
IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE
North Richmond Waste & Recovery Mitigation Fee
Preliminary 2012/2013 Expenditure Plan
- January 2012 – April 2012 -

PREVENTION

Strategy 1 - Bulky Clean-ups & Disposal Vouchers

Bulky Clean-ups are available to residents with an active residential account with Richmond Sanitary Service (RSS), are limited to one per household per year, and disbursed on a first come first served basis. Eligible residents can request up to twelve \$5 vouchers for disposal at Republic's transfer station on Parr Blvd. per calendar year (vouchers expire after six months, Mitigation Fees only pay for vouchers that are actually redeemed). An outreach effort to educate the community regarding illegal dumping and the disposal voucher program is ongoing. Residents are encouraged to use the Disposal Voucher Program and discouraged from illegally dumping on the streets. Requests for bulky pick-ups or disposal vouchers are handled by the Prevention Services Coordinator (PSC) working out of the Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC), which is a part time position funded under Strategy 3.

Below is the most current list of the disposal vouchers issued in 2012. The number actually redeemed can only be determined based upon invoices submitted by RSS which City staff only receives a few times per year.

Disposal Vouchers Distributed
Jan 2012 – April 2012

Month	Number of Households	# of Vouchers
January	6	72
February	2	24
March	6	72
April	9	108
TOTAL	23	276

Bulky Clean-ups Requested
Jan 2012 – May 2012

Month	Bulky Clean-ups
January	0
February	0
March	0
April	0
TOTAL	0

Strategy 2 - Neighborhood Clean-ups

No Neighborhood Clean-ups were schedule during this period (Jan – May 2012).

Strategy 3 – Prevention Services Coordinator

The part-time Prevention Services Coordinator (PSC) position is housed at the Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC) in North Richmond. Janie Holland currently serves as the PSC. The PSC receives details about dumping locations from Richmond Sanitary Service, and others, which is then input into the North Richmond Dumping Database (including date, location, type and amount of illegally dumped materials) and referred (e.g. if oversized debris in roadway then it is referred thru the City’s on-line referral/reporting system, CRW) to the appropriate organization/agency. The PSC also receives information, complaints and concerns about illegal dumping from community residents either as incoming calls or walk-ins.

The table below identifies all the Illegal Dumping Occurrences for this reporting period. (majority are locations abated by the RSS Hot Spot Crew).

**Reported Illegal Dumping Occurrences
Jan 2012 – May 2012**

Month	Occurrences added to database
January	331
February	325
March	273
April	300
May	n/a*
TOTAL	1229

*Data not available at preparation of report.

ABATEMENT & ENFORCEMENT

Strategy 4 – City/County Pick-up from Right-of-Way

The City of Richmond’s Code Enforcement abatement team currently picks-up illegal dumping in the public right-of-way located within the unincorporated & incorporated Mitigation Fee Primary Funding Area. The purpose is to remove items not collected by the designated RSS Hot Spot Route crew. Code Enforcement responds to information/requests submitted into the City’s on-line reporting/referral system (CRW) as well as by phone and tracks the materials collected. Code Enforcement is reimbursed for personnel, mileage, administrative costs, and equipment rental as needed. Reimbursement requests submitted and paid include costs for staff providing weed abatement and graffiti abatement (see Strategy 7). Code Enforcement staff does not work a set number of hours per month on illegal dumping abatement in North Richmond.

The following table summarizes the illegal dumping occurrences reported/abated within the North Richmond right-of-way for this reporting period:

Jan 2012 – April 2012

City Right-of-Way Trash Abatement Activities	
Illegally Dumped Material Removed (tons)	39.68
Illegal Dumping Complaints/Referrals	0
Illegal Dumping Locations Abated	450
Number (#) of Days Trash Abated in the Right-of-Way	31
Number (#) of Hours Spent Abating in Right-of-Way	214

Strategy 5 – Code Enforcement Staff - County

Mark Alford is the County’s official dedicated Code Enforcement Officer for North Richmond. The following tables summarize the results of County Code Enforcement efforts this reporting period addressing violations/cases on private property in the unincorporated area.

**County Code Enforcement Case
Statistics for Jan 2012 – April 2012**

Cases Opened	Cases Closed	Currently Active Cases
29	32	41

**Specific North Richmond County
Code Enforcement Actions/Cases***

Jan 2012 – April 2012: County Code Enforcement Cases/Actions Taken	# of Specific Cases and/or Actions
Construction without Permits	15
Vacant Unoccupied Structures	18
Cases on Vacant Lots (generally for overgrown vegetation or illegal dumping)	32*
Cases involving Graffiti	3
Notice to Comply Letters Sent	2
Notice of Pending Action Letters Sent	7

*Accounts for a majority of all Vacant Lot Code Enforcement Cases for entire unincorporated area of Contra Costa County.

A majority of the County Code Enforcement Cases in the North Richmond area involve overgrown vegetation on private property. The County Code Enforcement Officer continues to work with the Illegal Dumping Officer, City Code Enforcement and Contra Costa County Environmental Health staff to help facilitate effective collaboration within a comprehensive code enforcement framework to address the illegal dumping problem in the North Richmond community.

Strategy 6 – Code Enforcement Staff - City

The Code Enforcement responsibilities began to be handled by both the City and County (for their respective jurisdictional areas) effective August 2011, rather than having one County staff person enforce codes in the City and County portions of the Mitigation Funding Area.

The table below summarizes City Code Enforcement statistics resulting from the City staffs efforts in the North Richmond area. Below statistics include activities handled by NRMF-funded as well as City-funded code enforcement staff for this reporting period.

City Code Enforcement Statistics

City Code Enforcement Activities	Jan 2012 thru April 2012
Administrative Citation Issued	10
Notice of Violations Issued	25
Foreclosure Notifications	1
Vacant Property Notices	1
Abatement Warrants Submitted to Court	3
Vacant Lots/Properties Abated	7
Tons of Debris Removed	n/a

*Data not available at time stats were compiled.

Strategy 7 – Tagging Abatement

Tagging Abatement is handled by the City of Richmond’s Code Enforcement team. Graffiti (tagging) is abated within the public right-of-way located throughout the Primary Funding Area of North Richmond. Abatement team staff responds to requests submitted through the City’s on-line complaint/referral system (known as CRW) as well as personal observations. Funding for this strategy was reallocated in July 2011 to support a part time City Code Enforcement Officer (Strategy 6). City Code Enforcement requested reimbursement for monthly personnel and mileage costs associated with removal of graffiti (tagging) through April 2012 as a part of the monthly reimbursement requests paid with funding allocated under Strategy 4.

Tagging Abatement Statistics

(funded/reported in conjunction with Strategy 4 – Pick-up from the Right-of-Way)

Timeframe	# of Locations Graffiti Removed
Jan 2012 – April 2012*	24

*Stats for the Month of May were not available at time report was prepared.

Strategy 8 – Law Enforcement (*Investigation & Patrols*)

Monthly Activity Logs are routinely submitted for the 5 Resident Deputies now working exclusively in North Richmond. The Deputy Logs provide various statistics including the number of reports written, citations issued (including littering and illegal dumping violations), persons arrested and various other law enforcement activities conducted by each Deputy.

In May 2011, Deputy Felipe Monroe returned to serve as the lead Deputy for illegal dumping issues in North Richmond. Deputy Monroe is continuing to work on investigating multiple cases related to illegal dumping, including a multi-agency effort dealing with contaminated soil dumped on multiple properties in North Richmond. Deputy Monroe has been instrumental in helping increase utilization of Disposal Voucher funded under Strategy 1.

Law Enforcement activities for this reporting period include the following:

- Cited several subjects for illegal dumping in the area; and
- Completed Major Illegal dumping case, which is currently being reviewed by the County District Attorney's Office (see Strategy 10 – Illegal Dumping Prosecutor on reported statistics).

Strategy 9 – Surveillance Camera System

There are currently eight (8) wireless CCTV surveillance cameras located throughout the Mitigation Area. The Richmond Police Department (RPD) dispatch office has staff monitoring the City wide camera system, including these eight (8) cameras in North Richmond. Deputy Monroe (funded under Strategy 8) also has access to video captured by the eight (8) wireless cameras in North Richmond. In May 2009, the Richmond Police Department requested to temporarily swap four (4) of the NRMF funded pan-tilt-zoom adjustable cameras for four (4) of the City's fixed cameras, due to lack of utilization following Deputy Monroe's transfer. However, since Deputy Monroe's return as the lead on illegal dumping cases for the North Richmond area, a strong desire has been expressed to have the NRMF funded adjustable cameras returned, as the Richmond Police Department's fixed cameras have proven useless for his unique enforcement needs.

Flash Cam Update

Six (6) Flash Cams and their associated equipment were purchased in November 2011 for the amount of \$41,986.14 (staying within our approved budget – not to exceed \$44,000). In December 2011, the six (6) Flash Cams were installed in test locations throughout the unincorporated area of North Richmond to address any technical issues associated with the new equipment. Due to technical issues, one (1) Flash Cam has been returned to the manufacturer to be replaced and/or repaired. Two (2) other Flash Cams have been taken down for the City of Richmond and/or Code Enforcement to be

installed within the incorporated area of North Richmond. Currently, there are three (3) Flash Cams up and operating, which are in the unincorporated North Richmond area.

Strategy 10 – Illegal Dumping Prosecutor

The Illegal Dumping Prosecutor works closely with the City Police Department and the North Richmond Illegal Dumping Sheriff’s Deputy to discuss various strategies and important information needed to prosecute illegal dumping cases. The allocated funds cover 15% of the full-time salary for 2 years. The Illegal Dumping Prosecutor, Bruce Flynn, is currently assigned to illegal dumping in North Richmond. The table below identifies the Illegal Dumping Cases reviewed by the District Attorney’s (DA’s) Office for this reporting period.

**Jan 2012 – April 2012
District Attorney Illegal Dumping Cases**

DA Case Type Filed	# of Cases Filed
Misdemeanor Cases Filed	4
Felony Cases Filed*	0
Cases Reviewed and Closed – Due to Insufficient Evidence	0
TOTAL Cases Filed/Closed	4

*Previously, one (1) ongoing felony case was filed, but reduced to four (4) misdemeanor counts, as indicated in stats.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

Strategy 11 – Parks Rehabilitation Initiative

The Parks Division did not use North Richmond Mitigation Funding to perform work this period.

Strategy 12 – Capital Improvement Projects (*Infrastructure & Creeks*)

No funding is currently allocated for this Strategy and therefore no activities have been reported.

Strategy 13 – Community Services Coordinator

The Community Services Coordinator (CSC) Coordinator shall serve as a link between the community of North Richmond, the City of Richmond, and Contra Costa County for North Richmond Green efforts being implemented and funded under Strategies 15 and 16.

The CSC is responsible for and has accomplished the following tasks based in part on the CSC’s most recent progress report:

- Community Events: The CSC helped coordinate and participated in the following community events:

- ✓ “North Richmond Green Twilight Basketball League Program Parents Meeting Event” (related to Strategy 15),
 - ✓ “Community Pick-up Project Event”, and
 - ✓ The “Community Earth Day Event”. CSC collaborated with multiple organizations, including representatives from some of the non-profits implementing NRMF-funded Community Based Projects (Strategy 14), and agencies to plan this Event held in North Richmond on Saturday, April 21, 2012 from 9:00am-12:30pm. Local adult and children volunteers were invited to participate in a day of community service and family fun to clean-up and enhance the environment of North Richmond. Free food, music, eco activities, T-shirts, and prizes were provided/available at the event. Volunteers had the choice to assist with developing community gardens or picking up litter in target locations within North Richmond.
- Community Meetings: Organized and led monthly “North Richmond Green Meetings” to discuss related issues affecting North Richmond, to develop ideas of prevention, and to provide updates and get input on current North Richmond Green programs/events.
 - Outreach Materials: Developed and coordinated distribution of outreach materials as generally described and funded under Strategy 16.

Strategy 14 – North Richmond Community-Based Projects

The following table summarizes the status of each of the previously approved Community-Based Projects transferred from the 2010/2011 Expenditure Plan cycle. Most of the funding (\$175,000) and all but one of the below listed projects were approved in 2011 (see footnote for details related to the remaining project funding approved in 2010).

2010/2011 Community Based Projects Transferred to 2012/13 EP

Entity	Status Updates
Center for Human Development	Contract was issued, but has since expired. No invoices/progress reports were ever submitted under this contract. <i>(0% of awarded funding spent)</i>
Eco-Village	Contract went into effect on December 12, 2011. No invoices received to date. Project completion anticipated by early to mid-Summer of 2012. <i>(0% of awarded funding spent to date)</i>
Golden Gate Audubon Society*	Contract in final stages of approval and expected to be effective on or about April 19, 2012. Project completion anticipated by late Summer of 2012. <i>(0% of awarded funding spent to date)</i>
Healing Circles of Hope [dba MASK]	Project Completed. Progress Report attached. <i>(98% of awarded funding spent)</i>

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Reach Fellowship International	Project Completed. Progress Report attached. <i>(100% of awarded funding spent)</i>
Social Progress Inc.	Project Completed. Progress Report attached. <i>(100% of awarded funding spent)</i>
Verde Partnership Garden*	Contract prepared and sent to non-profit Organization for signature. Project work planned to begin once contract is signed by all involved entities. <i>(0% of awarded funding spent to date)</i>
The Watershed Project	No contract issued, due to perceived lack of interest. Presumably the Organization decided that the low amount awarded (\$1,240.85) was not adequate to support the intended activities/effort. <i>(0% of awarded funding spent to date)</i>
Communities United Restoring Mother Earth / ETC-Downtown Assoc	Project Completed. Invoices have been received/paid. <i>(99% of awarded funding spent to date)</i>
TOTAL	\$189,600

* Strategy 14 in the Preliminary 2012/13 Expenditure Plan includes \$14,600 in project funding allocations originally approved in 2010. This includes \$600 allocated to the Golden Gate Audubon Society which is being combined with funding awarded for their project in 2011 and the entire amount (\$14,000) allocated to the Verde Partnership Garden which was delayed due to fiscal sponsor/contracting issues.

2012/2013 Community Based Project Funding Proposal Requests: At the direction of the Subcommittee, as recommended by the Full Committee, and authorized by the Richmond City Council, and County Board of Supervisors, Committee staff released new revised Funding Request Guidelines and Proposal & Application on April 4, 2012, allowing non-profit entities to request funding for Community Based Projects in 2012/2013. Committee Staff received twelve (12) proposal applications, which were reviewed and scored by Committee Staff and presented to the Subcommittee on May 7, 2012. On May 7, 2012, the Subcommittee directed staff to provide a recommendation to the Full Committee at the next Committee Meeting on June 1, 2012.

Strategy 15 – North Richmond Green Community Service Programs

The CSC (Strategy 13) is responsible for implementing approved NR Green Community Service Programs, in coordination with Committee Staff. Applicable NR Green Community Service Program activities occurring or completed during this reporting period have been summarized below.

- North Richmond Youth Twilight Basketball Program
 - Season began in January 2012 and is now over.
 - Funding used to cover registration for five teams, stipends for five coaches, new jerseys and associated wear for registered players.
 - On February 8th Basketball Team players, coaches and other local volunteers participated in a “Community Pick-up Project” to help clean-up three streets in North Richmond. Prior to the days pick-up

- activities, players were invited to a discussion at the Project Pride Community Center to learn which items were recyclable locally.
- Banquet/awards event held on May 15th.
 - North Richmond Little League Baseball Program
 - Season began in March 2012 and is still underway.
 - Funding used to cover registration for six teams and the purchase of new jerseys and associated wear for 55 players.
 - North Richmond Youth Eco Academy
 - No activities associated with this NR Green program occurred this period.
 - North Richmond Adult Softball Program
 - The Male Adult Softball Team (15 players this season) are playing softball for the "Pinole League," which is a Spring/Summer League. Players of this league are planned to assist with mitigation related beautification projects to help clean-up their North Richmond Community. Currently, two (2) players on the team are also coaches for the youth players that are part of the Minor Teams for the 2012 North Richmond Green Little League Baseball/Softball Program.

Strategy 16 – North Richmond Green Campaign

Outreach campaign activities that occurred during this reporting period have been grouped and summarized below based on the outreach activity types listed in the approved Expenditure Plan.

- Printing, Posting and/or Mailing Outreach Materials
 - Printed March 2012 edition of the quarterly NRGreen Newsletter.
 - Printed Flyers for the April 21st Earth Day Event.
 - Updated NRGreen.org website to include some new pictures and information provided by the Community Services Coordinator highlighting the 2nd Annual NR Green Festival and the Little League Program.
- Stipends for Distributing Outreach Materials
 - Door-to-door distribution of the above mentioned NRGreen Newsletter.
 - Door-to-door distribution of the above mentioned Earth Day Event Flyer.
- T-Shirts Promoting NRMF-funded Activities
 - No NRMF-funded T-Shirts produced during this period.
- NR Green Festival
 - Annual event did not occur during this period.
- Light Pole Banners
 - City staff contracted with a local sign company for the production and installation of eighteen (18) large light-pole banners with various different designs on the City side of Fred Jackson Way between Vernon and Chesley Ave. in March 2011. These banners were designed by the Community Services Coordinator and she provided the artwork directly to the sign company. In April/May 2012, the CSC

advised City/County Staff that one of the banners has disappeared and the remaining seventeen (17) are faded in color and blurry. A couple of these remaining faded banners are also missing one of their two mounting brackets leaving them partially disconnected from the poles, therefore often flipped over on the poles by the wind. The CSC and others in the community feel these banners have become eyesores contributing to neighborhood blight.

- County staff was contacted by the CSC in late 2011 regarding assistance needed to help arrange for the installation of light-pole banners on the County side. Significant staff time was involved in providing the requested implementation assistance, culminating with the successful negotiation of an alternative financial assurance mechanism for the County owned and maintained light-poles (in-lieu of the required \$15,000 performance bond) and written specifications completed in March 2012 for NHNR's use in acquiring (contracting) the needed banner production/installation services. The light-pole banner project has not progressed since that time due in part to NHNR's concerns about acquiring the needed banner project services.
- County and City staff agree that these light-pole banner projects ended up being quite costly in both staff time and vendor expenses. Staff is therefore recommending elimination of light-pole banners from types of outreach activities to be funded under Strategy 16 to avoid using NRMF funding to pursue costly outreach effort, considering how short the light-pole banners useful life proved to be thereby "causing a major blight" which even more funding will be needed to address/remove. This change is being recommended as a part of the Amended 2012/2013 Expenditure Plan to be considered in June 2012.
- Signage
 - No NRMF-funded Signage produced during this period.

Strategy 17 – Neighborhood Gardening Project – Lots of Crops

Lots of Crops is a community-oriented program designed to assist in the production of healthy food and medicine/native plants to residents of North Richmond by converting vacant lots to healing garden sites over a period of time. In addition, to the Lots of Crops project is intended to provide potential volunteer/employment opportunities for residents. This project was carried over from the Third Amended 2010/2011 Expenditure Plan.

Funding (\$42,598.56) was expended for work completed in January 2012. Below is an example of the tasks that occurred during that time frame:

- Met with different community-based organizations, residents, and other entities regarding involvement with the Lots of Crops program;
- Discussions with private property owners regarding additional potential garden sites;
- Received mulch for all gardens as needed;

- Met with stipend applicants for orientation meeting;
- Trained/ worked with stipend participants;
- Conducted community outreach and education (continuous);
- Harvested fall/winter vegetables;
- Community members harvested when necessary to keep the plants producing;
- Continued to work with interested community members to reserve garden beds for planting at all gardens;
- Supervised volunteers and work – reference past progress reports;
- Took Field trips to check out all the various gardens representing all parts of the world;
- Tabled events at local community events;
- Organized weekly soil science/composting workshops to remind participants NOT to throw away “green” waste;
- Conducted vermi-composting (composting with worms) classes and basic (yard waste) composting techniques so participants can teach to community;
- Prepared medicine from plants growing in our gardens – medicine bags, oils, tinctures, lotions, healing salve, lip balm, plant hydrosol;
- Planted plants to attract wildlife (butterflies, dragonflies, ladybugs, hummingbirds, etc); and
- Planted fruits, vegetables, herbs and edible flowers for vitamin C and for making herbal household products, animal care products, and medicines.

Strategy 18 – Removal & Disposal of Street Cans

City staff contacted a couple of City Departments relatively recently to explore the feasibility of having their staff provide the assistance needed to arrange for the removal and disposal of the damaged Street Cans which are no longer suitable for use. City Parks has indicated a willingness to assist and therefore County staff will confirm the current location of each damaged Street Can to be removed in order to identify each location on a map as requested by Parks.

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