PLT reviewed the following information topics:

Guest: Riverside City Councilmember Erin Edwards

- Councilmember Edwards shared her vision and priorities for the City and the team explored partnership opportunities. Edwards articulated her five-year vision - to create a city where everyone can thrive. She plans to achieve this by building an environment where everyone is heard, being transparent and moving mountains for the greater good through regional collaboration. Addressing homelessness and investing in neighborhoods are two major efforts for the councilmember.

President Anderson shared his vision of establishing an RCC Center for Civic Engagement. Councilmember Edwards supports the idea of such a center and looks forward to identifying collaborative efforts. More engagement could help transform distrust of government, establish a foundation for ways of community involvement, and facilitate succession planning. A number of faculty leaders have already begun exploring framework for how this center can be developed.

VP Carter stated that potential college funding from the state Chancellor’s Office to address housing insecurity may be an opportunity for collaboration with the City. Transportation is another potential common interest. Discussions on both topics are coming forward to stakeholders for input.

First Week of Winter Intersession - Caring Campus “Ask Me Booth” Update and Training

- VP Carter reported on the “Ask Me Booths” scheduled the first week of the Winter intersession. Eight information booths, located throughout the campus, are staffed from 7 am to 5:30 pm with the exception of the booths in front of The Charles A. Kane Student Services & Administration and the Quad which close at 6:30 pm. College volunteers greet students, provide directions and answer questions. With 60 time slots, there is a need for additional volunteers. All vice presidents strongly support these efforts and will work with their teams to increase volunteers for the Spring term “Ask Me Booths.”
PLT considered the following policy issues:

2020 Accreditation
- VP Farrar reported the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) was approved by the Board of Trustees at the Regular Meeting on December 10th and is complete! The Report was submitted to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), sent to visiting team members, and posted on the College website. Thanks to all who participated in this collegewide effort. Emails will be sent to RIV-All regarding preparation for the March 2-5 visit. VP Farrar encourages everyone to take the time to review Accreditation Basics 2020 and Accreditation 2020 Tiger Notes which were delivered, emailed to all employees and posted on the website. Copies can be requested by contacting the Office of VP of Academic Affairs.

PLT took action on the following items:

HACU membership renewal
- President Anderson initiated a discussion about the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) membership. Understanding that two-thirds of RCC’s student population is Hispanic, PLT unanimously agreed to renew the College’s membership with the organization. HACU is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote Hispanic student success in higher education. In the United States, HACU represents more than 470 higher education institutions (both universities and community colleges) that together enroll two thirds of all Hispanic students in higher education. HACU has three lines of activity which include improving legislation and government support for U.S. member institutions, building the institutional capacity of its member institutions, and promoting strategic alliances and partnerships, including academic cooperation programs across borders.