



REAL ESTATE UPDATE

FOR

RICHMOND ANNEX

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Compliments of Joan **Underwood**
Richmond Annex Specialist

CITY COUNCIL APPROVES REFINERY PLAN: Five council members sellout to Chevron in return for \$61.6 million

After four heated years of wrangling, in the wee hours of July 17th, the Richmond City Council approved Chevron's bid to replace its power plant, hydrogen plant and reformer to refine a wider range of crude with higher sulfur content and produce 6 percent more California- grade gasoline .

In a separate agreement, \$61.6 million will go for more police officers, job training and other programs. What else Richmond will get according to State Attorney General Jerry Brown, is an additional 1900,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases that will be emitted into the atmosphere as a result of the planned upgrade. There have been thousands of pages of concerns about the health dangers posed by the expansion filed during the 45-day public comment period by numerous environmental groups, doctors and citizens. Over the years, Richmond city officials have never had the resources or the resolve to stand up to the multi-billion dollar oil company.

With the November election coming up and the Council being reduced from 9 members to 7, it is a good time to assess who we want on the new council. Council members whose terms are up are: Nat Bates, Tom Butt, John Marguez, Harneet Sandhu and Tony Thurmond.

The vote on Chevron went as follows:

In favor of Chevron plan - Ludm: rna Lopez, Nat Bates, John Marguez, Maria Viramontes and Harneet Sandhu.

Against the Chevron plan - Mayor Gayle McLaughlin, Tom Butt, Jim Rogers, and Tony Thurmond.

Save this article for election time.

SEWER LATERALS

The City of Richmond is cautioning residents to be sure that they are not overpaying for sewer lateral replacement. One owner received an estimate of \$16,000. Most bids I see are in the range of \$4,500 to \$5,000.

If you live in Richmond, on or north of Highland, and Orchard A venues, you are in the Richmond Sanitary Sewer District. If you own and live in your home, you are eligible for a grant up to \$3,000 for sewer lateral replacement. Residents under the authority of Stege Sanitary District and West County Wastewater are not eligible for this grant.

The grant even applies if you have had the lateral replaced in the last two years. Guidelines are found at [www .ci.richmond.ca.us DocumentView .asp?DID=3086](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentView.asp?DID=3086) . I can provide you copies of these guidelines. You can also go to the Engineering Department at 1401 Marina Way South, Richmond.

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