



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee

From: Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning

Re: **AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
2003 ANNUAL REPORT AND 2004 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET

To Planning - Apr 6, 2004

Date: March 29, 2004

File: 0100-20-AADV1

Staff Recommendation

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee 2004 Work Program be approved.

Terry Crowe
Manager, Policy Planning

Att. 2

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CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER

Staff Report

Origin

Pursuant to the Terms of Reference for Council's Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC), this report provides the Committee's:

- 2003 Annual Report; and
- 2004 proposed Work Program.

Analysis

2003 Accomplishments

- Council established the AAC and appointed nine voting members representing the farming community, the Advisory Committee on the Environment and a citizen-at-large. Additional non-voting members represent City Council; the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries; the Agricultural Land Commission and the Policy Planning Department.
- The AAC held its first meeting on July 9, 2003. The Committee elected two co-chairmen, Bruce May and Ian Chang.
- The AAC prepared a draft Work Program and budget for the balance of 2003 and for 2004.
- The AAC decided on a protocol for meeting with proponents of development proposals in the Agricultural Land Reserve (i.e. Guidelines for Informal Discussions with the Public). This protocol applies whenever a proponent approaches members of the AAC independently without having first presented the subject proposal to either City Staff or Council.
- The AAC held four meetings in 2003 and completed the work items outlined in **Attachment 1**.

2004 Work Program

- The AAC will continue to monitor and implement the Agricultural Viability Strategy, which was adopted by Council in May 2003.
- The proposed AAC 2004 Work Program is presented in **Attachment 2**.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

The AAC's 2003 Annual Report and 2004 proposed Work Program are presented.

Janet Lee
Planner 2
(4108)
JL:cas



2003 ANNUAL REPORT
 AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Projects	Results Expected	Objectives and Deliverables	Accomplishments and Comments
Major development proposals	Agricultural perspective and advice to Council	Review proposals and provide comments	Reviewed and commented on the following proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Landing Corp. properties on Princess St. • Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh temple on Westminster Hwy. • Buddhist temple on No. 5 Rd.
Flood Protection and Management Steering Committee	Agricultural perspective and input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor progress • Review and comment on reports and proposals • Establish terms of reference • Monitor progress • Review proposed drainage projects • Provide comments to staff and Council 	AAC co-chairs attended two meetings with Steering Committee.
City-Farmer Drainage Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved communications • Agricultural perspective and input • Drainage/irrigation program for agricultural areas 		AAC decided not to propose any new drainage initiatives in 2003, but instead will continue to consult with City staff as required.

**2004 WORK PROGRAM
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Projects	Results Expected	Objectives and Deliverables	Comments
Major development proposals	Agricultural perspective and advice to Council	Review proposals and provide comments	Ongoing work
Flood Protection and Management Steering Committee	Agricultural perspective and input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor progress • Review and comment on reports and proposals 	Ongoing work
City-Farmer Drainage Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved communications • Agricultural perspective and input • Drainage/irrigation program for agricultural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review proposed drainage projects • Provide comments to staff and Council 	Ongoing work
Agricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better capacity to assess land use and development impacts on agricultural viability • Improved communications among City departments about agricultural issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop criteria for the AIA • Use the AIA for all proposed projects involving land use changes or developments within or adjacent to the ALR 	Initiated research on AIA in other jurisdictions.
Public Awareness and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved awareness and understanding of agriculture and its role in the community among Council and City staff • Improved awareness and understanding of agriculture in Richmond among the public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and organize a farm tour • Initiate construction of a City web page on agriculture 	Began planning and organizational work on farm tour tentatively scheduled for summer of 2004.
Rising River Levels (this program item was added in response to a request from Planning Committee).	Agricultural perspective and input on impacts on farming viability	Addressing this issue as part of the City's Flood Management Strategy	Initiated requests for information from Fraser River Port Authority, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and UMA Consulting.