Richmond Police Department

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief Chris Magnus
            Deputy Chief Ed Medina

FROM: Tim Higares, Code Enforcement Manager

DATE: June 14, 2009

SUBJECT: Code Enforcement Update – June 2009

- **Recruitments/staffing--** Ruby Benjamin has joined our team. Ruby has worked with the City of Richmond's Planning Department for over 15 years. Her knowledge of planning and zoning issues will be a definite asset and she is a welcome addition to our team.

  We have concluded interviews for our Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer vacancies. Three candidates have been selected and have entered into the background process.

- **Notices/Fines for Unmaintained Residential Properties in Foreclosure--**In June we issued 29 notices, conducted 6 fine imposition hearings resulting in the imposition of $174,000 in fines, and issued 3 certificates of compliance.

- **One Block at a Time --** Our quarterly OBAT was conducted on Saturday June 13, 2009 in the "Coronado Neighborhood". Over 50 Volunteers from the Coronado Neighborhood Council, The City of Richmond's Graffiti Abatement Volunteer Program, The Richmond Police Department Volunteers, The Richmond Police Department Crime Prevention Program, The Richmond Youth Academy (Fire Department) as well as a large contingent of neighborhood volunteers all came together and made a wonderful contribution to the neighborhood. We filled five debris dumpsters and one huge scrap metal container. The clean up vibe was contagious and many property owners and residents broke out there own tools and started working on their yards. Kids from the surrounding area joined in to assist their neighbors.

- **Cost Recovery--** Submittal of our property tax lien/assessment for Council has been delayed. Staff is working diligently, going through the extensive list of properties to make sure the list we submit is accurate. We anticipate bringing this to Council at the first meeting in September. Tentative estimate of amount to be levied and recovered is over $800,000.

- **Monthly Success--** Here are two examples of successful abatements. The first photos are of an abatement of exterior overgrowth at a vacant property located at 348 S. 17th Street. This property was cleaned by the City abatement crew and the cost associated with this action will be recovered by a lien being placed on the property. The next photos are an example of illegal dumping and expeditious abatement in front of 216 Alamo. Throughout the week we receive calls reporting illegal dumping. In this case we received a complaint in the morning and facilitated the removal by the City Abatement crew in the early afternoon.

348 S. 17th Street (Before & After)   216 Alamo (Before & After)

Monthly Statistics:

The CEO's issued 215 notices of violations and 71 administrative citations.

Total administrative citation fines this month: **$ 44,750.**

Staff sent out 7 notices of non-compliance with fees totaling **$2,436**

We executed 16 abatement warrants at the locations listed below for either interior/exterior clean-up and boarding or exterior clean-up only.

5403 McBryde	789 17th Street	1444 Mariposa
1603 Garvin	901 8th Street	160 Florida Ave
875 9th Street	3138 Benjamin	1737 Esmond Ave
932 36th Street	2700 Grant Ave	3200 blk of Florida Ave (vacant lot)
2539 Lowell Ave	2835 Moyers Rd	1300 blk of Carlson (vacant lot)
300 blk of Carlson Blvd (vacant lot)		

Staff also executed one emergency summary abatement at 2020 Florida Ave, which included interior and exterior clean-up, bio-hazard removal and securing of all points of entry and three emergency board-ups; 909 Chanslor Ave, 155 1st Street and 145 1st Street.

We released 12 property liens upon payment resulting in the recovery of $ 21,568.73.

Unit's Total Fines/Fees

Unmaintained Residential Foreclosed Properties	$174,000.00
Non-compliance fees	$ 2,436.00
Administrative fines	$ 44,750.00
Warrant attorney fees	$ 2,912.00
Lien Payment	$ 21,568.00
Billed	**$ 245,666.00**

Public Works:	Private Property abatement:	34.30 tons of debris
	Public Property abatement:	103.70 tons of debris