

Resolution No. 45-07

Resolution Declaring Richmond a Green Economic Development Area, inviting green businesses and manufacturing to locate in Richmond

WHEREAS, Richmond is in a position to become a Bay Area leader in green business, high skills manufacturing jobs and technology in the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Richmond has the unique advantage of having an industrial port, ample rail and more available industrial land than San Francisco, Berkeley, Alameda, Oakland or other Bay Area cities; and

WHEREAS, businesses already located in Richmond such as Richmond Pacific Railroad and Excellent Packaging and Design among others have recognized the 'green wave' and are making their businesses more sustainable; and

WHEREAS, businesses such as Powerlight and Vetrazzo, having recognized Richmond's renewed push in a green direction are moving to Richmond to pursue green business development and niche manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, partners in this effort including Representative Loni Hancock, Mayor McLaughlin, Mayor Bates and Mayor Dellums - have met and are committed to making the East Bay corridor the leading economic engine for renewable energy, green economics and industry in the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has demonstrated support for green development by passing the 'Green Wave Initiative' resolution in February 2006; and

WHEREAS, the clean technology sector has recently become the 6th largest venture capital investment category in the US and Canada; and

WHEREAS, The Natural Resources Defense Council and Environmental Entrepreneurs recently estimated that venture capital investment in clean tech start-ups will seed the creation of 53,000 to 114,000 high quality jobs and \$11 to \$25 billion in annual revenue in California by 2010; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy, green business and high skilled manufacturing jobs are a growth industry in the US which add high paying jobs, tax revenue and sustainable values to our local economy; therefore be it

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Richmond City Council declares Richmond a Green Economic Development Area, prioritizing this development in its operations and planning, and invites green business and renewable energy companies to consider Richmond as a future home; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Richmond calls on all businesses currently residing and operating in the City to take whatever steps possible to advance environmentally sound practices, and in doing so, join this green business initiative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Richmond City Council hereby directs the energies of the City towards pursuing green businesses, policies and innovations towards this end and that staff come back with plans to maximize the incentives and actualize Richmond as a green economic center for the Bay Area in the 21st Century.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond, California at a meeting held on April 17, 2007, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, and Mayor McLaughlin

NOES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Councilmembers Butt and Viramontes

DIANE HOLMES
Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

APPROVED:

GAYLE McLAUGHLIN
MAYOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

LOUISE RENNE, Interim
CITY ATTORNEY

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

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 45-07, finally passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a meeting held on April 17, 2007.