

Draft Environment Goal – Version 2

May 29, 2019



Version 1 PDR Staff and the Mayor's Staff drafted Version 1 after reviewing the comments received during Community Consultation #1.

Richmond nurtures an environment that promotes healthy living. Organize the built environment in harmony with ecosystems. Provide access to nature in all parts of the city. Increase resiliency to prepare for a changing climate.

Version 2 PDR reviewed the comments (see list of comments below) Working Group members gave during small group discussions at the May Meeting of the Environment Working Group and then drafted Version 2.

Richmond is a sustainable and resilient city with healthy air, clean water, and a flourishing ecosystem that nurtures healthy communities. Increase resiliency to the effects of a changing climate through adaptation and mitigation. Develop the built environment to enhance natural assets. Ensure all people have access to nature and healthy communities.

Small Group Comments on Version 1 Working Group members provided these comments to PDR staff during the May 9th meeting.

- Group did not like the first sentence – change it “Richmond’s environment, built and natural, nurtures and promotes a healthy community”
- Address ways city residents pollute environment and how that goes beyond city limits related to GHG emissions
- Add mitigation to last sentence
- The environment is a natural asset – green infrastructure
- Use the word beautiful
- Increase in the natural environment – increase the amount of nature
- Richmond is a city that values ecosystems as an asset
- Diverse healthy communities
- Accessible to all
- Richmond nurtures a sustainable human and natural environment that equitably enhances healthy living towards a health planet
- Enhance natural attribute
- Ameliorate inequitable health impacts
- Safety and justice
- Clean energy – how is clean energy incorporated into land use?
- Promote and environment that nurtures sustainable living
- Not promote – use enhance or foster
- All people within 10-min walk of a park
- Increase resiliency through adaptation and mitigation to pre...
- Add clean water and air

- The river
- Health of all organism
- Richmond's environment promotes sustainable and healthy living
- Main statement should include "sustainable"
- Nature thrives alongside the built environment
- Provide equitable access to quality nature in all parts of the city
- Eliminate emissions and prepare for a changing climate
- Zero carbon
- Renewable energy resources
- Welcomes, invites, promotes
- Too much trash in the city - need to have more pride and ownership in the city
- Healthy living can mean many things
- Richmond is a sustainable city that promotes healthy environments for all people
- Integrate built environment and natural systems
- What does "in harmony" mean
- Ecosystem can mean all sorts of things
- Provide equitable access to and support of natural systems in all parts of the City Of Richmond
- Increase resiliency to respond to the changing climate
- Need to alter habits
- Focusing on climate change is too narrow
- Need to emphasize people
- Not "nurture" but use becomes or promotes and restores
- Supports all living things
- Don't like saying "built environment"
- Better word than "nature"?
- The integrate with and enhance ecosystems
- Increase community livability
- Holistic and equitable approach to resiliency
- Resiliency of what? Ecosystems?
- Develop and implement programs to combat climate change
- Richmond is a sustainable and resilient city with healthy air, clean water, and a vibrant ecosystem.
- "in harmony with the environment"
- Use clean energy
- 100% renewable energy by 2050
- Sustainability and resilient
- Interconnectedness - environment is an interconnected sum of its parts - rather than just trails and parks

Comments on Version 2 PDR staff received the following comments on Version 2 via the post-meeting assignment survey.

- **17 Working Group members said they support Version 2** and have no further edits.
1. Rebecca Aarons-Sydnor; 2. meade anderson; 3. Steven Carter-Lovejoy; 4. Mayda Colon; 5. martha culpepper; 6. Evan Garrison; 7. Stephenie Harrington; 8. Jeremy

Hoffman; 9. Mary Larson; 10. Catherine Long; 11. Susan Miller; 12. Brianne Mullen; 13. Damian Pitt; 14. Bill Shanabruch; 15. Chris Tabor; 16. Sean Welsh; 17. Anne Wright

- **4 Working Group members said they have further edits:**

1. **Emily Francis:** I'm having big problems. Nurtures is the wrong word. Don't you mean "nourishes". Sentence two is too wonky and removed from impacts on people. Sentence three is too focused on what we do TO nature "develop" and "built" together is just too much. Here's my recommendation: "Richmond is a sustainable and resilient city with healthy air, clean water, and a vibrant ecosystem that nourishes healthy communities. Increased resiliency to our changing climate through adaptation and mitigation benefits all residents. Our built environment supports and enhances natural assets like the James River. Nature and healthy communities are accessible to all. "
2. **Ann Pierce:** Richmond is capable of making a firm clear statement regarding targeted goals to remove itself from fossil fuels. We have too much information of the consequences that will burden all future life not to do so. "Mitigation" as in doing everything possible to STOP further GHG emissions, should be a clear primary concern, NOT just part of "resiliency" or 'adaptation'. Both of those are very very important, but to state them as equal to stopping further emissions while CO2 continues to pour into the atmosphere at accelerating rates is completely illogical, not to mention unethical at this point in time! Believe me, I get the need for more trees and greater building energy efficiency, especially in low-income housing, but if the order of focus and effort is not right none of those measures will ever hold up to the climate extremes to come. Further, the resiliency so passionately spoken of at our table was more trees planted in low income areas...Yes! But, it is something already addressed in several other parts of this Goal statement.
3. **Mary Rafferty:** I can totally live w/ this. One recommendation if possible - After "develop the built environment to enhance natural assets." say "such as the James River and our trail systems." Again, I can totally live w/ the updated version and think it best reflects the update our groups discussed. I just like the idea of highlighting our defining natural resource (the James) in the top line of the environmental section if possible.
4. **Alicia Zatcoff:** Edits made at May 22 EWG PDR staff & co-chairs meeting