

RESOLUTION NO. 20-12

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SAFE OIL REFINERIES, SECURE JOBS AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, Oil refining has long been a vital component of our community's industrial base. The oil industry provides well-paying, stable, union jobs in our community.

WHEREAS, The fatal explosion at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes, Washington; the fires at the Exxon-Mobil refinery in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and the Valero refinery in Memphis, Tennessee; the explosion at the Deepwater Horizon oil-drilling rig as our own many experiences with the Richmond Chevron refinery and the other refineries in the Bay Area have reminded us of the serious risks associated with the oil industry.

WHEREAS, Residents of our community as well as refinery workers are impacted by accidents at oil refineries including explosions, fires, and chemical releases.

WHEREAS, Common problems including worker fatigue caused by forced overtime and failure to keep up with routine maintenance can lead to serious and tragic accidents in oil refineries.

WHEREAS, Residents of refinery communities and refinery workers often are not informed of the hazards associated with oil refineries including worst case scenarios and risk management plans.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Richmond City Council stands in support of the United Steelworkers in its efforts to improve refinery safety and community health in the oil sector, and supports their requests for:

- the right to stop unsafe work
- safe staffing levels at refineries
- a full time Process Safety Representative at each refinery who is responsible for ensuring that our refineries are safe
- proper inspection and maintenance of refinery equipment

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Richmond City Council calls upon the oil industry to address issues of worker fatigue, mechanical integrity issues, and implement safe operational procedures.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The Richmond City Council calls upon Occupational Health and Safety Administration, the Chemical Safety Board, the Environmental Protection Agency and relevant federal and state agencies to fulfill their mandates and adequately regulate the industry.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, Staff will communicate this statement directly to Chevron Management and the United Steel Workers Union Local 5 which represents local refinery workers and will release a statement to the media.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held on February 7, 2012, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Booze, Butt, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, 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. 20-12, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on February 7, 2012.