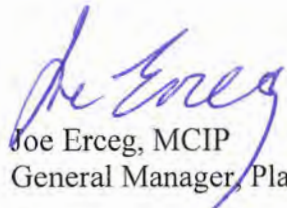




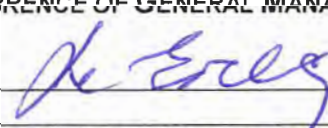
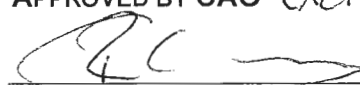
To: Planning Committee **Date:** May 3, 2017
From: Joe Erceg, MCIP **File:** 01-0100-30-ACEN1-01/2017-Vol 01
 General Manager, Planning and Development
Re: **Advisory Committee on the Environment 2016 Annual Report and 2017 Work Program**

Staff Recommendation

1. That the staff report titled “Advisory Committee on the Environment 2016 Annual Report and 2017 Work Program”, dated May 3, 2017 from the General Manager, Planning and Development, be received for information; and
2. That the Advisory Committee on the Environment 2017 Work Program, as presented in this staff report, be approved.


 Joe Erceg, MCIP
 General Manager, Planning and Development

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: CS
APPROVED BY CAO <i>(Acting)</i>	
	

Staff Report

Origin

The Advisory Committee of the Environment (ACE) was originally formed by Council in 1993. The role of ACE is to advise Council on environmental issues of concern to the community, and to promote effective means to achieve a sustainable environment. In accordance with the Terms of Reference for ACE, this report summarizes the activities of the Committee in 2016 and recommends a 2017 Work Program for consideration and approval by Council. ACE reviewed and endorsed the proposed work program at its meeting held on February 15, 2017.

Summary of the 2016 Annual Report

The detailed 2016 Annual Report is contained in Attachment 1. Highlights are as follows:

- Reviewed and commented on the Metro Vancouver Food Action Plan.
- Regular updates from Parks Department staff about the status of the Garden City Lands Project.
- Presentation from Environmental Sustainability on energy programs and initiatives, and the status of Richmond Official Community Plan greenhouse gas reduction targets.
- George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project – Received regular updates on Council's position/comments on the project, and discussed Committee members opinions on the project and approval process underway.
- ACE members provided comments and recommendations to City Tree Protection and Parks staff on the importance of trees in the City.
- Received regular updates from the Council liaison (Councillor Day) to the Committee on various Council initiatives.
- Received regular updates on the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) through the appointed ACE member to the AAC.

Summary of the Proposed ACE 2017 Work Program

The detailed 2017 Work Program is contained in Attachment 2. Highlights are as follows:

- Education and awareness – receive information and provide feedback on City initiatives and programs about local food production, sustainable energy practices and restricting cosmetic pesticide use/purchase.
- Projects – Presentations to ACE from City Engineering and Parks staff about upcoming works and plans in preparation for information and comment purposes (i.e., Updates on the Garden City Lands Project).

- Provincial Projects – Monitor and discuss the George Massey Tunnel Replacement project and progress, and continue to support Richmond City Council’s position on the matter.
- Trees in the City – Continued work by Committee members about education/awareness and regulations focused on tree preservation in the City, as well as tree retention during redevelopment.
- Information Sharing – Obtain regular updates from the Council and staff liaison to the Committee, the ACE member appointed to the AAC and representatives to the YVR Environmental Advisory Committee.

Financial Impact

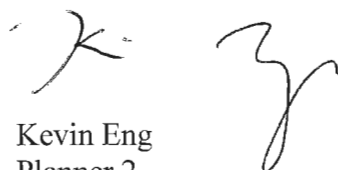
None.

Conclusion

The 2016 Annual Report for ACE is submitted for information and the 2017 Work Program is recommended for Council approval



Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning
(604) 276-4139



Kevin Eng
Planner 2
(604) 247-4626

TTC/KE:cas

- Att. 1: Advisory Committee on the Environment 2016 Annual Report
2: Draft Advisory Committee on the Environment 2017 Work Program

**2016 ANNUAL REPORT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Advisory Committee on the Environment 2016 Accomplishments		
Projects/Initiatives	Results Expected	Accomplishments and Comments
Garden City Lands Project	Obtain information on the project through presentations, reports and tours (if applicable) and provide comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks presentation on the findings of the hydrological study of the site to inform the proposed concept and the arrangement of uses in the park plan. • Parks presentation on the proposed works to be undertaken on the Garden City Lands project in 2016 and feedback ACE provided. • Some members participated in a tour of the Garden City Lands organized and hosted by the Garden City Conservation Society.
Metro Vancouver Food Action Plan	Receive information and provide comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks staff presented information on the draft Metro Vancouver Food Action Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ACE provided comments on the overall regional action plan. ○ ACE provided comments on local initiatives identified in the action plan that are most relevant to Richmond and how these initiatives can best be advanced.
Sustainable Energy Programs and Initiatives	Receive for information and comment on sustainable energy initiatives and practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Sustainability staff presented information on sustainable energy initiatives and practices in Richmond. • ACE provided comments and feedback on existing available programs and potential initiatives applicable to single-family home retrofits to improve energy efficiency gains.
George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project	Obtain project updates and Richmond City Council comments on the proposal and provide comments when necessary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received the following information/updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Richmond City Council recommendations and reports on the George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project. ○ Some members attended a Richmond Chamber of Commerce hosted luncheon event to obtain more information on the project directly from the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. ○ Some members attended Ministry hosted public information sessions and reported out to ACE on activities and comments. • ACE supports Council's position, recommendations and comments to date on the George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project.
Ecological Importance of Trees in the City	Improved education and awareness about the importance of trees in the City and provide feedback on City regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed a working sub-committee group of ACE to review and provide comments to the City regarding the importance of trees in the City (on private and public land), suggested revisions to City regulations (i.e., Tree Protection Bylaw) and the benefit of prioritizing the retention of trees when redevelopment occurs. • Parks and Tree Protection staff presented and provided information about how trees are managed, the process

Advisory Committee on the Environment 2016 Accomplishments		
Projects/Initiatives	Results Expected	Accomplishments and Comments
		<p>when considering trees for retention/removal and upcoming tree information sessions planned for late 2016 and early 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited members of the community to provide additional resource information to ACE about the ecological importance of trees in an urban context.
Green House Gas Emission Targets	Receive updates from staff to understand current and future trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Sustainability staff presented information on Green House Gas emission data and trends observed generally between 2005 and 2014.
Environmental Education and Awareness	Improved education and awareness on environmental issues identified by ACE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns about the continued sale and application of pesticides in the City, despite an existing City bylaw that prohibits the use and application of "non-essential"/cosmetic pesticides in Richmond.
Information Sharing	Receive updates from the Council and City staff liaisons and other members of the Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular monthly updates provided by the ACE Council liaison (Councillor Carol Day) on related Richmond City Council activities/initiatives. Regular monthly updates provided by the ACE staff liaison on related Planning and Development initiatives and projects. The ACE member appointed to the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) provided updates on AAC activities and initiatives. Information sharing on the activities and initiatives of the YVR Environmental Advisory Committee.

**DRAFT 2017 WORK PROGRAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT ROLE IN THE WORK PROGRAM

The following draft 2017 Work Program for the Advisory Committee on the Environment was developed by members of the Committee, with the support and guidance from City staff.

Advisory Committee on the Environment Draft 2017 Work Program	
Projects/Initiatives	Objectives and Deliverables
Food Action Plan – Local and Regional Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive information and provide comments on local and regional food initiatives and plans. • Education and awareness – review and provide comments on existing and potential programs and initiatives. • Request information from Parks Dept. staff about programs and infrastructure oriented to local food awareness and production.
Sustainable energy policy and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comments on sustainable energy best practices. • Coordinate with Environmental Sustainability staff to provide feedback on existing/proposed energy initiatives.
Proposed City works and capital projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide comments, from an environmental perspective, on City works and capital projects presented to ACE as needed.
Parks Department – Projects and Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive information about the Garden City Lands Project construction progress and provide comments as needed. • Provide comments on upcoming Park projects and plans when requested.
Environmental Sustainability – Projects and Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with staff about managing invasive plant species in the City. • Riparian Management Areas – Receive updates on the City's Riparian Compliance Strategy and provide feedback as needed. • Presentations from Environmental Sustainability staff about recent projects (i.e., Bath Slough revitalization plan; Pollinator Pasture) and how to have input.
Trees in the City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued work by Committee members to provide information on the ecological and economic benefits of preserving trees in the City and work with Tree Protection and Parks staff to follow-up on initiatives and recommendations provided by ACE.
George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor and discuss project updates and progress as they become available. • Continue to support Richmond City Council's position, recommendations and comments on the George Massey Tunnel Replacement Project.
Cosmetic Pesticides – Sale and Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the issue of cosmetic pesticides (application and sale of products) in Richmond. • Discuss the issue with Environmental Sustainability staff in the context of the City's existing regulations prohibiting the use of cosmetic pesticides and the City's Enhanced Pesticide Management Program.
Discuss the issue of light pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of information by interested ACE members to the Committee on the issue, to determine key issues of environmental concern and impacts.
Information Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive regular updates from member and staff liaisons to the YVR Environmental Advisory Committee. • Receive regular updates at monthly ACE meetings from Council and Staff liaisons and the ACE member appointed to the AAC.