



Update on the Work of the Human Rights Commission

Riqia E. Taylor, Chair
Josie Mace, Vice Chair

About the Commission



- Established by Council, per recommendation of the Task Force
- Ordinance states:
 - Investigate, research and provide resources
 - 11 adult commissioners, 2 youth members
- First meeting held in January 2019; all 13 members were present

Work to Date



- Bylaws (Page 1 of Handout)
- Established committees (Page 8 of Handout)
 - 1. Communications and Social Media
 - 2. Community Engagement
 - 3. Intake and Investigation
 - 4. Research and Policy Development
- Budget (Page 9 of Handout)
- Retreat (Page 10 of Handout)
- VAHR
- Strategic Plan to Establish an Office of Human Rights for the City of Richmond (Page 11 of Handout)

Vision & Strategic Plan



- Big Goal: Establish the City of Richmond Office of Human Rights, with one full-time staff person responsible for complaint intake, staffing the Commission
- Intake & Investigations Committee will aid in completion of investigations.
- Community Engagement will assemble 3 to 4 public sessions to bring awareness of the Commission, inform the community on how to file a complaint, define what constitutes a discriminatory offense to City residents.
- Communications & Social Media will create logo & social media presence.
- Research & Policy will create annual policy recommendations for Council and the Mayor regarding human rights.

Challenges



- Membership & Quorum; unable to vote
- Staffing
- City Budget Timeline & Beginning of Commission not on same timeline