

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: July 1, 2024
Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Request for Amendment to the Racial Inclusivity & Social Equity Commission Work Plan

REPORT BY: Jon Clowes, Deputy City Clerk
Anne Hsu, City Clerk

SUMMARY

The Racial Inclusivity & Social Equity (RISE) Commission is requesting an amendment to their work plan to remove 1 item and add 3 items.

RACIAL INCLUSIVITY & SOCIAL EQUITY COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION & STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council review the proposed amendments to the Racial Inclusivity & Social Equity Commission work plan and provide direction to the Racial Inclusivity & Social Equity Commission.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

On May 7, 2024, the RISE Commission reviewed its current work plan and identified possible updates to the work plan for completed items for this term and possible future items of interest. The Commission is requesting that 2 items from the received [Racial Equity Impact Plan](#) be included in the work plan as well as an item from a recent presentation to the RISE Commission:

1. Listening Sessions – Provide recommendation for two more racial equity listening sessions and how the sessions can provide insights to our community
2. Communication – Provide recommendations on how the City can better communicate with impacted groups, youth and all of its residents
3. Inclusive Sports – Provide recommendations on how the City can foster inclusive sports where non-typical youth and typical youth interact as teammates

The RISE Commission is also requesting to remove the current work plan item of “Provide recommendations in coordination with other Advisory Bodies towards the implementation of the City’s Housing Element, with particular focus on programs to help facilitate increased housing availability for all members of the community, and to work with the City’s

Community Development Dept on housing equity issues.” since Council has recently established the Housing Advisory Commission to work on the implementation of the City’s Housing Element.

Per Council policy, a “Work Plan Amendment Request” (Attachment 1) has been submitted by the Advisory Body to the Council for review and approval for any changes to a Council approved work plan.

Attachments:

1. Work Plan Amendment Request form
2. Memo from RISE Commission
3. Current RISE Commission Work Plan

ALBANY CALIFORNIA



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REQUEST TO AMEND ADVISORY BODY WORK PLAN FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: ADVISORY BODIES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE FORM
AND SUBMIT TO THE CITY COUNCIL VIA THE STAFF LIAISON

Attach additional pages as needed

DATE: 6/18/24

ADVISORY BODY: Racial Inclusivity and Social Equity Commission

STAFF LIAISON: Jonathan Claves

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WORK PLAN: Removal of Item 2, because
of the formation of the Housing Commission. Include three new Items
listening sessions, recommending having listening sessions for community
members to share their stories, communication, provide recommendations
on how the city of Albany can better communicate with its residents
Inclusive Sports, recommendations on how the city can foster
Sports where every youth (typical & non-typical) can play together.

DOES THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT ADD TO THE ADVISORY BODY'S

OVERALL WORK LOAD? NO, because a lot of the items on our
work plan are complete or very close to completion.

HOW WILL THE EXTRA WORK LOAD BE MANAGED?

we will do the same things as we have been doing before, including
establishing subcommittees and having an item to work on at meetings

NOTE: Changes to a work plan may be requested at any time during the 2-year term by the affirmative vote of the majority of appointees. No changes can be made after November 1 in the second year of the work plan.

WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME FOR COMPLETION OF THE

PROPOSED ITEM? 2-6 months. It shall also depend on how long until the city council is able to take a look at our recommendations.

EXPLAIN HOW THE AMENDMENT IS IN LINE WITH THE ADVISORY

BODY'S ROLE AS DEFINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

The RISE commission is supposed to "advise the city council on the citywide priorities of equity, diversity, accountability, and inclusivity."

Hosting listening sessions will allow the city of Albany to truly understand what it's like to live in Albany, and allow us to properly and effectively

make change. Communication is also key, similarly to the listening sessions. Albany needs to understand the problem before working on the solution. Finally, Inclusive sports helps with inclusivity for non-typical youth and allows typical youth to be more accepting.

PLEASE PROVIDE PRO/CON ANALYSIS REGARDING THE PROPOSED

AMENDMENT:

Pro: The RISE commission will be able to work on more relevant actions, we will be able to be productive and send more recommendations to the city council

Cons: A lot of the amendments require money, and the city council is less likely to view our recommendations if they require money.

RECORD OF COUNCIL ACTION

ACTION TAKEN: _____

ATTEST: _____ **DATE:** _____
CITY CLERK

To: Albany City Council
From: RISE Commission
Re.: Proposed new work plan for the RISE commission

Background

Of our current 6 work plan items, 1 is in implementation (racial equity survey), 2 are on hold after recommendations sent to council (SSBT 2024 and racial equity office), 1 is obsolete (housing element item), and the other two are close to completion (racial equity statement and read-along / book club from an equity lens).

Appendix A, below, lists the current work items and the status of each item.

We would like to have 3 more items on our work plan, of which we'd probably start one immediately, and we would start on the other two as we complete our last two active items. We have found that we can be pretty efficient with sub-committees working on about 3 items at a time with seven commissioners.

Re. the proposed new work plan, items 6 & 7 are from the Racial Equity Impact Plan. Item 8 arose from a presentation from a group that is promoting highly successful inclusive sports where "typical kids" and special needs kids play together, instead of being isolated from each other.

Proposed New Work Plan for the RISE Commission

1. RACIAL EQUITY SURVEY -- Provide feedback to the city during the survey process and provide recommendations to the City Council regarding insight identified in the final report for the racial equity survey.
2. SSBT 2025 -- Provide an annual recommendation to the Council on programs or services to be provided with sugar-sweetened beverage tax revenue
3. CITY EQUITY STATEMENT -- Provide a draft recommendation of a City Equity Statement.
4. RACIAL EQUITY OFFICE -- Continue to collaborate with the City Council regarding the creation of a City Racial Equity Office and/or a City staff Racial Equity Officer.
5. READ-ALONG PROGRAM -- Provide recommendations for a read-along program or Albany equity book club for community members of all ages to participate.
6. LISTENING SESSIONS -- Provide recommendations for two more racial equity listening sessions and on how all of the sessions can be studied to provide insights to our community
7. COMMUNICATION -- Provide recommendations on how the city can better communicate with impacted groups, youth, and all of its citizens.
8. INCLUSIVE SPORTS -- Provide recommendations on how the city can foster inclusive sports where non-typical youth and typical youth interact as teammates.

APPENDIX A

Current Work Plan Items and Comments

- Participate in forthcoming citywide racial equity survey process and provide recommendations to the City Council regarding insight identified in the final report for the racial equity survey.
This is largely completed to this point. We still need to be involved in providing feedback and in providing recommendations once the survey and analysis are complete.
- Provide recommendations in coordination with other Advisory Bodies towards the implementation of the City's Housing Element, with particular focus on programs to help facilitate increased housing availability for all members of the community, and to work with the City's Community Development Dept on housing equity issues.
This is no longer needed due to the formation of the new Housing Commission. We are recommending this item be dropped from our work plan.
- Provide an annual recommendation to the Council on programs or services to be provided with sugar-sweetened beverage tax revenue
We completed this item for 2024, but will need to do it for 2025 again.
- Provide a draft recommendation of a City Equity Statement.
We are working on this item. We hope to have something to the Council soon. We will probably use the Sanctuary City statement as a starting point, and to have a fairly brief proposed City Equity Statement.
- Explore the viability and possible benefit of the creation of a City Racial Equity Office and/or a City staff Racial Equity Officer.
This item has been sent to council But we plan to keep this on our work plan until council makes a decision on this recommendation and perhaps even after that.
- Research options for a read-along program for community members of all ages to participate.
This item is close to completion.



**CITY OF ALBANY
RACIAL INCLUSIVITY & SOCIAL EQUITY COMMISSION
WORKPLAN**

Purpose of the Racial Inclusivity & Social Equity (RISE) Commission

The charge of this Commission is to advise the City Council on the citywide priorities of equity, diversity, accountability and inclusivity to address the broad spectrum of intersectional issues across race and social equity within the City of Albany. The RISE Commission shall also seek to develop positive relations through the Commission's regular monthly meetings as a space to facilitate greater respect and understanding between people, offering opportunities for cultural exchange and education, and promote tolerance and mutual respect between all members of the community.

Work Plan Items

- Participate in forthcoming citywide racial equity survey process and provide recommendations to the City Council regarding insight identified in the final report for the racial equity survey.
- Provide recommendations in coordination with other Advisory Bodies towards the implementation of the City's Housing Element, with particular focus on programs to help facilitate increased housing availability for all members of the community, and to work with the City's Community Development Dept on housing equity issues.
- Provide an annual recommendation to the Council on programs or services to be provided with sugar-sweetened beverage tax revenue.
- Provide a draft recommendation of a City Equity Statement.
- Explore the viability and possible benefit of the creation of a City Racial Equity Office and/or a City staff Racial Equity Officer.
- Research options for a read-along program for community members of all ages to participate.