

INTRODUCED: February 12, 2024

AN ORDINANCE No. 2024-046

To amend and reordain City Code § 2-1146, concerning the Green City Commission, for the purpose of changing the name and modifying the composition, terms, responsibilities, and membership of the Commission.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrons – Ms. Jordan, Vice President Lambert and Ms. Lynch

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: MAR 11 2024 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That section 2-1146 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020) be and is hereby **amended** and reordained as follows:

**Sec. 2-1146. Established; composition; responsibilities and duties; rules of procedure; meetings; administrative support.**

(a) *Established.* There is hereby created and established a [~~Green City~~] Sustainability and Resilience Commission for the purpose of providing expertise and information to support the equitable sustainability efforts of the City of Richmond.

AYES:            7            NOES:            0            ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED: MAR 11 2024    REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_    STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) *Composition; terms of office.* The Commission shall consist of nine voting members and one non-voting member who shall be a City employee in the Office of Sustainability appointed by the Mayor. The Council shall appoint seven voting members. The Mayor shall appoint two voting members~~[, one of whom shall be a City employee in the Department of Public Works or the designee thereof. Of the remaining members, one member shall be selected from each of the following fields:~~

- ~~(1) — Sustainability.~~
- ~~(2) — Green building practices.~~
- ~~(3) — Energy efficiency.~~
- ~~(4) — Environmental protection].~~

Members shall demonstrate expertise in sustainability or equitable climate action through professional or volunteer efforts, or experience, which may include policy expertise, technical skills, community outreach, organizing, advocacy, or other sustainability and climate related skills. The composition of the Commission’s membership shall reflect the diversity of the City. The voting members of the Commission shall serve for terms of three years and shall be limited to two consecutive terms. ~~[At least four of the Council appointees]~~ All voting members shall reside in the city ~~[or have such appointee’s principal place of employment in the city in accordance with section 2-756 of this Code. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-756 of this Code to the contrary, the remaining Council appointees and the Mayor’s appointee other than the Director of Public Works or the designee thereof shall not be subject to any requirement that they maintain a residence or a principal place of employment in the city].~~ Upon the expiration of a term of office, the member holding that office may continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualified. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the

same manner as provided in this subsection. All other aspects of the Commission and its membership not addressed in this division shall be governed by Article V, Division 1 of the Chapter.

(c) *Responsibilities and duties.* The Commission shall fulfill the following responsibilities and duties:

(1) Provide expertise and information to the City to support the equitable sustainability efforts of the City.

(2) Consult with the state government and other local governments with regard to such governments' sustainability efforts and methods.

(3) Recommend changes to the Code of the City of Richmond (including the City's zoning regulations and building codes), the Code of Virginia and other laws as necessary to implement sustainable methods in the city of Richmond.

(4) Encourage the adoption of sustainable business and building approaches by the private sector and sustainable, community-led approaches by the residential sector.

(5) ~~[Work]~~ Meet with [the Department of Public Works to preserve trees and plant life in the city] other City boards and commissions with a similar or related purpose on a regular basis to coordinate the goals, efforts, and recommendations of each such board or commission with the goals, efforts, and recommendations of the Commission.

(6) Consult with the Office of Sustainability to support the implementation of the RVAgreen 2050: Climate Equity Action Plan 2030, established by Resolution No. 2023-R005, adopted February 13, 2023, any amendments to such plan, and any future sustainability plans adopted by the Council.

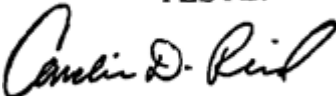
(7) Prepare and submit an annual report to the Council by December 31 of each year.

(d) *Rules of procedure.* The Commission may adopt rules of procedure or by-laws not inconsistent with this division to govern the conduct of its meetings and operations. The Commission may elect a chairman and such other officers in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure or by-laws.

(e) *Meetings.* The Commission shall hold regular meetings at least quarterly and other meetings as needed.

(f) *Administrative support.* The Commission shall have as its staff the Council Chief of Staff and such other staff as the Chief of Staff may identify. The Council Chief of Staff shall coordinate with the Chief Administrative Officer and the City Clerk as needed to furnish the Commission with such other staff and resources as may be necessary to assist the Commission in discharging the duties imposed on the Commission by this division.

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

**A TRUE COPY:**  
**TESTE:**  
  
**City Clerk**



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People Richmond, Virginia

## Office of the Council Chief of Staff

### Ordinance/Resolution Request

**TO** Laura Drewry, City Attorney

**THROUGH** LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff

**FROM** Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

**COPY** Katherine Jordan, 2nd District Council Member  
Sven Philipsen, 2nd District Liaison  
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney  
Adam Poser, Deputy Council Chief of Staff

**DATE** January 26, 2024

**PAGE/s** 2

**TITLE** Amending Sec 2-1146 concerning the Green City Commission, Changing the Commission’s name, composition, terms, responsibilities, and membership.

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance**  **Resolution**

**REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON**

Katherine Jordan

**SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE**

Government Operations

**ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY**

Patron requests that legislation be drafted for Council’s consideration amending Sec 2-1146 concerning the Green City Commission. The patron requests that the legislation:

1. Change the Commission’s name to the Sustainability and Resilience Commission
2. Require that voting members be residents of the city
3. Set three-year terms of office and limit each member to two consecutive terms
4. Require that the Office of Sustainability designate 1 ex-officio member
5. Strike provisions allowing non-residents to be members
6. Require the Commission to work with the Office of Sustainability and support implementation of the City’s greening, climate action, and sustainability plans
7. Strike provisions regarding the Department of Public Works and Urban Forestry
8. Require that the Commission work with other environment related Boards and Commissions on aligning efforts

**BACKGROUND**

The patron would like to update and modernize the Green City Commission (to be renamed: Sustainability and Resilience Commission) so that it is able to assist the City government in efforts to improve the environment and improve sustainability efforts. It is hoped that these proposed amendments to City Code will allow the City to comprehensively address the environmental needs of all residents.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Fiscal Impact	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Budget Amendment Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact	\$ N/A	

Note: No additional costs are anticipated from these amendments.

**Attachment/s**      Yes     No