



Environmental Community Investment Agreement (ECIA) Transit & Transportation Programs

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

MINUTES

Richmond City Hall – Richmond Conference Room | 450 Civic Center Plaza | Richmond, CA 94804

ECIA Committee Members:

Eric Anderson – Chair
Martha Serianz - Vice Chair
Marena Brown – Committee Member
Erica Benita Haywood - Committee Member
Carolyn Douglas – Committee Member
Jovanka Beckles – Council Liaison

Members Present:

Eric Anderson – Chair (via phone conference)
Marena Brown – Committee Member
Carolyn Douglas – Committee Member
Erica Benita Haywood - Committee Member
Rosco Cayangyang- On behalf of Council Member Beckles

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Welcome and Introductions**

Lori Reese-Brown, Project Manager with the City of Richmond called the meeting to order after the introduction of the following: Nelson Nygaard staff; David Fields and Alex Sweet; Community Member Cordell Hindler; and Michael Williams, Engineering CIP staff.

2) **Public Comment (Items not on the Agenda) (2 mins. per speaker)**

Speaker(s):

Cordell Hindler: announced that the Library Committee has two vacancies and encourage people to contact him if they are interested in serving and thanked Lori Reese-Brown for attending the recent Commission of Aging Meeting to provide the Transportation Department update. He also mentioned several community events: Block captain training at the Recreation Complex this evening, a local performance of *Rip Cord* from November 16th to December 9th, at the C Center Auditorium, and the Commission of Aging Senior Winter Ball on December 15, 2018 and to contact Ms. Naomi Wilson or Ms. Myrtle Braxton if interested.

3) **Approval of ECIA Meeting Minutes (March 10, 2017; May 5, 2017; and August 24, 2018)**

Eric Anderson suggested a revision to the minutes for Aug. 24th; item D second paragraph should read that “He expressed concerns about funding infrastructure projects that don’t meet the ECIA criteria.” He went on to explain that, “his concern was **not** that we should not fund infrastructure but programs but rather that when we do fund projects they should meet the ECIA criteria.” Lori Reese Brown

repeated the minute revisions and requested a motion.

Motion By: Committee Member Marena Brown to approve the minutes.

Seconded By: Roco Cayangyang on behalf of Council Member Jovanka Beckles

Motion Carried.

4) **Richmond Intermodal Transportation Strategic Plan (First Mile / Last Mile)**

Alex Sweet from Nelson Nygaard, provided via Power Point Presentation of the project update, which involved a brief reminder of the project overview, strategy recommendations, evaluation criteria for the strategies and next steps.

Ms. Sweet reminded the members of the Purpose of the First Mile/Last Mile Plan - to improve multimodal access to Richmond Transit Hubs reduce automobile dependence (Richmond BART, El Cerrito Del Norte BART station, and the Ferry terminal). Identify policies, programs and infrastructure projects that make it easier for people to get to the identified mobility hubs.

Ms. Sweet provided a high level review of the project process: review existing conditions, conducted a series of outreach meetings, developed draft strategies, received feedback from various technical advisory committees. A handout of the list of all the strategies (23 total) was provided to the committee with. At the end of Ms. Sweet's presentation, she asked the Committee Members to help identify the top 10 strategies (that may include programs and infrastructure projects) to focus on.

Lori Reese-Brown reminded the committee that the top ten list is not only to identify projects (that reduces GHGs) that may be funded per the ECIA agreement, but also it helps staff to identify future projects that may also be financed by sources other than the ECIA funds.

Parking Management and curb management was discussed at length amongst the committee members. Eric Anderson suggested separating out parking management and curb management to address the shared mobility demand (shuttles, autonomous vehicles, rideshare etc.) for curb space, in terms of near term and long term demand. There was concern to strengthen program strategy language to prevent modal conflicts, when testing or implementing new transportation technology.

Eric Anderson suggested expanding the list of 23 projects as priorities but was of the opinion that there were a lot of access gaps in terms of access to the North or East of Richmond BART. The committee discussed adding eight (8) additional projects and/or amendments to the list of priorities.

A female community member (no name provided) requested to speak regarding funding for the Men and Women of Valor, but Lori Reese-Brown stated that the public comment portion had passed but she was welcome to make a comment on the remaining agenda items.

Action Items:

Nelson Nygaard will send out an updated excel spreadsheet via email for the committee members to review rank and update proposed projects from 1 to 10, along with the environmental score, and a link to Google maps for their respective locations.

Lori Reese Brown will send a copy of the EIR for the Chevron for the ECIA Agreement to Nelson Nygaard to reference the projects that are funded through the ECIA.

5) **Engineering project update and funding request**

Lori opened this agenda item with a brief explanation that the ECIA budget that was approved by the committee during the August 24, 2018 was not taken the City Council for approval to allow time for the new City Manager Carlos Martinez to receive an overview of the ECIA Agreement, Committee functions and proposed funding for projects prior to going before Council.

Michael Williams mentioned that he and Tawfic Halaby from the Engineering and CIP Department were attending the meeting to request funding for two separate engineering projects: 23rd Street Traffic Signal Interconnect Project and Yellow Brick Road.

23rd Street Traffic Signal Interconnect Project Discussion

Mr. Williams mentioned that the 23rd Street project was previously brought before the ECIA committee in September 2018 requesting \$ 1.2 million in ECIA funding, but the committee asked staff to share how the project was calculated to show how it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He mentioned that this project was scheduled to go to Council on November 20, 2018 to receive approval to use ECIA funds for the \$1.2 million budget.

Mr. Williams described how the interconnection project will help time the signals, improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. He mentioned how the Engineering project already has \$300, 000 of engineering funds to cover the design costs for the project that has already been spent. Lori Reese Brown inquired about the origin of the \$300,000. Mr. Williams responded that he didn't know. Marena Brown asked how the GHG reduction benefits are determined, and Mr. Williams referred her to the documents submitted in conjunction with this item, then read the document that referenced how the MTC calculates how much GHGs are reduced as a result of signal synchronization.

Marena Brown stated that she likes the project but wanted to understand how the project reduces the GHGs. A discussion regarding the documents that have already been submitted to the Council weren't provided directly to the ECIA committee prior to going to Council. Lori Reese Brown requested the documents to be sent to the committee members. Eric Anderson provided feedback to Mr. Williams to expressed how it was unclear to him the why we need to connect our signals to the fiber network in order to install countdown. Mr. Anderson expressed confusion about the direct benefits of non-motorized transportation would result from this project. Mr. Williams emphasized that this project puts in the infrastructure ahead of several traffic calming and pedestrian safety plans.

Lori asked the committee to make a decision on funding this project. Eric Anderson mentioned that he had to leave the meeting and asked if materials were provided for the second engineering project. To which Lori Reese-Brown answered no. Erica Benita Haywood expressed support for the project. Marena Brown expressed concern that the congestion on 23rd isn't currently considered bad, and that the \$1.2 million dollars takes roughly 6% of the remaining funds that are allocated for a 10 year period. Carolyn Douglas shared that the project makes sense but is more suitable for areas that are currently congested like Barrett Avenue. Marena Brown asked what other funding avenues have been considered to fund this project?

Motion By: Erica Benita Haywood motion to accept the Engineering proposal for \$1.2 million as submitted.

Second By: Marena Brown

Motion Carried.

Yellow Brick Road Discussion-

Tawfic Halaby explained the history of the Yellow Brick Road project that began ten years ago, and how Engineering is currently experiencing a deficit of \$2 million dollars to finish the project. Tawfic mentioned that he had an immediate need of \$200,000 to finish the project design. He requested the \$2 million total to fund the program and stated that he was going to Council to amend the contract design aspects of the project on November 20, 2018. Marena Brown asked if there were other attempts to find other funding sources for the project and expressed that \$2 million in addition to the previously awarded \$1.2 million was of major concern. Mr. Halaby stated that he did but other fund measures went to other CIP projects based on priority. Erica Benita Haywood asked if this project funding will overlap with other projects. A discussion regarding the ECIA funding source being as a main source to fund Engineering Infrastructure projects versus using the funds for transportation service projects was a concern.

Motion By: Carolyn Douglas moved to approve \$200,000.

Second By: Marena Brown.

Motion Carried.

6) Proposed meeting schedule –Not discussed

7) Staff Updates – Not discussed

8) ***ADJOURN***

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The City of Richmond ECIA Committee and staff shall provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Committee's meeting. Please call or e-mail the

following Committee staff person at least 72 hours before the meeting:

Lori Reese-Brown – Project Manager, City of Richmond, (510) 620-6869, lori_reese-brown@ci.richmond.ca.us