

Planning Division



Mission:

The Planning Department provides advice and technical expertise to assist public officials, public agencies, real estate professionals, business operators and residents in understanding key community issues and priorities related to land use. The Planning staff provides excellent customer service by creating public and

private partnerships that foster economic vitality, environmental integrity and quality design for the City of Richmond.

Strategic Goals:

Maintain and enhance the physical environment

- Work with builders and the community to create land use outcomes that enhance neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- Keep the community informed about successful urban design.
- Implement the General Plan to achieve community goals.

Promote a safe and secure community

- Work with builders and community representatives to craft urban design solutions that reduce violence.
- Work with the community to develop strategies to reduce blight.
- Guide land uses that promote health and wellness.

Promote economic vitality

- Work with developers and community representatives to craft urban design solutions that promote economic development.
- Work with industrial operators to modernize and beautify of their operations.
- Update the general plan to meet community economic goals.
- Develop strategies that improve the quality of life for Richmond residents.
- Craft land use strategies that attract green business.

Promote effective government

- Improve community access to zoning and design information by continuously updating the City website.
- Enforce ordinances throughout the City.
- Streamline the entitlement process.
- Implement new permitting/inspections modules included in the new ERP System.

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Promote a sustainable City

- Educate the community about sustainable building design and land use.
- Where feasible, replace paper reports and documents with electronic media.
- Develop energy use reduction strategies for the department.
- Promote sustainable development standards and practices including mixed use, smart growth, high density and low-impact development.
- Promote green building strategies and technologies.
- Promote construction and demolition debris recycling.