



# City of Richmond

## Report to Committee

**To:** Planning Committee **Date:** April 6, 2021  
**From:** John Hopkins **File:** 01-0100-30-ACEN1-01/2021-Vol 01  
 Director, Policy Planning  
**Re:** **Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Work Program**

### Staff Recommendation

1. That the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2020 Annual Report, as presented in the staff report titled "Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Work Program", dated April 6, 2021 from the Director of Policy Planning, be received for information; and
2. That the Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2021 Work Program, as presented in the staff report titled "Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Work Program", dated April 6, 2021 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 2020; and
- Recommends a 2021 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.*

### 2020 Annual Report

The 2020 Annual Report is contained in Attachment 1 and includes the following highlights:

- In support of the City's Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP), received information and updates and provided input to staff on the City's electric vehicle charging regulations and City installations (existing and planned expansion) and application of energy step code to new construction to meet the City's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets.
- Received information and provided input to staff on the City's sustainable waste management reporting from 2019, including planned infrastructure works and highlights from waste diversion initiatives and programs in 2020.
- 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).

### **2021 Work Program**

The Committee endorsed the proposed 2021 Work Program at their February 10, 2021 meeting. The 2021 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.
- Raise awareness on City projects and initiatives that have a sustainable or environmental focus in relation to wildlife, climate change and waste diversion.
- 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 2020 Annual Report is submitted for information and the 2021 Work Program is recommended for Council's approval.



Kevin Eng  
Planner 2  
(604-247-4626)

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- Att. 1: Advisory Committee on the Environment 2020 Annual Report  
2: Advisory Committee on the Environment 2021 Work Program

**2020 Annual Report  
The Richmond Advisory Committee on the Environment (ACE)**

<b>Projects/Initiatives</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Accomplishments and Comments</b>
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 reporting from 2019 and initiatives being looked at for 2020.</li> <li>Updates provided on the infrastructure upgrade to the Richmond Recycling Depot that was completed in 2020.</li> </ul>
Metro Vancouver Climate 2050	Regional stakeholder consultation with the ACE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Metro Vancouver staff presented and received feedback from the ACE on discussion papers to help in the development of the Metro Vancouver's Climate 2050 Strategy.</li> </ul>
Council Referral of Project	Feedback and advice to Council on a fill proposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ACE reviewed and provided feedback on a fill proposal located at 21700 River Road on a site located in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), zoned Agriculture (AG1) and with an existing Environmentally Sensitive Area designation.</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>
Electric Vehicle Charging in the City of Richmond	Information sharing, improved awareness and provided input to staff on strategies contained in the City's Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainability staff presented on electric vehicle charging requirements for developments in Richmond, existing publicly owned and accessible charging infrastructure and plans for future expansion to such installations.</li> <li>Information to raise awareness on the links between electric vehicle trends, greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and the City's CEEP targets.</li> </ul>
Energy Step Code in the City of Richmond	Information sharing, improved awareness and provided input to staff on strategies contained in the City's CEEP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainability staff presented on recent revisions to the energy step code in Richmond, including existing City regulations and how they apply to new development.</li> <li>Information to raise awareness on the links between building energy efficiency and improving GHG emissions performance for new construction.</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>

**2021 Work Program  
The Advisory Committee on the Environment**

<b>Projects/Initiatives</b>	<b>Expected Results</b>	<b>Objectives and Deliverables</b>
Environmental education and awareness	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tour (virtual or in person COVID dependent) – Alexandra District Energy Utility.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Sustainability – LIEC</li> </ul>
Circular Economy	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about the principles of the circular economy and City work being done in this area.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Sustainability</li> </ul>
Garden City Lands – Contaminated soil study	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide background information and overview of study framework, objectives and criteria.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Parks</li> </ul>
Minoru Lakes renewal project	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an overview of project objectives.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with 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.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Parks</li> </ul>
Bird Box Program	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an overview of Bird Box Program and installations.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Park Programs</li> </ul>
Parks – Partners for Beautification	Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This program will be undergoing a review. Consult with ACE on proposed directions and initiatives.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Park Programs</li> </ul>
Community Energy Emissions Plan (CEEP)	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform and update on the CEEP 2020-2050 Directions and consult with ACE to obtain feedback.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Sustainability</li> </ul>
Dike Master Plan	Information and awareness Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an overview of the Dike Master Plan and obtain feedback on current Phase(s) and related projects.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Engineering</li> </ul>
Provincial and Federal Environmental Assessments	Review Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and comment on applicable projects in and along the Fraser River Estuary in conjunction with the Provincial and Federal Environmental Assessment process.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Environment</li> </ul>
Wildlife monitoring	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on the monitoring of rodents in Richmond in relation to the Council endorsed 1 year rodenticide ban.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Environment</li> </ul>
Spill response	Information and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information on the City's spill response plans.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Environment</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.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Environmental Programs</li> </ul>
Richmond Cycling Network Plan	Obtain feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and provide comments on updates to the City's Cycling Network Plan.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with Transportation</li> </ul>
YVR Environmental Advisory Committee	Information sharing and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an overview of environmental projects and initiatives at YVR, including guiding plans and strategies.</li> <li>• Lead/Coordinate with YVR staff</li> </ul>
Information sharing	Education and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updates on matters related to sustainability and the environment arising from Council/Committee.</li> <li>• Updates on the activities of the Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee and YVR Environmental Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>