



Meeting Minutes

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY East Richmond Heights Municipal Advisory Council

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

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

Jon Sargent (Chair), Victoria Lynn Curtis (Vice-Chair), Jinwei Zhang, Joann Pavlinec, Pam DeWitt, Bara Sapir

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

00:00:12

Present

Victoria Curtis, Joann Pavlinec, Bara Sapir, Jon Sargent, and
Jinwei Zhang

Late

Pamela DeWitt

2. Treasurer's Report

00:00:46

Ronnie Mills stated MAC budget is \$3,000

3. Approval of Minutes

00:01:02

he minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved, with minor corrections noted: replacing “representative law enforcement” with “CHP Officer Zaid” and correcting “Passport Heights” to “East Richmond Heights.”

[25-3877](#)

Attachments: [8.20.25_erhMACMinutes](#)

This Discussion Item was approved as amended.

Motion: Pavlinec

Second: Curtis

4. Presentations

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

00:25:20

Ronnie Mills from Supervisor Gioia's office provided updates on community engagement efforts around the allocation of \$1 million in federal Community Impact Funds. Residents were encouraged to complete surveys to help guide funding priorities, including food access, housing, and mental health. Ronnie also announced the 35th annual California Coastal Cleanup, scheduled to begin at 8:30 AM at Shimada Park. Additionally, community members were informed about current vacancies on county advisory boards, including the North Richmond MAC and Economic Opportunity Council.

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

00:35:50

Lieutenant Fitzgerald of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office shared the October call log, which included 14 service reports, notably a vehicle burglary. Community concerns about the Sheriff's Office's cooperation with ICE were raised and acknowledged.

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

00:02:37

Michelle from the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District provided an overview of the \$1.5 million Shaded Fuel Break project, funded by CAL FIRE and Proposition 4. The project spans 92 acres across East Richmond Heights and Hasford Heights and aims to reduce wildfire risk through prescribed burning, mechanical treatment, herbivory, and targeted herbicide use. Michelle highlighted the role of community engagement in the grant application process and noted a revised project area of 57 acres due to funding adjustments. Emphasis was placed on improving evacuation routes and defensible space in the wild land-urban interface. Michelle shared the district's social media handles and offered ongoing updates through virtual platforms.

P.4. Presentation by Richmond Police Department, Sgt. Terry Thomas

P.5. Presentation by California Highway Patrol (tentative)

00:48:54

Officer Zaid of the California Highway Patrol addressed ongoing challenges with traffic enforcement and discussed the potential addition of a motor officer to address speeding in the Arlington area. Officer Rivera was introduced as the new point of contact, as Officer Zaid is scheduled for transfer to Vallejo but will maintain area oversight during the transition.

P.6. County Office of Education: Partnering with WCCUSD, Superintendent Lynn Mackey

00:52:51

Superintendent Lynn Mackey delivered a presentation on the Contra Costa County Office of Education's role in supporting the West Contra Costa Unified School District. The discussion emphasized services provided to vulnerable youth, including those in juvenile hall and special education programs. Superintendent Mackey discussed the integration of arts in education, field trip transportation challenges, and efforts to prevent immigration enforcement actions in schools.

5. Discussion Items

DI.1 - erhMAC Banner Design and Tag Lines

01:30:28

The MAC reviewed five proposed designs for a community banner representing East Richmond Heights. Council members discussed adjustments, including removing directional arrows, resizing fonts, and emphasizing the community name over detailed mapping. Concerns were raised about the readability of taglines and the appropriateness of including neighborhood maps. The Council agreed that additional sketches and community input may be required before finalizing the design.

6. Subcommittee Reports

01:43:10

The Land Use Subcommittee provided an update on a deck variation project at 6600 Kensington Avenue, which was reviewed and approved. A separate project previously under consideration was withdrawn.

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

7. Regional Historical Presentation

01:45:27

A historical presentation was given, outlining the development of the area now known as Casper Heights, with insights into past ownership, development constraints, and contributions from the Tewksbury family. Opportunities for future historical preservation projects were also discussed.

"History of Hasford Heights," Fran Cappelletti

8. Agenda Items / Speakers for Upcoming ERHMAC Meetings

02:13:44

General discussion regarding Supervisor Gioia updating on ICE related County issues, and a representative from East Bay Regional Parks District

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

02:17:34

Community members raised concerns about sticking to the meeting agenda to ensure timely delivery of safety and infrastructure updates. Traffic safety issues, including the effect of speed bumps on road conditions, were discussed. A neighborhood barbecue event was announced for September 28.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for October 15, 2025

Adjourn

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For Additional Information Contact: Ronnie Mills, ronnie.mills@bos.cccounty.us, (510) 942-2222