

RICHMOND ESC

EXCELLENCE IN SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



NOVEMBER 2017



*The greatness of a community is most accurately
measured by the compassionate actions of its members.”*

- Coretta Scott King

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MESSAGE FROM MAYOR TOM BUTT

Dear Friends in Service,

When the City of Richmond launched its impact volunteering program in February 2013, no one could have imagined that we would partner with more than 2,500 volunteers to address our city's most pressing urban challenges. I am proud to know that this dedication to community service continues to thrive in our neighborhoods through the countless volunteers that tirelessly commit their time and energy to improve communities across our city.

Neighborhood revitalization has been one of my top priorities throughout my 20 years of public service in Richmond – first as a City Councilmember and now as Mayor. I have particularly enjoyed partnering with community members to plant trees and community gardens, rebuild local parks in a single day, and visiting local schools to encourage reading and STEM education.

Perhaps my favorite service activity is joining with hundreds of neighbors annually to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day by gardening and cleaning the Richmond Greenway. This former abandoned railway is now a three-mile-long pedestrian and bicycle pathway that provides healthy regional transportation for Richmond residents.

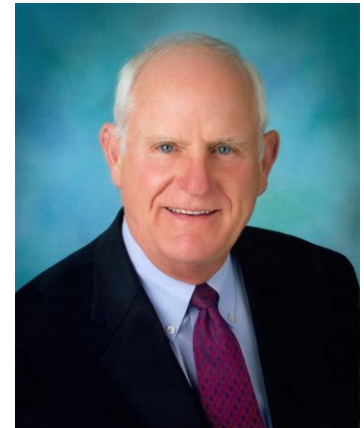
Partnering with community members to transform vacant lots into community gardens, to rebuild parks and playgrounds, and to install art in public places is of paramount importance. Richmond Love Your Block and our partnership with Cities of Service provide the necessary strategy and resources to engage community members in improving their neighborhoods.

I want to thank City of Richmond staff, community members, organizations, and companies who contributed to the development of our Service Plan. After reviewing this service plan, I am confident you'll be inspired to further the work of neighborhood improvements through citizen service.

Sincerely,



Tom K. Butt
Mayor, City of Richmond





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Richmond's service plan guides and connects Richmond residents and organizations to volunteer opportunities that address our city's pressing challenges.

The original service plan was the result of a seven-month engagement and planning process consisting of interviews, focus groups, and online surveys with local government, businesses, nonprofits, and neighborhood association, which was coordinated by Rochelle Monk, Community Service Director and Chief Service Officer.

In January of 2013 thanks to generous funding by the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, the City of Richmond launched a citywide volunteer initiative, called Richmond ESC (Excellence Serving our Community), in order to promote impact volunteering to address some of the community's biggest challenges: neighborhood revitalization, environmental restoration, and low academic performance among high school students, among others. Now as an umbrella term to describe the active initiatives in the City of Richmond, the program has successfully engaged thousands of citizen volunteers.

Impact volunteering is a strategy that engages citizen volunteers to identify and solve public problems alongside municipal government. It is a participatory process in which citizens and city officials develop a shared vision, set short- and long-term goals for their community, and then work together to achieve those goals. As partners, they communicate throughout the process and reflect on their work – discussing and evaluating what they have done and holding themselves accountable for results.

In 2015, the City of Richmond once again engaged Richmond citizens to identify public challenges to address and developed three impact volunteering initiatives that will move the needle on key priorities identified by Mayor Butt.

EMPOWER neighborhoods to revitalize their own surroundings. The City of Richmond, with funding and AmeriCorps VISTAs from Cities of Service, launched Love Your Block in the fall of 2015 to assist neighborhoods with revitalization projects. Support is provided in the forms of mini-grants, technical support, and in-kind donations.

ENGAGE parents, guardians, and other residents to support young adults and children's educational development and health and wellness. In partnership with Community Alliance for Learning's WriterCoach Connection Program and the West Contra Costa Unified School District, the City of Richmond helped recruit over 100 volunteers to support the development of writing and critical thinking skills for over 450 high school students.

EXPAND the capacity of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) to visit and train People with Disabilities and others with Access and Functional Needs (PWD AFN), a group that has historically suffered disproportionately from disasters. Richmond volunteers will work one-on-one with PWD AFN people to create emergency plans, build trust, and create formal support networks. This will greatly improve this population's disaster resiliency.

ABOUT RICHMOND

The City of Richmond is located 16 miles northeast of San Francisco on the western shore of Contra Costa County. Richmond was incorporated on August 7, 1905 and became a charter city on March 24, 1909. Richmond is best known for its unique history and role in the World War II home front effort. Between 1940 and 1945, tens-of-thousands of workers from all over the country streamed into the City to support wartime industries.

The City was home to four Kaiser shipyards which housed the most productive wartime shipbuilding operations of World War II, launching 747 ships during the war. The City was also home to approximately 55 war-related industries - more than any other city of its size in the United States. Today, the City is an important oil refinery, industrial, commercial, transportation, shipping and government center. The City operates a council-manager form of government consisting six council members and a mayor - all elected at large to alternating 4-year terms.

Richmond covers 56 square miles and has a population estimated a population (2015) of 107,597 (Source: US Bureau Census 2011-2015 ACS 5-year estimate). Richmond's economy is currently undergoing a major transition from its former heavy industrial character toward more high technology ("high tech") and light industrial companies with new business parks accommodating light industrial and "office/flex" land uses. Biotechnology, in particular, has developed as an important new "niche" in Richmond's growing economy. At the same time, the City's major manufacturers such as Chevron and Zeneca (formerly Stauffer Chemical) have continued to upgrade their Richmond facilities, making major investments to modernize and expand their facilities.

Arts and culture define Richmond as a community, helping to shape a unique identity that sets us apart from other urban areas. The City of Richmond is home to over 30 works of public art. With a tradition begun in the 1940s, the City has steadily acquired a unique collection of artwork, ranging from paintings and sculptures to landmark murals and artist-designed community gardens. Richmond's public art program emphasizes and encourages community involvement and participation in all of its activities. Since its inception, the program has collaborated with local schools, arts organizations, neighborhood councils, and city agencies to plan and implement a variety of public art projects.

ABOUT CITIES OF SERVICE

A national nonprofit organization, Cities of Service helps mayors and city leaders tap the knowledge, creativity, and service of citizens to solve public problems and create vibrant cities.

Cities of Service works with cities to build city-led, citizen-powered initiatives that target specific needs, achieve long-term and measurable outcomes, improve the quality of life for residents, and build stronger cities.

Started in 2009 by New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, the Cities of Service coalition is now comprised of over 235 cities in the US and UK, representing nearly 55 million people in 45 states, and more than 10 million people in the United Kingdom.

SERVICE IN OUR CITY

Richmond has a deep history of service and is best known for its unique role in the World War II home front effort, where workers and volunteers from across the United States streamed into the City of Richmond to serve our country. This legacy of service still lives on today. Each month Richmond citizens give their time to various service projects throughout the City.

“Every person can make a difference, and every person should try.”

- John F. Kennedy

Since launching Richmond’s impact volunteering program in February 2013, over 2,500 volunteers have served the Richmond community in the priority areas of education and neighborhood revitalization. Volunteers coached high school students to improve their writing and critical thinking skills and rebuild three neighborhood parks in disadvantaged communities. Thanks to nearly 650 volunteers who helped rebuild John F. Kennedy Park, Richmond was one of the recipients of the Points of Light Make a Difference Day Award.



Volunteers of all ages join in to paint community murals at JFK Park.

Photo credit: Paul Chinn, The Chronicle

Our Methodology



OUR COMMUNITY RESEARCH PROCESS: MARCH - OCTOBER 2012

Like all cities that create a high-impact service plan using the Cities of Service model, Richmond ESC embarked on a community research process to leverage the collective knowledge of volunteers, local leaders and residents. The main objectives of this process were to analyze the landscape of local, community-based organizations utilizing volunteers, prioritize the specific challenges the city would address through our initiative, and identify the resources and opportunities available to support the effort.

This community research process included:

- Focus groups with key stakeholders, including representatives from city agencies, non-profit organizations, colleges and universities, local businesses, and foundations;
- Expert interviews with local and national leaders, including Chief Service Officers from cities across the nation; and
- Surveys of volunteer-using nonprofit organizations, city agencies, and K-12 schools.

INTERVIEWS	FOCUS GROUPS	ONLINE SURVEYS
Conducted interviews with six Chief Service Officers from around the country to identify best practices in launching and managing high-impact service initiatives in local government	Conducted five focus groups with 42 participants on selected topics including health and wellness, volunteer infrastructure, parent engagement, and community beautification	Developed and deployed two online surveys to 10 community-based organizations and local government agencies
Conducted interviews with 13 community leaders in Richmond from the nonprofit, government, and philanthropy sectors		

WHAT WE LEARNED

Our community research process further reinforced what we already suspected: the City of Richmond is a vibrant hub of volunteerism consisting of dynamic community-based organizations with a rich history of utilizing volunteers. Additionally, we found that the City is home to a host of dedicated, long-term volunteers, and even more residents and parents who are excited to get involved. Expert interviews, focus groups, and online surveys also surfaced citywide challenges that must be addressed in the near future in order to advance our mission.

- There is no central place – online or otherwise – to identify volunteer opportunities or source volunteers in Richmond.
- Community-based organizations (CBOs) and volunteers both voiced limited capacity to meaningfully engage volunteers and require training and other support to improve volunteer experiences and outcomes.
- Engaging parents as volunteers is tough – they are not only juggling competing priorities, but also mentioned lack of confidence and knowhow in regards to getting involved.
- There is a need to overcome neighborhood and other demographic boundaries – respondents tended to identify with their individual neighborhoods, rather than the City of Richmond as a whole.

In order to ensure the success of our effort, we will not only have to increase the number of volunteers and volunteer opportunities in Richmond, but must also improve the overall experience of volunteers and the community-based organizations that utilize them. This will help ensure that volunteers remain dedicated to the effort over the long-term and that their work is well managed and impactful. The following framework serves as a roadmap outlining the potential progression of a volunteer who is new to service into a “super” volunteer who is committed to service over the long-term.

There are three types of volunteers in Richmond:



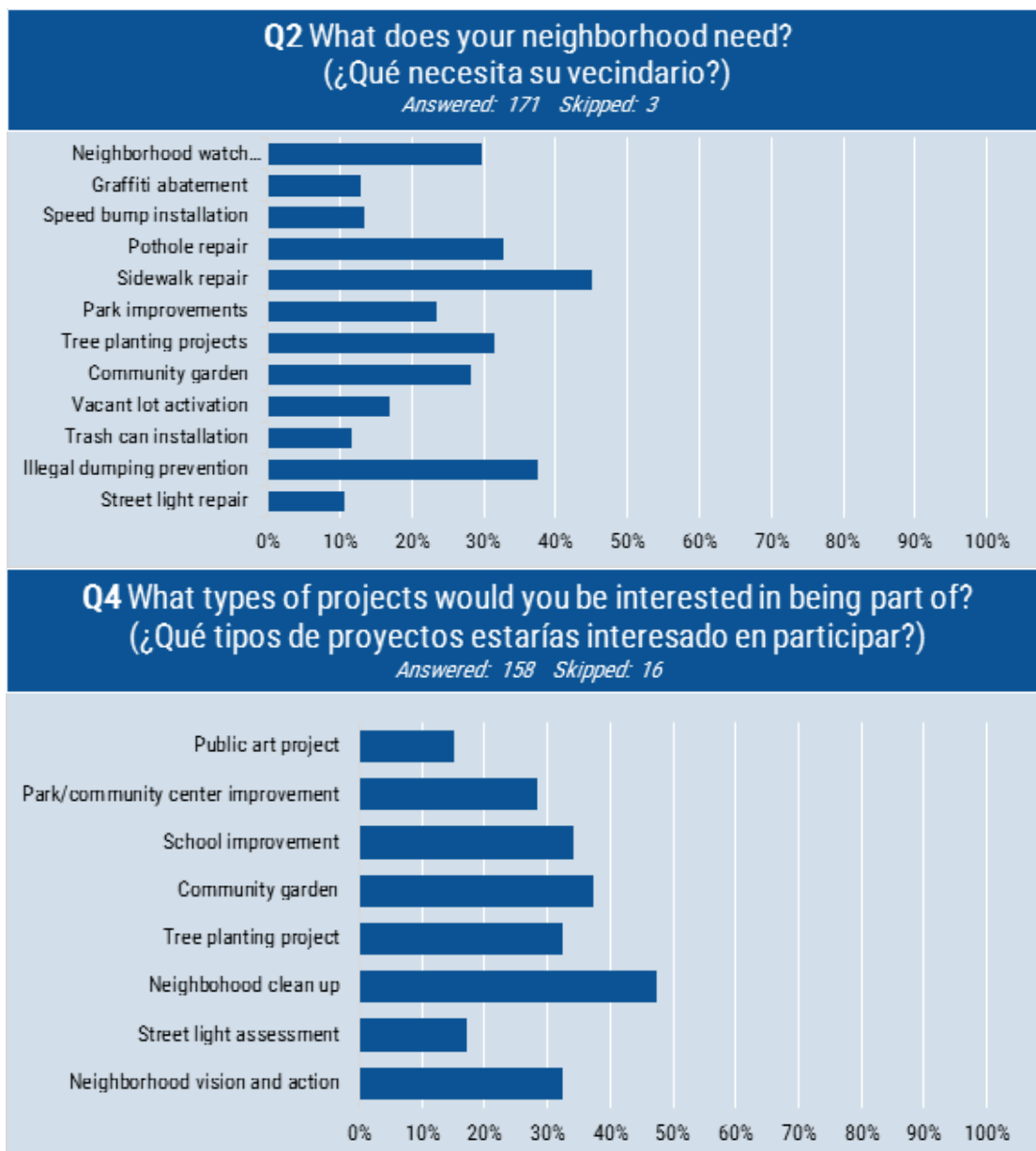
OUR COMMUNITY RESEARCH PROCESS: JUNE - DECEMBER 2016

Love Your Block Engagement

Since its inception, Love Your Block primarily focused on the neighborhoods of North Richmond and Parchester Village. These neighborhoods were selected based on their poverty levels, blighted properties and vacant lots, and high reports of illegal dumping. Additionally, these communities expressed the need and interest in collaborating with the City of Richmond to address these issues.

Today, the Love Your Block model has not only helped us leverage and bridge the relationship between these two neighborhoods and City Hall, but we have expanded the program citywide to other neighborhoods challenged by blight.

From June to December of 2016, the Love Your Block Team at the Richmond Community Services Department collected a total of 174 survey responses to gauge residents' needs and preferences regarding neighborhood safety and community beautification. The following graphs illustrate the feedback we received from Richmond residents.



Additionally, in order to promote the Love Your Block initiative and further engage residents, the city installed an interactive art installation at the Richmond Metro Transportation Center. Using chalk to write on the art installation, residents of all ages were invited to share their aspirations and concerns for their neighborhoods. The installation was inspired by the work of global artist Candy Chang who created a “Before I Die” wall concept that has been used worldwide.



WHAT WE LEARNED

North Richmond

Community Asset Mapping Workshop

During the community analysis phase of our first Love Your Block year, we collaborated with the Shields-Reid Neighborhood Council to conduct a community asset mapping workshop for North Richmond residents. We asked residents to identify the concerns they had in their North Richmond neighborhood. We followed up with an activity to identify the resources residents wanted to see in their community.

After summarizing the data collected, we presented the results with a visual board at a subsequent neighborhood council meeting.

This workshop helped us further understand how to better shape the Love Your Block initiative to fit the community's needs. In this case, we recognized that the community was interested in improving publicly shared spaces, such as parks and gardens, and wanted help repairing local infrastructure.



Parchester Village

Community Engagement Analysis

In our community analysis of Parchester Village, we reached out to residents at a local National Night Out event to create a dialogue around the issues they were concerned about in their neighborhood.



Our 2015/16 Love Your Block selection committee used the results from our surveys and community engagement activities to choose projects that aligned with local residents' needs and desires.

Over the course of our community engagement and workshops, residents began to recognize the two entrances to Parchester Village as an asset. If we could "brand" the entrance sign, then we could create identity throughout the neighborhood; everyone entering and exiting the village would see, and begin to feel affinity towards, the same neighborhood sign. Illegal dumping, from residents within the neighborhood and contractors from outside the neighborhood, was also recognized as a public problem and priority to address within their neighborhood.



Volunteers paint the Parchester Village entrance mural during a Love Your Block community event in April 2017.

Our Strategy



INTERNAL SYSTEMS AND TOOLS

AmeriCorps VISTAs

AmeriCorps VISTAs (Volunteers in Service to America) serve as key City of Richmond contacts for residents, neighborhood councils, and other stakeholder organizations. Through their efforts, the City of Richmond hopes to foster and maintain strong relationships with its citizens. Our AmeriCorps VISTAs build capacity, conduct necessary outreach, and provide support and technical assistance to residents they have engaged.

In Year Two of the Love Your Block initiative, VISTAs Nadia Perez and Stephanie Ny (pictured below) assisted residents in engaging over 250 volunteers in community beautification projects. Year Three VISTAs Erika Ito and Stephanie Ny (pictured right) will harness this thriving passion for volunteerism to mobilize even more Richmond residents. Our VISTAs are working towards establishing a resident volunteer hub that community organizations can call on for support.

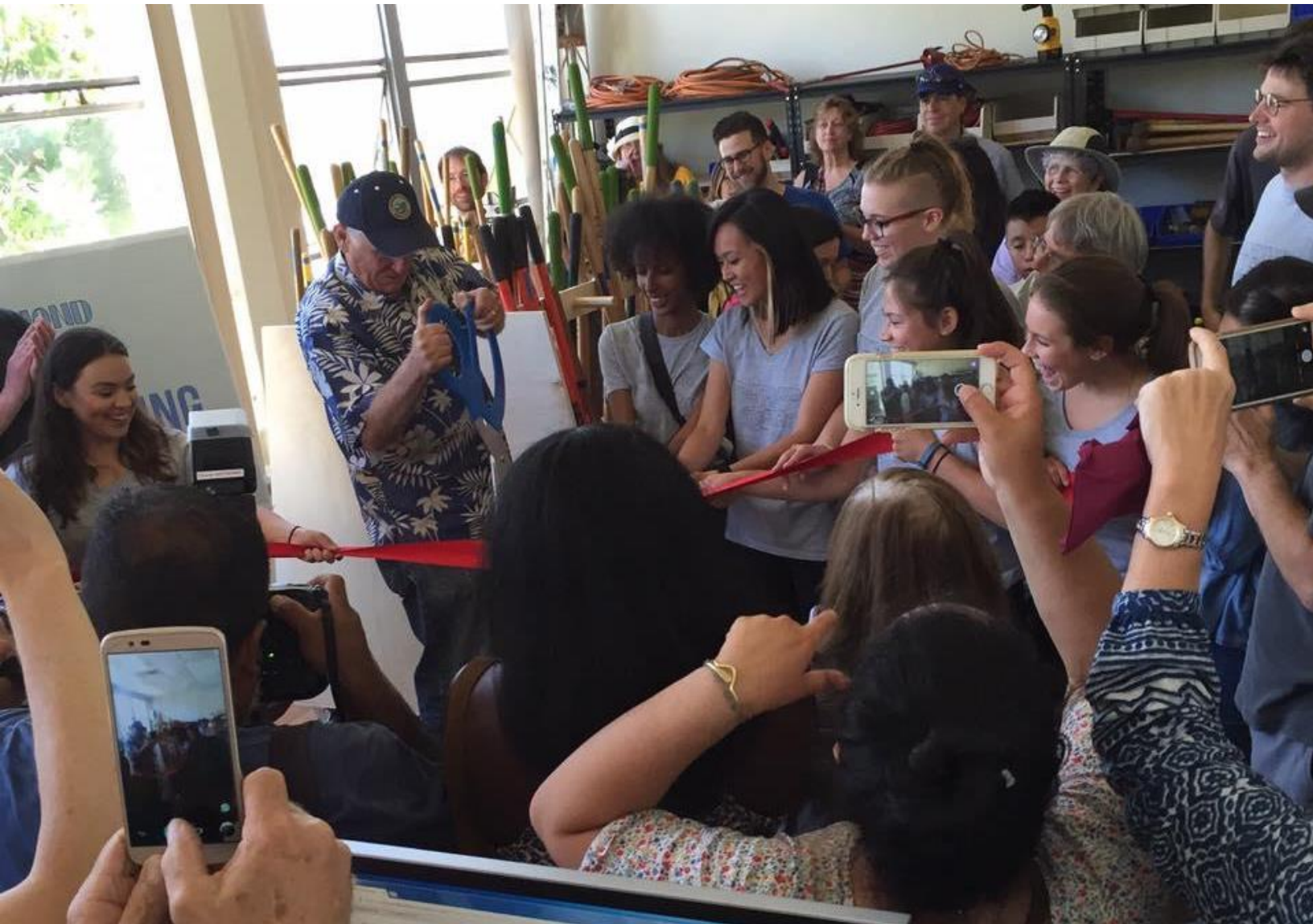


Richmond Tool Library

During the first year of Love Your Block, applicants and Richmond residents expressed dismay at the high costs of tools that would only be used once. The cost of tools discouraged residents from maintaining their environments.

In response to this feedback and through considerable support from residents, businesses, and organizations, Love Your Block VISTAs founded the Richmond Tool Library – a free tool lending service for Richmond residents. The Richmond Tool Library is a sustainable product of Love Your Block, allowing residents to beautify and revitalize their neighborhoods without having to allocate funds for expensive tools or, in some cases, without having to utilize funds at all. We operate under three core values, each tying back to the mission of Love Your Block: public access to tools, beautification of the City of Richmond, and collective ownership of Richmond neighborhoods.

Our VISTAs from both Year One and Year Two opened the Richmond Tool Library on July 23, 2016. Since launching, we have enrolled over 180 members, completed 1,250 loans of over 900 inventoried tools. The Richmond Tool Library also provides tools to support the projects non-profit organizations and community groups.



City of Richmond Mayor Tom Butt cuts the ribbon at the Richmond Tool Library Grand Opening.

Our City's Impact Volunteering Initiatives



LOVE YOUR BLOCK

In February 2015, with support from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and Bloomberg Philanthropies, Cities of Service awarded the City of Richmond with two AmeriCorps VISTA members and \$30,000 to plan and implement Love Your Block over the next three years in low-income neighborhoods.

Richmond ESC and key city departments will team with neighborhood groups, community beautification organizations, and local companies to leverage funds to support volunteer-led neighborhood revitalization projects to reduce blight.

Challenge addressed: **Neighborhood blight**

PARTNERS	METRICS	GOALS	LAUNCH
Richmond ESC	Number of volunteers participating	175	Fall 2015
City Departments (<i>Code Enforcement, Public Works, Parks, Successor Agency, Environmental Initiatives, Stormwater</i>)	Number of pounds of litter removed	4,500	
	Number of neighborhoods participating	6	
Neighborhood Groups	Number of community gardens planted and/or maintained	4	
Community Beautification Groups and Organizations			

At its core, Love Your Block is an invitation for Richmond residents to come together to strengthen and beautify their neighborhoods. Residents are strongly encouraged to consider the myriad possibilities that the mini-grant represents rather than to focus on the amount of the award itself. Often, in framing this grant, the Love Your Block team uses the example of the Five-Dollar Challenge.

In the Five-Dollar Challenge, Stanford students were tasked with generating as much income as they could with just five dollars and two hours.

Surprisingly, the teams that ignored the five dollars were the most successful. These teams realized that focusing on the seed money restricted their opportunities and framed their challenge too rigidly. The most successful team reached out to a company interested in recruiting students, developed a commercial for that company, and presented the commercial to the class instead of giving a final presentation.

Since implementing Love Your Block in the Fall of 2015, the most successful Love Your Block projects were those that thought outside of the \$1,000 offered and instead considered the city resources, networks of volunteers, and citizen and professional expertise made available to them through their grant. The following projects exemplify the innovation, resource-tapping, and dedication typical of successful grantees from the first two years of Love Your Block.



When there is no vision, the people perish.”

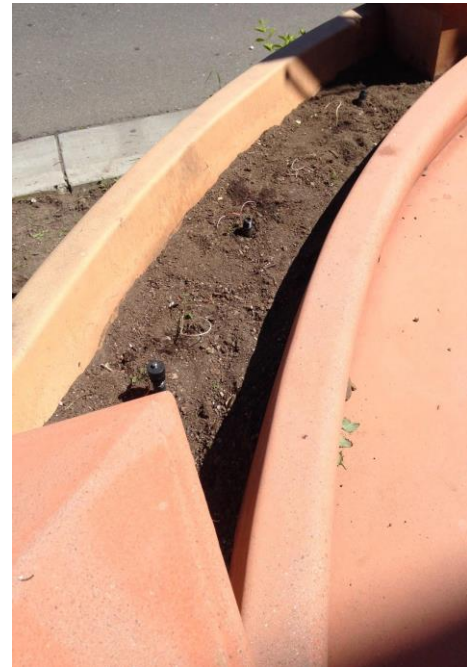
- Roxanne Alexander, North Richmond resident

Highlights of Impact Volunteering: Fred Jackson Way North Richmond

Roxanne Alexander is a long-time resident and champion of North Richmond. In between her job as a project manager at Social Progress Inc. and her very own Love Your Block (LYB) project, she regularly volunteers to help our other grantees and attends monthly neighborhood council meetings. Roxanne’s project was unusual in that she received in-kind donations from the Love Your Block Initiative rather than a \$1,000 grant. These donations included free soil, flower seeds, watering cans, mature plants, and tools from the pilot version of the Richmond Tool Library.

With these donations, Roxanne created a medicinal and edible oasis along Fred Jackson Way, the main thoroughfare in North Richmond. She included Nasturtium, Bachelor’s Button, Lupine, Mugwort, and Yarrow in planter boxes that were truly brought to life by the team of high school volunteers who she rallied to help her. Richmond ESC helped Roxanne connect with these high school students and strengthened the mission of partnering local government with neighborhood partners.

Roxanne lives near the planter boxes she spruced up so these days, you’ll often find her with her green watering can going from one plant bed to the other.



Before



After

Highlights of Impact Volunteering: Rancho Market and Deli

Rancho Market and Deli has been serving the North Richmond community for over 20 years. Its walls were previously a public memorial for those whose lives were lost to violence. Friends and family members handwrote their names on the walls of the building. The names were later painted over and the building deteriorated with age.

Store owner, Lucky Braimah, and Robert Rogers, district representative for Contra Costa County Board Supervisor John Gioia, sought to revitalize the market by painting the entire building and beautifying its surroundings. In an incredible display of teamwork, Lucky, Robert, Love Your Block, and several other community partners secured donations of all of the materials needed for the project.

In October 2017, the team hosted a paint party to engage residents, neighbors, customers, and others in restoring the iconic market. Over 30 volunteers came out to paint about 3,200 square footage of wall space and clean up over 40 pounds of trash. Many more passing by stopped to take a look and encourage the volunteers. The spirit and energy of the paint party shed light on what community members can accomplish when they come together to support the neighborhood as a whole.



Before



After

Highlights of Impact Volunteering: Downtown Richmond

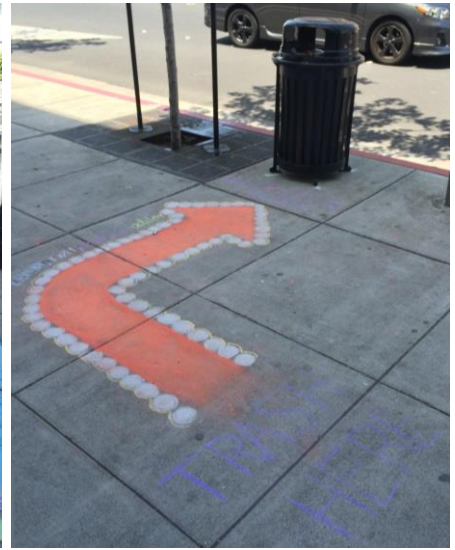
The Love Your Block project developed by the Richmond Main Street Initiative included a downtown district cleanup, trash can installation, and public chalk art activity over the course of two service days. These service days were extremely well-attended, impactful, and energizing. Richmond Main Street Initiative staff continues to work with the Richmond Love Your Block team and assisted in launching the second round of the mini-grant in September 2016.



28 Bags of Trash Collected



20 Art Displays Created



2 Trash Cans Installed



Highlights of Impact Volunteering: Parchester Village Children's Edible Garden

Parchester Village is a geographically isolated neighborhood in Richmond, with the closest grocery store located over two miles away. To address this issue, Richmond residents Patricia Hall and Raynard Lozano planned the construction of the Parchester Village Children's Edible Garden for their Love Your Block project. Children and other residents from the neighborhood joined in to build the planter boxes and picnic tables and to plant the garden's first seedlings. Now, Patricia and Raynard are working with the Parchester Community Center to incorporate garden maintenance and healthy eating into their afterschool and summer programs.



“Why try to explain miracles to kids when you can just have them plant a garden?”

- Robert Brault

WRITERCOACH CONNECTION

Through expert interviews and focus group dialogues, parents and school officials expressed the need to better engage parents and volunteers to support and improve the development of youths' academic and health outcomes. In partnership with Community Alliance for Learning and the West Contra Costa Unified School District, Richmond ESC will recruit and train parents and community volunteers to support the WriterCoach Connection program, which brings one-on-one help to high school students to improve their writing efficiency.

Through WriterCoach Connection, over 100 community volunteers were trained as WriterCoaches to support the development of writing and critical thinking skills for over 450 high school students. In its first end-of-year assessment, over 90% of the high school students reported that their writing coaches were helpful; and teachers report that they can now give more complex assignments to these students.

Due to the astounding success of the program at Richmond's high schools, WriterCoach Connection was invited by the school district to expand the program to Richmond's only middle school in 2016.



Challenge addressed: **Engagement to support youths' academic outcomes**

LEAD PARTNERS	METRICS	GOALS	LAUNCH
Community Learning Alliance	Number of volunteers recruited and trained	75	January 2013
West Contra County Unified School District	Number of students with increased writing proficiency	200	
Richmond ESC			

CERT PROGRAM - COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

In 2012, an explosion at a local Chevron refinery resulted in major power outages and released toxic fumes in the air. Reflecting on the response, Richmond prioritized identifying and supporting People with Disabilities and others with Access and Functional Needs (PWD AFN). This population requires customized support and additional steps to plan for and react to disasters, and has therefore historically suffered disproportionately before, during and after a disaster.

Richmond's PWD AFN Outreach Program seeks to engage and prepare PWD AFN to create emergency plans, build trust, and develop formal support networks – greatly improving this population's disaster preparedness and resilience.

Richmond has already assembled 24 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Leaders to train them on outreach to this community. CERT volunteers who have experience working with PWD AFN trained their less experienced peers, and all attendees practiced walking through a preparedness kit with PWD AFN. CERT Leaders coach teams of up to 20 individuals to visit and work one-on-one with PWD AFN.

Challenge addressed: Disaster preparedness

LEAD PARTNERS	METRICS	GOALS	LAUNCH
Richmond ESC	Number of PWD AFN individuals visited by CERT members	2,000	September 2016
City Departments (<i>Fire</i>)			
Neighborhood groups	Number of shared volunteers, partners, tools between LYB and PWD AFN Outreach	100	





YOUTH SERVICE IN RICHMOND



We learned that many high school youth found it difficult to connect to long-term service projects and desired to receive personal development to support their goals. Therefore, in 2014, Richmond ESC created the Youth Leadership Committee (YLC). The Youth Leadership Committee is a year-round program, coordinated by staff of the Community Services Department, that engages high school students in a rich combination of experience including leadership development and hands-on community service projects.



SERVICEWORKS

In 2016, the Youth Leader Committee partnered with the Points of Light program, ServiceWorks, to bring shorter term 5-10 week programs for students 16-24 years of age on volunteering and leadership.

ServiceWorks – powered by AmeriCorps VISTA, Citi Foundation, and Points of Light – is a program that provides an in-person experience for youth “Scholars” from low income families to develop leadership and life skills, engage in service learning projects, and have access to mentors. Hosted through the City of Richmond Community Services Department, the program targets youth high school students from the ages of 16-24 who have aspirations to improve their college and/or career readiness.

The core of ServiceWorks is made up of three components: Skill Building, Success Coaches (mentorship), and Community Service. These elements make it possible for “Scholars” to learn how to improve both their community and themselves through volunteering. Youth have the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of community issues, how to build professionalism, networking, public speaking, problem solving, and teamwork. Students that are interested must participate in five workshops, two service projects, and a Capstone Project to graduate the program.

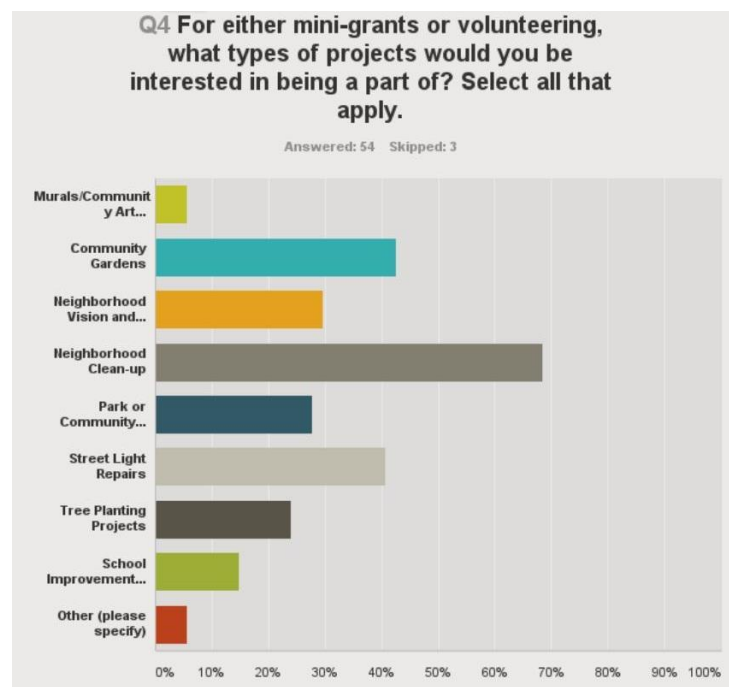
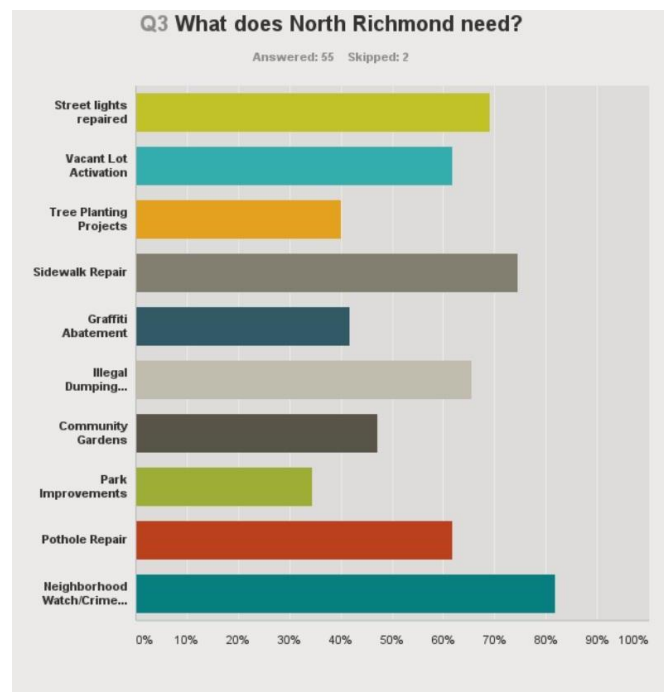
In addition, ServiceWorks recruits community members who are interested in guiding and mentoring students by volunteering as a Success Coach or a workshop facilitator. In these roles, Richmond residents have the opportunity to make an impact in our “Scholars” lives by helping them create SMART goals, build a resume, and even assist them in steps to get to college.

Challenge addressed: Engagement to involve youth in service learning projects

LEAD PARTNERS	METRICS	GOALS	LAUNCH
Richmond ESC	Number of workshops held	10	November 2016
West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD)	Number of students attending workshops and engaged in service learning projects	180	
Charter Schools			
Youth Serving Organizations	Number of Success Coaches	20	



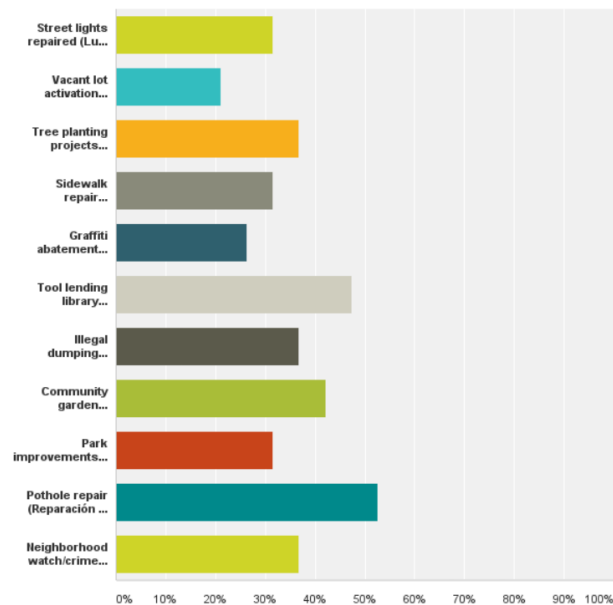
APPENDIX I



APPENDIX I

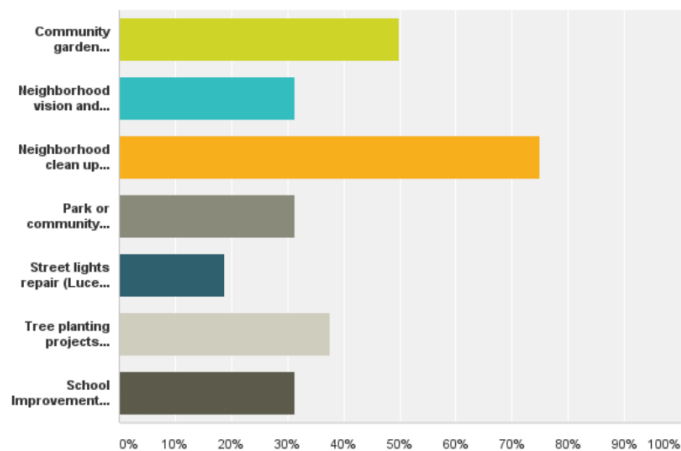
Q1 What does Parchester need? (¿Qué necesita Parchester?)

Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



Q2 Parchester - For either mini-grants or volunteering, what types of projects would you be interested in being part of? Select all that apply. (¿Para los mini-becas o voluntariado, qué tipos de proyectos estaría interesado? Seleccione todas las que apliquen.)

Answered: 16 Skipped: 3



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to **Tom Pyun** for facilitating our focus group dialogues.

Thank you to **Imani Davis** and **Victor Castro Gomez** for submitting the name and logo design to brand our program.

Thank you to **Community Alliance for Learning** and **West Contra Costa Unified School District** for teaming with Richmond ESC to expand WriterCoach Connection at Richmond High School.

Thank you to the citizens of **North Richmond, Parchester, and other neighborhoods** for leading extraordinary Love Your Block projects.

A special thank you to the **S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies** and the **Cities of Service team** for their support of Richmond ESC - Excellence Serving our Community.

Photo Credits

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