LINKS: *Because City of Richmond staff do not have the ability to contribute to the chat feature in MS Teams, we will create a list of links to be shared with the WG here - slides, agenda, other materials, etc.*

- [Meeting slides](#)

- [Equity Screening Tool](#)

- [Feedback survey](#)

- [New! Volunteer survey](#)

Q&A: *Because City of Richmond staff do not have the ability to contribute to the chat feature in MS Teams, we will use this slide to communicate questions and answers throughout the meeting*

- Type your questions here!

Welcome!

https://www.rvaonthecheap.com/where-to-enjoy-cherry-blossoms-in-the-richmond-area/

Agenda

I. **Intro:** Settling in & ground rules

II. **Partner Updates:** What are your recent "wins" for equitable climate action and resilience?

III. **Review:** Where we've been

IV. **Presentation:** Introducing the draft Climate Action Plan 2030

V. **Discussion:** Engagement and advocacy

VI. **Conclusion:** Wrap-up and next steps

Today's Objectives

- Review and discuss any questions on the RVAgreen 2050 planning process

- Provide an orientation to the Climate Equity Action Plan 2030, particularly this group's Pathway and new content

- Look forward to community-wide engagement and approval/adoption: what should we be doing and what can you help us with?

Ground Rules / Group Expectations
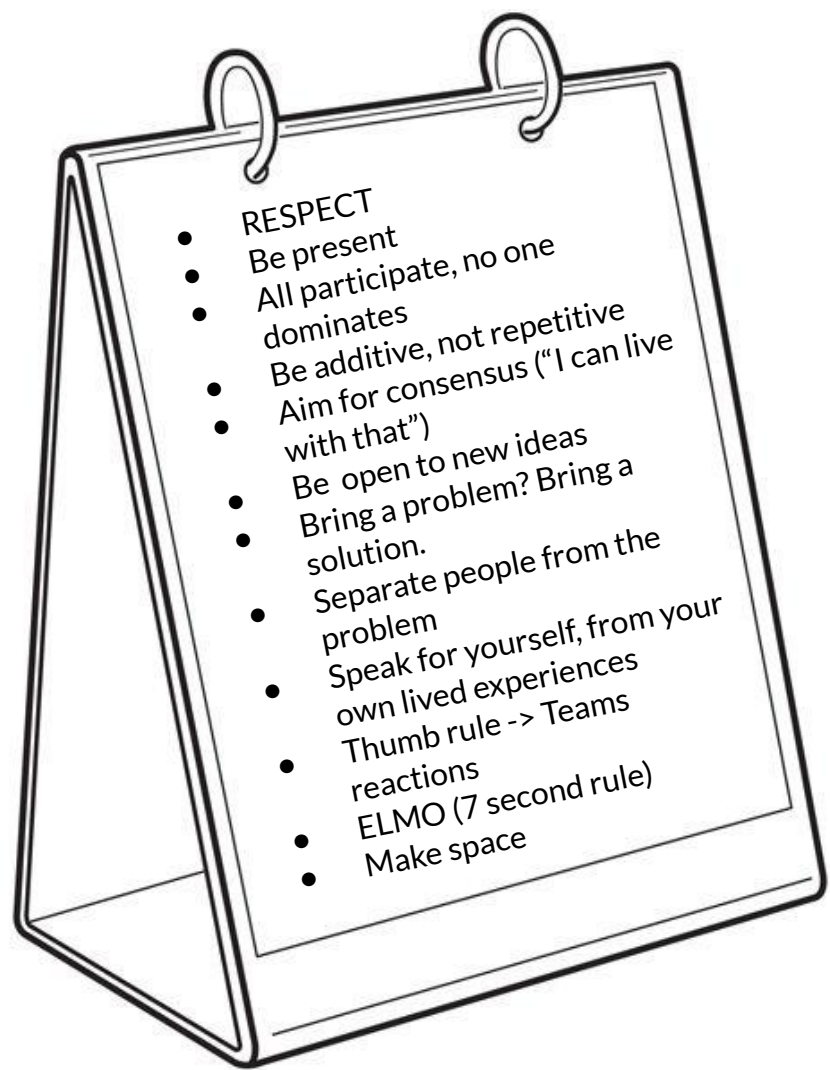
RESPECT
- Be present
- All participate, no one dominates
- Be additive, not repetitive
- Aim for consensus ("I can live with that")
- Be open to new ideas
- Bring a problem? Bring a solution.
- Separate people from the problem
- Speak for yourself, from your own lived experiences
- Thumb rule -> Teams reactions
- ELMO (7 second rule)
- Make space

Partner Updates

What are your recent "wins" for equitable climate action and resilience?

Community Composting Pilot updates!
-Site secured, drop off locations at community gardens, libraries, and other community locations, spring launch

Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Helps identify hazards and prioritize them.

NCCC team coming to Parks!

Raised about $1100 in donations for Chesapeake Climate Action Network's (CCAN) Polar Plunge.
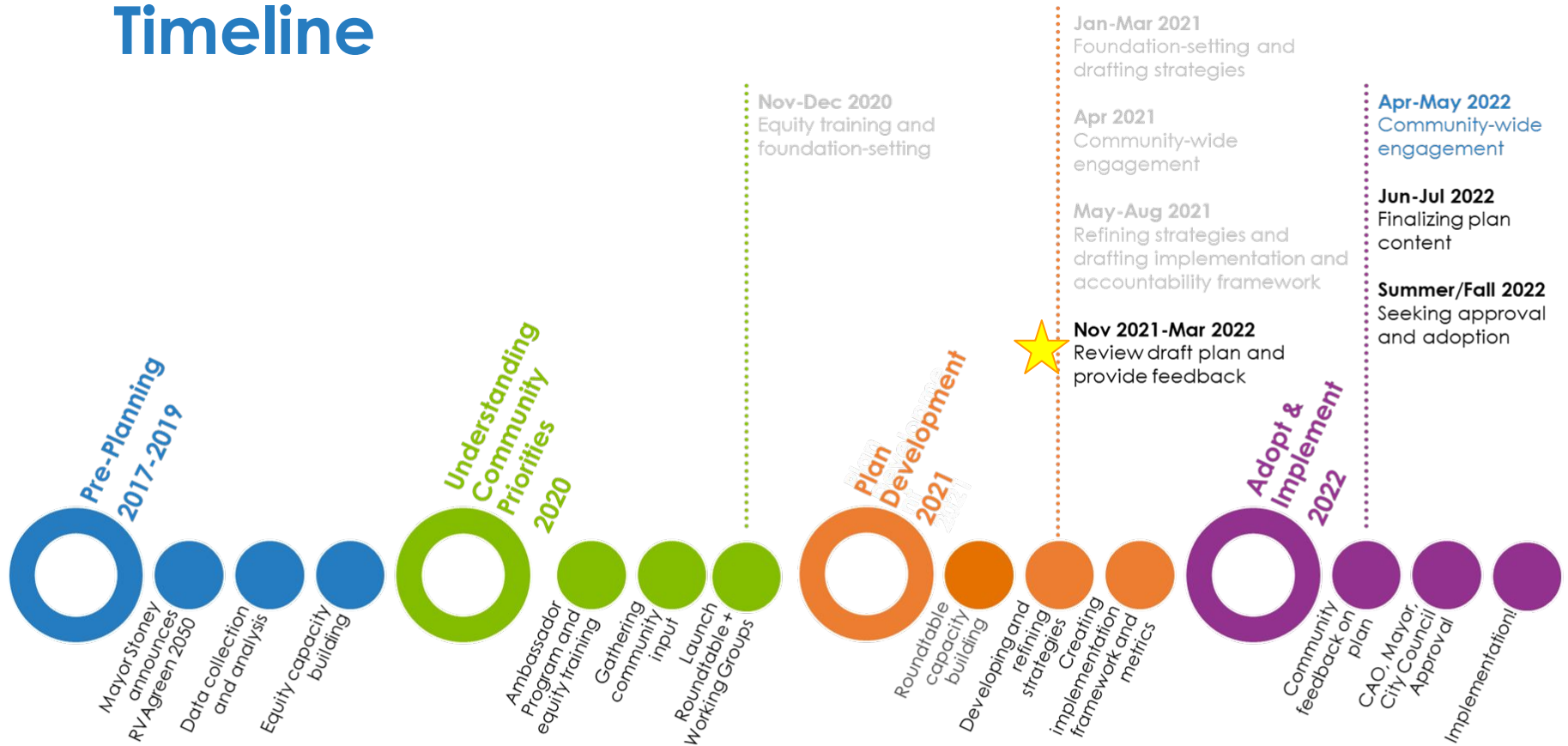
WOrked with state legislation last year to add DEI information into the state code on Emergency Operations Plans. THis year working to define that through the commonwealth.

Legislative wins! Emissions control in concrete/construction projects

Timeline review

Timeline

Pre-Planning 2017-2019
- Mayor Stoney announces RVAgreen 2050
- Data collection and analysis
- Equity capacity building

Understanding Community Priorities 2020
- Ambassador Program and equity training
- Gathering community input
- Launch Roundtable + Working Groups

Nov-Dec 2020
Equity training and foundation-setting

Plan Development 2021
- Roundtable capacity building
- Developing and refining strategies
- Creating implementation framework and metrics

Jan-Mar 2021
Foundation-setting and drafting strategies

Apr 2021
Community-wide engagement

May-Aug 2021
Refining strategies and drafting implementation and accountability framework

Nov 2021-Mar 2022
Review draft plan and provide feedback

Adopt & Implement 2022
- Community feedback on plan
- CAO, Mayor, City Council Approval
- Implementation!

Apr-May 2022
Community-wide engagement

Jun-Jul 2022
Finalizing plan content

Summer/Fall 2022
Seeking approval and adoption

RVAgreen 2050: Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

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City of Richmond
RVAgreen 2050

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

Equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond

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RVAgreen 2050

Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

Equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond

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City of Richmond

RVAgreen
2050

Climate Equity
Action Plan 2030

*Equitable climate action for a
healthy and resilient Richmond*

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Guide to the 2030 Action Plan

Objective Reference Number

Objective

Pathway

Strategy Name

Strategy Reference Number: Shorthand used to refer to the Strategy

Context: Relevant background information and rationale for the Strategy

---

RVAgreen 2050 | Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

Objective BE-1

Achieve climate neutrality and increase resilience in government buildings, infrastructure, and operations.

OUTCOMES

How does this Objective contribute to a more equitable, healthy, and resilient Richmond?

- ✓ Advanced green economy
- ✓ Cleaner and more efficient buildings
- ✓ Cleaner and more efficient transportation
- ✓ Climate-ready community
- ✓ Engaged and involved community
- ✓ Improved air quality
- ✓ Increased flood resilience
- ✓ Increased heat resilience
- ✓ Increased support for climate action and resilience
- ✓ Less landfill waste
- ✓ Lower greenhouse gas emissions
- More green space and trees

STRATEGIES

BE-1.1: Municipal Energy Efficiency Program: Develop a program to achieve the energy efficiency goals of RVAgreen 2050 and Richmond 300.

BE-1.2: Municipal Clean Energy and Net Zero Construction: Incorporate measures toward the goal of converting all city buildings to clean energy by 2050.

BE-1.3: Municipal Climate Impact Mapping: Establish a protocol for tracking greenhouse gas emissions and planning for climate impacts.

BE-1.4: Municipal Resilient Infrastructure Assessment: Conduct a climate vulnerability and risk assessment of all city property (including buildings and parcels). Identify and prioritize properties for specific resilience projects.

BE-4 | Buildings and Energy

RVAgreen 2050 | Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

Strategy BE-1.1

Municipal Energy Efficiency Program

Develop a program to achieve the energy efficiency goals of RVAgreen 2050 and Richmond 300.

The City of Richmond has an obligation to lead by example and act expeditiously to reduce its energy usage in buildings and operations. Efficiency has the benefit of saving taxpayer dollars budgeted for utility costs and often reducing maintenance costs providing an even bigger benefit.

Illustration created by Thomas Jones.

ACTIONS	STATUS	CITY STEWARD	COST	TIME	GHG REDUCTIONS	RESILIENCE	EQUITY
i. Convert all city-owned streetlights to LED, integrate solar options where feasible, and streamline efficiency measures; Prioritize improvements in formerly redlined neighborhoods and proactively communicate climate impact and resilience benefits with the communities.	👍	Public Utilities-Streetlighting	$$	2022 - 2025			
ii. Track energy usage in all City-owned buildings and set energy usage benchmarks according to building type and climate impacts.	👍	Public Works - Special Capital Projects	$	2022 - 2025			
iii. Equitably prioritize energy efficiency retrofits of City-owned buildings in areas that serve the public therefore improving their health, safety, and accessibility while rating the highest return on investment in cost savings and GHG reductions.	✓	Public Works - Special Capital Projects	$$$	2022 - 2025			
iv. Create an Energy Manager position with authority to identify equity gaps in energy management, work across all departments and coordinate partnerships in frontline communities.	✓	Deputy Chief Administrative Officer-Operations	$	2022 - 2025			

BE-5 | Buildings and Energy

Actions: Specific steps to take to implement the Strategy

City Steward: The City of Richmond department or unit with primary responsibility for implementing the Action

Time: Timeframe for implementation

Status: Where the Action is in terms of implementation as of the writing of this plan

- 👍 Ongoing = already started or underway
- ✓ Ready to go = ready to be implemented or is in another city plan
- ❌ Requires policy change = requires city or state law or policy change in order to be implemented

Cost: An estimate of the cost of implementation of the Action through 2030

- **$** = <$1M
- **$$** = $1M-$50M
- **$$$** = >$50M

Mitigation: An estimate of how much the Action will reduce greenhouse gas emissions

- ⬇ Low
- ⬇⬇ Medium
- ⬇⬇⬇ High

Resilience: Climate change impacts that the Action addresses

- Extreme heat
- Flooding and sea level rise
- Extreme weather events
- Community resilience

Equity: Community priorities that the Action addresses

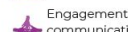- Racial equity and environmental justice
- Government accountability
- Affordable housing
- Health and well-being
- Neighborhoods
- Community wealth
- Engagement and communications

7.0 | Richmond 2030 Action Plan

Community

Create an equitable and resilient Richmond while honoring and ensuring focus on community priorities.

OBJECTIVES

C-1: Ensure that historically disinvested communities that are most affected by local climate impacts are centered and involved in the processes of developing, implementing, and evaluating solutions as a result of equitable communication and engagement strategies.

C-2: Increase the Richmond community's social resilience to climate change.

Community

Create an equitable and resilient Richmond while honoring and ensuring focus on community priorities.

OBJECTIVES

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Objective C-1

Ensure that historically disinvested communities that are most affected by local climate impacts are centered and involved in the processes of developing, implementing, and evaluating solutions as a result of equitable communication and engagement strategies.

OUTCOMES

How does this Objective contribute to a more equitable, healthy, and resilient Richmond?

✓ Advanced green economy	✓ Increased flood resilience
✓ Cleaner and more efficient buildings	✓ Increased heat resilience
✓ Cleaner and more efficient transportation	✓ Increased support for climate action and resilience
✓ Climate-ready community	✓ Less landfill waste
✓ Engaged and involved community	✓ Lower greenhouse gas emissions
✓ Improved air quality	✓ More green space and trees

STRATEGIES

C-1.1: Climate-Ready Affordable Housing: Climate-Ready Affordable Housing: Develop and implement climate mitigation and resilience requirements for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

C-1.2: Sustainable Employment Practices: Develop incentives for employers to facilitate greenhouse gas-reducing activities among employees.

C-1.3: Climate Action and Resilience Information Navigator: Help small businesses, homeowners, and renters navigate programs and incentives for reducing emissions and increasing climate resilience.

C-1.4: Community Benefits Scorecard and Agreements: Develop tools with frontline communities to evaluate City development projects and ensure they address community priorities for climate action and resilience, and encourage use by private developers as well.

C-1.5: Community Partnerships Program: Develop a climate action and resilience neighborhood partnerships program.

Community

Create an equitable and resilient Richmond while honoring and ensuring focus on community priorities.

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- ✓ Advanced green economy
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- ✓ Cleaner and more efficient transportation
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- ✓ Improved air quality
- ✓ Increased flood resilience
- ☐ Increased heat resilience
- ✓ Increased support for climate action and resilience
- ☐ Less landfill waste
- ✓ Lower greenhouse gas emissions
- ☐ More green space and trees

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C-1.5: Community Partnerships Program: Develop a climate action and resilience neighborhood partnerships program.

Strategy C-1.2

Sustainable Employment Practices:

Develop incentives for employers to facilitate greenhouse gas-reducing activities among employees.

The private sector plays an important role in the response to climate change. Among others, one area of responsibility is to mitigate the impacts of employees' work-related activities, such as commuting. Providing incentives for more sustainable activities often has co-benefits including healthier and more satisfied employees.

Illustration created by Kt Nowak.

ACTIONS	STATUS	CITY STEWARD	COST	TIME	GHG REDUCTIONS	RESILIENCE	EQUITY
i. Develop incentives for employers to create telework and alternative transportation options programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from employee commuting.	✓	Economic Development	$	2022 - 2025	↓↓↓		
ii. Develop incentives for employers to facilitate additional practices among employees that will reduce emissions.	✓	Economic Development	$	2026 - 2030	↓↓↓		

Community

Create an equitable and resilient Richmond while honoring and ensuring focus on community priorities.

Objective C-1

Ensure that historically disinvested communities that are most affected by local climate impacts are centered and involved in the processes of developing, implementing, and evaluating solutions as a result of equitable communication and engagement strategies.

C-1.1: Climate-Ready Affordable Housing: Climate-Ready Affordable Housing: Develop and implement climate mitigation and resilience requirements for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

C-1.2: Sustainable Employment Practices: Develop incentives for employers to facilitate greenhouse gas-reducing activities among employees.

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C-1.4: Community Benefits Scorecard and Agreements: Develop tools with frontline communities to evaluate City development projects and ensure they address community priorities for climate action and resilience, and encourage use by private developers as well.

C-1.5: Community Partnerships Program: Develop a climate action and resilience neighborhood partnerships program.

Objective C-2

Increase the Richmond community's social resilience to climate change.

C-2.1: Climate-Ready Community Fund: Establish a Climate-Ready Community grant program to provide funding to neighborhood-focused organizations to work with residents on climate action and resilience projects..

C-2.2: Community Compensation: Establish a policy and structure for paying community members for their time.

C-2.3: Organizational Collaboration: Partner with community leaders, organizations, and businesses to build community capacity for climate resilience.

C-2.4: Resilience Hubs: Create neighborhood resilience hubs in frontline communities.

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Climate Equity Action Plan 2030

Equitable climate action for a healthy and resilient Richmond

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Outcomes & Indicators

OUTCOME	INDICATOR	DATA SOURCE & NOTES
Advanced green economy	# and % of green jobs	To be determined: In 2013 the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics eliminated its Green Goods and Services Occupations data and publications program. Alternative methodology to be identified using best practices and peer city research.
	Number of residents completing training, education, and apprenticeship programs related to climate action and resilience by race and ethnicity	City departments, higher education institutions, and partner organizations
Cleaner and more efficient buildings	Total building energy use (Btu)	Dominion Energy
	Percentage of households with high energy burden by race and ethnicity	U.S. Census
Cleaner and more efficient transportation	Percentage of travel (mode share) not with single-occupancy internal combustion engine vehicles	U.S. Census
	Percentage of population within a 10 minute walk of a fixed-route transit stop with amenities by race and ethnicity	U.S. Census + Greater Richmond Transit Company (GRTC)
Climate-ready community	Number of residents receiving information on climate change impacts through website, social media, events, trainings, and other communications channels (to be defined)	To be determined; methodology to be developed using Office of Sustainability communications platforms and tracking information.
	Percentage of population facing "high vulnerability" to climate change per the Climate Equity Index by race and ethnicity	RVAgreen 2050 Climate Equity Index
Engaged and involved community	Number of respondents to annual sustainability survey (online, paper, phone, and in-person)	Annual community survey
	Number of respondents to annual sustainability survey (online, paper, phone, and in-person) by race, ethnicity, and income - compare to citywide demographics	Annual community survey
Improved air quality	Citywide average Air Quality Equity Score	To be determined: methodology to be developed with community partners modeled after Tree Equity Score; data to be gathered when air quality monitoring network is established (est. 2023/24).
	Average Air Quality Equity Score by race and ethnicity	To be determined: methodology to be developed with community partners modeled after Tree Equity Score; data to be gathered when air quality monitoring network is established (est. 2023/24).

OUTCOME	INDICATOR	DATA SOURCE & NOTES
Increased flood resilience	Number of incidents of standing water, flooding, and emergency service during heavy precipitation events	Assemble data from RVA311, emergency service providers, and other sources to be identified
	Number of calls/311 requests for standing water, flooding, and emergency service during heavy precipitation events by census tract (and/or race and ethnicity if available)	Assemble data from RVA311, emergency service providers, and other sources to be identified
Increased heat resilience	Temperature difference between hottest and coolest areas of the city	Urban heat island study and/or satellite data
	Percent of population facing "high heat vulnerability" to climate change per the Climate Equity Index by race and ethnicity-race and ethnicity don't predict vulnerability	RVAgreen 2050 Climate Equity Index
Increased support for climate action and resilience	Percentage of RVAgreen 2050 actions funded	City budget
	Annual $ allocated directly from the city or facilitated through a partnership with the city to community organizations for neighborhood-based climate action and resilience projects	City budget
Less landfill waste	Total waste going to landfill (tons)	Transfer station operator and private haulers
	Percentage of households that have access to curbside/on-site recycling services by census tract	U.S. Census
Lower greenhouse gas emissions	Total community GHG emissions (MTCO2e)	Office of Sustainability Greenhouse gas emissions inventory
	Per capita GHG emissions by census tract (MTCO2e)	Office of Sustainability Greenhouse gas emissions inventory - calculation methodology to be developed with community partners
More green space and trees	Citywide average Tree Equity Score	American Forests Tree Equity Score Tool
	Percentage of population within a 10 minute walk of a public park with green space by race and ethnicity	U.S. Census + Department of Parks and Recreation data

RVAgreen 2050 Shared Accountability Framework

Purpose

A critical concern for RVAgreen 2050 stakeholders throughout the planning process was ensuring the Action Plan does not end up sitting on a shelf. Equitable implementation of the Plan is just as important as the Plan itself.

Commitments

» **Regular Evaluation:** Taking concrete steps to plan for and measure progress to stay on track toward goals.

» **Transparency:** Publicly communicating goals, plans, and outcomes. Identifying needs and potential impact up front.

» **Culture of Improvement:** Receive feedback. Revise plans and measures over time to stay on track toward goals.

» **Trusting Relationships:** Relationships entered into mutually and oriented around a commitment that parties make each other.

» **Institutionalizing Sustainability in City Government:** Creating an organizational backbone to combat climate change through organizational structure, culture, staffing, and decision-making.

Helps answer the questions:

"Are **we*** on track toward equitable implementation of RVAgreen 2050?"

"**Who** is responsible for **what** as part of that implementation?"

*We = the entire Richmond community working towards the goals of RVAgreen 2050

Shared Accountability Framework

Transparency
- RVAgreen 2050 Plan, goals and outcomes
- Community priorities
- Climate Equity Index
- Interactive website, newsletters and social media
- Mayor's State of the City

Regular Evaluation
- Outcomes and indicators
- Annual progress report
- Biannual greenhouse gas emissions inventories
- Climate Equity Index
- Project Tracker

Culture Of Improvement
- Equity screening tool and Equitable Implementation Guide
- Annual community-wide survey
- Annual equity evaluation and lessons learned
- Plan update every five years

Institutionalizing Sustainability in City Government
- Employee orientation, training, and performance
- Climate ambassadors
- Internal operations and policies
- Climate considerations in budgeting and finance

Trusting Relationships
- Implementation teams
- Racial Equity & Environmental Justice Roundtable
- Annual convening of partners

Shared Responsibility

Figure 8.1. Shared Accountability Graphic

Shared Accountability Framework

WHO?	WHAT?
Office of Sustainability *Primary convener providing support to city and community leaders*	» Steward development, adoption and implementation of the RVAgreen 2030 Action Plan » Champion actions to institutionalize sustainability in city government, including: » Building awareness among all city employees through new employee orientation and other training opportunities, incorporating climate competencies into job descriptions and performance evaluations, and other initiatives » Mobilizing employees through a climate ambassadors program to promote a culture of sustainability » Evaluating and updating city policies and programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address the impacts of climate change (such as procurement, hazard mitigation, social services, and others) » Incorporating climate considerations into the city's annual budgeting processes » Convene and support Implementation Teams, including quarterly convenings by RVAgreen 2050 Pathway » Convene and support the Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Roundtable » Track data for annual progress report and additional updates as needed, including: » Indicators » Biannual greenhouse gas inventories » Climate Equity Index project tracker » Website updates » Organize annual convening of implementation partners » Conduct annual community-wide sustainability survey » Provide annual reports to Green City Commission, Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer, City Council, and Planning Commission » Steward development and adoption of plan updates (2035, 2040, 2045)

Shared Accountability Framework

WHO?	WHAT?
Implementation Teams *Groups of stakeholders from city departments, partner organizations, and community*	» Implement RVAgreen 2050 strategies and actions » Use the Equity Screening Tool, equitable implementation guide, Climate Equity Index, and other equity-centered tools to guide implementation » Provide updates to the Office of Sustainability at regular intervals

Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Roundtable
 	
10-member group of residents paid for their time and lived experience expertise to center equity in implementation
	» Develop and update as needed an equitable implementation guide (as a next iteration of the RVAgreen 2050 Equity Screening Tool)
	» Two members per RVAgreen 2050 Pathway assist Implementation Teams to ensure equitable implementation of strategies and actions
	» Work with Office of Sustainability to conduct an annual evaluation of plan objectives and strategies; review and approve changes
	» Create an annual report on implementation using the Shared Accountability Framework
	» Members commit to:
	  » Monthly Roundtable meetings
	  » Quarterly Implementation Team meetings by Pathway
	  » Staggered 2-year terms
	  » Living or working in communities on the frontlines of climate change (census tracts with above-average social vulnerability via the Climate Equity Index)
	  » Assist with recruiting new members at the end of their terms
	» Members receive a stipend payment of $500 every 6 months for their service

Shared Accountability Framework

WHO?	WHAT?
Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer	» Ensure overall accountability for RVAgreen 2050 » Review and approve 2030 Action Plan to be adopted into the Richmond 300 Master Plan » Review annual reporting information » Provide annual updates, highlights, and priorities in State of the City address » Ensure there is dedicated and consistent city funding for implementation » Review and approve plan updates (2035, 2040, 2045)
City Council	» Ensure overall accountability for RVAgreen 2050 » Review and adopt 2030 Action Plan into the Richmond 300 Master Plan » Review annual reporting information » Ensure there is dedicated and consistent city funding for implementation » Review and adopt plan updates (2035, 2040, 2045)
Planning Commission	» Review and approve 2030 Action Plan to be adopted into the Richmond 300 Master Plan » Review annual reporting information » Review and approve plan updates (2035, 2040, 2045)
Green City Commission	» Review annual reporting information » Provide recommendations and input on updates, particularly in technical areas » Adopt priorities annually to support RVAgreen 2050 strategy implementation
Richmond Community	» Participate in planning, implementation, and update processes (read more on our community's shared responsibility in the next section)

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Questions?

What's next for the document?

- **Working Groups and Roundtable review: now through <u>March 11</u>**

  Does this reflect your work?

  Do you feel ownership, particularly of the content in the Pathway?

  If we don't hear from you, we'll assume YES!

- **Late February - early March:** City staff and leadership review

- **Mid-March - early-April:** Office of Sustainability prepares document for community-wide engagement in April...*more on that*……………………………………...>

Spring 2022 community-wide engagement (and beyond)

- **Mid-April through mid-May**

- **Goals for the Office of Sustainability: transparency and accountability**
  - At this point we are not seeking new strategies; instead we are looking to:
    - Bring what we heard back to the community
    - Raise awareness and reach new audiences
      - Why is this important and important now?
      - Does this still address community priorities?
    - Build support for adoption and implementation
    - Use any specific ideas and input in implementation

- **Discussion**
  - General reflections, thoughts, and ideas
  - How have you been engaging the community recently?
  - What can we align with during the April-May timeframe?
  - Where should we put our energy, with an eye towards advocacy for adoption in summer/early fall?
  - Can you anticipate any potential hurdles or blind spots towards adoption?

- **We need your help! (quick survey)**

Wrap-up and next steps

- **NEXT STEPS:**
  - Early April: one all-working groups meeting to share community engagement information and ask for your help
  - Mid-April through mid-May community engagement period
  - June: **final** meeting to discuss community input, advocacy for plan adoption, and look forward to implementation

- **NOW:**
  - **VOLUNTEER SURVEY! link**
  - Share updates, upcoming events, and resources

THANK YOU!