

RESOLUTION NO. 108-11

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A 2012 EPA BROWNFIELDS
ASSESSMENT GRANT (EPA-OSWER-OBLR-11-05) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000
TO FUND THE INVESTIGATION AND ASSESSMENT OF HAZARDOUS
SUBSTANCES CONDITIONS ALONG THE RICHMOND GREENWAY, AC TRANSIT
YARD, AND NEARBY PROPERTIES**

WHEREAS, as a consequence of an exodus of manufacturing in the decades following World War II and other economic changes, the City of Richmond (City) is burdened by abandoned Brownfield properties; and

WHEREAS, the City has a large percentage of residents of color who live in proximity to industrial and Brownfield sites and are disproportionately situated near potential environmental hazards from those sites; and

WHEREAS, the City is desirous of lessening the environmental burdens in its communities from Brownfield sites and in revitalizing its communities especially along transit corridors to promote: (1) equitable development; (2) construction of sustainable, greenhouse-gas-thrifty transportation oriented projects; (3) urban agriculture along greenways; and (4) job creation; and

WHEREAS, environmental assessments are not in place for the 1.5 mile long Richmond Greenway, a former railroad right-of-way (Richmond Greenway), the former AC Transit Yard located at 2016 Macdonald Ave (AC Transit Yard) and a number of underutilized properties adjacent to the Richmond Greenway (Properties), all of which are located in or near the regionally designated Priority Development Areas in the City;

WHEREAS, safe and appropriate revitalization of the Properties requires an ASTM compliant Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment of current conditions.

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced the availability of Brownfield site assessment grants to provide funds to inventory, characterize, and assess Brownfields sites, and to conduct planning and community involvement around the reuse of Brownfields sites; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to apply for a 2012 Brownfields Assessment Grant (EPA-OSWER-OBLR-11-05) to investigate and assess the environmental conditions in and around the Properties; and

WHEREAS, the proposed application is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Sections 15251 and 15330 of the State CEQA Guidelines, which exempt (1) projects that protect and cleanup the environment carried out under the oversight of a regulatory agency whose function is the preservation, protection and enhancement of the environment, and (2) minor action that prevent or minimize the threat of release of hazardous substances, respectively; and

WHEREAS, by the agenda report in support of this resolution (Agenda Report), the City Council has been provided with additional information upon which the findings and actions set forth in this resolution are based.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond does hereby find the above recitals are true and correct and have served, together with the Agenda Report, as the basis for the findings and actions set forth in this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond hereby authorizes the City Manager to submit a 2012 Brownfields Assessment Grant Application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$400,000.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a special meeting held on November 22, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Booze, Ritterman, Rogers, Vice Mayor Butt, and Mayor McLaughlin.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

DIANE HOLMES
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

RANDY RIDDLE
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa } : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 108-11**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a special meeting held on November 22, 2011.