



Town of Richmond, Rhode Island
RESOLUTION #2025- 3
FORMATION OF THE RICHMOND INVESTMENT FOR COMMERCIAL HEALTH (RICH) TASK FORCE
RICHMOND INVESTMENT FOR COMMERCIAL HEALTH TASK FORCE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Town of Richmond recognizes the importance of a focused approach to creating a thriving business climate in the town of Richmond, Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Richmond has separate boards and commissions working independently on key factors related to the economic vitality of our community; and

WHEREAS, it is important to coordinate these disparate activities and set accomplishment milestones on the path to achieving significant strides toward enhancing the commercial health of Richmond; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Richmond seeks to actively engage in a focused effort to enhance all levels of commercial activity within our borders in accordance with our comprehensive community plan to offset residential tax percentage with a growing, active, and innovative business culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Richmond Town Council as follows:

Section 1: Establishment of the Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force

1. The Town of Richmond hereby establishes the "Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force", which shall be active for a period from February 4th, 2025, to December 31, 2026.

Section 2: Composition of the Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force

2.1. The Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force shall consist of seven (7) board members who are Richmond residents, to be appointed by the Town Council as follows:

- Two (2) members shall represent **Richmond Town Council**; the representatives to be appointed by the Town Council.
- One (1) member shall represent the **Richmond Economic Development Commission (EDC)**; the representative to be appointed by the Town Council.
- One (1) member shall represent the **Planning Board**; the representative to be appointed by the Town Council.
- One (1) member shall represent the **Richmond Recreation Commission**; the representative to be appointed by the Town Council.
- One (1) member shall represent the **Richmond Business Community**; the prospective representatives must be a Richmond business owner and should submit their name and business in writing to the town by said date for review and appointment by the Town Council.
- One (1) member shall represent the **Richmond Community Leader**; this individual may be involved in local non-profits active in Richmond, civic organizations, higher education in related field, or an organizational leader active in Richmond; the representative does not need to be a resident of Richmond, however should be appointed by the Town Council.

Section 3: Responsibilities of the Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force

3.1. The Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force is tasked with the following responsibilities:

- Collaborate in a pan-board and commission approach to maximize expertise contribution and reduce cycle-time on target goal completion
- Identify short, medium, and long-term initiatives related to commercial health, and prioritize those that will have tangible ROI/ROV for the overall community.
- Research topics related to economic development: grants, support organizations, ordinances, business expansion initiatives, etc.
- Establish sub-committees to delve deeper into identified opportunities / goals / questions for reporting back to task force. Sub-committees must be non-quorum number of members, and may include non-task force residents, business owners, or experts in the field.
- Promote commercial health initiatives back through the responsible board or commission (i.e. job fair via EDC; farmers market via Recreation; etc.)
- Create a strategic plan and associated marketing approach for economic development in Richmond.
- Focus on value-add activities
- Report back to the council at minimum on a quarterly basis with progress, wins, barriers and needs.

Section 4: Funding and Support

4.1. The Commission shall request from the Town Council during the 2025 municipal budget process to support initial planning to support the task force activities, program marketing, event hosting, web-upgrades, enrollments, and incidentals of the Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force.

Section 5: Reporting and Accountability

5.1. The Richmond Investment for Commercial Health Task Force shall provide progress reports and/or meeting minutes to the Town Council on a quarterly basis, outlining their activities, expenditures, and progress toward their goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following motions were made on February 4, 2025:

A motion was made by Councilor Palmisciano, seconded by Councilor Madnick to amend the Resolution regarding the Community Leader to include language that they do not need to be a resident. Vote: Councilor Dinsmore, Aye; Councilor Madnick, Aye; Councilor Palmisciano, Aye; Vice President Reynolds, Aye; President Wilcox, Aye.

A motion was made by Councilor Madnick, seconded by Vice President Reynolds to amend the Resolution end date to December 31, 2026. Vote: Councilor Dinsmore, Aye; Councilor Madnick, Aye; Councilor Palmisciano, Aye; Vice President Reynolds, Aye; President Wilcox, Aye.

A motion was made by Councilor Palmisciano, seconded by Councilor Madnick to approve the Establishment and Resolution regarding the Richmond Investment for Community Health Task Force as Amended. Vote: Councilor Dinsmore, Aye; Councilor Madnick, Aye; Councilor Palmisciano, Aye; Vice President Reynolds, Aye; President Wilcox, No.