

EDUCATION -- Closed campuses and more security, turning schools into full-service community centers, reducing dropout rates, getting students involved in public service, imposing term limits on school board members and offering more trade and environmental courses.

YOUTH & RECREATION -- More reading and athletic programs involving current or retired police officers when possible, a youth conservation corp with minimum-wage jobs, scholarships to help keep children in sports, a monitored skateboard park, city-sponsored art projects on the city's website, fixing up and expanding use of baseball fields, playgrounds and parks, holding a 5k race from Vallejo to Mare Island and back, ensuring music and concert venues and establishing a cycling club.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT -- Ideas range from ensuring citizen representation in government to reaching out to all economic, social and racial groups to integrate ideas and increase participation by all ethnicities in Vallejo's civic life.

CIRCULATION & TRANSPORTATION -- Charging stations for electric cars, BART improvements, more bus and ferry service including private ferry service to Mare Island, a Zip Car concession, more vehicle lane reductions, speed bumps, roundabouts and bicycle lanes, more trees and other landscaping along streets, use of extensive railroad tracks, pedestrian bridge to Mare Island, expanded bus service, more streetlights including shielded neighbor-friendly lights, street repairs and a pothole-counting contest.

HOUSING -- Licenses for rental units, promotion of Vallejo as a Ft. Lauderdale West retirement and special-needs community, preventing banks from holding foreclosed properties indefinitely, spreading affordable housing around the city instead of concentrating it, making some Temple Artist Lofts available to higher-income levels, more public funding to help first-time homebuyers and to prevent foreclosures, establishing more government services downtown to counteract subsidized housing, affordable-housing audits, and improving security in low-income housing developments.

ENVIRONMENT, NOISE, CLIMATE, AIR QUALITY -- Zero-waste policies and bans on use of plastic bags by businesses, more recycling and composting, more tree-planting and bike-hiking paths, enforcement of noise ordinances, improving air quality by limiting outside commercial barbeques and providing incentives for people to not burn wood for heating, encouraging alternative energy, planning for higher water in

low-lying areas due to sea-level rise, and supporting electric cars by boosting power at charging stations.

SAFETY & LAW ENFORCEMENT -- More officers and quicker response times, police substation reopenings, a program to help pinpoint gunfire locations, sting operations on prostitutes, pimps and "Johns" and on metal thieves and buyers, more efforts to stop auto thefts, nab unlicensed drivers and spot unregistered vehicles, a neighborhood commission, software solutions so people can upload cell-phone photos of criminal activity to police, coordinating neighborhood watch groups and designating police liaisons for specific neighborhoods, setting up a vocational training center on Mare Island for parolees and others having difficulties finding work, random drug testing on police officers to offset accusations when citizens and police have altercations, quarterly town hall meetings with police, more school patrols.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT -- Grants and tax breaks to encourage new businesses especially in downtown and near waterfront, making Vallejo a tourist destination for birders and history buffs, finding alternatives to Lennar for encouraging more Mare Island business, holding an annual film festival and more art, music and theme-based events and festivals, kayak/paddle boat rentals at the boat ramp, closing marijuana dispensaries, sponsoring a bicycle race to raise funds for bicycle trails and paths, zoning to prevent "food deserts," attracting more bio-tech, tech and solar companies, cutting business license fees, promoting Vallejo as an easy commute to San Francisco, imposing fees for empty buildings in the downtown, establishing better Internet connectivity by making use of Vallejo's rights to 18 fiber-optic strands downtown.

LAND USE & OPEN SPACE -- Encourage more citizen involvement at every city government level, strengthen codes related to historical properties and create additional historic districts, develop community gardens, create a dog park at River Park, develop a waterfront open space between the ferry building and Brinkman's Marina, plant more street trees, improve sign ordinances, restore and protect wetlands, put power lines underground, block more retail at the fairgrounds and oppose Solano 360 plan as proposed, immediately deal with homeless camps, implement the River Park Master Plan to construct trails, boardwalks and viewing points, partner with the Solano Land Trust in more urban park activities, and reduce light pollution.

DOWNTOWN AND WATERFRONT -- Support more stores downtown to reduce a 60 per cent vacancy rate, eradicate loopholes that allow property owners

to keep buildings empty for years, require business-friendly city policies, encourage a grocery store and higher-quality businesses, open satellite campus for art institute, create historical walking tours, post better signage, increase police presence so ferry passengers will stop in downtown, establish jitney service to visit historical sites, increase security, safety and lighting in the downtown and reopen a police substation, reduce loitering, drug-trafficking and prostitution, preserve Veterans Memorial Park and the McCune Room at the library, extend ferry hours, hire someone to pick up waterfront trash daily, plant more grass and trees, support a kayak concession and water taxis, and establish soccer and volleyball fields.

MARE ISLAND -- Promote natural resources like Mare Island Preserve, arrange for public input on businesses locating on Mare Island, consider affordable housing for the homeless, including homeless vets, and for Touro University students, replace Lennar with a non-profit to encourage business development, remove deteriorating properties, market Mare Island's status as oldest U.S. Navy base on the West Coast and seek funding for a big naval and historic museum, court the movie industry, bring FDR's yacht to Mare Island for day events, add website and maps to attract tourists, support a B&B and/or new-built hotel, bring in wine touring and tasting, have ferry and water taxis to Vallejo, establish a Mare Island trolley or part trolley and part walking tour, light up the smoke stack on Mare Island with LEDs, revise the National Historic Landmark boundaries on Mare Island to current standards, preserve the island so some old buildings remain in disrepair -- a contrast of good and bad -- and get the Navy involved in preserving their significant history on Mare Island.

HERITAGE & PRESERVATION -- City should lessen restrictive attitude toward neighborhoods seeking historic status. Since the city has Certified Local Government (CLG) status, inclusion of a preservation element plan is mandatory in the new General Plan. Preserve historic homes by providing owner-occupied incentives such as reduced inspection fees and permits, leverage historic buildings and Vallejo history as a key component of Vallejo, develop an updated list of historic buildings and set policies to ensure they're preserved, shift ratio of homeowners to renters by implementing a policy whereby banks donate vacant homes to a nonprofit that will assist first-time homebuyers, limit paint colors for homes to enhance heritage neighborhoods, develop guidelines for new construction in historic areas.

WILD CARD & QUALITY OF LIFE -- Establish a poet laureate program to

promote literacy and connect to schools, enhance communication between the various groups in Vallejo and outlying towns instead of being isolated, and encourage representatives from high schools to attend various city meetings so that they have a voice.