

**Filling the Vacated Richmond City Council Seat of Mindell Penn
Tom Butt
July 2, 2005**

As of yesterday, Mindell Penn is no longer a member of the Richmond City Council, and on July 12, 2005, there will likely be an agenda item on the City Council Agenda to consider her replacement.

Under the Charter, the City Council has 60 days to choose a replacement, or a special election must be called, which would likely be consolidated with the special election of November 2004 that has already been called by the governor.

There are at least five persons actively campaigning for appointment. All were candidates for City Council in November 2004, including:

- Andres Soto, who placed sixth with 8,318 votes, 7.5% of the total.
- Deborah Stewart, who placed seventh with 7,456 votes, 6.7% of the total.
- Gary Bell, who placed eighth with 7,288 votes, 6.6% of the total.
- Tony Thurmond, who placed ninth with 6,692, 6.0% of the votes.
- Corky Booze, who placed twelfth with 5,809 votes, 5.2% of the total.

Speculation is rampant about whether or not the City Council will make an appointment, and if so, who it will be. In this document I have provided extensive information about the candidates, including:

- Information from the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund from the November 2004 election posted on the website <http://www.smartvoter.org/2004/11/02/ca/cc/race/2163/>. This website also provides links, when provided by candidates, to the candidates' websites where even more information can be found.
- Copies of responses from each candidate to a questionnaire I prepared to help me decide who to support.

Although very brief, I provide below a snapshot of the strengths and weaknesses of each candidate based on both fact and rumor. If I make any mistakes, I beg anyone to correct me.

- **Andres Soto** was the first runner-up in November 2004, and he has at least one solid commitment, Gayle McLaughlin. Soto is smart and has been engaged in the community for a long time. His experience and expertise in violence prevention seems especially timely. In 2004, he was supported by the Contra Costa County Central labor Council. According to Soto, the strongest arguments his favor are:

Respect the Will of the Voters. With your help, I nearly won a seat on the Council in the November 2004 election. In fact, I received the next highest number of votes -- 8,318 after Nat Bates. At-large elections are a ranked preference vote, therefore, "Andrés Soto is the People's Choice!"

Respect the Track Record. I ran strongly throughout the city because of my 25-plus years of service to the schools, community, city, county, state and country in the areas of equal access, violence prevention, gun control, and multi-cultural celebrations.

Support. In the last election, I enjoyed the support of many respected leaders, including Congressman George Miller, Senators Don Perata and Tom Torlakson, Assemblymember Loni Hancock, Supervisors John Gioia and Mark DeSaulnier and dozens of local community leaders.

Soto, however, has an uphill battle. He may have alienated members of the powerful RPOA (Richmond Police Officers Association) and the firefighters. In the last two decades, a City

Council election runner-up has never been selected to fill a vacated City Council seat. Runner ups left along the trail include Tony Martarella, Steve Harvey and even me (1993). Runner-ups tend to come from campaigns where they have challenged the status quo, and then it, unfortunately, it is the status quo that is in the position of making the appointment. Although voters may like outspoken candidates, most City Council members tend to shy away from them. On the other hand, I tend to prefer outspoken and passionate people with strong convictions, as long as they are consistent with my own.

- **Deborah Preston Stewart** followed Soto by nearly a thousand votes in November 2004 and is the favored candidate of Black Women Organized for political Action (BWOPA). She is also rumored to have the support of Councilmembers Bates and Griffin and is touted as an appropriate replacement because she, like Penn, is an African-American female. Her supporters play up her employment as a manager in the Port of Oakland as experience that would be valuable to the City of Richmond.

Although she is a native of Richmond, Preston Stewart has had little public visibility with the exception of the 2004 campaign. According to BWOPA, however, “Ms Preston Stewart’s community activities were derailed due to the sudden loss of her mother immediately after the elections.”

- **Gary Bell**, the third runner-up, is both advantaged and disadvantaged by his previous service on the City Council. Of all the candidates, he would be the most predictable because of his previous record, but to be considered by his previous colleagues, he will have to live with the relationships and politics he built during his previous terms. As a fiscal conservative coming out of a horrendous fiscal crises that he virtually predicted, his defeat in the last election still surprises me. He is one of two candidates supported by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce for this appointment. I think I could count on Gary to be supportive in most of the issues that are priorities for me.
- **Tony Thurmond**, the fourth runner-up and some 1,500 votes behind Soto in 2004, seems to be running strong. Unlike Soto, he ran a low key campaign that did not threaten or offend any of the sitting Council members. Thurmond is rumored to have the support of Mayor Anderson, BAPAC (Black American Political Action Committee) and former Councilmember Penn. He was supported by the Contra Costa Central Labor Council last November and is one of two candidates touted by the Richmond Chamber of Commerce for this appointment.

Probably more than any other candidate, Thurmond has embraced community service in Richmond since the November 2004 election by serving on the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) where he helped to raise \$200,000 with Richmond hire 200 Richmond summer youth, serving on the Recreation and Parks Commission , allocating County Child Abuse dollars (\$900,000) to support prevention (Family and Children’s Trust Fund), serving as a West County EdFund Board Director to raise money to support after school and music programs in West County Schools and serving as a volunteer advisor to students involved with re-initiating the Richmond Youth Commission.

- **Corky Booze**, the seventh runner-up, is not waging the level of campaign as the others, but he believes the individual weaknesses of each of the candidates will result in a failure to find a five-vote majority for any of them and thus provide an opening that he can fill as a consensus candidate. Like Soto, however, Booze is a passionate and outspoken public figure, and he has become over the years such a fixture at City Council meetings that he is often referred to as the “10th Councilmember.” One thing for sure, he will not get the mayor’s vote.

I solicit your input on each of these candidates. Please give me your preferences and the reasons why, and please read the voluminous information on each of them that follows:

Results of 2004 Richmond City Council Election

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Proportion</u>
*Tom Butt	11,727	10.5%
John E. Marquez	11,277	10.1%
Gayle McLaughlin	11,191	10.0%
*Mindell Penn	10,645	9.5%
*"Nat" Bates	9,569	8.6%
Andres Soto	8,318	7.5%
Deborah Stewart	7,456	6.7%
*Gary L. Bell	7,288	6.5%
Tony K. Thurmond	6,692	6.0%
Eddrick J. Osborne	6,152	5.5%
Kathy "Storm" Scharff	6,128	5.5%
Corky Booze	5,809	5.2%
Arnie Kasendorf	4,953	4.4%
Bill Idzerda	2,352	2.1%
Herman Blackwell	2,073	1.9%

League of Women Voters of California Education Fund from the November 2004 election posted on the website <http://www.smartvoter.org/2004/11/02/ca/cc/race/2163/>.

[Andrés Soto](#)  MORE...8,318 votes 7.5%

- Occupation: Legislative Policy Director
- Violence prevention expert
- Created policy that eliminated gun sales in Richmond
- Steering Committee Southwest Voter Registration & Education Project
- Former President Familias Unidas
- Founding Board President, Los Cenzontles Mexican Art Center
- UC Berkeley and Contra Costa College Graduate

Priorities:

- Governing Responsibly & Strengthening the Local Economy
- Keeping Communities Safe & Supporting Families
- Creating a Healthy Environment



League of Women Voters of California Education Fund

Contra Costa County, CA

November 2, 2004 Election



Andrés Soto

Candidate for

[Member, City Council; City of Richmond](#)



The information on this page and on all pages linked below is provided by the candidate. The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

Biographical Highlights

- Occupation: Legislative Policy Director
- Violence prevention expert
- Created policy that eliminated gun sales in Richmond
- Steering Committee Southwest Voter Registration & Education Project
- Former President Familias Unidas
- Founding Board President, Los Cenzontles Mexican Art Center
- UC Berkeley and Contra Costa College Graduate



Top Priorities if Elected

- Governing Responsibly & Strengthening the Local Economy
- Keeping Communities Safe & Supporting Families
- Creating a Healthy Environment



Key Endorsements

- Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, Richmond and El Sobrante Greens
- Congressman George Miller, Senator Don Perata & Assemblywoman Loni Hancock
- Central Labor Council & Building Trades Council



Campaign Contact Information

Website: <http://www.andressoto.net>

E-mail: manager@andressoto.net

Deborah Preston Stewart 7,456 votes 6.7%

- Occupation: Personnel Manager/Parent
- Email: debra-debra@sbcglobal.net

Gary L. Bell 7,288 votes 6.5%

- Occupation: Mortgage Broker
- Email: gb926@aol.com

Tony K. Thurmond MORE... 6,692 votes 6.0%

- Occupation: Community Services Manager
- Veteran non-profit manager of youth, education, and community development programs
- Contra Costa County Family and Children's Trust Committee member
- Master of Law and Social Policy Degree
- Master of Social Service Degree
- Bachelor of Psychology Degree
- Former Student Body President, Temple University

Priorities:

- Solid fiscal management and city leadership
- Economic development and job training
- Violence prevention and education



League of Women Voters of California Education Fund

Contra Costa County, CA

November 2, 2004 Election



Tony K. Thurmond



Candidate for
Member, City Council: City of Richmond

The information on this page and on all pages linked below is provided by the candidate.
The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any candidate or political party.

Biographical Highlights

- Occupation: Community Services Manager
- Veteran non-profit manager of youth, education, and community development programs
- Contra Costa County Family and Children's Trust Committee member
- Master of Law and Social Policy Degree
- Master of Social Service Degree
- Bachelor of Psychology Degree
- Former Student Body President, Temple University



Top Priorities if Elected

- Solid fiscal management and city leadership
- Economic development and job training
- Violence prevention and education



Key Endorsements

- SEIU 790
- Contra Costa Central Labor Council
- Contra Costa Building Trades Council

Campaign Contact Information

Website: <http://www.thurmondforcouncil.com>

E-mail: tonythurm@aol.com

Courtland Corky Booze MORE... 5,809 votes 5.2%

- Occupation: Businessman
- Two Lifetime Teaching Credentials
- 20yr Richmond Businessman & Resident
- Community Activist

Priorities:

- Restore Financial Stability
- Restore Police & Fire Departments to full capacity
- Restore Infrastructure, Public Works, Park & Rec, Senior Centers

**City Council Appointment Questionnaire Responses
from Andres Soto**

If you ran in the last election, how much money did you raise (excluding loans from yourself) and who were your five largest contributors?

\$24,814.00. The five largest contributors in descending order were SEIU 790, Juanita Solinsky, Yvette Soto, and all tied for fourth are Roberto Rivera, Tony Sustak, Bill Pinkham, Friends of George Miller, Dicon Fibreoptics and Cherokee Simeon. The last is one I intend to return. I had one loan from Susan Swift of \$2,500.00 which has been repaid.

I am even more proud of the human capital we were able to raise by mobilizing dozens of volunteers to phone bank and walk precincts. I believe this is what was responsible for the strong showing in this very recent election despite the unprecedented volume of hit pieces from opponents in the last election.

What legislation would you write or sponsor that would improve public policy in Richmond?

I would want to introduce policy to improve both the fiscal and the political health of the city. On the fiscal side, I would want work on legislation to generate revenue by removing the Utility User Tax Cap, establish some form of Gross Receipts Tax on medium and large size businesses, establish an environmental justice ordinance with teeth in it including significant fines for violations and a long term investment in sustainable energy and “greening” of the city.

On the political side, I believe Richmond is large enough for the establishment of district elections. I personally prefer five seats with a rotating mayor, but I could live with six districts and an at-large mayoral seat. I would also want to see a limitation of contributions to candidates and explore a way to diminish the role of special interest money in the races, particularly the 527s.

What have you personally done within the last three years to improve the quality of life in Richmond?

I have spent the past 25 years working directly or indirectly to improve the quality of life in Richmond. During the past three years, I have been advocating for improvement in accountability within the Richmond Police Department and civilian review/oversight of the Richmond Police Department. I have also felt compelled to defend the Richmond Police Commission from efforts to either reduce its power or eliminate it altogether. I believe it is critical for the residents of Richmond have trust in the RPD if there is going to be a true community cooperation in preventing and solving crimes.

I was a key member and organizer of the March 4 Education, a group of local parents, educators, students and community members, who marched 73 miles to Sacramento to bring awareness to the fiscal problems of the WCCUSD specifically, and public education in California in general. This action resulted in legislation that reduced the WCCUSD’s debt payments.

I have also been involved in the Just Cause/Fair Rent ordinance campaign as a member of Richmond Vision 2000 over the past two years to help establish greater stability in the community and to establish standards of justice for both landlords and renters in Richmond.

I know you only asked for three examples, but I want to mention that last year I worked a bill, AB 50 (Koretz), to ban the sale and manufacture of .50 caliber sniper rifles, through the California Legislature to the Governor's signature. This made California the first state to do so adopt such a ban. Legislation has been introduced this year in four other states. Part of the argument was to protect communities with significant petrochemical facilities, such as Richmond, from potential terrorists threats from these high powered long range guns. I also feel that running in the Council race of 2004 helped to bring new issues up for discussion and new voters into the process. Both of these things helped Richmond as well.

If you were in my position and I in yours, what questions would you ask?

What motivates you for public service? Do you think Richmond is generally moving in the right direction or not? What are your key policy objectives and is there a way we can help each other in areas of mutual interests? What and/or who do see being the key impediments to achieving your policy objectives. What are your strategies to overcome these impediments. What are your future political plans? Can we be of mutual assistance?

Respond to the following with yes or no answers and provide comments as appropriate

Do you support ...?	Yes	No	Comments
Lifting the cap on Chevron's Utility User tax?	X		
Maintaining a strong Design Review Board?	X		
An annual survey of Richmond residents about City services and priorities?	X		
Completing the Richmond Greenway, including acquisition of the Adachi property to complete the link to the Ohlone Greenway?	X		
Moving ahead with rehabilitation of the Richmond Plunge?	X		
Continued strong City support for the development of Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historical Park?	X		
An active and effective historic preservation program in Richmond, including Certified Local Government designation?	X		
Completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond?	X		
Requiring all new City buildings to be certified "Green?"	X		
Restoration and daylighting of creeks, such as Baxter Creek and Rheem Creek, as a part of any adjacent development project?	X		
A strong and effective code enforcement and abatement program?	X		
Smart growth, new urbanism and transit oriented development as priorities?	X		
A form based zoning code?	X		
Enforcing a rental unit inspection ordinance?	X		
Adding residential rental unit ownership as a business to be licensed?	X		
Enforcing Richmond's Milk and Cream Zones?	X		
Enforcing the Surface Transportation Board	X		

to curtail long trains through south Richmond?			
If it came down to a choice of having a ferry terminal in Richmond or having a Toyota transshipment facility, would you support the ferry terminal?	X		
Strong neighborhood councils and Recognition of neighborhood preferences for development projects?	X		

Add anything else you wish, including comments, resume, etc.

I believe that the results of the last election should be respected. I received the next highest number of votes after Nat Bates as the result of a ranked voter preference, thus my appoint would sustain the integrity of those who support at-large elections.

I believe that the Council and the City would be best served by a diversity of perspectives. I believe the communities of Richmond are much more progressive than the Council has been.

I support the goals of both the Community Involved Policing Committee and Citizens for Community Involved Government.

I believe there has been allowed to develop a poor work attitude in some sectors of the city workforce. I also believe creative rebuilding of city services, accountability and a sense of mission is necessary to avoid the culture of the past.

I appreciate and admire your persistence at staff accountability, especially at the executive level, as most recently exemplified by the Cromartie case. As a Councilmember, I would support your efforts and help lead it as well.

**City Council Appointment Questionnaire Responses
From Deborah Preston Stewart**

If you ran in the last election, how much money did you raise (excluding loans from yourself) and who were your five largest contributors?

1) I raised approx. \$15,000.00.

2) My five largest contributors were from individual contributors: David Alexander, Marsha Peterson, Raynard King, Harold Jones and Joan Strawder Webster.

What legislation would you write or sponsor that would improve public policy in Richmond?

I would support legislation that would generate incentives for corporations to invest in and do business with the city, i.e., tax incentives for relocating to Richmond and hiring of Richmond residents.

I would also support legislation that would mitigate crimes committed by our young people, i.e., enforce laws regulating driving laws, etc...

What have you personally done within the last three years to improve the quality of life in Richmond?

As a member of BWOPA, I sit on the Political Action Committee. I have recently proposed a mentorship program for young women (ages 12-18) who reside in Richmond. BWOPA members would work with young ladies on educating them on the importance of becoming politically knowledgeable as well as assisting them with future educational goals and endeavors.

I have also recently become involved with the Richmond Main Street Initiative.

I am a tax payer as well as a landlord for low-income Richmond residents.

If you were in my position and I in yours, what questions would you ask?

What do you see as the three most important challenges facing Richmond today?

1) Mitigating Crime 2) Economic Development and 3) Inferior Schools

Respond to the following with yes or no answers and provide comments as appropriate

Do you support ...?	Yes	No	Comments
Lifting the cap on Chevron's Utility User tax?	X		
Maintaining a strong Design Review Board?	X		
An annual survey of Richmond residents about City services and priorities?	X		It would be my hope that follow up strategies would be incorporated into the survey for an action plan.
Completing the Richmond Greenway, including acquisition of the Adachi property to complete the link to the Ohlone Greenway?	X		I understand that funding is an issue and Richmond has to prioritize programs at this time.
Moving ahead with rehabilitation of the Richmond Plunge?	X		If additional funding is needed, work to seek that funding.
Continued strong City support for the development of Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historical Park?	X		

An active and effective historic preservation program in Richmond, including Certified Local Government designation?	X		
Completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond?	X		
Requiring all new City buildings to be certified "Green?"	X		
Restoration and daylighting of creeks, such as Baxter Creek and Rheem Creek, as a part of any adjacent development project?	X		
A strong and effective code enforcement and abatement program?	X		This is a critical issue for the City. We must create a welcoming and clean environment in order to attract new businesses and residents into our city.
Smart growth, new urbanism and transit oriented development as priorities?	X		Critical for the City's ability to attract new residents and businesses.
A form based zoning code?	?		I need additional information
Enforcing a rental unit inspection ordinance?	?		I need additional information.
Adding residential rental unit ownership as a business to be licensed?			I am undecided. On the surface, it appears it would be a disincentive for investors to invest in property in the City, thereby limiting much needed affordable housing.
Enforcing Richmond's Weed Abatement ordinance?	X		
Implementation of railroad Quiet Zones?	X		
Petitioning the Surface Transportation Board to curtail long trains through south Richmond?	X		
If it came down to a choice of having a ferry terminal in Richmond or having a Toyota transshipment facility, would you support the ferry terminal?		X	I believe the Toyota transshipment would create more revenue, i.e. taxes and jobs. A ferry terminal would be limited in terms of generating revenue. Richmond is not a tourist city.
Strong neighborhood councils and Recognition of neighborhood preferences for development projects?	X		The recognition of neighborhood would create incentives for the community to "buy into" projects they have a role in developing.

Add anything else you wish, including comments, resume, etc.

I am particularly interested in economic development and the deterioration of Richmond's infrastructure. I would support legislation to improve Richmond's main thoroughfare streets, Macdonald Avenue and Cutting Blvd.

I would advocate for developing Cutting Blvd. for mixed use purposes, i.e., commercial businesses with a mixture of urban housing, i.e., work/live lofts, like Emeryville and Oakland. I would also support and advocate for funding to provide incentives for retail businesses to come back to MacDonald Ave.

I also have a strong interest in advocating for programs that support our youth, i.e., after school programs, mentorship programs and job training programs.

DEBORAH L. PRESTON STEWART
4533 FIELDCREST DR., RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA 94803
Business (510) 627-1443 * Home (510) 669-1386

EDUCATION

St. Mary's College, Moraga, California - Bachelor of Arts - Business Management, 1985

SUMMARY

- *Over twenty of years of increasingly responsible experience in the Human Resources area.*
- *Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate in a diverse organization and across all levels. Proven leadership skills. Able to plan, organize and manage human resources effectively.*
- *Interface with three international unions in the areas of contract administration, grievances, policy development and implementation and employee relations.*
- *Designed and implemented programs to enhance and facilitate community relations activities of the fourth largest transportation agency in the nation.
Administered program which placed 370 local residents into positions with Port businesses in fiscal year 95/96.*

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

PORT OF OAKLAND, 530 WATER STREET, OAKLAND, CA. 94607

Human Resources Supervisor 7/02 – Present

Responsible for supervising the Labor Relations Unit. Interpretation and administration of the various memorandum's of understandings between the Port and it's three unions: Service Employees International Union, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and Western Council of Engineers and assisting in the negotiations of those contracts. Responsible for the administration of progressive discipline, grievances, arbitration hearings, the Port's personnel policies and procedures and the Civil Service Rules. Responsible for the interpretation and application of a variety of rules and regulations such as the Meyers Milius Brown Act. Conduct training workshops for Port management on various topics related to human resource activities, such as software for the performance management program (KnowledgePoint) and updates on the various MOU's and employment law. Also responsible for all matters related to workplace violence and the Department of Transportation's random drug testing program.

Management Assistant/Labor Relations Specialist 1/97 – 7/02

Participate in the development of management strategies for negotiations, advise and assist departmental managers and supervisors in matters relating to progressive discipline, assist in the preparation and implementation of professional development plans, coordinate divisional Worker's Compensation claims, advise supervisors and managers in investigation and preparation of grievance responses, coordinate the implementation and preparation of desk audits and classification studies, coordinate divisional training relative to professional growth and personal development, coordinate preparation of departmental performance evaluations, implementation of step increases and Performance Incentive Program (PIP) increases.

Employment Resources Development Program Coordinator (ERDP) – 1990-1997

As manager of the Port's ERDP, administered recruitment program, acted as liaison between the community, school district, local colleges and universities and the Port as it relates to employment and training. Met with Port businesses to determine their needs such as training and recruitment of personnel. In addition, assisted Senior Management on special projects associated with community issues that impact the economic development of the Port. Monitor productivity of Quality Assurance program levels as they relate to job placement. Also provided assistance to community agencies through program development and support activities through which job search workshops were conducted to enhance client job preparation. Supervised, trained and evaluated ERDP staff. Developed and managed program budget. Coordinated and implemented the Port's High School and College Internship programs. Prepared monthly statistical reports to update Board of Port Commissioners on ERDP activities and local employment and training issues.

Port Job Researcher 1989 - 1990

Responsible for reviewing and analyzing position requisitions from Port businesses and evaluated the qualifications of ERDP applicants for said positions. Developed and contacted community based organizations to enhance recruitment efforts of the ERDP and to ensure that local residents were provided employment opportunities with Port businesses.

THE OAKLAND PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL, 510 - 16TH ST., OAKLAND, C/A.

Employment Representative 1987 TO 1989

Negotiated On-The-Job Training contracts. Organized and led Job Search Workshops for Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) program participants. Recruited eligible participants for placement into full-time positions. Developed and analyzed subsidized and non-subsidized employment opportunities in the business community. Assessed participant's employment qualifications including evaluation of interview techniques and level of marketability skills.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND, 325 - 25TH ST, RICHMOND, CA.

Project Manager/Consultant 1986 to 1987

Responsible for developing employment opportunities for residents who were adversely impacted by the John T. Knox Freeway Project. Acted as liaison between community based organizations, contractors and unions. Established affirmative action committees to coordinate placement. Applied federal and state employment laws, regulations, court decisions concerning labor relations, equal opportunity and personnel related policies and practices. Coordinated pre-apprenticeship training classes and monitored the performance of program participants. Developed and implemented outreach campaign to recruit unskilled laborers. Designed and implemented an employment procedural manual for program activities.

(References Will Be Furnished Upon Request)

**City Council Appointment Questionnaire Responses
From Gary Bell**

If you ran in the last election, how much money did you raise (excluding loans from yourself) and who were your five largest contributors?

1. Republic Services
2. Veolia Water
3. Curtis Eisienberger Developments
4. Auto Warehouse
5. Russ Pito

What legislation would you write or sponsor that would improve public policy in Richmond?

I believe there is a need to address the long-term capital needs of the City. We made some progress with the 35 million bond issued in 2001. However I don't think the general fund can afford to debt service additional bond issues.

Therefore I would recommend consideration of a GO bond that would raise 100 million or more. The money would be only for roads and parks maybe some for the plunge. The primary focus for roads would be the main arterials.

What have you personally done within the last three years to improve the quality of life in Richmond?

I have served the citizens of Richmond as a member of the Council during one of the toughest financial time periods in the Council history. The time commitment required to endure through the tough time was a large investment of my personal time and energy. I believe in the long run we made some very good decisions that will have a positive impact on the quality of life for people in Richmond.

On the first Monday of the month I have served the homeless at the GRIP souper kitchen. I do this a member of my church, Sojourner Truth.

2. If you were in my position and I in yours, what questions would you ask?

I would ask questions like, how do you make tough decisions? I would want to know about your work ethic, that is, would you come to the meetings prepared. Are you able to support issues you don't understand based on your colleagues on the Council background and experience?

3. Respond to the following with yes or no answers and provide comments as appropriate

Do you support ...?	Yes	No	Comments
Lifting the cap on Chevron's Utility User tax?	X		As long as we approach this in a way where we don't end up with less revenue.
Maintaining a strong Design Review Board?	X		With some of the proposed streamline ideas incorporated.
An annual survey of Richmond residents about City services and priorities?	X		I supported it before, I think now more than ever it is a good ideal.
Completing the Richmond Greenway, including acquisition of the Adachi property to complete the link to the Ohlone Greenway?	X		I supported this in the past and will continue to support this project. It long over due.

Moving ahead with rehabilitation of the Richmond Plunge?	X		I tried to get the funds committed to this prior to the financial crisis. I still willing to work to find ways to make it happen
Continued strong City support for the development of Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historical Park?	X		This can prove very beneficial to the City as a future source of revenue through convention and visitors whom want to come here and see the National Park.
An active and effective historic preservation program in Richmond, including Certified Local Government designation?			As long as we take into consideration the financial impact and effectively communicate to property owners the positive and negative impacts of the designation.
Completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond?	X		We set the example on this for the entire bay area. We must finish the job
Requiring all new City buildings to be certified "Green?"	X		This is a very important and proven environmental concept that works.
Restoration and day lighting of creeks, such as Baxter Creek and Rheem Creek, as a part of any adjacent development project?	X		I don't know much about this but I have read many good articles about Baxter & Rheem Creek.
A strong and effective code enforcement and abatement program?	X		Especially in areas where the City is making large capital investments. My record reflects my position on this issue. I voted no the first time on the Bal property on lower Macdonald.
Smart growth, new urbanism and transit oriented development as priorities?	X		Transit Village is a good start for Richmond and we should look for other opportunities to use Smart growth and new urbanism techniques in our planning process. I sponsored the Main Street Initiative for some of these very reasons.
A form based zoning code?			I am not sure what this is.
Enforcing a rental unit inspection ordinance?			The one that has been on the books for years. Funding is the key here.
Adding residential rental unit ownership as a business to be licensed?	X		I think this would be a good source for long-term regular revenue for the City. I pay a fee for my rental property in the City of Oakland, it a cost of doing business.
Enforcing Richmond's Weed Abatement ordinance?	X		Starting first with City owned property. The City should set the example. That make the enforcement process valid to the complainers
Implementation of railroad Quiet Zones?	X		I have supported this in the past and will continue to support this issue.
Petitioning the Surface Transportation Board to curtail long trains through south Richmond?	X		Don't know much about this, sound like it related to the above question.
If it came down to a choice of having a ferry terminal in Richmond or having a Toyota transshipment facility, would you support the ferry terminal?	X		I believe the Ferry terminal would have greater benefit for the City in the long run. I also believe a long-term plan for the Port is essential.
Strong neighborhood councils and Recognition of neighborhood preferences for development projects?	X		On this initiative, I think it would be helpful to distinguish between neighbor and citywide impact. On the citywide impact projects the neighborhood input would have less preference if the citywide impact has greater benefits for the entire City.

Add anything else you wish, including comments, resume, etc.

I believe that I have the best set of skills and qualification to fill the vacancy on the council. I have a voting record that I am not ashamed of. We have agreed and disagreed with each other, however I feel we have always been honest with each other. I will continue to work with you and other members of the council in that fashion.

The City is on the verge of a rebound from some very challenging times, I was there to help work though and develop some of the very things that will turn the City around. I need to get back to the work that we all started.

I need you support to make this happen.

**City Council Appointment Questionnaire Responses
from Tony Thurmond**

If you ran in the last election, how much money did you raise (excluding loans from yourself) and who were your five largest contributors?

I raised just under \$10,000. My largest contributors were:

1. Rena Dawson, my sister (\$2,500)
2. Brad and Mia Aronson (friends who I worked with at a group home in Philadelphia) - \$2,500
3. \$1,500 from SEIU 790
4. \$1,000 from Sheila Proctor, the real estate broker who showed me my home
5. \$500 from Dicon Fiber optics

What legislation would you write or sponsor that would improve public policy in Richmond?

- (a) Reducing the individual campaign contribution amount in Richmond to be consistent with other East Bay Cities
- (b) Legislation to bring developer fees consistent with those paid throughout Contra Costa County so there can be more money for community benefits like parks
- (c) Budget legislation to increase number of police and hire more library staff

What have you personally done within the last three years to improve the quality of life in Richmond?

- (a) Helped to raise \$200,000 with Richmond WIB to hire 200 Richmond summer youth
- (b) I'm serving on the Recreation and Parks Commission and looking at how we can help in getting five centers running again
- (c) I'm allocating County Child Abuse dollars (\$900,000) to support prevention (Family and Children's Trust Fund)
- (d) Serving as a West County EdFund Board Director to raise money to support after school and music programs in West County Schools
- (e) Serving as a volunteer advisor to students involved with re-initiating the Richmond Youth Commission

If you were in my position and I in yours, what questions would you ask?

- How do you plan represent and build coalitions within the diverse constituencies of Richmond?
- What will be your style for working with the council members and building consensus around policy?
- What are your ideas for improving the quality of life in Richmond, especially preventing violence?

Respond to the following with yes or no answers and provide comments as appropriate

Do you support ...?	Yes	No	Comments
Lifting the cap on Chevron's Utility User tax?	X		
Maintaining a strong Design Review Board?	X		
An annual survey of Richmond residents about City services and priorities?	X		We need to do as much as possible to improve customer satisfaction.
Completing the Richmond Greenway, including acquisition of the Adachi property to complete the link to the Ohlone	X		I like the idea of the Greenway. I am not familiar specifically with the Adachi property.

Greenway?			
Moving ahead with rehabilitation of the Richmond Plunge?	X		As long as it is cost effective do so seismically and safely.
Continued strong City support for the development of Rosie the Riveter WW II Home Front National Historical Park?	X		I think this is an important gem for Richmond and contributes to making Richmond a destination city.
An active and effective historic preservation program in Richmond, including Certified Local Government designation?	X		
Completion of the Bay Trail in Richmond?	X		
Requiring all new City buildings to be certified "Green?"	X		
Restoration and daylighting of creeks, such as Baxter Creek and Rheem Creek, as a part of any adjacent development project?	X		Generally so, although I am not currently up to date on the specifics here.
A strong and effective code enforcement and abatement program?	X		This is an absolute need if we will ever deal with blight and improving the image and quality of life in Richmond.
Smart growth, new urbanism and transit oriented development as priorities?	X		Smart growth is critical, especially infill housing when possible and new development that links well to transportation systems to help minimize more traffic congestion.
A form based zoning code?			I am not familiar with the concept
Enforcing a rental unit inspection ordinance?	X		
Adding residential rental unit ownership as a business to be licensed?	X		
Enforcing Richmond's Weed Abatement ordinance?	X		
Implementation of railroad Quiet Zones?	X		
Petitioning the Surface Transportation Board to curtail long trains through south Richmond?	X		
If it came down to a choice of having a ferry terminal in Richmond or having a Toyota transshipment facility, would you support the ferry terminal?			Ferry terminal ideally. I think this could be a good mode of transport and a nice amenity for Richmond. I don't know the Toyota details but if the Ferry was not sustainable I would look at the Toyota proposal.
Strong neighborhood councils and Recognition of neighborhood preferences for development projects?	X		I think the neighborhood councils are a strong key to improving things in our community and a structure that we should work through and support.

Add anything else you wish, including comments, resume, etc.

Comments:

I wish to serve all of Richmond's people and to do so in a way that reflects all of Richmond's diverse ethnicity. I wish to build coalitions between all the constituencies in the city and to maintain professional relations with the council members at all times. I will carry myself in a professional way and strive to lead with integrity. We may disagree on issues but I will strive to never be disagreeable in the manner in which I disagree. I wish to serve for the good of Richmond and I believe and hope that this is my time to do so.

Tony Thurmond

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Education

Bryn Mawr College, Graduate School of Social Work/Social Research, Bryn Mawr, PA

Master of Law and Social Policy Degree, May 1996

Master of Social Service Degree, May 1995, Focus: Advocacy, Planning, and Program Development

Temple University, College of Arts and Sciences, Philadelphia, PA

Bachelor of Arts Degree, Psychology, January 1993

Experience

Marin City Community Services District, Marin City, CA

(November 2004 – June 2005)

District Manager

- Oversaw special services district government services including recreation, trash collection, senior services, and public safety
- Managed a \$500,000 budget
- Staffed and supported an elected Board of Directors
- Supervised a staff of four managers
- Coordinated with officials at the county and state levels to support constituent issues
- Developed resolutions, press releases, and other communications to promote district initiatives

Independent Consultant

(June 2003 – Present)

- Provide technical assistance, program management, and program development functions for non profit organizations and social service agencies

“I Have A Dream” Foundation-Oakland, Oakland, CA

(June 2001 – June 2003)

Program Director

- Coordinated all aspects of a long term college preparation program for 300 youth
- Managed \$500,000 operations budget
- Recruited, trained, and supervised staff of 14
- Coordinated public relations, fundraising, events, and volunteer management
- Led strategic planning and organizational development

University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

(July 1999 – June 2001)

Resident Director

- Coordinated a residential living support program for 500 students
- Supervised and trained 13 staff members
- Reviewed and approved \$30,000 in budget expenditures
- Facilitated diversity, counseling, and teambuilding training sessions for 100 staff members

United Way of the Bay Area, San Francisco, CA

(June 1998 – July 1999)

Director of San Francisco’s Promise

- Coordinated city wide campaign to connect 10,000 youth to mentors, health care, career training, violence prevention services, and community service opportunities
- Managed \$1.5 million implementation budget
- Led collaboration with public agencies, elected officials, and community groups
- Organized public events, developed press releases and promotional materials, and represented the organization at major events and public speaking engagements
- Allocated more than \$100,000 to community organizations

Woodrow Wilson Nat'l Fellowship Foundation, Princeton, NJ (January, 1997 – May 1998)

Assistant Program Director/Regional Manager, National School and Community Corps (NSCC)

- Assisted in managing 200 AmeriCorps members and staff in a schools based enrichment program
- Served as a liaison between community organizations, government agencies, and elected officials
- Coordinated the efforts of 1000 participants and volunteers in major events such as the Martin Luther King Day of Service, National Youth Service Week, and the Philadelphia Promise Summit
- Supervised two staff members and provided guidance and support to five regional managers

Independent Consultant, Philadelphia, PA

(May 1996 – January 1997)

- Provided technical assistance, program management, and program development functions for community development organizations and social service agencies

Frankford Group Ministry, Philadelphia, PA

(February 1995 – May 1996)

Strategic Plan Coordinator

- Coordinated a nationally recognized neighborhood revitalization plan
- Oversaw a \$1.2 million implementation budget
- Led collaboration with public agencies, elected officials, and community groups
- Developed press releases, corresponded with the media, spoke at community meetings, and organized promotional efforts to market the commercial business district
- Facilitated the efforts of 50 community organizations to rehabilitate vacant houses, attract and retain businesses, improve public transportation, and support youth development

Center City District, Philadelphia, PA

(August 1994 – February 1995)

Business Improvement District (BID) Manager

- Managed the development of 2 Business Improvement Districts (BIDS)
- Coordinated with city and state officials, business people, civic leaders, and residents
- Organized community meetings and the development of promotional materials related to the creation of the BIDS
- Led the development of budgets, by-laws, board of directors and other BID related organizational developments

A Better Chance in Lower Merion (ABC in LM), Ardmore, PA

(August 1993 – June 1994)

Resident Director

- Supervised seven students and three associate directors in a residential academic program for gifted minority students
- Maintained a monthly budget, performed counseling, and provided guidance to students and staff

Frankford Group Ministry, Philadelphia, PA

(October 1991 – August 1993)

Social Worker

- Provided in home case management to families of abused and neglected children including child safety monitoring, counseling, parenting skills education, advocacy, and community resource outreach
- Facilitated a neighborhood renewal planning committee that devised strategies for improving health and human services
- Developed and coordinated a community health task force to strengthen neighborhood health services

Center City District, Philadelphia, PA

(March 1991 – September 1991)

Community Service Representative

- Served as a public service ambassador for the Center City Business District and provided crime prevention and community services to those who visited the district
- Served as a spokesperson on behalf of the district at community meetings and special events

Activities

- Volunteer for Congresswoman Barbara Lee (Alameda County), Congressman George Miller (Contra Costa County), and Supervisor Gavin Newsom (San Francisco County)
- Parks and Recreation Commissioner, City of Richmond
- Chair, Richmond Summer Youth Employment Committee
- Richmond Youth Commission Advisor
- Member of the Contra Costa County Family and Children's Trust Committee
- Elected Student Body President and Vice President for 30,000 students (Temple University)