions:

- Parks Division (510) 231-3004 - to pay vendors directly for the costs of materials.
- Streets Division (510) 231-3011 - for installation of signs.

- Restaurants
- Hotels
- Things to do
- Transit
- Parking
- Pharmacies
- ATMs

CANCELLED
Lack of Quorum





MEMORANDUM

Parks Maintenance Landscaping Division
3201 Leona Avenue
Richmond, CA 94804
Tel: (510) 231-3004 Fax: (510) 231-3072

DATE: June 27, 2024
TO: Stephanie Ny, Program Manager
FROM: Greg Hardesty, Parks & Landscaping Superintendent
SUBJECT: Pia Angela Gokturk Memorial Bench Donation

At the June 20, 2024, meeting of the Marina Bay Landscaping and Lighting District Board, the board approved the application to donate a memorial bench dedicated to Pia Angela Gokturk to be installed along the Bay Trail near Barbara and Jay Vincent Park.

CANCELLED
(Lack of Quorum)