

RESOLUTION NO. 20-13

RESOLUTION WELCOMING WHOLE FOODS DISTRIBUTION CENTER TO RICHMOND AND ENSURING THAT JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR RICHMOND RESIDENTS MOVE FORWARD EXPEDITIOUSLY

WHEREAS, construction on a 118,146 square-foot distribution center, located in the Point Pinole Business Park, near the intersection of Giant Highway and Atlas Road, for specialty grocer Whole Foods Market is near completed in Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Whole Foods Market was founded in Austin, Texas, when four local business people decided that the natural foods industry was ready for a supermarket format. The original Whole Foods Market opened in 1980 with a staff of only 19 people.

WHEREAS, Richmond has a 16 percent unemployment rate and jobs are essential for our residents to move forward in quality lives; and

WHEREAS, this facility will provide approximately 200 warehouse and distribution jobs to the City of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, Whole Foods' new building will feature modern refrigeration systems, easy access to Interstate 80 and Bay views offering a quality workplace for Richmond residents to be employed; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Build is partnering with Contra Costa College and other agencies in providing a 9-week warehouse training and forklift operation course preparing our residents for jobs offered by the new Whole Foods Distribution Center and other warehouse opportunities; and

WHEREAS, it is in our collective interest as a City and community to welcome these jobs into Richmond; and

WHEREAS, it is also in our collective interest to ensure that any remaining permits and/or paperwork on this project move through our Planning and Building Department as expeditiously as possible; and

WHEREAS, we know that Whole Foods will want to engage in a positive way with the community of Richmond and we highly encourage them to do so; so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Richmond City Council direct the City Manager to ensure the expeditious processing of remaining permits and paperwork to move this project to completion in the interest of making job opportunities available as soon as possible for our residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we direct staff to engage with and encourage the Whole Foods Distribution Center management to post job opportunities and descriptions as soon as possible; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Richmond City Council welcomes the Whole Foods Distribution Center to Richmond, and we look forward to an ongoing positive dialogue with the management of this facility for the benefit of our community at large.

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 March 5, 2013, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Boozé, 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:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
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. 20-13, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on March 5, 2013.