

RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

STAFF REPORT

For the meeting of November 14, 2024

To: Board of Directors
From: Brad Gross, Executive Director
Subject: Executive Director's Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file

Reporting period September 5, 2024 – November 14, 2024

SUMMARY:

Fiscal:

- 1 Provided second notice FY25 invoices to member agencies.
- 2 All member agencies are now current.
- 3 Budget process for FY26 has been initiated due to early reporting deadlines set by the County Department of Finance.

Administration:

- 1 Meetings with County counsel and outside counsel regarding ongoing operations and enforcement activities.
- 2 Developing an RBRA Board Handbook. This is a multi-month project working with outside consultants, Regional Government Services, County counsel and RBRA staff.
- 3 Established a Professional Service Contract with Beth A. Pollard to continue to provide consulting and project assistance to RBRA. This contract is within the Executive Director's delegated authority parameters.
- 4 Meetings with new insurance counsel and claims director.

BCDC:

- 1 Monthly meetings with BCDC enforcement committee staff continue with positive feedback.
- 2 Requested modification to EPZ sign permit based on USCG input. Approved by BCDC.
- 3 Eelgrass Protection Zone was enacted on October 15, 2024. Details in Harbor Master report.

Housing:

The program initiated May 1, 2023, and since its start:

- 17 housed.
- 15 vouchers now issued- 12 current.
- 3 people have now transitioned to Federal Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCV).

Current activities:

- 2 with voucher are in housing search.
 - 2 people are approved.
 - 1 person is in process.
 - 4 program expiration letters provided (this activates the next step to a HCV).
- 1 Housing Team meetings every two weeks for program review and information exchange.
 - 2 Weekly meeting with South Marin Case workers.
 - 3 Communications and program updates provided to Sen. McGuire's office.
 - 4

Vessel Buyback:

- 1 Seven vessels reported this period.

Richardson Bay:

- 1 Communications with Harbor Master Malcolm and Deputy Harbor Master Lesberg on a consistent basis for briefings on activities in the anchorage and throughout the bay.
- 2 EPZ and designated anchorage have now been established.

Eelgrass:

- 1 Worked with CPS to conclude Eelgrass Protection Zone signage project.
- 2 Permitting delays based on multi-agency input.
- 3 EPZ signs and buoys installed on November 7, 2024.
- 4 Enforcement efforts will soon be implemented.
- 5 Approximately 6 acres of eelgrass have now been planted with EPA grant funding and 3 acres funded by the Cosco Busan settlement project.
- 6 CPS continues monthly meetings with eelgrass project partners.

Sausalito:

- 1 Communications continue with Sausalito City Manager.
- 2 Working with CPS and City staff for eelgrass signage on City property.
- 3 Updated to RBRA programs was published in City's newsletter.

Grants:

- 1 Received updates on all grants, grant balances and applications.
- 2 One new grant application was submitted this reporting period to support the Vessel Buyback Program, remove abandoned and derelict vessels and remove underwater debris from Richardson Bay.
- 3 Received notification on both grants submitted, (one from last reporting period) that RBRA has been selected to move to the next submittal period.

Public Outreach:

- 1 Responded twice to interviews by MIJ resulting in two positive news articles.
- 2 Interviewed by Sausalito's communication director for inclusion in the City's newsletter.
- 3 Harbor Master Malcolm and consultant Rebecca Schwartz Lesberg (CPS) both interviewed by videographer regarding activities and eelgrass in the anchorage.
- 4 CPS was interviewed by KPIX on the EPZ for a TV interview.
- 5 Weekly meetings with Progress Public Affairs to update and strategize.
- 6 Working with PR staff on quarterly newsletter.
- 7 Attended the ribbon cutting event to highlight the EPZ restoration project.

General:

- 1 Concluded communications and a follow up with the USCG private aids team regarding the RBRA information signage program. Permit received on October 8, 2024.
- 2 Harbor Master Malcolm, Board Clerk Karen Prows working with County Counsel continue to work responding to Public Records Act request. The level of attention has remained steady during this reporting period.
- 3 Seven PRAs received this reporting period.
- 4 Six responses to PRAs provided during the reporting period.