




City of Richmond

Report to Committee

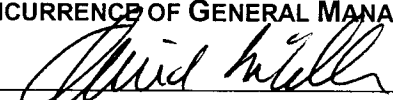
To: Planning Committee
From: Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning
Date: January 31, 2002
File: 0100-20-ACEN1-01
Re: **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT (ACE) 2001 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2002 WORK PROGRAM**

Staff Recommendation

That Council approve the ACE 2002 work program subject to the City's budget review process.


Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning

Att.

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CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER


Staff Report

Origin

Pursuant to the Terms of Reference for Council's Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE), this report provides:

- an annual report on the Committee's activities for 2001, and;
- a proposed 2002 work program which is submitted for Council's review and approval.

Findings Of Fact

Attached to this report is a covering memo from the ACE co-chairs for 2001 who have highlighted the Committee's work over the past year in fulfilling its advisory role and responsibilities to Council (**Attachment 1**). Also attached is a summary table highlighting the accomplishments of ACE as it undertook its 2001 work program which was approved by Council in February 2001 (**Attachment 2**). The Committee's Terms of Reference require that ACE's proposed work program for 2002 be reviewed and approved by Council subject to the City's 2002 budget process (**Attachment 3**).

Financial Impact

For 2001:

ACE undertook its 2001 work program within its budget allocation for the year:

- \$30,000.00 for an update of the City's State of the Environment Report (SOE) which will be presented to Council in spring 2002.
- \$2,500.00 for ongoing committee operations and administration

For 2002:

The City's proposed 2002 Budget provides financial resources in the amount of \$2,500 to support ACE's ongoing operation and administration.

Conclusion

ACE continues to provide a valuable advisory role to both Council and staff. The Committee's work program and activities continue to support the City's environmental management policy and program goals and objectives. The City has benefited greatly from the many hours of volunteer commitment, dedication and effort of ACE's members who share a wide range of professional, technical and community expertise and interest in environmental issues. Staff recommend that Council approve the 2002 ACE Work Program and give favourable consideration to the proposed 2002 budget.



Rob Innes
Planner

RI:cas

Memorandum

To: Richmond City Council
From: Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE)
Date: 01/31/02
Re: ACE Progress Report Year 2001 / Work Program 2002

ACE Progress Report – Year 2001

Attached please find our progress report on work undertaken this past year. We are deeply grateful to Rob Innes, Margot Daykin, and other members of staff for their professional efforts and personal interest throughout the year that has made much of this work possible.

The most significant item completed is the update to Richmond's Status on the Environment Report (SOE). We hope that Council may take its findings into consideration in their overall planning for Richmond, and in any revisions to the Overall Community Plan (OCP).

The other item of most interest to ACE members is Shady Island (Steveston Island), and our hopes that Richmond may acquire all or parts of that Island by Free Crown Grant for Municipal Park. This would do much to protect the important fish and bird habitat on the Island for future generations.

ACE Work Program - Year 2002

We are pleased to offer our proposed Work Program for 2002, which has been developed by our Committee as a whole, and in consultation with staff. We look forward to being able to provide Council with comments and advice on these and any other environmental issues which may arise.

Priorities. In addition to work towards protection of Shady Island, we want to give priority to analysis of results of the last SOE update. The trends detailed therein may be extrapolated to 2004 and 2007 to obtain a picture of what Richmond's environment will be like (good and bad) if present environmental and other practices are continued. We hope this will provide Council with ideas for strategic interventions to maintain and/or increase Richmond's livability, and perhaps save money.

A significant difference between the Program for 2001 and that put forward for 2002 is the increased focus on task value and deliverables. We have an excellent team on the committee this year with a wide variety of technical and scientific skills, along with detailed knowledge of the environmental needs in our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Adrian Wade
 Co-Chair 2001

Eric Sykes
 Co-Chair 2001 and 2002

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
 Status Report
 As of December 31, 2001

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement/Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
<p>Public Outreach & Education</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations to Community Groups/Schools re: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidebook - Environmental Purchasing Guide - SOE Report - Others • Explore Partnerships with other agencies and schools to enhance awareness and facilitate completion of environmentally beneficial projects <p>Other Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify Possible Workshops with public (invited guest speakers) on key environmental issues 	<p>Builds environmental awareness, commitment and capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help distribute • Ongoing presentations 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidebook distributed to community and agencies in Spring 2001; received press release and media coverage • SOE Outreach-presentation to Cambie High School in January, 2001 • Part of ACE's core activities
<p>Builds environmental awareness, commitment to environmental programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can assist with workshops • Deliver workshops 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Fraser River Coalition in January 2001 • ACE members attended Fraser Basin Council Sustainability Workshop and 2010 Olympic Bid Committee presentation 	

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ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
Status Report
As of December 31, 2001

January 31, 2002

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement/Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
<p><u>Monitor Environmental Initiatives among all levels of Government</u></p> <p>Fraser Basin Council (FBC) activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds environmental awareness Opportunities for city /community input Monitor livability indicators 	<p>Provide comments</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation by Bob Purdy of Basin Council in April 2001 Annual Report and other material distributed to ACE in April 2001
<p>Comments:</p> <p>When the Fraser Basin Council first came to Richmond with a request for funding, ACE had serious reservations about the value and deliverables from the work program they had outlined (from a Richmond standpoint). Council passed funding by a narrow margin with a commitment to review for future years. ACE is pleased to note that FBC has now achieved real results of relevance to Richmond and is delighted, after meeting with their representative in 2001, to strongly endorse Richmond's support for their program. In particular, ACE believes FBC could be of assistance to Richmond in the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agassiz debris trap(ensuring continued funding)- helps keep Fraser River clear of debris Shearboon (Steveston)- needs repair Water training structures-Steveston-to help keep channel clear- needs funding and adoption Potential assistance with No. 8 Road dyke (mid island dyke proposal) Earthquake preparedness (province wide) <p>Georgia Basin Ecosystem Project (Environment Canada)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds awareness Opportunities for city /community input <p>Monitor the implementation of these plans</p>	<p>Provide comments</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress Report distributed to ACE in February 2001 Ongoing Presentation to ACE in January 2001 by Tom Corsie of Fraser Port Fraser Port Land Use Plan distributed to ACE-Feb/01 Participated in boat tours
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NFPA Master Plan Fraser Port Authority Master Plan 				

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ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
 Status Report
 As of December 31, 2001

February 1, 2002

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement/Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
<p>Comments: In reviewing documents, ACE found plans to be well thought out with the North Fraser Port Plan providing greater detail. ACE appreciates the inclusion of the committee in the review process and opportunities to visit with staff and participate on tours.</p> <p>FREMP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring implementation Estuary Management Plan (EMP) • monitoring shoreline coding update 	<p>Monitor implementation of this plan</p>	<p>Provide comments/ monitor</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • ACE invited to FREMP-public forum-November/ 01 RE: Monitoring Progress
<p>Comments: ACE encourages FREMP to undertake a re-appraisal of any foreshore areas in Richmond that have undergone any development changes in the last two years. (eg. site of piling removal of old cannery sites)</p>				
<p>City Environmental Purchasing Policy</p>	<p>Helps ensure that City practices are environmentally beneficial.</p>	<p>Help distribute and raise awareness</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACE input in 2000 - copies of policy distributed to ACE in April 2001
<p>Comments: ACE is delighted with the final product and public response. ACE also congratulates the City on preparing the document which has received positive press coverage. The media should be advised of any similar publications in the future.</p>				

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
Status Report
As of December 31, 2001

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement/Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
Major Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SOE Report Update • Tems of Reference • Consultant selection • Update Report 	Environmental management tool	ACE in lead role	Ongoing to Fall of 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1998 SOE material filed • Project nearing completion- involving ACE, staff and consultant • Draft report complete and now being revised based on ACE/staff input • Final report to be complete in February 2002 • Presentation to Council in early 2002
Comments: The SOE was a major work item for ACE in 2001. It allows Council and the community to track key environmental indicators and therefore assist in future sustainable development in the community. ACE was quite satisfied with the consultant (AXYS) used in this update.				
Agricultural Viability Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and comment 	Integrates environmental and agricultural concerns	Review reports and comment	Comment on draft strategy in 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Strategy stakeholder team including Farmers' Institute members in May, 2001 • ACE members provided comment on draft agricultural profile and strategy
Comments: ACE looks forward to being part of the Agricultural Advisory Committee and supports the Agricultural Impact Assessment process. The issue of greenhouses needs further study.				

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ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
Status Report
As of December 31, 2001

January 31, 2002

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement/Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
Shady Island	Identification and protection of sensitive environmental values	<p>ACE goal to have island designated as a park</p> <p>Council directed that ACE can pursue this project with minimal staff involvement. Work towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -a common vision -goals, objectives -management work program 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation in October 2001 by Mel Turner, Senior staff member with BC Parks • ACE requested staff to prepare status map of land holdings/leases; mapping is underway and ongoing • Committee Motion-July 18/01 RE: opposing proposed moorage and temporary crossing to Shady Is. for tall ship event
<p>Comments: After discussion with Mel Turner of BC Parks, ACE strongly supports establishment of a park, through a Free Crown Grant for parks purposes, on all or part of the Island. This returns effective control of the Island to Richmond without specifying nature of access. Issue Management</p>				
Monitor NFHC Barge Unloading Facility Proposal	Affects significant fish habitat area	Monitor	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of potential use of site for ferry traffic for 2010 Olympic Bid was raised at meeting on Dec 17/01. Potential impacts to fish habitat
Review major development proposals as referred by Council	Provide environmental perspective/advice to Council	ACE/Staff	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Racetrack proposal • Amphitheatre proposal • BC Packers
Review/monitor Agricultural issues and development activity in ALR	Provide environmental perspective/advice to Council	ACE/Staff	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing: summary of applications to ACE in Nov 2000, ongoing discussion as applications proceed to Planning Committee



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ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
Status Report
As of December 31, 2001

February 1, 2002

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement/Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
Monitoring Airport Issues (VVR Environment Advisory Committee and VVR Noise Management Sub committee)	Opportunity to advise and comment on airport issues	Monitor	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly reports/updates on Noise Management Committee provided by ACE member James Watson
Comments: ACE is pleased that ACE representative on Noise Committee is part of ACE and providing regular updates; provides closer links to ACE				
ACE Education and Awareness City Environmental Practices for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solid waste, recycling • tour recycling plant • other study trips 				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamside Protection Regulations - Ongoing monitoring and discussion; Subcommittee established to provide ACE perspectives on issue • Information Tours - Port North Fraser (Sept. 2001) and Fraser Port (Aug. 2001) • Pesticide Management- assisted with review; presentation by City Parks and Environmental Coordinator on City practices • Terra Nova(NW Quadrant)- updates on current biophysical inventory by Parks staff • Partners for Climate Change Program-provided comment on City report; expressed concerns on how a growing community such as Richmond can decrease total Carbon Dioxide emissions • Environmental Coordination- regular updates on city's environmental co-ordination/management strategy initiatives 				

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2001
 Status Report
 As of December 31, 2001

February 1, 2002

Proposed Project	Project Value	ACE Involvement Goals and Objectives	Timeframe	ACE Accomplishment and Comments
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Forestry Management Plan- Presentation by City Parks staff in May 2001: provided comments to staff and useful contacts in the community. • City's Parks Needs Assessment- participated in focus groups

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002

January 31, 2002

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
<p>Public Outreach & Education</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of the Environment Outreach • Explore Partnerships with other agencies and schools to enhance awareness and facilitate completion of environmentally beneficial projects • Environment Week – June 2002 • Steveston Salmon Festival • School District Board <p>Other Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend and contribute to regional and local environmental workshops 	<p>Builds environmental awareness, commitment and capacity</p> <p>Build environmental awareness, commitment to environmental programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community awareness of environmental trends and issues; report on 2001 SOE results • Publicize results; seek input on indicators for future updates • Presentations • Raise awareness/participate: June 2002 • Raise awareness/participate in booth/display: July 2002 • Presentation • Raise awareness • Reports to ACE on meetings and workshops attended; included in Committee minutes

Project Monitor Environmental Initiatives among all levels of Government	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
Fraser Basin Council (FBC) activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds environmental awareness Opportunities for city /community input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek FBC involvement on issues affecting Richmond (especially related to federal funding opportunities. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agassiz debris trap(ensuring continued funding) - helps keep Fraser River clear of debris Shearboom (Steveston)- needs repair Water training structures-Steveston-to help keep channel clear-needs funding and adoption Potential assistance with "Eastern Tip" dyke proposal Earthquake preparedness (province wide) Maintenance of Steveston Harbour Assistance in Shady Island initiative Attend symposium - March 14, 2002 Monitor livability indicators project
Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative (GBEI)(Environment Canada)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Builds awareness Opportunities for city /community input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request presentation to ACE by GBEI staff
Provincial Streamside Protection Regulations	Monitor implementation of regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine legislative activity Provide perspectives to assist City in implementing any new regulations
City's Drainage Master Plan	Monitor progress/provide environmental perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review draft plan Review Best Management Practices guide

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002

February 1, 2002

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
GVRD Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livable Region Strategic Plan Review • Transportation Plan (Rapid Transit) • GVRD Liquid Waste Management Plan 	Monitor progress/provide input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor processes • Review reports and comment • Tour Iona Treatment Plant; make recommendation on upgrade from primary treatment only – Spring 2002
Terra Nova Northwest Quadrant Biophysical Inventory	Monitor progress/provide ACE perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor progress • Presentation by Parks staff- February 2002 • Provide input as requested
Comment on any changes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NFPA Master Plan • Fraser Port Authority Master Plan • FREMP-Estuary Management Plan Major Projects	Monitor the implementation of these plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comments
Agricultural Viability Strategy	Integrate environmental and agricultural concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review reports and comment: March 2002 • Monitor progress • Representation on Agricultural Advisory Committee • Need more information on implications of the siting of greenhouses
2001 State of the Environment Report	Environmental management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation to Planning Committee/Council and School District Board • Community outreach starting in Spring 2002 • Extrapolate results from present to 2004 and 2007 with recommendations to Council • Develop basis for action and further analysis
Shady Island	Identification and protection of sensitive environmental values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major goal/project for ACE for 2002 is to get a Free Crown Grant for all or part of the Island for parks purposes. • Recommendation to Council to apply to Provincial Government for Free Crown Grant

ACE WORK PROGRAM 2002

Project	Project Value	Objectives and Deliverables
City Environmental Management Strategy	Environmental management tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory role to staff • Identification of issues/priorities and solutions
Issue Management		
Monitor NFHC Barge Unloading Facility Proposal	Affects significant fish habitat area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visit only if further development interest is shown; potential site for 2010 Olympic temporary ferry site • Monitor
Review major development proposals as referred by Council: For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fraser Lands Development • Riverport Rezoning Proposal • MOT/DFO lands – potential for public, environmentally friendly uses; parks; sports facilities • ALR applications Airport Issues (YVR Environment Advisory Committee and YVR Noise Management Sub committee)	Provide environmental perspective/advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comments and input • Monitor, receive quarterly committee reports/updates • Presentation by YVRAA staff – tour of YVRAA (Summer 2002) • Monitor legal case; review implications to City eg.: sound proofing of public facilities in high impact areas
City Transportation Plans	Opportunity to advise and comment on airport issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor progress • City Transportation Planning staff to present to ACE (Spring 2002) • Review issues of traffic/noise in No. 6 Road/Triangle Road issue
Major Public Events of Potential Environmental Interest	Monitor/ develop understanding of plans; provide environmental perspective as City's Transportation Plans are implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor, provide input to event planning processes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tall Ships • Olympic Bid Proposal Steveston Foreshore	Monitor/ provide environmental perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine if building sites have been checked for environmental contamination
Horseshoe Slough Study	Monitor/provide environmental perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comments and input