

Thriving Environment - DRAFT

Vision: 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.

Timeframe
 S = short-term (2-5yrs)
 M = mid-term (5-7 yrs)

PDR = Dept. of Planning & Dev. Review
 DPW = Dept. of Public Works

DED = Dept. of Economic Dev.
 DPU = Dept. of Public Utilities

Discussion prompts:

1. Omit and add strategies. Can the strategies be grouped more? What’s missing?
2. Make edits to the text of the strategy. Finish filling out the table. If you can't think of any "next steps," then maybe this strategy is not feasible, or the strategy needs to change significantly. Are there plans already in the works to implement this strategy?

Topic/Goal	subtopic	#	Strategies	Next Steps	# of sticky notes	Time Frame	Ongoing	Lead	Support
Resilient Community: Reduce air temperature during the warm season. (parks and open space, tree canopy, biodiversity, urban ag and food, education and communication s)	Biodiversity	1	Reduce light pollution		3				
	Biodiversity	2	Create a biodiversity plan for the city that includes the identification of animal habitat networks		3				
	Biodiversity	3	Invasive species	- goat scaping for invasive species	4				
	Education/Communications	4	Expand and enrich communciations programs	- develop a program to pay local community leaders to help implement goals	1				
	Flooding	5	Restrict develoment in future flood plains and consider future sealevel rise in zoning		1				
	Heat Island	6	Encourage lighter surfaces for roads and roofs to reflect light						
	Heat Island	7	Design neighborhoods with a variation in building heights to encourage air circulation						

Topic/Goal	subtopic	#	Strategies	Next Steps	# of sticky notes	Time Frame	Ongoing	Lead	Support
Resilient Community (cont)	Heat Island	8	Encourage redevelopment of surface parking lots into mixed use developments	see Land Use section	2				
	Open Space	9	Ensure equitable access to parks so that all residents are within a 10-minute walk of quality open space that is at least 1-acre in size	- utilize the land bank for public open space					
	Open Space	10	Revise zoning ordinance to include a green space/green amenity minimum		2				
	Open Space	11	Rewater the Kanahwa Canal		1				
	Open Space	12	Develop strategy for acquiring land for new parks						
	R300 - global strategy	13	Implement a check-list for evaluating public and private projects for compliance with the Master Plan						
	Tree Canopy	14	Increase the tree canopy, focusing first on heat islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hire more arborists - replant unhealthy trees - develop incentive program to encourage private land owners to plant trees - coordinate between city departments to manage maintenance - develop a tree management plan/strategy - review the zoning ordinance to change the parking screening requirements 	19				

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Resilient Community (cont)	Urban Ag	15	Create opportunities for all residents to participate in urban agriculture	- expand community garden program - market information about urban ag and the zoning ordinance	7				
Clean Air: Reduce overall GHG emissions and air pollution within the city (energy supply, transportation and land use, building performance, waste & recycling)	Building Performance	16	Develop a database of city-owned facility needs	- conduct an inventory of all buildings including, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, envelop, and site				DPW	DED PDR
	Building Performance	17	Increase energy efficiency of existing public buildings	- explore energy performance agreements - develop an energy management program - conduct an energy audit				DPU	
	Building Performance	18	Provide incentives for buildings to be more energy efficient	- explore creating a program for density bonuses for meeting energy efficiency targets - lobby general assembly to amend its building code to require greater energy efficiency	5				
	Energy	19	Convert street lights to LEDs		5				
	Energy	20	Install renewable energy (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal) on publicly-owned buildings and land	- Assess ability to install solar panels on landfills	7				

Topic/Goal	subtopic	#	Strategies	Next Steps	# of sticky notes	Time Frame	Ongoing	Lead	Support
Clean Air (cont)	Energy	21	Encourage the installation of renewable energy in/on/near privately-owned buildings and land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a CPACE (commercial property assessed clean energy) program - Lobby GA for net-metering legislation - review existing zoning and policy for impediments to renewable energy and revise them to reduce barriers 	10				
	Energy	22	Develop and implement RVAgreen2050 and explore a greater transition to non-fossil fuels by 2050		3				
	Energy	23	Explore capturing methane from old landfills and the sewage treatment plant						
	Transportation and Land Use	24	Support a development pattern that encourages density and reduces dependency on single-occupancy vehicles	see Land Use and Transportation sections	30+				
	Waste	25	Expand recycling programs for residential, commercial, and multifamily (including e-waste and medication disposal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a multi-family and commercial recycling program - Increase number of public recycling bins - Increase the frequency that recycling is collected 	11				
	Waste	26	Develop a city-wide composting and methane capture program		10				
	Waste	27	Ban or tax plastic bags and/or single-use plastics		7				

Topic/Goal	subtopic	#	Strategies	Next Steps	# of sticky notes	Time Frame	Ongoing	Lead	Support
Clean Water: Improve water quality and reduce impervious surfaces (drinking water, stormwater and flooding, green infrastructure)	n/a	28	Implement the RVA Clean Water Plan - Riparian Areas: replace or restore 10 acres of riparian buffers according to state guidance - Green Infrastructre in MS4: Install or retrofit GI draining 104 acres of impervious surfaces - Green Infrastrucutre in CSS: Install or retrofit GI draining 18 acres of impervious surfaces - Stream Restoration: Restore 2,500 linear feet of stream - Natives/invasives: Use 80% native plants in new landscaping at public facilities by 2023 - Trees: Increase tree canop on Cit yproperty by 5% - Land Conservation: Place an additional 10 acres under conservation easement, prioritizing conservation of land that creates connected green corridors. - Water Conservation: Reduce water consumption by 10% through implementation of new water conservation technologies and promotion of water conservation efforts - Pollution Identification and Reduction: Reduce contribution of pollutants to the MS4 - CSS Infrastructure: Construct Long Term Control Plan		5				
	n/a	29	Continue pipe replacement and upgrading program to phase old pipes	- require new developments and rehabs to replace laterals to the main lines	2				
	n/a	30	Reduce potable water use						
	n/a	31	Reduce impervious surfaces to reduce stormwater runoff	- Market DPUs stormwater credit program	10				
	n/a	32	Explore programs to daylight streams						
	n/a	33	Develop water and waste water infrastructure to be resilient to future climate change effects						
	n/a	34	Identify brown fields for remediation and redevelopment			3			