

City Selects Cooper Robertson to Update River District Specific Plan

The City of Sacramento has selected Cooper Robertson to lead the River District Specific Plan update, to include an update of the River District Finance Plan and Environmental Impact Report. The current specific plan, adopted in 2011, was meant to catalyze development and included a comprehensive circulation diagram and a Finance Plan that intended to incentivize new development and pay for infrastructure improvements (including a reconfigured circulation system). However, development activity was much lower than anticipated since its adoption, leading to lower fee collection for necessary infrastructure improvements. The update should evaluate the goals, policies, actions, and diagrams to reflect an updated vision as well as consider how to realistically finance infrastructure improvements needed for anticipated development. The update should also consider strategies to balance the provision of social service agencies concentrated in the area with strategies to revitalize the River District for other uses.

The vision for the River District is that of an eclectic mix of uses that will evolve from a primarily light-industrial, low-intensity commercial district, to a series of distinctive walkable neighborhoods contiguous to the American River at the northern gateway into the Central City. As a precursor to the update of the River District Specific Plan, the city supported the River District's own Strategic Plan and Vision initiative, which was coordinated by Atlas Lab with assistance from Cooper Robertson.

The River District is thrilled that the city has decided to work with Cooper Robertson on the Specific Plan update since the firm has already been involved with our efforts over the past year. We look forward to the continued involvement of the River District and its stakeholders in the process.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Place Enhancement
Working Group
Tuesday, April 2
Virtual - via Zoom

River District Board
Meeting
Wednesday, April 10,
3:30 p.m.
MOSAC
400 Jibboom St.

Place Management (Clean & Safe) Meeting Thursday, April 11, 9:00 a.m. River District Office, 610 Bercut Dr. Ste. B

RSVP to info@riverdistrict.net

River District Private Security Number (916) 779-5363



River District board members and stakeholders met with staff from the City of Sacramento as well as consultants from Atlas Lab and Cooper Robertson for a site visit on March 22, 2023.

Ballots to Renew River District Out Now

The City of Sacramento has mailed out official ballots to all assessed property owners in the proposed 2025-2034 River District PBID (Property and Business Improvement District.) The election was triggered after the threshold for petitions in support of the renewal of the district was surpassed last month.

The City Council will hold a public hearing at its regular meeting on April 2, 2024 and will introduce the ordinance. A week later, on April 9, 2024, the ballot results will be anounced and the City Council will adopt the Resolution of Formation, providing that the majority of ballots returned are in favor of the renewal. The ordinance would then become active after a thirty-day challenge period. The new district would begin on January 1, 2025.

If you are a property owner who has not yet received a ballot, please contact us immediately to let us know so we can ensure that you receive the ballot in time to return. If you have returned your ballot, we kindly ask you to indicate your support of the district by contacting executive director Devin Strecker at devin@riverdistrict.net as we are tracking the ballot returns.

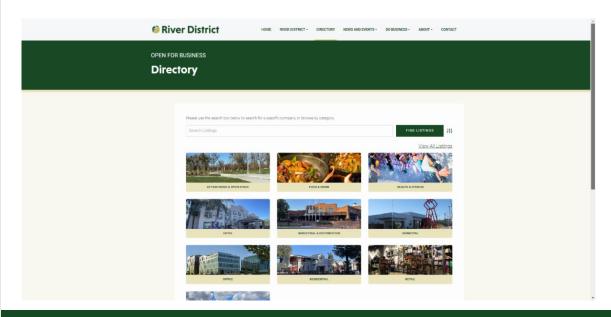
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Ballots to renew the River District PBID must be returned in a sealed envelope to the City Clerk before the close of the public hearing, scheduled for 5pm on Tuesday, April 2.

Update Your Info on our New Website

In early 2024, the River District launched its brand new website, <u>riverdistrict.net</u>. The website has been completely overhauled with new features including a blog and calendar, business director, and a virtual tour (launching soon).

All businesses in the District now have their own listing page within our directory, and you may provide photos and details by submitting them to info@riverdistrict.net. You can also submit events for our calendar, or ideas for the blog. Check out the website today and let us know what else you would like to see!



Kaiser Moves Forward with Railyards Hospital Plans



A rendering of Kaiser Permanente's proposed Railyards hospital, prepared by the SmithGroup, was included in the plans submitted with the city planning division earlier this month.

Plans have been filed by Kaiser Permanente on their new \$1.48 billion medical center to be built at 105 Bercut Drive in the Railyards. The eight-story, 312-bed hospital would include 657,000 square feet of space, plus an additional five-story support building. North of the hospital, Kaiser plans to construct a seven-story parking structure with 1,500 spaces. The project will now go before the city's Planning and Design Commission, and Kaiser hopes to be able to break ground before the end of the year.

Business Broadband Survey: Please Take a Moment to Participate

<u>Valley Vision</u>, a civic leadership organization serving the Sacramento region, has received a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to research the availability

and quality of broadband and Internet service for local businesses and their digital needs. This analysis will be used to develop a Regional Business Broadband Master Plan to identify strategies, tools, and solutions.

For this analysis, Valley Vision is surveying businesses of all types in the four-county region. The online survey takes just a few minutes and offers an important opportunity to provide input on your existing broadband and Internet conditions and needs. It can be completed on any computer, laptop, smart phone, or device connected to the Internet. If you have questions or would like to provide further input beyond the survey , please contact Navreet Hundal at Valley Vision, navreet.hundal@valleyvision.org, Office (916) 325-1630, Cell (209) 534-1731.

The survey can be accessed at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BusinessInternetSurvey-RiverDistrict.

Homelessness, Drug Addiction and Theft Reduction Act

Californians for Safer Communities is the official coalition leading the Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act (Initiative 23-0017A1). The bi-partisan measure aims to provide common sense, targeted reforms to Proposition 47 that legislative proposals alone are unable to deliver.

Whether its rampant retail theft causing neighborhood store closures and higher prices for working families, or the growing epidemic of fentanyl overdoses, Californians can't afford half-measures to address these pressing issues.

Passed in 2014, Prop 47 achieved notable success in making California's criminal justice system more equitable. However, it led to unintended consequences over the past decade - repeat and often organized retail theft, inner-city store closings, and difficulty convincing people to seek drug and mental health treatment - that can only be corrected by voters at the ballot box with modest amendments to Prop 47.

How can you help? Organizers are currently collecting signatures to qualify for the 2024 November General Election. They are also raising funds for the campaign. For more information, visit https://casafecommunities.com.

West Coast Urban District Forum

The River District was represented at the West Coast Urban District Forum in San Diego last month, an annual conference of the <u>California Downtown Association</u> in partnership with the <u>International Downtown Association</u>. Sacramento County District Attorney Thein Ho, pictured at right, joined Summer Stephan, District Attorney of San Diego County and Kevin Barton, District Attorney of Washington County, Oregon, for a panel discussion focusing on key policy areas impacting downtown and businesses. Topics of conversation included the Grants Pass v. Johnson Supreme Court Case, changes to theft laws in California, enforcement of homelessness, drug and substance abuse enforcement and the impacts on businesses.

Other sessions offered at the conference focused on clean and safe operations, marketing and communications, trends shaping downtowns, placemaking, and economic development.



Sacramento County District Attorney Thien Ho speaks at the West Coast Urban District Forum in San Diego on February 29.

SAVE THE DATE! State of the River District



Come celebrate 25 years of the River District at our annual State of the River District event on Thursday, April 25th. Hosted at the Sacramento Police Officers Association, 550 Bercut Dr., the event will feature Sacramento County District Attorney Thien Ho as the keynote speaker. Atlas Lab will be presenting the River District Strategic Plan and Vision. Hors d'oeuvres and full bar provided. Invites will be going out soon, so please save the date!

The River District Public Spaces Team



Shawna Bowman was the Public Spaces Team's first member, and she recently graduated from the program. Pictured above are Devin Strecker, RIver District Executive Director; Shawna Bowman; Chris Evans, Public Spaces Manager; and Jesse Yniguez, Public Spaces Team Leader.

The River District's own Public Spaces Team, also known as the clean and safe team, works from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., seven days a week, to reduce the district's litter, debris and graffiti. They also work with the unhoused population to keep encampments as clean as possible, and to assist and encourage unhoused individuals to accept shelter and services.

2024 TYD Litter Abatement Statistics (January, February)

- 2,907 bags of litter collected includes 397 bags from encampments
- 297 bags of green waste collected
- 1,713 bulky Items removed
- 158 hazardous items removed (paint, gas, batteries, syringes)
- 128,160 lbs. or 64.08 tons total litter disposed

Sacramento Protective Services (SPS) provides security services, and can be reached via our Private Security Dispatch at (916) 779-5363.

2024 TYD Security Statistics (January, February)

- 833 Officer observations
- 505 Dispatch service calls
- 56 Notices of Trespass issued
- 9 Incident report/arrests

For removal of litter, debris or hazardous waste from public property, contact our team by calling (916) 321-5599 or emailing cleanandsafe@riverdistrict.net.

Statistics for the entire year of 2023 will be included in our upcoming *River District 2023 Q4/Annual Market Report.*





COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP 4/20/24

> TISCORNIA PARK 10 A.M.-12 P.M.

All clean-up equipment and light snacks & refreshments will be provided





Visit arpf.org/volunteer/calendar to sign up



311 is not just for residents . . .

There is an entire portal dedicated to businesses at

311.cityofsacramento.org/s/business-home. This portal allows businesses to better interact with City staff. Register to get access to funding, training, procurement opportunities, and more! The goal of this system is to improve our relationships with businesses, provide various ways to engage and get your questions answered.

Here is how to get started:

Register for an account

An account will let you track and manage your requests and will ensure we have the right contact information.

Add your business to your profile

Adding your business will allow us to find opportunities specific to your business and respond to requests for service.

Create a request

Submit requests for funding, training, technical assistance, and more! Our business services are available under the category "Business Resources."



Pro Tip: Add the keyword "MBARK" when submitting your request for personal follow up!



RIVER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RIVER DISTRICT STAFF

Devin Strecker, LPM, Executive Director, devin@riverdistrict.net
Chris Evans, Public Space Manager, cleanandsafe@riverdistrict.net
Cristina Navarro, Program Manager, cristina@riverdistrict.net
Maurice Scott, Business Community Liaison, maurice@riverdistrict.net

Clean & Safe Team:

Jesse Yniguez, Tim Hargis, Darrell "Mo" Moore, Kile Sullivan, Bernard Cooper, Santos Peinado

The River District is committed to building a community that values and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion. We recognize that we have a responsibility to establish a culture that celebrates and promotes equitable opportunities for everyone. Through collaboration, advocacy, and strategic investments, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive neighborhood that supports local commerce, cultural diversity and sustainable growth.

The River District | PO Box 630, Sacramento, CA 95812

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