



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee **Date:** February 20, 2019
From: Barry Konkin **File:** 01-0100-30-ACEN1-01/2019-Vol 01
 Manager, Policy Planning
Re: **Advisory Committee on the Environment 2018 Annual Report and 2019 Work Program**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the Advisory Committee on the Environment 2018 Annual Report, as presented in this staff report, be received for information; and
2. That the Advisory Committee on the Environment 2019 Work Program, as presented in this staff report, be approved.

Barry Konkin
 Manager, Policy Planning

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO: Sustainability	CONCURRENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: CJ	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The Advisory Committee of the Environment (ACE) was originally formed by Council in 1993. The role of ACE is to provide advice to Council on environmental issues of concern to the community, and to promote effective means to achieve a sustainable environment. This report summarizes the activities of the Committee in 2018 and recommends a 2019 Work Program for consideration and approval by Council. ACE reviewed and endorsed the proposed work program at its meeting held on January 9, 2019.

Summary of 2018 Annual Report

The detailed 2018 Annual Report is contained in Attachment 1. Highlights are as follows:

- Received updates on and supported the Ecological Network Management Strategy and incorporation of Riparian Management Area regulations into the City's Zoning Bylaw.
- Organized and participated in a sustainability best practices tour involving the Alexandra District Energy Utility facility and the City Parks Barn Owl Box Program to increase education and awareness amongst members.
- Received updates from Parks staff on construction and planting activities on the Garden City Lands project.
- Provided City staff with the Committee's ideas on the management of trees in the city.
- In response to ACE member requests, received general information from staff on various initiatives and plans in the city with an environmental component or potential impact.

Summary of the Proposed ACE 2019 Work Program

The detailed 2019 Work Program is contained in Attachment 2. Highlights are as follows:

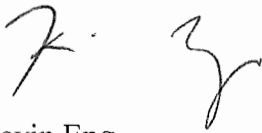
- Sustainability initiatives, plans and strategies – receive information and provide feedback on the City's Community Energy Emissions Plan (CEEP) and engaging and involving community stakeholders, exploration of wildlife sensitive design guidelines and integrated pest management practices in the City.
- Specific projects of interest to ACE include Garden City Lands construction and program updates, examine the environmental impacts of light pollution and liaise with staff in response to ACE recommendations on the management of trees in the City.
- Education and awareness – Organize a sustainability best practices activity/tour for ACE members to provide opportunities for learning and awareness.
- Information sharing – Provide regular updates and information sharing to both Council and staff liaisons and Committee members.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Advisory Committee on the Environment serves an important role in providing advice and guidance to Council on achieving a sustainable environment and promoting awareness on a wide range of environmental issues. The 2018 Annual Report is submitted for information and the 2019 Work Program is recommended for Council approval.



Kevin Eng
Planner 2

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- Att. 1: Advisory Committee on the Environment 2018 Annual Report
- 2: Draft Advisory Committee on the Environment 2019 Work Program

**2018 ANNUAL REPORT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Advisory Committee on the Environment 2018 Accomplishments		
Projects/Initiatives	Achieved Outcomes	Accomplishments and Comments
Ecological Network Management Strategy	Received information on the strategy and passed a motion to support the strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Sustainability staff presentation on the Ecological Network Management Strategy to highlight recent accomplishments and outline future initiatives specific to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ green infrastructure and development; ○ vegetation, habitat and wildlife; ○ parks and public spaces; and ○ stewardship and collaboration.
Riparian Management Area Updates	Received information on the Riparian Management Area updates and passed a motion to support the overall approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Sustainability staff presentation on the incorporation of Riparian Management Area regulations (i.e., setbacks) into the City's Zoning and Development Bylaw. • ACE provided feedback to staff reiterating the importance of implementing protection measures for riparian areas to manage development activities around watercourses.
Sustainability Best Practices Activity/Tour	June 20, 2018 – ACE participated in a sustainability best practices tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACE members toured the Alexandra District Energy Utility Facility and viewed the Barn Owl Boxes installed at this location. • ACE members also received a presentation from Parks staff on the City's Barn Owl Box Program. • The tour and event was organized and supported by City staff with the intent of providing ACE members the opportunity to increase their awareness about green infrastructure and/or environmental initiatives in the city. • This committee activity was well received by members.
Trees in the City	ACE endorsement of a memo on the management and regulation of trees across the City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACE members refinement of comments and presentation to a City staff stakeholder group. • Continued dialogue with City staff to follow-up on ideas presented by ACE around the management of trees in the city.
General Information Received	Submission of information to ACE on a variety of sustainability focussed topics and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information received on Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure plans within the City of Richmond. • Updates provided specific to the Harvest Power facility (odour issues). • Information was received by ACE members about CN Rail's Pesticide Management Plan in BC, which was forwarded to Environmental Sustainability staff for review. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resulting accomplishment was Council requesting staff to reach out to engage CN to incorporate integrated pest management approaches and best practices into their plan.
Garden City Lands Project	ACE received construction and programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction and activity updates presented by Parks staff in relation to the completion of the perimeter trail and landscape plantings that had occurred across the

Advisory Committee on the Environment 2018 Accomplishments		
Projects/Initiatives	Achieved Outcomes	Accomplishments and Comments
	updates on the project	site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programming updates were also provided to specific to the partnership with Kwantlen Polytechnic University in support of their intensive agriculture curriculum.
Information Sharing	Received updates and information from the Council and staff liaisons and other members of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular updates provided by the Council Liaison and Staff Liaison to ACE.

**DRAFT 2019 WORK PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Advisory Committee on the Environment Draft 2019 Work Program	
Projects/Initiatives	Objectives and Deliverables
Parks Department – Projects and Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garden City Lands project construction and programming updates to be provided by Parks staff. • Provide comments and feedback on the development of general Parks related projects, initiatives and programs when requested.
Community Energy and Emissions Plan and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive up-to-date information on the City's Community Energy Emissions Plan (CEEP) from Environmental Sustainability. • Provide ideas around education, public awareness and opportunities to engage and involve community stakeholders.
Exploration of Wildlife Sensitive Design Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members and Environmental Sustainability staff to develop a project scope. • With the support of City staff – Present information on wildlife sensitive design examples to understand cases of best practices in Metro Vancouver.
Pesticide Restrictions and Integrated Pest Management Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive information and updates from Environmental Sustainability staff on current City initiatives to manage and restrict the application of pesticides and the City's Invasive Species Action Plan (ACE to provide feedback on initiatives and projects). • Integrated Pest Management Practices in the City – Provide feedback on initiatives.
Examine the Impact to the Environment from Light Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination of the issue of light pollution, including developing a project scope by ACE, with support from City staff. • Potential areas to explore include examining excessive artificial light and negative impacts to natural habitat areas and to people.
Trees in the City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to ACE's ideas on the management of trees in the city. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Through the staff liaison, coordinate follow-up with other City staff. ○ Provide feedback and comments on proposed initiatives.
Sustainability Best Practices Activity/Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing an activity and/or tour intended for ACE members with a focus on sustainable best practices in action. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provides an opportunity for learning and awareness. • The staff liaison will be a resource to help organize the activity in consultation with ACE.