

Marina Bay Neighborhood Council's (MBNC) 2024 Year End Letter

Dear MBNC Members,

As we reflect on 2024, we extend our heartfelt thanks for your unwavering support. Here are some highlights from our vibrant year:

First Quarter:

- **Farmer's Market Launch:** Fresh produce arrived at Marina Bay Park, fostering a healthier community. Thanks to former Councilmember Gayle McLaughlin for seeing this through. For more info go to: <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/4643/Richmond-Farmers-Market>
- **Community Concerns:**
 - Increased flaring at Chevron refinery:
 - Flaring was described as CWS Level 1 Alert; reported to not represent a threat to the community.
 - Residents can report increased flaring at Bay Area Air Quality Management District by calling their complaint line at (800) 334-ODOR (6367).
 - Also, can contact the Richmond Fire Department at (510) 233-1214 for immediate concerns.
 - Mail theft and lack of deterrents to crime:
 - Held a community meeting with Richmond Postmaster Francisco Ascencio.
 - Postmaster discussed the local and statewide problems and provided suggestions on ways to prevent theft.

Second Quarter:

- **Special Tax Assessment:**
 - Presenters included Tawfic Halaby - Deputy Director of Public Works, Tony Thrasher - External Consultant, and Greg Hardesty - Superintendent of Landscape and Lighting
 - They provided an overview of the special tax assessment budget that Marina Bay residents pay to help maintain landscape and lighting in Marina Bay Park.

Third Quarter:

- **TransMontaigne Expansion:**
 - Held a special meeting with City Planning and TransMontaigne representatives to discuss a permit to expand its truck/rail operations and increased transporting and offloading of additional hazard materials into Marina Bay.

- MBNC submitted a letter objection addressing the potential adverse effects on our community of nearly 4000 residents.
- **Dumpster Day:** Successfully hosted another community clean-up event.
- **Meet the Candidates:**
 - Held a "Meet the Candidates" forum introducing Ahmad Anderson and Sue Wilson running for City Council District 5.
 - Sue Wilson won the seat and is the newly elected District 5 Councilmember.
 - A review of the candidate's responses to the Q&A session may be viewed at: <http://marinabaycouncil.org/2017/05/>

Fourth Quarter:

- **Election of Officers:**
 - Voted by acclamation to reappoint:
 - Margarita (Rita) Mitas as President
 - Amelia Morgan as Treasurer
 - Laura Freeze Ho as Secretary
 - Lynne Therriault as member-at-large
 - Kathy Watson as technical lead
 - Volunteers for 2025 will be Basha Goddard, Nancy Kemper, Susan Lustig, Jacob Perkins, Kyanna Williams, and Sandra Lax

Year-End Wrap Up:

- **Development Projects:**
 - Harbour Way S. development project on hold
 - Craneway Facility is operating as a pickleball club
 - MBNC awaiting response to letter Environment Impact Review and expansion permit for TransMontaigne project
 - Moxion went bankrupt and laid off all its employees; building will be completed with new tenant TBD

2024 would not have been possible without the dedication of all our volunteers: Margarita Mitas-President, Amelia Morgan-Treasurer, Laura Ho-Secretary, Lynne Therriault-Member at Large, Kathy Watson-Technical Assistant, Barbara Goddard, Susan Lustig, Frank Wheeler, Nancy Kemper, Sandra and Jacob Perkins.

For 2025, MBNC is already planning quarterly meetings and a community event to connect with our neighbors. **Stay tuned!**

We hope you continue to show your support and consider renewing your membership. The dues are used for donations to worthy non-profits and to help support the council's yearly initiatives.

MBNC looks forward to working with you in 2025.

Margarita Mitas – MBNC President