

SUSTAINABILITY MASTER PLAN PROPOSED UPDATES

DRAFT 12/14/21

(This draft has been updated to reflect the comments from the Sustainability Commission on October 5, 2021.)

1 CLIMATE CHANGE + RESILIENCE (10 ACTIONS, 3 OBJECTIVES)

The Sustainability Master Plan identifies three objectives under this goal – to reduce GHG emissions, to improve resiliency, and to monitor and report on GHG emissions. Palm Springs has achieved the State goal reflected in the Sustainability Plan of reducing community-wide contributions to GHG emissions to 1990 levels. Although the City did not monitor and report GHG emissions on a continued basis as called for in the Sustainability Plan, it has recently completed a community-wide GHG inventory. Little has been done to improve community resiliency.

The State has set even more ambitious GHG reduction goals for 2030 (40% below 1990 levels), 2035 (carbon neutrality) and 2050 (80% below 1990 levels). To achieve those goals and exceed them when possible, the City should periodically update its community-wide and City operations GHG inventories and use the results of those inventories to adopt and implement a Climate Action Roadmap identifying actions to reduce GHG emissions. Led by the Office of Sustainability, the City should develop annual department-wide work plans to carry out those actions, with sustainability champions in key departments. The City should also participate actively in statewide and regional working groups, which share updates on state laws, regulations, and policies as well as best practices adopted by other local jurisdictions in California.

Climate adaptation and mitigation should continue to be a separate objective in this section, with goals focused on resiliency actions such as insulation for older homes, battery electric storage systems, microgrids and back-up generators powered by renewable energy. As noted in the General Plan Housing Element to be approved by City Council, new housing should be appropriately located, designed, and adequately protected from wildfire, flooding, wind, heat, drought, and other features of the environment in Palm Springs.

<u>Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Monitor and report GHG emissions	Retain objective
1.1 Update GHG inventory biannually	Simplified action description
1.2 Use emissions inventory to identify and prioritize effective programs, and to modify programs to increase greenhouse gas reduction effectiveness.	Modified action to delete reference to monitoring tool.
2. Reduce community-wide contributions to GHG emissions to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% below 1990 by 2050. Achieve carbon neutrality for municipal emissions by 2030 and community-wide carbon neutrality by 2035.	Modified Objective to reference new state GHG reduction goals. Confirm with Council the carbon-neutrality goals and work with

	PlaceWorks to determine whether/how these can be achieved.
2.1 Establish, periodically update and implement Climate Action Roadmap containing energy, water, transportation, and other actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Modified Action to refer to Climate Action Roadmap in place of Climate Action Plan.
2.2 Establish greenhouse gas criteria to evaluate City policies, programs, and development applications	Modified Action to create "whole City" approach to GHG reductions.
2.3 Participate in regional and statewide working groups that identify the actions necessary to achieve carbon neutrality and then implement recommended actions	Modified Action to refer to local energy action initiatives.
2.4 Continue to move City facilities to carbon free and renewable energy options, including the COGEN facility and other buildings not served by DCE.	Added action.
3. Improve community resiliency to mitigate the impacts of climate change	Modified to specifically refer to mitigating impacts.
3.1 Mitigate the impacts of climate change on people, infrastructure, natural systems, and public spaces in the City.	Modified Action to refer to focus on mitigation.
3.2 Partner with State, federal, regional, and county agencies to develop and implement actions that improve community resilience, such as battery electric storage systems, microgrids and back-up generators powered by renewable energy.	Modified action to provide for implementation and add examples.
3.3 Prioritize and implement greenhouse gas reduction measures such as insulation with co-benefits that make the community more resilient to climate change	Modified Action to include implementation and insulation.
3.4 Ensure that new housing is appropriately located, designed, and adequately protected from wildfire, flooding, wind, heat, drought, and other features of the environment in Palm Springs	Added Action to track language in HS 4.7 of General Plan Housing Element.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The City is committed to leading by example in the area of climate action. Two of the ways it will do this as outlined in the objectives above is to achieve carbon-neutrality for municipal emissions by 2030, and to continue to move to carbon-free power options to the extent possible.

NOTE: Although the Commission members did not have significant feedback on this section at the Planning Session on October 5th, they agreed this topic was a high priority and should be a high priority for Council. Council did

discuss climate action at a meeting on November 18, 2021, and felt it was important to set a bold goal of carbon neutrality for the City and to develop a climate emergency resolution.

2 SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY (19 ACTIONS, 5 OBJECTIVES) (TO BE DELETED)

The introduction to this section in the 2016 Sustainability Plan refers to products and services in addition to a carbon-based economy. The focus of the actions is employment in energy generation, and water and energy efficiency businesses. The more recent interpretation of “sustainable economy” by commissioners has been more focused on creating a “diversified economy”.

There has been little activity on the actions in this section. They are important, but they could be referred to Community and Economic Development or Coachella Valley Economic Development and deleted from the Plan. Priority to keep this section is low. It could be deleted. Listed below are two actions and objectives from the original section that are related to the tourism and hospitality industry that should be kept. They could be moved to another section.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- Delete this as a separate section.
- Commissioners emphasized the importance of retaining a focus on the natural features that make the city unique from other desert destinations and continuing to promote the City as an ecotourism destination.
- More concrete connections should be made to identify how some of these ecotourism efforts reduce greenhouse gas emissions as part of the Climate Action Roadmap.
- The group agreed that this should not be its own priority but rather the following things should be integrated into other priorities or documents as noted:
 - Partner with the hospitality industry to provide information to tourists about ecologically-responsible travel to the region, carbon-offset alternatives, and resource conservation strategies for visitors (Include specific GHG-reducing actions such as alternative transportation to and from hotels in Climate Action Roadmap, include messaging about water conservation and proper recycling practices in their respective sections.)
 - Continue to provide incentives and technical support to businesses in Palm Springs on sustainable business best practices (This was called for by Council in their discussions of the Climate Action Roadmap. Include sustainability-focused incentive programs across all topics in budget planning process.)

3 COMMUNITY HEALTH + WELLNESS (13 ACTIONS, 3 OBJECTIVES)

The objective of many of the actions in this section is “to increase the City’s overall health status by 5% in 2020 by encouraging life-long recreational physical activity”. This objective should be the primary focus. Other current objectives (Engage community partners to provide health and wellness education and/or services and Promote mental, social and emotional health) could be eliminated.

Most of the actions in this priority were never started. The Mayor’s 5k Race has not been held since 2016, but another organization has sponsored a 5k race and wellness expo in January in subsequent years. The Commission’s only wellness action has been to develop the tobacco and cannabis use ordinance.

Priority to keep this section is high, and it supports the climate adaptation actions under Climate Change + Resilience. Listed below are actions from this section that the Commission should consider keeping. One has been revised. There may be opportunities to collaborate on health and wellness activities with the Palm Springs Parks and Recreation Commission, the Riverside County Department of Public Health, and the organizer of the 5k race and expo. Metrics for health and wellness should be identified. Also listed below are two new actions for this section.

<u>2016 Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Increase the City’s overall health status by 5% in 2020 by encouraging life-long recreational physical activity.	
1.2 Utilize partnerships to create an additional community recreation center.	Collaborate with Planning, Parks and Recreation Departments
1.3 Provide physical activity opportunities for people of all ages.	Collaborate with Parks and Recreation Department, RivCo Department of Public Health. Parks and Recreation already has physical activities that can be counted toward this goal. RivCo Department of Public Health can provide support. They have a new office on Sunrise Way in Palm Springs.
1.6 Support complete neighborhoods and active transportation to promote social interaction and improve public health.	Overlaps with Active and Sustainable Transportation
2. Engage community partners to provide health and wellness education and/or services.	
2.1 Create an online calendar/directory/resource guide of wellness activities and services available in our region	Collaborate with Parks and Recreation Department, RivCo Department of Public Health
2.2 Collaborate with organizer of health and fitness expo and 5k race to actively promote wellness activities.	Contact recent sponsor of the 5k race
3. Promote mental, social, and emotional health.	
3.3 Challenge each neighborhood organization to host one “Healthy Planet, Healthy You” event per year.	Collaborate with ONE-PS
4. Bring amendment to Municipal Code which provides regulations on tobacco and cannabis use in commercial and residential buildings to the City Council.	NEW Draft written in collaboration with Human Rights Commission

5. Work with Parks & Recreation to maintain or develop alternative hiking trails to ensure that the City can protect sensitive habitat and promote healthy outdoor activities.	NEW Collaborate with Parks and Recreation Department
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LEAD BY EXAMPLE:

The City will continue lead by example in this area by promoting biking and walking to work programs. More could potentially be done to establish workplace wellness programs, group weight loss programs, or promoting mindfulness and meditation.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- This section relates to maintaining quality of life and is directly tied to the works of the Parks & Recreation Department.
- It is still unclear how progress would be measured to the 5% improvement in health status.
- This topic is linked to other priorities. For example, if people drive less and walk and bike more as encouraged in the GHG reduction section, their health may likely improve.

4 LIVABLE NEIGHBORHOODS (OR COMMUNITIES) (25 ACTIONS, 5 OBJECTIVES) (TO BE DELETED)

There has been little activity on the actions in this section. Many of the actions overlap with the Energy Conservation + Renewable Energy and the Active + Sustainable Transportation sections. There is a lot of wording about “Placemaking”, which is a reinvention of public spaces. Placemaking is resource intensive and should be a focus of the General Plan, and Sustainability should coordinate closely with Planning to ensure that these are ideas are reflected. Priority as a separate section is low. It is recommended that this section be deleted.

Feedback from the Planning Session:

- The group agreed to delete this section.

5 ACTIVE & SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

This priority area was focused on increasing more sustainable forms of transportation that result in reduced emissions and encourage healthier mobility options. The City was an early leader in adopting EV charging technology and promoting biking through increased bike paths and bike infrastructure. There are several actions that were in this section that should be deleted or referred elsewhere.

Work associated with promoting transportation alternatives should continue to be a priority with the goal of reducing GHG emissions. A new bike master plan should be formulated to identify additional work that needs to be done to promote biking. Results of the pedestrian safety master planning process will provide insights about options for promoting safer pedestrian experiences. List of potential actions should generally be pared down and thought should be given about how to influence the General Plan Circulation element to promote long-term planning options that promote sustainable transportation. This item may get subsumed under GHG Reduction strategies. Given the importance of reducing GHG emissions from transportation, it may warrant the additional attention of being its own priority.

<u>Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Promote clean transportation alternatives.	Existing Objective
1.1 Complete expansion of EV charging network at City Properties	Process has started.
1.2 Promote EV charging installations at commercial properties and multi-family complexes	NEW
1.3 Promote proper auto maintenance and operation practices to reduce tailpipe emissions, including anti-idling campaigns	Modified from existing actions. Determine potential impact for investment.
1.4 Conduct a pilot of scooter/bike share program.	NEW
1.5 Create a comprehensive parking strategy to promote alternative transportation and to promote electric vehicles and hybrids.	Modified.
1.6 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.	Retained.
2. Promote active transportation choices	Existing objective
2.1 Launch a robust public information campaign highlighting the health, environmental, and economic benefits of active transportation.	Retained.
2.2 Engage with elementary and middle schools to expand the Safe Routes to School program by identifying local champions.	Retained action. Pedestrian safety planning effort in the end did not address safe routes to schools, so more needs to be done on this.
2.3 Complete application for bike-friendly city	Modified.
2.4 Hold Open Street Events to promote biking and walking.	Retained.
3. Increased "shared" transportation options to reduce the number of cars on the road	
3.1 Assess options for car sharing program.	Modified.

3.2 Partner with SunLine transit to launch an individualized marketing program in neighborhoods with the highest levels of transit service.	Retained
3.3 Investigate feasibility of shuttle from airport to downtown or other key resort locations.	Modified.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE:

The City will continue to lead by example by transforming the municipal fleet to ensure 80 percent of public fleet vehicles run on alternative fuels and transition to an all-electric fleet by 2035 consistent with State goals. The City will also continue to promote transportation. The City will also continue to promote transportation alternatives for commuting employees.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- Additional actions should be developed to promote shared transportation regionally (e.g., connection to county courthouse and other facilities to the ~~EastWest~~).
- Develop a new ordinance to mandate or facilitate EV chargers at existing multi-family properties or commercial properties, not just new properties.
- Work with Sunline to ensure that there are shade structures at all bus stops and increase frequency of routes in areas that have the least access to owned vehicle transportation options.
- Get AMTRAK to increase passenger service to and from Palm Springs, Los Angeles, and San Diego especially. Also promote clean bus service.

NOTE: Many of these items are addressed in the Climate Action Roadmap. The Commission and the City need to determine how to apportion these activities across the Roadmap, the Strategic Plan, and the General Plan.

6 URBAN FORESTS & NATURAL SYSTEMS

Not much has been done to support this priority over the past several years. Most things that are not started should be deleted. Those things that are ongoing should be modified or updated. Several things seem to be standard practices now. Landscape-related actions should be or reframed in the context of climate change or GHG reductions and reassessed given ongoing drought conditions.

Consider reframing this section as **Natural Systems** to focus on protecting and enhancing natural resources and open space. Protecting habitat and open space not only supports local species and enhances biodiversity but also enhances the City’s ability to sequester carbon. Emphasis should be placed on opportunities to partner with other organizations as these types of efforts are largely beyond the control of the Sustainability program. This is another topic that needs to be emphasized in the General Plan.

Additional research should be done on the role of trees as shade in the context of ongoing drought. This topic should likely be captured in climate adaptation actions.

Below is a list of potential actions that could be retained or included. A clear objective would need to be developed, but for now, we have included “Protect and restore Open Space” which we know is a priority for the City.

<u>Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Protect, Restore, and Expand Natural Systems	New Objective
1.1 Continue City policy to plant 2 trees for every 1 that needs to be removed or replaced. Utilize drought tolerant and pest-resistant shade varieties where possible.	Modified existing action.
1.2 Support efforts of local organizations that are protecting and preserving habitat and enhancing or expanding open spaces.	NEW Examples include Mesquite Land Trust and Tahquitz Creek Yacht Club.
1.3 Work with Coachella Valley Partners to protect and preserve the habitat of key species such as big horn sheep.	NEW Examples include supporting no dogs on trails activities.
1.4 Work with the Planning Commission to develop policies and guidance for the planting of shade trees for residential and commercial projects	NEW
1.5 Work with Parks & Recreation to identify opportunities to increase tree canopy.	NEW

Feedback from Planning Session:

- Because the Office of Sustainability does not do a lot of this work directly, emphasize the connection to other departments and organizations.
- If this is viewed only in the context of carbon sequestration, it could be included in the GHG reduction section to reduce the number of priorities.
- Could expand this category to address other nature-based solutions such as sustainable agriculture, application of compost to enhance soil productivity. If this is the focus, the group should consider changing the name of the priority.
- Given that the focus of the discussion seems to be on climate adaptation and carbon sequestration, unless there are more objectives, consider moving this one objective to the Climate Adaptation section.

7 ENERGY CONSERVATION & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Through the launch of Desert Community Energy (DCE) in 2020, the policies adopted by the City and State on residential solar and the City’s installation of solar generation for its key facilities, the City has achieved the Sustainability Plan objectives of reducing the total energy use by all buildings built before 2012 by 10% and reducing energy use and carbon use from new homes and buildings. The objective of supplying 50% of all energy from renewable sources by 2030 and 75% of all City building’s energy from renewable sources by 2020 has already

been achieved if carbon-free energy (hydropower) is included as a renewable source. However, no progress was made on the objective of reducing light pollution.

As in the case of GHG emissions, the state goal posts keep moving. AB 3232 establishes a statewide goal of reducing GHG emissions from residential and commercial buildings 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. SB 100 calls for 100 percent of retail electricity sales to be served by renewable or zero-carbon resources by 2045. SB 100 also establishes an ambitious 60 percent renewable portfolio standard by 2030. In addition, SB 350 establishes an aspirational goal for the state to double statewide energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas end-uses by 2030. The 2019 Energy Code currently in effect contains detailed outdoor lighting standards that the City does not appear to enforce. The 2022 Energy Code, effective January 1, 2023, has even stricter outdoor lighting standards and aligns where feasible to the Illuminating Engineering Society/International Dark-sky Association Outdoor Lighting Model Ordinance.

The General Plan Housing Element to be approved by City Council and the state calls for encouraging green building practices that meet and exceed state law, incorporating climate change mitigation and solar energy. To achieve these goals, the City should follow other California local jurisdictions by requiring new residential construction to be all electric or more energy efficient than required by the Energy Code, requiring existing residential housing to carry out energy efficiency upgrades at the time of remodel and requiring commercial buildings and indoor cannabis grow facilities to use renewable energy. The City should enforce the Energy Code provisions as required by state law on outdoor lighting and build on those requirements for landscape and sign lighting. Finally, to ensure that green building and climate mitigation objectives are implemented equitably, the City should work with other groups to facilitate income-qualified energy efficiency and solar energy programs.

<u>Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Encourage green building practices and energy conservation standards that meet and exceed state law, incorporating climate change mitigation and incorporation of solar energy in the construction, rehabilitation, and renovation of housing.	NEW Objective to track language in HS 4.3 of General Plan Housing Element. Add Action for potential Reach Code.
1.1 Require new construction to be all-electric or alternatively more energy efficient than code-compliant mixed fuel buildings.	NEW. Potential Reach Code.
1.2 Require residential remodels having a building permit valuation above a specified threshold to carry out energy efficiency upgrades.	NEW. Potential Reach Code.
1.3 Require new single-family residences to include battery electric storage systems.	NEW. Potential Reach Code.
1.4 Ensure that downtown development complies with green building requirements of Downtown Palm Springs Specific Plan that exceed state code requirements.	NEW Reflects DTSP Specific Plan and Council action on GRIT condo project.

<p>2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from residential and commercial buildings 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and double energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas end-uses by 2030.</p>	<p>Modified Objective to include AB 3232 GHG reduction goal and SB 350 energy efficiency goal.</p>
<p>2.1 Increase educational and outreach efforts to residential, commercial, and institutional building owners to increase awareness of SCE, DCE and SoCal Gas Company programs, rebates, and incentives to substitute energy-efficient electric appliances for gas appliances and equipment and improve energy efficiency and demand flexibility of existing buildings and pools.</p>	<p>Modified Action to track AB 3232 strategies identified by CEC, add DCE and delete Green for Life program.</p>
<p>2.2 Promote third-party programs and financing sources, such as the CHEEF and PACE programs, to improve energy efficiency of existing buildings.</p>	<p>Modified Action to include CHEEF financing programs.</p>
<p>2.3 Collaborate with Inland Regional Energy Network if established on energy efficiency upgrades for municipal buildings, workforce training and internal training for Energy Code compliance.</p>	<p>NEW. Aligns with I-REN Business Plan.</p>
<p>2.4 Facilitate income-qualified energy efficiency programs such as those offered by the LiHEAP program managed by the Community Action Partnership of Riverside County and the Energy Savings Assistance Program and other programs administered by SoCal Gas Company and SCE.</p>	<p>Modified Action to include IOU ESA Program.</p>
<p>2.5 Continue leveraging federal, state, regional, and other funding sources to retrofit existing municipal facilities.</p>	<p>Modified Action to delete reference to public housing.</p>
<p>2.6 Partner with local Association of Realtors to promote energy disclosure and audits at time of sale for residential and commercial properties.</p>	<p>Modified Action to combine with Home Energy Assessment rebate program</p>
<p>3. Promote outdoor lighting standards that minimize light trespass and reduce light pollution and protect the surrounding outdoor environment from outdoor lighting impacts.</p>	<p>Retained objective.</p>
<p>3.1 Implement outdoor lighting ordinance for landscaping, streets and public monuments that reduces glare, light trespass, and skyglow such as the IDA Dark Sky model.</p>	<p>Modified Action to focus ordinance on areas not covered by Energy Code.</p>
<p>3.2 Enforce California Energy Code provisions requiring new construction and major retrofits to use energy efficient fixtures and outdoor lighting controls minimizing light trespass into natural areas.</p>	<p>Modified Action to focus on compliance with Energy Code requirements on these matters.</p>

3.3 Conduct internal and external training on outdoor lighting standards of California Energy Code.	Modified Action to focus on compliance with Energy Code requirements on these matters.
4. Supply renewable and zero-carbon energy resources for 60% percent of electric retail sales to customers by 2030 and 100% by 2045.	Modify Objective to track state RPS goals.
4.1 Collaborate with Desert Community Energy to promote solar housing programs that provide no- or low-cost solar for families living with limited or fixed incomes.	Modified Action to include DCE initiative with GRID Alternatives.
4.2 Collaborate with Desert Community Energy and promote its carbon-free product.	Modified Action to reflect establishment of DCE.
4.3 Collaborate with Desert Community Energy on community solar projects for residents and businesses not able to install rooftop solar.	NEW. Include possible DCE community solar project.
4.4 Establish local ordinance to require commercial buildings and indoor cannabis grow facilities to purchase carbon-free and renewable power.	Modify Action to reflect current discussions with Planning Commission and Council.
4.5 Establish an ordinance to enable wind generation on residential and commercial buildings in Palm Springs.	Keep Action; micro-wind projects are becoming technically feasible.
4.6 Hold annual workshops for City building, permitting and inspection staff to enhance understanding and familiarity with California Energy Code and renewable and new technology and installation procedures.	Modified Action to add Building Division and include Energy Code training.
4.7 Adopt SolarAPP+ application for automated permitting of residential solar and battery electric storage systems, and train local contractors and building and inspection staff on its use.	New. Staff is working on assessing implementation in the context of new automated permitting system.
4.8 Evaluate opportunities to increase local energy generation at the City's municipal wastewater treatment plant.	Retained.
4.9 Work with SCE to retrofit or buy back streetlights and retrofit them with LEDs.	Retained. Most streetlights have been converted.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- This section needs to be simplified if possible. If not, assignments should be made to identify who will implement.
- Some of these things are included in the Climate Action Plan. Determine how the two documents relate.
- Based on feedback from Council, City must consider financial impacts of projects on the business community in particular.

8 WATER CONSERVATION + EFFICIENCY

The Sustainability Plan establishes objectives of reducing potable water use in City facilities by 50% by 2020, reducing potable water usage per capita in Palm Springs by 30% by 2020 and increasing recycled and gray water usage in Palm Springs by 10% by 2020. None of those objectives has been measured or has likely been achieved. The City has not focused on reducing its potable water use or increasing its use of recycled water.

Desert Water Agency (DWA) is the lead agency responsible under state laws, regulations, and policies for water conservation in Palm Springs. Since June 2016, DWA has asked its customers to voluntarily save 10-13% compared with 2013 (the baseline year set by the State Water Board) to help achieve long-term sustainability. That 10-13% reduction target has been met and usually exceeded. The cumulative savings beginning in June 2016 through June 2020 is 17.9%. For the 12 months ending June 2021, consumption is trending 11% lower compared with 2013.

Once again, the state is moving the goal posts. Under SB 606 and AB 1668 passed by the California Legislature in 2018, the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Board will establish standards for (1) indoor residential use; (2) outdoor residential use; (3) outdoor commercial, industrial, and institutional use with dedicated irrigation meters; and (4) water losses. The indoor residential use budget will initially be 55 gallons per capita per day.

<u>Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Reduce potable water use in City facilities.	Modified Objective to delete percentage and year
1.1 Continue converting road median, Airport, and parkway strips to low-water, native, and drought-tolerant species.	Modified Action to include Airport.
1.2 Limit watering times at City facilities.	Retained.
1.3 Develop guidelines that reduce water use for road medians, parkways, parks, Airport, and other city facilities	Modified Action to include Airport.
1.4 Continue implementing water efficiency and conservation methods at all City facilities, targeting those facilities with the highest water use.	Retained.
1.5 Convert park and golf course irrigation systems to recycled water use, reduce high-water plants, and use smart irrigation systems.	Retained
2. Encourage the conservation of water resources through standards that meet and exceed state law for incorporation of native landscaping and noninvasive species that are specially adapted to the desert climate.	NEW. Tracks language in HS 4.4 of General Plan Housing Element.

2.1 Amend Water Efficient Landscaping Ordinance to apply to more landscapes than existing ordinance and require cover for new pools and spas.	NEW. Potential water Reach Code.
2.2 Promote Airport Demonstration Garden as a resource for native landscaping.	NEW. Reflects new Airport Demonstration Garden.
3. Reduce potable water usage per capita in Palm Springs to meet and exceed state water efficiency standards.	Modified Objective to track new state water conservation goals.
3.1 Collaborate with Desert Water Agency to promote and implement water conservation measures, leak detection and water efficient fixtures in Palm Springs.	Retained.
3.2 Require residential remodels having a building permit valuation above a specified threshold to install water efficient fixtures.	NEW. Parallels energy conservation measures in possible Reach Code.
3.3 Collaborate with Desert Water Agency in the implementation of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan, as conservation measures become necessary.	NEW. Incorporates new DWA Water Shortage Contingency Plan.
3.4 Continue to expand community outreach and engagement efforts to residential, commercial, and hotel owners to increase awareness of existing water efficiency incentive programs and through the City's website, Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs, and other community-based organizations	Modify Action to note new name of ONE-PS and delete reference to City water conservation requirements.
3.5 Work with Desert Water Agency to identify high-water consumer homes and businesses and target outreach and engagement efforts to these properties.	Retained
3.6 Partner with Desert Water Agency to promote smart metering and continuous monitoring of community water use.	Retained
3.7 Establish a water efficiency audit program that identifies vendors who perform irrigation audits and provides a rebate to homeowners and businesses that obtain such audits.	New. Program modeled after home energy assessment rebate program, which can be coordinated with DWA's sprinkler nozzle rebate program.
4. Increase recycled and gray water usage in Palm Springs.	Modify Objective to delete percentage and year.
4.1 Adopt local gray water ordinance that requires all new development to be constructed for easy implementation of gray water systems for outdoor irrigation.	Modified Action to limit gray water system to outdoor irrigation.

4.2 Support expansion of the recycled water system to serve new and existing city parks and commercial and multifamily development.	Modify Action to include City parks and new developments.
4.3 Expand the use of permeable pavement in large commercial and infrastructure uses, such as the Palm Springs Airport and Convention Center.	NEW. From Urban Forests + Natural Systems. Action may belong elsewhere.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The City should coordinate with DWA to set water conservation objectives consistent with the new state standards and partner with DWA on conservation actions. The City’s should complement those efforts and lead by example in reducing its water use through turf conversion, water-efficient irrigation, and installation of indoor water-efficient fixtures based on a capital improvement budget approved by City Council and funded from the City budgets and grant funds. The City should also impose stricter rules for water-efficient landscaping and use of gray water in new developments and require existing residential housing to install water-efficient fixtures at the time of remodel, as other local jurisdictions in California have done. Finally, the City should encourage voluntary water conservation by establishing a water efficiency audit program that identifies vendors who perform irrigation audits and provides a rebate to homeowners and businesses that obtain such audits. The program can be coordinated with DWA’s

Feedback from Commission:

- Probably most important thing we can do is to lead by example on this topic. Everything else is working closely with DWA. Reach codes would help.
- For the water efficiency audits, some research would need to be done with DWA to identify potential providers.

9 SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING (24 ACTIONS, 3 OBJECTIVES)

In the 2016 Sustainability Plan, the City referred to this priority area as “Solid Waste & Recycling.” The Commission may consider changing it to “Waste Minimization & Materials Management” to be broader than just recycling.

The goals that were articulated included diverting 80.1% of waste from the landfill by 2015 and diverting 90.1% of waste from the landfill by 2020. There is also an objective that targets 2030 as the 90% reduction time frame. The current diversion rate is estimated to be about 50%. The 2030 goal still seems relevant and should be retained.

This topic remains a high priority, and a lot has been done or is ongoing. Several listed objectives and/or actions should be retained, but primary emphasis should be on the implementation of SB 1383 and improving recycling rates. Reducing single use disposable items should also feature prominently starting with food ware. Additional opportunities for waste reduction could be identified following implementation of the food ware ordinance. Given the impact of our waste generation on GHG emissions numbers, reductions of waste to landfill also helps meet our 2030 GHG reduction goals.

<u>Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Reduce materials use and goods consumption	Retain objective, although unclear how
1.1 Promote use of reusable products – bags, food ware, etc.	Modified Action 6 from 2016 to include more than just bags
1.2 Promote “repair” programs	Modified Action 3 from 2016 to focus on repair programs – already discussed with Cultural Center
1.3 Work with Economic Development to promote more circular businesses to encourage the “next life” of materials	Modified Action 5
2. Reduce the amount of organic material in trash by X% as measured through annual waste audits	Moved 2016 objective up to be goal. Consider having organic diversion goal consistent with state?
2.1 Fully implement SB 1383 requirements, including providing organics and recycling services to all residential (single-family and multi-family) customers, providing technical assistance to businesses, and conducting enforcement when needed	NEW. Required by State.
2.2 Support community composting efforts	
2.3 Implement food recovery programs	(Related to 2016 action 3.1)
2.4 Implement fruit gleaning program	NEW
3. Promote more circular food ware systems through implementation of ordinance and reuse pilot	NEW (Related to 2016 action 1.8 and 2.10)
4. Continue to support HHW activities and special collection events	(Modified from 2016 action 2.9)
5. Promote extended producer responsibility for packaging and other materials	NEW. The State of Maine issued a new law recently to get more manufacturers to pay for recycling and waste management fees. California has been considering similar legislation. The City could look at doing something very focused such as expanding bottle returns and requiring that stores take

	back plastic grocery bags for recycling because they are not collected curbside.
6. Partner with developers to promote more sustainable materials management practices for building projects	(Modified from 2016 action 1.2)
7. Promote use of tap water by continuing to install bottle filling stations throughout the City.	Moved from Food and Urban Agriculture section. This activity helps reduce waste from plastic bottles.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- Keep the word “recycling” in the title as it resonates more with the general public.
- Ensure that methane emissions from landfills is highlighted as reason for doing more to divert organic waste.
- Facilitate recycling of specialty items such as plastic bags through city programs.
- Change implementing food ware ordinance to promote circular food ware systems. (Done)

10 FOOD + URBAN AGRICULTURE (20 ACTIONS, 3 OBJECTIVES) (DELETE)

There has been little activity on the actions in this section. There is a lot of variety. Many actions are resource intensive. One action, “Provide tap water rather than bottled water,” has been successful, with bottle-filling stations added in City facilities. The Farmer’s Market continues to be successful. Adding community gardens in the City could be an action, but the existing community garden will be managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation. When defined, a composting effort, which provides soil, could be added to this section. Priority as a separate section is low. Section could be deleted.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- Confirmed section should be deleted.
- Determine how to get Parks & Recreation to prioritize an action to add a new community garden on the north end of the City.

11 LEAD BY EXAMPLE (42 ACTIONS, 7 OBJECTIVES) DELETE

The idea of leading by example should be integrated across identified goals. This should not be a separate goal. Actions under the “Embed sustainable principles and practices into city operations” objective are more of an implementation approach than a prescription of activities. They could be considered as a group to develop a sustainability focus (primarily combatting climate change) across City organizations. They don’t need to be maintained as separate actions. They are listed below.

<u>2016 Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1. Embed sustainable principles and practices into City operations.	Consider actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.6, and 1.7 together to increase collaboration across City Departments to support Sustainability actions.
1.1 Form a collaboration between the Sustainability Commission, Mayor, and Green Team to establish an annual sustainability action goal.	Suggest Deleting. Goals are identified.
1.2 Identify a senior staffer from each City department or agency to carry out sustainability measures.	Delete. All staff should do their part.
1.6 Continue to increase capacity by adding additional full- or part-time staff to the Office of Sustainability.	
1.7 Publish an annual, standardized sustainability report card showing progress towards numeric goals and promoting departmental accomplishments.	

Most of the actions under the “Foster a safe and healthy work environment” objective could be referred to Human Resources. Priority of “Lead by Example” as a separate section is low. The section could be deleted. Listed below is the one action from this section that should be kept. It could be moved to another section.

<u>2016 Objectives and Actions</u>	<u>Comment</u>
6. Embed sustainability concepts and practices into the local culture through education, promotion, and community engagement.	
6.2 Maintain a single, City sustainability website and utilize social media outlets to convey information to the community.	Modified objective to address social media comment.

Feedback from Planning Session:

- Cross collaboration across the organization is critical for program success.
- There needs to be a sustained presence on social media, not just a website.

See new Implementation section below.

MISSING ELEMENTS

There should be some mention of outreach and education activities such as World Environment Day, Sustainable Film Festival, Library Summer Reading Program, and tabling events at the Farmers Market, ONE-PS picnic, etc. See new Implementation section below.

IMPLEMENTATION (NEW)

The City will utilize the following approaches in implementing its programs:

- Collaborate with other city offices to embed sustainability principles in all operations. The new Environmentally Preferable Purchasing policy will serve as a vehicle to raise awareness.
- Increase staffing levels within the Office of Sustainability to adequately implement programs and to work collaboratively with other offices.
- Publish an annual report that describes sustainability activities and accomplishments.
- Conduct creative outreach and education programs to engage the community in sustainability activities, including:
 - World Environment Day
 - The Sustainable Film Festival
 - Library Summer Reading Program
 - Tabling at periodic events such as the Farmers Market and ONE-PS Picnic