

# RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

## STAFF REPORT

For the meeting of May 14, 2026

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Brad Gross, Executive Director  
**Subject:** Draft 2026 Strategic Plan

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Board approve Resolution 26-03 adopting a 2026 Strategic Plan.

### **SUMMARY:**

The 2026 Strategic Plan is intended to provide the Board's direction on its priorities for the next approximately five years, in the form of goals, objectives, strategies, and strategic actions. This Board reviewed and discussed a draft plan at its March 12, 2026 meeting, and invited public comment. The draft plan and invitation for public comment have been posted on the RBRA website, with no comments received.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In June 2020, the Board adopted a Transition Plan summarizing its vision, principles, and policy direction for moving towards the goal of a safe, healthy, and well-managed bay.

In 2022, the Board adopted Transition Plan 2.0 which, accompanied by a report on 2020 Transition Plan progress, refined its transition direction with goals, objectives, strategies and strategic actions for eelgrass habitat, safe housing, and vessel enforcement.

As summarized in the attached progress report, RBRA has made significant strides in achieving the Board's goals and objectives in Transition Plan 2.0, through implementation of the plan's strategies and actions.

The Agency is now in a position to establish goals, objectives, strategies and actions that reflect its near completion of a transition phase. Strategic planning can now be more focused on maintaining accomplishments that have been achieved, implementing plans, agreements, ordinances, and policies, and continuing RBRA's positive trajectory in being a safe, healthy and well-managed bay.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Key areas of focus in the transition plans – eelgrass habitat, safe housing, and vessel enforcement – continue as priorities in the 2026 Strategic Plan, and are summarized below:

### **Eelgrass Habitat Goal: Healthy & Robust Eelgrass Beds in Richardson Bay**

A. Objective: Eelgrass beds are protected against damage and degradation: Continuing to publicize and enforce RBRA's no-anchoring in Eelgrass Protection Zone (EPZ), and supporting best practices for clean water quality are its key strategies.

B. Objective: 75 acres of eelgrass beds are restored: RBRA's Restoration and Adaptive Management Plan (RAMP) provides a clear roadmap for this restoration. Successful partnerships and grant awards have created momentum towards accomplishing this objective by the 2031 target date, while also relying on pending and future grant awards.

### **Safe Housing Goal: No persons occupy vessels illegally on Richardson Bay**

A. Objective: Vessels and their occupants relocate off the bay pursuant to the timelines in the Bay Conservation & Development Commission (BCDC) Agreement: This objective is virtually met, through continued implementation of RBRA's Temporary Housing Support Program (THSP), augmented by the Vessel Buyback Program.

B. Objective: Obtain any available funding to continue subsidized housing and support services for eligible THSP participants upon exhaustion of the remaining THSP grant funds. Strategies include efforts towards additional federal Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV's), grants, and other public and private funding sources.

### **Enforcement & Operations Goal: A bay that is safe for transient vessels, recreation, and other public access.**

A. Objective: Vessels and other uses of the bay comply with RBRA rules and regulations. Physical and online postings, information outreach by others, and RBRA enforcement are the key strategies.

B. Objective: RBRA has an appropriate organizational structure, staffing, and sufficient resources to effectively and efficiently fulfill its mission and meet its agreement with BCDC. RBRA's core enforcement & operations emphasis has been the relocation and removal of non-transient vessels. With that virtually accomplished, it is timely for RBRA to re-evaluate its organizational structure and staffing needs, while continuing to meet the BCDC agreement and maintaining legal conditions on the bay.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

RBRA staff will focus its work program and Board agenda items towards implementation of the 2026 Strategic Plan.

### **Attachments:**

Attachment 1: DRAFT 2026 Strategic Plan

Attachment 2: Progress Report on Transition Plan 2.0

Attachment 3: DRAFT Resolution 26-03