

DO YOU KNOW...

...ANYTHING ABOUT THE MARINA BAY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MBNC) – AND HOW IT AFFECTS Y-O-U ?

Very few cities in the United States have an officially-sanctioned neighborhood council system. Since 1991 Marina Bay in Richmond has been proud of its active Council, and we offer below a partial list of recent MBNC accomplishments – *that directly affect YOU!* We hope that this helps you get to know us a little better and that perhaps you will feel a little more inclined to join us at a meeting after you receive that little blue agenda card in the mail:

Quiet Zone at the Railroad Crossings: Dr. Louis Hagler was the MBNC Liaison on the formation of the Quiet Zone at Marina Bay Parkway near Regatta Blvd. The MBNC had the issue of train noise on the agenda multiple times, petitioned the City to work with the appropriate parties to obtain Quiet Zone Status, and to construct the required safety upgrades to the crossing. We were successful in obtaining the status, thus cutting back on noise emanating from the trains while traversing Marina Bay Parkway.

UnderPass/OverPass at Marina Bay Parkway (a/k/a/ Grade Separation): MBNC's current President, Virginia Finlay, participated on numerous committees regarding the construction and financing of a grade separation in Marina Bay. Four major streets were under consideration but the most viable route is Marina Bay Parkway. Once the studies and engineering reports were completed, the MBNC partnered with the Redevelopment Agency to sponsor Town Hall meetings for the community to discuss the issues and a vote was taken to determine if there was community support for the project. There was! And financing has been earmarked for the completion of the project and construction should begin in 2010.

Meade Street Emergency Bypass: Sunset Pointe residents, David and Gilda Waldman, found a partial solution to the mile-long train problem which resulted in blocking off all traffic from entering and exiting Marina Bay. The MBNC brought the solution (construction of an emergency bypass on UC and CalTrans land) to the Redevelopment Agency. Negotiations have been completed, financing secured, and construction should begin in late 2009 or early 2010.

Ferry Service: This is still a work in progress – and there is progress! The MBNC and the Redevelopment Agency have hosted and attended many meetings with stakeholders and the community. There is community support, and we are awaiting the completion of the General Plan in order to submit that document to the WETA (Water Emergency Transit Authority); we are on their list, along with Hercules, of two possible sites for the construction of the Ferry Terminal and Service.

Marina Bay Parks Master Plan: Again partnering with the Redevelopment Agency, and with over two years of work by MBNC members, we set specifications for future replacement

purchases, developed a reserve study for future financial needs of maintaining Marina Bay parks, trails and streetscape. The Master Plan was the information needed as a basis for the Marina Bay Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District, which led to Town Hall Meetings with the stakeholders and the community to ascertain their support. Those Town Hall Meetings eventually led to...

...the July 28th passage of the **Marina Bay Landscaping & Lighting Maintenance District and Assessment**. A grassroots community group, ELDAC, grew out of the Town Hall Meetings and was supported by the MBNC in their negotiations with the City to reach a community maintenance program that we can all support and live with.

Marina Bay Neighborhood Council Website: All Marina Bay residents are welcome to check out www.marinabaycouncil.org where you can obtain information regarding the monthly MBNC agenda, info about news and events in our community, minutes of prior meetings and links to public services and non-profit agencies.

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY

In addition to the above, the MBNC provides a forum to inform the community about important issues such as:

- **the Orton Company's restoration of the historic Ford Building and the Craneway Pavilion**
- **Chevron Energy and Hydrogen Renewal Project**
- **the Point Molate Mixed Use Tribal Destination Resort & Casino**
- **the relocation of the Richmond Police Dept. to Marina Bay (on Regatta Blvd.)**
- **the Marina Bay Clean-up and Results of the Five Year Test on Remediation**

The MBNC provides Marina Bay with an information link through presentations by and about service providers and projects throughout the City:

- West Contra Costa Unified School District**
- Richmond PAL (Police Activities League)**
- The Watershed Project**
- The Richmond Arts Center**
- NIAD (National Institute of Art & Disabilities)**
- The Richmond Sea Scouts**
- The Hilltop YMCA**
- The Richmond Shoreline (TRAC)**
- Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Park**
- The Richmond Chamber of Commerce**
- The Richmond Convention and Visitors Bureau**
- Community Advisory Groups**
- The City of Richmond City Council & The City Manager**
- The City of Richmond Redevelopment Agency**
- The Richmond Public Library**
- Richmond Main Street Project**

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE HARBOR MASTER'S BUILDING the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM. Bring a neighbor with you, too.