

## **City Manager's Weekly Report**

### **Mayor and Councilmembers:**

This is the weekly report for the week ending April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

#### **1. Meeting Notes**

The next regular City Council meeting is Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> beginning with a Housing Authority meeting at 6:00 PM, followed by the regular City Council agenda at 7:00 PM.

#### **2. Move to Renovated City Hall at Civic Center Plaza**

The second phase of the move to City Hall is in progress, with the Mayor's, City Manager's, City Attorney's, Human Resources, Finance, and Information Technology Departments moving into the first and third floors over the weekend. On Monday, City Hall will be City Hall again.

Many staff members, especially from Redevelopment and IT, are continuing to work long hours to make this move go smoothly. Public Works Department staff members are likewise doing an excellent job with various odds and ends in and around the renovated facility. I offer my continued thanks to all of these staff members for their extra efforts.

#### **3. Library Receives Grant for Homework Help Program**

The Richmond Public Library has been awarded an \$11,200 grant from the California State Library for the Out-of-School-Time Online Homework Help program. This grant allows implementation of an online/homework assistance service that enhances academic achievement for students in grades 4 to 12 by providing personalized tutoring in academic subjects. The library will promote the program through its web site, [www.richmondlibrary.org](http://www.richmondlibrary.org), in cooperation with the afterschool programs in the schools and for appropriate learners in LEAP, although this free program will be available to anyone in the community wanting to use it, between 1:00 and 10:00 PM. The grant covers 100% of the subscription costs for the first year, 75% the second, 50% the third, and the library will be responsible for any additional years.

#### **4. State Project Funds Begin to "Thaw"**

As previously indicated in the weekly report, the State had previously "frozen" the funding for certain grant programs, which affected cash flow to some significant local projects on a statewide basis. We received news this past week that many of these grant funds are now "unfrozen, including those programs that are funding the Plunge restoration, Port projects, Martin Luther King, Jr. park renovation, and the Kern play lot renovation. It should be noted that we were continuing work on these projects by advancing local funds, which can now be reimbursed from grant funds.

## 5. **Office of Neighborhood Safety Update**

On April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), with the Richmond Police Activities League (RPAL), sponsored an in-service professional development opportunity for youth development professionals. This comprehensive and interactive training course facilitated by the Community Network for Youth Development (CNYD) provided participants with an overview of research-based youth development principles and practices. More than 20 staff, youth workers, educators, case managers, supervisory, administrative and management staff from more than 11 youth serving organizations benefited greatly from the training by understanding and experiencing the principles of quality youth development programming. Topics covered included the youth development approach, youth development frameworks, safety, youth participation, community involvement, and skill building. CNYD has served the Bay Area for the past twelve years as a youth development intermediary organization. In their efforts to offer support, training and capacity building resources to youth serving organizations and programs, they provide youth workers and organizations with a practical link to research being done in the field.

The group was extraordinary and they all agreed to continue this work and build upon this partnership. Participants were very excited about the work that they had completed, and wanted to ensure that next steps would be taken. All agreed that they had received tools that they could take back and implement tomorrow, a week, a month, and a year from now. CNYD will be sending recommendations for a training series in Youth Development to get this group prepared to do some innovative youth development work in Richmond. Potential funding sources to help fund this work have also been identified.

## 6. **Recreation Highlights**

The following are highlights from the Recreation Department for the current week:

- **Tennis**: The Recreation Department-sponsored Richmond Youth Tennis Team will compete in the USTA Spring Team Tennis Showdown doubles competition (which they won in 2007) on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at Stanford University.
- **Youth Sports**: The Recreation Department-sponsored "Team Richmond" basketball, soccer and swimming teams have begun participating in tournaments for qualification to compete in the upcoming 2009 California State Games on July 16-19 in San Diego, CA. The under-14 boys basketball team qualified by winning the Sacramento Regional Championship and will represent the City of Richmond. The under-15 boys and girls teams will both compete in San Jose on April 25<sup>th</sup> to qualify.
- **Little League Baseball**: The Recreation Department Youth Sports section is currently preparing the fields and providing umpires for Little League Baseball games played in collaboration with RPAL, West Contra Costa County School District and the YMCA.