



City of Richmond

Report to Committee


TO PLN - JAN 8, 2013

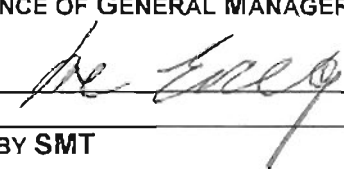


To: Planning Committee
From: Joe Erceg, MCIP
General Manager, Planning and Development
Date: October 30, 2012
File:
Re: RICHMOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT 2012 ANNUAL
REPORT AND 2013 WORK PLAN

Staff Recommendation

That the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment's:

1. 2012 Annual Report be received for information; and
2. The 2013 Work Plan be endorsed.


Joe Erceg, MCIP
General Manager, Planning & Development

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS: 

Staff Report

Origin

1. The Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) is required to:
 - present an *Annual Report* (see **Attachment 1**) to City Council, and
 - prepare a *Work Program and Budget* for the coming year (see **Attachment 2**).

Findings of Fact

Committee Mandate

The Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) is appointed for the following purposes:

- to provide advice to City Council on environmental issues of concern to the community;
- to generate independent and credible information on key environmental issues;
- to anticipate and advise Council and staff of potential problems and opportunities for environmental sustainability;
- to review and monitor the existing situation and trends to identify environmental concerns;
- to work with City staff to encourage and co-ordinate public participation in the identification and development of solutions to environmental issues;
- to help enhance public awareness of environmental issues;
- to provide environmental information to the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC); and
- to assist representing the City on the Vancouver International Airport Authority Environmental Advisory Committee (YVR EAC).

The Committee consists of:

- Thirteen (13) voting members appointed for (2) year terms;
- One (1) voting member who also sits on the YVR EAC, appointed for a two (2) year term;
- One (1) non-voting member who is an alternate member to the YVR EAC, appointed for a two (2) year term; and
- One (1) non-voting Council liaison (Councillor Chak Au).

Analysis

1. 2012 Annual Report

- The *2012 Annual Report* highlights key ACE activities undertaken in 2012 (see **Attachment 1**).

2. 2013 Work Program

- The proposed *2013 ACE Work Program* details ongoing and current initiatives for 2013 (see **Attachment 2**). A high level of volunteerism, professionalism and commitment to environmental stewardship and promotion in Richmond is clearly demonstrated.
- The *2013 Work Program* is aligned with the Official Community Plan (OCP):
 - Natural and Human Environment – including environmentally sensitive areas of the City;

- Key activities in the 2013 *Work Program* are based on the following activities:

Ongoing Activities:

- Providing comments to City staff on certain proposed policies;
- Providing comments to City staff on proposed development related activities that are located near lands that are considered environmentally sensitive; and
- Being kept up to date on environmental initiatives undertaken by the Vancouver Airport Authority.

Current Initiatives:

- Considering investigating the environmental benefits of a dark sky policy in rural areas;
- Considering publishing and distributing a bi-annual newsletter from ACE to inform the public on the City's environmental initiatives;
- Communicating with the public on general environmental activities at local events such as Earth Day and the Salmon Festival; and
- Communicating with the Corporate Community to support sustainable practice in their workplace (e.g. agricultural related development proposals).

Financial Impact


None.

Conclusion

Staff recommend that:

- (a) The 2012 Annual Report be received; and
- (b) The 2013 Work Plan be endorsed.



 Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning
(4139)



David Johnson
Planner 2
(4193)



City of
Richmond

Richmond Advisory Committee
on the Environment
ANNUAL REPORT

6911 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V6Y 2C1

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2012 ANNUAL REPORT

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Purpose

The Purpose of this report is to provide an update on the activities undertaken by the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE) during 2012.

The Year In Review... A Message from the Co-Chairs (Bruno Vernier and Saleh Haidar)

2012 has been an interesting year for ACE, with being able to provide their knowledge and experience to comment on various items and issues that are occurring within the City.

In January the Committee provided comments on the environmental impacts along the No. 7 Road canal from the proposed Omicron development to construct buildings for light industrial use on a 169 acre site. A very informative presentation in March, and follow-up tour in May of the City's riparian management practice provided good insight to how the City approaches this practice, and the Committee provided suggestions to staff on how they feel it would benefit.

The highlight of the year came at the June meeting when the highly anticipated presentation from City staff on the Environmentally Sensitive Area Strategy was well received and appreciated.

The recent meeting in October was very informative when the Committee was able to receive a presentation and comment on the City's ongoing efforts to improve the diking system in Steveston.

In the Committee's attempts for public outreach, the Committee did produce a brochure which outlines who ACE is and what the Committee does. It is the hope that it will generate increased public interest with the City's environmental initiatives and facilitate new ideas for the betterment of the community.

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2012 Work Program:

- **Planning & Policy:** Through presentations from City staff, ACE provided comments and advice on key City initiatives such as the Environmentally Sensitive Area Strategy,
- The Committee also provided comments on City initiatives such as Genetically Modified Foods, the Steveston Dike Management Plan and current recycling and composting programs.
- City Staff intends to provide the Committee with updates when information is available.
- **Development Reviews:** ACE provides comments on Development related projects that impact either the foreshore areas of the City or lands that are environmentally sensitive.

The Committee provided comments on the Omicron development proposal and its impact on the No. 7 Road canal.

- **Education:** With the vast amount of information that is related with the topic of Environmental practice, ACE members receive information packages on City policies and implementation practice in order to provide constructive feedback on policy initiatives and development related reviews. Such packages over the past year have included:
 - The Environmental Sensitive Areas Strategy;
 - The Riparian Management Policy;
 - Conceptual information on the diking system in Steveston;
 - The increasing awareness towards recycling and composting of household waste and the City's desire to increase the collection of such waste for the introduction of household pickup for composting; and
 - Awareness of local initiatives toward environmental protection from Metro Vancouver's Environment and Parks Committee, and information sharing through national news articles.
- **Community Outreach:** ACE members have discussed the opportunity to be more involved in the community as indicated in their Terms of Reference. The recent completion of a brochure that will be distributed at local community centres and possibly at such events as the City's Earth Day and the Salmon Festival. A bi-annual information newsletter to provide general information on the City's environmental protection and sustainability practice was also being considered, as well as looking at communicating with the corporate community on sustainable practice. The consideration of these projects is included with the Committee's 2013 work plan.

2013 WORK PROGRAM & BUDGET

Projects	2013 Calendar											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Meetings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Annual Report										X	X	
<i>Programs and Promotion</i>												
Earth Day					X							
Salmon Festival							X					
Consideration of Newsletter Production		X										
Communicate with Richmond Corporate Community on best sustainability practice	Ongoing											
Planning and Policy	- Review and Comment as Required											
Development Reviews	- Review and Comment as Required											
Prepared by the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment Note: May change subject to Work Plan Priorities												

2012 ACE Membership:

Co- Chair

B. Vernier and S. Haldar (YVR Environment Committee)

T. Berger

P. Grindlay

G. Kibble

A. Leung

T. Murphy

A. Park

F. San

P. Schaap (YVR Env. alternate)

G. Sihota

S. Sugita

R. Tse

B. Vernier

C. Wang

T. Zhong

Councillor C. Au, Council Liaison