

## Minutes of the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council

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The May 8, 2013 meeting of the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council was called to order by MBNC President, Stan Anderson, at 7:30 p.m. Round-robin self-introductions were made.

**Law Enforcement Report:** Officer David Longacre, our “Beat 1” Police Officer, reported that in the last month, there was only one reported crime in our area: a stolen car recovered at Regatta. There was a discussion of mailbox thefts at Promontory and a discussion of how the reporting of crime for the entire City by the Police Department, whose headquarters are in our neighborhood, has artificially “inflated” the crime statistics because they are housed in our zip code, leading some insurance carriers to increase some homeowners’ premiums. Stan indicated he would address this issue outside the meeting with the appropriate persons.

**West Contra Costa County School District Strategic Plan:** Todd Groves is on the School Board (and is also a resident of Marina Bay) and described the County’s efforts to seek public input on their plans for the next five years. There will be a Town Hall meeting on May 11 at 10 a.m. at Kennedy High School Library. Two of the major issues for the District include how best to address the needs of students who bring 80 different languages with them to school and how to modify the State funding formula to better reflect community needs. He stated that their absolute focus is on guiding the students to have “improved student success.” They’re committed to accountability to both the community and to the students.

**New Residential Development Proposal:** Richard Poe, a commercial real estate developer with a long history in Marina Bay, is proposing a residential development at the end of Marina Way which would consist of about 60 single family homes between Letitia Edwards Park and the Rosie the Riveter Visitor’s Center. These homes are projected to be in the \$550,000 to \$850,000 range. They’re small lots, single family homes, with front doors opening up against the trails.

Poe and his architect presented various plans for past projects and views describing the proposal. Questions were raised regarding public green space, access and environmental impacts. The primary response was that existing parks, which were part of the initial development plan, would satisfy concerns regarding public green space and since commercial development had already been approved by the City and BCDC, this project would have a less substantial impact. A straw vote at the conclusion of the presentation showed mixed reactions.

**Update on the Officer Moody Memorial Underpass:** Chad Smalley, Project Manager with the Successor Agency to the Richmond Redevelopment Agency, reported that the underpass project is moving forward but still needs final approval from the City. Four bids were received during the bid process in March, and the available funding will allow the City to move forward if it accepts the low bid, presented by Gordon & Ball. All four bids were higher than expected with a range from a low of \$27,382,000 on up to \$29,529,347. The lowest bid was presented by Gordon & Ball who did an exact same deal on Cato Road in San Jose. With G&B’s low bid, there would be approximately \$1.1M available to do the “alternatives” presented to the

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public a couple years back ... such as decorative steel railings, entry portals at intersections...or as Chad called it, the “gingerbread.”

Not all elements of the project will be fully funded, but all of the major components will fit within the available funding. He hopes to present the package to the City Finance Committee on June 7 and with their approval, to the City Council on June 18, 2013. If the City Council approves, the project will get underway this summer with groundbreaking in July or August, and the 18-20 month full closure of Marina Bay Parkway could begin in September.

The project includes a process to address archaeological items similar to those encountered during the utility relocation. He noted that the construction schedule will include 4 weekends when work will continue 24 hours per day to meet the limited window afforded by the suspension of rail operations. But the rest of the time, work will be limited to daytime hours. The community was encouraged to come to the 6/18 City Council meeting to support the project.

The next regular Marina Bay Neighborhood Council Meeting is June 12, 2013 and will include a presentation regarding the new “live-work” development on Marina Way South called Artisan Cove.

Please check the home page of our website for additional agenda information, news, past minutes, calendar items, articles, etc., [www.marinabaycouncil.org](http://www.marinabaycouncil.org).

See also <http://ca-richmond2.civicplus.com/index.aspx?NID=2013> for general information about Richmond.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bob Carr, Secretary  
Marina Bay Neighborhood Council