Meeting of the North Richmond
Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee
Joint Expenditure Planning Committee

Friday, May 17, 2024
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Richmond City Council Chambers | 440 Civic Center Plaza | Richmond, CA 9480

Members:
Dulce Galicia, **Chair** NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
John Gioia, **Vice Chair** Contra Costa County Supervisor
Annie King-Meredith, Richmond Incorporated Area Resident
Beverly Scott, NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Doria Robinson, Richmond City Councilmember
Eduardo Martinez, Richmond City Councilmember
Melvin Willis, Richmond City Councilmember

Members Present:
Dulce Galicia, **Chair** NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Annie King-Meredith, Richmond Incorporated Area Resident
Beverly Scott, NRMAC Representative: Unincorporated Area
Melvin Willis, Richmond City Councilmember
Tania Pulido, Alternate Contra Costa County Supervisor

Meeting Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Chair Galicia called the meeting to order at 2:01.

2. Public Comment on any item not on the agenda *(not to exceed 2 minutes).*

Stephanie Ny provided comment about the North Richmond Mobile Tool Library and that they are hiring an employee to staff the library.

3. *APPROVE* the October 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Willis motioned to approve the minutes. Pulido Seconded. Motion approved unanimously. (Galicia – Aye, King-Meredith – Aye, Scott – Aye, Pulido – Aye, Willis – Aye)

4. RECEIVE the following reports:

a. Committee Board Advisory Body Annual Report – 2023

Staff highlighted accomplishments, attendance and other activities completed in 2023. Staff noted that they still need updated training forms from some committee members.

b. Actual Tonnage & Revenue Update – 2023/2024

Staff provided an update on actual tonnage and revenue received at the Golden Bear Transfer Station from July 2023 through March 2024. Staff also provided an assumed average for the remainder of the year to estimate a surplus of revenue compared to what was projected. This projected also highlighted a surplus of processible tonnage and a shortfall of solid waste tonnage. Staff provided a breakdown of tonnage received year over year since Fiscal Year 2017/2018, which showed the percentage change of processible and solid waste tonnage. Staff mentioned to the Committee that this shift of decreasing solid waste tonnage and increasing processible tonnage may be a result of new state laws, like SB 1383, and we can expect this trend to continue. Galicia asked what is done with surplus revenue. Staff clarified that surplus revenue would be deposited to the fund where revenue is held and kept on hand as reverses to be allocated in a future year. Galicia asked if this tonnage is just the County

and City of Richmond. Staff clarified that this is all tonnage going to this facility and could be from other jurisdicitions.

c. Tonnage & Revenue Projection – 2024/2025

Staff provided the facility operator projection on the amount of material and mitigation revenue for FY 24/25. Staff also provided a table that included projected and actual revenue for the past six years. The Committee had previously asked how we can get more accurate revenue projections, so staff utilized a combination of methodologies and models to determine a projection for FY 24/25. This included utilizing the facility's projections, anticipated revenue for the existing year, as well as historical actual revenue to determine a projected revenue for FY 24/25. Willis thanked staff for incorporating multiple models when determining projected revenue. Galicia asked since were in the negative, does surplus revenue pay off deficit? Staff clarified that we may budget more than expected revenue, but we don't normally expend the full budget. Actual expenditures are what we should compare to revenue and that staff incorporates a contingency line item in the budget as a cushion to protect against unexpected costs.

d. Right-of-Way Clean-up Tonnage from Hot Spot Crew

Staff provided a chart that shows the tonnage collected from by the Hot Spot Crew through March of 2024. Willis mentioned there were some unhoused encampment abatement efforts last year, which may account for some of the tonnage.

e. Expenditure Plan Strategy Progress Report Updates

Staff provided strategy reports for all strategies in the Expenditure plan for July 2023-March 2024. The Committee previously requested data be provided in another format, so staff provided four tables to help highlight the outcomes of strategies 1, 2, 5, & 6. One major highlight was the amount of disposal vouchers distributed by CHDC. King-Meredith mentioned some hot spots of illegal dumping in the right-of-way and railroad and asked if Code Enforcement was aware of these locations. Staff clarified the Hot Spot Crew is responsible for the right-of-way and the public should call CHDC to report illegal dumping in the right-of-way. CHDC will refer these instances to the Hot Spot Crew for pick-up. Staff will follow up with Code Enforcement regarding the railroad hot spots. Galicia asked if there was a specific contact for the railroad. Pulido mentioned they have a contact for the railroad and would follow up with CHDC to reach out to the railroad companies. Galicia asked if there are any "No Dumping" signs at the railroad crossings. Staff know there are signs in the community but were unsure if there were any signs at the railroad crossings.

Staff also provided a detailed map, and pictures of clean-ups performed under strategy 10. The Committee thanked staff for the extra details.

f. Camera Report

Staff provided updates about the City of Richmond's FLOCK camera operations. City PD expressed positive feedback on cameras, but clarified the cameras are primarily for other crimes and not illegal dumping. Staff also provided an update about the County's pilot to test different surveillance camera vendors. The pilots captured evidence in two instances, but the best use of the cameras was as a deterrent and dumping decreased where cameras were located. Overall, it was undetermined if surveillance cameras were a cost-effective approach to preventing illegal dumping. Galicia asked if anyone from North Richmond is involved in the Couty Pilot. Staff explained this is a county-wide effort led by the County's Illegal Dumping Think Tank. One NRMF Committee staff member is involved in the Think Tank and Deputy Sakai is also involved.

King-Meredith asked about street sweeping and if we update the street sweeping signs. Cars are not moving, and street sweeping isn't properly occurring. Pulido mentioned that the Supervisor's office worked with Public Works to update the signs, and the deputy is now ticketing vehicles. CHDC and the County distributed outreach to inform all residents about street sweeping requirements in advance of the deputy conducting enforcement. Pulido mentioned an effort to improve street lighting to deter dumping and that Public Works staff will be coming to the NRMAC meeting to give updates.

5. *DISCUSS* and *APPROVE* the 2024/2025 Expenditure Plan to be recommended for adoption by the Richmond City Council and County Board of Supervisors, which includes:

a. Funding allocations for Strategy within the Expenditure Plan; including advanced payment requests

Staff provided a recommended funding plan for FY 24/25. Changes included increasing Strategy 1 budget from $2,000 to $6,500. This increase was designed to address the increased number of vouchers issued by CHDC as well as cover printing costs to purchase new voucher booklets. The recommended funding plan also decreased the budget for Strategy 4.B. from $20,000 to $5,000. Staff haven't received expenditure requests from Republic for this Strategy over the last two years. Staff do not anticipate costs in FY 24/25, but decided to retain a portion of funding if needed. Changes also included decreasing Strategy 8 funding from $26,666.67 to $13,000. Historically the City of Richmond Code Enforcement was not billing the full amount budgeted. Staff spoke with the City and the City indicated they can't dedicate more staff time to North Richmond and suggested reducing the budget. Staff also modified the Contingency line item to ten (10) percent of the projected revenue for FY 24/25.

In addition to these changes, staff highlighted that this recommendation reduces our reliance on roll-over funding from prior EP cycles. Scott asked if the Contingency was a higher percentage. Staff clarified that it wasn't higher than ten percent. King-Meredith requested the Committee increase the amount allocated to Strategy 12. King-Meredith would like more outreach and mentioned bringing back banners along Fred Jackson Way. Scott asked King-Meredith where this increase should come from. King-Meredith asked staff if there was any funding that could be used to increase Strategy 12. Staff mentioned rollover funding could be used, but staff reduced reliance on rollover funding at the direction of the Committee during the October 2023 meeting. Staff could come back with more details including cost estimates for banners. Staff highlighted the variety of existing outreach that is being completed and advocated that digital could be an opportunity to leverage cost-effective outreach. Scott suggested we take an equal portion from Strategy ten (10) & thirteen (13) to cover the increased costs for banners. Staff clarified we would be in contract by October 2024, so it is unlikely we pull money from Strategy ten (10) & thirteen (13), but staff could use rollover funding.

b. All remaining elements of the 2024/2025 Expenditure Plan.

Staff also made language changes to Strategy thirteen (13). One Grantee, The Watershed Project, requested their Garden Retrofit Project be converted into a permanent garden project that focuses on maintaining the new habitat garden at Shields Reid Community Center. Since they were the only garden retrofit project and the original strategy was designed for garden projects, staff have removed the garden retrofit language.

Galicia asked if there is a reason why the vouchers come in increments of $5. Staff explained that was a request by Republic as this voucher program was modeled after the one in San Pablo. For the sake of consistency administering programs, Republic requested vouchers match the amount provided in San Pablo. Committee member Scott left the meeting at 3:36pm. Willis motioned to approve the proposed budget. King-Meredith Seconded. Motion approved unanimously. (Galicia – Aye, King-Meredith – Aye, Pulido – Aye, Willis – Aye).

King-Meredith requested staff update the details on the Mitigation Map.

7. *ADJOURN* to next meeting – October 18, 2024

Chair Galicia Closed the meeting at 3:44pm.

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www.cccounty.us/nr

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