



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee **Date:** March 26, 2020
From: Barry Konkin **File:** 01-0100-30-AADV1-01/2020-Vol 01
 Director, Policy Planning
Re: **Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee 2019 Annual Report and 2020 Work Program**

Staff Recommendation

That the Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee 2020 Work Program, as presented in the staff report, titled "Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee 2019 Annual Report and 2020 Work Program", dated March 26, 2020, from the Director of Policy Planning, be approved.

Barry Konkin
 Director, Policy Planning
 (604-276-4139)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:
APPROVED BY CAO	

Staff Report

Origin

The Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC) advises Council on food security and agricultural issues referred by Council or staff. In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the FSAAC, this report summarizes the activities of the Committee in 2019 (Attachment 1) and recommends a 2020 Work Program (Attachment 2) for consideration and approval by Council. The Committee reviewed and endorsed the proposed 2020 Work Program at the FSAAC meeting held on February 20, 2020.

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

2.3 Increase emphasis on local food systems, urban agriculture and organic farming.

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.

2019 Annual Report

The detailed 2019 Annual Report is contained in Attachment 1 and includes the following highlights:

- Reviewed and provided comments on a total of 6 development proposals related to or impacting agricultural activities and 3 soil deposit applications. This included Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) subdivision proposals, non-farm use applications, and ALR exclusion applications.
- Received regular updates and provided comments on various City policies and initiatives (e.g., cannabis production in the ALR and the proposed Farming First Strategy).
- Received updates and provided comments on the Garden City Lands Project as presented by Parks staff.
- Received updates and provided comments on drainage and irrigation projects impacting agriculture as presented by Engineering staff, including the Flood Protection Management Strategy.

2020 Work Program

The detailed 2020 Work Program is contained in Attachment 2 and includes the following highlights:

- Review and provide comments on development proposals and soil deposit applications forwarded to the FSAAC from staff or Council.

- Continue to receive regular updates, and assist in preparing and providing comments on the proposed Farming First Strategy, as presented by Policy Planning staff.
- Continue to receive regular updates and provide comments on the Garden City Lands Project, as presented by Parks staff.
- Provide education and information sharing to the Committee regarding sustainable farm practices and agriculture-specific strategies for climate change resilience.
- Explore opportunities to raise public awareness of local farming and strengthen relationships with external organizations that promote agriculture.

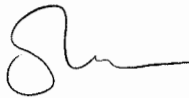
The work program will be revised as necessary, based on emerging issues and future Council priorities.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

The Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC) serves an important role in providing advice and guidance to Council on food security and agricultural issues. The 2019 Annual Report for the FSAAC is submitted for information and the 2020 Work Program is recommended for Council's approval.



Steven De Sousa
Planner 1
(604-204-8529)

SDS:cas

- Att. 1: Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee 2019 Annual Report
2: Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee 2020 Work Program

**2019 Annual Report
Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC)**

Projects	Results	Accomplishments and Comments
City and ALC Development Applications	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and provided comments on a total of 6 development applications forwarded to the FSAAC from staff. Projects covered issues related to ALR subdivision applications, ALR non-farm use applications, and ALR exclusion applications.
Soil Removal and Deposit Applications in the ALR	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and provided comments on a total of 3 soil deposit applications forwarded to the FSAAC from staff.
Farming First Strategy (Agricultural Viability Strategy Update)	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and provided comments on the proposed Farming First Strategy which is an update of the 2003 Agricultural Viability Strategy.
Garden City Lands	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and provided comments on the implementation of the Garden City Lands Project as presented by Parks staff.
City Policy Initiatives	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed issues related to agriculture and food security policy forwarded to the FSAAC from staff. Projects covered issues related to regulations for cannabis production in the ALR and the proposed Farming First Strategy.
Drainage and Irrigation	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received updates from Engineering staff on drainage and irrigation projects impacting agriculture. Reviewed and provided comments on the Flood Protection Management Strategy as presented by Engineering staff.

Development Applications Reviewed in 2019
Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC)

Application	Address	Proposal
ALR Development Applications		
SD 19-855340	PID 029-323-380, 001-704-214 & 001-754-475 (no civic addresses)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subdivision consistent with the <i>Agricultural Land Commission Act</i> (ALCA) ALR General Regulation for farm succession planning.
AG 18-842960	9500 No. 5 Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALR non-farm use application to allow a school within the westerly 110 m, subject to farming the backlands.
AG 19-855723	14680 Burrows Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALR exclusion application to remove the property from the ALR.
AG 19-855800	14920 Burrows Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALR exclusion application to remove the property from the ALR.
AG 19-855911	14540 Burrows Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALR exclusion application to remove the property from the ALR.
AG 19-863866	Lands bounded by the Granville Avenue, No. 7 Road, Blundell Road and Savage Road allowances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALR non-farm use application to revise the previously approved ALR non-farm use to expand and extend the timeline for the existing landfill operation.
ALR Soil Removal and Deposit Applications		
CD 68016	8611 No. 6 Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit 80,000 m³ of soil on the property to support the production of blueberries.
CD 68137	11300 & 11340 Blundell Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit 17,500 m³ of soil on the property to support the production of blueberries.
CD 60012	21700 River Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposit 23,673 m³ of soil on the property to support the production of blueberries.

**2020 Work Program
Food Security and Agricultural Advisory Committee (FSAAC)**

Projects	Expected Results	Objectives and Deliverables
City and ALC Development Applications	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review development applications forwarded to the FSAAC from staff or Council. Provide comments to applicants.
Soil Removal and Deposit Applications in the ALR	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review soil applications (removal or deposit) forwarded to the FSAAC from staff or Council. Provide comments to applicants.
Farming First Strategy (Agricultural Viability Strategy Update)	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the proposed Farming First Strategy, and assist in the preparation and update of the Agricultural Viability Strategy. Provide comments to staff.
Garden City Lands	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to review the implementation of the Garden City Lands Project as presented by Parks staff, including any non-farm use applications. Provide comments to staff.
City Policy Initiatives	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review issues related to agriculture and food security policy forwarded to the FSAAC from staff or Council. Provide comments to staff.
Drainage and Irrigation	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive updates from Engineering staff on drainage and irrigation projects impacting agriculture. Provide comments to staff.
Transportation	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive updates from Transportation staff on projects impacting agriculture. Provide comments to staff.
Environment	Agricultural advice to Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education and information sharing regarding sustainable farming practices (incl. water conservation, renewable energy use, soil management). Education and information sharing regarding crop strategies that can adapt to climate change.
Public awareness and local food initiatives	Improved awareness and understanding of agriculture and food security issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise public awareness of local farming, farmer's markets, and local food products, produce and programs. Strengthen relationships with outside organizations that provide agriculture-related educational opportunities and promote local farming.

*Note: the work program will be revised as necessary, based on emerging issues and future Council priorities.