CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 4-16

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA CALLING ON THE WETA BOARD TO SUPPORT NEW PROPULSION TECHNOLOGIES IN VESSEL PROCUREMENT FOR THE RICHMOND-SAN FRANCISCO FERRY SERVICE

WHEREAS, the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) in 2015 approved a service line expansion to operate a commuter ferry service between the existing San Francisco Ferry Terminal and a new ferry terminal on the Ford Peninsula in the City of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the new Richmond ferry service is made possible by an operational subsidy from the Contra Costa Transportation Authority for a minimum of 10 years; and

WHEREAS, two new passenger ferry vessels, with a life-cycle of about 30 years, will be built to accommodate the Richmond service expansion, and construction of the new vessels is a significant tax-payer funded capital project; and

WHEREAS, conventional diesel propulsion technology is becoming obsolete, increasingly expensive and adversely affects the carbon footprint of our public transportation system; and

WHEREAS, there are proven, viable alternative options available, including wind-assisted and electric-diesel hybrid technologies, which could achieve the same performance standards as conventional vessels with greatly reduced operational costs and environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, extensive testing and research has shown that the natural and geographic conditions present in Richmond are prime for the utilization of wind and electric assisted passenger ferries; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the Request for Proposals for vessel procurement include an opportunity for alternative propulsion technologies to compete with conventional vessel proposals; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of taxpayers and ferry transit riders to support new technologies that reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Richmond hereby requests that the WETA Board of Directors include an Alternative Technical Concept (ATC), or other similar mechanism, in the Request for Proposals for vessel procurement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Richmond urges the WETA Board of Directors to strongly consider new propulsion technologies and conduct a comparative analysis of the total costs, including life-cycle costs and carbon footprint of the vessels, which will be constructed for the new Richmond-San Francisco ferry service.

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I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held January 19, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, McLaughlin, Myrick, Pimplé, Vice Mayor Martinez, and Mayor Butt.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: None.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN  
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND  
(SEAL)

Approved:  
TOM BUTT  
Mayor

Approved as to form:  
BRUCE GOODMAN  
City Attorney

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

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 4-16, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on January 19, 2016.

Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond