



**To:** Planning Committee **Date:** December 13, 2022  
**From:** John Hopkins **File:** 01-0100-30-ACEN1-  
 Director, Policy Planning 01/2022-Vol 01  
**Re:** **Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2022 Annual Report and  
 2023 Work Program**

**Staff Recommendation**

1. That the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2022 Annual Report, as presented in the staff report titled “Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2022 Annual Report and 2023 Work Program”, dated December 13, 2022 from the Director of Policy Planning, be received for information; and
2. That the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2023 Work Program, as presented in the staff report titled “Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2022 Annual Report and 2023 Work Program”, dated December 13, 2022 from the Director of Policy Planning, be approved.

John Hopkins  
Director, Policy Planning  
(604-276-4279)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
<b>ROUTED TO:</b> Sustainability and District Energy	<b>CONCURRENCE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER</b> 
<b>SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW</b>	<b>INITIALS:</b> 	<b>APPROVED BY CAO</b> 

## Staff Report

### Origin

The role of the Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) is to provide advice to Council on environmental issues of concern to the community and receive information and offer feedback on City initiatives and projects in support of the City's sustainability goals and objectives.

This report:

- Summarizes activities of the ACE in 2022; and
- Recommends a 2023 Work Program for consideration and approval by Council.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #2 A Sustainable and Environmentally Conscious City:

*Environmentally conscious decision-making that demonstrates leadership in implementing innovative, sustainable practices and supports the City's unique biodiversity and island ecology.*

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Strategy #8 An Engaged and Informed Community:

*Ensure that the citizenry of Richmond is well-informed and engaged about City business and decision-making.*

### 2022 Annual Report

The 2022 Annual Report is contained in Attachment 1 and includes the following highlights:

- In support of the City's flood protection plans, the Committee received information on Dike Master Plan Phase 4 between No. 6 Road and Boundary Road and provided feedback to staff.
- Received information and provided input to staff on the City's Spill Response Protocol.
- Information sharing and environmental awareness on the development of regional sustainability strategies (i.e., Metro Vancouver) and environmental plans and initiatives being implemented through the Vancouver Airport Authority (YVR).
- The Committee had an in-person Tour of the Alexandra District Energy Utility facility and received information on the facility's district energy systems and roles in sustainable energy transfer to buildings in the nearby neighbourhood.

### **2023 Work Program**

The Committee endorsed the proposed 2023 Work Program at their December 14, 2022 meeting. The 2023 Work Program is contained in Attachment 2 and includes the following highlights:

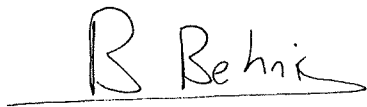
- Provide feedback on a number of projects and initiatives with an environmental component being led by a variety of departments in support of the City's sustainability goals.
- Provide feedback on the targeted update to the Official Community Plan as it relates to Environmental Protection and Enhancement.
- Information sharing by the Council liaison and staff liaison to the ACE on environmental issues, including updates from representatives that participate in the Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC) and Vancouver International Airport Environmental Advisory Committee (YVR EAC).

### **Financial Impact**

None.

### **Conclusion**

The Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) serves an important role in providing guidance to Council on achieving a sustainable environment and promoting awareness on a wide-range of environmental issues. The 2022 Annual Report is submitted for information and the 2023 Work Program is recommended for Council's approval.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B Behnia". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Babak Behnia  
Planner 2  
(604-204-8639)

BB:cas

Att. 1: Advisory Committee on the Environment 2022 Annual Report  
2: Advisory Committee on the Environment 2023 Work Program

**2022 Annual Report  
The Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE)**

<b>Projects/Initiatives</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Accomplishments and Comments</b>
Emergency Preparedness	Received information about and provided input to staff on emergency preparedness programs and resiliency and adaptation due to climate change and severe weather phenomena.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff from Emergency Programs identified a number of programs and plans that the City is undertaking to prepare the City for future weather-related events and crisis due to climate change.</li> </ul>
Metro Vancouver – Adjustments to Water PH/Alkalinity	Regional stakeholder consultation with the ACE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Metro Vancouver staff presented to the Committee on the regional drinking water systems, quality control and future plans for growth.</li> </ul>
YVR Environmental Advisory Committee	Information sharing and updates provided to the ACE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various environmental initiatives, plans and construction activities presented to the YVR EAC were presented and summarized to the ACE members for information sharing purposes.</li> </ul>
Recycling and Solid Waste Management	Received information about and provided input to staff on recycling and solid waste management programs and infrastructure in Richmond.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environment programs staff provided information on recycling and solid waste management initiatives being looked at for 2022.</li> </ul>
Flood Protection	Information sharing and obtained feedback from the Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff from Engineering presented on ongoing Dike Master Plan (Phase 4) between No. 6 Road and Boundary Road as part of the overall City initiative to adapt to climate change effects on sea level rise in the next 50 years.</li> </ul>
District Energy	In-person tour of the Alexandra district Energy Utility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff from Lulu Island Energy Company hosted an in-person Tour of the Alexandra District Energy Utility site and provided information on the heat recovery system and connection to nearby buildings and overall sustainability achievements.</li> </ul>
Parks	In-person tour of the Minoru Lakes Park currently under construction for upgrades.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks staff provided an in-person tour of the Minoru Lakes Park and highlighted some of the environmentally significant features of the future upgrades of the lakes district to the Committee.</li> </ul>
Circular Economy	Information sharing and obtained feedback from the Committee.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff from the Sustainability Department provided a presentation on the Richmond City Circular City Strategy and asked for feedback and future engagement with the Committee to develop the strategy further.</li> </ul>
Information sharing	Information sharing amongst ACE members, Council and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly updates provided by the Council and staff liaisons to the ACE.</li> <li>Information sharing between the Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC) and the ACE.</li> </ul>

**2023 Work Program  
The Advisory Committee on the Environment**

<b>Projects/Initiatives</b>	<b>Expected Results</b>	<b>Objectives and Deliverables</b>
Flood Protection and Dike Master Plan	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide an update on the City's flood protection program as well as present and obtain feedback on the Dike Master Plan Phase 4 (Lead Department Engineering).</li> </ul>
Garden City Lands	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information on initiatives, programs and studies being undertaken on the Garden City Lands (Lead Department Parks)</li> </ul>
Park Programs – Initiatives	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates on Park Programs initiatives related to feral rabbits (Lead Department Parks).</li> </ul>
Parks – Partners for Beautification	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide project updates on the work to update and enhance the Partners for Beautification program at the City (Lead Department Parks).</li> </ul>
Parks – Lansdowne Major Park Master Plan	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation by Parks and obtain feedback on the future public park design and guiding principles.</li> </ul>
Parks – Environmental Enhancement Grant	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information on the results/outcomes of the 2022 Environmental Enhancement Grant program. (Lead Department Parks).</li> </ul>
Nature Park Hydrological Study	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide an overview of the study, including objectives and criteria. (Lead Department Parks).</li> </ul>
Environmental education and awareness	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tour of Terra Nova Park (Lead Department Parks).</li> <li>City Centre Sewer Heat Recover Energy Plant (Lead Department Lulu Island Energy Company).</li> </ul>
Official Community Plan Targeted Update	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage with the Committee on Target Area Number 3 (Environmental Protection and Enhancement) (Lead Department Policy Planning).</li> </ul>
Circular Economy	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information and updates on City programs and initiatives related to Circular Economy principles (Lead Department Sustainability).</li> </ul>
Community Energy and Emissions Plan	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide updates on the status of the plan and initiatives related to implementation (Lead Department Sustainability).</li> </ul>
Solar Panels on Buildings	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide updates on City work conducted to examine the application of solar panel and power systems on buildings (Lead Department Sustainability).</li> </ul>
Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information on electric vehicle charging infrastructure and initiatives, including City owned infrastructure (Lead Department Sustainability).</li> </ul>
Recycling and Solid Waste	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive information about the City's reporting on recycling and solid waste management and updates on initiatives and programs (Lead Department Environmental Programs).</li> </ul>
Emergency Preparedness	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information on the role of Emergency Programs at the City and preparedness education in relation to severe weather and climate adaptation (Lead Department Emergency Programs).</li> </ul>
YVR Environmental Advisory Committee	Information sharing and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on the YVR Annual Sustainability Report (Lead agency YVR).</li> </ul>
Information sharing	Education and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular updates on matters related to sustainability and the environment arising from Council/Committee.</li> <li>Regular updates on the activities of the Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee and YVR Environmental Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>