

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 117-15

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA
SUPPORTING THE IMMEDIATE DEMOLITION OF VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, the West Contra Costa Unified School District serves to educate the children of the City of Richmond; and,

WHEREAS, Richmond requires quality schools capable of serving its children and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond previously supported May Valley’s efforts to rebuild Valley View Elementary School, with the Richmond City Council unanimously directing City Manager Bill Lindsay to lobby the West Contra Costa Unified School District (“WCCUSD”) to initiate the building of a temporary campus and construction of underground utilities for a newly designed Valley View (“Phase One”); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond’s lobbying efforts led to the successful initiation of Phase One by the WCCUSD, which will result in the abandonment of most of Valley View’s permanent facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the abandonment of Valley View’s permanent structure will have a high likelihood of creating an attractive nuisance to the greater May Valley Community because of Valley View’s permanent structure’s adjacent proximity to the temporary campus (creating a high likelihood of injury for Valley View students); and,

WHEREAS, the WCCUSD’s previously abandoned school campuses (Seaview Elementary School, Adams Middle School, and Harmon Knolls Special Education Campus) have created attractive nuisances in their communities, creating a high risk of injury for children; and,

WHEREAS, Valley View as an attractive nuisance will likely jeopardize children’s safety, depress surrounding real property values, and create an unsafe environment within the greater May Valley community; and,

WHEREAS, past WCCUSD closures at Seaview Elementary School, Adams Middle School, and Harmon Knolls Special Education Campus negatively impacted surrounding communities with vandalism that increased neighborhood blight, invasions of feral animals, and arson fires; and,

WHEREAS, the WCCUSD will receive seismic and matching funds for school modernization and construction, leading to a cost-neutral Valley View demolition.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond hereby endorses May Valley’s efforts to demolish Valley View (“Phase Two”).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Richmond directs staff to draft and submit a letter to the WCCUSD prior to their meeting on December 9, 2015, if not possible by that time, by no later than January 6, 2016, stating that the City Council calls on the WCCUSD to initiate Phase Two immediately, without controversy or delay, due to the significant safety risks associated with Valley View as an attractive nuisance to Richmond students and residents.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held December 1, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Martinez, McLaughlin, Pimplé, and Vice Mayor Myrick.
NOES: None.
ABSTENTIONS: None.
ABSENT: Mayor Butt.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

TOM BUTT
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. 117-15**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on December 1, 2015.


Pamela Christian
Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond