

Draft Motion for Richmond City Council

Title: Preparing Richmond for Extreme Weather Events and Dyke Infrastructure Resilience

Moved by: [Councillor Name]

Seconded by: [Councillor Name]

WHEREAS Richmond is highly vulnerable to flooding and other climate-related extreme weather events due to its low elevation and extensive coastline;

AND WHEREAS the City's 5-Year Capital Plan currently allocates \$27.5 million per year for flood protection, while experts and engaged community members believe the actual costs will be significantly higher to adequately prepare the city for future climate impacts;

AND WHEREAS community members, including former City of Richmond planners and local environmental organizations such as West Coast Environmental Law, have expressed interest in engaging with Council and staff to better understand the scope of climate threats, infrastructure costs, and funding strategies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Council direct staff to prepare a briefing report outlining:
 1. Current and projected climate-related threats to Richmond, particularly in relation to flooding;
 2. The estimated full cost of necessary upgrades to dyke, stormwater and other climate-vulnerable infrastructure required to protect Richmond residents and properties, by decade to 2100, based on best available science and engineering;
 3. Funding options and potential partnerships (including provincial and federal support) for financing infrastructure adaptation, identifying any potential shortfall in required funding;
2. Staff be directed to organize a meeting or workshop with relevant City departments, Council members, and interested community stakeholders to review the findings and explore collaborative next steps;
3. The City explore opportunities to formally engage with the growing regional and provincial movement advocating for proactive climate adaptation planning, including legal, financial, and technical options to address any identified shortfall in funding, including by liaising with organizations such as West Coast Environmental Law.