

# RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

## STAFF REPORT

For the meeting of January 10, 2024

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Brad Gross, Executive Director  
**Subject:** Goals and Priorities for 2024

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Review staff recommendations for Goals and Priorities for 2024. After Board discussion and public input:

**MOTION:** Approve staff recommendations for Goals and Priorities for 2024, as may be amended.

Below we summarize the goals and priorities for 2024:

### **Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) and the RBRA/BCDC Agreement:**

The RBRA has made noteworthy progress on its obligations under the BCDC agreement including reducing the number of vessels and floating homes on the anchorage; assisting anchor outs with a Housing Voucher Program; and a Vessel Buyback Program. The RBRA will continue these efforts to meet the terms of the Agreement with the BCDC, which states that all vessels must be removed by October 15, 2026.

### **Related Agreement Milestone Goals:**

Vessels, Management and Enforcement:

- All vessels, except Safe and Seaworthy participants, must vacate anchoring positions by October 15, 2024.
- All vessels arriving at Richardson Bay may anchor for up to 72 hours without a permit.
- All floating homes must vacate Richardson Bay.
- Education and information will continue to be provided to vessels in Richardson Bay.
- Enforcement activities related to vessels and vessel occupants will continue only after appropriate notification has been provided.

# RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

## Housing:

- Thirty-eight Temporary Housing Voucher Program qualified vessels remain on the anchorage in January 2024.
- Housing partners estimate an additional 13 persons may be housed by the end of the year.
- RBRA will negotiate with BCDC for additional time extensions beyond October 2024, if required.

## Eelgrass:

- No vessels may anchor in the Eelgrass Protection Zone after October 15, 2024.
- Signage used to identify and mark the boundaries of the EPZ will be installed prior to October 15, 2024.
- RBRA will advance work on the ten-year restoration and adaptive management plan for eelgrass restoration in Richardson Bay.

## Reports:

RBRA will continue to provide the following written and in-person reports to BCDC:

- Monthly written reports to BCDC staff by the 12<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- Quarterly in-person reports will be provided to the BCDC Enforcement Committee.
- Annual in-person reports will be provided to the full BCDC.

## Staffing:

RBRA is now fully staffed as outlined in previous year's goals. During 2024, RBRA should consider future operational needs, responsibilities, and succession planning regarding staffing as it relates to BCDC Agreement goals. Any recommended changes regarding personnel and positions will require budget consideration and will be brought to the Board for discussion and action prior to implementation and/or budget approval.

## Administration:

### Audit:

Staff anticipate concluding the audit for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 in the first quarter of 2024 and plan to present the final document to this Board at the next meeting following the completion of the audit.

# RICHARDSON BAY REGIONAL AGENCY

## Budget:

Staff intends to bring a mid-year budget review to this Board in February, 2024. Additionally, staff will begin preparing the FY 2025 budget and talking with staff at the member agencies prior to bringing a preliminary budget to this Board for discussion and adoption prior to the close of this fiscal year.

## **Transparency:**

RBRA will continue to improve transparency with updates to the new website which will include adding more financial and operational documents as they become available.

## **Board Meetings:**

Regularly scheduled RBRA Board meetings are each month on the second Thursday. Six meetings were cancelled in 2023 for a variety of reasons including activities not requiring a Board action, or no quorum.

Staff recommends for planning reasons and efficient use of Board time, that meetings for the remainder of 2024 and moving forward be held every other month. If additional meetings are required during the year, they may be scheduled as a Special Meeting with more flexibility on dates, times, and locations.

If approved, the next RBRA Board meeting will be held on February 8, 2024, and then every other month.