

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

May 6, 2025
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
515 Silver Street
North Richmond, CA 94801

MINUTES

Meetings are conducted at the Corrine Sain Senior/Family Community Center, 515 Silver Street, N. Richmond, CA 94801. The meeting is also available on ZOOM.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Board members present were: Annie King-Meridith, Princess Robinson, Glory Lopez, and Donald Gilmore. Absent was Beverly Scott.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Don motions to approve the agenda. Annie seconds, all are in favor. Don motions to accept the minutes, Princess seconds, all are in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Latifah Abdullah, North Richmond Resident: Latifah announces that N. Richmond is part of an EPA Grant, which is supposed to come to North Richmond. The grant is being held up by the current presidential administration. The grant is for several programs in N. Richmond and also the N. Richmond Urban Tilth Farm.

If you are able to reach out to Congressman Garamendi or Sonia Bustamante, it would be to our advantage. Express your support, keep in touch, and see how this plays out.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORT

Deputy Officer Sakai/CCC Sheriff's Department: Reporting for April 2025. At the end of June, Officer Sakai will be moving on to investigation. He will become a detective. The department is trying to find the right person for the vacant position.

The department has been pushing more on traffic enforcement. They are making sure that people are not double-parking on Battery Street. The creeks look good, no one is squatting on the County property near Verde School.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORT CONTINUED

There were two crimes in April: a misdemeanor and vandalism. Annie thanks Officer Sakai for his services in the community. Princess asks what type of training the new

officers have, who are assigned to the community. The answer: Three new resident deputies will be assigned to N. Richmond, and they will be brought up to speed in order to serve the community adequately.

A resident asks what the difference is between a misdemeanor and a felony. A felony is a crime that is worth over \$450. A misdemeanor is a crime that is worth under \$450. Don asks Officer Saki, when is his last day working in the community? June 27th will be his last day, and will he keep the same phone number? Yes

PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUES

Joey Smith/EBMUD Ward One: Announcing the Community Resource Fair, May 17th, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The location will be at the RYSE Center, 3939 Bissell Ave. Richmond, CA 94805.

This event is being co-sponsored by EBMUD, and providers in attendance will offer resources for the following: Utilities Assistance, CalWORKS, Cal AIM, Supportive Housing, WIOA, Financial Assistance, and much more. There is an RSVP request. www.ebmud.com/about-us/events.

PRESENTATIONS

Mohammed Omar, DTSC Unit Chief of Permitting Division/Chevron Environmental Management Company/Draft Permit: A renewed permit would allow the facility to continue to operate its stormwater management system and maintain a closed landfill.

The department of toxic substances control (DTSC) wants to know what the community thinks about renewing a permit for hazardous waste management at the Chevron Environmental Management Company, historically known as Chevron Chemical Company. This permit is not for the Chevron Richmond Refinery.

DTSC oversees a permit for two units at the Chevron Environmental Management Company located at 835 Castro Street, Richmond, CA 94801. The facility also serves as a warehouse, equipment storage, and office complex.

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PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Pesticides and fertilizers were manufactured at this site from 1937 to 1998. The facility constructed evaporation ponds to manage waste from this process. In the 1980's, due to state law protections, they stopped placing liquid waste into these ponds. In 1987, the original liners of the pond system were replaced with upgraded liners and a drain system. This prevents stormwater from leaching into the soil underneath that is contaminated with metal, organic compounds, and pesticides.

In 1988, the liquid waste was sent to a disposal facility. The remaining sludge and contaminated soil were removed and placed in the Consolidation Area on-site. The site was certified as a closed landfill in 1995. DTSC has permitted the facility since 1990 to use the pond system for stormwater management and to maintain the consolidation area. This includes a groundwater extraction and monitoring system. The stormwater management system occupies about 70 acres, and the consolidation Area is about 4.5 acres.

Community protections: Facilities must protect human health and the environment. DTSC makes sure that the facilities are safe by reviewing permits and conducting inspections. The permit must be renewed every ten years.

During the last ten years, six inspections were conducted and four major record reviews; no major violations were found. The site had six administrative violations that were corrected in a timely manner. DTSC reviewed the facility's compliance history and issued the facility a score of zero, which is the best score possible.

The contamination is contained at the site with a barrier wall, trench, and groundwater extraction pumps. In addition, the landfill is engineered with a series of protective layers and capped with vegetation to contain the sludge and contaminated oil. This protects the community from contaminants spreading into surrounding areas.

The stormwater goes into the city sewer system, along with extracted groundwater after it has been sampled and treated if necessary. The systems are inspected and maintained to ensure they are protective of human health and the environment.

Comment on the draft permit: You can send your comments from Tuesday, April 1, 2025, to Friday, May 16, 2025. Melanie Tieu, Manager at Melanie.Tieu@dtdsc.ca.gov

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PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Sophia Skoda, Director of Finance/EBMUD - Investing in the Future: EBMUD is a public, not-for-profit, serving the community for over 100 years. Serving 1.4 million people and businesses.

Water supply: They have 2 Sierra reservoirs, 5 local reservoirs. Six water treatment plants, 4,200 miles of piping, 125 pressure zones, and over 400 reservoir tanks, pumping plants, and other facilities.

Wastewater: Serving 740,000 and Bay protection: Wastewater Treatment plant processes 54 million gallons per day (MGD); up to 320 MGD during rainfall. There are 37 miles of sewer interceptors and 3 Wet Weather Facilities.

EBMUD challenges are aging infrastructure, water quality, environment, climate change, and fiscal responsibility.

Investing in a reliable water system. Aging Infrastructure, pipeline rebuild & large diameter pipelines. Orinda and Upper San Leandro Water Treatment Plants. Central Reservoir replacement, Mokelumne Aqueduct No. 2 relining, and Lafayette Aqueduct No. 1 Relining. Water Quality: Pardee Chemical Plant Improvements, Lafayette WTP Disinfection and Residual Improvements. Climate change & resiliency, Walnut Creek WTP pretreatment improvements, recycled water improvements. Fiscal Responsibility: Maintain a strong financial position and sustainable finances.

Investing in Reliability: Wastewater's aging infrastructure, water quality climate Change & resiliency, and fiscal responsibility. EBMUD carefully manages funds to deliver high-quality drinking water to 1.4 million customers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. EBMUD treats approximately 56 million gallons of wastewater daily for 720,000 customers along San Francisco Bay, protecting public health and the environment.

Cost of Service Study & Rates: New rates effective July 1, 2025 (pending board approval). Water is about 2 cents per gallon. Impact of combined COS changes and rate increases: Median SFR water bill will increase by about 12 cents per day in FY26 and another 14 cents per day in FY27. The median SFR wastewater treatment bill will increase by 8 cents per day in FY26 and another 8 cents per day in FY27.

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PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Customer Assistance Program (CAP): Established in 1987 - one of the first programs in the state; funded by non-rate revenue. Provides financial support to vulnerable populations, including homeless shelters. Applicants must be a customer and have a water meter. Enrollment is valid for two years and must be recertified.

Benefits include: 50% off water service and flow charges (max of 1,050 gallons per/month per person. 35% off wastewater service and flow charges, and an additional 35% off for cities' sewer collection charges (Oakland, Emeryville, and Berkeley).

Next Steps & Schedules: May 13, 2025 - Public Outreach. June 10, 2025 - Public Hearing on Prop 218 Rates. Board considers adopting the budget & rates.

PROGRAM AND OTHER AGENCY REPORTS

Janine Shaheed, Community Engagement Manager/Corrine Sain Senior -Community Family Center: The Young Boss Network Youth Program will host its graduation ceremony tomorrow. This is the end of an eight-week program. The young people will

be receiving a certificate of completion. The location will be at the senior center, 515 Silver Street, N. Richmond, CA. The time will be from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Zumba class will resume tomorrow. There will be arts and crafts for Mother's Day. The Growing Weiser class hosted a beautiful Easter Brunch and Fashion Show. The center enjoyed a day of partnership with the Hacienda Heights Senior Center. The participants used R-transit to get to the center.

The Cache Creek trip is scheduled for June 10th, and will be picking up seniors at the center and also Heritage Senior Apartments. The center will be participating in the Juneteenth Event, at Nicholls Park. Earth Day was a great and successful event.

Kalu Dennis, Community Service Coordinator/CHDC-Mitigation Fee Funded: Community Awareness Day will be hosted at the senior center. The date is June 4, 2025. The theme is Pathway to Resources.

Earth Day was great, will be at the Juneteenth Festival. The Willie Spears Clean-up will be on May 31, 2025. Dumpsters will be out in the community in six locations. This year, discarded tires will be accepted. The voucher program for trash is still in effect.

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PROGRAMS AND OTHER AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

Tony Ucciferrui, Deputy, Executive Director/HACCC: Tony gives an update on the Las Deltas properties. Housing has closed the deals on two of the below-market-rate sites, Richmond Neighborhood Housing Services and Community Housing Development Corporation have completed purchases.

Richmond Community Housing has almost completed rehab on its units. Those units will be showcased, giving people a chance to make offers on renting or purchasing the units. The sales price must be at market value. The buyer's income must be at 80% of the median income for that area. There is a restrictive covenant for 20 years on the houses.

Former N. Richmond/Las Deltas residents will have first priority, then N. R. residents, people who work in North Richmond, and the general public.

The 18 parcels of scattered sites are coming up for sale at market rate. A decision for the buyers for the 11 ½ acres at the main campus has been made. The recommendations will be presented to the Board of Commissioners on May 20th.

North Richmond residents are encouraged to attend HACCC meetings. Princess asked what the estimated price of a housing unit.. Tony says a duplex (land only) is as low as

\$240,000, and for a three-plex, \$650,000. Prices depend on land and building structure.

Dillion Avery Harp, Community Manager, RichmondLand: Dillion announces that the new membership framework is completed. The N. R. Eco Village is in escrow. So they will be gaining control of ownership soon. The community garden is in effect.

August 2nd from 12 to 5 will be participating in Hood Day. Starting in July will be at the resource center for an ongoing stewardship and sign up for information pertaining to the Eco Village. Will be starting the fundraising soon to close a 14 million gap in the project.

Encourages people to sign up, become a member of Richmondland. Get involved in taking property off the speculative market.

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PROGRAM AND OTHER AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

Tania Pulido, District Coordinator/Supervisor, John Gioia's Office: DTSC says that the Brookside Project will be delayed until next year, 2026. This delay is because Verde School will be having summer school.

This comes from the County. If interested in Noise Compliance, there will be a meeting on June 3rd. Will be sending out another newsletter with the meeting information.

Will be launching Thrive Thursday, Doria Robinson and Supervisor John Gioia will be heading up this twelve-week series. There will be fitness, dance lessons, and walk with a dog events. There will be resource, health, and wellness booths. Will be collecting resources for the redevelopment of Nicholl Park.

Would like to congratulate Latifah on joining the NRMAC as the newest board member. She will join the next meeting in June. There is still a seat open on the board. There are four to five applications for Supervisor John Gioia to review.

Annie asks when Mitigation takes place. Tania says that she will look into that. She will also follow up on the Viola Project.

Latifah Abdulah, Community Engagement Manager/Urban Tilth Farm. Working on the three acres of renovation. The foundation for the community room is being constructed. Most buildings will have solar. Making plans for the recently purchased seven acres.

The farm has been active with members of all ages. The After-School at the Farm Program is ending. The Fellows just started a six-month fellowship program.

Applications for the Summer Youth Program are available. One hundred hours and a \$1,500 stipend will be offered. Field trips and workshops will be provided.

Family Pack Day is ongoing. Every fourth Saturday is volunteer day.

Cheryl Lopez, Community Engagement Manager/Urban Tilth Farm: Friday is Harvesting Your Own Bouquet, for Mother's Day. Apprenticeship positions will be opening up in the fall. Programs on Water Restoration will be centered around the creeks.

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PROGRAM AND OTHER AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

Jessica Walden, Library Assistant II/NR Mobile Tool Library: The tool library has been extremely busy. Participated in Earth Day, special thanks to Annie and Kalu. They also participated in the Park R Us Day at Nicholl Park.

The tool library is expanding its days, hours, and locations. The tool library is conducting an assessment survey for the community. Please contact Jessica for more information. Jessica_Walden@ci.richmond.ca.us or 510-672-3877

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

June 3, 2025
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m..
515 Silver Street
N. Richmond, CA 94801