THE PALM SPRINGS PATH TO A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

DRAFT

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CITY OF PALM SPRINGS
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the palm springs path to a sustainable community

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THE PALM SPRINGS PATH TO A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

We live in one of the most beautiful places on earth. Our quality of life is second to none. But concerns about water scarcity, energy costs, environmental degradation, climate change and economic threat surround us. We must take steps now to enhance, preserve and protect our environment, economy and community for future generations.

The city of Palm Springs has long been a leader in environmental stewardship and innovation. From the early days of co-generation to aggressive waste diversion and recycling strategies to innovative responses to local energy issues, Palm Springs has consistently been an early adopter of energy efficiency and conservation policies and practices.

While local government is uniquely positioned to lead on this issue, a sustainable future will require investment, innovation and efficiency improvement at every level of government as well as the commitment and participation of the entire community.

It's time to set a new direction toward a sustainable future and adopt the policies and practices to support it. Others must also be encouraged to take and share responsibility.

And so we will ask our business, community and education leaders to work together with our citizens and visitors to make positive change and to ensure that sustainability is embedded into our behavior and culture. Our community must be fully informed and engaged to ensure that our good intentions are translated into reality for future generations.

Many important first steps on the Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community have already been taken. I am especially grateful to the local leaders who committed early on as a Leadership Council to help shape, coordinate, leverage resources and implement sustainable actions in the community. I am also deeply appreciative of the efforts of our city staff, Sustainability Commissioners, task force members, businesses, local civic groups and neighborhoods who have all contributed to our progress thus far.

While the challenges ahead are great, we can control our own destiny by taking action now to ensure a livable and prosperous community for today and for future generations. We know that a truly sustainable community will not come easily, but we also know that the rewards will last a lifetime.

Please join us on the Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community.

Palm Springs Mayor Steve Pougnet

"The world will not evolve past its current state of crisis by using the same thinking that created the situation."
Albert Einstein

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Palm Springs is blessed with breathtaking natural beauty and quality of life second to none. The city is also challenged by many of the same urban stressors faced by other municipalities – aging infrastructure and housing, growth impacts, declining resources, air pollution, carbon emissions, increasing congestion and threats to energy and water supply.

"EVERY PATH BEGINS WITH A STEP."
Palm Springs Mayor Steve Pougnet
May 2008

Palm Springs also boasts a proud history of environmental sensitivity and action that embraces the triple bottom line – economy, environment & community. In early 2008, in order to further advance its triple bottom line agenda, the City identified sustainability as a priority for more focused attention and adopted 20 First Steps to begin the Path to a Sustainable Community.

This Sustainability Plan for Palm Springs builds upon existing plans and policies, best practices and programs and input and feedback obtained during community outreach efforts including public workshops, briefings, presentations and an online public survey conducted October through December 2008. The plan sets priorities for action and provides a framework for future operational and policy decisions that begin to embed sustainability concerns into City decision making and processes.

Chapters 1-8 include context and background, summary of actions already taken, suggested benchmarks, goals and near term action items designed to meet sustainability objectives for the City.

While the proposed actions build upon activity already underway by the city, many recommendations surpass the pace of currently contemplated plans throughout the City. Implementing the plan, therefore, will require increased, coordinated efforts in all areas, including:

- Developing infrastructure to support new programs
- Securing resources to implement actions
- Developing tracking mechanisms and indicators to measure progress
- Establishing and staffing an Office of Sustainability within city hall
- Establishing an interdepartmental working group (Green Team)
- Documenting and reporting progress to decision makers and the public

Implementation is not the sole responsibility of any one individual, department, agency, Commission, agency, business or neighborhood. The entire community has a stake in and must be a part of creating a sustainable future. This plan provides a guide for the City to lead the way.

Following acceptance of a final plan, immediate next steps will be to ground these recommendations in the Palm Springs context, refine the actions, develop baselines and measures, and begin to implement strategies and actions.

Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community Twenty First Steps

1. Strategic plan for sustainability
2. Reduce city water use by 50% by 2012.
3. Reduce city energy use by 20% by 2012.
4. Become a zero waste community.
5. The city as a model for energy, water and waste conservation.
6. Sustainability website
7. Sustainable Community Summit
8. Palm Springs Partners in Sustainability Award.
9. Model re-landscaping project.
10. 50% clean air/energy efficient fleet.
11. Green Economic Development Strategy.
12. Ecotourism Plan.
13. Sustainable procurement and contracting
14. Priority parking for alternative energy vehicles.
15. Five year capital funding plan including sustainability.
16. Sustainable city funded events.
17. Sustainable workforce education and training.
18. Evaluate public/private solar roof initiative.
19. National sustainability summit in Palm Springs in 2012.
20. Staff implementation process for sustainability.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

VISION STATEMENT

Palm Springs is a thriving community that maximizes its renewable resources and conserves and restores its limited resources, so that residents can be assured of a future that is economically viable and in balance with the local environment.

Palm Springs aspires to be a place where:

- Citizens are engaged and share a vision of a sustainable future.
- Businesses support clean technology, production of renewable energy internationally-renowned eco-destination thrive.
- Children learn that sustainability is the local culture early, and this learning continues throughout life.
- Water and materials are recycled and reused.
- Homes, businesses and neighborhoods are built to high green building standards.
- Local businesses are supported and new ideas flourish.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The purpose of the Master Plan is to identify and implement actions that simultaneously benefit the economy, ecosystems and quality of life. In order for all actions to be consistent with this vision and its guiding principles it is important to qualify all actions by asking the following:

- Will this action conserve resources?
- Will this action help the City eliminate waste and recycle and reuse resources?
- Will this action reduce/eliminate toxic materials?
- Does this action help the City develop and/or support renewable resources?
- Will this action help the City grow innovation and green businesses (green technology, green collar jobs, green building, ecotourism, clean processes and products)?
- Does this action restore ecosystems and habitats?
- Does this action help to promote and communicate the idea of sustainability within the community?
- How does this action improve health, safety and quality of life for all citizens?
- Is there a balance between the cost and benefit of this action?

The Draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles will support a continuing process to improve, to leverage resources and to support the implementation of sustainable programs and practices.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

"SUSTAINABILITY MEANS LIVING ON NATURE'S INCOME RATHER THAN ITS CAPITAL"
Murray Gell-Mann
Nobel Prize
Wnner

GOAL AND STRATEGIES
8 STRATEGIC OUTCOMES FOR CHANGE

Palm Springs is a model for sustainable practices.
1. Embed sustainable principles and practices into city operations.
2. Adopt sustainable purchasing policies.
3. Retrofit existing and develop new public facilities as models of sustainability.
4. Embed sustainability concepts and practices into the local culture through education, promotion and community engagement.

Palm Springs is a center for clean tech, renewable energy and innovation.
1. Incubate, grow and attract new sustainable industries to Palm Springs, focusing on innovation, renewable energy production, clean technology, green products and services and climate change.
2. Grow Palm Springs' local economy by retaining and expanding small and locally-owned businesses, increasing exports and decreasing imports.
3. Establish Palm Springs as a premiere ecotourism destination in the US by improving existing industry practices and expanding cultural and nature-based tourism.

Palm Springs is a leader in smart growth and green building practices.
1. Increase the number of green buildings in Palm Springs.
2. Promote smart growth and transportation choice.
3. Promote alternative sustainable transportation options and infrastructure using alternative modes, fuel and vehicles.

Palm Springs is carbon neutral.
1. Establish a baseline inventory and forecast, ongoing tracking and reporting mechanism for GHG emissions.
2. Develop strategies to reduce contributions to GHG emissions by 1990 levels by 2020.
3. Pursue energy efficient transportation options that reduce GHG emissions.

Palm Springs is a net zero importer of energy.
1. Reduce local government and per capita energy consumption.
2. Support development of local and regional renewable electric power generation including onsite solar and, where appropriate, use clean distributed generation to supply base load electricity.

Palm Springs is a desert oasis reflecting and capitalizing on the desert ecosystem.
1. Promote access to sustainable open space, recreation and natural resources.
2. Support regional partners' efforts to protect and enhance regional ecosystems.

Palm Springs is a zero waste community and model of resource conservation and closed loop resource streams.
1. Reduce waste and increase recycling for all segments of the community.
1. Create closed-loop systems in which waste from one source becomes the supply for another.

Palm Springs is a leader in water efficiency and recycling.
1. Support efforts to ensure a secure water supply for the future.
2. Reduce water use in City facilities.
3. Reduce water usage per capita in Palm Springs.

SUSTAINABILITY IN PALM SPRINGS

"YOU MUST BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD"
Mohandes Ghandi

WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY?

There are multiple definitions of sustainability but the most commonly used definition can be traced to the 1987 Brundtland Commission Report. This groundbreaking document was developed by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), known as the Brundtland Commission. In the report, the Commission defined sustainable development as that which "meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs." Some have defined this definition as an application of the Golden Rule to future generations.

The Brundtland Report also noted that sustainable developments should simultaneously preserve the environment, strengthen the economy and increase social equity. This mutual-benefits framework has become known as the triple bottom line. Sustainability and environmental researcher Dr. David Suzuki noted in the Sustainability Summit November 2008 public presentation in Palm Springs that the words economy and ecology share a common Greek root word "oikos" for home.

THE TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE

the NATURAL STEP

The Natural Step approach to sustainability, peer reviewed by several Nobel Prize winning scientists, defines the prerequisites to a sustainable society by defining the system conditions necessary to sustain life on planet Earth:

In the sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing:

- Concentrations of substances produced by society
- Degradation by physical means and, in that society
- People are not subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs

SUSTAINABILITY IN PALM SPRINGS

WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY? (CONT.)

The Palm Springs Plan incorporates and reflects all three definitions. The Natural Step and Triple Bottom Line frameworks are specifically incorporated into the guiding principles and have informed many of the goals and actions in the Master Plan. The guiding principles, in effect, serve as a decision-making filter or checklist for consideration when City plans, programs and actions are initiated. Other comments on the goals, objectives and actions were developed from community meetings and a Web-based survey.

Local governments throughout the world are defining and acting on what it means to address sustainability. Cities from all over the world have developed local governmental plans for sustainability. Several of these are listed in the Best Practices Example Plans Goal Area Comparison in the Appendix. In most cases these plans address the following or similar topics:

- Resources and waste
- Pollution and public health
- Transportation/mobility
- Land use and the built environment
- Economic development and clean technologies
- Energy and carbon management
- Ecosystem protection and enhancement

These and other resources are listed in the appendix for future reference and investigation. Consulting team members and staff reviewed these and other plans and resources, applied them to Palm Springs' unique geographic, cultural and economic setting and offer the Master Plan as a point of departure for a coordinated framework of location specific actions to further Palm Springs on its Path to A Sustainable Community.

Following a review of potential criteria, and in consideration of input and feedback collected during the outreach period, the consultant team selected eight priority areas for focused attention in the Palm Springs plan:

- City Management and Operations
- Economic Vitality
- Urban Development and Mobility
- Climate Change
- Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy
- Healthy Ecosystems
- Waste

Two well-accepted systems to evaluate the sustainability of cities are the SustainLane US City Ranking system and the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) Urban Environmental Accords. SustainLane ranks cities for addressing 16 measures of urban sustainability in eight areas:

- Air and water quality
- City programs
- Waste management
- Transportation
- Green business and economy
- Water supply
- Built environment
- Natural disaster risk

SUSTAINABILITY: MEETING PRESENT NEEDS WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE ABILITY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS TO MEET THEIR NEEDS

The United Nations Urban Environmental Accords, signed in San Francisco in 2005, presents a framework including seven key targets, some more relevant to Palm Springs than others:

- Energy
- Waste Reduction
- Urban Design
- Urban Nature
- Transportation
- Environmental Health
- Water

SUSTAINABILITY IN PALM SPRINGS

WHY SUSTAINABILITY?

"AS THE SAYING GOES, A RISING TIDE RAISES ALL SHIPS. SUSTAINABILITY WORKS IN MUCH THE SAME WAY."
Malcolm Gladwell

The serious challenges before us are well documented - but with challenges come opportunities for Palm Springs.

ISSUE:

Global economic downturn. Many predict that the cities that will fare best in this recession will focus on their local strengths, resiliency and niche markets. In addition, incorporating major trends, such as renewable energy, clean technology, and green business, will make current niche markets more attractive. Sustainable Industries Journal's January 2009 issue states: "While no sector is immune to larger economic realities, institutions and companies that put less emphasis on fast growth and more on the triple-bottom-line are better situated to weather the storm… with business and investors flocking to smaller institutions that emphasize community and sustainability."

OPPORTUNITY:

Palm Springs can become a leader in sustainable industries by supporting new and existing "green" businesses through City economic development efforts, adopting and sharing sustainable best practices and investing in sustainable technologies when economically feasible.

ISSUE:

The financial and banking crises are decreasing the ability of our economies to support real estate development and consumer spending, including tourism.

OPPORTUNITY:

The response to the recession by the Obama Administration and Congress provides opportunities to use stimulus funding for housing, educational facilities, infrastructure, energy efficiency and renewable energy to benefit and grow the local economy. In addition, the City can encourage local purchases, banking and ecotourism to increase circulation of capital locally and further refine a distinguishing brand for Palm Springs.

ISSUE:

Climate change is affecting regional ecosystems, their productivity and water availability.

OPPORTUNITY:

The City can build on California legislation to become a regional leader in addressing and adapting to climate change.

WHY SUSTAINABILITY? (CONT.)

ISSUE:
Water supplies appear to be seriously threatened by climate change, related weather patterns, reduced snow packs and increased competition for water in the Colorado Basin.

OPPORTUNITY:
City government can support increased water conservation and reuse in Palm Springs to protect existing water resources and provide a potential source of water supply for future growth.

ISSUE:
Oil and natural gas energy supplies are outside local and state control and characterized by wide price swings.

OPPORTUNITY:
City government can support energy conservation and efficiency, alternative fuel uses, and renewable energy production, resulting in a more stable and secure energy supply and reduced capital outflows from the Palm Springs area.

ISSUE:
Global oceanic pollution is reaching a crisis with a sea of plastic in the Pacific Ocean now encompassing an area twice the size of the United States. This "trash vortex" has been referred to as a plastic soup.

OPPORTUNITY:
The City's support for waste reduction, recycling, and reuse, especially plastics, can help reduce negative impacts on the environment and create new sustainable businesses and employment opportunities.

"We have not been living sustainably for generations."

Dr. David Suzuki,
noted environmental researcher & journalist
Palm Springs Sustainability Summit,
November 2008

SUSTAINABILITY IN PALM SPRINGS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As a core element of the work to develop a Master Plan that is specific to Palm Springs, the City engaged in a broad outreach and involvement effort from October to December of 2008. Community involvement helped frame the overall plan, the vision and the guiding principles.

Over the course of the initial outreach period, thousands of local residents were introduced to the Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community and offered their feedback in a variety of ways. Hundreds of local students participated in assemblies, classes and presentations. Other engagement included:

- Sustainability Summit Week activities November 4-9, 2008, including neighborhood rally, school and classroom visits, Chamber of Commerce workshop, VillageFest, Certified Farmer's Market exhibits, public workshop and David Suzuki lecture.
- Online survey posted on the city website and promoted widely throughout the public engagement period.
- Outreach briefings/meetings/workshops conducted with a variety of stakeholder groups, including neighborhood groups, business and hospitality groups, civic and industry groups, public agencies, schools and teachers, City staff and Leadership Council members.
- The Leadership Council, composed of leading business, educational organizations, public agencies and institutions each adopted a resolution to support the Palm Springs Path to Sustainability and take related actions within their own organizations. See Appendix for a summary of those early actions.

"Community awareness, responsibility, involvement and education are key factors."

Comment from Palm Springs Online Survey Participant

Local businesses participate in a Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce Sustainability workshop

TOP RIGHT: Neighborhood residents gathered in early November to kick off Sustainability Summit Week, MIDDLE RIGHT: Mayor Pougnet, Palm Springs Unified School District board member Shari Stewart, District Superintendent Dr. Lori McCune, staff and students following a classroom talk about steps we can all take, BOTTOM RIGHT: Hundreds of local students signed on to the Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community during Summit Week in November 2008

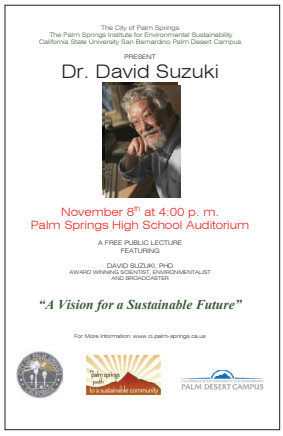
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (CONT.)

Of the 118 online surveys completed, the majority were residents of the City of Palm Springs (74%) and over the age of 50 (62%). The overwhelming majority of respondents supported the first draft concepts for the vision (96%) and guiding principles (95%). There also were several ideas for how to improve them. Most comments centered on improving clarity and readability of the vision and guiding principles.

More detailed results are available in the Summary Outreach Report and Recommendations available on the City's website: www.ci.palm-springs.ca.us.

SEVERAL SIGNIFICANT THEMES EMERGED FROM STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATING IN THE OUTREACH PROCESS:

- Strong support for the City's overall sustainability effort and the need for a plan, with interest from public, private, educational and institutional sectors.
- Palm Springs must achieve cultural and behavioral change in order for sustainability to be a success.
- Education and youth involvement will be at the core of achieving cultural change.
- Sustainability is not just a local issue; it transcends jurisdictional boundaries and must be employed at all scales—city, regional, state, national and global.
- Incentives should be employed along with regulations to encourage sustainability in the private industry.
- Conservation and efficiency is at the core of sustainability, including water, energy, and waste reduction.
- Curtailing the production of waste and reusing waste and water is a high priority.
- Palm Springs could be a center for production of renewable energy and ecotourism.
- The desert landscape is a foundation on which to build the desert oasis.
- Neighborhoods should be a focus for sustainable development in the City.The City should lead the overall sustainability effort with support from other public agencies, private business, neighborhood groups and interested citizens.



A series of public workshops, presentations and forums were conducted during Palm Springs Sustainability Summit Week November 4-9th, 2008

A FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE

Pursuing the Palm Springs Path will require both long term change and more near term capacity building and action. The priority areas in the following eight chapters build upon the momentum of existing City initiatives, address critical resource issues and harness the ability of local government to model behavior change and build public awareness to jump start progress and support long term strategic goals.

The purpose of this section of the Master Plan is to chart a specific path, with goals, objectives and strategies/actions for the City of Palm Springs to continue taking the steps necessary to achieve its vision by the year 2030.

Each goal area is its own chapter, with the following information:

- Context for the goal area
- Steps the City has already accomplished or that are underway
- General Plan Guidance
- Goal for the future
- Key dashboard metrics
- Objectives and strategies/actions

Municipal government, public agencies, the business community, community and civic groups and individuals all have an important role to play in leading sustainability actions. Each goal area provides an opportunity for all segments of the community to identify a role and contribution toward a Sustainable Community.

"Environmental quality and economic health are mutually dependent."

Palm Springs Workshop Participant

SUSTAINABLE CITY MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

CONTEXT

In recent years, the City has advanced on the Path to Sustainability with important policy action, including adopting the Mayor's Climate Change Resolution as well as goals to reduce energy use by 20% and reduce water use by 50% by 2012. The City has also taken important sustainable action steps including installation of a gas recovery program at the city waste treatment facility, installation of LED for traffic lights and airport runway lighting, addition of solar powered waste compactors downtown, aggressive waste recycling and diversion programs, participation in the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, partial public fleet conversion to fuel efficient vehicles, PM10 and other air emission reduction programs, as well as incorporation of sustainable land use and building policies and programs into the General Plan.

Strategies that encourage people to buy locally are also an important component of economic sustainability. Retaining local dollars within a community reduces economic export and increases the financial productivity of taxpayer dollars. It increases the consumption of local goods and services and fosters a sustainable community. In working toward a sustainable economy, the City of Palm Springs recognizes that sustainable procurement policies are an important early step on the Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community.

With the recent adoption of a local preference ordinance, the city took an important step toward sustainable procurement policies - local preference to support local business and jobs. Step two is social equity to insure inclusion. Step Three is environmental to reduce impacts and set a standard for green purchasing. This triple bottom line approach, integrating local, social and environmental considerations into a unified policy, is important to the eventual success of sustainable procurement.

In the future the City should be able to comprehensively assess vendors in terms of economic contribution, social responsibility and environmental performance. That way the City can use its purchasing power to work with vendors that offer the most long-term benefit for the City which strengthens the local economic activity and employment as well as sets an example that helps foster and maintain a vital economic community for future generations.

"Government should lead and set the example"

Palm Springs Online Survey Participant

SUSTAINABLE CITY MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

THE CITY'S ROLE

The city's role is important in addressing policy, planning and service issues related to climate change, water and energy use, waste generation and other sustainability factors. But ultimately, public involvement and community wide behavior change will be the key to the long term success of the Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community.

The City should take the lead in working with residents, neighborhoods, businesses and community groups to model sustainable practices and to promote, encourage and empower the community to take actions that will improve the environment, the economy and the quality of life for future generations.

In addition to a commitment to expand its knowledge on sustainability generally, the City should lead by example by committing to build public buildings to high green standards, transition the public fleet to clean fuels, enhance energy efficiency and the use of sustainable products and develop the infrastructure to support the use of alternative forms of transportation.

This chapter addresses how the City, as a public agency, addresses sustainability in terms of its internal management and operations and how it promotes and facilitates change in the community.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

- Organizing a Sustainability Summit Week including a public lecture on sustainability featuring noted environmentalist David Suzuki.
- Identifying sustainability as a top priority for the City during the City's 2008 Priority Setting Session. The annual setting of priorities guides work plans, funding and budget decisions for City government.
- Expanding and refocusing the role of the Resource Conservation Commission to become the Palm Springs Sustainability Commission
- Adopting a local preference ordinance.
- Committing to transition 50% of the municipal fleet to clean air fuels.
- Participating in the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) Energy and Environment Committee, Energy and Water Conservation Sub-Committee, Coachella Valley Conservation Commission and Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy.
- Expanding the Resource Conservation Commission and revising its role and duties to incorporate sustainability.
- Appointing a Leadership Council. 24 members have adopted a resolution pledging specific action and support for the overall initiative.
- Hosting a week long Sustainability Summit Week to raise awareness and provide opportunity for public input, education and information and featuring a presentation by noted sustainability expert Dr. David Suzuki.

"Look outside the box for ways to fund programs and incentives"

Palm Springs Online Survey Participant

SUSTAINABLE CITY MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

GOAL: *Palm Springs is a model for sustainable practices.*

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC

- Annual City sustainability report card.
- Number of community participants engaged in sustainability projects.
- Number of green conferences, workshops and events.
- Percentage of renewable energy powering public facilities.
- Number of businesses using sustainable practices.
- Sustainability website hits/page views.
- Number of community gardens.

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1.
Embed sustainable principles and practices into city operations.

1. Enhance sustainability capacity by establishing and staffing an Office of Sustainability.
2. Appoint and support an inter-departmental Green Team (see Key Roles and Responsibilities).
3. Develop an annual sustainability report card and system for reporting progress and promote accomplishments with a short "dashboard" of key metrics that are easily communicated.
4. Train all employees in the basics of sustainability and how to manage an organization based on sustainability. Consider the Natural Step as a framework (see Appendix).
5. Conduct a sustainability assessment and action plan for internal operations. (See example City Operations Planning Workbook in Appendix.)
6. Incorporate employee sustainability performance into City personnel recruitment, hiring, review and evaluation.
7. Integrate sustainability objectives into a five year capital funding plan.

OBJECTIVE 2.
Adopt sustainable practices and purchasing policies.

1. Form a task force (Procurement, key city division reps and the Office of Sustainability) to collaborate on a review of current and future contracts and municipal best practices and policies (including life cycle cost analysis) for sustainable procurement opportunities for each division.
2. Develop and adopt an interim policy that provides for the purchase of independently certified sustainable, green products when available, affordable, within budget and meet quality requirements (this is first cycle cost analysis).
3. Expand the City's local preference ordinance to include social equity (women and minority owned businesses) and environmental practices.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:
- Establish the City as a leader in energy efficient and environmentally sustainable development and planning practices. (CD29)

SUSTAINABLE CITY MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS (CONT.)

OBJECTIVE 3.
Retrofit existing and develop new public facilities as models of sustainability.

1. Develop a policy that guides the sustainable design, construction and renovation of all city owned public facilities. Consider LEED Gold as a minimum standard or equivalent (see chapter 3).
2. Complete an assessment, including audits of energy, water, waste and consumption of other resources at major City facilities and develop an action plan and timeline to retrofit existing facilities to minimum LEED–EB standards (see section 3) .
3. Complete construction and develop a plan to replicate the model re-landscaping projects for Tahquitz median and at City Hall.
4. Develop a plan to maximize distributed generation and cogeneration in public facilities.

OBJECTIVE 4.
Embed sustainability concepts and practices into the local culture through education, promotion and community engagement.

1. Develop and maintain a City sustainability website as a resource to the community.
2. Establish a local network of sustainability related groups to share resources build partnerships and unify outreach efforts.
3. Initiate the Mayor's hike in the Canyons and award annual Sustainability Leadership Recognition Awards.
4. Develop and promote a local rating system for green business that can be replicated and incorporated as part of the Palm Springs brand.
5. Adopt a policy moving all City funded events toward zero waste and sustainable event practices.
6. Work with community partners and public and private schools to incorporate sustainability into curriculum.
7. Develop a community garden pilot project in partnership with local stakeholders.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

CONTEXT

Economic vitality is a cornerstone of sustainability and includes prosperity for residents, a strong tax base for providing needed City services, and economic activity that respects and restores the natural environment.

The financial and economic downturn reinforces the need for Palm Springs to attract and support enterprises in growing industries and to take advantage of new state and federal policies and programs. By leveraging the City's strengths now, Palm Springs can mitigate impacts and position the City to take advantage of future opportunities when the national and global economy rebound.

SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

California has been the source of many innovations that have driven the state's growth and prosperity. A recent report from the University of California at Berkeley, *California 2008 Innovation Index*, suggests that climate policies can stimulate economic growth by providing incentives for investment in new technologies. Innovations in climate change, clean technology and renewable energy can address several pressing environmental challenges while bringing economic benefits to the City of Palm Springs and the region.

The City has the opportunity to leverage its assets to attract innovators to the region. Palm Springs' strengths include its strong foundation of local small businesses, a vital tourism industry, assets in renewable energy and clean technology and the City's commitment to sustainable growth.

Palm Springs is well-positioned to share in the growth of California's green innovation economy. The City's location, climate and topography make it an ideal production center for renewable energy, specifically solar and wind power. Renewable energy is a growth industry, especially in California. From 2002-2007, California's total energy generation grew by 11%, while power generation from renewable sources increased by 19%.

Clean technology (clean tech), an emerging field that develops and uses industrial processes that cause little or no pollution, is one of the fastest growing business sectors in the world and has a strong presence in California. Clean technology investment in California reached an all-time high of $3.3 billion in 2008, nearly double that of 2007. Clean tech investments continued to grow even as investments in nearly all other technology sectors fell at the end of last year.

Investment is spread across a range of technologies:

- Distributed energy – onsite power and distributed hydrogen
- Intelligence – software, sensors and data management
- Research

"Clean Tech" can be applied in a variety of ways, even down to "green construction and building materials." Pursuit of a Clean Tech target becomes an ongoing effort to attract companies by implementing green practices as well as marketing Palm Springs as a competitive location for "clean-and-green" companies.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES

Research has proven that small, established businesses have the highest potential for growth and new jobs creation. Focusing on a small group of high-growth, high-potential businesses can generate a large number of new sustainable jobs. Littleton, Colo., successfully implemented this "economic gardening" economic strategy in the late 1980's.

Local small businesses are the backbone of the Palm Springs economy. The degree to which these businesses prosper will depend on the overall economic vitality of the City within the US and global economy. Many factors, such as fuel prices and monetary policy, are outside the City's control. However, there are actions the City and the Palm Springs business community can take to retain and expand locally-owned businesses, increase tourists visits, increase exports and decrease imports, and recruit new businesses.

Support for local businesses can take many forms, including: building a strong local infrastructure (e.g., airport facilities and public transportation), local purchasing preferences, flexibility with local development permits and fees, targeted incentives that provide a solid return to the City, advocacy and support for incubators, education and training programs, and variety of other actions. Several of these are addressed below and elsewhere in this report.

ECOTOURISM

Ecotourism is known as "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people." It is defined by cultural sensitivity, responsible travel, benefits to local peoples and preservation or improvement of natural areas.

The City of Palm Springs has identified ecotourism as a potential growth area, building upon the City's existing identity as a tourist destination and its tourism-driven economy. The City welcomed one million guests in 2007. Retail, restaurant and hotel revenues are significant economic generators for the City.

A successful strategy to boost ecotourism will include both internal and external positioning and marketing. This includes internal activity such as introducing more sustainable practices to the established hospitality industry as well as promoting Palm Springs as an ecotourist destination to new external markets. To build a reputation for ecotourism, the City and its partners should enhance access to cultural and natural resources while expanding options for responsible travel.

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

The City of Palm Springs can strengthen its position as a regional and national leader in sustainability and improve its own Triple Bottom Line by developing a set of sustainable performance standards for City operations and decision-making. It can also encourage local businesses to use green materials and adopt sustainable practices.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

GOAL: *Palm Springs is a center for clean tech, renewable energy and innovation.*

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC

- Number of clean tech industry sector businesses.
- Number of small business employees as a share of overall employment.
- Number of new businesses licensed in and recruited to Palm Springs.
- Annual number of visitors.
- Percentage of year-round jobs/employees compared to part-time/ seasonal employees.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

Palm Springs has already taken a leadership position toward sustainable economic growth, including the following actions:

- City Council Member Task Force appointed to focus on small business support.
- In 2008, the Mayor of Palm Springs launched a Task Force charged with supporting development of an overall clean tech economic development strategy and creating a clean tech economic cluster.
- In 2009, the City adopted a preferential purchasing policy for contractors and suppliers.
- The Mayor formed a Task Force on Ecotourism in 2008 to begin to develop a strategy to enhance and expand nature-based tourism.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

Incubate, grow and attract new sustainable industries to Palm Springs, focusing on innovation, renewable energy production, clean technology, green products and services and climate change.

1. Develop an economic profile of Palm Springs' sustainable industry sectors and a site inventory of space for sustainable development.
2. Interview business owners and other industry representatives to identify key decision factors for business incubation, expansion and site selection for target industries.
3. Designate a Clean Tech Zone to provide and promote incentives and incubate and recruit new clean tech and related innovative businesses.
4. Develop a package of local incentives (possibly including grant and loan programs, City-owned land and energy donations and preferential permitting policies) to make Palm Springs more attractive to target industries.
5. Work with education partners to identify and focus resources from the College of the Desert, UC Riverside, K-12 and others to support sustainable industries cluster and other local businesses (workforce development, incubation, research and development, technology transfer etc.).
6. Provide start-up firms with low-cost materials, technical assistance and opportunities for collaboration. Support development of a new sustainable business incubator.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Attract and retain high-quality industrial and business park development (LU3).
- Attract and retain high-quality, sustainable commercial development (LU4).

Policies:

- Provide areas that allow a combination of alternative energy development and industrial uses. (LU3.9)
- Encourage "green technologies," renewable energy, and related activities as a business development goal and to attract this type of business activity to Palm Springs. (RC8.4)
- Work with the Coachella Valley Association of Governments to develop a regional energy policy and foster the development of associated energy industries in the Coachella Valley. (RC8.5)

OBJECTIVE 2:
Grow Palm Springs' local economy by retaining and expanding small and locally-owned businesses, increasing exports and decreasing imports.

1. Educate residents and visitors on where to buy local goods and services - consider a "Buy Local" campaign.
2. Increase support for small businesses to form, expand and innovate. Consider an economic gardening model.
3. Complete a market analysis including an input-output model to identify opportunities for export and import substitution to maximize local wealth generation, circulation and economic multiplier effects.
4. Promote local purchasing and procurement strategies outlined in Chapter 1, City Management and Operations.

OBJECTIVE 3:
Establish Palm Springs as a premiere ecotourism destination in the US by improving existing industry practices and expanding cultural and nature-based tourism.

1. Support and promote Palm Springs hospitality and service industries to become green.
2. Convene existing tourism-based business owners and industry representatives to identify opportunities for expanding nature-based tourism. Research and report on best practices from other regions for consideration and adaptation.
3. Working with the local hospitality industry, develop a comprehensive marketing and promotional strategy for local and regional eco-tourism businesses, building the City's identity as a gateway to the San Jacinto National Forest, Joshua Tree National Park, the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument and other nearby recreational and natural resources.
4. Increase the options for ecologically-responsible travel to the region, popular tourist destinations, carbon-offset alternatives and resource conservation strategies for visitors.
5. Work with community partners to develop an ecotourism volunteer program to engage the visitors in ecological restoration and other locally-beneficial activities.

OBJECTIVE 4:
Encourage sustainable business practices.

1. Establish a set of criteria for sustainable business practices based on sustainability guiding principles or other leading best practices.
2 Provide technical support and training to businesses in Palm Springs on sustainable business best practices.
3. Partner with local business organizations to develop a promotional and marketing plan to increase the utilization of sustainable businesses.
4. Incorporate evaluation of sustainable practices (energy efficiency, waste reduction, recycling, reuse, local hiring, pollution prevention, continuing education) in identifying businesses to attract, retain and assist.
5. Distribute materials on sustainable business practices and resources with business license and permit information.

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION CHOICE

CHAPTER 3

CONTEXT

Sustainable urban development and mobility (transportation choice) means ensuring General Plan policies and associated implementing ordinances reflect smart growth principles such as:

- Civic engagement/collaboration
- Compact building design
- Cultivating a strong sense of place
- Energy and resource efficiency
- Good governance/clear decision-making
- Green building practices
- Historic preservation and redevelopment of existing communities as opposed to Greenfield development
- Housing choice
- Opens space preservation and recreational opportunities
- Providing a mix of land uses for residents daily needs
- Transportation choice
- Walkable neighborhoods

Some of the key benefits of these approaches to development include:

- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Lower electric and water utility costs
- Enhanced human health and productivity
- Long-term economic returns
- Reduced environmental impact

Sustainable site design principles include:

- Optimize site potential
- Protect and conserve water
- Minimize non-renewable energy consumption
- Use environmentally preferable products and materials
- Enhance indoor environmental quality
- Optimize operation and maintenance practices

Land use planning that adheres to smart growth principles can help create sustainable communities by preserving open space, contributing to a range of housing options and minimizing travel times. Many smart growth objectives are already incorporated into existing General Plan policies and actions. In addition, strong smart growth policies and implementing ordinances that are measured over time can assist local government in meeting the requirements of the 2009 California local government protocol for reduced greenhouse gas emissions (see also the chapter on Climate Change).

CONTEXT (CONT.)

According to the US Department of Energy's Center for Sustainable Development, buildings consume 40% of the world's total energy, 25% of its wood harvest and 16% of its water. Energy use and material consumption for buildings will be an important focus for strategies to address global climate change. Green building addresses new construction, redevelopment, neighborhood development and other related developments and is generally focused at the site, rather than at the community level on: sustainable site locations, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor air quality and innovative design. Dramatic savings in energy use have been documented in a wide range of green buildings in California.

There are numerous green building programs and standards. The California Green Builder program encourages voluntary partnerships between builders and local governments to build cost-effective, green homes that benefit homebuyers and the community at large. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ encourages and accelerates adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria. The LEED program consists of a set of prerequisites and credits with specific requirements for obtaining points in order to become a certified green building.

Prioritizing reuse, redevelopment and retrofit of existing buildings supports sustainability by preserving embodied energy and avoiding new impacts from construction, reducing new waste added to landfills, and reducing the demand for production of new materials as well as reducing the carbon footprint and GHG emissions by improving the energy and water efficiency of current facilities. The U.S. Green Building Council recently adopted LEED-EB® as a guideline for greening Existing Buildings.

CONTEXT (CONT.)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

On September 23, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 1389, which requires the Department of Housing and Urban Community Development to review relevant green building guidelines when preparing proposed building standards for submittal to the California Building Standards Commission. Additionally, the Department should consider proposing as mandatory building standards those green building features determined by the Department to be cost effective and feasible to promote greener construction.

On July 17, 2008, the California Building Standards Commission passed the California Green Building Standards Code, which aims to reduce water and energy use in buildings through landscaping, appliance efficiency, building design, and the use of recycled materials. The code is voluntary through 2009 at which time it becomes mandatory. The Code is written so as to not preempt more stringent local policies.

Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order #S-20-04 on December 14, 2004, requiring the design, construction, and operation of all new and renovated state-owned facilities to be LEED Silver. The state is pursuing LEED for New Construction for its projects and the Silver certification level, and LEED for Existing Buildings certification for existing facilities.

Many cities and counties across the state require public and/or private projects to meet green building standards and/or certifications (See Appendix for a sample and summary list of over 40 entities, including links to resolutions and contacts). In addition, new California Title 24 Building Efficiency Standards are expected to raise the bar for energy efficiency for new construction. The new standards will be in effect in August 2009.

CONTEXT (CONT.)

TRANSPORTATION

In California, transportation accounts for over 40% of greenhouse gas emissions. Ninety-six percent of the state's transportation fuel comes from oil. Savings can be gained in transportation with alternative fuels and technologies but efficiencies in land use planning and design will also contribute to reducing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Providing transportation choice and encouraging and incentivizing use of cleaner fuels should be lead strategies in this arena.

Palm Springs and much of the state of California continue to be dominated by single-occupancy vehicle travel. Although weather limits lengthy bike and pedestrian trips in summer months, there are many opportunities to increase non-motorized trips during cooler seasons and use alternative-fuel and hybrid vehicles as well as carpool and shuttle vehicles for many trips.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

Green Building and Related Sites

- Constructing the City's new Animal Control Center to meet LEED green building certification standards.
- Including passive green systems in the design of the Convention Center building, resulting in 60% efficiency.
- Utilizing cold water storage HVAC systems at the Convention Center to reduce energy use during peak hours and automated controls to minimize load.

Land Use and Transportation Planning

- Implementing Traffic Signal Management Program to reduce vehicle operating costs and emissions via expected reductions in stops and delays.
- Maintaining emergency response times for public safety vehicles above standards.

Alternative fuels, vehicles and modes

- Supporting a 100% CNG bus fleet, placement of solar panels on bus stops, placing CNG fueling stations at airport and City Hall.
- Incorporating bike lanes in City streets.
- Transitioning the City's non-emergency vehicles and equipment to a 50% clean air/energy efficient fleet.

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION CHOICE

GOAL: ***Palm Springs is a leader in smart growth and green building practices.***

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC
• Percent of new development and redevelopment occurring in already built/ urbanized areas
• Operational costs savings for municipal buildings.
• Number of staff and industry professionals that received green building training.
• Number of LEED Accredited Professions on staff and industry professionals in the community.
• Number of buildings achieving LEED certification or equivalency.
• Share of hybrid and alternative-fuel vehicles in City fleet.
• Number and type of renewable fuel facilities and infrastructure.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

Increase the number of green buildings.

1. Require all city-owned buildings be built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold standards.
2. Adopt LEED-EB (existing building) sustainable green standards for rehabilitated City-owned buildings.
3. Develop a plan for adopting and implementing green building standards for private development.
4. Conduct a systematic review of the General Plan and implementing ordinances and standards to identify additional opportunities to incentivize and encourage green building practices.
5. Develop criteria and adopt fast track permit process for green development that meets clear and objective standards such as LEED or equivalent. Evaluate the City's focused entitlement process for expedited review for affordable housing as a model.
6. Provide smart growth and LEED training and accreditation for select City staff.
7. Incentivize architectural and historic preservation and remodeling Practices.
8. Develop an outreach and education plan for developers, realtors, and institutions (schools and hospitals) focused on sustainable design principles and green building.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Establish the City as a leader in energy efficient and environmentally sustainable development and planning practices. (CD29)
- Reduce the City's dependence on the use of single-passenger vehicles by enhancing mass transit opportunities, including associated policies and actions. (CR4)

Policies:

- Require the use of energy-efficient and green building practices that are appropriate to the desert climate. (CD29.1).
- Require the use of green building techniques in the design and construction of public buildings and facilities. (CD29.2)
- Support the delivery of improved regional transit services to and within the City. (CR4.1)
- Adopt a program of nonmotorized transportation facilities, including those for bicycles and pedestrians. (CR6.1)
- Encourage the use of green building practices, including Title 24 energy conservation standards, in the construction, rehabilitation, and renovation of housing, to the extent feasible. (HS4.3)

Actions:

- Implement 'green planning' site design incentives. (CD 29.4)
- Encourage the use of green building practices, including title 24 energy conservation standards. (HS4.3)
- Develop a green building ordinance and the sustainability vision. (HS4.1) (CD29.1)
- Implement a program to address the maintenance of vacant lots and develop an implementing ordinance to encourage temporary uses of vacant land within the City to encourage urban amenities such as parks, demonstration gardens, community supported agriculture and renewable energy development. (CD1.3)
- Encourage large employers to adopt incentive programs that include ridesharing, preferential parking for rideshares, telecommuting, flex hours, bike racks and other amenities to promote commuting patterns other than single occupancy vehicles. (CR1.4)
- Encourage developers to provide facilities such as carpools and vanpools and bicycle parking facilities. (CR 1.11)
- Prepare a Master Plan of Multi-use Trails for the City of Palm Springs and update periodically to address changing needs. (RC4.1)
- Public and private parking lots should provide for electric vehicle recharging stations. (CR8.3)
- Encourage the use of hybrid, low, or zero emissions vehicles in the City's vehicular fleet. Existing vehicles should be replaced by "clean" or alternative-fuel vehicles as they are normally retired. (AQ4.3)
- Develop a program to encourage the use of alternative-fuel vehicles. This program could include incentives such as priority/ free parking or tax breaks. (AQ4.4)
- Create an incentives program to encourage developers to incorporate bike paths, sidewalks, and pedestrian access points beyond those required. (AQ4.5).

SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION CHOICE

OBJECTIVE 2:
Promote smart growth and transportation choice.

1. Engage the Green Team and Sustainability Commission to review the City General Plan, zoning and development ordinances for compliance with SB 375 and identify additional opportunities to promote efficient, sustainable development practices.
2. Evaluate effectiveness of General Plan action CD1.3 (Implement a program to address the maintenance of vacant lots) and develop an implementing ordinance to encourage, temporary uses of vacant land within the City to encourage urban amenities such as parks, demonstration gardens, community supported agriculture and renewable energy development.
3. Adopt an ordinance addressing the aesthetics of infill sites during permitting associated with demolition and design.
4. Consider expanding General Plan policy to encourage all, not just large employers to adopt incentive programs that include ridesharing, preferential parking for rideshares, telecommuting, flex hours, bike racks and other amenities to promote commuting patterns other than single occupancy vehicles.
5. Amplify and augment efforts to encourage developers to provide facilities such as carpools and van pools and bicycle parking facilities.
6. Engage Green Team and Sustainability Commission members in strategies to implement General Plan goal to "Reduce the City's dependence on the use of single-passenger vehicles by enhancing mass transit opportunities." Including associated policies and actions.

OBJECTIVE 3:
Promote alternative, sustainable transportation options and infrastructure using alternative modes, fuels and vehicles.

1. Adopt a policy to transform the full municipal fleet conversion to clean fuel vehicles.
2. Participate in the regional non-motorized transportation plan implementation, including annual expansion of the existing system.
3. Dedicate a portion of the transportation budget to go to pedestrian and cyclist amenities.
4. Develop a clean airport shuttle service to major destinations within the City and Valley.
5. Develop partnerships with local public health agencies and hospitals to promote biking and walking as alternatives to vehicle trips when weather permits.
6. Require clear signage and pedestrian access to parking at trail heads.
7. Investigate the feasibility of car-sharing (e.g., Zipcar) in the City and at the airport.
8. Explore and evaluate a City-wide bike rental program with outlets located at major destinations similar to the Velib bike share program in Paris.
9. Develop ordinances allowing neighborhood electric vehicles (e.g., golf carts and other similar vehicles) as a mode of travel on appropriate routes in the City.
10. Develop a strategy to support development of the electric vehicle infrastructure including charging stations at City-owned parking facilities and incentivize private development of electric vehicle plug-in infrastructure.
11. Explore and evaluate feasibility of alternative energy fuel production and fueling stations in Palm Springs.

CLIMATE CHANGE

CONTEXT

As predicted by the US National Academy of Sciences in 2008, global climate change will have wide ranging negative impacts on Palm Springs and the entire desert southwest. Indications are that global temperatures could rise by up to 11 degrees in the next hundred years. In addition, a recently released study by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) documents the long term impacts of climate change with specific indication that the desert Southwest is in particular danger. The recently released UC Berkeley California Climate Risk and Response report also identifies wide ranging impacts including:

- Water scarcity
- Risk to hydroelectric energy sources
- Energy supply and timing of demand
- Transportation disruption
- Travel and tourism viability
- Wild fires and storms impacts on real estate
- Agriculture, forests, and fisheries productivity
- Public health

WHAT ARE GREENHOUSE GASES

Greenhouse gases are naturally occurring emissions that help trap heat within our atmosphere and allow the planet to maintain a temperature suitable for life. Increasing human activity has resulted in increasing green house gases beyond their naturally occurring state, resulting in a phenomenon known as global warming.

Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane. These gases are produced as a result of burning fossil fuels to produce electricity, to heat our homes and to power our vehicles. Methane is a byproduct of organic waste and sewage decomposition.

The California Risk Assessment and other reports call for bold action to address the human causes of climate changes. In addition, California participates in The Western Climate Initiative that was created to identify, evaluate, and implement collective and cooperative ways to reduce greenhouse gases in the region, focusing on a market-based cap-and-trade system.

However extensive the impacts of climate change on the desert Southwest are likely to be, the UC Berkeley report suggests that climate policies can stimulate economic growth by providing incentives for investment in new technologies.

Three California laws are paramount to understanding the implications of climate change policy:

- AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, requires reduction of green house gases to 1990 levels by 2020, which represents a 25% reduction. A California executive order further mandates an 80% reduction by 2050. California is required to develop a comprehensive approach to reducing greenhouse gases. The Air Resources Board's Scoping Plan outlines the main strategies California will use to reduce the greenhouse gases (GHG) that cause climate change. The Scoping Plan includes a range of GHG reduction actions which include direct regulations, alternative compliance mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, voluntary actions, and market-based mechanisms such as a cap-and-trade system.

CONTEXT (CONT.)

- SB 97 requires the Office of Planning and Research by July 1, 2009, to prepare and transmit to the Resources Agency amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines to assist public agencies in the mitigation of GHG emissions or the effects of GHG including the effects associated with transportation and energy consumption.

- SB 375 is the nation's first policy to integrate four planning processes: land-use planning, transportation planning, housing development and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions focused on the use of incentives. By addressing greenhouse gas emissions in the aggregate, from these sources at the regional planning level, a new system is designed to avoid conducting duplicative, project-specific CEQA greenhouse gas analysis and mitigation strategies. In addition, the legislation provides the opportunity for the Coachella Valley to develop a regional plan separate from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). By June 1, 2009 the regional planning agency Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) is required to decide whether to opt into an eight year planning cycle for the act.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

Palm Springs can position the City to profit from the changes underway in California. Innovations in climate change, clean technology, energy efficiency and renewable energy can address several pressing environmental challenges while bringing economic benefits to the region. See also related chapters on economic development and energy.

California is a national leader in addressing Climate Change. Building on this leadership, there are many opportunities for the Coachella Valley communities to work together to develop strategies to address climate change.

The production and use of energy is the single most significant driver of GHG emissions in a community; about 40% of fossil fuel combustion emissions, the primary GHG source, is from the residential and commercial end-use sectors (US EPA, 2007). Palm Springs should address Climate Change through aggressive actions to improve energy efficiency and encourage renewable energy, encourage multimodal transportation, encouraging green building and the reduction of waste and recycling of waste.
The City has already begun retrofitting traffic lights with Light-Emitting Diode (LED) to enhance energy efficiency and durability. Research has shown LEDs to be brighter, longer lasting and cost effective. Synchronizing traffic lights and incorporating permissive left turn lanes is another area targeted for improvement by the City. Synchronization and permissive left turn lanes increase travel speed without road widening, reduces traffic congestion and air emissions and cut commute times.

By modeling these kinds of positive changes, the City will influence others to make the kinds of changes necessary to reduce green house gases and positively influence carbon emission reduction efforts overall.

CLIMATE CHANGE

GOAL: *Palm Springs is carbon neutral.*

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC

- Carbon footprint. Inventory of carbon dioxide production sources for the City government, Palm Springs municipal boundary, and the Coachella Valley for energy supply, transportation, real estate (residential, industrial and commercial).
- Greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets for the building industry by sectors: municipal, commercial and residential.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

- Adopting Mayor's Climate Change Resolution in March 2008.
- Adopting Coachella Valley Association of Government Regional Resolution to reduce energy use by 10% by 2012.
- Adopting city goal to reduce energy use by 20% by 2012.
- Two co-generation plants use natural gas to produce and supply power to city facilities, including the airport.
- LED lights are in use in traffic signals throughout the City and all taxi areas and runways at Palm Springs International Airport.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

Establish a baseline inventory and forecast, ongoing tracking and reporting mechanism for GHG emissions.

1. Develop a comprehensive GHG emissions inventory for City government and the City of Palm Springs geographic area in partnership with other area governments.
2. Annually inventory and report GHG emissions so that reductions can be tracked in a transparent, consistent and accurate manner.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Improve regional air quality to protect the health of the community. (AQ1)
- Encourage energy efficiency and conservation in land use, transportation demand management, subdivision, and building design. (RC 8.3)
- Encourage "green technologies", renewable energy and related activities as a business development goal. (RC 8.4)
- Encourage cogeneration facilities. (RC 8.15)

Policies:

- Facilitate the orderly and efficient development of wind energy resources and regulate their location, operation, and management. (RC8.1).
- Support and encourage the use of alternative energy sources… and generating industries to provide more reliability in the supply of electricity to the City and to promote the development of clean, sustainable, and alternative energy industries in the City. (RC8.2).

Actions:

- Develop incentives that encourage local businesses to incorporate emissions reduction measures that go beyond those required or recommended by SCAQMD, SSAB, and the City. Such incentives might include permit streamlining, priority processing, or fee reductions. (AQ1.3)
- Implement energy conservation practices in existing buildings and subdivision design by enforcing energy efficiency standards, solar energy development regulations, incorporation of alternative energy sources and conservation practices at all public facilities; and other practices as deemed appropriate. (RC8.5).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS (CONT.)

OBJECTIVE 2:
Develop strategies to reduce contributions to GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and carbon neutrality by 2030.

1. Develop a local climate change action plan to reduce GHGs for Palm Springs.
2. Retrofit and install Light-Emitting Diode (LED) energy efficient lighting in all of the City's traffic lights.
3. Improve city-wide traffic signalization, including permission left turn lanes.
4. Lead a valley-wide effort to improve traffic signalization and incorporate permission left turn lanes throughout the Coachella Valley.
5. Review current zoning and building codes to minimize the impact of GHG.
6. Participate in the development and implementation of regional strategies to meet the requirements of AB32.
7. Establish incentives and disincentives to reduce production of GHGs by sectors in the City (such as energy production, transportation and real estate residential, commercial, and industrial).
8. Participate in a regional carbon offset program, carbon trading or "cap and trade" system to capture funding for local/regional actions to reduce contributions to GHGs.

OBJECTIVE 3: Pursue energy efficient transportation options that reduce GHG emissions.

1. Reduce employee vehicle miles traveled in city vehicles by promoting teleconferences and the availability of alternative transportation options for business and trips.
2. Encourage telecommuting and flexible hours policies to avoid at least one commuting day per month per employee (average).
3. Work with the building industry to reduce vehicle trips to and from construction sites.

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

CHAPTER 5

CONTEXT

NATIONAL ENERGY SITUATION

Many analyses continue to document the Nation's dependency on foreign sources of oil and to a lesser extent natural gas. This dependency has major consequences for our economy, environment and national security. Every dollar sent overseas is a dollar not spent in the US. Thomas Friedman has documented this case in detail and argues that a strategy of energy efficiency and renewable energy development will benefit our economy, communities, environment and national security.

In addition, carbon dioxide emissions account for roughly 72% of all greenhouse gas emissions. Fossil fuel combustion (petroleum, natural gas and coal) from electricity generation and transportation makes up the largest category of carbon emissions in the world.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY SITUATION

Because of aggressive measures undertaken to conserve and develop alternative energy, the average 2005 monthly electricity bill in California was almost half that of Texas and two-thirds the average bill in Florida.

Recent work by researchers at UC Berkeley concludes that California's residential low energy use is real. The report states that from 1970 to 2004, California decreased its annual residential energy consumption by 35% while other states increased. Alternative explanations including weather, income, prices and economic structure account for at most 15%. California has implemented efficiency programs and standards that have yielded increasing electricity savings totaling about 120 MW per year compared to 500 MW for the three major investor-owned utilities. In addition, projected savings associated with recently adopted updates to California's energy efficiency standards for buildings and appliances are expected to eliminate the need for five giant power plants in the next 10 years.

The California Green Innovation Index finds that total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) produced per unit of energy (energy productivity) is 68% higher in California than the rest of the nation, which generates billions for the local economy. Since 2005, statewide green jobs have grown at a rate 10 times faster than total job growth. Green tech venture capital investment nearly doubled in one year, hitting an all-time high of $3.3 billion in 2008, capturing 57% of the national total.

California has benefited both economically and environmentally from a first wave of green innovation as a result of increasing energy efficiency since the 1970s.

PALM SPRINGS ENERGY SITUATION

Like many Southern California cities, Southern California Edison (SCE) is the electricity provider for Palm Springs. Natural gas is supplied by Southern California Gas Company. Oil is provided through a variety of global oil companies. It is well understood that oil and natural gas prices have been difficult to predict based on global forces of supply and demand, political instability and the use of resources (e.g., use of natural gas a preferred fuel to generate electricity). For example, natural gas prices rose from under $1 per thousand cubic feet in 1970 to $12 per thousand cubic feet in 2005. Most

everyone realizes that prices for gasoline have been highly volatile.

The City imports the vast majority of its energy supply. Importing energy results in the direct outflow of large amounts of valuable capital to energy companies and foreign suppliers. California law requires electricity providers to furnish customers with power content labels which provide information on the mix of resources used to generate electricity. Southern California Edison's mix for Palm Springs is 50% natural gas, 21% nuclear, 16% renewables, 8% coal and 5% large hydro-electric. This indicates there is a significant opportunity to replace non-renewable resources with renewables.

The largest consumers of electricity in Palm Springs include, in descending order: residences, office buildings, hotels and motels, water agencies, all other commercial, hospitals, retail and restaurants. This mix allows a focus on real estate and buildings as a major focus.

The price of electricity in Palm Springs is relatively high because of summer air conditioning peak power requirements and the current California rate structure.

With the national and state focus on reducing greenhouse gas production, reducing imported energy, developing renewable energy sources and saving money for customers, the time has come to develop an aggressive new sustainable energy approach for Palm Springs.

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

There are two key strategies to reduce the consumption of electric energy: replace non-renewable with renewable energy and increase the efficiency of energy use. With its abundant sunshine and wind resources, Palm Springs has significant opportunities to produce more renewably generated energy.

The first place to start is increasing the efficiency of current electrical energy use. In this area, Palm Springs has considerable opportunity, working with partners, to increase its energy efficiency. Estimates indicate that the cost of energy efficiency measures are approximately three cents per kilowatt hour compared to an average of 10 cents per kilowatt hour for new power generation. These savings are even more significant when considering:

- Lower prices
- Local jobs for suppliers and installers
- Reducing capital exports
- Improved market value of real estate and savings to homeowners and businesses
- Potential for technological innovation

"Promote energy efficiency first."

Sustainability Workshop Participant

California has adopted energy policies that require substantial increases in the generation of electricity from renewable energy resources. Governor Schwarznegger issued an executive order in November 2008 establishing a 33 percent renewable energy target for the state by 2020.

The second focus for Palm Springs should be on substituting renewable, preferably local, for non-renewable resources. Opportunities include:

- Passive solar/temperature regulation through green building design
- Installed solar water heaters
- Installed solar power generation (photovoltaics and thin film)
- Wind power generation

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES AND OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

- District geothermal and ground source heating and cooling
- District water source heating and cooling
- Power from waste (both methane from waste water treatment systems and from solid waste)
- Low impact small-scale hydropower
- Advanced storage systems (flywheel, thermal, battery etc.) to address the intermittent supply of solar and wind power

Concerns about increasing costs, environmental impacts, grid security and other issues have led many cities to pursue renewable energy options. While near term efforts are rightly placed upon conservation strategies, the city also has an opportunity to pursue a longer term energy strategy that would position Palm Springs as a Renewable Energy City. The concept of a sustainable city envisions the community not as energy consumers; rather as net producers of energy. The integration of solar energy into existing housing stock, through retrofits and renovation, supports a reduced carbon footprint strategy as well as an increased energy security strategy. monetary incentives, voluntary actions, and market-based mechanisms such as a cap-and-trade system.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

- Adopting Mayor's Climate Change Resolution in March 2008.
- Adopting Coachella Valley Association of Governments Resolution to reduce energy use by 10% by 2012.
- Adopting City goal to reduce energy use by 20% and water use by 50% by 2012.
- Two Co-Generation plants use natural gas to produce and supply power to all City facilities, including the airport.
- LED lights used in all traffic signals throughout the City and all taxi areas and runways at the Palm Springs airport.
- Installing solar powered trash compactors in high traffic areas downtown to replace over 150 trash containers presently downtown which must be emptied on a daily basis - reducing the CO2 emissions by over 70%.
- Wastewater treatment plant gas recovery system reduces fuel use.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Employ the efficient, sustainable and environmentally appropriate use and management of energy and mineral resources to ensure their availability for future generations. (RC8)
- Support and encourage the use of alternative energy sources. (RC8.2)
- Encourage energy efficiency and conservation in land use, transportation demand management, subdivision, and building design. (RC 8.3)
- Encourage "green technologies", renewable energy and related activities as a business development goal. (RC 8.4)
- Encourage cogeneration facilities. (RC 8.15)
- Coordinate with local utility companies to explore the implementation of a district-wide, heat-pump-generated cooling system to reduce dependency on individual air conditioning units that consume high levels of energy. (RC8.6)

Policies:

- Facilitate the orderly and efficient development of wind energy resources and regulate their location, operation, and management through the Wind Energy Conversion Systems Development Agreement, conditional-use permit process, and appropriate environmental clearance. (RC8.1)
- Support and encourage the use of alternative energy sources…and generating industries to provide more reliability in the supply of electricity to the City and to promote the development of clean, sustainable, and alternative energy industries in the City. The use of alternative energy sources should also be encouraged in the construction of new buildings and retrofit of existing buildings. (RC8.2)

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

CHAPTER 5

GOAL: *Palm Springs is a high efficiency, renewable energy city.*

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC
• Per capita energy use compared to California average • Percent of energy from renewable sources

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1.

Reduce local government and per capita energy consumption.

1. Evaluate contracting with an energy service company (ESCO) to evaluate municipal operations from a systems perspective and develop, install and finance energy efficiency projects.
2. Complete municipal building retrofits for energy efficiency, (including installation of Variable Frequency Devices, lights, window film and other energy conservation measures) and integration of renewable energy technology.
3. Implement the pilot energy efficiency loan program focusing on energy efficiency benefits.
4. Secure funding and implement a community-wide energy efficiency loan program.
5. Explore and evaluate the potential energy savings from installation of solar hot water systems and electric water storage water heaters as an alternative to natural gas water storage backup systems.
6. Facilitate the auditing of top energy users and support implementation of recommended actions to reduce use and increase efficiency.
7. Evaluate impact of new Title 24 requirements in concert with the potential adoption of a Residential Energy Conservation Ordinance (RECO Ordinance) and Commercial Energy Conservation Ordinance (CECO Ordinance).

OBJECTIVE 2.

Support development of local and regional renewable electric power generation including onsite solar and, where appropriate, use clean distributed generation to supply base load electricity.

1. Explore and evaluate a joint venture with third party providers and/or other public partners to implement a public/private solar roof initiative designed to maximize the installation of solar systems on public, residential and commercial rooftops in Palm Springs.
2. Aggressively pursue state legislation to reduce barriers to residential and commercial installations of solar e.g. feed in tariffs.
3. Adopt a Palm Springs Solar Incentive and Rebate Program – Waive or reimburse permit fees associated with installation of solar units.
4. Hold demonstration workshops for city permitting and inspection staff to enhance understanding and familiarity with renewable and new technology and installation procedures.
5. Explore and evaluate the potential for a pilot district energy system to focus on local and shared power generation and resource exchange for educational campuses, institutional facilities, tourist destinations and neighborhoods.

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS

CHAPTER 6

CONTEXT

Palm Springs' name identifies the desert oasis and special place where the California Fan Palm thrives, fed by underground springs. What makes Palm Springs unique is its world famous visitor facilities location within a stunningly beautiful and complex ecosystem.

Palm Springs is located on the western edge of the Sonoran Desert protected by Mt. San Jacinto and the Santa Rosa Mountains, nestled in the Coachella Valley. The Sonoran Desert ecosystem is arid, starkly beautiful and has a sunny climate and diverse set of plants and desert wildlife. The greatest threat to this ecosystem is urbanization. From 1973 to 2000, the US Geological Survey estimates that urbanization consumed 481 square kilometers of Sonoran Desert landscape across the Southwest. Although urbanization has major impact on the desert, the rate of change compared to other Western ecosystems has been relatively small.

Palm Springs' special character is identified not only by the desert but by the backdrop of the San Jacinto Peak and the Santa Rosa Mountains. The mountains and the transition to the peak include a range of ecosystem types:

- Sonora Desert with its creosote and brittlebush, sycamore and other plant communities.
- Lowland Cienega with underground springs that provide a fertile environment of cottonwood, sycamore and the emblematic California Fan Palm.
- Lower Transitional above 4,000 feet with scrub oak, mountain mahogany, Manzanita, wild lilacs and junipers.
- Upper Transitional zones blanketed with conifers at the world-famous Aerial Tram Mountain Station.

The Agua Caliente band of Cahuilla Indians (Aqua Caliente Tribe) are a major influence on the region with their original 31,500 acre reservation substantially developed. They are responsible for major oases including Palm, Murray and Andreas Canyons that are famous for their Palm tree oases and the richness of the 150 species of plants and animals that live there.

According to the Palm Springs General Plan, the city owns and maintains 156 acres of developed parkland, 160 acres of City-owned golf courses open to the public, as well as miles of developed greenbelts along major thoroughfares throughout the City. There are 80 miles of trails that provide hiking, equestrian and recreational uses for residents and visitors. The Recreation, Open Space and Conservation element of the General Plan details plans by regional partners to protect and enhance regional ecosystems including:

- The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Management Plan addresses the recreational assets on land owned by the Bureau of Land Management.
- The State of California Department of Parks and Recreation has also adopted a recreation plan for the San Jacinto State Park.
- Agua Caliente Tribal Habitat Conservation Plan.
- Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan.
- Species plans subject to the Endangered Species Act.

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS

CONTEXT (CONT.)

In addition, the General Plan addresses several goals and policies related to City's connection to the regional ecosystem:

- Parks and recreation
- Golf courses
- Greenbelts
- Trail networks
- Natural resources – biological species, habitats and wildlife corridors
- Biologically sensitive and conservation areas

COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

The regional ecosystem and City parks, trails, and open spaces are the foundational element for the quality of life of Palm Springs, the tourism economy and provide a natural setting that is unparalleled in the Desert Southwest. Sustainability actions outlined below help position Palm Springs to closely connect and nurture its vision of the City as an oasis to the surrounding larger desert ecosystem.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

- Multiple actions by partner organizations have been taken to plan for and protect the regional ecosystem and wildlife as described above.
- The Palm Spring General Plan provides goals and polices to enhance the City's open space, parks and habitats.
- Open space acquisitions provided habitat, improved air quality and enhanced recreational opportunities.
- Wellness Park developed in cooperation with Desert Healthcare District, Palm Springs Unified School District and Desert Water Agency features demonstration gardens and low water use landscaping. The Park also features walking track and exercise stations.
- Re-vegetating public landscapes including pilot projects in City medians.
- Goals to increase public access to trails with new trailheads.
- Community clean-up efforts throughout the City including the Tahquitz Creek neighborhood project.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Develop a strategy to incorporate sustainability principles and practices into golf course and park design and maintenance. (CR6)
- Establish the city as the premier provider of recreational trails and bikeways in the Coachella Valley. (CR6)
- Provide a comprehensive trail network that is sensitive to the natural environment, wildlife and habitat, culture and history, and recreational and circulation needs of residents. (RC4).
- Support the preservation and protection of biological resources, especially sensitive, rare, threatened, or endangered species, wildlife, or habitats. (RC7).

Policies:

- Support local and regional efforts to evaluate, acquire, and protect natural habitats for sensitive, threatened, and endangered species occurring in the City and vicinity. (RC7.1)
- Actively participate with the Coachella Valley Association of Governments and member agencies to support the identification, monitoring, and preservation of important biological resources. (RC7.2)

Actions:

- Resolve any inconsistencies between the City's Master Plan of Bikeways and the CVAG Non-Motorized Transportation Plan (NMTP), and adopt the CVAG NMTP. (CR6.2).
- Prepare a Recreation and Trails Management Plan that is consistent with regional habitat conservation plans. (RC4.2).
- Implement the provisions of the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and the Tribal Habitat Conservation Plan. (RC7.1).

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS

GOAL: ***Access to open space, recreation and natural resources is ensured for all residents, employees and visitors.***

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC
•No net loss to conservation areas identified in the Coachella Valley Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan. • Number of miles of public access trails. • Number of miles of bike and walking paths.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

Promote access to sustainable, open space, recreation and natural resources.

1. Create and implement a plan to ensure that all residences live within a 20 minute walk of a park, school, source of food, open space and/or community garden.
2. Enhance public trails access by securing parking, placing trailhead markers and promoting use via directional signage, maps and website.
3. Develop an action plan and budget to establish the City as the premier provider of recreational trails and bikeways in the Coachella Valley.
4. Implement sustainability principles and practices into golf course and park design and maintenance.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Support regional partners' efforts to protect and enhance regional ecosystems.

1. Work cooperatively with the Aqua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indian Tribe, Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, local and regional conservation groups and others to implement plans to protect and enhance elements of regional ecosystems.
2. Continue to work cooperatively with regional partners to implement the CVMSHCP.

WASTE

CHAPTER 7

CONTEXT

CALIFORNIA AND PALM SPRINGS

In 1989, California passed the Integrated Waste Management Act (AB 939) to reduce the waste stream and demand on landfills. The Act required municipalities to cut waste in half by the year 2000. Achieving this goal entailed reducing consumption, reusing materials, recycling, composting and buying products made from recycled material.

The California Integrated Waste Management Board promotes Zero Waste California, a campaign to get cities, counties and residents to change their goal from "reduce, re-use, recycle" to creating zero waste communities. They also provide public education and links to local resources for a variety of programs such as materials exchange, electronics or e-waste, recycling and hazardous household waste disposal.

California's recycling industry now accounts for 85,000 jobs. It generates $4 billion yearly in salaries and wages, and produces $10 billion worth of goods and services annually. Recycling has become a viable, mainstream industry that is equivalent to the size of the motion picture industry in California.

The City of Palm Springs has a very successful residential recycling program, diverting 67% of household waste and ranking third out of 24 cities in Riverside County. By weight, newsprint, paper, mixed glass and cardboard are the most collected materials.

One challenge facing the City's recycling programs are fluctuating commodity values of materials gathered, which affect the ability of the City or waste management agency to sell these goods for recycling. The prices of commodities have gone up and down with the fate of the global economy. China is a major end user of waste-related commodities from the entire West Coast.

The City has many efforts underway to increase waste recycling and re-use. Future efforts are centered on expanding residential recycling to multi-family residences, winter-only residents, homeowners associations (HOAs) and commercial development, using waste as a resource and seeking economic opportunities associated with these efforts.

ZERO WASTE

Zero waste is based on the concept that wasting any resources is inefficient and that we should achieve efficient use of natural resources. This involves reducing the production of waste, maximizing existing recycling and reuses efforts, while ensuring that products are designed for the environment and have the potential to be repaired, reused or recycled.

The success of zero waste requires that we redefine the concept of "waste" in our society. Typically, we have viewed waste as a by-product of production and consumption. A zero waste approach requires that waste be considered a residual product or potential resource. This entails using a whole systems approach to designing products that do not become unusable, unmanageable or hazardous. Zero waste strategies consider the entire life-cycle of products including working to design wastes from one process to become inputs into another system.

Zero Waste California expresses this as a shift from waste management to resource management.

CONTEXT (CONT.)

A similar approach was proposed by William McDonough and Michael Braungart in their influential book Cradle to Cradle. They propose a model in which commerce and nature co-exist without the hazards we generally associate with waste. Through ecologically intelligent design, products can either biodegrade without leaving synthetic toxins or become "technical nutrients" – inputs into new closed-loop industrial systems.

In April 2008, China adopted a visionary law promoting its "circular economy" approach to sustainable development. This proposed system of resource management includes cleaner production and closed-loop systems on three levels – the firm or business, industrial parks or related businesses and regions.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PALM SPRINGS

These new approaches to resource management and product design can create economic opportunities for innovators and cost savings for households and businesses through increased efficiency.

Resource conservation and recovery and resource development are strategies with the greatest need for a strong local government role because these strategies require consumer investments at the local level instead of producer investments by national and regional corporations and governments. Conservation decisions tend strongly to be decentralized while production decisions tend strongly to be very centralized.

Getting to zero waste is more than asking how we deal with the garbage we've got. It is also about how we handle things upstream, at the point of product design and distribution. If waste is designed out from the start we eliminate the throw away end product as well as the materials, time and energy required to get it there in the first place.

Palm Springs is well-positioned to build on and expand its successful recycling programs to shift towards becoming a zero waste community. This can be accomplished through the rapid acceleration of aggressive waste reduction and re-use programs as well as adopting policies and finding opportunities to create closed-loop systems where waste from one source becomes a food stock or input for another.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

- Diverting 67% of waste in 2008, up from 40% in 1995.
- Including over 14,000 households and 70 HOAs in residential recycling program.
- Recycling efforts for 100% of waste are currently underway at all City facilities, including collection and diversion of paper, batteries, ink cartridges, cans, bottles, concrete, metal, green waste, fluorescent light bulbs, paints, oils, used tires and more.
- Considering a draft ordinance to require 100% diversion of all construction and debris waste.
- Sponsoring two free events per year to collect electronic waste. Over 50,000 lbs. of e-waste collected per event.
- Solar trash receptacles being installed downtown and throughout the City. Trash compactors will result in estimated 70% reduction in emissions related to City vehicles servicing receptacles.
- Providing information on website, CCTV and distributed to resident including recycling wheels, recycling brochures, construction and demolition debris brochures, information on composting classes, household hazardous waste (HHW) collection, used oil collection and more.
- Holding two free events per year for paper shredding. Over three tons of paper is collected at each event. Two neighborhood clean-up events offered per year.
- Using 100% environmentally friendly service-ware products that are bio-degradable or can be composted at Convention Center.
- Sending used computer electronics to Computer Tech program at Cathedral City High School.
- Approved recycling plans for the airport and the Convention Center enabling the City to move one step closer to recovering food scraps from these locations.
- Gathering unused client product and material gathered at the Convention Center following all events for donation to local charities.
- Providing street sweeping program to remove dust and debris material deposited at sand source locations.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Decrease the risk of exposure of life, property, and the environment to hazardous and toxic materials and waste. (SA1)

Policies:

- Utilize municipal sewage and solid wastes as an alternative energy source. (RC8.14)
- Promote the proper disposal, handling, transport, delivery, treatment, recovery, recycling, and storage of hazardous materials in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. (SA1.1)

Actions:

- Achieve the mandated waste reduction and recycling objectives set forth by the California Integrated Waste Management Board and implement a program to recycle construction and demolition debris, in particular concrete and gravel products. (RC8.4)
- Compile and maintain an inventory of all hazardous waste sites in the City. (SA1.1)

WASTE

GOAL: ***Palm Springs is a zero waste community and model for resource management and closed loop resource streams.***

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC
• Percent of households, Homeowner Associations and commercial establishments participating in recycling program. • Tons of waste collected from residential recycling program and bi-annual events. Percent of waste recycled. Percent of electronic waste taken back by manufactures or recycled. • Per capita waste • Number and type of local businesses using local waste streams as inputs.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

Reduce waste and increase recycling for all segments of the community.

1. Identify waste reduction programs and purchasing options that will allow residents and businesses to be essentially waste free.
2. Expand commercial recycling for businesses in the City, including adding incentives and mandates on waste diversion.
3. Provide an economic incentive for residents to reduce waste and recycle more.
4. Reduce residential waste pick up to once a week.
5. Evaluate feasibility of creating a commercial food composting program.
6. Develop an ordinance requiring the diversion of construction and demolition waste.
7. Expand Homeowner Association, multi-family residences, and seasonal resident participation in the residential recycling program participation.
8. Work with Palm Springs Unified School District to educate and promote recycling and make schools essentially zero waste facilities.
9. Establish a permanent Household Hazardous Waste and electronics recycling center facility to provide the community a continuous opportunity to properly dispose of these waste products and increase the potential for repair and reuse.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Create closed-loop systems in which waste from one source becomes the supply for another.

1. Inventory targeted existing businesses' waste stream and identify opportunities to match waste with businesses that can use them as inputs.
2. Recruit businesses to Palm Springs who can use these waste streams as inputs.
3. Work with existing businesses to define resource flows for opportunities to improve internal resource reuse.
4. Implement a food waste program for local restaurants and research the potential for composting businesses that use food waste.

WATER

CHAPTER 8

CONTEXT

WATER SUPPLY

The State of California began 2009 in the midst of what is being called the "worst drought in modern history," with an average snow water content of 61% throughout the state, following on a dry spring in 2008. Due to this drought, the State of California's Department of Water Resources (CDWR) estimates that it only will be able to deliver 15% of requested water under the State Water Project program to the Bay Area, San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast and Southern California in 2009. Even if the 2009 drought eases, the situation is unlikely to improve in the long term due to the effects of climate change. See Climate Change chapter for more information.

Desert Water Agency (DWA) provides water to the City of Palm Springs. Public water agencies prepare an Urban Water Management Plan every five years, which identifies historic and projected water usage, identifies existing and future water supply sources, describes purveyors' demand management programs, and sets forth a program to meet water demands during normal, dry and multiple dry years. More recently, adjoining water suppliers have begun collaborating on integrated regional plans.

Supplementing natural groundwater replenishment with artificial recharge is necessary to reduce annual and cumulative overdraft. Increases in cumulative overdraft, without artificial recharge, will result in declining groundwater levels and increasing pump lifts, thereby increasing energy consumption for groundwater extraction.

Palm Springs and the surrounding watershed rely on the artificial recharge from the Colorado River to maintain its groundwater levels, either directly from the river or through trading State Water Project entitlements to obtain water from the river. However, even though the DWA and CVWD are legally entitled to the Colorado River through 2035, there is not likely to be enough water in the Colorado River to meet all of its entitlements. In addition, deliveries of State Water Project water are not guaranteed. While 100% of the water requested in 2006 was eventually delivered, the initial allocation for 2007 was only 60%. Prior to the drought declared at the beginning of 2009, the CDWR expected only to deliver 35% over the 2008/2009 fiscal year. Recently, deliveries were reduced to 15% allocation.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

The City contracts with Veolia Water North America to operate a comprehensive wastewater treatment program, including a City-owned, 10.9 million gallon per day (mgd) trickling filter wastewater treatment plant, five pump stations and sewer collection pipelines.

Recycling wastewater is an important water conservation strategy for Palm Springs, because it reduces the amount of potable water used for irrigation. DWA operates a wastewater recycling facility. The City provides primary and secondary treated domestic sewage to DWA, who then provides tertiary treatment. The recycled water is then used to irrigate public facilities such as the Tahquitz Creek Golf Course, DeMuth Park and the Mesquite Golf Course.

CONTEXT (CONT.)

WATER CONSERVATION IN LANDSCAPING

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 (AB 1881, Laird) requires the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to prepare an updated model State Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance for improving the efficiency of water use in new and existing urban irrigated landscapes in California by January 1, 2009. That model ordinance has been finalized and distributed to local agencies who are required to adopt, not later than January 1, 2010, a local model water efficient landscape ordinance that is at least as effective in conserving water as the State Model Ordinance. Jurisdictions failing to submit such an ordinance are subject to the state's Model Ordinance by statute.

KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Coachella Valley and Palm Springs water supply is vulnerable as long as it depends on replenishment from outside sources. The State of California's Water Plan Update 2009 includes several strategies for managing an uncertain water future, including understanding existing uncertainties, anticipating change, assessing water risk and incorporating more sustainable water supply and flood management systems.

Water conservation and reuse strategies ultimately reduce impacts on the entire system to achieve the most use from the least amount of water with the least impact.

As Palm Springs continues to grow and thrive, it should continue to collaborate with its water providers to enhance water security and support aggressive water efficiency strategies and practices. A path towards water independence includes the following:

- An assessment of water risk and a strategy to securing local water sources.
- Sustainable strategies to protect water sources from stormwater runoff and other sources of pollution, climate change and other adverse effects.
- A plan for conservation and reuse of water that allows the community to continue to grow, yet use only as much water as its local sources can support.

STEPS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED OR UNDERWAY

Palm Springs has already taken a leadership position toward water conservation and reuse, including the following actions:

- Participate on the Energy and Water Conservation Subcommittee of the Resource Conservation Commission to evaluate opportunities for water and energy conservation.
- Partial rebate available for residents who purchase low-flush toilets.
- Reclaimed water in use on two municipal golf courses – Tahquitz Creek and Mesquite. DeMuth Park and Indian Canyons Golf Resort also use recycled water.
- Artificial turf being installed in some City's medians.
- Low water use fixtures and landscaping incorporated at Convention Center.

GENERAL PLAN GUIDANCE

Goals:

- Ensure an adequate supply of quality water is provided to the City. (RC9).

Policies:

- Work with the Desert Water Agency, Coachella Valley Water District, and Mission Springs Water District to ensure that a sufficient quantity and quality of potable water is available for current and future residential, business, and visitor uses. (RC9.1)
- Encourage the responsible management and use of water resources through appropriate water conservation measures, financial incentives, and regulations. (RC9.2)
- Ensure the highest quality of potable water resources continues to be available by managing stormwater runoff, wellhead protection, septic tanks, and other potential sources of pollutants. (RC9.3)

Actions:

- Enact ordinances that promote water conservation in existing facilities, and that make water conservation a mandatory requirement for all new development (CR 101.1)
- Develop and implement an integrated water-conservation program (RC9.1).

WATER

GOAL: ***Palm Springs is a leader in water efficiency and reuse.***

KEY DASHBOARD METRIC
• Water supply availability forecast • Water consumption per capita • Total water used for City operations - Potable - Irrigation • Gallons of water reused by golf courses per year

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1:

Support efforts to ensure a secure water supply for the future.

1. Schedule a study session to review a risk assessment of the Palm Springs water supply to understand its vulnerability, including all water sources and the potential effect of influences such as climate change and population growth on that supply.
2. Work with local water agencies to lower the risk of the City's water supply, including increased efficiency, grey water use, and water reuse.

OBJECTIVE 2:

Reduce water use in City facilities.

1. Work with the DWA to finalize baseline and finish auditing water use at all City facilities.
2. Using the water audit, identify the sources of highest water use at City facilities and develop an action plan, timeline and budget to reduce municipal use and increase efficiency.
3. Review and revise current landscaping and irrigation policies and practices to reflect water efficiency practices.

OBJECTIVE 3:

Reduce water usage per capita in Palm Springs.

1. Collaborate with local water agencies to promote and implement water conservation measures in Palm Springs.
2. Work with the DWA to increase the reach of their public information campaign targeting multi family, HOA and commercial users.
3. Promote money saving benefits and extend existing incentives to encourage property owners to install smart irrigation controllers.

KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Implementation of the Master Plan (Plan) and progress towards the Plan goals will be the shared responsibility of many parties. These include political leadership including the Mayor, City Council, and Sustainability Commission; administration including the City Manager, Office of Sustainability and Sustainability Coordinator, and all department managers as the Green Team. Other active contributors include the Leadership Council and other community partners.

CITY COUNCIL

- Set the overall vision and direction.
- Establish policy, set priorities and make funding decisions.
- Evaluate ongoing outcomes and performance against goals.
- Build support for goals through advocacy, outreach and partnerships.

CITY MANAGER

- Responsible for embedding sustainability practices and principles into city government and operations.
- Overall responsibility for plan implementation, progress and outcomes.

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

- Responsible for day-to-day operations, coordination, communications, tracking and reporting.
- Oversee sustainability website creation and maintenance.
- Provide staff support to Green Team, Sustainability Commission, and Leadership Council.
- Lead community outreach and education efforts.

GREEN TEAM

- Educate and train staff members on sustainability principles and practices.
- Conduct sustainability assessments and develop internal action plans.
- Coordinate interdepartmental projects and plans.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

- Recommend policy direction.
- Review and provide input on potential plans and actions.
- Advocate for sustainability principles and actions.
- Regularly monitor progress and prepare an annual report card.
- Support outreach and education to stakeholders and partners.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

- Help advance the plan by advocating, collaborating and sharing resources.
- Adopt shared goals and objectives.
- Advocate for the principles and collaborate on implementation.
- Implement programs and projects and share results.

Appendices

City of Palm Springs Background Documents

- Steps We All Can Take
- What We've Done Already
- 20 First Steps on the Path to a Sustainable Community
- Final Quick Start Actions
- Example Leadership Council Resolution
- Leadership Council Project Inventory

Resources for the Future

- Matrix of Action Plan
- Operations Planning Workbook
- Resources on Sustainability

Examples from Other Areas

- Best Practices Summary

the palm springs path to a sustainable community

Steps We Can All Take

1. Use compact fluorescent light bulbs
2. Spend more time outdoors
3. Clean or replace your air conditioning filter
4. Conserve water
5. Reduce, reuse, recycle
6. Use energy efficient appliances
7. Turn off lights, computers, TV's when not in use
8. Leave the car at home — bike, walk, carpool or take the bus
9. Incorporate shade into your landscape
10. Install insulation in your home
11. Get a home energy audit
12. Use low or no VOC (volatile organic compounds) paint
13. Buy and use local, sustainable foods and food products
14. Get a water audit and incorporate changes
15. Consider replacing lawn with low water use landscape
16. Buy alternative fuel or hybrid vehicle
17. Use green or sustainable building techniques when building or remodeling
18. Drink tap water
19. Get an annual tune up
20. Full loads for both clothes and dish washer

Get Involved!
www.palmsprings-ca.gov

Appendix
What We've Done Already
May 2008

"The City recognizes that growth and opportunity cannot be conducted at the expense of environmental protection and enhancement, and that growth and environmental stewardship are intimately related. The City shall make every effort to cultivate superior environmental standards that will provide for green and sustainable municipal development."

City Palm Springs General Plan

Energy

- Two Co-Generation plants use natural gas to produce and supply power to all City facilities, including the airport.
- LED lights used in all traffic signals throughout the City and all taxi areas and runways at the Palm Springs airport.
- Energy audit to be completed under proposed Partnership Program in collaboration with SCE. The proposal will be considered in late 2008 with potential funding and implementation in 2009-2011.
- City buildings are in process of being retrofitted for energy conservation, including installation of Variable Frequency Devices, lights, window film and other energy conservation measures.
- Solar powered trash compactors are being installed in high traffic areas downtown to replace over 150 trash containers presently downtown which must be emptied on a daily basis - reducing the CO2 emissions by over 70%.
- Wastewater treatment plant gas recovery system reduces fuel use.

Waste Reduction

- The city currently recycles 68% of all waste.
- 100% recycling currently underway at all City facilities - collection and diversion of paper, batteries, ink cartridges, cans, bottles, concrete, metal, green waste, fluorescent light bulbs, paints, oils, used tires, and more.

- 100% Diversion of all Construction and Debris Waste – draft ordinance under development to be considered in 2008.

- E-waste collection – two free events per year with over 50,000 lbs. of e-waste collected per event.

- Shredding – two free events per year with over 3 tons of paper collected at each event.

- Neighborhood clean-up – 2 free events per year.

- Curbside collection of sharps and other HHW materials from residents.

- 100% environmentally friendly service ware products that are bio-degradable or can be composted in use at Convention Center.

- Used computer electronics sent to Computer Tech program at Cathedral City High School.

- Unused client product and material gathered at the Convention Center following all events for donation to local charities.

Green Building

- General Plan requires the use of green building techniques in the design and construction of public buildings and facilities.

- New Animal Control Center to be LEED certified.

- Green planning site design incentives in use.

- General plan encourages site planning and building orientation that maximizes solar and wind resources for cooling and heating.

- Passive green systems built into the design of the Convention Center building resulting in 60% efficiency.

- HVAC system at Convention Center utilizes cold water storage off peak to reduce energy use during peak hours and automated controls to minimize load.

- Developers required to identify energy and resource saving measures incorporated into projects.

Nature – Open Space, Parks, Trails, Habitat, Wildlife

- Open space acquisitions provided habitat, improved air quality and enhanced recreational opportunities

- Wellness Park developed in cooperation with Desert Healthcare District, Palm Springs Unified School District and Desert Water Agency features demonstration gardens and low water use landscaping. Also features walking track and exercise stations.

- Re-vegetating public landscapes including pilot projects in city medians.

- Goal to increase public access to trails with new trailheads

- Ordinances in General Plan to support enhancement of open space and preservation of wildlife habitat

- Community Clean Up Efforts throughout the city including the Tahquitz Creek neighborhood project.

Transportation – Public Transportation, Clean Vehicles, Reducing Congestion

- The City has thirty-eight alternative fuel vehicles in its 2008 fleet.

- Development policies in the General Plan improve energy efficiency and air quality by reducing traffic congestion, shortening trip lengths and increasing availability of walkable routes and alternative modes of transportation.

- Traffic Signal Management Program will reduce vehicle operating costs and emissions via expected reductions in stops and delays.

- Bike lanes incorporated in city streets.

- Reduced locally classified streets that exceed City thresholds for traffic levels.

- Emergency response times for public safety vehicles above standards.

Air

- Lawn mower exchange program - 280 lawn mowers were exchanged for reduced air emission mowers.

- Street sweeping program removes dust and debris, suitable material deposited at sand source locations.

- Participate on Sun Line Transit board – 100% CNG bus fleet, solar panels on bus stops, CNG fueling stations at airport and city hall.

- Waste water treatment plant gas treatment system captures fuel source and removes contaminants from digester gas.

- Solar trash receptacles being installed downtown and throughout the City will result in estimated 70% reduction in emissions related to city vehicles servicing receptacles.

Water

- Partial rebate available for residents who purchase low-flush toilets.

- Reclaimed water in use on two municipal golf courses. Indian Canyons Golf Resort also uses recycled water.

- Artificial turf being installed in some City's medians.

- Low water use fixtures and landscaping incorporated at Convention Center.

- Preliminary water audit completed by Desert Water Agency for majority of city facilities and buildings.

Education and Outreach

- Participation on CVAG Energy and Environment Committee, Energy and Water Conservation Sub Committee, Coachella Valley Conservation Commission and Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy

- November 2008 energy summit scheduled in conjunction with Palm Springs Environmental Sustainability Institute - featuring noted environmentalist David Suzuki.

- Information – available on website, CCTV and distributed to resident including recycling wheels, recycling brochures, Construction and Demolition Debris brochures, information on composting classes, Household Hazardous Waste collection, used oil collection, and more.

Policy

- Adopted Mayor's Climate Change Resolution in March 2008.

- Adopted CVAG Resolution to reduce energy use by 10% by 2012.
- Adopted city goal to reduce energy use by 20% and water use by 50% by 2012.

- Formed the Resource Conservation Commission (RCC), an advisory body of seven residents tasked with looking at issues and matters regarding green building, resource conservation and sustainability, and recycling.

- Identification of Sustainability as a top Priority for the city during the city's 2008 Priority Setting Session. The annual setting of priorities guides work plans, funding and budget decisions for the city.

- Policy to purchase recycled products saves money and avoids emissions.

- General Plan priorities include promotion of energy efficiency, efficient use of resources, promotion of alternative energy industries and use of alternative energy sources.

- Adopted goal to develop action plan to become a waste free city.

Appendix
20 First Steps on the Path to a Sustainable Community

The Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community
First Steps

1. Develop an action plan for sustainability this year including:
   - An inventory of City activities
   - SCE Partnership
   - Research of best practices
   - Determination of priorities and measures for the next 1-5 years
   - Formation of a Leadership Committee to help guide and refine the plan

2. Complete a comprehensive water audit of all public buildings and facilities and develop an action plan that will reduce City water usage by 50% by 2012.

3. Complete an energy audit and develop an action plan that will reduce City energy use by 20% by 2012.

4. Develop a recycling action plan to become a zero waste community.

5. Identify City Hall as a showcase for public sustainability efforts and a model for energy, water and waste conservation.

6. Develop an interactive website that allows the community to get information on sustainable projects underway, research what they can do to help and offer their ideas.

7. Host a Sustainable Community Summit in November 2008 including:
   - Free public lecture by noted environmental expert David Suzuki
   - Exhibits on residential technology, energy saving and recycling
   - Technology fair for developers, home remodelers, architects and designers

8. Create the Palm Springs Partners in Sustainability Award to honor leading business, organizations and individuals who contribute to making life more sustainable. The inaugural award will be presented at the first Summit in November 2008.

9. Implement a model re-landscaping project showcasing the Tahquitz Median from the airport to downtown by the end of 2009.

10. Develop a plan to transition the City's non-emergency vehicles and equipment to a 50% clean air, energy efficient fleet.

The Palm Springs Path to a Sustainable Community
First Steps
Continued – Page 2

11. Develop a Green Economic Development Strategy with initiatives to support and promote clean technology businesses, create new green jobs and develop incentives for existing and new businesses that encourage sustainability.

12. Develop a plan to promote ecotourism in partnership with the Tribe, recreational user groups and the environmental community.

13. Review City procurement and contracting policies to promote sustainability concerns.

14. Develop a policy to provide priority parking for alternative energy vehicles throughout Palm Springs.

15. Incorporate sustainability efforts into the five year capital funding plan.

16. Require City funded events to have a sustainability plan and be substantially waste-free in order to continue receiving public funding.

17. Work with College of the Desert to incorporate sustainability, green building and environmental sustainability training and classes into Palm Springs campus.

18. Evaluate the feasibility of implementing a public/private solar roof initiative.

19. Host a national summit on sustainability in Palm Springs in 2012.

20. Acquire consultant services for the development of a sustainability master plan, including a staff implementation process.

Appendix
Final Quick Start Actions
December 8, 2008

1. Adopt a sustainable purchasing policy
2. Pass a resolution of support and join the legislative effort in support of feed in tariffs for solar
3. Focus pilot energy efficiency loan program on older air conditioners, pool pump replacement and solar water heaters
4. In cooperation with local utilities, establish an energy conservation outreach program in conjunction with energy efficiency loan program
5. Adopt unbleached paper policy for city operations
6. Make the city library the first zero waste facility in the city
7. Identify/support a local land owner in establishing an urban farm on vacant private land
8. Develop/adopt sustainable criteria for city funded events
9. Implement 1/week waste pick up
10. Start a neighborhood fruit collection program in cooperation with local food banks and Palm Springs Neighborhood Involvement Committee groups
11. Create an Office of Sustainability
12. Modify the role and duties of the Resource Conservation Commission to incorporate Sustainability and assign the Sustainability Office as staff
13. Pursue a pilot project to establish an electric shuttle from the airport to downtown
14. Adopt an engine idling policy for public vehicles
15. Issue an RFP for municipal solar roof program to cover all public facilities and parking with solar under Power Purchase Agreement or other arrangement
16. Work with Desert Water Agency to offer water audits to 100 top water users and identify action plans to reduce use and increase efficiency
17. Work with Southern California Edison to offer energy audits to 100 top energy users and identify action plans to reduce use and increase efficiency
18. Adopt a policy to eliminate plastic bottles from city sponsored events

Appendix
Example Leadership Council Resolution

DESERT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

AGENDA ITEM

Date of Meeting August 21, 2008

Area President

Communication No. 1

TOPIC: Approval of Resolution #170 to Join Palm Springs on the Path to a Sustainable Community

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PROPOSAL

To approve Resolution #170 in joining The City of Palm Springs on the Path to a Sustainable Community.

BACKGROUND

The City of Palm Springs has identified sustainability and the creation of a comprehensive plan for sustainability as a priority for the coming year.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the Resolution as presented.

Prepared and Approved by:

Jerry R. Patton
President

DESERT COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

RESOLUTION #170: JOIN PALM SPRINGS ON A PATH TO A SUSTAINABILITY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, Palm Springs is embarking upon a community-wide path to foster and encourage conservation and resource sustainability through wise stewardship of resources, promotion of energy efficient technology and programs in current and planned municipal and community activities, and the delivery of education and information regarding individual options for reducing energy use and conservation of resources; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that reducing our energy use will result in cleaner air which is a critical factor in the pursuit and maintenance of a healthy lifestyle and the preservation of our unmatched quality of life and a vibrant economy; and

WHEREAS, Palm Springs is pursuing programs and policies that provide economic health, and quality of life benefits, such as reduced energy bills, air quality improvements, open space conservation and enhanced trails access, improved transportation choices, and clean tech economic development and job creations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palm Springs has adopted the US Conference of Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement that requests strong policy resolutions calling for cities, communities and the federal government to take actions supporting conservation and other efforts to reduce global warming pollution and address impacts to climate change; and

WHEREAS, Palm Springs has endorsed a municipal goal to reduce energy consumption by 20% and water use by 50% by the year 2012; and

WHEREAS, Palm Springs has committed to transition the city's non-emergency vehicles and equipment to a 50% clean air/energy efficient fleet by 2012; and

WHEREAS, Palm Springs has adopted a goal to pursue programs and technology that will lead to becoming a zero waste community; and

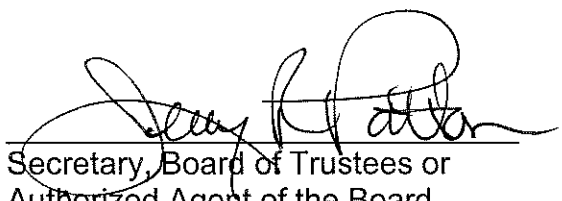
WHEREAS, Palm Springs is committed to development of an overall master plan for sustainability in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palm Springs has invited the community to join the path and challenged others to commit to take the first steps.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that College of the Desert agrees to join Palm Springs on the path to a sustainable community, including a commitment to undertake at least the following first steps on the path by the end of 2008;

1. Conduct an energy audit and implement changes for energy efficiency.
2. Conduct a water use audit and implement changes for increased water use efficiency.
3. Conduct a waste audit and implement changes to reduce disposal and increase re-use and recycling.
4. Commit to active role as a sponsor, exhibitor or participant in the Community Summit in November.
5. Allow our name and organization to be identified as a member of the Leadership Council.
6. Agree to monitor and share the results of your energy, water, waste and other efficiency efforts.
7. Agree to be early adopters of new technology and programs that support sustainability.
8. Agree to participate in forums, advisory panel meetings, and information and education programs.
9. Commit to sponsor at least one community-wide collaborative project.
10. Make a five-year commitment to the path and make annual reports on progress.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that we agree to continue to consider additional steps on the path which will incorporate sustainability strategies into our planning and business policies and practices of the future.



Secretary, Board of Trustees or
Authorized Agent of the Board

August 21, 2008

Appendix
Leadership Council Project Inventory
October 2, 2008

Organization	Projects Underway	Projects Planned	Contact Person	Phone	Email
College of the Desert	• Solar panels on new buildings • Low flow/high efficiency cooling system	• Thermal energy storage central plant • Cool roof white roof membrane with R-30 insulation • 85% energy efficient boilers for heating hot water	Bud Miller	416-9119 home 773-2500 COD	Budmiller08@gmail.com
Palm Springs Community Economic Development Dept	• Desert AIDs AC • Tahquitz Court Apts energy improvements • Preservation of open space Araby Cove	• Solar Field – Gene Autry & I-10 • Clean Tech Zone • New Trash Enclosure Recycled Compactor	John Raymond Cathy Van Horn Diana Shay		Diana.shay@palmsprings-ca.gov
Palm Springs Disposal Service	• Fleet conversion to 100% AFV • Replacement of office AC unit and heating • Single stream recycling expansion to commercial and HOAs	• Full recycling/ sorting facility – I10- corridor • Expansion of organic waste/food waste recycling • Expansion of construction debris	Rick Wade	327-1351 X 307	rick@palmspringsdisposal.com

Organization	Projects Underway	Projects Planned	Contact Person	Phone	Email
		recycling			
Cal State University San Bernardino Palm Desert Campus	• Gold LEED status Health Science Building • Solar through Sun Edison at no cost to University • Info kiosk on LEED construction in lobby for public funded by Sempra • Initiating PS Institute for Environmental Sustainability • First report on air quality to be released soon	• Fully implement Institute including funding faculty research • From today's discussion – explore ways for student participation	Fred Jandt	341-2883 ext 78101	fjandt@csvsb.edu
Desert Healthcare District	• Landscape changes to reduce water use • Increased recycling • Exploring healthy cities components • Office policy changes – no bottled water, central printers only, etc	• Partnership with DRMC on solar parking lots • Sustainability goals in strategic plan • Grants available to local non-profits to help with green projects • $2 million childhood obesity initiative	Sid Rubenstein Lenny Pepper	323-6113	lpepper@dhcd.org sprior@dhcd.org
Desert Water Agency	• First Solar installation 300kw • Native landscape conversion • Irrigation controller program	• 2nd solar installation 500kw to 1MW • Expanded recycled water use	Dave Luker	323-4971	dluker@dwa.org

Organization	Projects Underway	Projects Planned	Contact Person	Phone	Email
	• Conservation awareness program				
PSEDC	• Workshops • Education	• Solar energy plan for commercial buildings	Ed Torres Tamara Stevens	327-5284 880-3205	ed@edwardtorres.com tamarastevens@psedc.com
Desert Regional Medical Center	• Medical air compressor to save 900 gal/day • Central plant upgrades – new electric chille3r saves 50% electricity • Lighting retrofit • Increased recycling	• Solar parking lot for employees • Additional central plant upgrades • Desert landscape	Karolee Sowle, CEO Dale Barnhart, Facilities Director	323-6774 323-6302	Dale.barnhart@tenethealth.com
Mark Nichols Modern Interiors	• LEED certified design studio • Low Flow water fixtures • Only high efficiency lighting • 90% materials w/ recycled content • Low/no VOC emitting materials • Natural daylighting • Daylighting controls		Mark Nichols	864-1747	info@marknicholsinteriors.com

Appendix
Relationship of Elements in the Master Plan

Action	City Management and Operations	Economic Vitality	Healthy Ecosystems	Climate Change	Sustainable Urban Development and Mobility	Energy	Healthy City	Waste	Water
City Management and Operations									
- Department internal operations assessment	N/A	X		X	X	X		X	X
Economic Vitality									
Healthy Ecosystems									
Climate Change									
Sustainable Urban Development and Mobility									
Energy									

Action	City Management and Operations	Economic Vitality	Healthy Ecosystems	Climate Change	Sustainable Urban Development and Mobility	Energy	Healthy City	Waste	Water
Healthy City									
Waste									
Water									

Department Pilot

Sustainability Work Session Materials

City of Palm Springs

December 2, 2008

Produced by:

Dorothy Atwood

COGAN
OWENS
COGAN

Overview of Process

This material has been prepared for the departments of the City of Palm Springs to facilitate the creation of a sustainable development plan. The specific goal of this effort is to create a shared "mental map" and framework for reviewing ongoing and future activities from a sustainability perspective.

- **Create a Resource Flow Map**
- **Envision Sustainable Operations**
- **Select Impact Areas**
- **Identify Improvement Project Ideas**
- **Determine Baseline Data Needs**

Step-by-Step Method to Creating a Resource Flow Map

To create a resource flow map for your department or operational area, follow the five steps outlined here and detailed on the following pages.

1. Define your scope or limits to the map.
2. Identify your products and/or services.
3. Identify the top six to ten activities within your scope.
4. Identify inputs associated with those activities.
5. Identify outputs.

Common Resource Inputs include:

Materials (delivered)

- Metals
- Plastics
- Paper
- Wood
- Chemicals
- Oil, coal, gasoline, LPG, diesel
- Packaging

Utilities ("piped")

- Water
- Electricity
- Natural gas

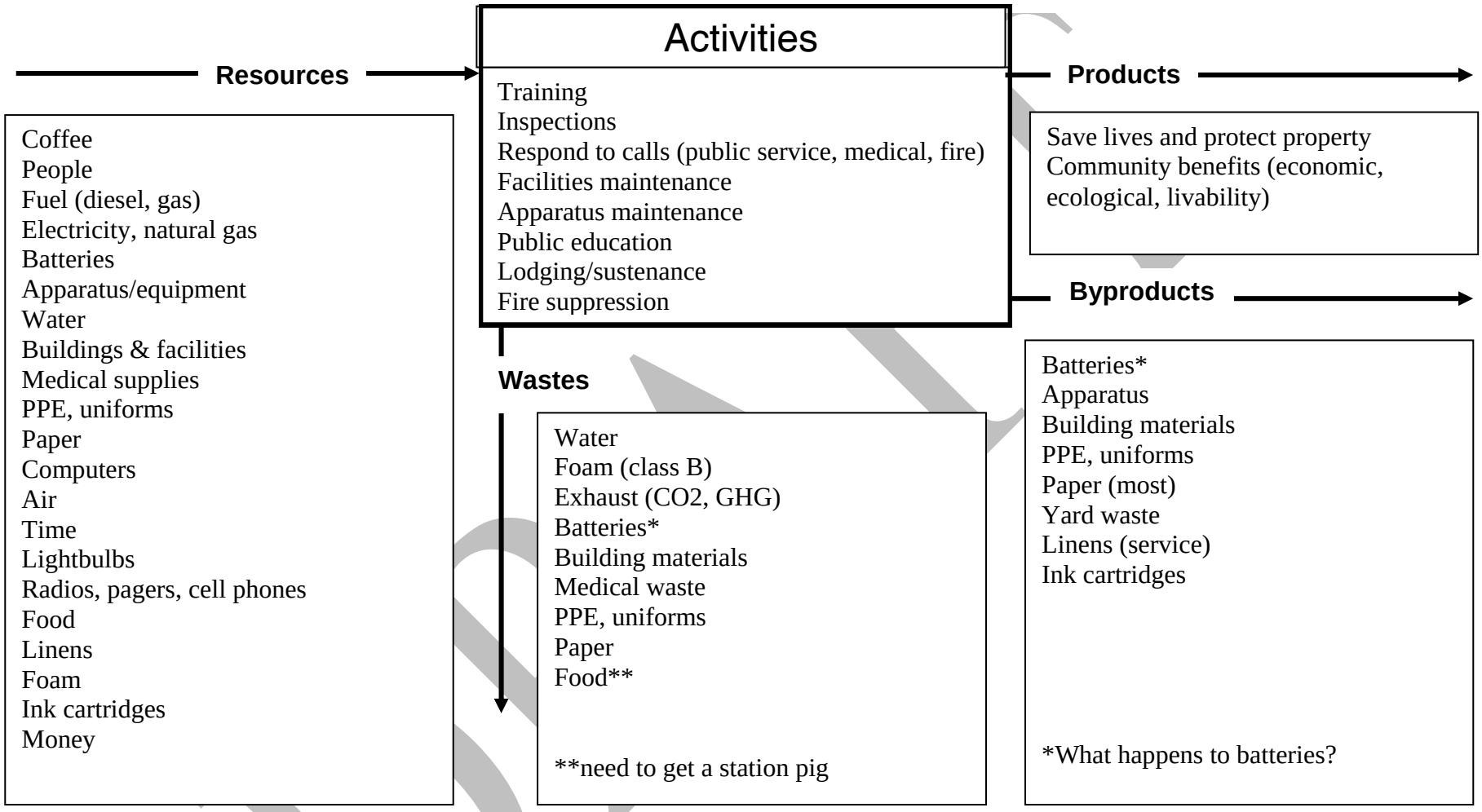
Others

- Building
- Office furniture, supplies
- Employees (travel, consumption, etc.)

Organization/Function: Fire Dept. - B Shift

Example Resource Flow Map

Date: 11/2/07



ENVISION SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONS

Analyze the map you have created using the following questions. Ignore economic and technological constraints at this point. The visioning process should be free of constraints. It is about opening up the creative process of possibilities without regard to current constraints.

For example, for resource flows:

- Which of our inputs are unsustainable?
- What are some of the alternatives to the unsustainable inputs?
- Are all our sources of energy renewable?
- Are materials from sustainable sources?
- What might this operation look like if it used all sustainable inputs?
- Can we be more efficient with the resources that we use?
- What are some of renewable resources that we might be able to incorporate?
- What types of wastes do we have?
- Can some of the wastes become by-products or fuel for another operation or for another organization?
- Can we eliminate these wastes?
- What would the operations look like if we eliminated a particular input or waste?
- Can our core operations be redesigned to make it impact-free and closed-loop?

SELECT IMPACT AREAS

Review the resource inputs and the waste categories on your map. Circle all those areas that have the most impact and are least sustainable and provide the best opportunity for improvement. Review each of the circled impact areas against the City of Palm Springs Sustainability Master Plan Draft Vision and Guiding Principles shown below.

Draft Vision

Palm Springs 2030 – The Restorative City

Palm Springs 2030 is a thriving city that restores and sustains life. The city's vitality is based on the thoughtful actions of its citizens with resources derived from its deep roots in the desert landscape. It uses resources that are sustainable and renewable including solar, wind, water and recycled materials from natural endowments. Its physical form is that of a set of complete, nested communities based on a 20-minute walk to meet basic human needs. Its homes and businesses are built to high green standards. The city is carbon neutral and all water is recycled and reused. The city's economy is cyclical where resource flows are maximized and reused in the economic system. Community life is focused on continuous learning and the creation and restoration of this great city and its communities.

Draft Guiding Principles

- Does this action conserve resources?
- Does this action help the City eliminate waste and recycle and reuse resources?
- Does this action reduce/eliminate toxins?
- Does this action help the City develop renewable resources?
- Does this action help the City grow green businesses (green technology, green collar jobs, green building, ecotourism, clean processes and products)?
- Does this action restore ecosystems and habitats?
- Does the result of this action treat all people fairly?
- Does this action support continuing learning for all phases of life?

Based on the review, select the three to five impact areas with the best opportunity for improvement.

IDENTIFY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IDEAS

1. Brainstorm improvement project ideas at department or workgroup level
2. Fill in the Project Brainstorm Template

EXAMPLE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT LIST

Work Group **Police Dept. Core Team** **Date** **4/30/08**

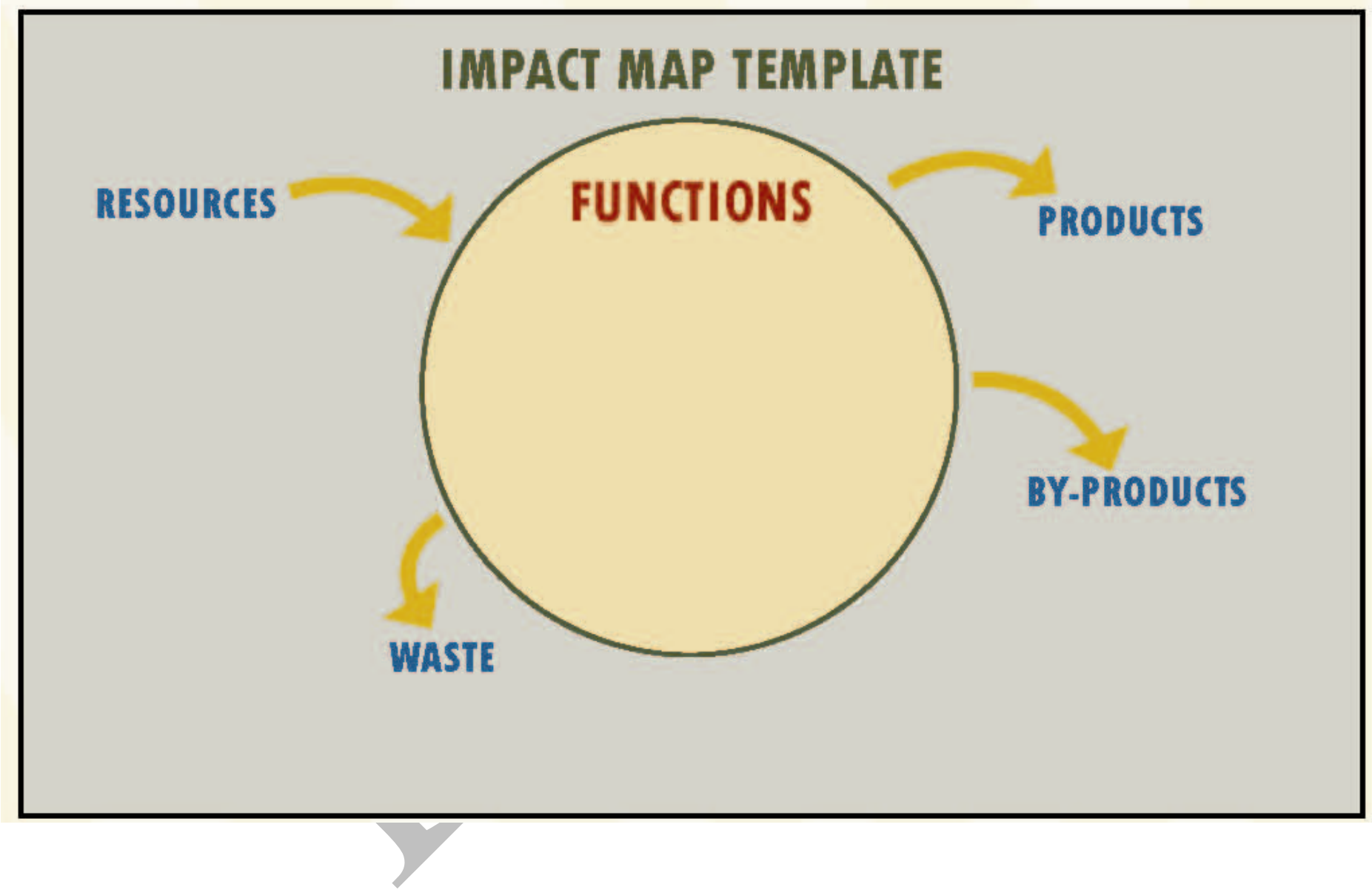
Impact Areas/Projects
Area 1 Fuel
Project 1a Increase fleet miles per gallon
Project 1b Alternative patrol tactics (e.g. more staff for bike patrols)
Project 1c Using cleaner fuels, biofuels, hydrogen
Area 2
Project 2a
Project 2b
Project 2c

DETERMINE BASELINE DATA NEEDS

For each impact area and project idea, identify the data required and metrics to be used. An example is for the impact area of vehicle fuel use. Possible data needs for fuel use include:

- Current total fuel used by types
- Inventory of types of vehicles
- Average fleet miles per gallon
- Green house gas emissions from vehicle fuel

Resource Flow Map Template



Project Brainstorm Template

Work Group _____ **Date** _____

Impact Areas/Projects
Area 1
Project 1a
Project 1b
Project 1c
Area 2
Project 2a
Project 2b
Project 2c
Area 3
Project 3a
Project 3b
Project 3c

This section provides resources cited in the Master Plan with links for further investigation and refinement of policies, strategies and actions that fit the Palm Springs context.

- **BlueGreen Meetings**
- **California Innovation Index**
- **California Legislation**
- **The Carbon Trust (carbon labeling)**
- **CleanEdge**
- **International District Energy Association**
- **Global Leadership Responsibilities Initiative (GLRI)**
- **Green Innovation Index**
- **ICLIE**
- **International EcoTourism Society**
- **The Natural Step Framework**
- **National Trust for Historic Preservation**
- **Smart Growth Network**
- **Sustainable Industries Journal**
- **Sustainable Sites Initiative**
- **SustainLane Urban Rating System**
- **United Nations Green Cities Declaration**
- **US Green Building Council and Cascadia Green Building Council**
- **Zero Waste Alliance, Blue Green Institute, and Institute for Market Transformation to Sustainability**

BlueGreen Meetings

BlueGreen Meetings, an initiative of the Oceans Blue Foundation, is a charity focused on developing environmental 'best practices' for all sectors of the tourism industry. They address meetings techniques that lessen environmental impacts including tips, tools and resources to make environmentally responsible choices.

For more information: http://www.bluegreenmeetings.org/

California Innovation Index

The 2009 California Green Innovation Index is a brand new report produced by Next 10. The Index provides a deep analysis of key economic and environmental indicators that will help us better understand the role green innovation plays in reducing greenhouse gas emissions while strengthening the economy.

Research included in this 2009 Green Innovation Index provides further evidence of the powerful economic stimulus clean energy policy can provide. California's energy productivity, that is, the amount of Gross Domestic Product produced per unit of energy, is 68% more productive than the rest of the nation. New data presented shows that while total jobs increased by just 1% statewide, green jobs have increased by 10% since 2005. Clean technology investment in California nearly doubled in 2008, reaching $3.3 billion. California is a national leader in solar, wind and battery patents.

For more information: www.next10.org/environment/greenInnovation09.html

California Legislation and Regulations

The State of California, has adopted nationally significant legislation in a variety of fields addressed by this Master Plan. These major pieces of legislation include but are not limited to:

- AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, requires California to develop a comprehensive approach to reducing greenhouse gases. The Air Resources Board's Scoping Plan outlines the main strategies California will use to reduce the greenhouse gases (GHG) that cause climate change. The Scoping Plan includes a range of GHG reduction actions which include direct regulations, alternative compliance mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, voluntary actions, and market-based mechanisms such as a cap-and-trade system.

- SB 97 requires the Office of Planning and Research by July 1, 2009, to prepare and transmit to the Resources Agency amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines to assist public agencies in the mitigation of GHG emissions or the effects of GHG including the effects associated with transportation and energy consumption. [1]

- SB 375 is the nation's first policy to integrate four planning processes: land-use planning, transportation planning, housing development and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions focused on the use of incentives. By addressing

[1] http://gov.ca.gov/press-release/10697 and http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/07-08/bill/sen/sb_0351-0400/sb_375_cfa_20080818_153416_asm_comm.html

GHG emissions in the aggregate, from these sources at the regional planning level, a new system is designed to avoid conducting duplicative, project-specific CEQA greenhouse gas analysis and mitigation strategies. In addition, the legislation provides the opportunity for the Coachella Valley to develop a regional plan separate from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). By June 1, 2009 the regional planning agency Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) is required to decide whether to opt into an eight year planning cycle for the act.

- AB 1881, The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act of 2006 requires local agencies, no later January 1, 2010, to adopt the updated Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance or equivalent or it will be automatically adopted by statute.

- AB 939, the Integrated Waste Management Act to reduce the waste stream and demand on landfills. The Act required municipalities to cut waste in half by the year 2000. Achieving this goal entailed reducing consumption, reusing materials, recycling, composting and buying products made from recycled material. The Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program of the California Integrated Waste Management Board is a related initiative whereby incentives and assisting with forming partnerships between recycling collectors and manufacturers. It issues loans for businesses that convert recycled discards into materials used to make new products, assisting with site selection and permitting, and promoting recycled products. The program is funded by tipping fees.

The Carbon Trust

The Carbon Trust was set up in 2001 by the United Kingdom government as an independent company. Its mission is to accelerate the move to a low carbon economy.

The Trust works with organizations to reduce carbon emissions today and develop commercially viable low carbon technologies that will reduce carbon emissions in the future. Their most significant product is a tool to estimate the carbon impacts embedded in goods and services.

For more information: www.carbontrust.com/EN/Home.aspx

CleanEdge

Clean Edge is a leading research and publishing firm helping companies, investors, and governments understand and profit from clean technologies. Products and services include:

- Market Research – including annual *Clean Energy Trends* report.

- NASDAQ® Clean Edge® Stock Indexes – benchmark indexes tracking U.S. clean-energy and global wind companies.
- The Clean-Tech Investor Summit – the clean-tech conference and networking opportunity.
- Clean Edge Jobs – connecting clean-tech job seekers, employers, and recruiters.

For more information: www.cleanedge.com/

Global Responsibilities Leadership Initiative (GRLI)

The GRLI is a unique global community of action and learning, consisting of organizations (the Partners) that work individually, in pairs, in clusters and collectively. The GRLI's focused mission is to promote, support and execute the development of a next generation of globally responsible leaders. It is set up as a foundation of public interest, based in Belgium. The Initiative provides access to resources to members from a wide range of sources on advanced thinking on corporate responsibility philosophy and practice related of caring for the environment and recognizing interdependence and systems thinking.

For more information: www.grli.org/

ICLEI: Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI is an international association of local governments as well as national and regional local government organizations that have made a commitment to sustainable development.

Over 1071 cities, towns, counties, and their associations worldwide comprise ICLEI's growing membership. ICLEI works with these and hundreds of other local governments through international performance-based, results-oriented campaigns and programs. ICLEI provides technical consulting, training, and information services to build capacity, share knowledge, and support local government in the implementation of sustainable development at the local level. Their basic premise is that locally designed initiatives can provide an effective and cost-efficient way to achieve local, national, and global sustainability objectives.

For more information: http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=global-about-iclei

The International Ecotourism Society (TIES)

TIES promotes responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people by:

- Creating an international network of individuals, institutions and the tourism industry;
- Educating tourists and tourism professionals; and

- Influencing the tourism industry, public institutions and donors to integrate the principles of ecotourism into their operations and policies.

As the world's oldest and largest international ecotourism association, TIES seeks to be the global source of knowledge and advocacy uniting communities, conservation and sustainable travel.

For more information:
www.ecotourism.org/webmodules/webarticlesnet/templates/eco_template.aspx?a=12&z=25

International District Energy Association (IDEA)

The International District Energy Association (IDEA) is a nonprofit trade association founded in 1909 and governed by a 20-member board of directors.

IDEA's Mission Statement

IDEA fosters the success of its members as leaders in providing reliable, economical, efficient and environmentally sound district energy services. Its vision is to promote energy efficiency and environmental quality through the advancement of district heating, district cooling and cogeneration (also known as combined heat and power or CHP).

IDEA represents nearly 700 members who are district heating and cooling executives, managers, engineers, consultants and equipment suppliers from 12 countries. Association members operate district energy systems owned by utilities, municipalities, hospitals, military bases and airports in 38 of the 50 United States - and more are in the works in the U.S. and around the world.

For more information: www.districtenergy.org/

The Natural Step Framework

The Natural Step is a nonprofit organization founded in Sweden in 1989 by Swedish scientist, Karl-Henrik Robèrt. The organization defined a "Backcasting" approach to effectively advance society towards sustainability. The Natural Step has developed, through a consensus process, a systematic principle-based definition of sustainability.

Instead of relying on trend-based "forecasting", backcasting is a visioning tool used to define where our communities want to be in the future, how they want to function. The practice then is to build back from that point and define how to reach that desired state in terms of strategies, actions and measures. The goal is to move systematically toward sustainability.

The framework is rooted in systems thinking. It is based on four system conditions (scientific principles) that lead to a sustainable society. These conditions, that must be met in order to have a sustainable society, are as follows:

In a sustainable society, nature is not subject to systematically increasing:

1. Concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust;
2. Concentrations of substances produced by society;
3. Degradation by physical means and, in that society; and
4. People are not subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs.

For more information: www.thenaturalstep.org/usa

National Trust for Historic Preservation

The construction, operation and demolition of buildings accounts for 48% the United States' GHGs. But reusing and retrofitting our existing buildings can reduce these emissions dramatically. In fact, our existing buildings are one of our greatest renewable resources.

Through our Sustainability Initiative, the National Trust for Historic Preservation is focusing the nation's attention on the importance of reusing existing buildings and reinvesting in older and historic communities as critical elements in combating climate change. Americans already embrace as common sense the need to recycle aluminum cans, glass and newspapers. We advocate applying that same common sense to our built environment.

For more information: http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/sustainability/

Smart Growth Network

In 1996, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency joined with several nonprofit and government organizations to form the Smart Growth Network (SGN). The Network was formed in response to increasing community concerns about the need for new ways to grow that boost the economy, protect the environment, and enhance community vitality. The Network's partners include environmental groups, historic preservation organizations, professional organizations, developers, real estate interests, local and state government entities.

The SGN works to encourage development that serves the economy, community and the environment. It is a forum for:

- Raising public awareness of how growth can improve community quality of life;
- Promoting smart growth best practices;
- Developing and sharing information, innovative policies, tools and ideas; and

- Cultivating strategies to address barriers to and advance opportunities for smart growth.

Extensive material regarding smart growth principles in the following areas can be found on the site:

- Housing opportunity and choice
- Walkable neighborhoods
- Community and stakeholder collaboration
- Distinctive communities
- Development decision-making
- Mixed-land uses
- Open space, farmland, natural beauty and critical environmental areas preserved
- Transportation choice
- Develop inward/existing communities
- Compact building design

For more information: www.smartgrowth.org

Sustainable Industries Journal (SIJ)

SIJ is a monthly magazine that tracks sustainable development, products and services throughout the US and globally focused on the Pacific Coast.

For more information: www.**sustainableindustries**.com/

Sustainable Sites Initiative

The Sustainable Sites Initiative was created to promote sustainable land development and management practices that can apply to sites with and without buildings including, but not limited to the following:

- Healthy landscapes provide benefits to human functioning, health, and well-being.
- Open spaces such as local, state and national parks, conservation easements and buffer zones and transportation rights-of-way.
- Sites with buildings including industrial, retail and office parks, military complexes, airports, botanical gardens, streetscapes and plazas, residential and commercial developments and public and private campuses.

A Steering Committee representing 11 stakeholder groups was selected to guide the Initiative. More than 30 experts are now on Technical Subcommittees developing sustainable benchmarks for soils, hydrology, vegetation, human health and well-being and materials selection. These subcommittees are developing the technical

foundation for the Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks. The first interim report - the "Preliminary Report" - was released in November 2007.

For more information: www.sustainablesites.org/about/

SustainLane

SustainLane.com is the web's largest people-powered guide to sustainable living. The hub of SustainLane Media's offerings, SustainLane.com is filled with personal accounts of how-tos, news, and local business and product reviews for sustainable living.

The SustainLane US City Rankings is a proprietary, peer reviewed, special feature of SustainLane Media. This leading national survey ranks the largest 50 US cities in terms of their sustainability practices. SustainLane's rankings are the most comprehensive and credible benchmarking of the state of sustainability in America, and are covered by the Wall Street Journal, CNBC, CNN, NPR and many other media outlets.

SustainLane's 2008 US City Rankings was featured at the world's first green cities and communities conference in Geneva, Switzerland on Oct 1, 2008. The SustainLane methodology is now being adopted internationally, as Japan works to rank their own cities sustainable practices, and that special report will be released in July of 2009 at Japan's Green Festival to be held in Tokyo.

For more information: www.sustainlane.com

United Nations Green Cities Declaration

On June 5, 2005 the United Nations adopted the Urban Environmental Accords, Green Cities Declaration addressing the following urban issues:

- Energy Renewable Energy | Energy Efficiency | Climate Change
- Waste Reduction Zero Waste | Manufacturer Responsibility | Consumer Responsibility
- Urban Design Green Building | Urban Planning | Slums
- Urban Nature Parks | Habitat Restoration | Wildlife
- Transportation Public Transportation | Clean Vehicles | Reducing Congestion
- Environmental Health Toxics Reduction | Healthy Food Systems | Clean Air
- Water Access and Efficiency | Source Water Conservation | Waste Water Reduction

So far over 100 cities have adopted the accords and will present their plans at a UN conference in San Francisco.

For more information:
http://www.ponferradasostenible.org/al21/Documetos/urban_accords.pdf

US Green Building Council (USGBC)

The USGBC supports rating systems for several types of development including:

LEED Rating Systems

New Construction

LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations is designed to guide and distinguish high-performance commercial and institutional projects.

Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance

LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance provides a benchmark for building owners and operators to measure operations, improvements and maintenance.

Commercial Interiors

LEED for Commercial Interiors is a benchmark for the tenant improvement market that gives the power to make sustainable choices to tenants and designers.

Core & Shell

LEED for Core & Shell aids designers, builders, developers and new building owners in implementing sustainable design for new core and shell construction.

Schools

LEED for Schools recognizes the unique nature of the design and construction of K-12 schools and addresses the specific needs of school spaces.

Retail

LEED for Retail recognizes the unique nature of retail design and construction projects and addresses the specific needs of retail spaces.

Healthcare

LEED for Healthcare promotes sustainable planning, design and construction for high-performance healthcare facilities.

Homes

LEED for Homes promotes the design and construction of high-performance green homes.

Neighborhood Development

LEED for Neighborhood Development integrates the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building into the first national program for neighborhood design.

For more information: www.usgbc.org/displaypage.aspx?CMsPageID=222

A related but separate effort, the *Living Building Challenge*, advanced by the Cascadia Green Building Council, is more advanced than LEED. It supports innovative green buildings that will:

- Generate all of its own energy with renewable resources;
- Capture and treats all of its water; and

- Operate efficiently *and* for maximum beauty.

The Living Building Challenge is comprised of six performance areas:

- Site
- Energy
- Materials
- Water
- Indoor Quality
- Beauty + Inspiration

For more information: http: www.cascadiagbc.org/lbc

World Business Council for Sustainable Development

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is a CEO-led, global association of some 200 companies dealing exclusively with business and sustainable development. The Council provides a platform for companies to explore sustainable development, share knowledge, experiences and best practices, and to advocate business positions on these issues in a variety of forums, working with governments, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations.

Members are drawn from more than 35 countries and 20 major industrial sectors. The Council also benefits from a global network of about 58 national and regional business councils and regional partners.

For more information:
http://www.wbcsd.org/templates/TemplateWBCSD5/layout.asp?type=p&MenuId=NjA&doOpen=1&ClickMenu=LeftMenu

Zero Waste Alliance+

- Defines the benefits and methods for eliminating waste.

  For more information: www.zerowaste.org

- Zero Waste is closely related to the *Cradle to Cradle,* by William McDonough and Michael Braungart, with a vision of design and redesign of society's products to completely eliminate the concept of waste and transform waste into input into other processes or healthy organic fertilizers.

  For more information: Green Blue Institute: http://www.greenblue.org/

- The Institute for Market Transformation to Sustainability also develops product development standards to reduce waste and environmental impacts.

  For more information: www.sustainableproducts.com/mts/index.htm

Santa Monica	Claremont	San Jose	Minneapolis	Corvallis	Berkeley Climate Action Plan	Towards Sustainable Berkeley	Oakland	Washington State	Chicago Climate Action Plan	Aspen Canary Initiative Climate Plan
• Resource Conservation • Environmental and Public Health • Transportation • Economic Development • Open Space and Land Use • Housing • Community Education and Civic Participation • Human Dignity	• Resource conservation • Environment and Public Health • Transportation • Sustainable Built Environment • Open Spaces and Land Use • Housing and Economic Sustainability • Outreach, Education and Implementation	• Energy Efficiency • Renewable Energy • Green Buildings • Waste Reduction • Water Conservation and Recycling • Long-Term Planning • Emission Reduction • Smart, Green Streets and Trails • Green Airport	• Energy and Emissions • Urban Design and Mobility • Clean Water	• Community Inclusion • Economic Vitality • Education • Energy • Food • Health and Human Services • Housing • Land Use • Natural Areas and Wildlife • Transportation • Waste and Recycling • Water	• Sustainable Transportation and Land Use • Building Energy Use Strategies • Waste Reduction and Recycling • Adapting to a Changing Climate • Community Outreach and Empowerment	• Management/Permitting • Urban Planning • Buildings • Energy • Water • Solid Waste • Transportation • Health • Communication • Finance • Purchasing • Food • Community Enhancement	• Energy Efficiency, Alternative Energy and Renewable Energy • Climate Protection • Green Building • Promote Increased Production and Consumption of Local Food • Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion • Promoting Green Business	• Reliance on Renewable Energy • Engaged Communities • No Waste • Costs Paid in Full • Education Public • Economic Vitality through Natural Resource Innovation • Social Justice • Enduring Natural Resources	• Energy Efficient Buildings • Clean and Renewable Energy Sources • Improved Transportation Options	• Policy, Research & Education • Energy Efficiency • Transportation: Air & Ground • Electricity • Landfill: Waste Reduction & Recycling • Localization: Offsets & Food

PARTIAL LISTING OF CALIFORNIA CITIES GREEN BUILDING ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

Alameda, CA:

On May 6, 2008, the Alameda City Council adopted the Civic Green Building Ordinance, updating Chapter 13 of the Alameda Municipal Code, requiring all city-owned and city-funded projects exceeding $3 million in construction costs to earn LEED Certified or a GreenPoint Rated score of 50.

Alameda County, CA:

All county projects initiated after July 1, 2003 must be LEED "Silver" certified. This ordinance added chapter 4.38 to Title 4 of the Administrative Code of the County of Alameda.

Administrative Code website: http://municipalcodes.lexisnexis.com/codes/alamedadmin/

Contact:
Michael Cadrecha, Architect, County of Alameda GSA-TSD; (510) 208-9589; michael.cadrecha@acgov.org.

Albany, CA:

On April 26, 2006, Albany city council adopted an ordinance requiring all city-sponsored construction projects of at least 5,000 square feet of occupied nonresidential space will achieve LEED Certified. Private commercial projects of 10,000 square feet are also required to achieve LEED Certified.

Projects in Albany pursuing LEED are also required to have a LEED AP as a principal member of the design team.

Anaheim, CA:

On August 8, 2006, the Anaheim City Council adopted Resolution 2006-187, requiring all new municipal buildings over 10,000 sq ft to be LEED Certified and encouraging private developers and builders to earn LEED certification for all their future projects.

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Brisbane, CA:

On December 17, 2007, the Brisbane City Council adopted Ordinance 524, requiring all new municipal buildings over 5,000 sq ft to earn LEED Silver certification and all new commercial construction and renovation over 10,000 sq ft to earn LEED Silver certification. Commercial projects smaller than 10,000 sq ft are encouraged to follow LEED guidelines.

Burbank, CA:

In March of 2004, the City of Burbank issued its Green Building and Sustainable Architecture Reference Manual including Burbank-specific guidelines on a credit-by-credit basis with the LEED Rating System for New Construction. Expedited permit approval and reduced permit fees (5%-15%) are available to varying degrees based on the level of sustainability achieved.

For Level I, projects must submit proof of construction waste diversion and stormwater prevention programs; for Level II, projects must submit proof of sustainable building methods and materials programs in addition to Level I requirements; for Level III, projects must submit proof of LEED certification.

Calabasas, CA:

On January 7, 2004, the Calabasas City Council adopted Ordinance #2003-185 requiring all non-residential, city and privately-owned buildings between 500 ft2 and 5,000 ft2 to meet the LEED Certified level. Buildings over 5,000 ft2 must meet the LEED Silver level.

Campbell, CA:

On December 4, 2007, the Campbell City Council adopted Resolution 10850, requiring all new and renovated municipal buildings over 5,000 sq ft to achieve LEED Silver certification.

Costa Mesa, CA:

On September 4, 2007, the Costa Mesa City Council approved a resolution that established a green building incentive program for private development, effective September 5, 2007 through June 30, 2008. The program encourages green building practices through various incentives, including priority permitting and fee waivers for all green installations and fee reductions to cover the cost of LEED certification.

On the same day, the City established leadership by becoming the first municipality in the State of California to require all new municipal construction to achieve LEED Gold, with no size or cost minimums.

Contact:
Khanh Nguyen, Building Official; City of Costa Mesa; (714) 754-5277; knguyen@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us

Cupertino, CA:

On November 20, 2007, the Cupertino City Council adopted a policy requiring all new municipal buildings to achieve LEED Silver certification.

http://64.165.34.13/weblink7/DocView.aspx?id=23721 (scroll down to page 9)

Dublin, CA:

In March 2004, the City Council approved Ordinance 9-04 that all municipal projects with an estimated construction cost of $3 million or greater must register with the USGBC and achieve LEED Silver certification. Smaller projects are required to incorporate as many green building principles as deemed appropriate by the Green Building Compliance Official.

Irvine, CA:

On December 13, 2005, Irvine Mayor Krom signed into law Resolution #05-153, establishing a Green Building Program in which all new municipal buildings and major renovations of municipal structures of 5,000 square feet or larger shall be designed, constructed and certified at a minimum of LEED Certified.

Resolution #05-153 can be viewed through Irvine's city records search.

Livermore, CA:

On October 17, 2006, the Livermore City Council adopted the Commercial and Residential Green Building Ordinance, requiring all commercial and residential projects to submit a LEED or GreenPoint checklist. Projects that register intent to achieve LEED Certified or higher may receive expedited review and reduced permit fees.

As per Ordinance #1727 passed by the City Council in 2004, all city buildings shall meet a minimum LEED Silver certification. All projects pursing LEED are required to include a LEED Accredited Professional on the project team. The ordinance added Chapter 15.74 to the municipal code.

Contact: Karen Poppleton, Logan City Environmental Center; (435) 716-9750

Los Altos, CA:

On October 23, 2007 the Los Altos City Council approved a green building ordinance, adding Chapter 12.66 to Los Altos Municipal Code that requires all future public buildings of 7,500 square feet or larger to be designed to perform at least 15% more efficiently than CA Title 24 and to achieve LEED Silver certification. Prior to issuing a formal certificate of occupancy, the city will verify proof of certification.

The ordinance also requires that all public and commercial buildings are designed to perform 15% better than Title 24 of California Code of Regulations. Single and multi-family homes must be GreenPoint rated.

http://ordlink.com/codes/losaltos/index.htm (Chapter 12.66)

Contact:
Kirk Ballard, Building Official; City of Los Altos Building Department; (650) 947-2752

Los Altos Hills, CA:

On October 9, 2008, the Los Altos Hill Town Council adopted an ordinance requiring all new municipal building over 1,000 sq ft to achieve at minimum LEED Certification. New residential projects and major additions must achieve LEED Certification under LEED for Homes or 50 points on the GreenPoint checklist. Residential projects that achieve LEED Silver certification shall qualify for expedited building plan review. Residential projects that achieve LEED Gold certification shall qualify for guaranteed building inspections within two working days of a request for inspection. Residential projects that achieve LEED Platinum shall receive a customized plaque recognizing the special achievement.

http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/documents/city_council_meetings/2008/LAH_City_Council_2008-10-09/LAHCC_20081009_AI04.pdf (scroll down to page 2)

Los Angeles, CA:

On April 22, 2008 Mayor Villaraigosa signed the Private Sector Green Building Plan into law, requiring all private development of 50,000 square feet or greater to earn LEED Certified and offering expedited plan review and permitting for all projects seeking LEED Silver, as verified by LEED Accredited city officials. The law further commits City resources towards the ongoing review and improvement of City codes, removing obstacles to green building. Furthermore, the law creates a cross-departmental Sustainability Team to revise green building policies and engage the development community, directs the City to continue to work with DWP to offer financial incentives for green building, directs that certain city staff be trained as LEED APs, and establishes the Mayor's Annual Award of Excellence in Sustainable Design & Construction. Click here to view the press release.

On March 14, 2007, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Board of Commissioners, who are appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council, amended the Rules Governing Water and Electric Service to provide expedited water and electrical connections for buildings that meet LEED Silver. LADWP has also adopted a policy to require that its construction projects meet LEED Silver. In addition, builders and developers can take advantage of the LADWP Green Building Incentive that offers up to $250,000 in financial incentives to assist a building in becoming more green and meeting LEED standards.

Incentive Program: http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp008821.jsp
LADWP Decision: http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp009184.jsp

Contact:
LADWP Energy Efficiency Team; (213) 367-4134;

In August, 2006 the LA Department of Building and Safety Board passed a motion to initiate a Priority Plan Check for Green Building Projects for projects with proof of registration with USGBC at the Silver level.

Contact:
LA Department of Buildings and Safety; (213) 473-3231

On April 19, 2002, the Los Angeles City Council adopted the City of Los Angeles Sustainable Building Initiative, requiring all city-owned and city-funded construction projects of 7,500 square feet or larger and constructed after July 1, 2003 to earn LEED Certified. On May 15, 2000 LA City Council Motion #18 called for the Department of Public Works to construct its buildings to LEED Certified, laying the groundwork for the 2002 city-wide public sector adoption.

View the Sustainable Building Initiative Booklet here:
http://eng.lacity.org/projects/sdip/docs/SustainableBuildingInitiativeActionPlanFinal043003.pdf

View the City's LEED project status document: http://eng.lacity.org/projects/sdip/docs/leedprojecstatus.pdf

Contact:
Deborah Weintraub, City Architect; (213) 485-5499

Los Angeles County, CA:

On January 16, 2007, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Los Angeles County Sustainable Design Program, requiring all new County buildings over 10,000 square feet to earn LEED Silver certification.

Monte Sereno, CA:

On February 19, 2008, the Monte Sereno City Council adopted Resolution 3326, requiring all new or renovated municipal building over 5,000 sq ft to achieve LEED Silver certification.

Monterey, CA:

On July 1, 2008, the Monterey City Council adopted an ordinance requiring that all new municipal buildings earn LEED Silver certification. The ordinance also requires all new private commercial buildings to follow the LEED for New Construction guidelines and all new private residential buildings to follow the Build It Green's New Construction Green Building Guidelines.

Contact:
Jeff Condit, Building Safety and Inspection, City of Monterey; condit@ci.monterey.ca.us

Oakland, CA:

In April 2005, the City of Oakland City Council adopted a Green Building Ordinance requiring municipal projects, including new construction and renovation with a minimum construction cost of $3 million, to achieve LEED Silver certification. The ordinance was added to the Oakland Municipal Code under Chapter 15.35.

Oakland's 2005 Ordinance also promotes the use of green building strategies in private sector development by offering free technical assistance, green building guidelines and public promotion for qualified projects.

Contact:
Ferial Mosley, Recycling Specialist, City of Oakland; (510) 238-7433; fmosley@oaklandnet.com

Palo Alto, CA:

On May 12, 2008, the Palo Alto City Council adopted Ordinance 237:08 requiring all new commercial construction larger than 5,000 sq ft to earn LEED Silver certification and all commercial renovations over 5,000 sq ft or $500,000 to earn LEED Certified. For residential construction and major renovation, the ordinance also requires that applicable projects earn minimum scores from Build It Green's GreenPoint rating system.

Contact:
Kristin Heinen, Sustainability/Associate Planner, City of Palo Alto, 650.329.2189; kristin.heinen@cityofpaloalto.org

Pasadena, CA:

On April 7, 2008, the Pasadena City Council adopted Ordinance 7137, requiring all new municipal buildings and all municipal renovations over 15,000 sq ft to earn a minimum of LEED Silver certification. The Ordinance also requires new commercial buildings over 50,000 sq ft to earn a minimum of LEED Silver certification. All projects covered by this ordinance must achieve earn LEED credit WEc3.1, Water Efficiency.

http://www.cityofpasadena.net/councilagendas/2008%20agendas/Apr_07_08/9B1.pdf

On December 19, 2005, the City Council passed Ordinance #7031, effective April 2006, requiring all new commercial and residential construction to achieve the LEED Certified level at a minimum. This includes commercial construction of 25,000 square feet or more, residential buildings at least four stories high, and city buildings of 5,000 square feet or more. Find Ordinance #7031 under title 14 chapter 14.90.

Developers who exceed the minimum certification will qualify for a rebate from Pasadena Water and Power. The PWP High-Performance Building Program matches one month's electricity savings for each percent efficiency better than code that the building performs (capped at $100,000). Additionally, developers who include affordable housing will earn a construction tax rebate of $1000 per unit. PWP's Pasadena LEED Certification Program offers $15,000 grants for applicants who achieve LEED Certified ($20,000 for Silver, $25,000 for Gold and $30,000 for Platinum).

Contact:
Alice Sterling, Green Building Coordinator; City of Pasadena; (626) 744-3726; asterling@cityofpasadena.net

Pleasanton, CA:

The City Council adopted Ordinance #1873 in December 2002 requiring all commercial construction projects over 20,000 square feet to follow guidelines to meet LEED Certified. Formal certification with USGBC is encouraged but not required.

Contact:
Heidi Kline, Associate Planner; (925) 931-5609; hkline@ci.pleasanton.ca.us

Rohnert Park, CA:

In February and March, 2007 the City of Rohnert Park adopted a green building ordinance and two subsequent resolutions addressing nearly all building types. Effective July 1, new commercial buildings, retrofits and remodelings of commercial-interiors for both the public and the private sector must meet a variety of minimum standards ranging from LEED Certified or equivalent to LEED Silver based on a three-tiered matrix by project type. City-owned and city-funded projects greater than 20,000 square feet require LEED Silver. Slightly lower thresholds are required for smaller projects.

This legislation further requires compliance with other green building rating and certification systems for residential construction.

The city also passed an energy efficiency ordinance applying to all residential construction permit applicants after April 27, 2007.

http://www.rpcity.org/content/view/468/183/

Sacramento, CA:

On September 21, 2004, Mayor Heather Fargo signed Resolution #2004-751 requiring LEED certification of all city projects. For projects over 5,000 ft2 the city has a goal of LEED Silver certification.

Contact:
Keith Roberts, City of Sacramento General Services; (916) 808-4726; kRoberts@cityofsacramento.org

San Bernardino County, CA:

On August 28, 2007 the County Board of Supervisors passed several measures to advance green building within the county. All new county construction and major renovations will be required to meet LEED Silver. Priority plan review will also be offered to homebuilders who meet certain sustainable criteria. The county is also developing a website to educate the public on green building principles.

http://www.greencountysb.com/

San Diego, CA:

San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy included requiring LEED Silver certification of all municipal projects among his 10 goals for the year in his 2002 State of the City Address. The city subsequently adopted LEED for all public projects over 5,000 sq ft in April, 2002.

In addition to its public sector adoptions, in 2002 San Diego developed the Sustainable Building Expedite Program that uses LEED criteria and provides significant plan review and construction incentives. Private sector buildings registering for LEED certification may be eligible to receive technical green building training, support, and education. Commercial projects achieving LEED Silver certification will benefit from expedited discretionary processes.

http://www.sdenergy.org/

Contact:
Tom Blair, Environmental Services; (858) 492-6001

San Francisco, CA

On August 4, 2008, Mayor Newsom signed the San Francisco Green Building Ordinance, requiring proof of green building practices and LEED certification for all residential and commercial buildings in the City. Small residential building projects, less than 75 feet tall and with four or less units, must submit a Build It Green New Home Construction Checklist and midsize, multifamily building projects must submit a Build It Green Multifamily Checklist. The Ordinance also requires residential buildings over 75 feet to be LEED Certified and earn specific credits addressing water efficiency, stormwater management and construction waste management (WEc1.1, WEc3.1, MRc2.1, SSc6.1 and SSc6.2). After January 1, 2010, these buildings must earn LEED Silver certification. The Ordinance further requires commercial buildings between 5,000 and 25,000 sq ft and no more than 75 ft tall must complete a LEED Checklist beginning January 1, 2009 with five specific credits addressing water efficiency, stormwater management and construction waste management (WEc1.1, WEc3.1, MRc2.1, SSc6.1 and SSc6.2) required in 2010, six in 2011, and seven in 2012. Commercial buildings over 25,000 sq ft and taller than 75 ft must be LEED Certified, with the minimum increasing to LEED Silver January 1, 2009 and LEED Gold January 1, 2012. These buildings must earn specific credits addressing water efficiency, stormwater management and construction waste management (WEc1.1, WEc3.1, MRc2.1, SSc6.1 and SSc6.2). Major renovations to commercial buildings over 25,000 sq ft must be LEED Certified, with the minimum increasing to LEED Silver January 1, 2009 and LEED Gold January 1, 2012.

On September 28, 2006, the Director of the San Francisco Planning Department issued Director's Bulletin 2006-02 giving priority permit review to all new and renovated buildings that achieve LEED Gold certification.

On May 18, 2004, the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco, CA adopted Ordinance #88-04 (adding a new Chapter 7 to the Environment Code) requiring all municipal new construction, additions and major renovation projects over 5,000 sq ft starting conceptual design on or after September 18 to achieve a LEED Silver certification. The ordinance also requires that a LEED Accredited Professional be a member of each design team.

Contact:
Mark Palmer, Green Building Coordinator; San Francisco Department of the Environment; (415) 355-3710; mark.palmer@sfgov.org
Rich Chien, Residential Green Building Coordinator; San Francisco Department of the Environment; richard.chien@sfgov.org

San José, CA:

On October 7, 2008, the San Jose City Council adopted a Private Sector Green Building Policy, requiring all new Tier 1 commercial and industrial buildings under 25,000 sq ft to follow the LEED checklist by 2009 and all new Tier 1 commercial and industrial buildings under 10,000 sq ft to follow the LEED checklist by 2012. The policy also requires all new Tier 2 commercial and industrial buildings larger than 25,000 sq ft to earn LEED Silver certification by 2009 and all new Tier 2 commercial and industrial buildings larger than 10,000 sq ft to earn LEED Silver certification by 2012. New residential buildings with less than 10 units must follow the Green Points or LEED checklist by 2009 and new residential buildings with 10 or more units must earn LEED Certification or 50 points from Green Points. New residential buildings over 75 feet tall must earn LEED certified by 2009 and LEED Silver certification by 2012.

http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/Agenda/20081007/20081007_0702.pdf (scroll down to page 14)

The City of San José adopted a green building policy in 2001 requiring LEED certification of all municipal projects over 10,000 square feet.

On March 6 2007, the City Council unanimously voted to adopt a revised green building policy that requires all new municipal buildings over 10,000 square feet to be constructed to achieve LEED Silver at a minimum, with a goal of reaching LEED Gold or Platinum. The policy, first introduced last year, will apply to all new projects budgeted for fiscal year 2007-2008 and thereafter.

Contact:
Mary Tucker, City of San Jose; (408) 975-2581; mary.tucker@sanjoseca.gov

San Mateo County, CA:

On February 26, 2008, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 04411, requiring all new commercial and industrial buildings and building additions over 3,000 sq ft to be LEED Certified. The Ordinance further provides expedited permitting for projects earning a minimum of LEED Silver certification. The ordinance also requires all new residential buildings to earn LEED for Homes Certified or earn 50 Green Points on the appropriate GreenPoint Rated checklist, with expedited permitting available to LEED for Homes certified projects and projects GreenPoint Rated at 75 points or higher.

San Mateo County adopted a Sustainable Building Policy December 11, 2001. The policy requires new projects and additions that are built by the County and greater than 5000 sq. ft. to achieve certification at the highest practicable LEED rating level. Smaller projects are encouraged to follow LEED standards but are not required to submit documentation for certification.

In addition to the policy, the County offers information on green building and is developing a Countywide Green Building Program.

Sustainable Building Policy: http://www.recycleworks.org/greenbuilding/sus_building_policy.html

Contact:
Jill Boone, RecycleWorks Programs Manager, Green Building Coordinator; (650) 599-1433; jill@RecycleWorks.org

San Rafael, CA:

On July 2, 2007, The San Rafael City Council approved Ordinance 1853, the Planning Commission's recommendations to adopt green building standards for the City. New or renovated civic and commercial construction exceeding 5,000 square feet is required to meet the equivalent of LEED Certified, as verified by a LEED AP. New or renovated commercial construction exceeding 30,000 square feet is required to achieve LEED Silver certification. Residential projects must achieve a minimum level of Build it Green's Green Point Rated system.

Contact:
Community Development Department; (415) 485-3085

Santa Clara, CA:

On December 4, 2007, the Santa Clara City Council adopted a Near Term Policy on Green Building Strategy requiring all future public buildings greater than 5,000 square feet to achieve LEED Silver certification, formally recognizing the USGBC's and Build it Green's green building rating systems, and requiring a completed LEED or GreenPoint Rated checklist with each planning application.

Contact:

Santa Clarita, CA:

On August 23, 2005, the Santa Clarita City Council adopted Resolution 05-103, requiring new municipal construction to earn LEED Silver certification and all renovation of municipal buildings to follow LEED for Existing Building guidelines. The Resolution also encourages private developers to follow LEED guidelines.

http://www.santa-clarita.com/cityhall/admin/purchasing/resolutions/05-103%20%20EPP.htm (scroll down to Section 3.6)

Santa Cruz, CA:

In 2005, the City of Santa Cruz adopted Ordinance #2005-29 amending the municipal code to establish a green building program. As of January 1, 2007, all residential and commercial buildings that are new, remodeled, or undergo alterations are subject to compliance with green building standards such as LEED.

Santa Monica, CA:

On April 22, 2008, the Santa Monica City Council adopted Ordinance 2261, amending the City green building codes to require all new single-family and multi-family residences under four stories to submit a LEED for Homes checklist, a GreenPoint Rated checklist, or a Santa Monica green building checklist. The ordinance requires all other new buildings to submit a LEED for New Construction checklist. The ordinance also provides expedited permitting for new projects registered with LEED for New Construction, LEED for Homes, and LEED for Core and Shell.

On August 9, 2005, the Santa Monica City Council adopted Ordinance 2165, allowing projects registered with LEED for New Construction, LEED for Homes, and LEED for Core and Shell to receive expedited permitting.

http://www01.smgov.net/cityclerk/council/agendas/2005/20050913/wm20050809.htm

On January 23, 2004, the City of Santa Monica launched the Santa Monica Green Building LEED Grant Program, providing financial incentives for private developers who earn LEED certification. The grants start at $20,000 for projects that earn LEED

Certified and increase in $5,000 increments to $35,000 for projects that earn LEED Platinum certification. On April 22, 2008, the program was expanded to include LEED for Homes certified projects. The grants range from $2,000 to $3,500 for multi-family projects and from $3,000 to $8,000 for single family homes.

In 2000, the Santa Monica City Council adopted, as part of the annual budget, a requirement that all new municipal construction earn at minimum LEED Silver certification.

See Santa Monica's Green Building Program website for a comprehensive overview of the City's green building initiatives.

Contact:
Brenden McEneaney, Green Building Program Advisor; City of Santa Monica; (310) 458-8549; brenden.mceneaney@smgov.net

Santa Rosa, CA:

On December 18, 2007, the Santa Rosa City Council adopted Resolution 27001, requiring all new commercial interior projects to demonstrate the achievement of 20 credits on the LEED for Commercial Interiors guidelines.

Stockton, CA:

On September 9, 2008, the Stockton City Council adopted Resolution 08-0371, requiring all new municipal buildings that exceed 5,000 sq ft and all new non-residential buildings that exceed 5,000 sq ft to earn at minimum LEED Silver certification or comparable standard. The implementation schedule can be adjusted so that the LEED Silver requirements can be implemented first for non-residential buildings that exceed 20,000 sq ft and later non-residential buildings between 20,000 sq ft and 5,000 sq ft.

Sunnyvale, CA:

On January 26, 2004, the City of Sunnyvale adopted Ordinance #2002-0076, updating the city's building codes in areas zoned for industrial use to allow a density bonus of 5% FAR for buildings that achieve a minimum of LEED Certified. The municipal code improvement can be found under Title 19.32.075 of the Sunnyvale Municipal Code.

Contact:
Steve Lynch, City of Sunnyvale; (408) 730-2793; SLynch@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

Temecula, CA:

On July 22, 2008, the Temecula City Council adopted Resolution 08-74 requiring all new municipal buildings and additions to existing municipal buildings to be LEED Certified. The resolution also encourages new residential buildings to follow the guidelines of the California Green Builder Program.

Union City, CA:

On March 14, 2006, the Union City City Council adopted Resolution 3136-06, encouraging all commercial and institutional projects to follow the LEED for New Construction checklist and seek LEED certification. The projects are also encouraged to have a LEED Accredited Professional as a principal member of the design team. All residential projects, including both multi-family and single family, are encouraged to follow the Alameda County Green Building Guidelines and achieve standards set by StopWaste.org.

West Hollywood, CA:

On July 16, 2007, the City Council of West Hollywood passed Ordinance 07-762, the Green Building Requirements and Incentives for Private Development, with an ordinance requiring residential and commercial projects to meet minimum energy

conservation and renewable energy requirements. Applicable projects include new construction, remodeling and tenant improvements. Applicable projects must earn a minimum number of points from the locally-developed West Hollywood Green Points program. Developments that achieve a minimum of LEED Certified are exempt from the requirements of the program. The Ordinance also calls for the establishment of a Green Buildings Resource Center at West Hollywood City Hall.

http://www.newrules.org/electricity/solarwesthollywood.html

In April of 2006, West Hollywood passed Ordinance #06-733, requiring all new, remodeled or public tenant improvement projects of 10,000 square feet or greater to achieve a minimum of LEED Certified. All other publicly-funded buildings are encouraged to achieve the LEED Certified.

Contact:
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Windsor, CA:

On May 16, 2007, the Windsor Town Council adopted Ordinance 2007-215, requiring all new commercial buildings and all renovations of commercial buildings in which more than 75 percent of the existing building is demolished to achieve a minimum of 20 credits on the LEED checklist. The Ordinance also requires all new residential buildings to achieve a minimum of 50 points on the Green Point rating system.

Excerpted from U.S. Green Building Council lists