Richmond Accessibility Advisory Committee
2025 Work Program

The proposed 2025 Work Program is consistent with the Richmond Accessibility Advisory Committee's (RAAC) mandate to act as a resource and provide advice to Council to support the advancement of accessibility in the city, so that people with disabilities are able to participate more fully in all aspects of community life.

This work program supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #1 Proactive in Stakeholder and Civic Engagement:

> *Proactive stakeholder and civic engagement to foster understanding and involvement and advance Richmond's interests.*

This work program supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022–2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

> *Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.*

This work program also supports the Council-adopted Richmond Accessibility Plan (2023–2033) Action #6.2:

> *Continue to work closely with the Richmond Accessibility Advisory Committee and Interdepartmental Accessibility Committee to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Plan and report out on a biennial basis.*

Initiative 1: Participate in a RAAC orientation

<u>Action</u>

1.1 Members participate in an orientation to the RAAC to learn about the roles and responsibilities of advisory committee members, the RAAC Terms of Reference and the City's current strategies and initiatives related to accessibility.

<u>Expected Outcomes</u>

Members are aware of and understand the following:

- The RAAC Terms of Reference;
- Their role as an appointed member of the RAAC;
- The City's Respectful Workplace Policy 6800;
- The 2025 RAAC Work Program; and
- Current City of Richmond strategies and initiatives related to accessibility, including the the Richmond Accessibility Plan (2023–2033).

Initiative 2: Act as a resource to the City by providing recommendations and perspectives on issues and opportunities related to advancing accessibility in Richmond

<u>Actions</u>

2.1 Respond to Council requests and provide advice on issues related to advancing accessibility in Richmond.

2.2 Consult and provide input on City strategies, initiatives and policies that impact accessibility in Richmond.

2.3 Provide input and feedback to City staff on the accessibility of City programs, communications, technology, services and the built environment.

2.4 Review and discuss feedback received through the City's Accessibility Feedback Tool to support the ongoing prevention and removal of barriers in the community.

<u>Expected Outcomes</u>

The RAAC applies an accessibility lens to support the development and updating of City strategies, initiatives and policies, and advises Council and staff, as requested.

The RAAC provides ongoing feedback to support the identification, removal and prevention of barriers in existing City programs, communications, technology, services and the built environment.

Initiative 3: Support the implementation of the Council-adopted Richmond Accessibility Plan (2023–2033)

<u>Action</u>

3.1 Participate in and provide advice and recommendations related to the implementation of the Richmond Accessibility Plan (the Plan).

<u>Expected Outcomes</u>

The RAAC supports implementation of the Plan by providing input on new and ongoing initiatives that advance actions outlined in the Plan.

Initiative 4: Build on the RAAC's knowledge of accessibility issues through information sharing, guest speakers and educational opportunities

<u>Actions</u>

4.1 Invite guest speakers to present on issues and trends that impact people with disabilities at regular RAAC meetings.

4.2 Identify accessibility-related educational opportunities for members to learn about emerging issues and trends impacting people with disabilities that can inform the City's policies or practices.

4.3 Monitor accessibility-related issues and emerging trends.

Expected Outcomes

The RAAC is informed of trends and issues raised by people with disabilities in the community.

The RAAC is well equipped to provide an accessibility lens to City strategies, policies and initiatives, as requested.

Initiative 5: Encourage public awareness and community engagement to understand the needs and concerns of people with disabilities in Richmond

Actions

5.1 Discuss accessibility-related matters, trends and barriers identified in the community arising as a standing item on the RAAC agenda.

5.2 Promote opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in public engagement opportunities led and supported by the City.

Expected Outcomes

Accessibility-related matters, trends and barriers that are raised by RAAC are identified, removed and prevented.

People with disabilities are increasingly aware of engagement opportunities related to advancing accessibility in Richmond.

Initiative 6: Support Council-approved priorities related to advancing accessibility in Richmond through aligning RAAC agenda and discussion topics

Action

6.1 Review current and upcoming City accessibility initiatives and determine where RAAC participation will be most effective within the scope of the committee's advisory role.

Expected Outcomes

The RAAC's work and focus are aligned with Council-approved priorities related to advancing accessibility in Richmond.

The RAAC's work informs current policy updates and initiatives from various City departments related to advancing accessibility.