

City Manager's Weekly Report

This is the weekly report for the week ending July 2nd, 2010.

1. **Meeting Notes**

The next meeting of the City Council will be on Tuesday, July 6th, 2010.

2. **3rd of July Fireworks**

The Recreation Department's Third of July Celebration will be held this Saturday, July 3rd, at Marina Bay Park. Festivities will begin at 6:30 PM with interactive games for children, food vendors and music. The event will culminate with a spectacular 20 minute fireworks show beginning approximately at 9:30 PM. Over 5,000 people are expected to attend the event, and countless others will enjoy the show from various locations in Richmond.

3. **LEAP Graduation**

LEAP celebrated the success of 16 Richmond residents on Tuesday, June 29th who all passed their GED. In addition to the 16 students who passed, 5 other students came very close to passing and will be taking the GED again either in July and/or September. For a second consecutive year, the LEAP graduation at the Richmond Civic Auditorium provided students the opportunity to wear the cap and gown and mark the completion of their goal. The graduated students included young parents, trainees in the Richmond Build programs, and many who were unemployed and seeking work. While the average age of the LEAP graduates was 28 years old, over 30% were just under 21 years of age. Although all the students who graduated were focused on getting their GED, while at LEAP they applied their improved skills toward other parts of their lives. Some voted for the first time, others got their driver's license or first library card, and those who were parents were able to better help their children. LEAP expects to host a winter 2010 graduation to honor the continued accomplishments of our Richmond residents.

4. **Ground Breaking Richmond Transit Village BART Parking Structure**

A Ground Breaking celebration has been scheduled for 10:00 AM on Tuesday, August 10th, for the Richmond Transit Village BART Parking Structure.

Construction is set to begin for this six level 764 space parking structure located in the heart of Downtown Richmond. This \$25 million Redevelopment project is being constructed by C. Overaa and Company, a Richmond-based business, and will create over 200 jobs during the 18 to 24 month construction period. Upon completion, all BART parking will be located in the new structure, allowing the second phase of the Richmond Transit Village, construction of 100 for-sale housing units, to commence. When completed, the garage structure will include 10,000 square feet of ground floor commercial space fronting MacDonald Avenue as well as public art elements on the buildings' east and west elevations.

Invitations will be sent out later this month, as well as a general invitation to all Richmond residents to attend this special event.

5. **Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award**

On July 1st, the Finance Department was informed that the City has earned the Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award from the National Purchasing Institute. This prestigious award is earned by those organizations that demonstrate excellence by obtaining a high score based on standardized criteria. The criteria are designed to measure innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-procurement, and leadership attributes of the procurement organization.



6. **Adopted Budgets Now Available on Internet**

The adopted FY2010-11 Operating and Capital Improvement Plan budgets are currently available on the internet at:

<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=183>.

7. **Sewer Lateral Grant Program**

The Engineering Services Department kicked off the Lateral Reimbursement Program on July 1st. Residents residing in the Richmond Municipal Sewer District who have their lateral repaired can apply for reimbursement of 50% of the cost of the repairs up to \$3,000. The City usually funds \$100,000 for this program; however, due to the success of this program, an additional \$100,000 has been secured, thus bringing the total funding available to \$200,000.

The City has changed the process for awarding grants from first-come, first-served to a lottery system, with the first round of funding awarded July 31st, 2010. The City will continue accepting applications throughout the year, and will use the lottery system as more funds are identified.

8. **Engineering Services Twitter Update**

Twitter postcard notifications were sent to those affected by construction from the MLK Community Center Improvements. Follow these projects and other Engineering Services projects at http://twitter.com/CoR_Engineering. Please

contact Jim Bissell, Engineering Project Manager, at jim_bissell@ci.richmond.ca.us with any questions.

9. **Public Works Updates**

- Crews completed sealing cracks along the Richmond Parkway this week.
- Crews will grind and resurface 25th Street from Nevin Avenue to MacDonald Avenue next week.
- On July 12th, crews will grind and resurface 26th Street from MacDonald to Broadway in front of the Rosie the Riveter National Park offices, and Broadway from Carlson Boulevard to MacDonald Avenue in front of the Postal Service Office.

10. **Web Fun Fact**

The City's website has a new page and News Flash for the re-installation of the Sargent Johnson Mural. You may view this new page which has a slideshow of the installation here: <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=2273>

The screenshot shows the City of Richmond website. At the top left is the City of Richmond logo and seal. The main header features the text "CITY OF Richmond CALIFORNIA". To the right is a search bar and navigation links for Home, Share, Print, Email, and Contact Us. Below the header is a dark blue navigation bar with links for GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENTS, COMMUNITY, BUSINESS, PUBLIC SAFETY, and CITY CONNECTION. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail: "You are here: Home > Community > Arts & Culture > Arts & Culture Commission > Public Art in Richmond > Sargent Johnson Mural". The page title is "Sargent Johnson Mural". The main text reads: "American Pride and Purpose by Sargent Johnson. Sargent Johnson, noted Bay Area African American sculptor, became the first commissioned artist of the new Civic Center. His porcelain enamel panels depict a map of Richmond that hung in City Council Chambers from 1949 until its removal during the Civic Center renovation. The famous and historical mural is now in its new home in the lobby of the Richmond Memorial Auditorium above the left stairway. This site was chosen by the Richmond Arts Commission and, after months of careful restoration, this wonderful piece of Richmond history is now accompanied by a short biography of the artist." To the right of the text is a photograph of the mural being installed, showing workers and the mural itself which features a map of Richmond and the text "CITY OF RICHMOND". Below the photo is a caption: "American Pride and Purpose Mural Installation Slideshow". On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar with links for Sargent Johnson Mural, Civic Center Public Art Tour, Public Art Sites, Public Art Program, and Percent for Art. Below that are sections for "Richmond California BUSINESS" with "COR Connect" and "Environment" links. At the bottom left, contact information for Richmond City Hall is provided: "450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804, Directions | Phone Numbers". At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links for Home, Contact Us, Site Map, Accessibility, Council Hours, and a note about being a Greenleaf Certified Employer.