



Meeting Minutes

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY East Richmond Heights Municipal Advisory Council

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

6:30 PM Open Door United Methodist Church, 6226
Arlington Blvd, Richmond, CA 94805 |
<https://cccouny-us.zoom.us/j/81874478413>

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

00:00:09

Present Victoria Curtis, Joann Pavlinec, Bara Sapir, and Jon Sargent
Absent Pamela DeWitt, Royer Ramirez Ruiz, and Jinwei Zhang

2. Treasurer's Report

00:00:47

Ronnie Mills provided the Treasurer's Report, excluding insurance calculations, stating a balance of \$1,183.

3. Approval of Minutes

[25-2022](#)

Attachments: [MeetingMinutes_4.16.25](#)

00:01:11

This Discussion Item was approved.

Motion: Sapir

Second: Pavlinec

4. Presentations

00:01:51

P.1. Presentation by Contra Costa County Supervisor's Office

Updates were provided on traffic safety improvements following recent site visits in East Richmond Heights and San Pablo Heights. Public Works is exploring low-cost enhancements at key intersections. The County's Noise Ordinance Task Force will reconvene on June 3. A report of multiple bird deaths along Bernhardt Avenue was shared; the matter is under investigation by the County Sheriff's Office. Open seats on District 1 advisory boards and commissions were announced and residents were

encouraged to apply. A question was raised regarding access to platforms like Nextdoor and Craigslist to help report backyard breeding. Ronnie Mills will coordinate with Supervisor Gioia's office to identify any contacts that can assist. Updates were also provided on the recent passing of a local community member, with condolences extended on behalf of the Council.

P.2. Presentation by Sheriff's Office Bay Station Commander, Lt. Brian Holland

Lieutenant Brian Fitzgerald introduced himself as the new Bay Station Commander. He reported five calls for service in April, including two runaway juveniles and one identity theft. Investigations are ongoing into bird fatalities, with PG&E inspecting nearby infrastructure. Residents were also reminded of continued issues with catalytic converter thefts and early firework activity.

P.3. Presentation by Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, Michelle Rinehart

Michelle from the Fire Protection District provided updates on Local Responsibility Area (LRA) fire hazard maps and upcoming wildfire preparedness activities. Contractors have been selected to address non-compliant parcels ahead of abatement deadlines. Ongoing wildfire mitigation efforts include shaded fuel breaks and prescribed burns. The success of the County's mitigation program and the usefulness of the online project portal were also noted. The benefits of pursuing Firewise community certification were discussed, particularly in relation to homeowner insurance eligibility. Michelle clarified that while Firewise recognition does not guarantee coverage, it supports broader efforts to protect lives and property. The importance of fuels reduction and community education was emphasized. A panel discussion to explore insurance and Firewise program planning is being considered.

P.4. Presentation by California Highway Patrol (tentative)

Officer Zeid provided an update on CHP activity in the East Richmond Heights area for the month of April. The department responded to six traffic collision reports, one of which involved a major investigation; the remaining incidents were non-injury property damage. Three vehicles were either stored or impounded. CHP also handled two calls for service, one related to a DUI and another involving a pedestrian, as well as a separate traffic hazard. One stolen vehicle report was also filed. Additionally, Officer Zeid confirmed that the CHP has signed and approved the festival permit, which should be returning to the Council shortly.

5. Discussion Items

An update was shared on the East Richmond Heights Community Festival. The event permit was approved quickly, and coordination with vendors is underway. Festival branding materials, including a flyer and banner, are being designed by local partners.

6. Subcommittee Reports

00:41:31

SR.1 Land Use Committee: Joann Pavlinec, Jinwei Zhang

7. Regional Historical Presentation

8. Agenda Items / Speakers for Upcoming ERHMAC Meetings

00:43:37

Discussion regarding inviting representatives from Chevron's Jelly's Place to discuss their land acquisition and community outreach efforts.

9. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).

00:47:02

A clarification was made regarding a previous statement about federal mitigation funds. A motion to adopt the amended April meeting minutes was moved, seconded, and passed without objection.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for June 18, 2025

Adjourn

The Council will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Council meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Council less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at Open Door United Methodist Church (6226 Arlington Blvd, Richmond, CA 94805) during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at www.contracosta.ca.gov. If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

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