

# Sustainability Plan Framework

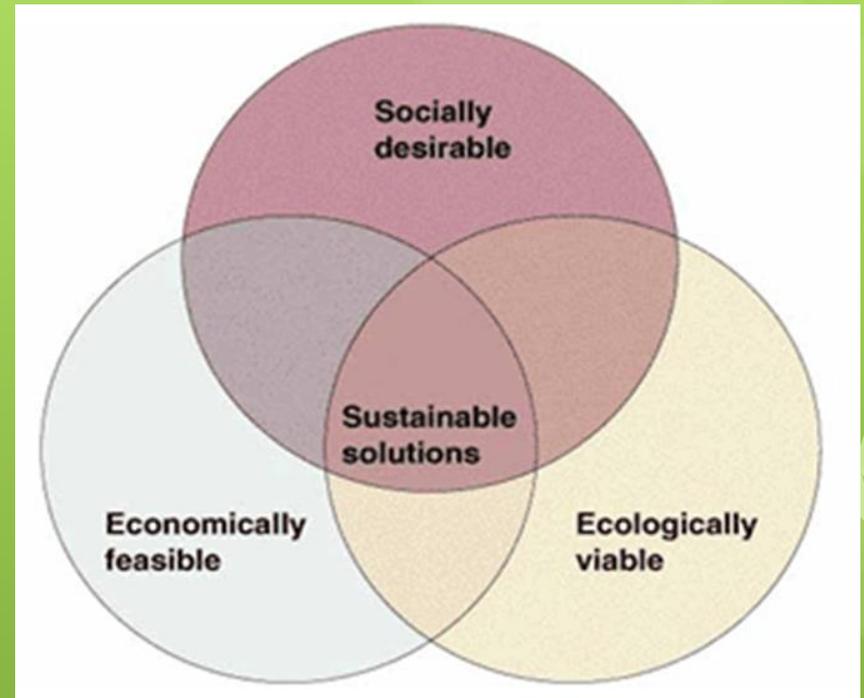


Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability

Presented to COG - Recycling on  
December 5, 2013

# What is sustainability?

- Sustainable development is the kind of development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Brundtland Report 1987)
- Sustainability focuses on three components:
  - the natural environment
  - the social connectedness among people in the community, including the education, skills and health of the population
  - the economic and financial prosperity of the community



# The need for a framework/master plan

- Greenbelt already conducting “sustainable development” activities – recycling, greenhouse gas emissions inventory, energy reduction strategies, alternative fuels and vehicles, etc.
  - To document all that is already been done.
- Green ACES is tasked “ad hoc”.
  - To organize better our future activities.
- To help change the “status quo” paradigm in all the City’s activities – Employee Education and Involvement.



# How to write a master plan?

- Researched other city's sustainability plans.
- Small Cities (population 50k and below):
  - Claremont, CA (37,000)
  - Fairfield, IO (9,500)
  - Lake Oswego, OR (36,000)
  - Portola Valley, CA (4,500)
- Medium Cities (50k – 250k):
  - Asheville, NC (74,000)
  - Temecula, CA (100,000)
- Large Cities (250k and above):
  - Baltimore, MD (637,000)
  - San Francisco, CA (809,000)



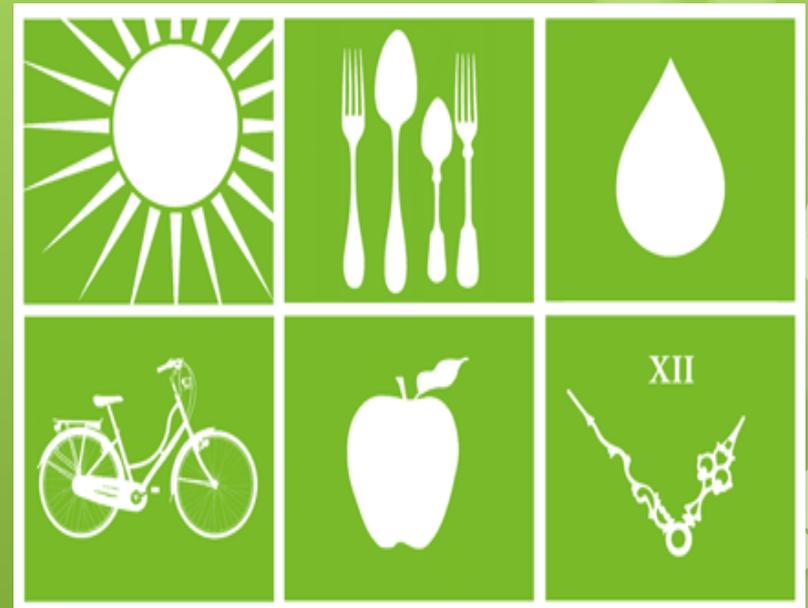
# How to write a master plan?



- Compared and contrasted all the plans:
  - Timelines:
    - None (1 city – implementation plan separate)
    - 5 years (2 cities)
    - 15 - 20 years (3 cities)
    - Short, Medium, Long term (2 cities)

# How to write a master plan?

- Categories:
  - Transportation (7)
  - Community Issues and Outreach (5)
  - General Environment (pollution, safety) (5)
  - Economic Development (4)
  - Building (4)
  - Land Use (4)
  - **Solid Waste** (4)
  - Water (4)
  - Urban planning/greening (4)
  - Resource Conservation (3)
  - City procurement practices (2)
  - Climate Change (2)
  - Health (2)
  - Housing (2)



# How to write a master plan? – Decisions...

- Greenbelt has about 22,000 inhabitants (small).
- Green ACES chose to use Temecula's plan as a template for ours.
- Open timeline – goal accomplishment deadlines to be set by Council and staff.
- Live document –  
to be reviewed by multiple parties every year.



# The structure of the Framework

- Green ACES chose the categories that made sense for Greenbelt, we came up with seven sectors:

1. Energy
2. Food Systems
3. Green Building
4. Land Use
5. Transportation
- 6. Waste Management**
7. Water

# The structure of the Framework

- Each of the seven sectors is laid out with the following items:
  - **General goal:** The overarching goal for each section is under each title.
  - **Goals:** The goals describe the general aspirations for each category and should have both indicators and targets.
  - **Success Indicators:** The success indicators provide a means of measuring performance or progress toward achieving the established goal.
  - **Targets:** The targets represent achievable milestones for the community.



# The structure of the Framework

- Each of the seven sectors is followed by an **action plan** for implementation. Some action plans within each section are divided into:
  - **Municipal** action plan: pertains only to the City Government.
  - **Residential** action plan: pertains to the residents.
  - **Commercial** action plan: pertains to businesses.
  - **Institutional** action plan: pertains to institutions such as churches, coops, non-profits, etc.
- The need for accurate measurement and monitoring should be a prime consideration for any goals and directives laid out by the City of Greenbelt.

# ENERGY

Promote energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the production and use of renewable energy in Greenbelt's residential, commercial, municipal and institutional sectors.



# FOOD SYSTEMS

Increase local food production and availability of locally produced food in Greenbelt

Farmer's Market



Community Gardens

Three Sisters Gardens

Food Forest



# GREEN BUILDING

Promote and encourage green building practices in both new and existing building renovations within Greenbelt's residential, commercial, municipal, and institutional sectors

## LEED Buildings



Protect the ecosystem while integrating with the built environment



# LAND USE

Find a balance between land use and land preservation, and find ways to protect the ecosystems while integrating with the built environment



# TRANSPORTATION

Connect, unify and create a transportation framework that is sustainable, efficient, convenient, reliable, inclusive, child-friendly, and accessible – including those with disabilities



# WATER

Conservation and sustainable management of water in  
Greenbelt

## Rain Barrels

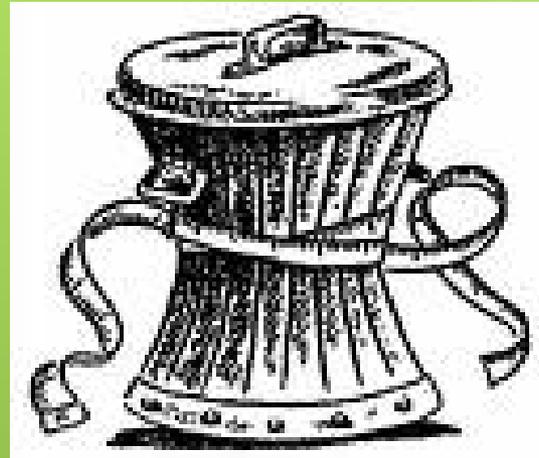


## Rain Gardens



# WASTE SYSTEMS

Zero waste, to eliminate the amount of materials going to the landfill and incinerators



COMPOSTING

<b>Goals</b>	<b>Success Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline Information and Possible Improvement Targets</b>
Reduce total waste sent to landfill	<p>Weight of materials taken to landfill by the City's Department of Public Works (this includes residences and businesses that the City serves). (tons)</p> <p>Weight of materials taken to landfill by contractors that service the rest of the City. (tons)</p>	<p>Baseline: In 2005, 2164.69 tons of materials were landfilled.</p> <p>Baseline: weight of landfilled materials in 2005 by contractors (tons)</p>
Increase recycling rate	<p>Weight of materials collected curbside by Public Works Department. (tons)</p> <p>Weight of materials recycled by the City other than curbside collection. (tons)</p> <p>Weight of materials collected by contractors. (tons)</p>	<p>Baseline: In 2005, 1935.82 tons of materials were diverted from the landfill; 2164.69 tons were landfilled; the recycling rate was 47.21%</p> <p>Baseline: weight of materials in 2005 by contractors. (tons)</p> <p>Target: Increase both groups by 65% by 2020</p> <p>Ultimate Target: to increase diversion rates to 95% by 2050</p>
Increase composting	Number of households composting (self-reported)	<p>Baseline: number of self-reported composters</p> <p>Target: increase number of self-reported composters</p>
Increase yard waste diversion	Weight of yard waste taken to Northway each year (tons)	Baseline: tons taken to Northway in 2005 were 440.50.

Steps and Actions to Implemented and to Be Implemented	Completed/on-going (√) or Target Dates for completion	Notes and/or Responsibilities
Encourage Greenbelt businesses to reduce their waste stream by recycling and composting.	√	<p>Outreach to businesses. In 2013 the Greenbelt Food COOP started a recycling program.</p> <p>Conduct a survey of businesses. Do they recycle? Who is their waste hauler? Do they collect recycling?</p> <p>Encourage recycling at businesses.</p>
Continue with Reduce, Reuse, Recycle campaigns: Encourage donation drop off, donations to thrift stores, to Community Forklift, etc.	√	<p>Recycling guidelines reminders are published in social media, and listservs, at least twice per year.</p>
Encourage food composting, and yard waste composting.	√	<p>Conduct a survey to learn more about composting habits in Greenbelt.</p> <p>Conduct annual workshops on composting.</p> <p>Public Works, CHEARS and Club 125 co-hosted a composting workshop on June 8, 2013.</p> <p>Start outreach campaign to encourage yard waste diversion.</p>
Continue with recycling campaigns: Purchase and distribute recycling rolling carts for all the City's customers.	√	<p>The budget for recycling rolling carts was cut for FY 2014????</p>
Encourage recycling at condos and apartment buildings		<p>Learn more about what each multi-family unit is doing to encourage recycling; work with the County to enforce recycling laws for apartments and condos.</p>
Adopt a green purchasing agreement for all City Departments. Adopt "no Styrofoam" policy	√	<p>Conduct survey with each City department about their Green purchasing policies.</p> <p>The City is encouraging all departments to stop using Styrofoam.</p> <p>Vendors at the Labor Day Festival are banned from using Styrofoam.</p>

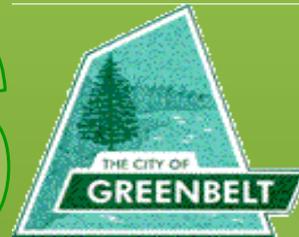
# Greenbelt's Sustainability Framework

- The document is a tool, a "map" to chart a course for sustainability
- Sustainability is an ever-moving target
- City staff, City Advisory Boards, and City Interest groups are encouraged to give input
- Green ACES is but one of many Greenbelt advisory committees and boards, and organizations, promoting various aspects of sustainability, including trees, climate action, watersheds, community food production, vegan lifestyles, and peace & justice. These talented groups and individuals need to be brought together to collaborate on the city's sustainability initiatives.

# THANK YOU

Green ACES wishes to thank past and present committee members, City Council and staff liaisons, and others who contributed to the development of this Sustainability Framework.

GreenACES



Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability