

RESOLUTION NO. 75-18

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,
IN SUPPORT OF THE VETERANS AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOND ACT 2018
TO AUTHORIZE BONDS FOR HOUSING AND INFILL INFRASTRUCTURE
FINANCING**

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond has participated in many county, state and federal affordable housing projects to provide funding and opportunities for Richmond residents; and

WHEREAS, housing affordability is an urgent issue facing families and communities across Richmond and California, and the cost of housing means many people and families cannot afford other basics like food and transportation; and

WHEREAS, addressing Richmond's and California's lack of affordable housing must be an urgent priority at a time when more than half of California households that rent (more than 3 million) spend more than 30 percent of their income toward rent and nearly one-third (over 1.5 million households) spend more than 50 percent of their income on rent; and

WHEREAS, the devastation of the housing crisis is evident in homelessness in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond Homeless Taskforce reported in their 2018 presentation to the Richmond City Council, the Coordinated Outreach Referral Engagement Team (C.O.R.E.) made contact with 721 individuals living outside in Richmond, 74.48% of those contacted described their prior living situation as "a place not meant for habitation" and 19.14% indicated their last place of habitation was an emergency shelter or motel paid for with a voucher; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 48-18 on June 19, 2018 declaring homelessness a crisis in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also adopted Resolution No. 72-18 on August 7, 2018 to submit a ballot measure to the voters at the November 2018 general election, authorizing a Special Parcel Tax on vacant properties, that would raise approximately \$5.4 million annually for 20 years to fund homelessness services and housing, blight and dumping elimination, and specified programs; and

WHEREAS, California's homeownership rates are at the lowest point since the 1940s and recent housing production levels are far short of the state's projected housing need for 180,000 new homes per year; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from the 2006 housing bond that helped create and preserve affordable apartments, urban infill infrastructure, and single-family homes have been expended; and

WHEREAS, even though federal funding for affordable housing comprises a significant portion of California's resources to support affordable housing, with a decline of 51 and 66 percent, respectively, in funds allocated to California by the crucial funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs; and

WHEREAS, last year the Legislature passed, and Governor Brown signed SB 3 (Beall), the City of Richmond supports the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act, that placed the \$4 billion Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act on the November 6, 2018 general election ballot; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans and Affordable Housing Act dedicates funding to help military veterans have a safe place to call home, provides stable housing for struggling families, people experiencing homelessness and individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans and Affordable Housing Act builds affordable homes for hard-working people, enabling them to live in the communities where they work and near transit to reduce long commutes and curb pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Veteran’s Resource Center supports the Veterans and Affordable Housing Act and has worked diligently to assist veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans and Affordable Housing Act invests in Californians’ priorities: building homes, creating jobs and boosting the economy; the initiative is expected to create 137,000 jobs and pump \$23.4 billion into California’s economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Richmond City Council hereby supports the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act on the November 6, 2018 ballot to infuse much needed funding to support important affordable housing projects and spur housing construction statewide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Richmond City Council supports and can be listed as a member of the Veterans and Affordable Housing Act coalition.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held September 25, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmembers Beckles, Choi, Martinez, Myrick, Recinos, Vice Mayor Willis, and Mayor Butt.
NOES:	None.
ABSTENTIONS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.

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. 75-18**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on September 25, 2018.



Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond