

Fort Collins Human Relations Commission

2017 Work Plan

Revised November 10, 2016

The Human Relations Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the City Council and serves community members of the City of Fort Collins. The HRC discourages all forms of discrimination and promotes acceptance and respect for diversity through education, programs and activities.
HRC Mission Statement

The Fort Collins Human Relations Commission will continue a broad plan for enhancing productive human relations and supporting social sustainability issues that are pertinent to the City of Fort Collins and consistent with the City Charter.

The Commission will strive to be informed about diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice issues and events within Fort Collins and recommend appropriate action to City Council.

HRC goals and responsibilities are divided among four standing committees, but are not exclusive to any one committee.

GOALS for 2017

1. The HRC will align its activities to Fort Collins Key Strategic Outcomes with emphasis on Neighborhood Livability and Social Health, Safe Community and High Performing Government.
2. The HRC will recognize members of the community at an annual HRC Awards event.
3. The HRC will initiate a series of educational programs to be defined in early 2017.
4. The HRC will monitor City Council's Six Month Planning Calendar for topics that align with HRC's mission.
5. The HRC will advise Council on matters concerning diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice.

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE shall...

- Determine meeting agendas for monthly HRC meetings and special meetings.
- Maintain regular communication with HRC's City Council Liaison and City Council.
- Delegate issues for resolution to standing or to special committees.
- Provide support to HRC standing committees as needed.
- Call special meetings when resolution of urgent issues is needed.

The GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE shall...

- Act as primary point of contact for the Citizen Liaison Program to assist citizens in filing complaints with Fort Collins Police Services. Coordinate with Police Services to train people in the Citizen Liaison Program and to allow effective utilization of the program within the complaint process.
- Monitor City Council agendas and attend or view meetings as appropriate, specifically monitoring the Public Input period at the beginning of Council sessions. Address City Council as needed and report back to the HRC.
- Monitor Citizen Review Board meetings and provide assistance upon its request.
- Help to educate citizens and recommend actions that promote positive relations among community members, Fort Collins Police Services and the Citizen Review Board.
- Review proposed legislation, policy changes or other governmental action at the federal, state or local level which may affect human rights and civil liberties in the City in order to make recommendations regarding the same, as appropriate.
- Research and recommend actions necessary to achieve: equal employment opportunities, equal housing opportunities, equal public accommodation opportunities and the best possible Fort Collins government/community relations in all fields of government.

The MEDIA/COMMUNITY RECOGNITION COMMITTEE shall...

- Foster cooperative relations with media to increase visibility of HRC's work.
- Draft necessary articles or communication pieces to support the work of the HRC.
- Plan, coordinate and execute an annual HRC awards event.
- Communicate with City staff to maintain the HRC website and brochure.

The EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE shall...

- Create a better understanding of community inclusivity through educational programs and/or events relating to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability status and/or other social diversity issues.
- Update the Commission on topics involving diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Collaborate with new and existing committees and organizations in Fort Collins and pursue opportunities to coordinate with City Boards and Commissions.
- Partner with other organizations with outreach, programming and responses to queries and situations.

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