

ON POINT

The annual Point Richmond Stroll and our first Farmer's Market were a wonderful combination last month. Crunchy Frog was in good form. The old town was hopping. It looks like the Farmer's Market on Wednesday evenings will become a regular part of our life in the Point.

The presentation of the City Council's 5-year Strategic Budget Plan by Vice Mayor Ludmyrna Lopez and Andrea Miller, Budget Administrator, was well received and appreciated at the last meeting. Edric Kwan, engineering manager, Yader Bermudez, Public Works Director, Emily Boyd, Budget Analyst, and Jim Matzorkus, Port Director, were present and answered questions from our membership.

Martin McNair spoke for many of our neighbors when he applauded the development of a plan that included the word "strategy". He graciously thanked the City representatives for their good work and making themselves available to us.

Don Woodrow asked Mr. Kwan about promises that had been made by the City Engineer to repair and resurface Gerard and West Richmond. They are in deplorable condition, and were at the top of our list of complaints in our Street Repair Survey. The area around the Plunge to Washington, Tewksbury, and Dornan are the main entrances to town. They look and feel like bad country roads.

Mr. Kwan says that Gerard and West Richmond are definitely scheduled for repair, but that the work will not start until the Plunge is finished. He explained that it makes little sense to repair and resurface those streets while heavy machinery is still being used. We expect that when the Plunge is finished, in early 2010, that street repairs will begin.

I am still receiving responses to our Street Repair questionnaire. Ken Blonski and I are scheduled to sit down and discuss the results with Mr. Kwan on June 16th. He will attend our regular meeting on the 24th and give everyone there an update on the City's schedule for work in the Point. He says that he welcomes feedback from the community.

We had a brief discussion at the close of our May meeting about advancing the starting time for our Wednesday PRNC meeting to 7:00 pm. Although a number of people liked the idea, it was pointed out that doing so would crowd the Land Use/Design Review Committee schedule and, now that we have the Farmer's Market, may or may not be desirable. A straw poll was taken to get a sense of the group. The vote was almost evenly split.

So, unless there is a stronger interest in changing our start time to 7:00 pm, our meetings will still begin at 7:30 pm.

Due to an event that Doreen and I scheduled months ago, I will not be able to be at our next meeting. Ken Blonski, our First Vice President, will chair the meeting.

I hope you will be there.

Peter Minkwitz, *President*

POINT RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL