

RESOLUTION NO. 91-14

RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT POLICIES AND ACTIONS PERTAINING TO DEVELOPMENT OF PARCELS WITH CREEKS PURSUANT TO RICHMOND GENERAL PLAN 2030

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2012, the Council adopted General Plan 2030 (“General Plan”); and

WHEREAS, Finding 1 of the General Plan, Conservation, Natural Resources and Open Space, states: “Over the years many of Richmond’s natural creeks have been channeled underground. Day-lighting and restoring these creeks will provide opportunities to create green streets, manage storm-water, and connect open spaces via creek-side multi-use trails as part of the City’s green network. Means of protecting and restoring the City’s natural resources include: Restricting development on sensitive natural resources; Identifying setbacks for development adjacent to natural resources; and Facilitating the restoration of creeks currently in culverts or hardened channels.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond City Council hereby directs the City Manager and City Attorney to take steps to implement the policies and actions of the General Plan 2030 pertaining to development of parcels with creeks, as listed below:

1. Policy CN1.1 of the General Plan states:
“Protect and restore creek corridors and riparian areas to ensure they function as healthy wildlife habitat and biological areas. Protect and restore creek corridors and riparian areas by restoring riparian habitat with appropriate vegetation and channel design; removing culverts and hardened channels where appropriate; improving creek access; avoiding future culverting or channelization of creeks; and ensuring appropriate and ongoing maintenance. See also HW9.5.”
2. Policy CN1.3 of the General Plan states:
“Urban Creek Restoration - Encourage the restoration of urban creeks and coordinate with property owners and local interest groups in the restoration efforts. Day-lighting of creeks that are currently in culverts or hardened channels shall be pursued where feasible in new and redevelopment projects. Also, see Action CN1.D, CN1.H.”
3. Action CN1.C of the General Plan states:
“Identify and create access easements, where practical, for creek maintenance and public access to Creek-side amenities. Establish standards that allow public access in the floodplain and buffers along creek corridors without compromising the integrity of sensitive habitats.”
4. Action CN1.D of the General Plan states:
“Establish performance standards for creek corridors that accomplish the following:
 - Offer sufficient width in and/or adjacent to preserves to allow for existing and created wildlife habitat, species sensitive to human disturbance, vegetative filtration for water quality, corridors for wildlife habitat linkage, protection from runoff, and other impacts of adjacent urban uses;
 - Allow for sufficient width adjacent to natural resource preserves to allow for trails and greenbelts; and
 - Discourage the use of herbicides and provide sufficient width for a mowed firebreak (where necessary), adjacent passive recreation uses and access for channel maintenance and flood control.
 - In areas of creek restoration, implement design specifications and modeled flow conditions to ensure that creek channel configuration and vegetation would withstand storm flows, that conveyance capacity is not impeded, and that the system is stabilized following construction. Design shall be conducted by a certified professional in stream restoration and fluvial geo-morphology processes.

- Implement construction best management practices to reduce erosion potential including, but not limited to, construction scheduled for dry season work; high flow bypass until the system is stabilized; temporary and permanent erosion and sediment controls; prevention of run-off during construction.
- Implement monitoring, inspection, and maintenance programs and plans to ensure long-term continued function”; and

5. Action CN1.H of the General Plan states:

“Where feasible, restore creek corridors in urban areas. Creeks currently diverted in culverts or hardened channels should be restored to their natural state. Adopt regional guidelines for channel creation or modification to ensure that channels meander, have a naturalized side slope and a varied channel bottom elevation. Include improvement standards for soft bottom channels.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council directs staff to allow for community input in developing the language for the proposed zoning amendment; and bring back a draft of the Zoning Text amendment and other documents involved in implementing these recommendations to the City Council within 120 days.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof, held on October 21, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor McLaughlin.

NOES: Councilmembers Bates and Boozé.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTENTION: None.

DIANE HOLMES
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

(SEAL)

Approved:

GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
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. 91-14**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on October 21, 2014.