



REGULAR MEETING OF THE RENT BOARD OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND

AGENDA
Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Link to Rent Board Meeting Agendas and Accompanying Materials:
www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3375/Rent-Board

Board Chair
Lauren Maddock

Board Vice Chair
Emma Gerould

Boardmembers
Alana Grice Conner
Virginia Finlay
Commieolla Duncan

**ALL BOARDMEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE VIA VIDEO OR
TELECONFERENCE**

***REFER TO PAGE 2 FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE
BY COMPUTER, MOBILE DEVICE, OR PHONE AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC***

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom have issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom has issued executive orders that allow cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing.

Both <https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/> and
<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3914/Richmond-Coronavirus-Info>
provide updated coronavirus information.

Public comment will be confined to items appearing on the agenda and will be limited to the methods provided below. DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, and

consistent with Executive Order N29-20, this meeting will utilize video/teleconferencing only. The following provides information on how the public can participate in this meeting.

How to observe and/or participate in the meeting from home:

By Computer, Tablet, or Mobile Device:

Step 1: Tune in to the videoconference at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84643878930?pwd=K2tSbERJekdxaHVKZXlma05LbUR0UT09>

Step 2: Enter the following password: rentboard

By Telephone:

Step 1: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 301 715 8592
or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656

Step 2: Webinar ID: 846 4387 8930

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84643878930>

How to make a Public Comment during the meeting:

Members of the public must submit a request to speak during the meeting by sending an email to Rent Board Clerk Cynthia Shaw at cynthia_shaw@ci.richmond.ca.us by **3:00 PM on Wednesday, June 17, 2020**. The request must include the following:

- (a) Your Name
- (b) Your Phone Number
- (c) The Item for which you wish to make a Public Comment

Requests for comments received via email during the meeting and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item is closed, will be accommodated as is reasonably possible and will be limited to a maximum of one to two minutes, depending on the number of commenters, as more fully described in the Rent Board meeting procedures below. The City cannot guarantee that its network and/or the site will be uninterrupted.

Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities

Upon request, the City will provide for written agenda materials in appropriate alternative formats, or disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services and sign language interpreters, to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in and provide comments at/related to public meetings. Please submit a request, including your name, phone number and/or email address, and a description of the modification, accommodation, auxiliary aid, service or alternative format requested at least two days before the meeting. Requests should be emailed to cynthia_shaw@ci.richmond.ca.us or submitted by phone at (510) 620-5552. Requests made by mail to the Rent Program Office, Rent Board meeting, 440 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 200, Richmond, CA 94804 must be received at least two days before the meeting. Requests will be granted whenever possible and resolved in favor of accessibility.

Effect of Advisory on In-Person Public Participation

During the pendency of the Executive Order N-29-20, the language in this Advisory portion of the agenda supersedes any language below in the meeting procedures contemplating in-person public comment.

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

The City of Richmond encourages community participation at public meetings and has established procedures that are intended to accommodate public input in a timely and time-sensitive way. As a courtesy to all members of the public who wish to participate in Rent Board meetings, please observe the following procedures:

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Persons wishing to speak on a particular item on the agenda shall file a speaker form with City staff PRIOR to the Rent Board's consideration of the item on the agenda. Once the clerk announces the item, only those persons who have previously submitted speaker forms shall be permitted to speak on the item. Each speaker will be allowed up to two minutes to address the Rent Board.

Public Forum: Individuals who would like to address the Rent Board on matters not listed on the agenda or on items remaining on the consent calendar may do so under Public Forum. All speakers must complete and file a speaker's card with City staff prior to the commencement of Public Forum. The amount of time allotted to individual speakers shall be determined based on the number of persons requesting to speak during this item. The time allocation for each speaker will be as follows: 15 or fewer speakers, a maximum of 2 minutes; 16 to 24 speakers, a maximum of 1 and one-half minutes; and 25 or more speakers, a maximum of 1 minute.

Conduct at Meetings: Richmond Rent Board meetings are limited public forums during which the City strives to provide an open, safe atmosphere and promote robust public debate. Members of the public, however, must comply with state law, as well as the City's laws and procedures and may not actually disrupt the orderly conduct of these meetings. The public, for example, may not shout or use amplifying devices, must submit comment cards and speak during their allotted time in order to provide public comment, may not create a physical disturbance, may not speak on matters unrelated to issues within the jurisdiction of the Rent Board or the agenda item at hand, and may not cause immediate threats to public safety.

City Harassment Policy: The City invites public comment and critique about its operations, including comment about the performance of its public officials and employees, at the public meetings of the City Council and boards and commissions. However, discriminatory or harassing comments about or in the presence of City employees, even comments by third parties, may create a hostile work environment, if severe or pervasive. The City prohibits harassment against an applicant, employee, or contractor on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions), sexual orientation, gender identity, age or veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law. In order to acknowledge the public's right to comment on City operations at public meetings, which could include comments that violate the City's harassment policy if such comments do not cause an actual disruption under the Council Rules and Procedures, while taking reasonable steps to protect City employees from discrimination and harassment, City Boards and Commissions shall adhere to the following procedures. If any person makes a harassing remark at a public meeting that violates the above City policy prohibiting harassment,

the presiding officer of the meeting may, at the conclusion of the speaker's remarks and allotted time: (a) remind the public that the City's Policy Regarding Harassment of its Employees is contained in the written posted agenda; and (b) state that comments in violation of City policy are not condoned by the City and will play no role in City decisions. If any person makes a harassing remark at a public meeting that violates the above City policy, any City employee in the room who is offended by remarks violating the City's policy is excused from attendance at the meeting. No City employee is compelled to remain in attendance where it appears likely that speakers will make further harassing comments. If an employee leaves a City meeting for this reason, the presiding officer may send a designee to notify any offended employee who has left the meeting when those comments are likely concluded so that the employee may return to the meeting. The presiding officer may remind an employee or any council or board or commission member that he or she may leave the meeting if a remark violating the City's harassment policy is made.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE RICHMOND RENT BOARD

AGENDA

5:00 PM

A. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

B. ROLL CALL

C. STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

D. AGENDA REVIEW

E. PUBLIC FORUM

F. RENT BOARD CONSENT CALENDAR

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| F-1. | APPROVE the minutes of the May 20, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Richmond Rent Board. | <i>Cynthia Shaw</i> |
| F-2. | RECEIVE the May 2020 Rent Program Monthly Report. | <i>Paige Roosa</i> |
| F-3. | RECEIVE the Rent Program FY 2019-20 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Report through May 2020. | <i>Paige Roosa</i> |
| F-4. | APPROVE amendments to the contract for community legal services with Bay Area Legal Aid, increasing the contract amount by \$56,250 for Fiscal Year 2020-21, and modifying the term to commence on October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. | <i>Nicolas Traylor
Paige Roosa</i> |
| F-5. | APPROVE amendments to the contract for community legal services with the Eviction Defense Center, increasing the contract amount by \$93,744 for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and modifying the term to commence on October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. | <i>Nicolas Traylor
Paige Roosa</i> |

G. CONSIDERATION OF APPEALS

- G-1.** Appeal Regarding Petition Number RC19-T048. *Charles Oshinuga*
Appellants appeal a Hearing Examiner’s Decision that awarded Respondents a rent reduction for decreases in both space and services in the amount of \$9,117 and reduced Respondents’ Maximum Allowable Rent (hereinafter, “MAR”) by 22%. Specifically, the Hearing Examiner found that Respondents’ Rental Unit contained enough mold in a bedroom to render that particular bedroom unusable for a period of three years. Consequently, the Hearing Examiner found that the Respondents’ Space and/or Services were decreased and awarded Respondents \$8,269.72 in Excess Rent and reduced their MAR by 20%. Additionally, the Hearing Examiner found Appellant caused Respondents to suffer a Decrease in Services where Respondents’ Rental Unit contained an inoperable oven, inadequate tub caulking, broken tub spout, and a dysfunctional shower wand. As a result, the Hearing Examiner awarded Respondents an additional \$847.28 in Excess Rent and further reduced their MAR by 2%. On appeal, Appellant challenges the scope of the Hearing Examiner’s award, asserting that the Hearing Examiner erred and improperly exercised his discretion.

H. REGULATIONS

- H-1.** ADOPT Regulation 608, establishing the 2020 Annual General Adjustment in the amount of 2.9% for tenancies commencing prior to September 1, 2019. *Paige Roosa*
- H-2.** ADOPT Chapter 3 of the Rent Board Regulations, regarding Rent Board governance. *Nicolas Traylor*

I. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

J. ADJOURNMENT

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Any documents produced by the City and distributed to a majority of the Rent Board regarding any item on this agenda will be made available at the Rent Program Office located on the second floor of 440 Civic Center Plaza and will be posted at www.richmondrent.org.

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AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: The minutes of the May 20, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Richmond Rent Board require approval.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Board As Whole | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application/Acceptance | <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Filed Against City of Richmond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759) | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE the minutes of the May 20, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Richmond Rent Board – Rent Program (Cynthia Shaw 620-5552).

AGENDA ITEM NO:

F-1.

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RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, May 20, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond Rent Board was called to order at 5:02 P.M. via videoconference.

On March 16, 2020, the Health Officer of Contra Costa County issued an Order through April 7, 2020, that directed that all individuals living in the County to shelter at their place of residence except that they may leave to provide or receive certain essential services or engage in certain essential activities and work for essential businesses and governmental services.

On March 17, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, authorizing legislative bodies to hold public meetings via teleconferencing.

Executive Order N-29-20 further provides that a legislative body that held a meeting via teleconference and allowed members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically, consistent with notice and accessibility requirements as set forth in the Order, shall have satisfied any requirement that the body allows members of the public to attend the meeting and offer public comment.

Such a body need not make available any physical location from which members of the public may observe the meeting and offer public comment. On March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a statewide shelter-in-place order. The public was able to view the meeting using Zoom at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83041077508?pwd=RU5wVnhoaVgyWGJPY2dzMHRRU1I1dz09>
Password: rentboard

Or By Telephone:

US: +1 669 900 9128 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or
+1 646 558 8656

or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 830 4107 7508

International numbers available:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcUJF0gChn>

Community members who wished to make a public comment were required to submit their comments via email by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, to the Rent Board Clerk, Cynthia Shaw at cynthia_shaw@ci.richmond.ca.us, to be considered into the record.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Boardmembers Present: Conner, Finlay, Vice Chair Gerould, and Chair Maddock.

Staff Present: Staff Attorney Charles Oshinuga, Deputy Director Paige Roosa and Executive Director Nicolas Traylor.

Absent: Boardmember Duncan.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

PUBLIC FORUM

Carla Pecoraro commented by email, regarding the lack of support for Landlords in collecting unpaid rent and handling of Tenant speculation and abuse of emergency order.

Cordell Hindler commented by email, inviting the Board to attend the Richmond Rotary Club meeting held on June 5th from 12:30 to 1:30 PM, location to be determined and the speakers will be Jane Pratt and Christopher Larsen, who will provide an overview on the Richmond Public Library. He also invited the Board to attend the Contra Costa Mayors Conference, held on July 9th and hosted by the City of Walnut Creek, location to be determined.

Marilyn Langlois informed the Board that the Richmond City Council voted at their meeting held on May 19, 2020, to extend the grace period for Tenants who were affected by the Shelter in Place Order and unable to pay all of their rent during that time, and to allow Tenants up to twelve months after the Shelter in Place Order ends to catch up and pay it off. She hopes that this extension will bring continuity and that people will not need to be evicted since Tenants will have time to pay all of the money owed to the Landlords and eventually, Landlords will be made whole. She also mentioned that Councilmember Willis stated that he supports bringing an item to support the efforts of Congress, to cancel rents and mortgages because it impacts both

renters and small Landlords, folks who rely on this for income. She also mentioned that Councilmember Willis stated that we need to be able to support Tenants and Landlords alike during this difficult time, because we know that both Tenants are losing income and having financial hardships and Landlords who may be losing some of their rental income are also having financial hardships. She also thanked the Rent Program staff for the work that is being done and for providing assistance to people who are affected by the Shelter in Place.

Sean S expressed concerns regarding overcrowding in apartments and the rental fee pass through that was discussed at the Rent Board meeting held on April 15, 2020. He feels that overcrowding in apartments is beginning to be an issue. He also feels that overcrowding can cause a health hazard as well as making it difficult for Landlords to make repairs. He also feels that the Rent Board should come up with language that would not put the responsibility on Landlords. He also mentioned that there has been many unidentified people starting to come in and be around children, which makes it a serious issue. He also mentioned that he hopes the Board would not continue to debate about passing through the Rental Housing fee to Tenants and move their efforts to something more productive. He also added that the Board should keep in mind that Landlords are not running a social program. He also mentioned that one of the Councilmembers mentioned that 40% of household income is going towards rent and feels that this issue is not due to the Landlords, this is a social problem. He also feels that the Board should come up with some form of assistance for Landlords to be able to deal with bad Tenants. He also added the way the law is written assumes that every Tenant is good, but there are some bad Tenants out there and they are taking advantage of our rental system. He also added that he hope his comments were heard.

RENT BOARD CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Boardmember Finlay, seconded by Boardmember Conner, the item(s) marked with an (*) were approved with Boardmember Duncan absent:

*F-1. Approve the minutes of the April 15, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Richmond Rent Board.

*F-2. Receive letters from community members regarding the Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance, RMC 11.100.

*F-3. Receive the April 2020 Rent Program Monthly Report.

*F-4. Receive the Rent Program FY 2019-20 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Report through April 2020.

*F-5. Receive Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2019.

PUBLIC HEARING

G-1. The matter to (1) receive an update on the Rent Program's collection efforts through the Rent Board's contract with Rash Curtis and Associates; (2) adopt proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget; (3) receive and approve the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Rental Housing Fee Study; and (4) direct staff to prepare a resolution, consistent with the Rent Board's approved Fee Study and Budget, recommending to the City Council adoption of a two-tier fee structure of \$219 for Fully Covered Rental Units and \$124 for Partially Covered Rental Units, including Governmentally Subsidized Rental Units, was presented by Deputy Director Paige Roosa. The presentation included background information, the Rent Program's Mission Statement which included the impact and the importance of community stability, healthy housing and affordability for Richmond Tenants, how the Rent Program has assisted the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, proposed FY 2020-21 goals, the proposed fiscal year 2020-21 budget, an expense and revenue summary, summary of revenue collected by Rash Curtis Collections Agency, and the proposed fiscal year 2020-21 Rental Housing Fee Study which included an introduction and background, proposed fee structure and example services, applicable unit counts, proposed budget and rental housing fees, a comparison of proposed FY 2020-21 Rental Housing Fee to prior years, and the recommended action. Discussion ensued. The following individuals gave comments: Marilyn Langlois and Ilona Clark. A motion by Vice Chair Gerould, seconded by Boardmember Finlay, to adopt proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget, approve the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Rental Housing Fee Study and direct staff to prepare a resolution, consistent with the Rent Board's approved Fee Study and Budget, recommending to the City Council adoption of a two-tier fee structure of \$219 for Fully Covered Rental Units and \$124 for Partially Covered Rental Units, including Governmentally Subsidized Rental Units, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Boardmembers Conner, Finlay, Vice

Chair Gerould and Chair Maddock. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Boardmember Duncan.

REGULATIONS

H-1. The matter to adopt emergency regulation 20-01 to (1) permit the conduction of hearing and appeals through telecommunications and/or videoconferencing; (2) allow that any document tied to hearings and appeals be served by email; and (3) require that both parties agree to a hearing by telecommunication and/or videoconferencing prior to such a hearing being conducted, was presented by Executive Director Nicolas Traylor. The presentation included a statement of the issue, proposed Emergency Regulations and the recommended action. Discussion ensued. There were no public comments on this item. A motion by Boardmember Finlay, seconded by Boardmember Conner, to adopt emergency regulation 20-01 to (1) permit the conduction of hearing and appeals through telecommunications and/or videoconferencing; (2) allow that any document tied to hearings and appeals be served by email; and (3) require that both parties agree to a hearing by telecommunication and/or videoconferencing prior to such a hearing being conducted, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Boardmembers Conner, Finlay, Vice Chair Gerould and Chair Maddock. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Boardmember Duncan.

RENT BOARD AS A WHOLE

I-1. The matter to receive the 2019 Affordable Housing Report summarizing Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments' compliance in Richmond and determine next steps in regards to LIHTC properties and their exemption under Regulation 202, was presented by Deputy Director Paige Roosa. The presentation included an introduction, the purpose, overview of affordable housing stock, summary of inquiries from LIHTC Tenants in 2019, summary of compliance with Resolution 19-01 and the recommended action. Discussion ensued. The follow individual gave comments: Ilona Clark. A motion by Boardmember Finlay, seconded by Chair Maddock, to receive the 2019 Affordable Housing Report summarizing Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments' compliance in Richmond and direct staff to continue the steps that are being done in regards to low income housing tax credit units, provide an update at the next meeting about the third annual convening call, and provide updates about any habitability and health and safety issues that might arise, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:**

Boardmembers Conner, Finlay, Vice Chair Gerould and Chair Maddock. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Boardmember Duncan.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Executive Director Nicolas Traylor gave a brief update on the first virtual community workshop titled “Understanding the Richmond Rent Ordinance for Realtors” scheduled for Friday, May 29, 2020 at 10:00 AM. He also informed the Board that he and Deputy Director Paige Roosa are working with the City Manager’s Office and the Planning Department on the development of a Rent Assistance Fund to assist Tenants affected by COVID-19 with paying their defaulted rent, up to a certain amount. He added that they are currently in the process of developing that program and related fundraising efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 P.M.

Cynthia Shaw
Staff Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Lauren Maddock, Chair

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: The Monthly Activity Report is designed to provide members of the Rent Board and Richmond community with a summary of the Rent Program's activities for the month. Staff members find it timely to begin producing such reports on a monthly basis.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Board As Whole | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application/Acceptance | <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Filed Against City of Richmond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759) | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION: RECEIVE the May 2020 Rent Program Monthly Report - Rent Program (Paige Roosa 620-6537).

AGENDA ITEM NO:

F-2.

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Director Traylor and Members of the Rent Board

FROM: Paige Roosa, Deputy Director

DATE: June 17, 2020

SUBJECT: MAY 2020 MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT

Introduction

The Monthly Activity Report is designed to provide members of the Rent Board and Richmond community with a summary of the Rent Program's activities for the month. It is anticipated that the format, content, and detail of this report will evolve over time. Feedback concerning this report may be submitted via email to rent@ci.richmond.ca.us or by calling (510) 234-RENT (7368).

May Agency Highlights

As was the case in March and April, the month of May was a considerably unique one for the Rent Program team and the nation in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the extension of the mandated Shelter at Home orders. All Rent Program staff continue to carry out all job functions remotely, which presents us with both challenges and opportunities. The content below highlights our activities for the month.

Public Information Unit staff members successfully hosted the first videoconference community workshop.

The May Community Workshop, titled "Understanding the Richmond Rent Ordinance for Realtors" was hosted via Zoom Webinar to comply with State and local mandates prohibiting social gatherings. Rent Program Services Analyst Magaly Chavez conducted a workshop tailored to realtors covering topics such as the applicability of the Rent Ordinance to different property types, how to achieve compliance with enrollment, registration, and fee payment requirements, the eight Just Causes for Eviction in Richmond, the Maximum Allowable Rent for controlled rental units in the City, tips specific to realtors, rent adjustment petitions, and an overview of important California Civil Codes. Staff Attorney Palomar Sanchez and I provided support to staff and community participants. Following the presentation, attendees were provided an opportunity to ask questions of staff using the Zoom Webinar "Q&A" feature. We look forward to continuing to host workshops utilizing videoconferencing technology for future Community Workshops. Presentation materials are accessible at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3541/Workshops>.

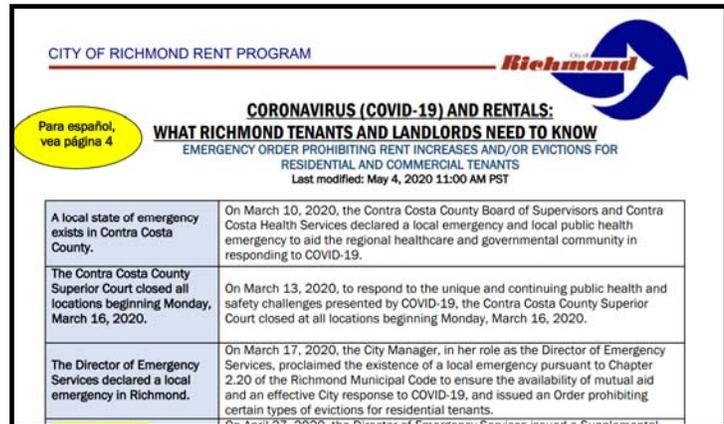


Staff members hosted the third annual convening of affordable housing providers to discuss planned rent increases for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

On Wednesday, May 27, 2020, Executive Director Nicolas Traylor, Graduate Student Fellow Erika Foster, and I hosted the third consecutive annual conference call with affordable housing providers as prescribed in [Resolution 19-01](#). Those providers in attendance had relatively few concerns compared to previous years; however, questions were raised about the Rental Housing Fee and permissible rent increases for the upcoming year, particularly in the context of the current moratorium on rent increases. We also heard from providers that while many Tenants continue to make timely rent payments, there is a growing population of Tenants struggling to pay rent as the Shelter at Home Orders continue to be extended. We look forward to receiving the providers' rent increase spreadsheets to ensure compliance with the 5% cap on rent increases as articulated in Resolution 19-01.

Rent Program staff members continue to educate the Richmond community about the City's emergency orders and the impacts on Landlord and Tenant rights and responsibilities.

The demand for services remains constant, with the Rent Program leading community education efforts about the original [Order 29-20](#) prohibiting residential evictions and the [Supplemental Order 34-20](#), which extends eviction protections to commercial tenants and prohibits the issuance of rent increases through July 15, 2020, or any extension of the local emergency. These educational efforts include the development and continual maintenance and updating of a



[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and Rentals: What Richmond Tenants and Landlords Need to Know fact sheet](#) as well as a Letter Template for Tenants to use to inform their Landlord of their inability to pay rent due to the financial impacts of COVID-19 in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Staff Attorneys Charles Oshinuga and Palomar Sanchez have continued to collaborate with staff in the City Attorney's Office to develop and enforce both the original and supplemental orders.

Rent Program staff members continue to collaborate with staff in the Community Development Department to establish a Rent Assistance Fund.

The need for monetary rent assistance for Richmond tenants was well-established prior to the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; today, the need for such a resource is greater than ever. To that end, Executive Director Nicolas Traylor, Analyst Magaly Chavez, Intern Sarah Schaff, and I continued to work collaboratively with Community Development Director Lina Velasco and Development Project Manager Charice Duckworth throughout the month of May to finalize promotional materials communicating the need for a Rent Assistance Fund in Richmond, envision the administration of the fund, and devise a fundraising strategy. It is anticipated that the Rent Assistance Fund will be contained within the larger [Richmond Rapid Response Fund \(R3F\)](#), which is now accepting donations and commenced the process of providing direct disbursements to assist Richmond residents. Staff members look forward to continuing to make progress on this important endeavor.

Summary of Activities

I. Department Unit Activities

PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT	<i>Occurrences</i>
Persons Assisted By Front Office Unit (without referral to an Analyst)	168
Total Consultations Provided by a Rent Program Services Analyst	397
Calls Received (<i>Phone Counseling Sessions</i>)	201
Emails Received	196
Total Consultations Provided in a Language other than English	90
Consultations Provided in Spanish	90
Legal Service Referral Forms Completed	11
Courtesy Compliance Letters Mailed	19
Community Workshop Webinar Attendees (05/29/2020) <i>Understanding the Richmond Rent Ordinance for Realtors</i>	17
Total Hard Copy Notices Processed	6
Hard Copy Rent Increase Notices Processed	3
Hard Copy Termination of Tenancy Notices Processed	3

BILLING AND REGISTRATION UNIT	<i>Occurrences</i>
Total Consultations with a Billing and Registration Unit Staff Member	36
Phone Call Consultations	14
Email Consultations	22
Enrollment/Tenancy Registration Packets Mailed	3
Enrollment Forms Processed	21
Invoices Generated	244
Payments/Checks Processed	9
Compliance Actions (<i>reviewing records, exemption statuses, owner addresses</i>)	16
Property Information Updated	51
Payments Returned	1
Total Monthly Revenue Collected (05/01/2020 – 05/31/2020)	\$9,642
Total Revenue Collected in FY 2019-20 (<i>through 05/31/2020</i>)	\$2,639,395
Total Revenue Collected in FY 2018-19	\$2,189,836
Total Revenue Collected in FY 2017-18	\$2,173,778

LEGAL UNIT	<i>Occurrences</i>
Public Records Act Requests Received	3

ITEM F-2

HEARINGS UNIT	Occurrences
Total Consultations with Hearings Unit Coordinator	18
Calls/Placed Received (<i>Regarding Hearings and Petitions</i>)	3
Emails Sent/Received (<i>Regarding Hearings and Petitions</i>)	15
Total Number of Pending Petition Cases (<i>“Pending Petition Cases” are defined as those awaiting an objection response, a decision is pending, a decision has been issued with an appeal deadline approaching, or where an upcoming hearing has been scheduled</i>)	27
Pending Tenant Petitions (<i>As of June 9, 2020</i>)	24
Pending Landlord Petitions (<i>As of June 9, 2020</i>)	3
Total Number of Cases Closed	3
Decisions Ordered	3

II. Online Notices Filed with the Rent Program

<i>Type of Form</i>	<i>Monthly Submissions/ Notices Filed</i>	<i>Prior Month Total</i>	<i>% Change from Prior Month</i>
Agent Authorization	0	0	N/A
Proof of Excess Rent Refund	0	0	N/A
Proof of Permanent Relocation Payment	0	2	(-100%)
Proof of Temporary Relocation Payment	0	0	N/A
Change in Terms of Tenancy Notices Filed	0	0	N/A
Rent Increase Notices Filed	5	25	(-80%)
Termination Notices Filed ¹	6	30	(-80%)
<i>Applicable Just Cause for Eviction – Nonpayment of Rent</i>	5	26	(-76.9%)
<i>Applicable Just Cause for Eviction – Breach of Lease</i>	0	3	(-100%)
<i>Applicable Just Cause for Eviction- Withdrawal from Rental Market</i>	0	0	N/A
<i>Applicable Just Cause for Eviction – Owner Move In</i>	0	0	N/A
<i>Applicable Just Cause for Eviction - Nuisance</i>	1	1	0
Total Online Form Submissions	11	57	(-80.7%)

¹ Note: Termination Notices filed with the Rent Program does not indicate the number of Unlawful Detainer (eviction) lawsuits filed in court. In some cases, the Tenant may cure the issue for the notice (e.g. Tenant pays the rent that is due) and the eviction process is not initiated.

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: The Rent Program receives monthly variance reports from the City of Richmond Finance Department. These reports provide useful information on the Rent Program's revenues and expenditures throughout the fiscal year. Finance Department staff members have agreed to provide these reports to staff on a schedule that will permit them to be included in the agenda for the Rent Board's regularly scheduled meetings.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

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|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Board As Whole | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application/Acceptance | <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Filed Against City of Richmond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759) | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION: RECEIVE the Rent Program FY 2019-20 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Report through May 2020 – Rent Program (Paige Roosa 620-6537).

AGENDA ITEM NO:

F-3.

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ITEM F-3 ATTACHMENT 1

Rent Program FY2019-20 Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Report

CHARACTER	OBJECT	ORIGINAL BUDGET	REVISED BUDGET	Per 1	Per 2	Per 3	Per 4	Per 5	Per 6	Per 7	Per 8	Per 9	Per 10	Per 11	Per 12	ENCUMBRANCES	YTD TOTAL	AVAILABLE BUDGET	% USED	
				Jul-2019	Aug-2019	Sept-2019	Oct-2019	Nov-2019	Dec-2019	Jan-2020	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	June-20					
34	LICENSES, PRMITS&FEES	340445	FEES/Admin Fees	(2,923,584.00)	(2,923,584.00)	(48,187.00)	(44,282.00)	(763,258.40)	(1,078,884.70)	(329,458.51)	(88,852.64)	(48,067.50)	(102,702.04)	(86,925.40)	(39,135.00)	(9,642.00)	(2,639,395.19)	(284,188.81)	90.3%	
			TOTAL LICENSES, PRMITS&FEES	(2,923,584.00)	(2,923,584.00)	(48,187.00)	(44,282.00)	(763,258.40)	(1,078,884.70)	(329,458.51)	(88,852.64)	(48,067.50)	(102,702.04)	(86,925.40)	(39,135.00)	(9,642.00)		(2,639,395.19)	(284,188.81)	90.3%
36	INTEREST INCOME	361701	INT & INVEST/Pool-All Other	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(9,463.29)	(9,463.29)	100.0%	
			TOTAL INTEREST INCOME	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)	(405.09)		(9,463.29)	(9,463.29)	100.0%
			TOTAL REVENUE	(2,923,584.00)	(2,923,584.00)	(48,187.00)	(44,282.00)	(763,258.40)	(1,079,289.79)	(329,458.51)	(88,852.64)	(52,863.89)	(102,702.04)	(86,925.40)	(43,396.81)	(9,642.00)		(2,648,858.48)	(274,725.52)	90.6%
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400001	SALARIES & WAGES/Executive	638,840.00	638,840.00	45,721.34	45,721.34	46,161.77	57,291.13	55,587.34	55,587.34	55,587.34	55,587.34	55,587.34	55,587.34	55,587.34	584,006.96	54,833.04	91.4%	
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400002	SALARIES & WAGES/Mgmt-Local 21	328,471.00	328,471.00	25,855.14	25,990.20	25,450.00	25,217.18	20,546.80	20,681.85	27,336.55	23,941.91	20,478.58	19,184.38	14,895.81	249,578.40	78,892.60	76.0%	
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400003	SALARIES & WAGES/Local 1021	193,710.00	193,710.00	6,159.36	5,359.52	5,359.52	5,359.52	14,620.74	14,753.73	16,540.95	15,832.70	15,832.70	18,832.70	15,832.70	134,484.14	59,225.86	69.4%	
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400006	SALARIES & WAGES/PT- Temp	2,437.82	2,437.82	5,797.13	5,474.22	5,797.13	6,944.06	4,714.16	2,819.75	1,948.20	3,168.38	3,168.38	1,599.57	4,747.45	42,870.38	(42,870.38)	100.0%	
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400031	OVERTIME/General	5,000.00	5,000.00	525.26	184.56	606.65	490.35	287.50	-	-	-	-	-	2,094.32	2,905.68	100.0%		
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400048	OTHER PAY/Bilingual Pay	7,457.00	7,457.00	497.16	497.16	497.16	507.02	1,455.82	490.90	726.30	1,005.69	913.22	887.34	801.56	8,290.44	(833.44)	111.2%	
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400049	OTHER PAY/Auto Allowance	4,200.00	4,200.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	3,850.00	350.00	91.7%		
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400050	OTHER PAY/Medical- in Lieu of	2,400.00	2,400.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1,500.00	900.00	62.5%		
40	SALARIES AND WAGES	400079	COMP ABSENCES/WC-Prof-Mgt-Tec	810.30	810.30	675.24	1,215.44	1,215.44	1,080.40	270.10	135.05	135.05	1,006.64	1,006.64	1,006.64	5,328.22	1,500.00	100.0%		
			TOTAL SALARIES AND WAGES	1,175,078.00	1,180,078.00	82,567.49	84,452.24	85,637.67	97,439.66	98,032.46	95,018.62	102,824.39	100,992.66	96,381.48	96,441.33	92,214.86		1,032,002.86	148,075.14	87.5%
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400103	P-ROLL BEN/Medicare Tax-ER Shr	15,560.00	15,560.00	1,212.88	1,228.09	1,249.79	1,427.80	1,425.19	1,382.93	1,427.72	1,421.82	1,401.85	1,351.31	15,097.20	462.80	97.0%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400105	P-ROLL BEN/Health Insurance Be	196,647.00	196,647.00	12,634.32	12,634.32	10,631.48	12,172.12	12,942.44	11,215.36	11,215.36	11,215.36	11,215.36	10,444.52	127,536.00	69,111.00	64.9%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400106	P-ROLL BEN/Dental Insurance	17,736.00	17,736.00	1,231.50	1,231.50	1,108.35	1,354.65	1,600.95	1,477.80	1,354.65	1,354.65	1,354.65	1,231.50	14,778.00	2,958.00	83.3%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400109	P-ROLL BEN/Employee Assistance	528.00	528.00	36.40	36.40	32.76	40.04	47.32	43.68	43.68	40.04	40.04	36.40	436.80	91.20	82.7%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400110	P-ROLL BEN/Professional Dev-Mg	6,750.00	6,750.00	823.99	312.75	750.00	98.31	750.00	98.31	750.00	1,436.61	4,921.66	750.00	4,921.66	1,828.34	72.9%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400111	P-ROLL BEN/Vision	2,316.00	2,316.00	161.00	161.00	144.90	177.10	209.30	193.20	193.20	177.10	177.10	161.00	1,932.00	384.00	83.4%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400112	P-ROLL BEN/Life Insurance	5,752.00	5,752.00	476.69	295.36	286.66	363.53	354.98	346.28	346.28	318.19	318.19	290.10	3,714.45	2,037.55	64.6%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400114	P-ROLL BEN/Long Term Disabilit	12,342.00	12,342.00	759.77	766.30	753.23	904.72	885.18	873.75	961.44	872.93	872.93	788.51	9,311.69	3,030.31	75.4%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400116	P-ROLL BEN/Unemployment Ins	5,472.00	5,472.00	456.00	494.00	494.00	570.00	570.00	532.00	494.00	494.00	494.00	418.00	4,472.00	-	100.0%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400117	P-ROLL BEN/Personal/Prof Dev	2,250.00	2,250.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,492.81	-	-	-	-	1,492.81	757.19	66.3%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400121	P-ROLL BEN/Worker Comp-Clerica	11,943.00	11,943.00	724.27	505.27	535.07	640.95	1,289.93	1,204.50	1,124.05	1,236.68	1,241.41	1,091.88	1,382.44	10,976.45	966.55	91.9%	
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400122	P-ROLL BEN/Worker Comp-Prof	64,809.00	64,809.00	4,795.64	4,804.68	4,797.99	5,792.77	5,100.96	5,110.01	5,555.88	5,328.45	5,096.40	5,009.69	4,722.36	56,114.83	8,694.17	86.6%	
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400124	P-ROLL BEN/CON-MEDICL EE Share	(12,000.00)	(12,000.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,000.00)	0.0%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400127	P-ROLL BEN/OPEB	34,731.00	34,731.00	3,319.21	3,188.76	3,206.83	3,810.28	3,733.41	3,793.54	4,056.06	3,952.58	3,769.24	3,716.16	3,540.27	40,086.34	(5,355.34)	115.4%	
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400130	P-ROLL BEN/PARS Benefits	-	-	17.60	39.36	46.85	58.18	57.56	36.67	25.33	41.20	41.87	20.79	61.72	447.13	(447.13)	100.0%	
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400131	P-ROLL BEN/CON-OPEB-EE Share	(9,600.00)	(9,600.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(9,600.00)	0.0%		
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400149	P-ROLL BEN/PERS-Misc	152,604.00	152,604.00	10,605.24	10,423.59	10,576.58	12,005.22	12,116.37	11,969.35	13,102.61	12,717.07	12,121.22	11,948.82	11,377.53	128,963.60	23,640.40	84.5%	
41	FRINGE BENEFITS	400151	P-ROLL BEN/PERS-Misc (UAL)	232,068.00	232,068.00	18,545.34	16,859.40	16,859.40	18,545.34	21,917.22	21,917.22	20,231.28	20,231.28	18,545.34	16,859.40	16,859.40	209,056.56	23,011.44	90.1%	
			TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS	739,908.00	739,908.00	55,799.85	52,668.03	51,854.34	58,612.70	62,250.81	60,194.60	62,597.50	59,447.35	58,146.18	56,130.80	53,453.06		630,337.52	109,570.48	85.2%
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400201	PROF SVCS/Professional Svcs	43,500.00	49,175.00	-	-	4,938.95	4,000.91	493.66	471.48	66.30	24,928.92	774.94	803.79	13,449.84	49,928.79	(753.79)	101.5%	
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400206	PROF SVCS/Legal Serv Cost	215,000.00	210,000.00	10,416.00	10,416.00	10,416.00	22,916.00	22,916.00	10,416.00	22,916.00	33,332.00	10,416.00	16,666.00	56,256.00	216,666.00	(6,666.00)	103.2%	
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400242	TRAVEL & TRNG/Mileage	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.07	-	-	-	17.07	982.93	1.7%		
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400243	TRAVEL & TRNG/Conf, Mtng Trng	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000.00	0.0%			
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400245	TRAVEL & TRNG/Tuition Rmb/Cer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	800.00	-	-	800.00	(800.00)	100.0%		
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400261	DUES & PUB/Memberships & Dues	6,000.00	6,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	544.00	1,046.43	-	-	1,590.43	4,409.57	26.5%		
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400262	DUES & PUB/Books & Subs	200.00	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200.00	0.0%			
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400271	AD & PROMO/Advertising&Promo	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	37.00	-	102.95	126.00	438.60	89.00	89.00	89.00	442.88	1,414.43	585.57	70.7%		
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400272	AD & PROMO/Community Events	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	-	-	1,722.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,722.10	777.90	68.9%		
42	PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	400280	ADM EXP/Program Supplies	-	-	(196.52)	213.84	-	96.00	208.36	312.04	96.00	96.00	96.00	286.46	1,208.18	(1,208.18)	100.0%		
			TOTAL PROF & ADMIN SERVICES	272,200.00	272,875.00	(196.52)	10,666.84	10,416.00	29,776.00	27,251.27	11,660.30	24,133.55	2,097.73	58,445.92	11,190.94	18,199.13		69,705.84	273,347.00	100.2%
43	OTHER OPERATING	400231	OFF EXP/Postage & Mailing	20,000.00	20,000.00	88.20	1,344.50	1,839.55	147.10	87.05	66.95	151.00	1,956.60	16.50	85.65	17.00	5,800.10	14,199.90	29.0%	
43	OTHER OPERATING	400232	OFF EXP/Printing & Binding	-	-	401.63	708.29	725.81	226.05	256.33	277.14	-	-	-	699.93	3,295.18	(3,295.18)	100.0%		
43	OTHER OPERATING	400233	OFF EXP/Copying & Duplicating	5,00																

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AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: Since March 2019, Bay Area Legal Aid has held weekly Housing Rights Clinics for low income Richmond Tenants and Landlords pursuant to a contract between the Rent Board and Bay Area Legal Aid commencing March 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. Contract amendments are necessary to amend the term of the contract and add funds for services in Fiscal Year 2020-21 in accordance with the budget adopted by the Rent Board on May 20, 2020.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

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|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Board As Whole | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application/Acceptance | <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Filed Against City of Richmond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759) | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE amendments to the contract for community legal services with Bay Area Legal Aid, increasing the contract amount by \$56,250 for Fiscal Year 2020-21, and modifying the term to commence on October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor/Paige Roosa 620-6564).

AGENDA ITEM NO:

F-4.

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AGENDA REPORT

DATE: June 17, 2020

TO: Chair Maddock and Members of the Rent Board

FROM: Nicolas Traylor, Executive Director
Paige Roosa, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH BAY AREA LEGAL AID FOR COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Since March 2019, Bay Area Legal Aid has held weekly Housing Rights Clinics for low income Richmond Tenants and Landlords pursuant to a contract between the Rent Board and Bay Area Legal Aid commencing March 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. Contract amendments are necessary to amend the term of the contract and add funds for services in Fiscal Year 2020-21 in accordance with the budget adopted by the Rent Board on May 20, 2020.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE amendments to the contract for community legal services with Bay Area Legal Aid, increasing the contract amount by \$56,250 for Fiscal Year 2020-21, and modifying the term to commence on October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor/Paige Roosa 620-6564).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed contract amendments shall be funded by the Fiscal Year 2010-21 Rent Program budget, adopted by the Rent Board on May 20, 2020. The adopted budget allocates \$200,000 for Community Services Agency Contracts, of which \$56,250 is proposed to be used to increase the payment limit for the Board's existing contract with Bay Area Legal Aid.

DISCUSSION:

Background

On November 14, 2018, following termination of the contract between the Rent Board and Centro Legal de la Raza, the Rent Board directed staff to negotiate and execute a contract with a replacement legal service provider. In accordance with the City's procurement process, on November 19, 2018, the Rent Program issued a Request for Proposals for Legal Services. The Rent Program received one proposal from a prospective service provider, Bay Area Legal Aid. Bay Area Legal Aid's Proposal was evaluated by a review committee based on the criteria articulated in the Request for Proposals for Legal Services, and a contract was executed with Bay Area Legal Aid on March 1, 2019, with an original term ending June 30, 2019. The contract has since been amended and expires on June 30, 2020.

Performance

The contract with Bay Area Legal Aid includes a Service Plan comprised of three major components¹:

1. **Activity #1 – Legal Clinic:** The creation and operation of a Legal Clinic in the City of Richmond to provide legal information and assistance regarding housing related legal issues that implicate the Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance (hereinafter, "Rent Ordinance") and accompanying Rules and Regulations. The Legal Clinic is designed to serve any Richmond Resident regardless of immigration status. Legal information and assistance includes, but is not limited to, the following issues: evictions, habitability, utilities, security deposits, reasonable accommodations, and other landlord/tenant concerns. Additionally, the Legal Clinic will assist eligible participants in drafting letters and other documents that implicate rights and obligations under the Rent Ordinance and accompanying Regulations. Finally, Bay Area Legal Aid appointed a supervising attorney to administer the Legal Clinic and ensure that each Legal Clinic is staffed by at least three (3) staff members.

The current contract indicates that Bay Area Legal Aid will provide 47 legal clinics and assist 157 eligible unduplicated participants. Between July 2019 and May 2020, Bay Area Legal Aid held 40 Housing Rights Clinics, at which they served 271 participants. It is anticipated that Bay Area Legal Aid will meet this anticipated service goal by the close of the fiscal year.

2. **Activity #2 – Supplemental Legal Clinic Services:** In addition to the Legal Clinic, Bay Area Legal Aid provides weekly intake sessions for households requiring more in-depth assessments and follow-up that they may not otherwise

¹ The following is not a comprehensive list and the reader should look to Attachment 1 for Bay Area Legal Aid's full description of services.

receive through the Legal Clinic. These services provide for more enhanced legal consultations that include more in-depth investigation and/or direct counsel intervention. This may include the filing of an administrative petition or submitting pertinent legal documents on behalf of an eligible client, and where feasible, extended legal representation in forums that includes, but is not limited to, negotiation, administrative hearings, trial, and/or affirmative litigation.

The current contract indicates that Bay Area Legal Aid will provide legal representation related to enforcement of the Rent Ordinance to 21 unduplicated participants. Between July 2019 and May 2020, Bay Area Legal Aid has provided legal representation related to enforcement of the Rent Ordinance to 32 eligible, unduplicated participants, effectively satisfying this service goal.

3. **Activity #3 – Referrals to Peer Legal Services Organizations:** Bay Area Legal Aid has developed and implemented a referral system whereby the Contractor coordinates with other housing legal service providers, other departments/services within the Contractor’s organization, and/or legal services organizations to supplement legal services that otherwise cannot be adequately provided under the Contract, with the goal of providing adequate wrap-around support to eligible participants.

The current contract indicates that Bay Area Legal Aid will provide 36 legal referrals to peer service providers, institutional internal services, and/or legal services organizations. Between July 2019 and May 2020, Bay Area Legal Aid has provided 48 referrals, effectively satisfying this service goal.

Proposed Contract Amendments

Staff members are recommending approval of contract amendments to (1) extend the term of the contract with Bay Area Legal Aid to June 30, 2021 (with the amended contract commencing on October 1, 2020) and (2) increase the payment limit of the contract by \$56,250 in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Rent Program budget.

Justification for Amended Contract Term October 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Since the establishment of the Rent Program in January 2017, the City of Richmond has advanced funds to the Rent Program on a temporary basis to assist the Rent Program financially at the beginning of the fiscal year, when expenses are incurred but revenue has yet to be collected. Typically, the Rent Program issues the majority of Rental Housing Fee invoices in September, with payment due in October. To that end, the City of Richmond has historically “floated” the Rent Program for the first two months of the fiscal year (July and August.) Funds are repaid as revenue is collected.

Diverting from this traditional practice, at their meeting on May 26, 2020, the Richmond City Council directed staff to cease advancing funds to the Rent Program in observation of the City’s enormous anticipated budget deficit for Fiscal Year 2020-21. This action by

ITEM F-4

the City Council has caused Rent Program staff to consider cost-saving measures, as well as use of the Rent Program's reserves, to ensure the Program does not run a deficit in the absence of the City's support. To avoid staff layoffs and service reductions, Rent Program staff members are recommending a temporary pause on Community Legal Services contracts until substantial revenue is collected to ensure affordability of the contracts. Bay Area Legal Aid may therefore use its discretion in providing assistance to Richmond Tenants during the temporary pause on financial funding from the Rent Program.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – Second Contract Amendment and Amendment History

Attachment 2 –Original Contract

**CITY OF RICHMOND RENT PROGRAM
CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Department: Rent Program	Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor
Project Manager E-mail: nicolas_traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us	Project Manager Phone No: (510) 620-6564
P.R. No: Vendor No: 1571	P.O./Contract No: 4689
Description of Services: Provide legal advice and advocacy to qualifying Low Income Richmond Residents for housing-related issues in connection with the Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance and related policies.	
Amendment No. 2 modifies the: (2nd or subsequent amendments attach Amendment History page)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Term, Payment Limit and Service Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Limit and Service Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Term and Service Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Plan

The parties to this Contract Amendment do mutually agree and promise as follows:

- Parties. The parties to this Contract Amendment are the City of Richmond Rent Board (Rent Board), and the following named Contractor:

Bay Area Legal Aid

Company Name: _____

Street Address: 1025 Macdonald Avenue _____

City, State, Zip Code: Richmond, CA 94801 _____

Contact Person: Adam Poe, Managing Attorney _____

Telephone: (510) 233-9954 Email: apoe@baylegal.org _____

Business License No: 40008976 / Expiration Date: December 31, 2020 _____

A California corporation, limited liability corporation general partnership, limited partnership, individual, non-profit corporation, individual dba as [specify:] _____
 other [specify:] _____

- Purpose. This Contract Amendment is being entered into to amend the Contract between Rent Board and Contractor which was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on February 20, 2019, which **original** term commenced on March 1, 2019 and terminates June 30, 2019 with an **original** contract payment limit of \$25,000.00. Said contract shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Original Contract" and is incorporated herein by reference.

- Original Contract Provisions. The parties hereto agree to continue to abide by those terms and conditions of the Original Contract, and any amendments thereto, which are unaffected by this Contract Amendment.

**ITEM F-4
ATTACHMENT 1**

4. Amendment Provisions. This Contract Amendment is subject to the Amendment Provisions attached hereto, which are incorporated herein by reference, and which control over any conflicting provisions of the Original Contract, or any amendment thereto.

5. City of Richmond Business License Active Status Maintained. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 7.04.030, the Contractor must maintain its City of Richmond business license for this Contract Amendment to be deemed to be in effect.

6. Insurance Coverage Updated and Maintained. Pursuant to the Original Contract, the Contractor shall provide the Rent Board with updated insurance certificates, and the Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage, for this Contract Amendment to be deemed to be in effect.

7. Signatures. These signatures attest the parties' agreement hereto:

CITY OF RICHMOND RENT BOARD:

CONTRACTOR:

Bay Area Legal Aid

By: _____

(*The Corporation Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President should sign on the line below.)

Title: Executive Director

By _____

I hereby certify that the Original Contract and this Amendment have been approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director.

Title: _____

(*The Corporation Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary should sign on the line below.)

By: _____
Rent Board Clerk

By: _____

Title: _____

Approved as to form:

(NOTE: Pursuant to California Corporations Code Section 313, if Contractor is a corporation or nonprofit organization, this Contract (1) should be signed by the Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President and the Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary; (2) should have both signatures conform to designated representative groups pursuant to Corporations Code Section 313.

By: _____
Staff Attorney

List of Attachments:

1. Amendment Provisions
2. Updated Insurance Certificates

Amendment No.

2

P.O./Contract No.

4689**AMENDMENT PROVISIONS (TERM, PAYMENT LIMIT AND SERVICE PLAN)**

1. Paragraph 2 (Term) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to extend the Contract term. Paragraph 2 of the Original Contract is amended to read as follows:

"2. Term. The effective date of this Contract is

March 1, 2019

(Insert original contract commencement date)

and it terminates

June 30, 2021

(Insert new contract termination date)

unless sooner terminated as provided herein."

2. Paragraph 3 (Payment Limit) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to increase the payment limit by \$ **56,250.00** . Paragraph 3 of the Original Contract is amended to read as follows:

"3. Payment Limit. Rent Board's total payments to Contractor under this Contract shall not exceed \$ **156,250.00** including expenses."

"The Rent Board shall not pay for services that exceed the Contract Payment Limit without the prior written approval of the Executive Director if the total Contract amount does not exceed \$10,000 or without the prior approval of the Rent Board if the total Contract amount is over \$10,000."

3. The Service Plan (Exhibit A) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to include the following tasks and/or services:

No changes to the service plan; however, new term of contract will commence October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Amendment No. 2 P.O./Contract No. 4689

AMENDMENT PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT HISTORY)

The **first** Contract Amendment was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on June 19, 2019 for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ 75,000.00 for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 100,000.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): June 30, 2020
- Service Plan

The **second** Contract Amendment was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on May 20, 2020 for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ 56,250.00 for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 156,250.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): June 30, 2021
- Service Plan

The **third** Contract Amendment was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on _____ for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ _____ for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 156,250.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): _____
- Service Plan

The **fourth** Contract Amendment was approved by City Council of the City of Richmond or executed by the City Manager on _____ for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ _____ for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 156,250.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): _____
- Service Plan

The **fifth** Contract Amendment was approved by City Council of the City of Richmond or executed by the City Manager on _____ for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ _____ for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 156,250.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): _____
- Service Plan

CITY OF RICHMOND RENT BOARD
STANDARD CONTRACT

Department: Rent Program		Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor	
Project Manager E-mail: nicolas_traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us		Project Manager Phone No: 620-6564	
Vendor No: 1571	PR No:	P.O./Contract No: 4689	
Description of Services: Provide legal advice and advocacy to qualifying Low Income Richmond Residents for housing related issues in connection with the Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance and other applicable Rent Board resolution, regulation, rules, and/or policies.			

The parties to this STANDARD CONTRACT do mutually agree and promise as follows:

1. Parties. The parties to this Contract are the City of Richmond Rent Board (herein referred to as the "RENT BOARD") and the following named Contractor:

Company Name: Bay Area Legal Aid

Street Address: 1025 Macdonald Avenue

City, State, Zip Code: Richmond, CA 94801

Contact Person: Adam Poe, Managing Attorney

Telephone: (510) 233-9954 ext. 2616 Email: apoe@baylegal.org

Business License No: 4000-8976 Expiration Date: 12-31-19

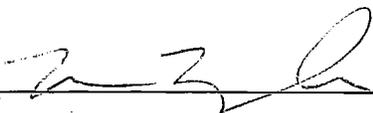
A California corporation, limited liability corporation general partnership, limited partnership, individual, non-profit corporation,
 individual dba as [specify:] _____
 other [specify:] _____

2. Term. The effective date of this Contract is March 1, 2019, and it terminates June 30, 2019, unless terminated as provided herein.
3. Payment Limit. RENT BOARD's total payments to Contractor under this Contract shall not exceed \$25,000. RENT BOARD shall not pay for services that exceed the Contract Payment Limit unless a contract amendment has been approved by the RENT BOARD or Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program.
4. Contractor's Obligations. Contractor shall provide those services and carry out that work described in the Service Plan (Exhibit A) which is attached hereto and is incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.
5. Rent Board Obligations. RENT BOARD shall make to the Contractor those payments described in the Payment Provisions (Exhibit B) which are attached hereto and are

incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.

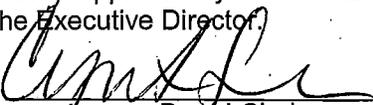
- 6. Authorized Representatives and Notices. This Contract is subject to the Authorized Representatives and Notices Provisions (Exhibit C) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 7. General Conditions. This Contract is subject to the General Conditions (Exhibit D) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.
- 8. Special Conditions. This Contract is subject to the Special Conditions (Exhibit E) (if any) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.
- 9. Insurance Provisions. This Contract is subject to the Insurance Provisions (Exhibit F) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference.
- 10. Signatures. These signatures attest the parties' Contract hereto:

RENT PROGRAM

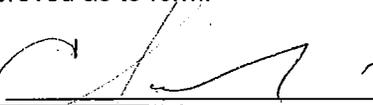


Title: Executive Director

I hereby certify that this Contract has been approved by the Rent Board or the Executive Director.

By: 
_____ Board Clerk

Approved as to form:

By: 
_____ Board Legal Counsel

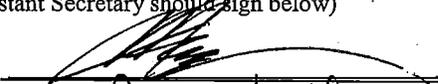
CONTRACTOR:


_____ (* The Corporation Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice President should sign below)

By: Genevieve Richardson
Title: President and Executive Director

Date Signed: 2/27/19

(* The Corporation Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary should sign below)

By: 
_____ Title: Chief financial Officer

Date Signed: 2/27/2019

(NOTE: Pursuant to California Corporations Code Section 313, if Contractor is a corporation or nonprofit organization, this Contract (1) must be signed by (a) the Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President and (b) the Secretary any Assistant Secretary, the Chief Financial Officer or any Assistant Treasurer.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| Service Plan | Exhibit A |
| Payment Provisions | Exhibit B |
| Authorized Representatives and Notices | Exhibit C |
| General Conditions | Exhibit D |
| Special Conditions | Exhibit E |
| Insurance Provisions | Exhibit F |

EXHIBIT A
SERVICE PLAN

1. **Scope of Services:** For purposes of this Service plan an eligible participant shall mean a Low-Income (as defined by HUD guidelines for Contra-Costa County) Richmond Resident who meets the Contractor's service criteria. Contractor shall provide and perform the services set forth below in a satisfactory and proper manner as determined by either **the RENT BOARD or Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program**, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract, as described below:

Activity No. 1: **Legal Clinic**

Create and Operate a Legal Clinic in the City of Richmond to provide legal information and assistance regarding housing related legal issues that implicate the Fair Rent, Just Cause, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance (hereinafter, "Rent Ordinance") and accompanying Rules and Regulations. Legal information and assistance will include, but is not limited to, the following issues: evictions, habitability, utilities, security deposits, reasonable accommodations, and other landlord/tenant concerns. Additionally, the Legal Clinic will assist eligible participants in drafting letters and other documents that implicate rights and obligations under the Rent Ordinance and accompanying Regulations. Finally, Contractor shall appoint a supervising attorney to administer the Legal Clinic and ensure that each Legal Clinic is staffed by at least three (3) staff members.

Activity No. 2: **Supplemental Legal Clinic Services**

Contractor will provide weekly intake sessions for households requiring more in-depth assessments and follow-up that they may not otherwise receive through the Legal Clinic. These services will provide for more enhanced legal consultations that include more in-depth investigation and/or direct counsel intervention. This may include the filing of an administrative petition or submitting pertinent legal documents on behalf of an eligible client, and where feasible, extended legal representation in forums that include, but are not limited to, mediation, negotiation, administrative hearings, trial, and/or affirmative litigation.

Activity No. 3: **Referrals to Peer Legal Services Organizations**

Develop and implement a referral system whereby Contractor coordinates with other housing legal service providers, other departments/services within Contractor's organization, and/or legal services organizations to supplement legal services that otherwise cannot be adequately provided under this Contract, with the goal of providing adequate wrap-around support to eligible participants.

2. **Goals:** Contractor agrees to adhere to the following descriptions of goals. Where applicable, the goals of this service plan shall be measured by the participation of unduplicated participants. An unduplicated participant shall mean an eligible participant who has received no more than one direct service during a given month on the same issue. An eligible participant may be counted as more than one unduplicated participant where that participant has received services on an issue unrelated to the original issue of the initial service.

Activity No. 1: Legal Clinic

During the duration of fiscal year 2018-2019, Contractor shall conduct at least one legal clinic per week for a total of at least 17 legal clinics. Additionally, within these legal clinics Contractor shall, at a minimum, provide sixty-four (64) eligible unduplicated participants with legal information and assistance.

Activity No. 2: Supplemental Legal Clinic Services

During the duration of fiscal year 2018-2019, Contractor shall, at a minimum, provide seven (7) eligible unduplicated participants with legal representation related to the enforcement of the Richmond Rent Ordinance.

Activity No. 3: Referrals to Peer Legal Services Organizations

During the duration of fiscal year 2018-2019, Contractor shall, at a minimum, provide for twelve (12) legal referrals to peer legal service providers, institutional internal services, and/or legal services organizations.

3. **Measurement:** To measure the success of this service plan, Contractor will track the following:
 - a. The number of participants (which includes unduplicated and duplicated participants) served during the duration of this Contract.
 - b. The categories of encountered legal issues and the outcomes or resolutions of those legal issues.
 - c. The categories of services provided including, but not limited to, drafting/assisting in responding to unlawful detainers, drafting/assisting in writing letters to landlords/tenants regarding habitability, reasonable accommodations, etc., drafting/assisting in completing administrative petitions, referrals, providing legal representation in negotiations, mediations, administrative hearings, trials and providing other types of brief legal services and advice.
4. **Outcomes:** Successful outcomes of this service plan shall be measured in three ways:
 - a. Contractor shall conduct participant surveys which measure satisfaction of services on a scale of one through five (1-5). Contractor must maintain an average score of three (3) to have been considered successful under this service plan.
 - b. Contractor shall obtain a favorable outcome in eighty percent (80%) of legal representation. For the purposes of this subsection, a favorable outcome means that Contractor helped legally represented clients exercise their legal rights by successfully preventing eviction or preserving housing.
 - c. Contractor shall obtain a favorable outcome in seventy-five (75%) of all participants served in the Legal Clinic. As used herein, a favorable outcome shall be measured by participants identified increased understanding of the Court or Rent Program process and their legal rights. Such measurement may be obtained through surveys or other acceptable common industry means.

5. **Intake Forms:** Contractor shall create an intake form to track eligible participant data. This form shall include, at a minimum, the client's name, address, contact information, race/ethnicity (optional), date of birth, language or other access to justice issues, monthly income and source, household information, monthly rent, landlord name, security deposit, move-in date, last time rent was paid/accepted, the type of notice the Tenant received, a description of the housing problem, and the client's goals. This form may also be used by Rent Program staff to make a direct referral to Contractor. The form may be faxed to Contractor with a follow-up call or email to confirm receipt. RENT BOARD agrees that these intakes and all eligible participant-related documents and information shall be subject to and protected by California's Attorney-Client Privilege and Attorney-Client Confidentiality. In the event RENT BOARD would like to review the client-related documents and/or obtain information related to clients served pursuant to this Contract, Contractor must be permitted sufficient time to comply with its duty to maintain attorney/client privilege and client confidentiality by either redacting the documents or obtain written authorization from the client to permit RENT BOARD to review the file. Furthermore, RENT BOARD agrees that a direct referral from the RENT BOARD does not impose any additional obligations upon Contractor for the provision of services.

6. **Reports:** Contractor shall submit monthly reports detailing the number of eligible participants served and pertinent data regarding their tenancies and demographics, as described in paragraphs one through four (1-4). These reports shall have client names and addresses redacted to preserve attorney/client privilege, with full records maintained at Contractors' office for review if necessary.

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EXHIBIT B
PAYMENT PROVISIONS

{PLEASE NOTE THAT THE RENT PROGRAM SHALL NOT PAY FOR SERVICES THAT EXCEED THE CONTRACT PAYMENT LIMIT UNLESS A CONTRACT AMENDMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE RENT BOARD OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR}

1. Provided Contractor is not in default under this Contract, Contractor shall be compensated \$6,250 per month, and will submit monthly invoices in accordance with the procedures as provided below.
2. Under no circumstances shall Contractor bill for travel time, unless pre-approved by the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program or their designee.
3. Any and all payments made pursuant to this Contract shall be subject to the Contract Payment Limit. The Payment Limit includes expenses (phones, photo copying, meals, etc.) Invoices, shall be adequately detailed, based on accurate records, and be in a form reasonably satisfactory to the RENT BOARD. Contractor may be required to provide back-up material upon request.
4. Contractor shall submit timely invoices to the following address:

Attention: City of Richmond Finance Department - Accounts Payable
Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor
P.O. Box 4046
Richmond, CA 94804
5. All invoices that are submitted by Contractor shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Director, Nicolas Traylor, before payments shall be authorized.
6. The RENT BOARD will pay invoice(s) within 45 days after completion of services to the RENT BOARD satisfaction. The RENT BOARD shall not pay late fees or interest.
7. A Richmond business license shall be obtained before any payment under this Contract shall be authorized and the business license must be kept current during the term of this Contract for payments to continue to be authorized.
8. All insurance coverage required by this Contract shall be provided by the Contractor before this Contract shall be executed by the RENT BOARD. The insurance coverage must be kept current during the term of this Contract for payments to continue to be authorized.

EXHIBIT C
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES AND NOTICES

1. Notices. All notices, demands, statements, or communications provided for by this Contract shall be in writing and may be delivered by deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid. Notices to the RENT BOARD shall be addressed to the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program, as delineated below in section 1.1, who is responsible for the administration of or the supervision of the scope of work under this Contract. Notices to the Contractor shall be addressed to the party designated by Contractor (as delineated below in section 1.2). Notice shall be deemed delivered (a) upon personal delivery; (b) as of the fifth business day after mailing by United States certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the proper party; or (c) as of 12:00 p.m. on the second business day immediately after the day it is deposited with and accepted by Federal Express, or a similar overnight courier service, addressed to the proper party and marked for next business day morning delivery. For the purposes of this Contract, a "business day" means any day Monday through Friday that is not a holiday recognized by the federal government or the State of California.

1.1 RENT BOARD hereby designates as its Authorized Representative the Project Manager whose name and address are as follows:

Nicolas Traylor

City Of Richmond Rent Program, 440 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 200

Richmond, CA 94804

1.2 CONTRACTOR hereby designates as its Authorized Representative the Project Manager whose name and address are as follows:

EXHIBIT D
GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Independent Contractor. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor is not a regular or temporary employee, joint venturer or partner of the RENT BOARD, but rather an independent Contractor. This Contract shall not be construed to create an agency, servant, employee, partnership, or joint venture relationship. As an independent Contractor, Contractor shall have no authority to bind RENT BOARD to any obligation or to act as RENT BOARD'S agent except as expressly provided herein. Due to the independent Contractor relationship created by this Contract, RENT BOARD shall not withhold state or federal income taxes, the reporting of which shall be Contractor's sole responsibility.
2. Brokers. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor has not hired, retained or agreed to pay any entity or person any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Contract.
3. City Property. The rights to applicable plans, drawings, reports, calculations, data, specifications, videos, graphics or other materials prepared for or obtained pursuant to this Contract, which, upon request, are to be delivered to RENT BOARD within a reasonable time, shall be deemed assigned to RENT BOARD. If applicable, Contractor shall prepare check prints upon request. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor shall not be obligated to provide to RENT BOARD proprietary software or data which Contractor has developed or had developed for Contractor's own use; provided, however, that Contractor shall, pursuant to Section 15 below, indemnify, defend and hold harmless RENT BOARD from and against any discovery or Public Records Act request seeking the disclosure of such proprietary software or data.
4. Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights and Rights in Data. Contractor shall not publish or transfer any materials, discoveries, developments, concepts, designs, ideas, know how, improvements, inventions and/or original works of authorship resulting from activities supported by this Contract without the express prior written consent of the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program. If anything resulting from activities supported by this Contract is patentable, trademarkable, copyrightable or otherwise legally protectable, RENT BOARD reserves the exclusive right to seek such intellectual property rights. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor may, after receiving RENT BOARD's prior written consent, seek patent, trademark, copyright or other intellectual property rights on anything resulting from activities supported by this Contract. However, RENT BOARD reserves, and Contractor irrevocably grants, a nonexclusive, fully paid-up, royalty-free, assumable, perpetual, worldwide license, with the right to transfer, sublicense, practice and exploit said license and the right to make, have made, copy, modify, make derivative works of, use, sell, import, and otherwise distribute under all applicable intellectual properties without restriction of any kind said license. This paragraph shall not apply to any Know Your Rights materials and/or attorney-work product resulting from this Contract. Contractor further agrees to assist RENT BOARD, not at RENT BOARD's expense, in every proper way to secure the RENT BOARD's in any patents, trademarks, copyrights or other intellectual property rights relating thereto, including the disclosure to RENT BOARD of all pertinent information and data with respect thereto. Contractor shall also assist RENT BOARD in the execution of all applications, specifications, oaths, assignments, recordations, and all other instruments which RENT

BOARD shall deem necessary in order to apply for, obtain, maintain and transfer such rights, or if not transferable, to waive such rights. Contractor shall further assist RENT BOARD in the execution of all applications, specifications, oaths, assignments, recordations and all other instruments which RENT BOARD shall deem necessary in order to assign and convey to RENT BOARD, and any assigns and nominees the sole and exclusive right, title and interest in and to any patents, trademarks, copyrights or other intellectual property rights relating thereto. Contractor further agrees that its obligation to execute or cause to be executed, when it is in Contractor's power to do so, any such instruments or papers shall continue during and at all times after the end of Contractor's services and until the expiration of the last such intellectual property right. Contractor hereby irrevocably designates and appoints RENT BOARD, and its duly authorized officers, agents and servants, as its agent and attorney-in-fact, to act for and in its behalf and stead to execute and file any such applications and to do all other lawfully permitted acts to further the application for, prosecution, issuance, maintenance or transfer of letters of patents, copyright and other registrations. This power of attorney is coupled with an interest and shall not be affected by Contractor's subsequent incapacity.

5. Inspection. Contractor's performance, place of business and records pertaining to this Contract are subject to monitoring, inspection, review and audit by authorized representatives of the RENT BOARD, the State of California, and the United States Government. If the project or services set forth in Exhibit A shall be performed on RENT BOARD or other public property, RENT BOARD shall have the right to inspect such work without notice. If such project or services shall not be performed on RENT BOARD or other public property, RENT BOARD shall have the right to inspect such work upon reasonable notice, subject to Bay Area Legal Aid's duty to maintain attorney/client privilege and client confidentiality.
6. Services. The project or services set forth in Exhibit A shall be performed to the full satisfaction and approval of RENT BOARD. In the event that the project or services set forth in Exhibit A are also itemized by price, RENT BOARD, in its sole discretion, may, upon notice to Contractor, delete certain items or services set forth in Exhibit A, in which case there shall be a corresponding reduction in the amount of compensation paid to Contractor. Contractor shall, at its own cost and expense, furnish all facilities and equipment necessary for Contractor to complete the project or perform the services required herein, unless otherwise provided in Exhibit A.
7. Records. Contractor shall keep and make available for inspection and copying by authorized representatives of the RENT BOARD, the State of California, and the United States Government, the Contractor's regular business records and such additional records pertaining to this Contract as may be required by the RENT BOARD, subject to Contractor's duty to maintain attorney/client privilege and client confidentiality.

Contractor shall retain all documents pertaining to this Contract for a period of five (5) years after this Contract's termination (or for any further period that is required by law) and until all Federal or State audits are complete and exceptions resolved for this contract's funding period. Upon request, Contractor shall make these records available to authorized representatives of the RENT BOARD, the State of California, and the United States Government, subject to Contractor's duty to maintain attorney/client privilege and client confidentiality.

Contractor shall keep full and detailed accounts, maintain records, and exercise such controls as may be necessary for proper financial management under this Contract. The Contractor's accounting and control systems shall be satisfactory to RENT BOARD. Contractor's accounting systems shall conform to generally accepted accounting principles and all records shall provide a breakdown of total costs charged under this Contract, including properly executed payrolls, time records, utility bills, invoices and vouchers. The RENT BOARD shall be afforded prompt access to Contractor's records, books, and Contractor shall preserve such project records for a period of at least five (5) years after the termination of this Contract, or for such longer period as may be required by law.

Contractor shall permit RENT BOARD and its authorized representatives and accountants to inspect, examine and copy Contractor's books, records, accounts, correspondence, instructions, drawings, receipts, subcontracts, purchase orders, vouchers, memoranda and other data relating to the project or services set forth in Exhibit A, and any and all data relevant to this Contract at any reasonable time for the purpose of auditing and verifying statements, invoices, or bills submitted by Contractor pursuant to this Contract and shall provide such assistance as may be reasonably required in the course of such inspection. Contractor shall also allow RENT BOARD access to the record keeping and accounting personnel of Contractor:

RENT BOARD further reserves the right to examine and re-examine said books, records, accounts, and data during the five (5) year period following the termination of this Contract; and Contractor shall in no event dispose of, destroy, alter, or mutilate said books, records, accounts, and data in any manner whatever for five (5) years after the termination of this Contract. Pursuant to California Government Code § 10527, the parties to this Contract shall be subject to the examination and audit of representatives of the Auditor General of the State of California for a period of three (3) years after final payment under this Contract. The examination and audit shall be confined to those matters connected with the performance of this Contract including, but not limited to, the cost of administering this Contract.

8. Changes and Extra Work. All changes and/or extra work under this Contract shall be performed and paid for in accordance with the following:

Only the RENT BOARD or Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program, may authorize extra and/or changed work. Contractor expressly recognizes that other City of Richmond personnel are without authorization to either order extra and/or changed work or waive contract requirements. Failure of Contractor to secure the authorization for such extra and/or changed work shall constitute a waiver of any and all right to adjustment in contract price due to such unauthorized work and Contractor thereafter shall be entitled to no compensation whatsoever for performance of such extra and/or changed work.

If Contractor is of the opinion that any work which Contractor has been directed to perform is beyond the scope of this Contract and constitutes extra work, Contractor shall promptly notify RENT BOARD or the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program of the fact. The RENT BOARD or the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program shall make a determination as to whether or not such work is, in fact, beyond the scope of this Contract and constitutes extra work. In the event that RENT BOARD or the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program determines that such work does constitute extra work, RENT BOARD shall provide extra compensation to Contractor on a fair and equitable basis. A

change order or Contract Amendment providing for such compensation for extra work shall be negotiated between RENT BOARD and Contractor and executed by Contractor and the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program.

In the event RENT BOARD or the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program determines that such work does not constitute extra work, Contractor shall not be paid extra compensation above that provided herein and if such determination is made by the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program staff, said determination may be appealed to the RENT BOARD; provided, however, a written appeal must be submitted to the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program within five (5) days after the determination is sent to Contractor. Said written appeal shall include a description of each and every ground upon which Contractor challenges the staff's determination.

9. Additional Assistance. If this Contract requires Contractor to prepare plans and specifications, Contractor shall provide assistance as necessary to resolve any questions regarding such plans and specifications that may arise during the period of advertising for bids, and Contractor shall issue any necessary addenda to the plans and specifications as requested. In the event Contractor is of the opinion that RENT BOARD's requests for addenda and assistance is outside the scope of normal services, the parties shall proceed in accordance with the changes and extra work provisions of Section 8 of these General Conditions.
10. Professional Ability. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor and its employees are skilled and able to competently provide the services hereunder, and possess all professional licenses, certifications, and approvals necessary to engage in their occupations. RENT BOARD has relied upon the professional ability and training of Contractor as a material inducement to enter into this Contract. Contractor shall perform in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and standards of Contractor's profession. In the event that RENT BOARD, in its sole discretion, desires the removal of any person employed or retained by Contractor to perform services hereunder, such person shall be removed immediately upon receiving notice from RENT BOARD.
11. Business License. Contractor shall obtain a Richmond Business License before performing any services required under this Contract. The failure to so obtain such license shall be a material breach of this Contract and grounds for immediate termination by RENT BOARD; provided, however, that RENT BOARD may waive the business license requirement in writing under unusual or extraordinary circumstances without necessitating any modification of this Contract to reflect such waiver.
12. Termination Without Default. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, RENT BOARD and or Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program may, in its sole and absolute discretion and without cause, terminate this Contract at any time prior to completion by Contractor of the project or services hereunder, immediately upon written notice to Contractor. Contractor may terminate this Contract at any time in its sole and absolute discretion and without cause upon 30 days' written notice to RENT BOARD. In the event of termination by either party, Contractor shall be compensated for: (1) all authorized work satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination; (2) necessary materials or services of others ordered by Contractor for this Contract, prior to receipt of notice of termination, irrespective of whether such materials or services of others have actually been delivered, provided that Contractor is not able to cancel such orders. Compensation for Contractor in such event shall be determined by RENT BOARD in accordance with the

percentage of the project or services completed by Contractor; and all of Contractor's finished or unfinished work product through the time of the RENT BOARD's last payment shall be transferred and assigned to RENT BOARD. Additionally, in the event of such termination, the RENT BOARD may proceed with the work in any reasonable manner it chooses.

13. Termination in the Event of Default. Should Contractor fail to perform any of its obligations hereunder, within the time and in the manner provided or otherwise violate any of the terms of this Contract, RENT BOARD or Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program may immediately terminate this Contract by giving written notice of such termination, stating the reasons for such termination. Contractor shall be compensated as provided in Section 12 of these General Conditions; provided, however, there shall be deducted from such amount the amount of damage, including attorney's fees, expert witness fees and costs, if any, sustained by RENT BOARD by virtue of Contractor's breach of this Contract. Additionally, in the event of such termination, the RENT BOARD may proceed with the work in any reasonable manner it chooses.
14. Conflict of Interest. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor shall avoid all conflicts of interest (as defined under any federal, state or local statute, rule or regulation, or at common law) with respect to this Contract. Contractor further acknowledges, represents and warrants that no RENT BOARD official or employee has any economic interest, as defined in Title 2, California Code of Regulations §§ 18703.1 through 18703.5, with Contractor that would invalidate this Contract. Contractor acknowledges that in the event that Contractor shall be found by any judicial or administrative body to have any conflict of interest (as defined above) with respect to this Contract, all consideration received under this Contract shall be forfeited and returned to RENT BOARD forthwith. This provision shall survive the termination of this Contract for one (1) year.
15. Indemnification. (a) If this Contract is a contract for design professional services subject to California Civil Code Section 2782.8(a) and Contractor is a design professional, as defined in California Civil Code Section 2782.8(b)(2), Contractor shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify the RENT BOARD, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, and expenses including attorneys' fees arising out of, or pertaining to, or relating to the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Contractor, except where caused by the active negligence, sole negligence, or willful misconduct of the RENT BOARD. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall immediately defend and indemnify the RENT BOARD and its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all liabilities, regardless of nature or type, that arise out of, pertain to, or relate to the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Contractor, or its employees, agents, or subcontractors. Liabilities subject to the duties to defend and indemnify include, without limitation, any and all claims, losses, damages, penalties, fines, and judgments; associated investigation and administrative expenses; defense costs, including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees; court costs; and costs of alternative dispute resolution. Contractor's obligation to indemnify applies unless it is finally adjudicated that the liability was caused by the sole active negligence or sole willful misconduct of an indemnified party.
- (b) If this Contract is not a contract for design professional services subject to California Civil Code Section 2782.8(a) or Contractor is not a design professional as defined in California Civil Code Section 2782.8(b)(2), Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the RENT BOARD, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers from any and all claims, suits,

or actions of every name, kind and description, brought forth on account of injuries to or death of any person or damage to property arising from or connected with the willful misconduct, negligent acts, errors or omissions, ultra-hazardous activities, activities giving rise to strict liability, or defects in design by Contractor or any person directly or indirectly employed by, or acting as, the agent for Contractor in the performance of this Contract, including the concurrent or successive passive negligence of the RENT BOARD, its officers, agents, employees or volunteers.

(c) It is understood that the duty of Contractor to indemnify and hold harmless includes the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code. Contractor shall be obligated to defend, in all legal, equitable, administrative, or special proceedings, with counsel approved by the RENT BOARD, the RENT BOARD and its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, immediately upon tender to Contractor of the claim in any form or at any stage of an action or proceeding, whether or not liability is established. An allegation or determination that persons other than Contractor are responsible for the claim does not relieve Contractor from its separate and distinct obligation to defend under this Section 15. The obligation to defend extends through final judgment, including exhaustion of any appeals. The defense obligation includes an obligation to provide independent counsel if Contractor asserts that liability is caused in whole, or in part, by the negligence or willful misconduct of an indemnified party.

(d) The review, acceptance or approval of the Contractor's work or work product by any indemnified party shall not affect, relieve or reduce the Contractor's indemnification or defense obligations. This Section 15 survives completion of the services or the termination of this Contract. The provisions of this Section 15 are not limited by, and do not affect, the provisions of this Contract relating to insurance.

(e) Acceptance of insurance certificates and endorsements required under this Contract does not relieve Contractor from liability under this Section 15. This Section 15 shall apply whether or not such insurance policies are determined to be applicable to any such damages or claims for damages.

16. Safety. Contractor acknowledges that the RENT BOARD is committed to the highest standards of workplace safety. Contractor shall perform all work hereunder in full compliance with applicable local, state and federal safety requirements including but not limited to Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements, and shall assume sole and complete responsibility for the safety of Contractor's employees and any subcontractor's employees. If a death, serious personal injury or substantial property damage occurs in connection with the performance of this Contract, Contractor shall immediately notify the RENT BOARD by telephone.
17. Insurance. Insurance requirements are set forth in Exhibit F to this Contract. Contractor shall abide by the insurance requirements set forth in said Exhibit F.
18. Non-Liability of Officials and Employees of the Rent Board. No official or employee of the RENT BOARD shall be personally liable for any default or liability under this Contract.
19. Compliance with Laws. Contractor shall comply with all federal, state and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, and the orders and decrees of any courts or administrative bodies or tribunals, with respect to this Contract, including without limitation

environmental laws, employment discrimination laws and prevailing wage laws. Compliance under this provision includes compliance with all provisions of the Richmond Municipal Code ("Municipal Code"), including Chapters 2.50, 2.52, 2.56, and 2.60, if applicable.

Contractor acknowledges that under § 2.60.070 of the Municipal Code ("Living Wage Ordinance"), Contractor shall promptly provide to RENT BOARD documents and information verifying its compliance with the Living Wage Ordinance. Also as prescribed in § 2.60.070, Contractor shall notify each of its affected employees with regards to the wages that are required to be paid pursuant to the Living Wage Ordinance.

Contractor shall comply with § 2.28.030 of the Municipal Code, obligating every Contractor or subcontractor under a contract or subcontract with the RENT BOARD for public work or for goods or for services to refrain from discriminatory employment or subcontracting practices on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religious creed, national origin or ancestry of any employee, any applicant for employment or any potential subcontractor.

Contractor acknowledges that the RENT BOARD's Drug Free Workplace Policy, Violence in the Workplace Policy and the Policy Against Workplace Harassment, are available on the RENT BOARD's website at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/workplacepolicies>. Contractor agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of said policies.

20. Limitations upon Subcontracting and Assignment. This Contract binds the heirs, successors, assigns and representatives of Contractor. The Contractor shall not enter into subcontracts for any work contemplated under this Contract and shall not assign this Contract, nor any portion hereof or monies due or to become due, without the prior written consent of the RENT BOARD or its designee.

Contractor acknowledges that the services which Contractor shall provide under this Contract are unique, personal services which, except as otherwise provided herein, Contractor shall not assign or sublet to any other party without the prior written approval of RENT BOARD, which approval may be withheld in RENT BOARD's sole and absolute discretion. In the event that RENT BOARD, in writing, approves any assignment or subletting of this Contract or the retention of subcontractors by Contractor, Contractor shall provide to RENT BOARD upon request copies of each and every subcontract contract prior to the execution thereof by Contractor and subcontractor. Any assignment by Contractor of any or all of its rights under this Contract without first obtaining RENT BOARD's prior written consent shall be a default under this Contract.

The sale, assignment, transfer or other disposition of any of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Contractor (if applicable), or of the interest of any general partner or joint venturer or syndicate member if Contractor is a partnership or joint-venture or syndicate, which shall result in a change of control of Contractor, shall be deemed an assignment. For this purpose, control shall mean fifty percent or more of the voting power or twenty-five percent or more of the assets of the corporation, partnership or joint-venture.

21. Integration. This Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes any previous oral or written agreement; provided, however, that correspondence or documents exchanged between Contractor and RENT BOARD may be used to assist in the interpretation of the Exhibits to this Contract.

22. Modifications and Amendments. This Contract may be modified or amended only by a change order or Contract Amendment executed by both parties and approved as to form by the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Program or designated Staff Attorney.
23. Conflicting Provisions. In the event of a conflict between these General Conditions and those of any Exhibit or attachment hereto, these General Conditions shall prevail; provided, however, that any Special Conditions as set forth in Exhibit E shall prevail over these General Conditions. In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of any two or more Exhibits or attachments hereto, those prepared by RENT BOARD shall prevail over those prepared by the Contractor, and the terms and conditions preferred by the RENT BOARD shall prevail over those preferred by the Contractor.
24. Non-exclusivity. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, the services provided by Contractor hereunder shall be non-exclusive, and RENT BOARD reserves the right to employ other Contractors in connection with the project.
25. Exhibits. All Exhibits hereto are made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that any language in Exhibit A which does not pertain to the project description, proposal, scope of services, or method of compensation (as applicable), or any corresponding responsibilities of RENT BOARD, shall be deemed extraneous to, and not a part of, this Contract.
26. Force Majeure. Neither party hereto shall be considered in default in the performance of its obligations hereunder to the extent that the performance of such an obligation is prevented or delayed by reason of acts of God, strikes, boycotts, lock-outs, inability to procure materials not related to the price thereof, failure of power, restrictive governmental laws and regulations enacted after the date of this Contract, riots, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, insurrection, war, declaration of a state or national emergency or other reasons of a like nature not within the reasonable control of such party.
27. Time of the Essence. Time is of the essence of this Contract. Contractor and RENT BOARD agree that any time period set forth in Exhibit A represents their best estimates with respect to completion dates and both Contractor and RENT BOARD acknowledge that departures from the schedule may occur. Therefore, both Contractor and RENT BOARD will use reasonable efforts to notify one another of changes to the schedule. Contractor shall not be responsible for performance delays caused by others, or delays beyond Contractor's control, and such delays shall extend the times for performance of Contractor's work.
28. Confidentiality. Contractor agrees to comply with, and to require its employees, agents and partners to comply with, all applicable State or Federal statutes or regulations respecting confidentiality, including but not limited to, the identity of persons served under this Contract, their records, or services provided them, and assures that:

All applications and records concerning any individual made or kept by Contractor or any public officer or agency in connection with the administration of or relating to services provided under this Contract will be confidential, and will not be open to examination for any purposes not directly connected with the administration of such service.

No person will publish or disclose or permit or cause to be published or disclosed, any list of persons receiving services, except as may be required in the administration of such service.

29. Third Parties. Nothing herein shall be interpreted as creating any rights or benefits in any third parties. For purposes hereof, transferees or assignees as permitted under this Contract shall not be considered "third parties."
30. Governing Law. This Contract shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of California without regard to principles of conflicts of law. This Contract is made in Contra Costa County, California, and any action relating to this Contract shall be instituted and prosecuted in the courts of Contra Costa County, California.
31. Nonrenewal. Contractor understands and agrees that there is no representation, implication, or understanding that the services provided by Contractor under this Contract will be purchased or renewed by the RENT BOARD under a new contract following expiration or termination of this Contract, and waives all rights or claims to notice or hearing respecting any failure by RENT BOARD to continue the purchase of all or any failure to continue purchase of all or any such services from Contractor.
32. Claims. Any claim by Contractor against RENT BOARD hereunder shall be subject to Government Code §§ 800 et seq. The claims presentation provisions of said Act are hereby modified such that the presentation of all claims hereunder to the RENT BOARD shall be waived if not made within six months after accrual of the cause of action.
33. Interpretation. This Contract shall be interpreted as if drafted by both parties.
34. Warranty. In the event that any product shall be provided to the RENT BOARD as part of this Contract, Contractor warrants as follows: Contractor possesses good title to the product and the right to transfer the product to RENT BOARD; the product shall be delivered to the RENT BOARD free from any security interest or other lien; the product meets any specifications contained herein; the product shall be free from material defects in materials and workmanship under normal use for a period of one (1) year from the date of delivery; and the product shall be fit for its intended purpose(s). Notwithstanding the foregoing, consumable and maintenance items (such as light bulbs and batteries) shall be warranted for a period of one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of delivery. All repairs during the warranty period shall be promptly performed by Contractor, at Contractor's expense, including shipping.
35. Severability. In the event that any of the provisions or portions or applications thereof of this Contract are held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, RENT BOARD and Contractor shall negotiate an equitable adjustment in the provisions of the Contract with a view toward effectuating the purpose of this Contract, and the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions or portions or applications thereof, shall not be affected thereby.
36. Authority. RENT BOARD warrants and represents that the signatory hereto (the Executive Director of the Richmond Rent Board) is duly authorized to enter into and execute this

Contract on behalf of RENT BOARD. The party signing on behalf of Contractor warrants and represents that he or she is duly authorized to enter into and execute this Contract on behalf of Contractor, and shall be personally liable to RENT BOARD if he or she is not duly authorized to enter into and execute this Contract on behalf of Contractor.

37. Waiver. The waiver by RENT BOARD of any breach of any term or provision of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach. Inspections or approvals, or statements by any officer, agent or employee of the RENT BOARD relating to the Contractor's performance, or payments therefore, or any combination of these acts, shall not relieve the Contractor's obligation to fulfill this Contract as prescribed; nor shall the RENT BOARD be thereby stopped from bringing any action for damages or enforcement arising from any failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Contract.
38. Possessory Interest. If this Contract results in the Contractor having possession of, claim to or right to the possession of land or improvements, but does not vest ownership of the land or improvements in the same person, or if this Contract results in the placement of taxable improvements on tax exempt land (Revenue and Taxation Code 107), such interest or improvements may represent a possessory interest subject to property tax, and Contractor may be subject to the payment of property taxes levied on such interest.
39. Performance and Final Acceptance. Contractor represents that it is experienced, qualified, registered, licensed, equipped, organized and financed to perform the services under this Contract. Contractor shall perform the services under this Contract with that degree of skill and judgment normally exercised by professional firms performing services of a similar nature in the State of California, and shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy and coordination of the services it performs under this Contract. In addition to the other rights and remedies which RENT BOARD may have, Contractor shall, at its own expense, correct any services which fail to meet the above standard.

RENT BOARD shall provide Contractor an opportunity to cure errors and omission which may be disclosed during the review of submittals, with no increase in the authorized Contract Payment Limit. Should Contractor fail to make necessary corrections in a timely manner, such corrections shall be made by the RENT BOARD and the cost thereof shall be charged to Contractor.

If warranted, RENT BOARD shall determine, and Contractor may request such determination, that Contractor has satisfactorily completed performance of this Contract. Upon such determination, RENT BOARD shall issue to Contractor a written Notice of Final Acceptance, after which Contractor shall not incur further costs under this Contract. Contractor shall respond to such Notice of Final Acceptance by executing and submitting to RENT BOARD a Release and Certificate of Final Payment.

40. Survival. The rights and obligations of the parties which by their nature survive termination or completion of the services covered by this Contract shall remain in full force and effect after termination or completion.

**EXHIBIT F
INSURANCE PROVISIONS**

During the entire term of this Contract and any extension or modification thereof, the CONTRACTOR shall keep in effect insurance policies meeting the insurance requirements specified in the insurance provisions which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

In all instances where CONTRACTOR or its representatives will provide professional services to the City of Richmond (City), the City requires the following MINIMUM insurance requirements and limits.

CONTRACTOR shall procure and maintain for the duration of the contract, agreement, or other order for work, services or supplies, insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder and the results of that work by the CONTRACTOR, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors.

Minimum coverage is detailed below. Original, signed certificates and original, separate policy endorsements, shall be received and approved by the City before any work may begin.

Minimum Scope of Insurance – the following coverage shall be provided and coverage shall be at least as broad as the following:

1. Workers' Compensation Insurance as required by the State of California and Employer's Liability
2. Professional Liability or Errors & Omissions Liability insurance appropriate to the CONTRACTOR's profession
3. Insurance Services Office Commercial General Liability coverage (ISO Occurrence Form CG 0001)
4. Insurance Services Office Automobile Liability coverage (ISO Form CA 0001, Code 1, Any Auto)

Required Coverage	Minimum Limits
Workers' Compensation	Statutory. If CONTRACTOR is self-insured, provide a certificate of Permission to Self-Insure, signed by the Department of Industrial Relations and Self-Insurance, Sacramento, California.
Employers' Liability	\$1,000,000 per accident, per employee for bodily injury or disease
General Liability <i>(primary and excess limits combined)</i>	\$2,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. Includes coverage for bodily injury, personal injury and property damage. If the policy includes a general aggregate, either the general aggregate shall apply separately to this project, service or location or the minimum required aggregate limit shall be twice the per occurrence limit. Policy shall also include coverage for liability arising out of the use and operation of any City-owned or City-furnished equipment used or operated by the CONTRACTOR, its personnel, agents or subcontractors. Policy shall be endorsed to name the City of Richmond as an additional insured per the conditions detailed below.
Automobile Liability	\$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage. Policy shall be endorsed to name the City of Richmond as an additional insured per the language detailed below.
Professional Liability or Errors & Omissions Liability	\$1,000,000 per occurrence with a \$2,000,000 aggregate for bodily injury and property damage. Architects and Engineers coverage shall be endorsed to include contractual liability.

Required Policy Conditions	
A. M. Best Rating	A:VII or Better
Admitted Carrier	Policies must be with carriers admitted to do business in California.
Waiver of Subrogation endorsement	Contractor's insurer will provide a Waiver of Subrogation in favor of the City for each required policy providing coverage during the life of this contract. SAMPLE Endorsements attached.
Additional Insured Endorsement	Liability insurance coverages, except Professional Liability, Errors and Omissions, or Workers' Compensation, if included, required for performance of the Contract shall include the City of Richmond, its officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers as Additional Insureds but only with respect to the CONTRACTOR's activities to be performed under this Contract. ISO form CG 1020 (11/85) or its equivalent is required. If the Contractor is supplying their product or providing a service then the endorsement must not exclude products and completed operations

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

	<i>coverage. If it does, then CG 20 37 (10/01) is also required. SAMPLE Endorsements are attached.</i>
Primary and Noncontributory Endorsement	The CONTRACTOR's insurance coverage must be primary coverage as it pertains to the City, its officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers. Any insurance or self insurance maintained by the City is wholly separate from the insurance of the contractor and in no way relieves the CONTRACTOR from its responsibility to provide insurance.
Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions	Any deductible or self-insured retention must be declared to and approved by the City. At the option of the City either the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductibles or self-insured retention as respects the City or the CONTRACTOR shall procure a financial guarantee in an amount equal to the deductible or self-insured retention guaranteeing payment of losses and related investigations, claims administration and defense expenses.

Subcontractors

CONTRACTOR shall include all subcontractors as insured under its policies or shall furnish to the City for review and approval, separate certificates and endorsements for each subcontractor. All coverage for subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein.

Verification of Coverage

All original certificates and endorsements shall be received and approved by the City before work may begin. The City of Richmond reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies including endorsements affecting the coverage at any time.

Original insurance certificates and required policy endorsements shall be mailed or delivered to the Designated Project Manager, 1401 Marina Way South, Richmond, CA 94804.

Insurance certificates and endorsements may be faxed to (510) 620-6811. However, original certificates and endorsements mailed to the above address must follow any faxed certificates or endorsements.

Continuous Coverage

CONTRACTOR shall maintain the required insurance for the life of the contract. Should the CONTRACTOR cease to have insurance as required during this time, all work by the CONTRACTOR pursuant to this agreement shall cease until insurance acceptable to the City is provided. In the event that CONTRACTOR fails to comply with the City's insurance requirements, the City may take such action as it deems necessary to protect the City's interests. Such action may include but is not limited to termination of the contract, withholding of payments, or other actions as the City deems appropriate.

If services or the scope of work extend beyond the expiration dates of the required insurance policies initially approved by the City, CONTRACTOR must provide updated certificates and endorsements indicating that the required coverage, terms and conditions are still in place. Renewal certificates and updated endorsements shall be mailed to the address noted above.

Consistent with Public Policy

The insuring provisions, insofar as they may be judged to be against public policy shall be void and unenforceable only to the minimum extent necessary so that the remaining terms and provisions herein may be consistent with public policy and thus enforceable.

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

ACORD™	CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE	DATE (MM/DD/YY)
PRODUCER	THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW.	
	INSURERS AFFORDING COVERAGE	
INSURED	INSURER A: INSURER B: INSURER C: INSURER D: INSURER E:	

COVERAGES

THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. AGGREGATE LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INS R LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE (MM/DD/YY)	POLICY EXPIRATION DATE (MM/DD/YY)	LIMITS																
	GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC				EACH OCCURRENCE \$ FIRE DAMAGE (Any one fire) \$ MED EXPENSE (Any one person) \$ PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ PRODUCTS-COMP/OP AGG \$																
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS				COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$																
	GARAGE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO				AUTO ONLY-EA ACCIDENT \$ OTHER THAN EA ACC \$ AUTO ONLY: AGG \$																
	EXCESS LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE <input type="checkbox"/> DEDUCTIBLE RETENTION \$				EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$																
	WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS LIABILITY				<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center;">WC STATU- TORY LIMITS</td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none; text-align: center;">OTHER</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> <td style="border: none;"></td> </tr> </table> E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$		WC STATU- TORY LIMITS		OTHER												
	WC STATU- TORY LIMITS		OTHER																		
	OTHER																				

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS/LOCATIONS/VEHICLES/EXCLUSIONS ADDED BY ENDORSEMENT/SPECIAL/PROVISIONS

CERTIFICATE HOLDER	ADDITIONAL INSURED; INSURER LETTER:	CANCELLATION
		SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, THE ISSUING INSURER WILL ENDEAVOR TO MAIL _____ DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NAMED TO THE LEFT, BUT FAILURE TO DO SO SHALL IMPOSE NO OBLIGATION OR LIABILITY OF ANY KIND UPON THE INSURER, ITS AGENTS OR REPRESENTATIVES. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

IMPORTANT

If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

DISCLAIMER

The Certificate of Insurance on the reverse side of this form does not constitute a contract between the issuing insurer(s), authorized representative or producer, and the certificate holder, nor does it affirmatively or negatively amend, extend or alter the coverage afforded by the policies listed thereon.

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

**SAMPLE Endorsements
Preferred form**

Reproduction of Insurance Services Office, Inc. Form

POLICY NUMBER: COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

**ADDITIONAL INSURED—OWNERS, LESSEES OR
CONTRACTORS (FORM B)**

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART.

SCHEDULE

Name of Person or Organization:

(If no entry appears above, information required to complete this endorsement will be shown in the Declarations as applicable to this endorsement.)

WHO IS AN INSURED (Section II) is amended to include as an insured the person or organization shown in the Schedule, but only with respect to liability arising out of "your work" for that insured by or for you.

CG 20 10 11 85 Copyright, Insurance Services Office, Inc., 1982

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

SAMPLE Endorsements

Acceptable form when combined with CG 20 37 10 01

Reproduction of Insurance Services Office, Inc. Form

POLICY NUMBER:

COMMERICAL GENERAL LIABILITY
CG 20 10 10 01

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

AMENDMENT OF LIMITS OF INSURANCE (DESIGNATED PROJECT OR PREMISES)

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

SCHEDULE

Designation of Project Or Premises:

(If no entry appears above, information required to complete this endorsement will be shown in the Declarations as applicable to this endorsement.)

- A. Section II - WHO IS AN INSURED is amended to include as an insured the person or organization shown in the Schedule but only with respect to liability arising out of your ongoing operations performed for the insured.
- B. With respect to the insurance afforded to these additional insureds, the following exclusion is added:
 - 1. Exclusions

This insurance does not apply to "bodily injury" or "property damage" occurring after:

- (1) All work, including materials, parts or equipment furnished in connection with such work, on the project (other than service, maintenance or repairs) to be performed by or on behalf of the additional insured(s) at the site of the covered operations has been completed; or
- (2) That portion of "your work" out of which the injury or damage arises has been put to its intended use by any person or organization other than contractor or subcontractor engaged in performing operations for a principal as part of the same project.

CG 20 10 10 01

ISO Properties, Inc., 2000

Page 1 of 1

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

SAMPLE Endorsements

Acceptable form when combined with CG 20 10 10 01

Reproduction of Insurance Services Office, Inc. Form

POLICY NUMBER:

COMMERICAL GENERAL LIABILITY
CG 20 37 10 01

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

ADDITIONAL INSURED – OWNERS, LESSEES OR
CONTRACTORS – COMPLETED OPERATIONS

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

SCHEDULE

Name of Person or Organization:

Location And Description of Completed Operations:

Additional Premium:

(If no entry appears above, information required to complete this endorsement will be shown in the Declarations as applicable to this endorsement.)

Section II – WHO IS AN INSURED is amended to include as an insured the person or organization shown in the Schedule but only with respect to liability arising out of “your work” at the location designated and described in the Schedule of this endorsement performed for that insured and included in the “products-completed operations hazard.”

CG 20 37 10 01

Copyright, ISO Properties, Inc., 2000

Page 1 of 1

**City of Richmond - Insurance Requirements:
Professional Services Contractors**

**SAMPLE Endorsement
Waiver of Subrogation - Liability**

Reproduction of Insurance Services Office, Inc. Form

POLICY NUMBER:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY
CG 24 04 10 93

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY

**WAIVER OF TRANSFER OF RIGHTS OF RECOVERY
AGAINST OTHERS TO US**

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART
OCP LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

SCHEDULE

Name of Person or Organization:

(If no entry appears above, information required to complete this endorsement will be shown in the Declarations as applicable to this endorsement.)

The TRANSFER OF RIGHTS OF RECOVERY AGAINST OTHERS TO US Condition (Section IV - COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY CONDITIONS) is amended by the addition of the following:

We waive any right of recovery we may have against the person or organization shown in the Schedule above because of payments we make for injury or damage arising out of your ongoing operations or "your work" done under a contract with that person or organization and included in the "products-completed operations hazard." This waiver applies only to the person or organization shown in the Schedule above.

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AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: Since February 2018, The Eviction Defense Center has had the full-time equivalent of one attorney and one part-time paralegal dedicated to Richmond eviction cases. The current contract expires on June 30, 2020. Contract amendments are necessary to amend the term of the contract and add funds for services in Fiscal Year 2020-21 in accordance with the budget adopted by the Rent Board on May 20, 2020.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Board As Whole | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application/Acceptance | <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Filed Against City of Richmond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759) | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE amendments to the contract for community legal services with the Eviction Defense Center, increasing the contract amount by \$93,744 for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and modifying the term to commence on October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor/Paige Roosa 620-6564).

AGENDA ITEM NO:

F-5.

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AGENDA REPORT

DATE: June 17, 2020

TO: Chair Maddock and Members of the Rent Board

FROM: Nicolas Traylor, Executive Director
Paige Roosa, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT WITH THE EVICTION DEFENSE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Since February 2018, The Eviction Defense Center has had the full-time equivalent of one attorney and one part-time paralegal dedicated to Richmond eviction cases. The current contract expires on June 30, 2020. Contract amendments are necessary to amend the term of the contract and add funds for services in Fiscal Year 2020-21 in accordance with the budget adopted by the Rent Board on May 20, 2020.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

APPROVE amendments to the contract for community legal services with the Eviction Defense Center, increasing the contract amount by \$93,744 for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and modifying the term to commence on October 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021 – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor/Paige Roosa 620-6564).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The proposed contract amendments shall be funded by the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Rent Program budget, adopted by the Rent Board on May 20, 2020. The adopted budget allocates \$200,000 for Community Services Agency Contracts, of which \$93,744 is proposed to be used to increase the payment limit for the Board's existing contract with the Eviction Defense Center.

DISCUSSION:

Background

On Wednesday, June 21, 2017, the Rent Board directed staff to negotiate and execute legal services contracts. In accordance with the City's procurement policies, a Request

for Qualifications and Proposals was released on August 11, 2017. Proposals were reviewed by a panel of stakeholders and staff. A contract was executed with the Eviction Defense Center on February 1, 2018, with an original term ending June 30, 2018.

Performance

In accordance with the amended contract approved by the Rent Board on June 19, 2019, The Eviction Defense Center is compensated \$10,416 monthly to serve a minimum of 30 Richmond tenants per month following a referral from a Rent Program staff member. Tenants receive pre-litigation counseling and a review of documents with appropriate legal response and/or full representation in court at their unlawful detainer hearing.

The Eviction Defense Center submits reports on a monthly basis detailing the number of clients served and pertinent data regarding their tenancies and demographics. Full records are maintained at the Eviction Defense Center office for review.

The table below contains a summary of the number of Richmond Tenants served by the Eviction Defense Center during the 2019-20 fiscal year through May 2020. Between July 2019 and May 2020, the Eviction Defense Center served an average of 54 clients per month, 24 more clients than is currently required in the existing contract.

Clients Served by the Eviction Defense Center, Fiscal Year 2019-20

Month	Clients Served		
	New Clients	Continuing Clients	Total Clients Served Per Month (Minimum Per Contact is 30)
July 2019	24	36	60
August 2019	12	44	56
September 2019	26	28	54
October 2019	16	42	68
November 2019	23	39	62
December 2019	20	39	59
January 2020	29	26	55
February 2020	15	29	44
March 2020	14	27	41
April 2020	18	36	54
May 2020	29	15	44

Proposed Contract Amendments

Staff members are recommending approval of contract amendments to (1) extend the term of the contract with the Eviction Defense Center to June 30, 2021 (with the

amended contract commencing on October 1, 2020) and (2) increase the payment limit of the contract by \$93,744 in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Rent Program budget.

Justification for Amended Contract Term

Since the establishment of the Rent Program in January 2017, the City of Richmond has advanced funds to the Rent Program on a temporary basis to assist the Rent Program financially at the beginning of the fiscal year, when expenses are incurred but revenue has yet to be collected. Typically, the Rent Program issues the majority of Rental Housing Fee invoices in September, with payment due in October. To that end, the City of Richmond has historically “floated” the Rent Program for the first two months of the fiscal year (July and August.) Funds are repaid as revenue is collected.

Diverting from this traditional practice, at their meeting on May 26, 2020, the Richmond City Council directed staff to cease advancing funds to the Rent Program in observation of the City’s enormous anticipated budget deficit for Fiscal Year 2020-21. This action by the City Council has caused Rent Program staff to consider cost-saving measures, as well as use of the Rent Program’s reserves, to ensure the Program does not run a deficit in the absence of the City’s support. To avoid staff layoffs and service reductions, Rent Program staff members are recommending a temporary pause on Community Legal Services contracts until substantial revenue is collected to ensure affordability of the contracts. The Eviction Defense Center may therefore use its discretion in providing assistance to Richmond Tenants during the temporary pause on financial funding from the Rent Program.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – Third Contract Amendment and Amendment History

Attachment 2 – Original Contract

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**ITEM F-5
ATTACHMENT 1**

**CITY OF RICHMOND RENT PROGRAM
CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Department: Rent Program	Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor
Project Manager E-mail: nicolas_traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us	Project Manager Phone No: (510) 620-6564
P.R. No: 21800884-00 Vendor No: 13140	P.O./Contract No: 4160
Description of Services: Provide Eviction Defense Services to Richmond Tenants.	
Amendment No. 3 modifies the: (2nd or subsequent amendments attach Amendment History page)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Term, Payment Limit and Service Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Limit and Service Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Term and Service Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Plan

The parties to this Contract Amendment do mutually agree and promise as follows:

1. Parties. The parties to this Contract Amendment are the City of Richmond Rent Board, (Rent Board), and the following named Contractor:

Eviction Defense Center

Company Name:

Street Address: 350 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 703

City, State, Zip Code: Oakland, CA 94612

Contact Person: Anne Tamiko Omura

Telephone: (510) 452-4541

Email: tamiko23@sbcglobal.net

Business License No: 4005-6623 / Expiration Date: February 14, 2021

A California corporation, limited liability corporation general partnership, limited partnership, individual, non-profit corporation, individual dba as [specify:] _____
 other [specify:] _____

2. Purpose. This Contract Amendment is being entered into to amend the Contract between Rent Board and Contractor which was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on February 1, 2018, which **original** term commenced on February 1, 2018 and terminates June 30, 2018 with an **original** contract payment limit of \$37,500.00. Said contract shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Original Contract" and is incorporated herein by reference.

3. Original Contract Provisions. The parties hereto agree to continue to abide by those terms and conditions of the Original Contract, and any amendments thereto, which are unaffected by this Contract Amendment.

**ITEM F-5
ATTACHMENT 1**

4. Amendment Provisions. This Contract Amendment is subject to the Amendment Provisions attached hereto, which are incorporated herein by reference, and which control over any conflicting provisions of the Original Contract, or any amendment thereto.

5. City of Richmond Business License Active Status Maintained. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 7.04.030, the Contractor must maintain its City of Richmond business license for this Contract Amendment to be deemed to be in effect.

6. Insurance Coverage Updated and Maintained. Pursuant to the Original Contract, the Contractor shall provide the Rent Board with updated insurance certificates, and the Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage, for this Contract Amendment to be deemed to be in effect.

7. Signatures. These signatures attest the parties' agreement hereto:

CITY OF RICHMOND RENT BOARD:

CONTRACTOR:

Eviction Defense Center

By: _____

(*The Corporation Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President should sign on the line below.)

Title: Executive Director

By: _____

I hereby certify that the Original Contract and this Amendment have been approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director.

Title: _____

(*The Corporation Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary should sign on the line below.)

By: _____
Rent Board Clerk

By: _____

Title: _____

Approved as to form:

(NOTE: Pursuant to California Corporations Code Section 313, if Contractor is a corporation or nonprofit organization, this Contract (1) should be signed by the Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President and the Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary; (2) should have both signatures conform to designated representative groups pursuant to Corporations Code Section 313.

By: _____
Staff Attorney

List of Attachments:

1. Amendment Provisions
2. Updated Insurance Certificates

Contract Amendment between the City of Richmond and
Eviction Defense Center

Amendment No.

3

P.O./Contract No.

4160

AMENDMENT PROVISIONS (TERM, PAYMENT LIMIT AND SERVICE PLAN)

1. Paragraph 2 (Term) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to extend the Contract term. Paragraph 2 of the Original Contract is amended to read as follows:

"2. Term. The effective date of this Contract is

February 1, 2018

(Insert original contract commencement date)

and it terminates

June 30, 2021

(Insert new contract termination date)

unless sooner terminated as provided herein."

2. Paragraph 3 (Payment Limit) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to increase the payment limit by \$ **93,744.00** . Paragraph 3 of the Original Contract is amended to read as follows:

"3. Payment Limit. Rent Board's total payments to Contractor under this Contract shall not exceed \$ **331,244.00** including expenses."

"The Rent Board shall not pay for services that exceed the Contract Payment Limit without the prior written approval of the Executive Director if the total Contract amount does not exceed \$10,000 or without the prior approval of the Rent Board if the total Contract amount is over \$10,000."

3. The Service Plan (Exhibit A) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to include the following tasks and/or services:

Service plan stays the same; however, the new term of the contract will be October 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021.

Contract Amendment between the City of Richmond and
Eviction Defense Center

Amendment No.

P.O./Contract No.

3

4160

AMENDMENT PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT HISTORY)

The **first** Contract Amendment was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on June 20, 2018 for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ 75,000.00 for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 112,500.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): June 30, 2019
- Service Plan

The **second** Contract Amendment was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on June 19, 2019 for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ 125,000.00 for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 237,500.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): June 30, 2020
- Service Plan

The **third** Contract Amendment was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on June 17, 2020 for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ 93,744.00 for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 331,244.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): June 30, 2021
- Service Plan

The **fourth** Contract Amendment was approved by City Council of the City of Richmond or executed by the City Manager on _____ for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ _____ for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 331,244.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): _____
- Service Plan

The **fifth** Contract Amendment was approved by City Council of the City of Richmond or executed by the City Manager on _____ for one or more of the following provisions (check those that apply):

- Increased contract payment limit by \$ _____ for a payment limit not to exceed \$ 331,244.00.
- Term Amendment (insert new termination date): _____
- Service Plan

ITEM F-5

**June 17, 2020
RENT BOARD MEETING**

ATTACHMENT 2

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**CITY OF RICHMOND RENT PROGRAM
CONTRACT AMENDMENT**

Department: Rent Program	Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor
Project Manager E-mail: nicolas_traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us	Project Manager Phone No: (510) 620-6564
P.R. No: 21800884-00 Vendor No: 13140	P.O./Contract No: 4160
Description of Services: Provide Eviction Defense Services to Richmond Tenants.	
Amendment No. 1 modifies the: (2 nd or subsequent amendments attach Amendment History page)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Term and Payment Limit	<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Limit and Service Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> Term and Service Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Plan

The parties to this Contract Amendment do mutually agree and promise as follows:

- Parties. The parties to this Contract Amendment are the City of Richmond, California Rent Program (City), and the following named Contractor:

Company Name: Eviction Defense Center

Street Address: 350 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 703

City, State, Zip Code: Oakland, Ca. 94612

Contact Person: Anne Tamiko Omura

Telephone: (510) 452-4541

Email: tamiko23@sbcglobal.net

Business License No: 4005-6623 / Expiration Date: February 14, 2019

A California corporation, limited liability corporation general partnership, limited partnership, individual, non-profit corporation, individual dba as [specify:] _____
 other [specify:] _____

- Purpose. This Contract Amendment is being entered into to amend the Contract between City and Contractor which was approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director on February 1, 2018, which **original** term commenced on February 1, 2018 and terminates June 30, 2018 with an **original** contract payment limit of **\$37,500.00**. Said contract shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Original Contract" and is incorporated herein by reference.

- Original Contract Provisions. The parties hereto agree to continue to abide by those terms and conditions of the Original Contract, and any amendments thereto, which are unaffected by this Contract Amendment.

ITEM F-7
ATTACHMENT 2

4. Amendment Provisions. This Contract Amendment is subject to the Amendment Provisions attached hereto, which are incorporated herein by reference, and which control over any conflicting provisions of the Original Contract, or any amendment thereto.

5. City of Richmond Business License Active Status Maintained. Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 7.04.030, the Contractor must maintain its City of Richmond business license for this Contract Amendment to be deemed to be in effect.

6. Insurance Coverage Updated and Maintained. Pursuant to the Original Contract, the Contractor shall provide the City with updated insurance certificates, and the Contractor shall maintain insurance coverage, for this Contract Amendment to be deemed to be in effect.

7. Signatures. These signatures attest the parties' agreement hereto:

CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA
Rent Program

CONTRACTOR:

By [Signature] Date: 6-29-18

Title: Executive Director

I hereby certify that the Original Contract and this Amendment have been approved by the Rent Board or executed by the Executive Director.

By [Signature] Date: 7/2/18
Rent Board Clerk

Approved as to form:

By [Signature] Date: 6/29/18
Staff Attorney

List of Attachments:

- 1. Amendment Provisions
- 2. Updated Insurance Certificates

Contract Amendment/EJ/TE 09-26-07

Eviction Defense Center

(*The Corporation Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President should sign on the line below.)

By [Signature] Date: 6/15/19

Title: ANNE OMURA, CEO + CFO

(*The Corporation Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary should sign on the line below.)

By [Signature] Date: 6/15/19

Title: ANNE OMURA

(NOTE: Pursuant to California Corporations Code Section 313, if Contractor is a corporation or nonprofit organization, this Contract (1) should be signed by the Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President and the Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary; (2) should have both signatures conform to designated representative groups pursuant to Corporations Code Section 313.

**ITEM F-7
ATTACHMENT 2**

Contract Amendment between the City of Richmond and

Eviction Defense Center

Amendment No.

1

P.O./Contract No.

4160

AMENDMENT PROVISIONS (TERM, PAYMENT LIMIT AND SERVICE PLAN)

1. Paragraph 2 (Term) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to extend the Contract term. Paragraph 2 of the Original Contract is amended to read as follows:

"2. Term. The effective date of this Contract is

February 1, 2018

(Insert original contract commencement date)

and it terminates

June 30, 2019

(Insert new contract termination date)

unless sooner terminated as provided herein."

2. Paragraph 3 (Payment Limit) of the Original Contract is hereby amended to increase the payment limit by **\$ 75,000.00**. Paragraph 3 of the Original Contract is amended to read as follows:

"3. Payment Limit. City's total payments to Contractor under this Contract as amended shall not exceed **\$ 112,500.00** including expenses."

"The City of Richmond shall not pay for services that exceed the Contract Payment Limit without the prior written approval of the Executive Director if the total Contract amount does not exceed \$10,000 or without the prior approval of the Rent Board if the total Contract amount is over \$10,000."

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**CITY OF RICHMOND RENT BOARD
STANDARD CONTRACT**

Department: Rent Program	Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor
Project Manager E-mail: nicolas_traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us	Project Manager Phone No: 620-6564
Vendor No: <u>13140</u> PR No: 21800884	P.O./Contract No: <u>4160</u>
Description of Services: Provide Eviction Defense Services to Richmond Tenants.	

- The parties to this STANDARD CONTRACT do mutually agree and promise as follows:
- Parties.** The parties to this Contract are the City Of Richmond Rent Board (herein referred to as the "City") and the following named Contractor:

Company Name: The Eviction Defense Center

Street Address: 350 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 703

City, State, Zip Code: Oakland, CA 94612

Contact Person: Anne Tamiko Omura

Telephone: 510-452-4541

Email: tamiko23@sbcglobal.net

Business License No: 4005-6623

Expiration Date: 02/14/2019

A California corporation, limited liability corporation general partnership, limited partnership, individual, non-profit corporation, individual dba as [specify:] _____
 other [specify:] _____

- Term.** The effective date of this Contract is February,01 2018, and it terminates June 30, 2018, unless terminated as provided herein.
- Payment Limit.** City's total payments to Contractor under this Contract shall not exceed \$37,500. City shall not pay for services that exceed the Contract Payment Limit unless a contract amendment has been approved by the Rent Board or Executive Director.
- Contractor's Obligations.** Contractor shall provide those services and carry out that work described in the Service Plan (Exhibit A) which is attached hereto and is incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.
- City Obligations:** City shall make to the Contractor those payments described in the Payment Provisions (Exhibit B) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.

**ITEM F-7
ATTACHMENT 2**

6. Authorized Representatives and Notices. This Contract is subject to the Authorized Representatives and Notices Provisions (Exhibit C) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference.
7. General Conditions. This Contract is subject to the General Conditions (Exhibit D) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.
8. Special Conditions. This Contract is subject to the Special Conditions (Exhibit E) (if any) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference, subject to all the terms and conditions contained or incorporated herein.
9. Insurance Provisions. This Contract is subject to the Insurance Provisions (Exhibit F) which are attached hereto and are incorporated herein by reference.
10. Signatures. These signatures attest the parties' Contract hereto:

RENT PROGRAM

By: _____

Title: Executive Director

I hereby certify that this Contract has been approved by the Rent Board or the Executive Director.

By: _____

Board Clerk

Approved as to form:

By: _____

Board Legal Counsel

CONTRACTOR:

(* The Corporation Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice President should sign below)

By: _____

Title: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR + CFO

Date Signed: 3/20/18

(* The Corporation Chief Financial Officer, Secretary or Assistant Secretary should sign below)

By: _____

Title: CFO

Date Signed: 3/20/18

(NOTE: Pursuant to California Corporations Code Section 313, if Contractor is a corporation or nonprofit organization, this Contract (1) must be signed by (a) the Chairperson of the Board, President or Vice-President and (b) the Secretary any Assistant Secretary, the Chief Financial Officer or any Assistant Treasurer.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:

Service Plan	Exhibit A
Payment Provisions	Exhibit B
Authorized Representatives and Notices	Exhibit C
General Conditions	Exhibit D
Special Conditions	Exhibit E
Insurance Provisions	Exhibit F

Standard Contract/EJ/TE 9-26-07

**EXHIBIT A
SERVICE PLAN**

Contractor shall, to the satisfaction of the Executive Director, perform the following services and be compensated as outlined below:

The Eviction Defense Center will have the full-time equivalent of one attorney dedicated to Richmond cases and a part-time paralegal/case manager.

The Eviction Defense Center will be compensated \$6,250 per month, and will submit monthly invoices in accordance with Exhibit B. With this funding, the Eviction Defense Center shall anticipate serving a minimum of 15 Richmond tenants per month following referral from a Rent Program staff member. These tenants will receive pre-litigation counseling and review of documents with appropriate legal response and/or full representation in court at their unlawful detainer hearing.

In determining which tenants qualify for free legal services, the Eviction Defense Center will utilize the HUD guidelines to identify "low income" households in Contra Costa County. The Eviction Defense Center will use a sliding scale based on these income guidelines, as to not deny services to households who do not qualify as "low income."

The Eviction Defense Center will create an intake form to track client data. This form shall include, at a minimum, the client's name, address, contact information, race/ethnicity (optional), date of birth, language or other access to justice issues, monthly income and source, household information, monthly rent, landlord name, security deposit, move-in date, last time rent was paid/accepted, the type of notice the Tenant received, a description of the housing problem, and the client's goals. This form may also be used by Rent Program staff to make a direct referral to the Eviction Defense Center. The form may be faxed to the Eviction Defense Center with a follow-up call or email to confirm receipt.

The Eviction Defense Center will submit monthly reports detailing the number of clients served and pertinent data regarding their tenancies and demographics. These reports shall have client names and addresses redacted to preserve attorney/client privilege, with full records maintained at the Eviction Defense Offices for review if necessary.

Under no circumstances shall the Eviction Defense Center bill for travel time, unless pre-approved by the Executive Director or their designee.

**EXHIBIT B
PAYMENT PROVISIONS**

{PLEASE NOTE THAT THE RENT PROGRAM SHALL NOT PAY FOR SERVICES THAT EXCEED THE CONTRACT PAYMENT LIMIT UNLESS A CONTRACT AMENDMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE RENT BOARD OR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR}

1. Provided Contractor is not in default under this Contract, Contractor shall be compensated as provided below.
2. Any and all payments made pursuant to this Contract shall be subject to the Contract Payment Limit. The Payment Limit includes expenses (phones, photo copying, meals and travel, etc.) Invoices, shall be adequately detailed, based on accurate records, and be in a form reasonably satisfactory to the City. Contractor may be required to provide back-up material upon request.
3. Contractor shall submit timely invoices to the following address:

Attention: City of Richmond Finance Department - Accounts Payable

Project Manager: Nicolas Traylor
4. All invoices that are submitted by Contractor shall be subject to the approval of the City Project Manager, Nicolas Traylor, before payments shall be authorized.
5. The City will pay invoice(s) within 45 days after completion of services to the City satisfaction. The City shall not pay late fees or interest.
6. A Richmond business license shall be obtained before any payment under this Contract shall be authorized and the business license must be kept current during the term of this Contract for payments to continue to be authorized.
7. All insurance coverage required by this Contract shall be provided by the Contractor before this Contract shall be executed by the City. The insurance coverage must be kept current during the term of this Contract for payments to continue to be authorized.

EXHIBIT C
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES AND NOTICES

1. **Notices.** All notices, demands, statements, or communications provided for by this Contract shall be in writing and may be delivered by deposit in the United States mail, postage prepaid. Notices to the City shall be addressed to the Department Head and (as delineated below in section 1.1) to the project manager responsible for the administration of or the supervision of the scope of work under this Contract. Notices to the Contractor shall be addressed to the party designated by Contractor (as delineated below in section 1.2). Notice shall be deemed delivered (a) upon personal delivery; (b) as of the fifth business day after mailing by United States certified mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the proper party; or (c) as of 12:00 p.m. on the second business day immediately after the day it is deposited with and accepted by Federal Express, or a similar overnight courier service, addressed to the proper party and marked for next business day morning delivery. For the purposes of this Contract, a "business day" means any day Monday through Friday that is not a holiday recognized by the federal government or the State of California.

1. 1 City hereby designates as its Authorized Representative the Project Manager whose name and address are as follows:

Nicolas Traylor

City Of Richmond Rent Program

440 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 200

Richmond, CA 94804

1. 2 CONTRACTOR hereby designates as its Authorized Representative the Project Manager whose name and address are as follows:

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EXHIBIT D
GENERAL CONDITIONS

1. Independent Contractor. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor is not a regular or temporary employee, joint venturer or partner of the City, but rather an independent Contractor. This Contract shall not be construed to create an agency, servant, employee, partnership, or joint venture relationship. As an independent Contractor, Contractor shall have no authority to bind City to any obligation or to act as City's agent except as expressly provided herein. Due to the independent Contractor relationship created by this Contract, City shall not withhold state or federal income taxes, the reporting of which shall be Contractor's sole responsibility.
2. Brokers. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor has not hired, retained or agreed to pay any entity or person any fee, commission, percentage, gift, or any other consideration, contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Contract.
3. City Property. The rights to applicable plans, drawings, reports, calculations, data, specifications, videos, graphics or other materials prepared for or obtained pursuant to this Contract, which, upon request, are to be delivered to City within a reasonable time, shall be deemed assigned to City. If applicable, Contractor shall prepare check prints upon request. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor shall not be obligated to provide to City proprietary software or data which Contractor has developed or had developed for Contractor's own use; provided, however, that Contractor shall, pursuant to Section 15 below, indemnify, defend and hold harmless City from and against any discovery or Public Records Act request seeking the disclosure of such proprietary software or data.
4. Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights and Rights in Data. Contractor shall not publish or transfer any materials, discoveries, developments, concepts, designs, ideas, know how, improvements, inventions and/or original works of authorship resulting from activities supported by this Contract without the express prior written consent of the City Manager. If anything resulting from activities supported by this Contract is patentable, trademarkable, copyrightable or otherwise legally protectable, City reserves the exclusive right to seek such intellectual property rights. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Contractor may, after receiving City's prior written consent, seek patent, trademark, copyright or other intellectual property rights on anything resulting from activities supported by this Contract. However, City reserves, and Contractor irrevocably grants, a nonexclusive, fully paid-up, royalty-free, assumable, perpetual, worldwide license, with the right to transfer, sublicense, practice and exploit said license and the right to make, have made, copy, modify, make derivative works of, use, sell,

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import, and otherwise distribute under all applicable intellectual properties without restriction of any kind said license.

Contractor further agrees to assist City, at City's expense, in every proper way to secure the City's rights in any patents, trademarks, copyrights or other intellectual property rights relating thereto, including the disclosure to City of all pertinent information and data with respect thereto. Contractor shall also assist City in the execution of all applications, specifications, oaths, assignments, recordations, and all other instruments which City shall deem necessary in order to apply for, obtain, maintain and transfer such rights, or if not transferable, to waive such rights. Contractor shall further assist City in the execution of all applications, specifications, oaths, assignments, recordations and all other instruments which City shall deem necessary in order to assign and convey to City, and any assigns and nominees the sole and exclusive right, title and interest in and to any patents, trademarks, copyrights or other intellectual property rights relating thereto. Contractor further agrees that its obligation to execute or cause to be executed, when it is in Contractor's power to do so, any such instruments or papers shall continue during and at all times after the end of Contractor's services and until the expiration of the last such intellectual property right. Contractor hereby irrevocably designates and appoints City, and its duly authorized officers, agents and servants, as its agent and attorney-in-fact, to act for and in its behalf and stead to execute and file any such applications and to do all other lawfully permitted acts to further the application for, prosecution, issuance, maintenance or transfer of letters of patents, copyright and other registrations. This power of attorney is coupled with an interest and shall not be affected by Contractor's subsequent incapacity.

5. Inspection. Contractor's performance, place of business and records pertaining to this Contract are subject to monitoring, inspection, review and audit by authorized representatives of the CITY, the State of California, and the United States Government.

If the project or services set forth in Exhibit A shall be performed on City or other public property, City shall have the right to inspect such work without notice. If such project or services shall not be performed on City or other public property, City shall have the right to inspect such work upon reasonable notice.

6. Services. The project or services set forth in Exhibit A shall be performed to the full satisfaction and approval of City. In the event that the project or services set forth in Exhibit A are also itemized by price, City, in its sole discretion, may, upon notice to Contractor, delete certain items or services set forth in Exhibit A, in which case there shall be a corresponding reduction in the amount of compensation paid to Contractor.

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Contractor shall, at its own cost and expense, furnish all facilities and equipment necessary for Contractor to complete the project or perform the services required herein, unless otherwise provided in Exhibit A.

7. **Records.** Contractor shall keep and make available for inspection and copying by authorized representatives of the City, the State of California, and the United States Government, the Contractor's regular business records and such additional records pertaining to this Contract as may be required by the City.

Contractor shall retain all documents pertaining to this Contract for a period of four (4) years after this Contract's termination (or for any further period that is required by law) and until all Federal or State audits are complete and exceptions resolved for this contract's funding period. Upon request, contractor shall make these records available to authorized representatives of the CITY, the State of California, and the United States Government.

Contractor shall keep full and detailed accounts, maintain records, and exercise such controls as may be necessary for proper financial management under this Contract. The Contractor's accounting and control systems shall be satisfactory to City. Contractor's accounting systems shall conform to generally accepted accounting principles and all records shall provide a breakdown of total costs charged under this Contract, including properly executed payrolls, time records, utility bills, invoices and vouchers. The City shall be afforded prompt access to Contractor's records, books, and Contractor shall preserve such project records for a period of at least four (4) years after the termination of this Contract, or for such longer period as may be required by law.

Contractor shall permit City and its authorized representatives and accountants to inspect, examine and copy Contractor's books, records, accounts, correspondence, instructions, drawings, receipts, subcontracts, purchase orders, vouchers, memoranda and other data relating to the project or services set forth in Exhibit A, and any and all data relevant to this Contract at any reasonable time for the purpose of auditing and verifying statements, invoices, or bills submitted by Contractor pursuant to this Contract and shall provide such assistance as may be reasonably required in the course of such inspection. Contractor shall also allow City access to the record keeping and accounting personnel of Contractor. City further reserves the right to examine and re-examine said books, records, accounts, and data during the four (4) year period following the termination of this Contract; and Contractor shall in no event dispose of, destroy, alter, or mutilate said books, records, accounts, and data in any manner whatever for four (4) years after the termination of this Contract.

Pursuant to California Government Code § 10527, the parties to this Contract shall be subject to the examination and audit of representatives of the Auditor General of the State of California for a period of three (3) years after final payment under this Contract. The examination and audit shall be confined to those matters connected with the performance of this Contract including, but not limited to, the cost of administering this Contract.

8. Changes and Extra Work. All changes and/or extra work under this Contract shall be performed and paid for in accordance with the following:

Only the City Council or the City Manager may authorize extra and/or changed work. Contractor expressly recognizes that other City personnel are without authorization to either order extra and/or changed work or waive contract requirements. Failure of Contractor to secure the authorization for such extra and/or changed work shall constitute a waiver of any and all right to adjustment in contract price due to such unauthorized work and Contractor thereafter shall be entitled to no compensation whatsoever for performance of such extra and/or changed work.

If Contractor is of the opinion that any work which Contractor has been directed to perform is beyond the scope of this Contract and constitutes extra work, Contractor shall promptly notify City of the fact. The City shall make a determination as to whether or not such work is, in fact, beyond the scope of this Contract and constitutes extra work. In the event that City determines that such work does constitute extra work, City shall provide extra compensation to Contractor on a fair and equitable basis. A change order or Contract Amendment providing for such compensation for extra work shall be negotiated between City and Contractor and executed by Contractor and the appropriate City official.

In the event City determines that such work does not constitute extra work, Contractor shall not be paid extra compensation above that provided herein and if such determination is made by City staff, said determination may be appealed to the City Council; provided, however, a written appeal must be submitted to the City Manager within five (5) days after the staff's determination is sent to Contractor. Said written appeal shall include a description of each and every ground upon which Contractor challenges the staff's determination.

9. Additional Assistance. If this Contract requires Contractor to prepare plans and specifications, Contractor shall provide assistance as necessary to resolve any questions regarding such plans and specifications that may arise during the period of advertising for bids, and Contractor shall issue

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any necessary addenda to the plans and specifications as requested. In the event Contractor is of the opinion that City's requests for addenda and assistance is outside the scope of normal services, the parties shall proceed in accordance with the changes and extra work provisions of Section 8 of these General Conditions.

10. Professional Ability. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor and its employees are skilled and able to competently provide the services hereunder, and possess all professional licenses, certifications, and approvals necessary to engage in their occupations. City has relied upon the professional ability and training of Contractor as a material inducement to enter into this Contract. Contractor shall perform in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and standards of Contractor's profession. In the event that City, in its sole discretion, desires the removal of any person employed or retained by Contractor to perform services hereunder, such person shall be removed immediately upon receiving notice from City.
11. Business License. Contractor shall obtain a Richmond Business License before performing any services required under this Contract. The failure to so obtain such license shall be a material breach of this Contract and grounds for immediate termination by City; provided, however, that City may waive the business license requirement in writing under unusual or extraordinary circumstances without necessitating any modification of this Contract to reflect such waiver.
12. Termination Without Default. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, City may, in its sole and absolute discretion and without cause, terminate this Contract at any time prior to completion by Contractor of the project or services hereunder, immediately upon written notice to Contractor. Contractor may terminate this Contract at any time in its sole and absolute discretion and without cause upon 30 days' written notice to City. In the event of termination by either party, Contractor shall be compensated for: (1) all authorized work satisfactorily performed prior to the effective date of termination; (2) necessary materials or services of others ordered by Contractor for this Contract, prior to receipt of notice of termination, irrespective of whether such materials or services of others have actually been delivered, provided that Contractor is not able to cancel such orders. Compensation for Contractor in such event shall be determined by City in accordance with the percentage of the project or services completed by Contractor; and all of Contractor's finished or unfinished work product through the time of the City's last payment shall be transferred and assigned to City. Additionally, in the event of such termination, the City may proceed with the work in any reasonable manner it chooses.

13. Termination in the Event of Default. Should Contractor fail to perform any of its obligations hereunder, within the time and in the manner provided or otherwise violate any of the terms of this Contract, City may immediately terminate this Contract by giving written notice of such termination, stating the reasons for such termination. Contractor shall be compensated as provided in Section 12 of these General Conditions; provided, however, there shall be deducted from such amount the amount of damage, including attorney's fees, expert witness fees and costs, if any, sustained by City by virtue of Contractor's breach of this Contract. Additionally, in the event of such termination, the City may proceed with the work in any reasonable manner it chooses.

14. Conflict of Interest. Contractor acknowledges, represents and warrants that Contractor shall avoid all conflicts of interest (as defined under any federal, state or local statute, rule or regulation, or at common law) with respect to this Contract. Contractor further acknowledges, represents and warrants that no City official or employee has any economic interest, as defined in Title 2, California Code of Regulations §§ 18703.1 through 18703.5, with Contractor that would invalidate this Contract. Contractor acknowledges that in the event that Contractor shall be found by any judicial or administrative body to have any conflict of interest (as defined above) with respect to this Contract, all consideration received under this Contract shall be forfeited and returned to City forthwith. This provision shall survive the termination of this Contract for one (1) year.

15. Indemnification.

(a) If this Contract is a contract for design professional services subject to California Civil Code Section 2782.8(a) and Contractor is a design professional, as defined in California Civil Code Section 2782.8(b)(2), Contractor shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify the City, its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, and expenses including attorneys' fees arising out of, or pertaining to, or relating to the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Contractor, except where caused by the active negligence, sole negligence, or willful misconduct of the City. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall immediately defend and indemnify the City and its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers from and against any and all liabilities, regardless of nature or type, that arise out of, pertain to, or relate to the negligence, recklessness, or willful misconduct of the Contractor, or its employees, agents, or subcontractors. Liabilities subject to the duties to defend and indemnify include, without limitation, any and all claims, losses, damages, penalties, fines, and judgments; associated investigation and administrative expenses; defense costs, including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees; court costs; and costs of alternative dispute resolution. Contractor's obligation to

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For the Contract between the City of
Richmond Rent Board and

- indemnify applies unless it is finally adjudicated that the liability was caused by the sole active negligence or sole willful misconduct of an indemnified party.
- (b) If this Contract is not a contract for design professional services subject to California Civil Code Section 2782.8(a) or Contractor is not a design professional as defined in California Civil Code Section 2782.8(b)(2), Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers from any and all claims, suits, or actions of every name, kind and description, brought forth on account of injuries to or death of any person or damage to property arising from or connected with the willful misconduct, negligent acts, errors or omissions, ultra-hazardous activities, activities giving rise to strict liability, or defects in design by Contractor or any person directly or indirectly employed by, or acting as, the agent for Contractor in the performance of this Contract, including the concurrent or successive passive negligence of the City, its officers, agents, employees or volunteers.
- (c) It is understood that the duty of Contractor to indemnify and hold harmless includes the duty to defend as set forth in Section 2778 of the California Civil Code. Contractor shall be obligated to defend, in all legal, equitable, administrative, or special proceedings, with counsel approved by the City, the City and its officers, agents, employees, and volunteers, immediately upon tender to Contractor of the claim in any form or at any stage of an action or proceeding, whether or not liability is established. An allegation or determination that persons other than Contractor are responsible for the claim does not relieve Contractor from its separate and distinct obligation to defend under this Section 15. The obligation to defend extends through final judgment, including exhaustion of any appeals. The defense obligation includes an obligation to provide independent counsel if Contractor asserts that liability is caused in whole, or in part, by the negligence or willful misconduct of an indemnified party.
- (d) The review, acceptance or approval of the Contractor's work or work product by any indemnified party shall not affect, relieve or reduce the Contractor's indemnification or defense obligations. This Section 15 survives completion of the services or the termination of this Contract. The provisions of this Section 15 are not limited by, and do not affect, the provisions of this Contract relating to insurance.
- (e) Acceptance of insurance certificates and endorsements required under this Contract does not relieve Contractor from liability under this Section 15. This Section 15 shall apply whether or not such insurance policies are determined to be applicable to any such damages or claims for damages.
16. Safety. Contractor acknowledges that the City is committed to the highest standards of workplace safety. Contractor shall perform all work hereunder in full compliance with applicable local, state and federal safety requirements including but not limited to Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements, and shall assume sole and complete responsibility for the safety of Contractor's employees and any subContractor's employees. If a death, serious personal injury or substantial property damage occurs in connection with the performance of this Contract, Contractor shall immediately notify the City by telephone.
17. Insurance. Insurance requirements are set forth in Exhibit F to this Contract. Contractor shall abide by the insurance requirements set forth in said Exhibit F.
18. Non-Liability of Officials and Employees of the City. No official or employee of the City

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shall be personally liable for any default or liability under this Contract.

- 19. Compliance with Laws.** Contractor shall comply with all federal, state and local laws, statutes, ordinances, rules and regulations, and the orders and decrees of any courts or administrative bodies or tribunals, with respect to this Contract, including without limitation environmental laws, employment discrimination laws and prevailing wage laws. Compliance under this provision includes compliance with all provisions of the Richmond Municipal Code ("Municipal Code"), including Chapters 2.50, 2.52, 2.56, and 2.60, if applicable.

Contractor acknowledges that under § 2.60.070 of the Municipal Code ("Living Wage Ordinance"), Contractor shall promptly provide to City documents and information verifying its compliance with the Living Wage Ordinance. Also as prescribed in § 2.60.070, Contractor shall notify each of its affected employees with regards to the wages that are required to be paid pursuant to the Living Wage Ordinance.

Contractor shall comply with § 2.28.030 of the Municipal Code, obligating every Contractor or subcontractor under a contract or subcontract with the City for public work or for goods or for services to refrain from discriminatory employment or subcontracting practices on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religious creed, national origin or ancestry of any employee, any applicant for employment or any potential subcontractor.

Contractor acknowledges that the City's Drug Free Workplace Policy, Violence in the Workplace Policy and the Policy Against Workplace Harassment, are available on the City's website at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/workplacepolicies> . Contractor agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of said policies.

- 20. Limitations upon Subcontracting and Assignment.** This Contract binds the heirs, successors, assigns and representatives of Contractor. The Contractor shall not enter into subcontracts for any work contemplated

under this Contract and shall not assign this Contract, nor any portion hereof or monies due or to become due, without the prior written consent of the City Council or its designee.

Contractor acknowledges that the services which Contractor shall provide under this Contract are unique, personal services which, except as otherwise provided herein, Contractor shall not assign or sublet to any other party without the prior written approval of City, which approval may be withheld in City's sole and absolute discretion. In the event that City, in writing, approves any assignment or subletting of this Contract or the retention of subcontractors by Contractor, Contractor shall provide to City upon request copies of each and every subcontract contract prior to the execution thereof by Contractor and subcontractor. Any assignment by Contractor of any or all of its rights under this Contract without first obtaining City's prior written consent shall be a default under this Contract.

The sale, assignment, transfer or other disposition of any of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Contractor (if applicable), or of the interest of any general partner or joint venturer or syndicate member if Contractor is a partnership or joint-venture or syndicate, which shall result in a change of control of

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Contractor, shall be deemed an assignment. For this purpose, control shall mean fifty percent or more of the voting power or twenty-five percent or more of the assets of the corporation, partnership or joint-venture.

21. Integration. This Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the parties concerning the subject matter hereof and supersedes any previous oral or written agreement; provided, however, that correspondence or documents exchanged between Contractor and City may be used to assist in the interpretation of the Exhibits to this Contract.
22. Modifications and Amendments. This Contract may be modified or amended only by a change order or Contract Amendment executed by both parties and approved as to form by the City Attorney.
23. Conflicting Provisions. In the event of a conflict between these General Conditions and those of any Exhibit or attachment hereto, these General Conditions shall prevail; provided, however, that any Special Conditions as set forth in Exhibit E shall prevail over these General Conditions. In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of any two or more Exhibits or attachments hereto, those prepared by City shall prevail over those prepared by the Contractor, and the terms and conditions preferred by the City shall prevail over those preferred by the Contractor.
24. Non-exclusivity. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, the services provided by Contractor hereunder shall be non-exclusive, and
- City reserves the right to employ other Contractors in connection with the project.
25. Exhibits. All Exhibits hereto are made a part hereof and incorporated herein by reference; provided, however, that any language in Exhibit A which does not pertain to the project description, proposal, scope of services, or method of compensation (as applicable) , or any corresponding responsibilities of City, shall be deemed extraneous to, and not a part of, this Contract.
26. Force Majeure. Neither party hereto shall be considered in default in the performance of its obligations hereunder to the extent that the performance of such an obligation is prevented or delayed by reason of acts of God, strikes, boycotts, lock-outs, inability to procure materials not related to the price thereof, failure of power, restrictive governmental laws and regulations enacted after the date of this Contract, riots, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, insurrection, war, declaration of a state or national emergency or other reasons of a like nature not within the reasonable control of such party.
27. Time of the Essence. Time is of the essence of this Contract. Contractor and City agree that any time period set forth in Exhibit A represents their best estimates with respect to completion dates and both Contractor and City acknowledge that departures from the schedule may occur. Therefore, both Contractor and City will use reasonable efforts to notify one another of changes to the schedule. Contractor shall not be responsible for performance delays caused by others, or delays beyond Contractor's control, and such delays shall extend the times for performance of Contractor's work.

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28. **Confidentiality.** Contractor agrees to comply with, and to require its employees, agents and partners to comply with, all applicable State or Federal statutes or regulations respecting confidentially, including but not limited to, the identity of persons served under this Contract, their records, or services provided them, and assures that:
- All applications and records concerning any individual made or kept by Contractor or any public officer or agency in connection with the administration of or relating to services provided under this Contract will be confidential, and will not be open to examination for any purposes not directly connected with the administration of such service.
- No person will publish or disclose or permit or cause to be published or disclosed, any list of persons receiving services, except as may be required in the administration of such service.
29. **Third Parties.** Nothing herein shall be interpreted as creating any rights or benefits in any third parties. For purposes hereof, transferees or assignees as permitted under this Contract shall not be considered "third parties."
30. **Governing Law.** This Contract shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of California without regard to principles of conflicts of law. This Contract is made in Contra Costa County, California, and any action relating to this Contract shall be instituted and prosecuted in the courts of Contra Costa County, California.
31. **Nonrenewal.** Contractor understands and agrees that there is no representation, implication, or understanding that the services provided by Contractor under this Contract will be purchased or renewed by the City under a new contract following expiration or termination of this Contract, and waives all rights or claims to notice or hearing respecting any failure by City to continue the purchase of all or any failure to continue purchase of all or any such services from Contractor.
32. **Claims.** Any claim by Contractor against City hereunder shall be subject to Government Code §§ 800 et seq. The claims presentation provisions of said Act are hereby modified such that the presentation of all claims hereunder to the City shall be waived if not made within six months after accrual of the cause of action.
33. **Interpretation.** This Contract shall be interpreted as if drafted by both parties.
34. **Warranty.** In the event that any product shall be provided to the City as part of this Contract, Contractor warrants as follows: Contractor possesses good title to the product and the right to transfer the product to City; the product shall be delivered to the City free from any security interest or other lien; the product meets any specifications contained herein; the product shall be free from material defects in materials and workmanship under normal use for a period of one (1) year from the date of delivery; and the product shall be fit for its intended purpose(s). Notwithstanding the foregoing, consumable and maintenance items (such as light bulbs and batteries) shall be warranted for a period of one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of delivery. All repairs during the warranty period shall be promptly performed by Contractor, at Contractor's expense, including shipping.

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35. Severability. In the event that any of the provisions or portions or applications thereof of this Contract are held to be unenforceable or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, City and Contractor shall negotiate an equitable adjustment in the provisions of the Contract with a view

toward effecting the purpose of this Contract, and the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions or portions or applications thereof, shall not be affected thereby.

36. Authority. City warrants and represents that the signatory hereto (the Mayor of the City of Richmond or the City Manager) is duly authorized to enter into and execute this Contract on behalf of City. The party signing on behalf of Contractor warrants and represents that he or she is duly authorized to enter into and execute this Contract on behalf of Contractor, and shall be personally liable to City if he or she is not duly authorized to enter into and execute this Contract on behalf of Contractor.

37. Waiver. The waiver by City of any breach of any term or provision of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach. Inspections or approvals, or statements by any officer, agent or employee of the City relating to the Contractor's performance, or payments therefore, or any combination of these acts, shall not relieve the Contractor's obligation to fulfill this Contract as prescribed; nor shall the City be thereby stopped from bringing any action for damages or enforcement arising from any failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Contract.

38. Possessory Interest. If this Contract results in the Contractor having possession of, claim to or right to the possession of land or improvements, but does not vest ownership of the land or improvements in the same person, or if this Contract results in the placement of taxable improvements on tax exempt land (Revenue and Taxation Code 107), such interest or improvements may represent a possessory interest subject to property tax, and Contractor may be subject to the payment of property taxes levied on such interest.

39. Performance and Final Acceptance.

Contractor represents that it is experienced, qualified, registered, licensed, equipped, organized and financed to perform the services under this Contract.

Contractor shall perform the services under this Contract with that degree of skill and judgment normally exercised by professional firms performing services of a similar nature in the State of California, and shall be responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy and coordination of the services it performs under this Contract. In addition to the other rights and remedies which City may have, Contractor shall, at its own expense, correct any services which fail to meet the above standard.

City shall provide Contractor an opportunity to cure errors and omission which may be disclosed during the review of submittals, with no increase in the authorized Contract Payment Limit. Should Contractor fail to make necessary corrections in a timely manner, such corrections shall be made by the City and the cost thereof shall be charged to Contractor.

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If warranted, City shall determine, and Contractor may request such determination, that Contractor has satisfactorily completed performance of this Contract. Upon such determination, City shall issue to Contractor a written Notice of Final Acceptance, after which Contractor shall not incur further costs under this Contract. Contractor shall respond to such Notice of Final Acceptance by executing and submitting to City a Release and Certificate of Final Payment.

40. Survival. The rights and obligations of the parties which by their nature survive termination or completion of the services covered by this Contract shall remain in full force and effect after termination or completion.

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**EXHIBIT E
SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

The General Conditions are hereby amended to include the following modifications
and/or provisions (if applicable):

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For the Contract between the City of
Richmond Rent Board and

**EXHIBIT F
INSURANCE PROVISIONS**

During the entire term of this Contract and any extension or modification thereof, the CONTRACTOR shall keep in effect insurance policies meeting the insurance requirements specified in the insurance provisions which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: Section 11.100.070(b) of the Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance provides no later than June 30 of each year, the Board shall announce the percentage by which Rent for eligible Rental Units will be generally adjusted effective September 1 of that year. Adoption of a regulation is necessary to establish the amount of the 2020 Annual General Adjustment applicable to those tenancies that were in effect prior to September 1, 2019.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contract/Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent Board As Whole | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Application/Acceptance | <input type="checkbox"/> Claims Filed Against City of Richmond | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759) | |

RECOMMENDED ACTION: ADOPT Regulation 608, establishing the 2020 Annual General Adjustment in the amount of 2.9% for tenancies commencing prior to September 1, 2019 – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor/Charles Oshinuga 620-6564).

AGENDA ITEM NO:

H-1.

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AGENDA REPORT

DATE: June 17, 2020

TO: Chair Maddock and Members of the Rent Board

FROM: Nicolas Traylor, Executive Director
Paige Roosa, Deputy Director
Charles Oshinuga, Staff Attorney

SUBJECT: REGULATION ESTABLISHING THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL ADJUSTMENT

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

Section 11.100.070(b) of the Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance provides no later than June 30 of each year, the Board shall announce the percentage by which Rent for eligible Rental Units will be generally adjusted effective September 1 of that year. Adoption of a regulation is necessary to establish the amount of the 2020 Annual General Adjustment applicable to those tenancies that were in effect prior to September 1, 2019.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

ADOPT Regulation 608, establishing the 2020 Annual General Adjustment in the amount of 2.9% for tenancies commencing prior to September 1, 2019 – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor/Charles Oshinuga 620-6564).

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact related to this item.

DISCUSSION:

Background

As provided in Section 11.100.070(b)(1) of the Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance (“Ordinance”) the Annual General Adjustment is equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (All Urban Consumers, San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose region) as reported by

the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the 12-month period ending as of March of the current year (Attachment 2).¹

No later than June 30 of each year, the Rent Board must announce the amount of the Annual General Adjustment for the current year. This percentage represents the Annual General Adjustment that may take effect September 1.

Calculation of the Maximum Allowable Rent

As written, Regulation 608 establishes the Annual General Adjustment by which the Maximum Allowable Rent increases for Controlled Rental Units. Pursuant to Regulation 602, Landlords may choose to apply rent increases in the amount of the Annual General Adjustment or delay and “bank” the application of an Annual General Adjustment for a particular year without losing the opportunity to use such an increase in the future. To reduce the risk of error, staff members utilize the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics’ determination of the CPI in a given 12-month period. The chart in Attachment 2 contains the CPI percentage for the last five years.

The change in the Consumer Price Index and corresponding Annual General Adjustment for 2020 is 2.9%.

Next Steps

Staff members have drafted a template rent increase notice for Landlord use based on the new 2020 Annual General Adjustment. These forms can be found on the Rent Program website (www.richmondrent.org) upon adoption by the Rent Board.

In addition, staff members will send an announcement to community members announcing the 2019 Annual General Adjustment. Additional community engagement and education is anticipated to address questions regarding application of the 2020 AGA in September 2020 in light of the City’s rent freeze. The current rent freeze expires on July 15, 2020, but may be extended.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – Regulation 608, Establishing the 2020 Annual General Adjustment

Attachment 2 – Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index Table – All Urban Consumers

¹ Since the Consumer Price Index is not announced for the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose region in March, staff established utilization of the amount published in February.

ITEM H-1 ATTACHMENT 1

608. Annual General Adjustment Order for 2020

The percentage increase in the CPI from 2019-2020, is 2.9%. Subject to any existing Citywide or Statewide rent increase moratorium, the following Annual General Adjustment shall apply:

- A. The 2020 Annual General Adjustment is not to exceed 2.9%.
- B. The Annual General Adjustment granted by this Regulation shall become effective on September 1, 2020, provided that the Landlord is in full compliance with all applicable provisions of the provisions of the Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause For Eviction and Homeowner Protection Ordinance, outstanding Rent Board and/or Hearing Examiner Orders, and any other applicable Regulation.
- C. Where the Landlord is entitled to the adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction and Homeowner Protection Ordinance, and any other applicable Regulation, the Annual General Adjustment granted by this Regulation does not automatically provide for a rent increase. A Landlord may increase Rent by the 2020 Annual General Adjustment for tenancies in effect prior to September 1, 2019, only if the Landlord is in compliance with Regulation 601, and has complied with any existing Rent Board and/or Hearing Examiner Order.



U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Databases, Tables & Calculators by Subject

Change Output Options:

From: 2010 ▼

To: 2020 ▼

 include graphs include annual averages[More Formatting Options](#) →

Data extracted on: June 11, 2020 (2:01:38 PM)

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

12-Month Percent Change

Series Id: CUURS49BSA0, CUUSS49BSA0

Not Seasonally Adjusted

Series Title: All items in San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA, all urban consumers, not seasonally adjusted

Area: San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward, CA

Item: All items

Base Period: 1982-84=100

Download: [xlsx](#)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	HALF1	HALF2
2010		1.8		1.7		1.1		1.0		0.9		1.5	1.4	1.7	1.1
2011		1.7		2.8		2.4		2.9		3.2		2.9	2.6	2.2	3.0
2012		3.0		2.1		2.6		2.8		3.2		2.2	2.7	2.6	2.8
2013		2.4		2.4		2.6		2.0		1.6		2.6	2.2	2.4	2.1
2014		2.4		2.8		3.0		3.0		3.2		2.7	2.8	2.7	3.0
2015		2.5		2.4		2.3		2.6		2.6		3.2	2.6	2.5	2.7
2016		3.0		2.7		2.7		3.1		3.6		3.5	3.0	2.8	3.2
2017		3.4		3.8		3.5		3.0		2.7		2.9	3.2	3.6	2.9
2018		3.6		3.2		3.9		4.3		4.4		4.5	3.9	3.4	4.3
2019		3.5		4.0		3.2		2.7		3.0		2.5	3.3	3.7	2.9
2020		2.9		1.1											

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AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

Department: Rent Program

Department Head: Nicolas Traylor

Phone: 620-6564

Meeting Date: June 17, 2020

Final Decision Date Deadline: June 17, 2020

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE: At their Regular Meeting on January 15, 2020, the Rent Board received a presentation regarding possible governance policies and subsequently directed staff to move forward with drafting regulations per their approved policy recommendations. At the February 19, 2020, Regular Meeting, the Board received the draft governance regulations and directed staff to modify the proposed Regulation 324, regarding adjournment, to limit Rent Board meetings to three hours, with the Board's ability to extend the time if necessary. Staff members have drafted the requested regulations for the Board's consideration.

INDICATE APPROPRIATE BODY

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> City Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Surplus Property Authority | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Powers Financing Authority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Standing Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Public Services Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Reuse Authority | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Rent Board</u> | |

ITEM

- Presentation/Proclamation/Commendation (3-Minute Time Limit)
- Public Hearing Regulation Other:
- Contract/Agreement Rent Board As Whole
- Grant Application/Acceptance Claims Filed Against City of Richmond
- Resolution Video/PowerPoint Presentation (contact KCRT @ 620.6759)

RECOMMENDED ACTION: ADOPT Chapter 3 of the Rent Board Regulations, regarding Rent Board governance – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor 620-6564).

AGENDA ITEM NO:
H-2.

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AGENDA REPORT

DATE: June 17, 2020
TO: Chair Maddock and Members of the Rent Board
FROM: Nicolas Traylor, Executive Director
SUBJECT: RENT BOARD GOVERNANCE POLICIES

STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE:

At their Regular Meeting on January 15, 2020, the Rent Board received a presentation regarding possible governance policies and subsequently directed staff to move forward with drafting regulations per their approved policy recommendations. At the February 19, 2020, Regular Meeting, the Board received the draft governance regulations and directed staff to modify the proposed Regulation 324, regarding adjournment, to limit Rent Board meetings to three hours, with the Board's ability to extend the time if necessary. Staff members have drafted the requested regulations for the Board's consideration.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

ADOPT Chapter 3 of the Rent Board Regulations, regarding Rent Board governance – Rent Program (Nicolas Traylor 620-6564).

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact related to this item.

DISCUSSION:

Background

At their January 15, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Rent Board, Boardmembers examined the following governance regulations policies:

1. Policies regarding procedural requirements for the adoption, amendment, and repeal of Rent Board regulations
2. Policies concerning meeting procedures
3. Policies concerning conflicts of interest

ITEM H-2

Each of these topics, and related policy questions, were contemplated and discussed by Boardmembers after the Staff presentation on January 15, 2020. Boardmembers voted to approve a series of recommendations for each of the below policy questions. Based on direction provided by the Rent Board at their January meeting, staff drafted a series of regulation to help govern the Rent Board. These regulations include those for which the Rent Board provided specific policy direction as well as related foundational regulations. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure consistency and predictability during Rent Board meetings by creating a framework in which Rent Boardmembers will conduct the business of the public in adherence with existing State law.

At the February 19, 2020 Regular Meeting, the Board received the revised draft governance regulations and directed staff to modify the proposed Regulation 324, regarding adjournment to limit Rent Board meetings to three hours, with the Boards ability to extend the time if necessary. Staff members have drafted regulations for the Board's consideration.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

Attachment 1 – Draft Rent Board Regulations Chapter 3

Attachment 2 – Rosenberg's Rules of Order

300. Purpose

The purpose of this Chapter is to ensure consistency and predictability during Rent Board meetings by creating a framework in which Rent Boardmembers will conduct the business of the public in adherence with existing State law.

301. Boardmember Qualifications

- A. Consistent with both City of Richmond Municipal Code Section 11.100 et.seq, and the City of Richmond Charter, the Mayor and City Council are vested with the power to both appoint and remove Boardmembers. The Rent Board shall consist of five (5) Boardmembers, all of whom must maintain Richmond residency during their tenure.
- B. There shall not be more than two Boardmembers serving on the Board that either own or manage any rental property or are realtors.

302. Election of Chairperson

The members of the Rent Board shall elect from among themselves a Chair and Vice Chair for a term not to exceed one year. The election of the Chair and Vice Chair requires a majority vote. At the end of the Chair and Vice Chair term, neither person will be eligible to hold the same position until at least one year after the expiration of their chairship. The election of the Chair and Vice Chair must be held at a properly agendized, Regular Rent Board meeting.

303. Rent Board Motions

All Rent Board motions taken at a properly agendized Rent Board meeting requires the affirmative vote of three (3) Rent Boardmembers. All decisions by the Rent Board shall be recorded by roll call vote and a record of such action shall be available to the public.

304. Quorum

Three (3) Boardmembers shall constitute a quorum of the Board.

305. Agenda

The Rent Board clerk shall compile the agenda. The agenda, with all supporting matters, shall be transmitted to the Boardmembers and be available to the public at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the regularly scheduled Board Meeting, unless specified otherwise by state law. Any item of public interest or concern added to the agenda after its publication to the general public shall not be considered unless it is accompanied by a full explanation by the advocate of such item and not until after a majority of the Board has voted to do so.

306. Time and Place for Holding Regular Meeting

The City of Richmond Rent Board shall hold regularly scheduled meetings as are necessary to ensure the timely performance of its duties under the Richmond Fair Rent, Just Cause for Eviction, and Homeowner Protection Ordinance. At the minimum, the Rent Board must hold at least one (1) meeting per year. All meetings shall be called and conducted in accordance with state law. Accordingly:

- A. The City of Richmond Rent Board hereby establishes regular meetings to be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:00 P.M., unless the agenda includes a closed-session item, in which case the regular meeting shall commence at the conclusion of closed session. If any such Wednesday falls on any day designated by law or by the City Council as a holiday or City closure, or if a change in the date for a regular meeting is reasonably necessary for the Board to perform its duties, the Board shall give the public reasonable notice of the alternative date for the regular meeting.
- B. The City Council Chamber in City Hall located at 440 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, California, is established as the location for holding the Rent Board's meetings. If, for any reason, the City Council Chamber is unavailable for a particular regular meeting, the Board shall give the public reasonable notice of the alternative site of the meeting in its published agenda. If, however, the City Council Chamber becomes permanently unavailable, the Board shall, with reasonable notice, amend this regulation to set forth the new location(s) of its regular meetings, in its published agenda.

307. Meetings must be Public -- Exception for Closed Sessions

In accordance with the Brown Act, all regular, adjourned regular, and special meetings of the Rent Control Board shall be public except that the Rent Board may hold Closed Sessions during a regular or special meeting, from which the public may be excluded, for the purpose of considering the matters referred to in §§54956.7-54957.10 of the California Government Code relating to Closed Sessions of the legislative body, or pursuant to other provisions of law.

308. Rent Board Correspondence

- A. The Rent Board Clerk is authorized to open all mail or other written communications addressed collectively to the Rent Board and to give it immediate attention so that all administrative business referred to in said communication which does not necessarily require Rent Board action may be acted upon.
- B. All written communications addressed to the Rent Board, the subject matter of which comes within the Rent Board, shall be placed on the agenda of the earliest regular meeting if the Executive Director deems Board receipt appropriate, except for those written communication containing material which:
 - 1. is profane;

ITEM H-2 ATTACHMENT 1

2. is in the nature of a criminal or civil slander, or is potentially slanderous or libelous;
 3. advocates or opposes the candidacy of any person or party for any elective office;
 4. is primarily an advertisement or promotion or has as a substantial purpose the advancement of any cause the major benefit of which is private and not public; or
 5. does not necessitate Board action.
- C. Written communications addressed to individual Boardmembers shall not be opened by the Rent Board Clerk unless authorized to do so by individual Boardmembers. Such communications shall not become public records until received and filed by the Board at a regular, special or adjourned meeting of the Board, or retained or used as provided in §6250 of the California Government Code.
- D. Written communication received by the Rent Board Clerk after the deadline to publish the agenda shall not be placed on that agenda unless it concerns a matter to be considered by the Board at the upcoming regular meeting and is determined by the Rent Board Clerk to be an urgent matter which should be brought to the immediate attention of the Board. If it is determined that the communication must be placed on the agenda, Rent Board staff shall amend the agenda, to include the written communication.
- E. Written communications received by the Rent Board shall not be read aloud at a Board Meeting unless requested by a majority vote of the Board. No item which is exempted by §6254 of the California Government Code shall be disclosed or treated as a public record.

309. Order of Business

- A. The Board will ordinarily consider and dispose of its business in the following order, unless otherwise specified by the Board:
1. Call to Order. The Chair will call the meeting to order, and the Rent Board Clerk will call the roll.
 2. Closed Session. The Board will recess to closed session to consider items on the closed-session agenda.
 3. Reconvene to Open Session. The Chair will call the open session to order and invite the Rent Board and public to salute the flag.
 4. Report of Closed Session. The Staff Attorney will provide a report of the Rent Board's closed session.
 5. Roll Call. The Rent Board Clerk will call roll of the Boardmembers and shall announce for the record the names of the absent Boardmember(s). If a Boardmember has been recorded as absent, but later arrives at the meeting, the Rent Board Clerk shall announce that Boardmembers and the time of arrival for the record.

ITEM H-2 ATTACHMENT 1

6. Statement of Conflict of Interest. The Rent Board Clerk will inquire as to whether any Rent Boardmember has a conflict of interest as it relates to any of the items appearing on that meeting's agenda.
7. Agenda Review. The Rent Board Chair or one serving in the Chair's capacity will inquire as to whether Rent Boardmembers and/or Rent Board staff would like to make changes to the agenda.
8. Swearing in New Boardmembers. Where applicable, the Rent Board Clerk will swear-in new Boardmembers at the first meeting they appear.
9. Electing Chair and Vice-Chair. Where applicable, the Rent Boardmembers will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair consistent with Regulation 302 of this Chapter.
10. Special Agenda Items. The Chair or any member of the Board, may make relevant announcements, present commendations or awards, introduce special guests, or conduct other brief business of a like nature.
11. Public Forum. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the Board on any item of interest to the public that is within the Board's subject-matter jurisdiction; however, members of the public wishing to address the Board on specific agenda items should address the Board on those items when they are under consideration by the Board. All speakers must complete and file a speaker's card with Rent Board staff prior to the commencement of Public Forum. The amount of time allotted to individual speakers shall be determined based on the number of persons requesting to speak during this item. The time allocation for each speaker will be as follows: 15 or fewer speakers, a maximum of 2 minutes; 16 to 24 speakers, a maximum of 1 and one-half minutes; and 25 or more speakers, a maximum of 1 minute.
12. Rent Board Consent Calendar. The Rent Board will consider all consent items as a group by a single motion to approve the consent calendar. Because the consent calendar includes only items of a noncontroversial nature that do not require a public hearing such as receiving reports, approving minutes or making technical, non-substantive changes to regulations, the title to the individual consent items will not be read unless a request to do so is made by a member of the Board. Public discussion by the Rent Board is permitted only if the item is removed from the consent agenda and a specific request to be heard is made.
13. Continued Business. The Rent Board will consider any unconcluded items from previous Board Meeting agendas.
14. Appeals. The Rent Board will hear matters in which the Board is required to make a decision concerning an appeal.
15. Administrative Items, Including Regulations. The Rent Board will consider issues placed on the agenda by the Rent Program staff members, including those items placed on the agenda on behalf of non-Rent Program staff members.

16. Reports of Officers. The Executive Director and/or Deputy Director may share relevant news or updates to the Rent Board as it relates to the Rent Program or Rent Board's course of business.
 17. Adjournment. The Rent Board will adjourn, and will remain adjourned until its next regularly scheduled meeting unless an emergency or special meeting is called before the next regularly-scheduled meeting.
- B. The Rent Board may alter the order of its agenda for an individual meeting, except the call to order and adjournment, by a majority vote.

310. Preparation of Minutes

The Rent Board Clerk shall have exclusive responsibility for preparation of the minutes, and any directions for changes in the minutes shall be made only by a majority action of the Rent Board.

311. Presiding Officer

The Chair shall be the Presiding Officer at all meetings of the Rent Board. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall preside. In the absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, the Rent Board Clerk shall call the Rent Board to order whereupon a temporary Presiding Officer shall be elected by a majority of the Boardmembers present to serve until the arrival of the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson or until adjournment.

312. Powers and Duties of Presiding Officer

- A. Duties. The Presiding Officer shall preserve order at all regular, adjourned regular, and special meetings of the Board. Such officer shall state each agenda item or question coming before the Board, announce the decisions of the Board on all subjects, and decide all questions of order.
- B. Signing of Documents. The Presiding Officer shall sign all Resolutions and other documents necessitating their signature which were adopted in their presence, unless they are unavailable, in which case the signature of the alternate Presiding Officer may be used.
- C. Sworn Testimony. Where appropriate, the Presiding Officer may require any person addressing the Board to be sworn as a witness and to testify under oath, and the Presiding Officer shall so require if directed to do so by a majority vote of the Board. Any member of the Board may request that anyone appearing before the Board on any matter shall be sworn.
- D. Subpoena. The Rent Board may, through the Presiding Officer, compel the attendance of witnesses, to examine them under oath, and to compel the production of evidence before it.

313. Rules of Debate

- A. Getting the Floor. Every Rent Boardmember desiring to speak shall first address the Chair, gain recognition by the Presiding Officer, and shall confine their remarks to the question under debate.
- B. Questions to Staff. Every Rent Boardmember desiring to question Board staff shall, after recognition by the Presiding Officer, address his/her questions to the Executive Director, the Deputy Director, the Rent Board's counsel, or any staff member then present on the dais. If either the Executive Director or the Rent Board's counsel feels another staff member who is not located on the dais could best respond to the Boardmember's question, he or she may direct the question to a member of his/her staff in the audience for that purpose.
- C. Interruptions. A Boardmember, once recognized, shall not be interrupted when speaking unless:
 - 1. Called to order by the Presiding Officer;
 - 2. a point of order, point of information, or of personal privilege is raised by another Boardmember; or
 - 3. the speaker chooses to yield to a question by another Boardmember.
- D. Points of Order. The Presiding Officer shall determine all points of order subject to the right of any Rent Boardmember to appeal to the Board. Appropriate points of order relate to anything that would not be considered appropriate procedural conduct of a meeting. If an appeal is taken, the question shall be, "Shall the decision of the Presiding Officer be sustained?" A majority vote shall conclusively determine such question of order.
- E. Point of Personal Privilege. The right of a Rent Boardmember to address the Board on a question of personal privilege shall be limited to those issues that would interfere with the normal comfort of the meeting.
- F. Calling the Question. Rent Boardmembers may move to end debate on individual items. However, neither the moving party nor the party seconding any motion is permitted to call for the question.
- G. Motion to Reconsider. A motion to reconsider any action taken by the Board may be made only by a Rent Boardmember of the prevailing side and may be made only on the same day the action is taken and shall have precedence over all other motions or while a member has the floor and said motion shall be debatable.
- H. Limitation of Debate. No Boardmember shall be allowed to speak more than once upon any particular subject until every other Boardmember desiring to do so shall have spoken. Each Boardmember speaking on any item on the agenda shall be limited to ten (10) minutes per item to state his/her opinion and his/her views.
- I. Continue or Table a Matter. Any Rent Boardmember may move to table or continue an agenda item that is currently being discussed. If a Rent Boardmember makes said motion,

the motion must contain a specific reference as to when the agenda item will come back to the body.

- J. Recess. Any Rent Boardmember may move the Board to take a recess. If the motion passes, the chair shall determine the length of the recess.
- K. Adjourn. Any Rent Boardmember may move the Board to adjourn. If passed, the Board must immediately adjourn to the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- L. Close Nomination. When choosing a presiding officer, a Rent Boardmember may make a motion to close nomination. Where such a motion is passed, no further Rent Boardmembers may be nominated.
- M. Suspension of the Rules. Any Rent Boardmember may move to suspend the rules for a particular purpose. The suspensions of the rules permit Rent Boardmembers to deviate from the rules or regulations that guide particular procedures and conduct of Rent Board meetings.

314. Rules of Order

Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter or by law, the procedures of this Board shall be governed by the latest revised edition of Rosenberg's Rules of Order.

315. Failure to Observe Rules of Order

Rules under this Chapter are deemed to be procedural only and the failure to strictly observe such rules shall not affect the jurisdiction of the Board or invalidate any action taken at a meeting that is otherwise lawful.

316. Voting Procedure

Any vote of the Board, including a roll call vote, may be registered by the members by answering "AYE" or "YES" for an affirmative vote or "NO" for a negative vote upon their name being called by the Rent Board Clerk. Unless a member of the Board states that they are not voting, silence shall be recorded as an affirmative vote.

317. Disqualification for Conflict of Interest

Pursuant to the conflict of interest code adopted by the City of Richmond in accordance with Government Code Section 87300, all Rent Boardmembers shall disclose all present holdings and interests in real property, including interests in corporations, trusts, or other entities with real property holdings, in accordance with applicable state law.

- A. Any Rent Boardmember who is disqualified from voting on a particular matter by reason of a conflict of interest shall publicly state or have the Presiding Officer state the nature of such disqualification in an open meeting.

- B. Where no thoroughly disqualifying conflict of interest appears, the matter of disqualification may, at the request of the Rent Boardmember affected, be decided by other Rent Boardmembers.
- C. A Rent Boardmember who is disqualified by reason of conflict of interest in any matter shall not remain in their seat during the debate and shall not vote on such matter, but shall request and be given the permission of the Presiding Officer to step down from the dais and leave the Council Chamber or other room where the meeting is held.
- D. A Rent Boardmember stating such disqualification shall not be counted as part of a quorum and shall be considered absent for the purpose of determining the outcome of any vote on such matter.

318. Impartiality

Where the Rent Board sits as an adjudicative body to hear matters that fall within its jurisdiction, those members must strive to uphold the integrity of the Rent Board by avoiding impropriety and the appearance of impropriety. Thus, Rent Boardmembers must strive to perform their duties in adjudicating matters that fall within its jurisdiction in a fashion that is impartial, competent, and diligent. To that end, no Rent Boardmember may participate in the consideration or decision of any adjudicative matter in which such person has any personal interest, including equity interest, financial interest, an interest as a landlord, tenant, or management person, or is related by blood or marriage or adoption to a landlord or tenant involved. For the purposes of this Chapter, a personal interest is one where a Boardmember has a vested interest in the outcome of a matter thereby impairing their ability to evaluate the matter impartially. Where issues of partiality arise, Rent Boardmembers shall treat such partiality as a conflict of interest and adhere to Regulation 317, as it relates to disclosure and recusal.

319. Failure to Vote

Every Rent Boardmember is entitled to vote unless disqualified by reason of conflict of interest.

320. Tie Vote

Tie votes shall be lost motions and may be reconsidered.

321. Changing Vote

A member may change their vote only if they make a timely request to do so immediately following the announcement of the vote by the Rent Board Clerk and prior to the time that the next item in the order of business is taken up.

322. Consideration of Agenda Items

- A. The Board will ordinarily consider agenda items in the following order, unless otherwise specified by the Board:
- a. The Rent Board Clerk or Presiding Officer will read the title of the agenda item to be considered.
 - b. A report will be presented by staff, if called for by the Presiding Officer.
 - c. Rent Boardmembers may ask questions of staff.
 - d. The Presiding Officer will call for public comment public
 - e. After all members of the public wishing to address the Board have done so, the Presiding Officer will announce the close of discussion by the public.
 - f. The Board may publicly deliberate.
 - g. A Rent Boardmember may make a motion, or the Presiding Officer may ask for a motion. If the motion is seconded, the motion is before the Board.
 - h. The Board may discuss the motion that is before it.
 - i. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Presiding Officer will restate the motion and request that the Rent Board Clerk call the for a vote.
 - j. The Board will vote on the motion. If more than one motion is before the Board, the Board must vote on the last-made motion first, then proceed in reverse order to the first-made motion.

323. Effective Date of Adopted Regulations and Resolutions

Where the Rent Board by majority vote adopts a Regulation or Resolution, the effective date of the adopted Regulation or Resolution shall be thirty (30) calendar days from the date of the Board meeting where the Rent Board adopted said Regulation or Resolution.

324. Adjournment

The duration of each Board Meeting shall not exceed three hours, unless a majority of the Rent Boardmembers vote otherwise.

325. Record of Meetings

All public meetings of the Board shall be electronically recorded. The recording shall be made available on the Rent Board's website and shall be part of the records of the Board.

326. Interpretation and Modification of the Rules

These rules shall be interpreted liberally in order to provide for the optimum in the free interchange of information and public debate without any unnecessary waste of time or duplication of effort.

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Rosenberg's Rules of Order

REVISED 2011

Simple Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for the 21st Century

By Judge Dave Rosenberg



MISSION AND CORE BELIEFS

To expand and protect local control for cities through education and advocacy to enhance the quality of life for all Californians.

VISION

To be recognized and respected as the leading advocate for the common interests of California's cities.

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Established in 1898, the League of California Cities is a member organization that represents California's incorporated cities. The League strives to protect the local authority and autonomy of city government and help California's cities effectively serve their residents. In addition to advocating on cities' behalf at the state capitol, the League provides its members with professional development programs and information resources, conducts education conferences and research, and publishes Western City magazine.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dave Rosenberg is a Superior Court Judge in Yolo County. He has served as presiding judge of his court, and as presiding judge of the Superior Court Appellate Division. He also has served as chair of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee (the committee composed of all 58 California presiding judges) and as an advisory member of the California Judicial Council. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Rosenberg was member of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, where he served two terms as chair. Rosenberg also served on the Davis City Council, including two terms as mayor. He has served on the senior staff of two governors, and worked for 19 years in private law practice. Rosenberg has served as a member and chair of numerous state, regional and local boards. Rosenberg chaired the California State Lottery Commission, the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, the Yolo County Economic Development Commission, and the Yolo County Criminal Justice Cabinet. For many years, he has taught classes on parliamentary procedure and has served as parliamentarian for large and small bodies.

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INTRODUCTION

The rules of procedure at meetings should be simple enough for most people to understand. Unfortunately, that has not always been the case. Virtually all clubs, associations, boards, councils and bodies follow a set of rules — *Robert's Rules of Order* — which are embodied in a small, but complex, book. Virtually no one I know has actually read this book cover to cover. Worse yet, the book was written for another time and for another purpose. If one is chairing or running a parliament, then *Robert's Rules of Order* is a dandy and quite useful handbook for procedure in that complex setting. On the other hand, if one is running a meeting of say, a five-member body with a few members of the public in attendance, a simplified version of the rules of parliamentary procedure is in order.

Hence, the birth of *Rosenberg's Rules of Order*.

What follows is my version of the rules of parliamentary procedure, based on my decades of experience chairing meetings in state and local government. These rules have been simplified for the smaller bodies we chair or in which we participate, slimmed down for the 21st Century, yet retaining the basic tenets of order to which we have grown accustomed. Interestingly enough, *Rosenberg's Rules* has found a welcoming audience. Hundreds of cities, counties, special districts, committees, boards, commissions, neighborhood associations and private corporations and companies have adopted *Rosenberg's Rules* in lieu of *Robert's Rules* because they have found them practical, logical, simple, easy to learn and user friendly.

This treatise on modern parliamentary procedure is built on a foundation supported by the following four pillars:

1. **Rules should establish order.** The first purpose of rules of parliamentary procedure is to establish a framework for the orderly conduct of meetings.
2. **Rules should be clear.** Simple rules lead to wider understanding and participation. Complex rules create two classes: those who understand and participate; and those who do not fully understand and do not fully participate.
3. **Rules should be user friendly.** That is, the rules must be simple enough that the public is invited into the body and feels that it has participated in the process.
4. **Rules should enforce the will of the majority while protecting the rights of the minority.** The ultimate purpose of rules of procedure is to encourage discussion and to facilitate decision making by the body. In a democracy, majority rules. The rules must enable the majority to express itself and fashion a result, while permitting the minority to also express itself, but not dominate, while fully participating in the process.

Establishing a Quorum

The starting point for a meeting is the establishment of a quorum. A quorum is defined as the minimum number of members of the body who must be present at a meeting for business to be legally transacted. The default rule is that a quorum is one more than half the body. For example, in a five-member body a quorum is three. When the body has three members present, it can legally transact business. If the body has less than a quorum of members present, it cannot legally transact business. And even if the body has a quorum to begin the meeting, the body can lose the quorum during the meeting when a member departs (or even when a member leaves the dais). When that occurs the body loses its ability to transact business until and unless a quorum is reestablished.

The default rule, identified above, however, gives way to a specific rule of the body that establishes a quorum. For example, the rules of a particular five-member body may indicate that a quorum is four members for that particular body. The body must follow the rules it has established for its quorum. In the absence of such a specific rule, the quorum is one more than half the members of the body.

The Role of the Chair

While all members of the body should know and understand the rules of parliamentary procedure, it is the chair of the body who is charged with applying the rules of conduct of the meeting. The chair should be well versed in those rules. For all intents and purposes, the chair makes the final ruling on the rules every time the chair states an action. In fact, all decisions by the chair are final unless overruled by the body itself.

Since the chair runs the conduct of the meeting, it is usual courtesy for the chair to play a less active role in the debate and discussion than other members of the body. This does not mean that the chair should not participate in the debate or discussion. To the contrary, as a member of the body, the chair has the full right to participate in the debate, discussion and decision-making of the body. What the chair should do, however, is strive to be the last to speak at the discussion and debate stage. The chair should not make or second a motion unless the chair is convinced that no other member of the body will do so at that point in time.

The Basic Format for an Agenda Item Discussion

Formal meetings normally have a written, often published agenda. Informal meetings may have only an oral or understood agenda. In either case, the meeting is governed by the agenda and the agenda constitutes the body's agreed-upon roadmap for the meeting. Each agenda item can be handled by the chair in the following basic format:

First, the chair should clearly announce the agenda item number and should clearly state what the agenda item subject is. The chair should then announce the format (which follows) that will be followed in considering the agenda item.

Second, following that agenda format, the chair should invite the appropriate person or persons to report on the item, including any recommendation that they might have. The appropriate person or persons may be the chair, a member of the body, a staff person, or a committee chair charged with providing input on the agenda item.

Third, the chair should ask members of the body if they have any technical questions of clarification. At this point, members of the body may ask clarifying questions to the person or persons who reported on the item, and that person or persons should be given time to respond.

Fourth, the chair should invite public comments, or if appropriate at a formal meeting, should open the public meeting for public input. If numerous members of the public indicate a desire to speak to the subject, the chair may limit the time of public speakers. At the conclusion of the public comments, the chair should announce that public input has concluded (or the public hearing, as the case may be, is closed).

Fifth, the chair should invite a motion. The chair should announce the name of the member of the body who makes the motion.

Sixth, the chair should determine if any member of the body wishes to second the motion. The chair should announce the name of the member of the body who seconds the motion. It is normally good practice for a motion to require a second before proceeding to ensure that it is not just one member of the body who is interested in a particular approach. However, a second is not an absolute requirement, and the chair can proceed with consideration and vote on a motion even when there is no second. This is a matter left to the discretion of the chair.

Seventh, if the motion is made and seconded, the chair should make sure everyone understands the motion.

This is done in one of three ways:

1. The chair can ask the maker of the motion to repeat it;
2. The chair can repeat the motion; or
3. The chair can ask the secretary or the clerk of the body to repeat the motion.

Eighth, the chair should now invite discussion of the motion by the body. If there is no desired discussion, or after the discussion has ended, the chair should announce that the body will vote on the motion. If there has been no discussion or very brief discussion, then the vote on the motion should proceed immediately and there is no need to repeat the motion. If there has been substantial discussion, then it is normally best to make sure everyone understands the motion by repeating it.

Ninth, the chair takes a vote. Simply asking for the “ayes” and then asking for the “nays” normally does this. If members of the body do not vote, then they “abstain.” Unless the rules of the body provide otherwise (or unless a super majority is required as delineated later in these rules), then a simple majority (as defined in law or the rules of the body as delineated later in these rules) determines whether the motion passes or is defeated.

Tenth, the chair should announce the result of the vote and what action (if any) the body has taken. In announcing the result, the chair should indicate the names of the members of the body, if any, who voted in the minority on the motion. This announcement might take the following form: “The motion passes by a vote of 3-2, with Smith and Jones dissenting. We have passed the motion requiring a 10-day notice for all future meetings of this body.”

Motions in General

Motions are the vehicles for decision making by a body. It is usually best to have a motion before the body prior to commencing discussion of an agenda item. This helps the body focus.

Motions are made in a simple two-step process. First, the chair should recognize the member of the body. Second, the member of the body makes a motion by preceding the member’s desired approach with the words “I move . . .”

A typical motion might be: “I move that we give a 10-day notice in the future for all our meetings.”

The chair usually initiates the motion in one of three ways:

1. **Inviting the members of the body to make a motion**, for example, “A motion at this time would be in order.”
2. **Suggesting a motion to the members of the body**, “A motion would be in order that we give a 10-day notice in the future for all our meetings.”
3. **Making the motion**. As noted, the chair has every right as a member of the body to make a motion, but should normally do so only if the chair wishes to make a motion on an item but is convinced that no other member of the body is willing to step forward to do so at a particular time.

The Three Basic Motions

There are three motions that are the most common and recur often at meetings:

The basic motion. The basic motion is the one that puts forward a decision for the body’s consideration. A basic motion might be: “I move that we create a five-member committee to plan and put on our annual fundraiser.”

The motion to amend. If a member wants to change a basic motion that is before the body, they would move to amend it. A motion to amend might be: “I move that we amend the motion to have a 10-member committee.” A motion to amend takes the basic motion that is before the body and seeks to change it in some way.

The substitute motion. If a member wants to completely do away with the basic motion that is before the body, and put a new motion before the body, they would move a substitute motion. A substitute motion might be: “I move a substitute motion that we cancel the annual fundraiser this year.”

“Motions to amend” and “substitute motions” are often confused, but they are quite different, and their effect (if passed) is quite different. A motion to amend seeks to retain the basic motion on the floor, but modify it in some way. A substitute motion seeks to throw out the basic motion on the floor, and substitute a new and different motion for it. The decision as to whether a motion is really a “motion to amend” or a “substitute motion” is left to the chair. So if a member makes what that member calls a “motion to amend,” but the chair determines that it is really a “substitute motion,” then the chair’s designation governs.

A “friendly amendment” is a practical parliamentary tool that is simple, informal, saves time and avoids bogging a meeting down with numerous formal motions. It works in the following way: In the discussion on a pending motion, it may appear that a change to the motion is desirable or may win support for the motion from some members. When that happens, a member who has the floor may simply say, “I want to suggest a friendly amendment to the motion.” The member suggests the friendly amendment, and if the maker and the person who seconded the motion pending on the floor accepts the friendly amendment, that now becomes the pending motion on the floor. If either the maker or the person who seconded rejects the proposed friendly amendment, then the proposer can formally move to amend.

Multiple Motions Before the Body

There can be up to three motions on the floor at the same time. The chair can reject a fourth motion until the chair has dealt with the three that are on the floor and has resolved them. This rule has practical value. More than three motions on the floor at any given time is confusing and unwieldy for almost everyone, including the chair.

When there are two or three motions on the floor (after motions and seconds) at the same time, the vote should proceed *first* on the *last* motion that is made. For example, assume the first motion is a basic “motion to have a five-member committee to plan and put on our annual fundraiser.” During the discussion of this motion, a member might make a second motion to “amend the main motion to have a 10-member committee, not a five-member committee to plan and put on our annual fundraiser.” And perhaps, during that discussion, a member makes yet a third motion as a “substitute motion that we not have an annual fundraiser this year.” The proper procedure would be as follows:

First, the chair would deal with the *third* (the last) motion on the floor, the substitute motion. After discussion and debate, a vote would be taken first on the third motion. If the substitute motion *passed*, it would be a substitute for the basic motion and would eliminate it. The first motion would be moot, as would the second motion (which sought to amend the first motion), and the action on the agenda item would be completed on the passage by the body of the third motion (the substitute motion). No vote would be taken on the first or second motions.

Second, if the substitute motion *failed*, the chair would then deal with the second (now the last) motion on the floor, the motion to amend. The discussion and debate would focus strictly on the amendment (should the committee be five or 10 members). If the motion to amend *passed*, the chair would then move to consider the main motion (the first motion) as *amended*. If the motion to amend *failed*, the chair would then move to consider the main motion (the first motion) in its original format, not amended.

Third, the chair would now deal with the first motion that was placed on the floor. The original motion would either be in its original format (five-member committee), or if *amended*, would be in its amended format (10-member committee). The question on the floor for discussion and decision would be whether a committee should plan and put on the annual fundraiser.

To Debate or Not to Debate

The basic rule of motions is that they are subject to discussion and debate. Accordingly, basic motions, motions to amend, and substitute motions are all eligible, each in their turn, for full discussion before and by the body. The debate can continue as long as members of the body wish to discuss an item, subject to the decision of the chair that it is time to move on and take action.

There are exceptions to the general rule of free and open debate on motions. The exceptions all apply when there is a desire of the body to move on. The following motions are not debatable (that is, when the following motions are made and seconded, the chair must immediately call for a vote of the body without debate on the motion):

Motion to adjourn. This motion, if passed, requires the body to immediately adjourn to its next regularly scheduled meeting. It requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to recess. This motion, if passed, requires the body to immediately take a recess. Normally, the chair determines the length of the recess which may be a few minutes or an hour. It requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to fix the time to adjourn. This motion, if passed, requires the body to adjourn the meeting at the specific time set in the motion. For example, the motion might be: “I move we adjourn this meeting at midnight.” It requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to table. This motion, if passed, requires discussion of the agenda item to be halted and the agenda item to be placed on “hold.” The motion can contain a specific time in which the item can come back to the body. “I move we table this item until our regular meeting in October.” Or the motion can contain no specific time for the return of the item, in which case a motion to take the item off the table and bring it back to the body will have to be taken at a future meeting. A motion to table an item (or to bring it back to the body) requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to limit debate. The most common form of this motion is to say, “I move the previous question” or “I move the question” or “I call the question” or sometimes someone simply shouts out “question.” As a practical matter, when a member calls out one of these phrases, the chair can expedite matters by treating it as a “request” rather than as a formal motion. The chair can simply inquire of the body, “any further discussion?” If no one wishes to have further discussion, then the chair can go right to the pending motion that is on the floor. However, if even one person wishes to discuss the pending motion further, then at that point, the chair should treat the call for the “question” as a formal motion, and proceed to it.

When a member of the body makes such a motion (“I move the previous question”), the member is really saying: “I’ve had enough debate. Let’s get on with the vote.” When such a motion is made, the chair should ask for a second, stop debate, and vote on the motion to limit debate. The motion to limit debate requires a two-thirds vote of the body.

NOTE: A motion to limit debate could include a time limit. For example: “I move we limit debate on this agenda item to 15 minutes.” Even in this format, the motion to limit debate requires a two-thirds vote of the body. A similar motion is a *motion to object to consideration of an item*. This motion is not debatable, and if passed, precludes the body from even considering an item on the agenda. It also requires a two-thirds vote.

Majority and Super Majority Votes

In a democracy, a simple majority vote determines a question. A tie vote means the motion fails. So in a seven-member body, a vote of 4-3 passes the motion. A vote of 3-3 with one abstention means the motion fails. If one member is absent and the vote is 3-3, the motion still fails.

All motions require a simple majority, but there are a few exceptions. The exceptions come up when the body is taking an action which effectively cuts off the ability of a minority of the body to take an action or discuss an item. These extraordinary motions require a two-thirds majority (a super majority) to pass:

Motion to limit debate. Whether a member says, “I move the previous question,” or “I move the question,” or “I call the question,” or “I move to limit debate,” it all amounts to an attempt to cut off the ability of the minority to discuss an item, and it requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

Motion to close nominations. When choosing officers of the body (such as the chair), nominations are in order either from a nominating committee or from the floor of the body. A motion to close nominations effectively cuts off the right of the minority to nominate officers and it requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

Motion to object to the consideration of a question. Normally, such a motion is unnecessary since the objectionable item can be tabled or defeated straight up. However, when members of a body do not even want an item on the agenda to be considered, then such a motion is in order. It is not debatable, and it requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

Motion to suspend the rules. This motion is debatable, but requires a two-thirds vote to pass. If the body has its own rules of order, conduct or procedure, this motion allows the body to suspend the rules for a particular purpose. For example, the body (a private club) might have a rule prohibiting the attendance at meetings by non-club members. A motion to suspend the rules would be in order to allow a non-club member to attend a meeting of the club on a particular date or on a particular agenda item.

Counting Votes

The matter of counting votes starts simple, but can become complicated.

Usually, it’s pretty easy to determine whether a particular motion passed or whether it was defeated. If a simple majority vote is needed to pass a motion, then one vote more than 50 percent of the body is required. For example, in a five-member body, if the vote is three in favor and two opposed, the motion passes. If it is two in favor and three opposed, the motion is defeated.

If a two-thirds majority vote is needed to pass a motion, then how many affirmative votes are required? The simple rule of thumb is to count the “no” votes and double that count to determine how many “yes” votes are needed to pass a particular motion. For example, in a seven-member body, if two members vote “no” then the “yes” vote of at least four members is required to achieve a two-thirds majority vote to pass the motion.

What about tie votes? In the event of a tie, the motion always fails since an affirmative vote is required to pass any motion. For example, in a five-member body, if the vote is two in favor and two opposed, with one member absent, the motion is defeated.

Vote counting starts to become complicated when members vote “abstain” or in the case of a written ballot, cast a blank (or unreadable) ballot. Do these votes count, and if so, how does one count them? The starting point is always to check the statutes.

In California, for example, for an action of a board of supervisors to be valid and binding, the action must be approved by a majority of the board. (California Government Code Section 25005.) Typically, this means three of the five members of the board must vote affirmatively in favor of the action. A vote of 2-1 would not be sufficient. A vote of 3-0 with two abstentions would be sufficient. In general law cities in

California, as another example, resolutions or orders for the payment of money and all ordinances require a recorded vote of the total members of the city council. (California Government Code Section 36936.) Cities with charters may prescribe their own vote requirements. Local elected officials are always well-advised to consult with their local agency counsel on how state law may affect the vote count.

After consulting state statutes, step number two is to check the rules of the body. If the rules of the body say that you count votes of “those present” then you treat abstentions one way. However, if the rules of the body say that you count the votes of those “present and voting,” then you treat abstentions a different way. And if the rules of the body are silent on the subject, then the general rule of thumb (and default rule) is that you count all votes that are “present and voting.”

Accordingly, under the “present and voting” system, you would **NOT** count abstention votes on the motion. Members who abstain are counted for purposes of determining quorum (they are “present”), but you treat the abstention votes on the motion as if they did not exist (they are not “voting”). On the other hand, if the rules of the body specifically say that you count votes of those “present” then you **DO** count abstention votes both in establishing the quorum and on the motion. In this event, the abstention votes act just like “no” votes.

How does this work in practice?

Here are a few examples.

Assume that a five-member city council is voting on a motion that requires a simple majority vote to pass, and assume further that the body has no specific rule on counting votes. Accordingly, the default rule kicks in and we count all votes of members that are “present and voting.” If the vote on the motion is 3-2, the motion passes. If the motion is 2-2 with one abstention, the motion fails.

Assume a five-member city council voting on a motion that requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and further assume that the body has no specific rule on counting votes. Again, the default rule applies. If the vote is 3-2, the motion fails for lack of a two-thirds majority. If the vote is 4-1, the motion passes with a clear two-thirds majority. A vote of three “yes,” one “no” and one “abstain” also results in passage of the motion. Once again, the abstention is counted only for the purpose of determining quorum, but on the actual vote on the motion, it is as if the abstention vote never existed — so an effective 3-1 vote is clearly a two-thirds majority vote.

Now, change the scenario slightly. Assume the same five-member city council voting on a motion that requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, but now assume that the body **DOES** have a specific rule requiring a two-thirds vote of members “present.” Under this specific rule, we must count the members present not only for quorum but also for the motion. In this scenario, any abstention has the same force and effect as if it were a “no” vote. Accordingly, if the votes were three “yes,” one “no” and one “abstain,” then the motion fails. The abstention in this case is treated like a “no” vote and effective vote of 3-2 is not enough to pass two-thirds majority muster.

Now, exactly how does a member cast an “abstention” vote?

Any time a member votes “abstain” or says, “I abstain,” that is an abstention. However, if a member votes “present” that is also treated as an abstention (the member is essentially saying, “Count me for purposes of a quorum, but my vote on the issue is abstain.”) In fact, any manifestation of intention not to vote either “yes” or “no” on the pending motion may be treated by the chair as an abstention. If written ballots are cast, a blank or unreadable ballot is counted as an abstention as well.

Can a member vote “absent” or “count me as absent?” Interesting question. The ruling on this is up to the chair. The better approach is for the chair to count this as if the member had left his/her chair and is actually “absent.” That, of course, affects the quorum. However, the chair may also treat this as a vote to abstain, particularly if the person does not actually leave the dais.

The Motion to Reconsider

There is a special and unique motion that requires a bit of explanation all by itself; the motion to reconsider. A tenet of parliamentary procedure is finality. After vigorous discussion, debate and a vote, there must be some closure to the issue. And so, after a vote is taken, the matter is deemed closed, subject only to reopening if a proper motion to consider is made and passed.

A motion to reconsider requires a majority vote to pass like other garden-variety motions, but there are two special rules that apply only to the motion to reconsider.

First, is the matter of timing. A motion to reconsider must be made at the meeting where the item was first voted upon. A motion to reconsider made at a later time is untimely. (The body, however, can always vote to suspend the rules and, by a two-thirds majority, allow a motion to reconsider to be made at another time.)

Second, a motion to reconsider may be made only by certain members of the body. Accordingly, a motion to reconsider may be made only by a member who voted in the majority on the original motion. If such a member has a change of heart, he or she may make the motion to reconsider (any other member of the body — including a member who voted in the minority on the original motion — may second the motion). If a member who voted in the minority seeks to make the motion to reconsider, it must be ruled out of order. The purpose of this rule is finality. If a member of minority could make a motion to reconsider, then the item could be brought back to the body again and again, which would defeat the purpose of finality.

If the motion to reconsider passes, then the original matter is back before the body, and a new original motion is in order. The matter may be discussed and debated as if it were on the floor for the first time.

Courtesy and Decorum

The rules of order are meant to create an atmosphere where the members of the body and the members of the public can attend to business efficiently, fairly and with full participation. At the same time, it is up to the chair and the members of the body to maintain common courtesy and decorum. Unless the setting is very informal, it is always best for only one person at a time to have the floor, and it is always best for every speaker to be first recognized by the chair before proceeding to speak.

The chair should always ensure that debate and discussion of an agenda item focuses on the item and the policy in question, not the personalities of the members of the body. Debate on policy is healthy, debate on personalities is not. The chair has the right to cut off discussion that is too personal, is too loud, or is too crude.

Debate and discussion should be focused, but free and open. In the interest of time, the chair may, however, limit the time allotted to speakers, including members of the body.

Can a member of the body interrupt the speaker? The general rule is “no.” There are, however, exceptions. A speaker may be interrupted for the following reasons:

Privilege. The proper interruption would be, “point of privilege.” The chair would then ask the interrupter to “state your point.” Appropriate points of privilege relate to anything that would interfere with the normal comfort of the meeting. For example, the room may be too hot or too cold, or a blowing fan might interfere with a person’s ability to hear.

Order. The proper interruption would be, “point of order.” Again, the chair would ask the interrupter to “state your point.” Appropriate points of order relate to anything that would not be considered appropriate conduct of the meeting. For example, if the chair moved on to a vote on a motion that permits debate without allowing that discussion or debate.

Appeal. If the chair makes a ruling that a member of the body disagrees with, that member may appeal the ruling of the chair. If the motion is seconded, and after debate, if it passes by a simple majority vote, then the ruling of the chair is deemed reversed.

Call for orders of the day. This is simply another way of saying, “return to the agenda.” If a member believes that the body has drifted from the agreed-upon agenda, such a call may be made. It does not require a vote, and when the chair discovers that the agenda has not been followed, the chair simply reminds the body to return to the agenda item properly before them. If the chair fails to do so, the chair’s determination may be appealed.

Withdraw a motion. During debate and discussion of a motion, the maker of the motion on the floor, at any time, may interrupt a speaker to withdraw his or her motion from the floor. The motion is immediately deemed withdrawn, although the chair may ask the person who seconded the motion if he or she wishes to make the motion, and any other member may make the motion if properly recognized.

Special Notes About Public Input

The rules outlined above will help make meetings very public-friendly. But in addition, and particularly for the chair, it is wise to remember three special rules that apply to each agenda item:

Rule One: Tell the public what the body will be doing.

Rule Two: Keep the public informed while the body is doing it.

Rule Three: When the body has acted, tell the public what the body did.



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