



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
8:30 AM WEDNESDAY JULY 8, 2026  
WALLING BUILDING, THIRD FLOOR  
3666 UNIVERSITY AVENUE ENTRANCE**

## **Minutes**

**Present:** Andrew Walcker, Brian Percy, Broc Yoshida, Cesar Gomez, Chuck Beaty, Collette Lee, Jesse De La Cruz, Joe Ramos, Joe Guzzetta, Jungmiwha Bullock, Justin Tracy, Kristina Vanaman, Nanci Larsen, Randy Hord, Shalini Lockard, Donna Granillo, Lashon Halley, Jasmine Cortez, Melissa Lopez

**Excused:** Amy Hoyt, Chad Collopy, Mark Long, Rachael Dzikonski, Desiree Massei

**Absent:** Cherie Powell, Jennifer Gamble, John Adkins, Justin Hudson, Philip Makhoul, Ron Loveridge, Shelby Loomis, Sorelle Williams, Stan Morrison, Oz Puerta, Clarissa Cervantes

**Ex-Officio ABP / City Council:** Sarai Verduzco, Melanie Bruins, Philip Falcone, Zoe Ridgway

**Staff:** Janice Penner, Shirley Schmeltz

### **1) Call to Order**

Andrew Walcker called the meeting to order.

### **2) Self-Introductions and Public Comments**

Self-introductions and public comments were conducted.

### **3) Approval of Minutes of June 10, 2026**

**Motion:** To Accept the Minutes of the Meeting of June 10, 2026.

**Moved:** Chuck Beaty **Seconded:** Joe Guzzetta

**Motion Approved.**

### **4) Items for Discussion**

#### **4a) 2027-2031 Strategic Planning – Update and Schedule**

Janice Penner said RDP was moving forward on the 2027- 2031 Strategic Plan. The new plan will build on the previous 2022 – 2026 strategic framework. The previous strategic plan updated RDP's mission, vision, values, and goals as a foundation to move forward. The new strategic plan include more engagement with RDP's board and stakeholders to obtain their input as to what RDP should do in the future.

Following the Executive Committee's approval to move forward with Matt Lehrman's proposal, staff signed the agreement and sent the 50% deposit and travel advance. The 2027 - 2031 Strategic Plan and related costs will be funded from reserves.

Staff met with Matt Lehrman over Zoom and agreed upon a timeline which would see a document in RDP's hands in time for the 2027 BID Levy renewal.

There are several key steps moving forward:

- A Zoom call with Matt Lehrman and each Executive Committee member, completion by mid-July.
- A Zoom call with Matt Lehrman and up to five strategic stakeholders, completion by mid-July.

- In person Board and stakeholder sessions: August 5 stakeholder meeting from 2 pm – 3:30 pm and a Board session from 4 pm to 6 pm, August 6 Board session from 9 am to 11 am and stakeholder meeting from 1 pm to 2:30 pm.
- The October 6 Executive meeting will include preparing for the Board retreat.
- October 14 will be the Board retreat, time frame provided in advance.

The August sessions and the Board retreat will be held at Loft.84 and include refreshments for attendees. October meetings are expected to be at the Walling Building, third floor. Staff is in ongoing contact with Matt Lehrman to keep the process on track. If the Board has any questions regarding the strategic planning process, please contact Janice Penner.

## **5) Financial Reports**

### **5a) Draft Financial Report at June 30, 2026 – For Information**

Nanci Larsen said the draft June 30, 2026 results show a surplus of \$335,668 year to date compared to a budgeted surplus year to date of \$9,075 resulting in a positive variance of \$326,593 for the year to date. BID Levy income year to date was \$307,287 greater than budget due to the outstanding BID levy payments received and taken into income for 2025 and 2026, plus a 2027 BID Levy payment received in June rather than July as expected. Overall expenses were \$14,389 lower than budget.

As of June 30, 2026, RDP had \$752,028 in two checking and two money market accounts with Citizens Business Bank, ICON Business Bank, and Provident Bank. RDP reserves include two CDs with Columbia Bank, two CDs with Provident Bank, and one CD with US Bank for total reserves of \$594,968.07.

The Accounts Receivable equaled \$378 while the Accounts Payable equaled \$8,111. The liability for accrued staff benefits (vacation and other time) as of June 30, 2026 was \$33,963.

### **5b) Ratification of Executive Approval – Increase in One Signature Limit to \$3,500 - Motion**

RDP staff requested that the one signature limit be increased to \$3,500 from the current \$2,750 to reflect the increase in regular costs for the organization. The Executive approved the increased limit.

**Motion:** To Ratify the Executive Committee Approval of the Increase in Signature limit for purposes of the Board Minutes.

**Moved:** Justin Tracy **Seconded:** Nanci Larsen

**Motion Carried.**

## **6) RPD Security Updates**

Lashon Halley said preliminary numbers from the fireworks enforcement showed that on Friday, there were 3 citations from the drones, and the police department found one person in possession of fireworks. On Saturday, there were 56 citations from the drones and 23 people were found in possession of fireworks from the fire department's team. About 51 pounds of fireworks were seized. The preliminary data for this year show 83 citations issued regarding fireworks, compared to 65 last year.

The POP team was notified of graffiti vandalism in the area of Mission Inn and University on June 6. The person was arrested on June 18.

Donna Granillo said on April 24, they responded to a call at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Chestnut, regarding shots being heard. They found 20 spent shell casings on Chestnut with multiple witnesses reporting seeing a red sedan fleeing the area. The red sedan and the driver were later identified and an arrest was made. The individual was a convicted felon who was charged with possession of a loaded firearm and possession of a controlled substance. Collette Lee asked if the individual was firing at a specific target. Donna Granillo said the individual was just shooting randomly.

Collette Lee asked about the No Trespassing renewals to take place at the Chamber. Lashon Halley said they had not scheduled a date with the Chamber as of yet, but businesses and property owners can come in the Riverside Police Station on July 15<sup>th</sup> from 2 pm to 5 pm to have their trespass paperwork renewed or a trespass form filed for the first time. There is a new form for this year regardless of whether it is a first time or renewal.

There is legislation pending to remove the notary from the process but it hasn't happened yet. Shalini Lockard asked if they can fill out one form for multiple locations. Lashon Halley said if they are the same contact person for those properties, then yes, a single notary sheet can be used just for the City of Riverside.

## **7) County of Riverside Updates**

Cesar Gomez said the Supervisor, in conjunction with the Veteran's Services Administration at the County and the Veteran's Advisory Committee, will be hosting a Veteran's Resource Fair on Thursday, July 30 from 6 pm to 8 pm, at the American Legion in Fairmount Park.

The Annex outside of the Administrative Center and the Courthouse itself are displaying red, white, and blue lighting for the month of July.

## **8) Mayor's Office Update**

Zoe Ridgway said the City of Riverside received a \$50,000 grant from Bloomberg Philanthropy for the Youth Climate Action Fund. Youth ages 15 to 24 can receive \$1,000 to \$5,000 for a youth lead project which can make an impact on a local climate project in their community. The Applications will open in August.

The State Homeless Housing Assistance/Prevention Program fund was budgeted for zero last year by the Governor. These funds are used to fund the emergency shelters, transitional housing, and prevention programs. If no funds are received, then these will have to be shut down. The Mayor is leader of the Big City Mayors and has focused on getting those funds at least partially restored for this year. They had some success and were able to get \$900 million for the entire state and \$10 million of that will be coming to Riverside.

The City of Riverside just took receivership of a hotel on the Magnolia corridor. This receivership will allow a third-party entity to take over the Riverside Inn & Suites to restore it and hopefully make an impact on the Magnolia corridor. This was a two-year process with the City Attorney's office, Police Department, and Councilmember Perry's office leading the charge.

## **9) City Council Updates**

*Ward One:* Philip Falcone said Fourth of July was a very calm and underwhelming event from the fire department's perspective. There were no fires on Mt. Rubidoux. Philip Falcone said he is with the fire department every year on Fourth of July and last year was an absolute

nightmare. There were a few incidents in Casa Blanca but nothing major. There may have been incidents with illegal fireworks, but the calls were not for the fire department's assistance.

There are a few new businesses opening in downtown. The Notebook Café has officially opened. The Daily which replaced Coffee Court will be opening soon. Slow Bloom Coffee and a Mediterranean bakery are under construction where Beignet Spot was located, and will be opening in a few months. There is a new tenant for the Salted Pig location on Main Street and will be opening in a few months as well. Flemming's is slated to open in September, and Orange Tree opened on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

The problem bus stops at University and Main and University and Market will be removed and consolidated with the bus stops currently located at Tenth and Market and Ninth and Market. Concrete pads will need to be installed for those bus stop locations, but construction should be completed by the end of September.

The Main Street Mall turns 60 in November, and the City will be doing improvement projects on every block on the mall, including between Fifth and Sixth.

There will be a business town hall in the last week of August.

*Ward Two:* Melanie Bruns said there will be the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Backpack giveaway from 8 am to 11 am this Saturday at Boardwell Park. They will also be doing free haircuts and other free services from the children.

## **10) City Community Development Department Update**

There was no update as Desiree Massei was unable to attend the meeting.

## **11) Committee Updates**

*Land Use:* Brian Percy said Land Use was dark last month so there was nothing new to report.

*Security:* Janice Penner said the success with getting the two bus stops moved off University and put on Market Street was the main topic. They are still discussing ways to help the Cal Tower block, particularly the corner by Mezcal which is used for a refuge spot for the homeless and loiterers. The tables and chairs in the Cal Tower block continue to be a concern as they are a gathering place for many undesirable individuals and behavior, and the area around them is filthy. There is consideration to removing them and installing hostile architecture to discourage loitering. The poles for the sunshades are very deep in the ground and very expensive to remove so may be repurposed in some manner as part of an art piece.

## **12) Items for Information**

### **12a) RDP News, Activities, and Other Items**

Janice Penner said RDP provided a \$500 sponsorship for the Miracle and Dreams Foundation Backpack Giveaway at the Main Library on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Staff will be sharing a table with the Riverside Community Arts Association at the resource fair part of the event.

Planning is underway for the annual Riverside Art and Music Festival taking place on September 26<sup>th</sup> at White Park. RDP funds the park rental, portable restrooms, clean-up, sound, and security as a presenting partner with the Riverside Arts Council. Collette Lee asked how

much RDP is funding for the RAMF. Janice Penner said they allocated \$15,000 for RAMF. The attendance for the festival has increased each year; last year was over 5,000 and the hope is that attendance will be over 7,500 this year.

The July 28<sup>th</sup> luncheon will be held at Loft.84 and feature the Mission Inn Foundation and the Riverside Community Arts Association as speakers. The September 22<sup>nd</sup> luncheon will be at Riverside Community Hospital and sponsored by them, with a presentation from their senior management. The October 27<sup>th</sup> luncheon will be at Hyatt Place and feature Matthew Taylor presenting on the City's new sign code booklet. Staff will be confirming the location and speaker for the November 24<sup>th</sup> luncheon.

Meetings have started with the participants of the Fall Fashion Show taking place on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be three components to the show: downtown retailers including Cruz Custom Tailors, Heaven Scent, Mrs. Tiggy Winkles, Raincross District, Toni Moore, and hopefully the Mission Inn Boutique; Riverside Community Arts Association (RCAA) showcasing fashion as art; and the Riverside Community Health Foundation featuring fashions from their Pink Ribbon Place modeled by breast cancer survivors.

The date for Doors Open Riverside has been set for Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 1 pm to 5 pm. The event is a partnership between the City of Riverside, the Mission Inn Foundation, and RDP.

### **13) New Business**

There was no new business.

**14) Adjournment – Next Meeting Date September 9, 2026 at 8:30 am. There is no meeting in August.**