



# City of Claremont SUSTAINABLE CITY PLAN

Updated October 8, 2013



# Claremont Sustainability Task Force 2007-2008 Plan Development Phase MEMBERS

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# Claremont Sustainability Committee 2012-2013 Sustainable City Plan Update

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# Executive Summary

This document, the Claremont Sustainable City Plan, establishes a framework in which the Claremont community can achieve its vision of becoming a sustainable city. The vision is one where all who live and work in Claremont are enabled to live in ways that allow them to meet their needs while preserving the ability of future generations to do the same. A sustainable Claremont is a community that balances social needs, environmental health and economic prosperity while not depleting or degrading its natural resources, creating social inequities, or limiting our prospects for continued economic prosperity. This vision of a sustainable Claremont is based on the City's General Plan, adopted on November 11, 2006, which is organized around a theme of sustainability. The Sustainable City Plan was originally adopted on October 28, 2008 and amended on October 8, 2013.

## **Guiding Principles**

This plan establishes guiding principles which, through adoption of this plan by the City Council, shall become City policy that guide all daily decisions and operations of the municipal government. The principles call for:

- considering the long-term sustainability impacts in all City government decisions;
- making the protection, preservation and restoration of our natural environment a high priority for City decisions;
- recognizing that community education and participation are key to reaching our sustainability goals;
- striving for the City to continue to be a regional leader on sustainability issues; and
- working with strategic partners to achieve the City's sustainability goals.

## **City Government Sustainability Targets**

This plan calls for the City government to serve as a leader in sustainability matters by modifying its own practices as others in the community do the same. It requires action by all City staff to ensure that municipal government activities become increasingly sustainable. Some major targets that this plan requires the City to achieve include:

- The City must decrease energy consumption in City facilities by 20% of 2006 levels by 2015 and 30% by 2020.
- The City must decrease water consumed at City facilities and parks by 20% by 2015 and 30% by 2020.
- The City must utilize best practices and environmentally superior supplies for office operations, fleet maintenance and operations, and park and facilities maintenance.
- All new municipal facilities must be constructed to green standards (LEED Gold certification).

## Community-Wide Sustainability Targets

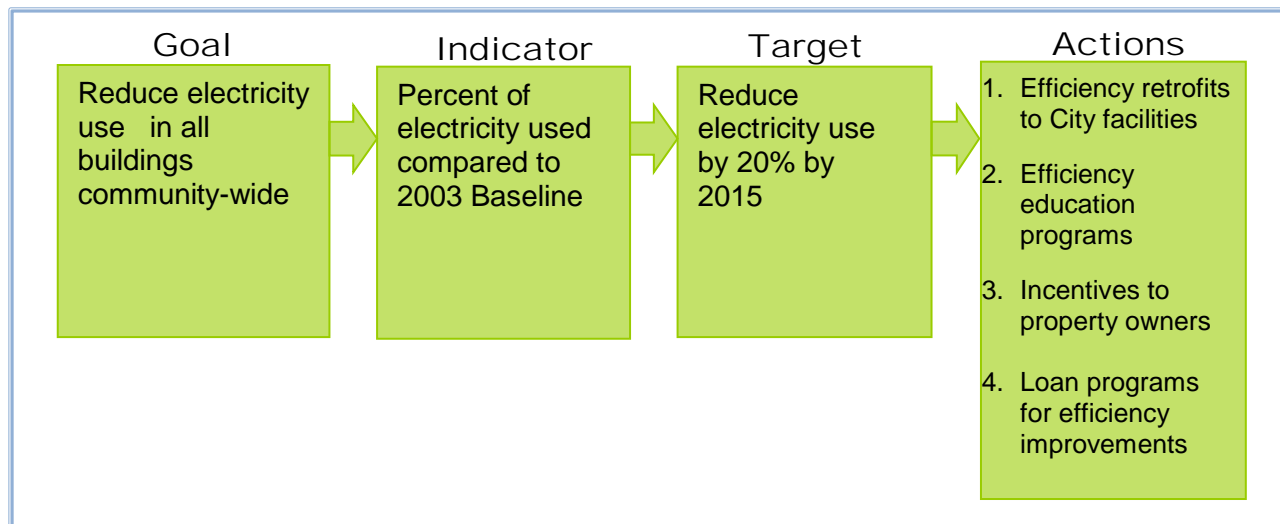
While the Task Force recognizes that local government has limited control over residents and businesses, the group also determined that there is still much that the City government can do to influence behaviors. The Sustainable City Plan therefore calls on the City government to provide a series of incentives and education programs to help the broader community become more sustainable. It also calls on the City government to establish goals for the broader community and utilize its influence and policies to help the community reach these goals. Education and incentives will occur in the earliest phases with mandates and penalties being introduced in the future if adequate progress is not made. Some major targets that this Plan encourages residents, businesses and other institutions to meet include:

- Reduce electrical energy consumption community-wide by 13% of 2006 levels by 2015 and 20% by 2020.
- Reduce water consumption citywide 20% by 2012 and 40% by 2017.
- Divert 70% of solid waste from landfills by 2015 and 75% by 2020.
- All new commercial construction should be designed, constructed and operated to LEED Silver standards.

## Plan Framework

This plan is meant to be a framework policy document. It establishes a framework for organizing and coordinating a broad variety of policies and programs for increasing sustainability in Claremont. The plan includes goals, indicators, numeric targets and actions. These concepts are the basis for the plan. Figure i illustrates how these relate to one another for an example goal. Similar diagrams could be created for every goal in the plan.

*Figure i: Examples of Goal, Indicator, Target and Actions*



## **Implementation Phases**

This plan will be implemented over time. For many goals, target dates are included to set reasonable timeframes for achieving targets. The actions that are recommended to achieve these goals must relate to these target dates. In addition, some actions must necessarily fall after others have occurred. Therefore, these actions are grouped into four sequential implementation phases to allow responsible parties to address them in a prioritized, orderly fashion. These implementation phases are summarized in Table i below:

*Table i: Implementation Phases*

| <b>Implementation Phase</b> | <b>Time Frame</b>                                     |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Phase One                   | Completed in first 12 months (after plan adoption)    |
| Phase Two                   | Completed in first 2 years                            |
| Phase Three                 | Completed in approximately 4 years                    |
| Phase Four                  | Begun once first 3 phases are substantially completed |

## **First Step in a Long-Term Process**

It will take many years and considerable advancements in knowledge and human perceptions to reach our goal of a fully sustainable community. This plan must therefore be seen as just the first step in a long-term process. The plan must continue to be updated at regular intervals (minimum four years). As we move forward with these future updates, we must continue to improve our understanding of our environment and community and advance our goals toward fully sustainable lifestyles. It is an ambitious goal but one that is absolutely necessary to ensure a prosperous and healthy setting for future generations of Claremonters.

# Introduction

## *Definition of Sustainability:*

*The ability for the City and residents of Claremont to meet the needs of the present economy, society and environment while preserving the ability of future generations to meet their needs. (Source: Claremont General Plan, adopted November 14, 2006)*

## **Perspective**

Claremont's General Plan was created around a theme of sustainability, and calls for creation of a Sustainable City Plan to guide both the City government and the Claremont community. This is the second edition of that plan. It recognizes the increasingly urgent need to address sustainability problems, especially an uncertain local water supply and worldwide dependence on carbon-based fuels, which are causing unprecedented global climate change resulting in local environmental, economic and social consequences. Fortunately, energy conservation and movement away from carbon-based fuels will have both environmental and economic benefits. The actions presented in this plan are a step in that direction.

## **Climate Change, Carbon-Based Fuels, and Clean Air**

It is no longer seriously debatable that the Earth's atmosphere is experiencing rapidly rising concentrations of carbon dioxide. The resulting climate change presents serious threats to global economies, natural habitats and potentially even to civilization itself. Avoiding the worst of these potential effects requires immediate and effective local action. The sooner we take action, the better the results will be. By committing now to sustainable practices on a local level, we can begin to address our moral obligation to future generations to leave a planet that is less polluted and damaged.

Since the dawn of the industrial revolution, global temperatures have increased an average of about 1.5 degrees F. Atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have already increased from pre-industrial levels of 260 ppm to well over the present 400 ppm, a level the Earth has not seen in over 15 million years.

The latest research indicates that, if we continue on our current path, Claremont can expect to experience an increase in its mean temperature of 3.1 degrees F by 2050. By the end of the century, the corresponding increases would be 7.1 degrees F. Correspondingly, the number of extreme heat events, days where temperatures exceed 95 degrees F, would increase from the present number of 30 to 68 by mid-century, and to 101 by century's end. This increase will have significant impacts to local lifestyles, the local economy, local habitats, water supplies, and local public health as some, often the most vulnerable in society, are unable to cope with the higher incidence of extreme heat. In addition, the risk of local wildfires is also expected to increase dramatically.



We do have tools to help mitigate the worst impacts of climate change. Renewable energy technologies, revenue-neutral taxes on carbon fuels, the shift from coal and oil to natural gas, improved energy efficiency and other available actions provide hope that the worst-case climate scenario can be avoided and, in time, decrease global carbon dioxide levels. The City of Claremont and the Claremont community are committed to doing their part to reduce carbon emissions and help lead other communities to do the same.

## **Water**

We also need to sustain an adequate water supply as population increases. Water conservation in Southern California has been public policy for decades, and the results have been impressive. Water from local watersheds could support a population of about one million, but we now accommodate a population of over twenty million. Fortunately, preliminary results from the UCLA climate change models show precipitation in the Los Angeles area will not change much under either scenario. However, snowfall in the mountains will decrease and snowmelt will be more rapid. We must prepare for heavier rainfall and flooding, changes in stream flow, and the way we manage water. Snowpack in the mountains is a natural reservoir that will be diminished and we must develop alternatives. With increased retention of storm water, we could increase the yield of our Six Basins Aquifer.

At present, about half the water used in Claremont is imported from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta by way of the State Water Project. That water supply is expected to diminish and could also be cut off at any time. It has already been curtailed because of environmental concerns over habitat preservation for the Delta Smelt. There are over a thousand miles of levees in the Delta, many old and poorly designed. An earthquake could easily breach levees resulting in salt water intrusion which could disrupt this source of fresh water for a year or more. Transporting this water also consumes a huge amount of energy, which in turn creates greenhouse gases. We should be supportive of the State/Federal process to improve water delivery through the Delta, and the education of the public on the importance of this project.

Local water comes from local precipitation, which is notoriously variable and predicted to become even more so with coming climate change. Rain falling in and around Claremont seeps into the ground and replenishes the Six Basins Aquifer that serves as a reservoir from which high quality water is pumped. Snow and rain falling in the hills above Claremont flow into the 900-acre San Antonio Spreading Grounds and into the 120-acre Thompson Creek Spreading Grounds. These lands were purchased by the Pomona Valley Protective Association over a century ago so that they would not be developed. It is urgent that this open space be maintained and improved for water spreading. Water in the Six Basins Aquifer can be pumped from wells as needed. Dams have been built at both spreading grounds to control flooding and for water use management.

As open land in Claremont is paved over, less water seeps into the ground and more finds its way into the storm water drains and is lost for local use. Clearly, land use policy and attention to permeable surfaces and other means to capture surface runoff is important to water sustainability for Claremont.

Claremont uses more water per capita than nearby communities. Water conservation, through measures such as high-efficiency irrigation and the use of low water demand plants, is essential to water sustainability. If Claremont is ever to become independent from imported water, reclamation must also play a major role. That can be accomplished by increased use of “gray” water for irrigation, and by treating and recycling of sewage. There are excellent models for both: some cities have installed separate gray water piping systems, and Orange County has installed a major sewage treatment plant that produces near-distilled water quality effluent that is piped to the head of its spreading grounds for replenishing their aquifer. Getting to a sustainable water supply in Claremont will not be quick and easy, but it can be done. This Sustainable City Plan proposes realistic actions that will reduce our dependence on imported water.

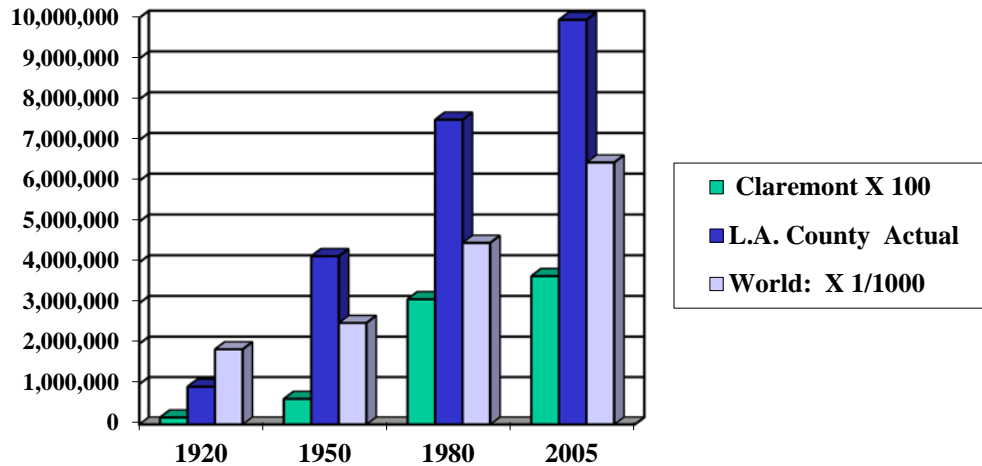
## **Most Actions Address Multiple Issues**

Any comprehensive environmental sustainability plan must recognize the wisdom of preserving natural open space, increasing permeable surfaces, using ‘green building’ principles, minimizing waste materials, recycling, promoting a healthful and abundant food supply, minimizing exposure to toxic substances, preserving and enhancing Claremont’s natural features, economic vitality, and wise land use planning. These actions reduce carbon dioxide production and water use, in addition to safeguarding the health and welfare of Claremont’s population, and the character of our City. Preserving natural areas, for example, reduces water use and allows water percolation, cleans carbon dioxide and other pollutants from the air, does not contribute to the accumulation of waste or toxic materials, provides areas for healthful recreation and for education about ecosystem dynamics and benefits for us and for future generations, and contributes to the beauty of Claremont.

## **Social and Economic Sustainability**

In the General Plan, Claremont chose to define sustainability in broad terms and include economic and social sustainability, as well as environmental sustainability. Addressing these facets of sustainability requires that the plan include measures to ensure economic balance and vitality as well as social diversity and equity. These are key elements for creating a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable city. Actions that address these areas are included in this Sustainable City Plan.

## Our Growing Population



The population in the Southland is expected to continue to increase, and especially in the Inland Empire. This must be recognized in any realistic sustainability plan. Although the population in Claremont may not increase substantially, a growing regional population will stress local resources and the transportation infrastructure.

Our growing population pressure makes it more and more difficult to plan for a sustainable future. Demands on water, natural resources, urban parklands, and energy are a constant challenge to city planning. The present rates of increasing growth cannot be maintained indefinitely.

## We Can Do It!

It's a truism that every journey begins with a single step. These are our continuing steps towards a sustainable city. The journey will continue, but the benefits to all of us along the way are well worth working for. Some actions in this Plan are simple and easy to implement; others may take longer and require more effort and money. We have made good progress. We call on all citizens to become involved in some way and help to move Claremont into a sustainable future.

## PLAN ORGANIZATION

The Claremont Sustainable City Plan is organized into the following elements.

- A. Vision Statement** - A broad statement to create a vision of a sustainable Claremont that this Plan is aimed at achieving.
- B. Guiding Principles** – State Claremont’s commitment to sustainability.
- C. Goal Areas (7)** – Represent commitments in seven areas for both municipal operations and the community as a whole.
- D. Goals** – Provide detailed vision of community sustainability for each goal area.
- E. Indicators** – Measure progress toward goals. Effective indicators are relevant, easy to understand, reliable and based on accessible data.
- F. Indicator Targets** – Help drive implementation by providing quantifiable goals for achieving success.
- G. Actions** – City or community-based programs aimed at achieving indicator targets. Ongoing and proposed actions being recommended by this Plan are listed and prioritized in tables at the end of each goal area.

### **Goal and Action Prioritization Process**

For the purpose of this Plan, the broad topic of sustainability has been divided into seven goal areas. Each goal area was studied to identify goals, indicators, and targets needed to make meaningful progress in that area. The plan identifies responsible organizations that can help the City government or wider community to achieve these goals. Specific implementing actions were then identified and rated based upon their estimated feasibility, cost, and benefit. These rating categories are further described as follows:

**Feasibility** ratings are based on complexity, controversy, time required, and appropriateness for City involvement. Feasibility rating categories are:

- 1 **Very Easy to Implement**
- 2 **Somewhat Easy to Implement**
- 3 **Challenging to Implement**
- 4 **Difficult to Implement**
- 5 **Extremely Difficult to Implement**

**Cost** ratings are based on rough estimates related to the total cost (or potential net savings) to the City and wider community. Cost rating categories include:

- \$ **Little or No Cost (or Possible Net Savings)**
- \$\$ **Low Cost**
- \$\$\$ **Moderate Cost**
- \$\$\$\$ **Costly**
- \$\$\$\$\$ **Very Costly or Cost Prohibitive**

**Important Note:** Over time, many proposed actions will have a net savings to the City as opposed to costing the City money. Actions that are likely to generate net savings include:

*energy saving improvements to City facilities, water saving measures such as drought tolerant plants and irrigation changes, and reduced consumption of paper products.*

**Benefit** ratings are based on the anticipated benefits (or negative impacts) that are anticipated for each action in 17 different benefit areas ranging from the environment to the economy to social climate. Most actions have benefits in multiple areas with the overall benefit rating being a rough weighted average of the benefits for the various benefit areas. Benefit rating categories are:

- 1 Small Benefit**
- 2 Somewhat Small Benefit**
- 3 Medium Benefit**
- 4 Somewhat Large Benefit**
- 5 Large Benefit**

## **Implementation Phase**

Recommended actions are grouped into four Implementation phases. While they have at times been referred to as priority levels, they are not meant to indicate a specific priority or lack of priority of any action. Final ratings are described as implementation phases because they indicate the general timeframe in which an action should be implemented rather than its priority relative to other actions. Implementation phases group actions into those that should be done first to those that should be addressed later. Implementation phases include the following four groups:

- Phase 1** Phase 1 includes actions that should be done first because they: are very important and of an urgent nature; are low cost, simple and non-controversial; are initial steps in an important sequence of actions; and are essential for implementing the Sustainable City Plan. These actions are in the “just do it” category.
- Phase 2** Phase 2 includes actions that should be completed within two years of adopting this revised plan. These actions are of the highest priority, but may take time to implement and may be somewhat complex or controversial.
- Phase 3** Phase 3 includes actions that are important and reasonable to implement, but less urgent than or logically follow those actions in the first two phases. These actions should be addressed as soon as Phase 1 and 2 actions are completed although they will not be budgeted until the next municipal budget.
- Phase 4** Phase 4 includes actions that are complex and/or politically difficult to implement. Many of these actions will take more than two years to implement. Some provide benefits which do not comfortably outweigh their cost or political difficulty at this time, and may be addressed once the more urgent or clearly beneficial actions of the first three phases are completed. Others are important actions that logically follow actions that are recommended in earlier phases.

## **Future Implementation Phases**

These four phases are just the beginning of our efforts to make Claremont a sustainable City. The Sustainability Plan will be updated every four years. Each time the Plan is updated, a new set of actions will be recommended to continue progress toward our goals. These plans will also include a growing set of best practices that the City and community should employ in order to increase our level of sustainability.

# A. A Vision for a Sustainable Claremont

The Claremont City Council envisions our “City of Trees” continuing to have ample open space to sustain nature’s services which provide clean air, fresh water, and healthy food. We envision a pedestrian and bicycle-friendly community with cleaner cars as well as excellent public transportation and communication infrastructures. We see an active educational community encouraging environmental awareness, regenerative design, and healthy living. We envision a beautiful place with comfortable and sustainable buildings that make efficient use of abundant clean renewable energy. We see a conscientious community that reduces the generation of waste, re-uses and recycles resources, and adapts to now-inevitable climate change for the benefit of future generations. We see a culturally creative community with the human ingenuity necessary to drive positive change for continuous improvement. We see a flourishing local economy, based not solely on consumerism but on providing a high quality of life for the entire community.

We also envision a community that is balanced and sustainable both socially and economically. We see a community that maintains and celebrates a citizenry representing many social, cultural, ethnic and economic groups. We see a community with a diverse and vibrant local economy that offers a variety of jobs and housing opportunities for all income levels. We see a balanced place where many citizens work and live within the City, further reinforcing our strong sense of community. We see a community that values public discussion of issues and continues to consider a variety of viewpoints from its citizenry before resolving issues.

This document contains goals to achieve these visions. Each goal leads us to indicators and targets with related programs and actions. Some programs and actions are already underway and need to be nurtured and expanded. Other programs and actions have a high priority and can save the community money and resources. Some programs and actions will need to be considered for implementation in the future so we can achieve and enhance shared visions.

This document also contains an implementation plan that identifies essential steps for ensuring that this Sustainable City Plan is put into action to make this vision a reality. One important step is for the City to integrate the principles, goals, programs and actions of this Plan into its permanent organizational structure and decision-making processes. A second goal is to increase awareness of sustainability issues and best practices and involve the wider community in attaining a sustainable City. It is by changing the day-to-day actions of the entire community that this plan will have its greatest impact.

We also see this community as one that can contribute positively to the sustainability of the entire planet. By choosing how we live, what we preserve, what we buy and what we discard, Claremont can reduce its impacts on global issues such as climate change, biodiversity, social segregation, water shortages, the exhaustion of non-renewable resources, and the economy. At the same time, we need to position our community to

adjust proactively to unavoidable global and regional changes that will affect Claremont in the future. In that way, we will be able to help the health of the planet and sustain the quality of life in our community.

*“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”*

*Peter F. Drucker*



## B. Guiding Principles

In working to attain this vision of a sustainable Claremont, it is important to utilize a set of guiding principles to guide our actions. This Sustainable City Plan was developed under the following set of guiding principles. In addition to having shaped the content of this plan, these Guiding Principles are also meant to be utilized when making future decisions that have not been addressed in this plan.

### **1. The Concept of Sustainability Guides City Government Policy**

The City of Claremont is committed to meeting its existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The long-term impacts of City Government policy choices will be considered to ensure a sustainable legacy.

### **2. Protection, Preservation, and Restoration of the Natural Environment is a High Priority of the City Government**

Claremont is committed to protecting, preserving, and restoring the natural environment. City government decision-making will be guided by a mandate to maximize environmental benefits and reduce or eliminate negative environmental impacts.

### **3. Environmental Quality, Economic Health and Social Equity are Mutually Dependent**

Sustainability requires that our collective decisions as a City and community allow our economy and community members to continue to thrive without destroying the natural environment upon which we all depend. A healthy environment is integral to the Community's long-term economic and societal interests. In achieving a healthy environment, we must ensure that inequitable burdens are not placed on any one geographic or socioeconomic sector of the population and that the benefits of a sustainable community are accessible to all members of the community.

### **4. All Decisions Have Implications for the Long-Term Sustainability of Claremont**

The City government will ensure that each of its policy decisions and programs is interconnected through the common bond of sustainability as expressed in these Guiding Principles. All City policy and decision-making processes will include consideration for our sustainability objectives.

### **5. Community Awareness, Responsibility, Participation and Education are Key Elements of a Sustainable Community**

All community members, including individual citizens, community-based groups, businesses, schools and other institutions must be aware of their impacts on the environmental, economic and social health of Claremont, must take responsibility to reduce or eliminate negative impacts, and must take an active part in community efforts to address sustainability concerns. The City will therefore be a leader in the creation and sponsorship of education opportunities to support community

awareness, responsibility and participation in cooperation with schools, colleges and other organizations in the community.

**6. Recognizing Our Links to Regional, National, and Global Sustainability Issues, Claremont Proactively Addresses These Larger Issues Such as Climate Change and Water Supply on a Local Level (Think Globally - Act Locally)**

Local environmental, economic and social issues cannot be separated from their broader context. This relationship between local issues and regional, national and global issues will be recognized and acted upon in the City government's programs and policies. Climate change in particular, with its daunting and pervasive impacts on our future, must be given dedicated attention through applicable goals, actions, and targets by the City and the greater community.

**7. Claremont Will Strive to be a Leader on Sustainability Issues**

The City government will lead by example and encourage other community stakeholders to use sustainability principles to guide their decisions and actions. The City government will implement new policies itself (as a municipal corporation) prior to asking others in the community to take similar measures. The City's programs and policies will be developed as models that can be emulated by other communities. The City government will advocate for the development and implementation of model programs and innovative approaches by Regional, State and Federal government that embody the goals of sustainability.

**8. Those Sustainability Issues Most Important to the Community Will be Addressed First, and the Most Effective Programs and Policies Will be Selected**

The financial and human resources that are available to the City government and community are limited. The City government will re-evaluate its priorities and its programs and policies annually to ensure that the best possible investments in the future are being made. The evaluation of a program's cost-effectiveness will be based on a complete analysis of the associated costs and benefits, including environmental and social costs and benefits.

**9. Cross-Sector Partnerships Are Necessary to Achieve Sustainable Goals**

Threats to the long-term sustainability of Claremont are multi-sector in their causes and require multi-sector solutions. Partnerships among City government, businesses, residents and all community stakeholders are necessary to achieve a sustainable community.

**10. Balance and Trade-offs Will be Necessary to Allow the Flexibility Required to Successfully Implement Sustainability Programs Successfully Over the Long Term**

Claremont understands that competing goals must be balanced to ensure long term success of sustainability efforts. Tradeoffs will be necessary for some future decisions. Whenever possible, policies and programs should offer a variety of

alternatives for reaching sustainability goals. Flexibility should be allowed when making decisions that require choices between conflicting community values/goals.

While these principles are fundamental to approaches and operation oriented to sustainability, they may need to be modified as our understanding grows. Proposed amendments to these principles shall be presented for public review before final consideration by the City Council.

# Goal Areas

The Claremont Sustainable City Plan is organized around the following seven goal areas:

## **1. Resource Conservation**

- Energy
- Water and Wastewater
- Solid Waste

## **2. Environment and Public Health**

- Air Quality
- Toxic Materials Reduction and Management
- Organic and Sustainable Foods and Products
- Local Agriculture and Horticulture

## **3. Transportation**

- Non-motorized Transportation: Increased Walking and Bicycling
- Trip Reduction (For Single Occupant Vehicles (SOV's))
- Reduction in Vehicle Miles Traveled
- Cleaner Fuels

## **4. Sustainable Built Environment**

- New Construction (Public and Private)
- Neighborhood Development
- Infrastructure Development
- Existing Development (Retrofitting)

## **5. Open Space and Land Use (Ecology)**

- Natural and Constructed Open Space
- Urban Forest
- Protect and Restore Native Habitats

## **6. Housing & Economic Sustainability**

- Diversity of Jobs, Businesses and Housing Stock
- Meeting State Mandates for Affordable Housing
- Neighborhood Preservation
- Fair Trade
- Economic viability

## **7. Outreach, Education and Implementation**

- Understanding of Sustainability for General Public and All Stakeholder Groups
- Implementation of Sustainability Plan
- Tracking Progress Toward Goals

# Goal Area 1

## RESOURCE CONSERVATION

“Conservation is the protection and careful use of resources to ensure their availability in the future. Conservation may mean using less energy or water, using more efficient technologies, or changing wasteful habits”. (Claremont General Plan Chapter 5 p. 5-24)

Energy, water, minerals, organic materials and consumer goods are all examples of resources that need to be conserved in order to make Claremont sustainable. Many of these resources, including food, are produced elsewhere and brought into Claremont. Creating a more sustainable Claremont requires both the City government and the wider community to: use resources more efficiently; recycle; reduce hauling and landfilling of waste, and consider the byproducts of production, transportation, and consumption. Choosing to consume less is often the most effective way to become more sustainable.

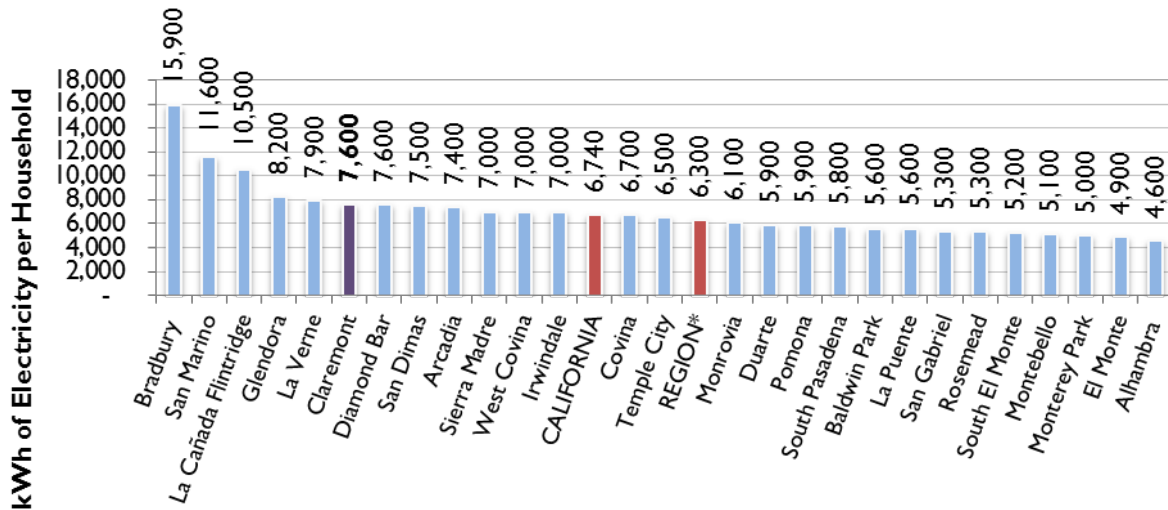
### **Energy:**

More than 85% of the electrical energy used in Claremont is from non-renewable energy sources that contribute to global climate change and deplete our natural resources. In 2012, Claremont produced 2.4 million kWh of renewable energy, which is close to 1.5% of total energy used in Claremont. However, we must continue to convert to renewable energy sources. This is a complex and expensive task that will take time. As we undertake this change, there are many actions we can take to reduce the energy we use.

Understanding the consequences associated with energy use can assist in more efficient use. Therefore, our energy conservation goals include educating residents and the City regarding their current energy use habits. Through education, we can assist all in identifying ways to utilize energy more efficiently. Changing wasteful habits and making energy conserving improvements provides a “win-win” scenario for all. Those making the improvements save money over time and the environment benefits from the reduction in greenhouse gases.

| <b><u>2010 Average Household Electricity Consumption</u></b> |           |
|--|-----------|
| California Average:  | 6,740 kWh |
| San Gabriel Valley Regional Household Average:               | 6,300 kWh |
| Claremont Household Average:                                 | 7,600 kWh |

Figure 1: Annual Electricity Use Per Household, 2010 (kWh)



In 2004, the State of California set a goal to reduce the energy used in its buildings by 20% of 2003 levels by 2015 (Executive Order #S-20-04). Although the Governor’s Order focuses on State buildings and private buildings that are leased by the State, it also encourages municipalities and private owners to attain this target. This plan adopts the State’s goal for all buildings in Claremont including: City facilities, private residences, businesses, colleges, and other facilities. By making energy consumption comparison data and best practice guides readily available, the City hopes to enable home and private building owners to attain greater resource efficiency in the most cost effective ways possible.

In 2012, the Claremont community used 267,377,000 kWh, which was 7% above the 2003 baseline. If we reach our 2015 goal of a 20% reduction in consumption from the baseline, we would avoid consuming 19 million kWh of electricity. This is equivalent to saving 25 million pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> annually, or removing 2,963 cars permanently from the road.

Through the success of the Claremont Home Energy Retrofit Project (CHERP), Claremont leads Southern California in the per capita number of residences retrofitted and average modeled energy savings per home. To date, nearly 200 homes have been retrofitted with an average modeled savings of 28%. Because Claremont is a mostly built out and mostly residential community, CHERP is seen as an important tool in reducing overall energy use and will continue to be utilized. The project has additional social and economic benefits because the project has resulted in over \$2 million being invested in the local housing stock by homeowners, with over \$700,000 of this being returned to homeowners in rebates and incentives. These homeowners will also spend far less on energy over the 20-30 year life of these improvements, and will have taken an important step in adapting to increasing local temperatures resulting due to climate change.

The use of solar electrical systems to generate local, clean renewable energy has been increasing dramatically throughout the community. The Claremont Colleges are implementing energy conservation, green building and renewable energy throughout their campuses. Local homeowners continue to add rooftop systems at a high rate. Community-wide, total solar electricity generation is now approaching nearly three

million kWh per year. Unfortunately, this still amounts to less than 1.5% of total consumption. Many more years of continued installations are needed before these systems will have a meaningful impact on total energy use.

**Water:**

Claremont is in a semi-arid region with a Mediterranean climate. Local water supplies are not adequate to sustain current levels of water consumption. Droughts in our region will continue to occur regularly and are expected to intensify as climate change increases. Preliminary UCLA modeling results show precipitation will not change a great deal by mid-century, but with increasing temperatures there will be less snowfall and snow melt will be more rapid. As a consequence, the potential for flooding will increase, and stream flows will be altered.

Approximately a third to a half of our water is imported from Northern California (the Delta) by way of the State Water Project. Relying on imported water is not sustainable for several reasons:

- Imported water is becoming increasingly expensive.
- Water could be diminished or cut off by natural disasters such as an earthquake in the Delta, loss of Sierra snow melt, or by Legislative or regulatory actions.
- Our imported water supply is limited and expected to diminish in the future.
- Water importation consumes huge amounts of power adding to global warming.
- Importing water often creates extensive negative environmental impacts for our environment.

Average Water Consumption (gallons/yr/residence) in 2010

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| Southern California: | 163,000 |
| Claremont:           | 188,000 |

Claremont consumers use more water per capita than the average for our region, with 60-70% used for irrigation. This might be expected for “The City of Trees”, but some residences and parks use exceptionally large quantities and others have not implemented effective water conservation measures. Claremont’s citizens, institutions, and businesses must begin using water more wisely and retaining more of our storm and wastewater to augment local water supplies. Decisive action regarding water is urgently needed. It appears that our current consumption patterns allow for dramatic improvement with little change to our overall quality of life. Accordingly, the water goals and targets recommended below are aggressive.

This Plan includes a goal for Claremont to become essentially independent of imported water. In addition to conservation, this will require use of reclaimed water. The Claremont Colleges have commissioned an engineering feasibility study for on-campus reclamation plants that would supply an average 200,000 gpd for irrigation of the grounds and thereby replace about 1/20 of the water currently imported to Claremont. It is expected that this project can be funded and built in the relatively near future and can serve as a model for a more extensive series of reclamation plants in Claremont and the San Gabriel Valley.

The access to sewage for reclamation must be considered and possibly negotiated. Golden State Water Company claims a monopoly on selling water in the Claremont

system and any use of reclaimed water provided to their customers would be under their control. They have projected no future use of reclaimed water in the 2010 Water Use Management Plan for Claremont. If the City takes over the water system, this will no longer be a constraint.

In July 2006, a statewide coalition of planners led by the Local Government Commission adopted, "The Ahwahnee Water Principles: A Blueprint for Regional Sustainability." This document should be utilized in the future to develop local policies and regulations that encourage: water-wise growth, water-friendly site design, retention of stormwater with swales and other measures, and stretching our existing water supplies.

### **Solid Waste:**

Claremont generates far too much solid waste (trash, recycling, green waste, toxic waste and construction and demolition debris). Currently 60% goes to landfills and 40% is recycled. Goals in this area can be summed up in the familiar catch phrase of "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle." First, we must become aware of the amount we discard and reduce overall consumption, especially consumption of products that generate large amounts of waste and encourage a strong effort to reduce consumption. Second, we must choose to reuse items rather than placing them in the trash. Obvious examples include shopping bags, rechargeable batteries, used clothing and toys. Finally we must become better recyclers by buying products that contain post-consumer recycled content, recycling more of what we must discard, and avoiding the use of products that are either not recyclable or recyclable but not yet effectively being recycled.

We must also change our habits regarding food waste by composting or otherwise recycling food related waste. Food waste now comprises an estimated 30% of the solid waste going to landfills from Claremont. These discarded trimmings, scraps and leftovers represent a huge expenditure of resources including water, energy, fertilizers, processing, transportation and preparation. Their nutrients should be properly recycled rather than being buried in a landfill and lost forever. Alternative uses for food scraps include composting, dehydration for use in composting, or digestion to produce energy. Currently, Pomona College has a small composting operation and Claremont McKenna College is using food dehydrators to reduce food scraps by 90% and produce a sterile, dry product that can be composted. Similar processes for use throughout the City should be investigated as a way to retain valuable nutrients and reduce costs of waste transportation and tipping fees.

In the future, we must also find ways to capture more of the energy (methane gas) that is released from the decomposition process in landfills and use it as a locally renewable form of energy. Green waste, paper, scrap lumber, food waste and solids (mainly cellulose) from water reclamation plants and other sources could be converted to methane through anaerobic digestion facilities. Such facilities are expensive to build and require large volumes of food waste to operate at efficient levels. Composting for local use may be a more practical alternative until digesting facilities become available in the vicinity of Claremont. Currently green waste is being diverted from landfills by conversion to mulch under a commercial contract. This is an important program that should be continued as it represents 18% of our total waste by weight and is considered to be recycling.



## GOALS (for Goal Area 1 – Resource Conservation)

### **1.1. Energy (Electrical and Gas)**

- Promote energy efficiency and conservation technologies and practices to reduce the use of nonrenewable resources by both City government and the community. Technologies include solar energy systems, co-generation systems for larger facilities, next generation lighting technologies, energy efficient appliances and HVAC systems, and electric and other low emitting vehicles.
- Promote community-wide energy awareness with energy audit information and implementation of programs such as Claremont Home Energy Retrofit Project (CHERP), Saving Energy at School (SEAS), and similar programs. Identify and promote EE technologies and techniques that have a positive return on investment.
- Educate the community regarding incentives (special financing, grants, rebates, exchanges, etc.) available for energy conservation and renewable energy projects.
- Promote local installation of solar energy systems (electric power generation and water heating).
- Seek innovative lighting technologies that might be implemented with the cooperation of the manufacturer.
- Recognize local citizens, organizations and businesses who are leaders in energy efficiency or conservation and offer opportunities for them to share their knowledge with the community.

### **1.2. Water and Wastewater**

- Minimize waste of water resources by advocating and implementing wise use and conservation measures.
- Work toward independence from imported water.
- Maximize recharge of local water resources and minimize pollution at local beaches by minimizing storm water runoff and eliminating dry weather runoff.
- Build public awareness of water issues and support for wise water management.
- Support efforts of Sustainable Claremont, the City, Three Valleys Municipal Water District and Golden State Water Company to establish local wastewater reclamation plants to supply major water users in Claremont with irrigation water.
- Support efforts by Sustainable Claremont, the City, Three Valleys Municipal Water District and Golden State Water Company to promote water-wise landscaping.

- Support the proposed Thompson Creek Spreading Grounds Project to achieve a significant increase in groundwater recharge.

### **1.3. Solid Waste**

- Reduce the total amount of waste being generated, especially the amount being sent to landfills.
- Replace commonly held ideas and practices of our current disposable society to become a resource-efficient and sustainable one. Decrease negative impacts related to the production and disposal of consumable products and packaging (greenhouse gas emissions, toxics, depletion of resources, need for landfills, and environmental harmful waste).
- Encourage development and use of products that consist of components that can be recycled or reused with no loss of quality or are composed of biological nutrients which can be composted or otherwise consumed.
- Develop local programs to recycle food scraps, unused produce and other bio-degradable products so that these materials can be used for local soil regeneration or other useful purposes. Spreading mulch or amending soil with composted, dehydrated or digested food scraps helps plants, increases bio-diversity, sequesters carbon can help conserve water).
- Advocate use of high-capacity low-shelf-discharge rechargeable batteries (e.g., LSD Ni-MH) in place of disposable (Alkaline) batteries.
- Encourage proper disposal of environmentally-harmful materials such as motor oil, surplus medications, electronic equipment, and spent batteries.

## INDICATORS (for Goal Area 1 – Resource Conservation)

| INDICATOR  | INDICATOR TARGET   | Agency Responsible for Tracking  |
|--|--|--|
| Reduction in energy consumed by City and community (Similar to State Govt. Goal)                           | 20% by 2015 (Baseline 2006)  | City (Community Services)  |
| Increase in % of renewable energy  | 5% of total energy used Community-Wide by 2017   | Property Owners, SCE, CA Solar Initiative  |
| Reduction in potable water consumed by City & community  | 30% by 2017 (Baseline 95-03)   | Water utility  |
| Establish wastewater reclamation plants to the extent sewage is available to Claremont for such use        | By 2017, one or more wastewater reclamation plants within the City with a total capacity of at least 500,000 gallons | City, Colleges, LA County Sanitation District                                    |
| Reduction in dependence on imported potable water by City and community                                    | 80% by 2017 (Baseline 95-03)   | Water utility, Three Valleys Water District                                      |
| Increase water-wise landscaping and the use of rain barrels and similar water conservation measures        | 10% of home gardens converted water-wise landscaping by 2020   | RSABG, Sustainable Claremont, Water Utility, Landscape designers and Contractors |
| Increase level of storm water catchment through use of rain barrels, retention basins, swales and cisterns | 100% of new development and upward trend for existing homes and businesses   | City, RSABG, water utility   |
| Maintain quality and acreage of spreading grounds  | Agreement for permanent retention of Thompson Creek Spreading Grounds by 2017  | Pomona Valley Protective Association, Watermaster                                |
| Reduction in total solid waste generated   | 50% by 2017 (Baseline 2006)  | City (Community and Human Services)  |
| Increase in amount of total composting and mulching by City and community                                  | Upward Trend   | City (Community and Human Services)  |
| Increase in diversion of waste now going to landfills  | 75% diversion by 2020 (required per AB341).  | City (Community and Human Services)  |
| Expand recycling program to include all multifamily housing (AB 341 requirement)                           | 100% Participation by 2014   | Community and Human Services, multi-family housing residents and managers        |

**Table 1. Summary of Actions for Goal Area1 - Resource Conservation**

| #      | Description  | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost     | Benefits | Responsible Agency   |
|--------|--|----------------------|-------------|----------|----------|--|
| 1.1.1  | Continue to provide energy & water use data for homes and businesses citywide including baseline data  | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 3        | Sustainability Coordinator, Utilities  |
| 1.1.2  | Prepare statistically-valid sample survey of energy use by residence and make usage data available so that homeowners can see how their usage compares with the norm | 3                    | 3           | \$       | 3        | CHERP, College Interns, Sustainable Claremont  |
| 1.1.3  | Provide information regarding best practices for energy & water use commercial & residential properties  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 3        | CHERP, Sustainable Claremont, Utilities, Sustainability Coordinator                    |
| 1.1.4  | Provide low interest financing for energy and water efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems (private structures)  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 4        | Local Banks (Green Mortgages), FHA loans, City (PACE style financing program)          |
| 1.1.5  | Take advantage of free energy and water audits for City facilities and private structures  | 1                    | 2           | -        | 4        | City (Community Services)  |
| 1.1.6  | Invest in energy saving measures necessary to attain a 20% reduction of City facilities (upgrade, retrofit, replace)   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 5        | City (Community Services), SCE, SGVCOG, Regional Energy Network (REN)                  |
| 1.1.7  | City to participate in energy demand response programs to respond to peak demand crises  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$\$   | 5        | City (Community Services), SCE,  |
| 1.1.8  | Solar Energy: Facilitate installation of new residential and commercial systems citywide to generate clean power locally   | 3                    | 3           | \$\$\$\$ | 4        | City (Community Development), SCE, CA Solar Initiative                                 |
| 1.1.9  | Seek funding to install photovoltaic energy systems on additional City Facilities  | 2                    | 2           | \$       | 3        | City   |
| 1.1.10 | Investigate use of Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds to fund Sustainability Programs   | 2                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | Sustainability Coordinator   |
| 1.1.11 | Promote the Claremont Home Energy Retrofit Program (CHERP)   | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | CHERP, Sustainable Claremont, City   |
| 1.1.12 | Promote a community-wide "Cool Roofs" program  | 2                    | 2           | \$       | 3        | CHERP, City Building Division  |
| 1.1.13 | Seek innovative lighting technologies that could be implemented with the cooperation of the manufacturer   | 2                    | 1           | \$\$\$   | 4        | Sustainable Claremont, Sustainability Coordinator                                      |
| 1.1.14 | Convert to energy-efficient street lights citywide   | 3                    | 3           | \$\$\$\$ | 5        | Community and Human Services   |
| 1.1.15 | Promote solar electric power generation where appropriate  | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 4        | CHERP, SCE, CA Solar Initiative  |
| 1.1.16 | Identify and promote best available solar water heating technology and consider a renewed City ordinance requiring use for homes with pools and spas                 | 2                    | 3           | \$\$     | 3        | Sustainable Claremont and CHERP, CA Solar Initiative                                   |
| 1.1.17 | Promote water-wise landscaping   | 1                    | 1           | \$\$     | 5        | RSABG, Sustainable Claremont, Water Utility, Landscape designers and Contractors, City |
| 1.2.1  | Determine the availability of sewage for treatment and establish wastewater reclamation  | 3                    | 4           | \$\$\$\$ | 5        | Colleges, Sanitation District, City  |

|         |   |   |   |            |   |   |  |
|---------|---|---|---|------------|---|---|--|
|         | plants at the Claremont Colleges  |   |   |            |   |   |  |
| 1.2.2   | City to permit and promote use of gray water (water used for washing)   | 2 | 3 | \$\$       | 4 | City (Building Division),                                 |  |
| 1.2.3   | City to Complete water efficiency audit   | 1 | 1 | \$\$       | 3 | City (Community Services), MWD, Three Valleys,            |  |
| 1.2.3.b | retrofit City parks, parkways, medians and landscaped areas to improve water efficiency   | 2 | 3 | \$\$\$\$   | 4 | City  |  |
| 1.2.4   | City continue to convert to water efficient landscaping in parks, medians and landscapes  | 2 | 1 | \$\$       | 4 | City (Community Services)                                 |  |
| 1.2.5   | Work with water company to optimize tiered water rates to encourage conservation while keeping rates for basic water usage affordable         | 2 | 2 | \$         | 4 | City  |  |
| 1.2.6   | Continue to implement Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance –practices, and low flow fixtures  | 2 | 2 | \$         | 4 | City (Community Development)                              |  |
| 1.2.7   | Capture and conserve storm water and other water resources  | 1 | 2 | \$\$\$\$   | 4 | City, Water Quality Control Board                         |  |
| 1.2.8   | Increase local control of Claremont’s water system and water supply   | 1 | 3 | \$\$\$\$\$ | 5 | City  |  |
| 1.2.9   | Promote and implement water-wise irrigation City-wide. Create a DRIP program modeled after CHERP  | 1 | 2 | \$\$\$     | 5 | City, Sustainable Claremont, RSABG, Landscape contractors |  |
| 1.3.1   | Expand recycling to all apartments and condominiums and institutions in City  | 1 | 2 | \$\$       | 4 | City (Community Services)                                 |  |
| 1.3.2   | Continue to implement Construction and Demolition Materials Diversion Ordinance   | 1 | 1 | \$\$       | 5 | City (Solid Waste Division), Builders                     |  |
| 1.3.3   | Food Waste Management – Encourage Food Bank Donations, Composting - residential & commercial – Biofuels                                       | 2 | 3 | \$\$\$     | 5 | City (Community Services)                                 |  |
| 1.3.3.a | Encourage commercial and institutional food waste utilization and diversion from the waste stream through dehydration and/or local composting | 2 | 2 | \$\$\$     | 5 | City (Solid Waste Division)                               |  |
| 1.3.3.b | Develop pilot program(s) for food waste recycling for high food waste generating uses   | 3 | 4 | \$\$\$     | 5 | City Solid Waste Division                                 |  |
| 1.3.4   | Ban on plastic bags & Styrofoam products  | 3 | 3 | \$\$       | 3 | City (Community Services)                                 |  |
| 1.3.5   | Continue and raise awareness of City’s volume based refuse rate structure   | 2 | 1 | \$         | 5 | City (Community Services)                                 |  |

**Key:** **Implementation Phase:** 1 to 4 with 1 being earliest and 4 being last (based on complexity, level of controversy, and urgency)  
**Feasibility:** 1 to 5 with one being easy and 5 being very difficult to implement  
**Benefits:** 1 to 5 with 1 being small benefit to 5 being large benefit

## Goal Area 2

# ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Eliminating harmful pollutants from our air, water, natural environment and food supply is an important part of becoming a more sustainable community. The resulting clean air, safe ground water, and healthy ecosystems help maintain the health of our citizens and environment. It is our responsibility to preserve healthy streams, wilderness areas, diverse plant and animal populations, soils, and clean air for future generations.

Climate change resulting from the accumulation of man-made greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere is clearly one of the greatest challenges we face today. It is a pollution problem with accelerating environmental impacts, and the potential to severely disrupt global ecosystems and the very existence of civilization. This issue is discussed throughout this plan and is the focus of many of the goal areas. This chapter addresses local and regional air quality issues that are created by more localized and regional chemical and particulate pollutants as well as global climate change.

Toxic chemicals are often less evident than other types of pollutants but can have devastating consequences to the health of humans and the natural environment. Conventionally, the City has focused on the proper disposal of hazardous waste but overlooked the massive quantities of chemicals that are introduced into our environment to kill weeds and pests. The community must become more aware of these chemicals, reduce their residual effects, and seek to reduce or eliminate their use. Proper disposal of lead based paints and asbestos is particularly important in protecting human health.

Our food is also a major factor in the health and sustainability of our community. The availability of healthy foods, especially for children, elderly and low income residents, directly impacts what we eat and therefore our community's collective physical health. Local foods are generally fresher and more nutritious than foods that are transported long distances. Organic foods use fewer toxic chemicals that can damage our health as well as the health of the natural environment.

Consuming locally grown foods is an important factor in reducing the greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming. On April 22, 2008, the Los Angeles Times reported that scientists had shown that approximately one third of all greenhouse gas emissions come from the ingredients and energy used in food production. Local foods are transported shorter distances from farm to consumer tables. This makes our foods fresher while reducing emissions. Local foods also reduce greenhouse gases because they tend to be less processed, and require less refrigeration or freezing.

Urban farming provides significant social and psychological benefits. It provides urbanized Claremont residents with a glimpse at how their food is produced including the time, resources and human energy that is involved. On a deeper level, urban agriculture allows Claremont residents to reconnect with their natural environment; increasing understanding of the growth cycle and our dependence on the natural

environment. This connection to the land through growing food is healthy and meaningful and promotes human psychological wellness on many levels. Benefits include education, community building, building personal confidence and independence, creating a sense of accomplishment, and providing a relaxing and healthy outdoor activity. Local agriculture also provides local jobs and bolsters the local economy. Developing a thriving urban farming industry in Claremont will allow our community to benefit from these positive effects as well as to produce an abundance of local, organic foods that benefit our physical health and the environment.

We are all well aware that an overabundance of night-time light pollution deprives Claremont of much of its view of the night sky. Recently medical research has shown that light pollution and the blurring between night-time darkness and daylight hours has significant health impacts on human physiology and mental health as well as a wide variety of local wildlife. Claremont development codes have attempted to limit these impacts in the past, however much more work is need in this area. Recent advancements in lighting technology show promise in limiting ambient light pollution as well as light spill from non-directed light fixtures. Stricter enforcement of existing goals and use of new lighting technologies will improve our night sky and public and environmental health.

## GOALS (for Goal Area 2 – Environment and Public Health)

### **2.1. General**

- Protect and enhance environmental and public health by reducing or eliminating the use of hazardous and toxic materials, minimizing pollutants entering the air, soil, and water, and lessening the risks which environmental problems pose to human health and prosperity.
- Ensure that no one geographic or socioeconomic group in the City is being unfairly affected by environmental pollution.

### **2.2. Improve Air Quality**

- Achieve and maintain air quality that will protect public health and the environment. Promote and participate in cooperative efforts with agencies and communities in the South Coast Air Basin to achieve clean air.
- Implement suggestions found in “Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning”, AQMD, May 6, 2005 (and updates). Most pertinent ones are included in this Sustainable City Plan.

### **2.3. Reduce Claremont’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

- Address the threat to civilization and a sustainable global environment from climate change resulting from increasing levels of greenhouse gases, especially of atmospheric carbon dioxide.
- Encourage food waste utilization through dehydration or local composting to reduce disposal in landfills and consequent methane pollution.

#### **2.4. Toxic Materials Reduction and Management**

- Reduce the amount of harmful chemicals used by the City and community by utilizing less harmful techniques and practices.
- Decrease the amount of improperly disposed of household hazardous waste and pharmaceuticals.

#### **2.5. Sustainable Food Supply**

- Educate the community on the benefits of eating locally grown, organic foods.
- Promote home grown produce and the sharing/trading of excess home grown produce.
- Educate the community about social and economic justice issues associated with food and related products.

#### **2.6. Urban Agriculture**

- Educate families and the broader community, especially through community gardens located on local K-12 campuses, regarding how to grow their own foods.
- Encourage and explore all possibilities for local food production.
- Encourage urban agriculture and horticulture on vacant, undeveloped and underutilized parcels in all areas of the City
- Encourage soil regeneration through organic soil amendments from composted, dehydrated or digested food scraps rather than use of chemical fertilizers.
- Educate the community on the significant benefits of localized agriculture in terms of improvements to public health, the local environment, local and global climate, jobs and economic benefits, and general human psychological wellness

#### **2.7. Minimize Light Pollution**

- Educate the community about the health, environmental, and aesthetic benefits of dark night skies.
- Increase enforcement of City codes requiring the use of shielded light fixtures that direct light downward and toward areas of activity rather than toward the sky or neighboring properties. (Claremont Municipal Code Section 16.154.030)
- Encourage new construction projects to go beyond current Lighting Standards to assure maximum reduction of sky glow and glare.
- Institute the use of a rated color temperature guide for light sources. Recognize that light sources that do not exceed 3500K are considered to be meeting light pollution reduction standards in cities that restrict light pollution.



## INDICATORS (for Goal Area 2 – Environment and Public Health)

| INDICATOR  | INDICATOR TARGET                              | Entity Responsible for Tracking                                    |
|--|---|--|
| Greenhouse Gas Emissions                                     | 15% Reduction by 2020                         | AQMD, City, California Air Resource Board (CARB), Climate Registry |
| Toxic Chemicals Utilized in City Operations                  | Downward Trend                                | City, Community Services   |
| Utilization of Household Hazardous Waste Collection Programs | Upward Trend                                  | City and LA County Sanitation District                             |
| Education events on organic, locally grown and healthy foods | Upward Trend                                  | City, Sustainable Claremont, and CUSD                              |
| Forums for the exchange of locally grown foods               | Upward Trend                                  | Claremont Forum, Sustainable Claremont, Food not Lawns, etc.       |
| Local Food Production  | Upward Trend                                  | CUSD and Sustainable Claremont                                     |
| School Gardens   | One at each school                            | CUSD   |
| Ambient Air Quality  | Attain State and Federal standards            | AQMD, California Air Resource Board (CARB)                         |
| Low Impact Night-time Illumination                           | 100% of new lighting complies with City Codes | City, Community Development  |

**Table 2. Summary of Actions for Goal Area 2 – Environmental and Public Health**

| #       | Description   | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost   | Benefits | Responsible Entity   |
|---------|---|----------------------|-------------|--------|----------|--|
| 2.2.1   | Advocate for clean air  | 2                    | 1           | \$     | 5        | City   |
| 2.2.1a  | Lobby to End subsidies for carbon-based fuels   | 2                    | 2           | \$     | 5        | City   |
| 2.2.1b  | Lobby for strategies that cause society to reduce use of carbon based fuels   | 2                    | 2           | \$     | 2        | City   |
| 2.2.3   | Reduce emissions & particulates from non- transportation related mobile sources (generators, maintenance equipment)   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$   | 4        | City (Community Services)  |
| 2.2.3.a | Convert to electric-powered lawn maintenance equipment - Private Sector   | 1                    | 2           | \$     | 4        | AQMD, Sustainable Claremont  |
| 2.2.3.b | Convert to electric-powered lawn maintenance equipment - City Operations  | 3                    | 2           | \$     | 4        | City (Community Services)  |
| 2.2.5   | Reduce diesel emissions from City fleet and facilities  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 2        | City (Community Services)  |
| 2.2.6   | Reduce carcinogenic emissions   | 3                    | 2           | \$\$   | 4        | City, community  |
| 2.2.7   | Dust control policy   | 3                    | 2           | \$     | 3        | City (Community Services)  |
| 2.2.8   | Reduce vehicle engine idling  | 4                    | 2           | \$     | 1        | City, community  |
| 2.3.1   | Establish GHG baseline levels and track progress toward meeting target  | 1                    | 1           | \$     | 4        | Sustainability Coordinator   |
| 2.3.2   | Encourage food waste utilization through dehydration or local composting  |                      |             |        |          |  |
| 2.3.3   | Educate public about Claremont GHG emissions and reduction strategies   | 1                    | 2           | \$\$   | 4        | Sustainable Claremont, Sustainability Coordinator                            |
| 2.3.4   | Implement Energy Action Plan strategies to reduce GHG's community-wide  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 5        | Sustainability Coordinator   |
| 2.4.1   | Use Integrated Pest Management  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$   | 2        | City Maintenance Divisions   |
| 2.4.2   | Enhance toxic and hazardous waste collection program  | 2                    | 2           | \$     | 3        | City, Los Angeles County Sanitation District                                 |
| 2.4.3   | Use Low VOC paints and formaldehyde-free furniture and carpet   | 3                    | 1           | \$     | 2        | City, community  |
| 2.5.1   | Classes on local foods, gardening, permaculture, composting   | 1                    | 1           | \$\$   | 3        | Sustainable Claremont, Cooperative Extension, Cal Poly                       |
| 2.5.2   | Home Gardening Support  | 3                    | 1           | \$     | 3        | Calif. Cooperative Extension, Food Not Lawns, Sustainable Claremont or Other |
| 2.5.3   | Establish a Back Yard Produce Co-op or Exchange   | 1                    | 1           | \$\$   |          | Sustainable Claremont or other   |
| 2.5.4   | Use School gardens and ecolabs for teaching and provision of nutrient rich food production  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 5        | CUSD, colleges, private schools  |
| 2.5.5   | Allow a non-profit to establish a community garden on City-owned property   | 4                    | 3           | \$\$   | 3        | City   |
| 2.5.8   | Develop an Urban Agriculture Education Program Create an integrated communitywide project to grow local produce and drought tolerant landscape vegetation, create models of sustainable landscape and garden design | 3                    | 3           | \$     | 4        | Sustainable Claremont, Calif. Cooperative Extension                          |
| 2.5.9   |   | 2                    | 3           | \$     | 5        | Sustainable Claremont. Colleges, Community, RSABG                            |

|  |  |   |   |      |   |            |
|--|--|---|---|------|---|------------|
| 2.6.1  | Update City Codes to reflect current strategies for reducing light pollution | 3 | 3 | \$\$ | 3 | City Staff |
| <b>Key:</b> <i>Implementation Phase:</i> 1 to 4 with 1 being earliest and 4 being last (based on complexity, level of controversy, and urgency)<br><i>Feasibility:</i> 1 to 5 with one being easy and 5 being very difficult to implement<br><i>Benefits:</i> 1 to 5 with 1 being low benefit to 5 being very high benefit |  |   |   |      |   |            |

## Goal Area 3

# TRANSPORTATION

Transportation is a key sustainability issue for Claremont and Southern California. The ability to easily and affordably move about our City and the region are essential for a healthy economy and free society. Unfortunately, transportation-related emissions are responsible for 65% of our smog and a third of all greenhouse gases. Gridlock on our freeways and skyrocketing gasoline prices are threatening our economy. At the local level, vehicular traffic threatens the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. Parking consumes large portions of prime land in our commercial areas and exacerbates sprawl. These negative affects threaten our quality of life and are a big part of what makes our current lifestyle unsustainable. Each of these negative impacts from transportation is due in large part to an overdependence on single-occupant vehicles.

Claremont's Mediterranean climate, tree-lined streets, historic transit depot and high level of existing pedestrian and bicycle amenities provide excellent opportunities for the City to develop viable alternatives to single-occupant vehicles. The increase in gas prices has accelerated the move toward low-emission and high mileage vehicles, and encouraged the community to explore ways to reduce the amount of time spent driving. These trends will lead to fewer cars on the road and the use of bicycles for transportation and errands. The following goals and actions offer a way to build upon the community's concern about the cost of fuel, and to encourage more citizens to utilize alternatives to the single occupant vehicle.

### GOALS (for Goal Area 3 – Transportation)

#### **3.1 Transportation Conservation**

Decrease vehicle miles traveled by increasing per vehicle ridership and decreasing number of trips by autos and trucks.

#### **3.2 Pedestrian Enhancements**

Increase pedestrian activity by adding improvements that make walking more safe, convenient and enjoyable. Improvements to include: sidewalks, accessibility ramps, benches, bulb-outs at intersections, landscaping and convenient transit stops. View streets from a complete streets perspective where all modes of transportation (auto, transit, bicycle and walking) are considered and accommodated.

#### **3.3 Bicycle Enhancements and Education**

Increase bicycling by adding improvements that make bicycling more safe, convenient and enjoyable. Improvements to include: bike route signing, additional bicycle lanes and paths, and additional bicycle racks. Education should include outreach to schools and the broader community with periodic bicycle training classes at all schools regarding cycling safety.

### **3.4 Congestion Management**

Decrease congestion on local and regional roadways to improve safety, reduce emissions and maintain mobility. Actions will include signal synchronization and optimization.

### **3.5 Transit/Cleaner Mode Infrastructure**

Improve existing and add new transit by implementing such projects as the Gold Line Extension offering “transit store” services at the Depot Transit Center, and bus stop enhancements citywide. Encourage the use of electric vehicles by installing charging stations for public use.

### **3.6 Parking Subsidies and Other Incentives to Auto Commuting**

Reduce current subsidies to auto commuting by reducing parking required for new transit oriented or mixed-use developments. Free and convenient parking currently serves as an incentive to driving alone. Require employees to park in perimeter lots and reserve convenient parking for carpoolers, bicycles, customers and guests.

## INDICATORS (for Goal Area 3 – Transportation)

| INDICATOR  | INDICATOR TARGET                                    | Agency Responsible for Tracking           |
|--|---|---|
| Reduction in per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT)         | Downward Trend                                      | SCAG/LACMTA                               |
| Increased Pedestrian Facilities (Sidewalks, Safer crossings) | 2% increase in sidewalks and safe crossings by 2017 | City Engineer                             |
| Average Daily Bicycle Commuters                              | 100% increase by 2017                               | Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee |
| Increased Transit Ridership                                  | 20% above 2007 levels by 2017                       | LACMTA                                    |

**Table 3. Summary of Actions for Goal Area 3 - Transportation**

| #   | Description  | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost     | Benefits | Responsible Agency  |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------|----------|----------|---|
| <b>Goal 3.1 Transportation Conservation</b> |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 3.1.1                                       | Lower thresholds for transportation Demand Management (TDM) ordinance  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$     | 2        | City/Colleges   |
| 3.1.2                                       | Promote cleaner modes of transport with additional wayfinding signs and maps   | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$   | 5        | City (Community Development)  |
| 3.1.3                                       | Promote transportation alternatives by third parties such as Zip Car, BikeStation, Bike Nation, green bike program, bike rentals, and pedi-cabs                      | 3                    | 2           | \$       | 3        | City/Third Party  |
| 3.1.4                                       | Continue with alternative work weeks for City employees  | 2                    | 3           | \$       | 4        | City Manager  |
| 3.1.5                                       | Adopt a "Complete Streets" policy and evaluate City streets for consistency  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 3        | City Engineer   |
| 3.1.6                                       | Identify and track level of tele-commuting citywide  | 3                    | 4           | \$\$     | 2        | Sustainable Claremont, SCAG   |
| <b>Goal 3.2 Pedestrian Enhancements</b>     |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 3.2.1                                       | Provide safe and convenient walking routes to promote walking as a form of transportation  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$   | 4        | City Engineer   |
| 3.2.2                                       | Construct sidewalks where they are missing (infill sidewalks) and add benches and trash receptacles in pedestrian areas citywide                                     | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 4        | City Engineer   |
| 3.2.3                                       | Make safety and convenience improvements for the Thompson Creek Trail near the 210 Freeway   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 2        | City Engineer   |
| 3.2.4                                       | Achieve and maintain Pedestrian-Friendly Community designation from Walkable Communities, Inc.   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 3        | Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee, City Engineer              |
| 3.2.5                                       | Facilitate regular community walks to encourage walking  |                      |             |          |          | Get Walking Claremont   |
| <b>Goal 3.3 Bicycle Enhancements</b>        |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 3.3.1                                       | Amend the City Bicycle Plan regularly to continually improve bicycle transportation  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$     | 3        | City Engineer   |
| 3.3.2                                       | Expand Bicycle Priority Zone utilizing BTA funding   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$\$ | 3        | City Bicycle Coordinator  |
| 3.3.3                                       | Add more bicycle racks citywide at sites identified by the Bicycle Advisory Group including locations on private property where property owner supports installation | 2                    | 1           | \$\$     | 2        | City, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee                       |
| 3.3.4                                       | Construct additional bike lanes as called for in City Bicycle Plan   | 3                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 3        | City Engineer   |
| 3.3.5                                       | On-going Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Training Program  | 3                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 3        | City Engineer, Police Dept.   |
| 3.3.6                                       | Pursue funding for dedicated bicycle safety training facility with area for bike safety course   | 4                    | 3           | \$\$\$   |          | City Engineer, Police Dept.   |
| 3.3.7                                       | Facilitate regular Community Bike Rides  | 2                    | 3           | \$       | 2        | Cycle Claremont   |
| 3.3.8                                       | Pursue funding to widen Thompson Creek Trail to meet standards for shared use, Class 1 trail   | 1                    | 4           | \$       | 2        | City Engineer   |
| 3.3.9                                       | Continue to utilize Safe Routes To Schools funding for bike and pedestrian improvements near schools   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 4        | City Engineer   |
| 3.3.10                                      | Encourage and incentivize greater bicycle commuting to and from school   | 1                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 4        | CUSD, Colleges, Bike Claremont, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Comm. |
| <b>Goal 3.4 Congestion Management</b>       |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 3.4.1                                       | Utilize City's Traffic Operations Center for citywide traffic signal coordination and  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 2        | City Engineer   |

|  |   |   |   |        |   |                              |  |
|--|---|---|---|--------|---|------------------------------|--|
|  | synchronization   |   |   |        |   |                              |  |
| 3.4.2  | Increase capacity of turn pockets at the intersection of Base Line Road and Monte Vista Avenue                              |   |   |        |   | City Engineer.               |  |
| <b>Goal 3.5 Transit/ Clean Mode Infrastructure</b>                     |   |   |   |        |   |                              |  |
| 3.5.1  | Support extension of the Gold Line to Claremont and Ontario International Airport   | 1 | 1 | \$     | 5 | City Engineer                |  |
| 3.5.2  | Continue Transit Store services at the Depot Transit Center   | 2 | 3 | \$\$\$ | 4 | City (Community Services)    |  |
| 3.5.3  | Enhance bus stops citywide (benches, shelters, etc.)  | 4 | 1 | \$\$   | 3 | City                         |  |
| 3.5.4  | Continue to support and implement transit-oriented development (TOD) land use policies                                      | 2 | 1 | \$\$   | 3 | City (Community Development) |  |
| <b>Goal 3.6 Reduce Parking Subsidies/ Incentives to Auto Commuting</b> |   |   |   |        |   |                              |  |
| 3.6.1  | Allow for reduction in required parking for new construction that is clearly integrated with cleaner transportation options | 3 | 3 | \$     | 4 | City (Community Development) |  |
| 3.6.2  | Require Village employees to park in perimeter lots   | 3 | 3 | \$\$\$ | 4 | City (Community Development) |  |
| 3.6.3  | Create "corral" style bicycle parking area in Bicycle Priority Zone   | 2 | 3 | \$\$\$ | 3 | City Engineer                |  |
| 3.6.4  | Allow reduced parking for small residential units   | 1 | 2 | \$     | 3 | City Planning Division       |  |

**Key:** *Implementation Phase: 1 to 4 with 1 being earliest and 4 being last (based on complexity, level of controversy, and urgency)*  
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## Goal Area 4

# SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Buildings in the U.S. account for 39% of total energy consumption; 71% of electricity consumption; 39% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions; 30% of raw materials used, and 30% of our waste outputs. Sustainable buildings are designed and constructed to be highly resource efficient and therefore significantly reduce or eliminate these environmental impacts. Sustainable buildings further minimize negative environmental impacts by utilizing environmentally superior products such as recycled materials and lumber from certified sustainable forests. Finally, sustainable buildings are designed to provide healthier indoor environments for their occupants. They eliminate use of construction materials that degrade indoor air quality by releasing harmful chemicals such as formaldehyde and volatile organic compounds (VOC's) and they provide high levels of natural lighting. Sustainable practices for the operation and maintenance of both existing conventional buildings and new sustainable facilities is also an important consideration for the sustainability of our community. There is a major opportunity for reduction in energy use through retrofitting existing buildings.

**CalGreen.** In 2010, the State of California introduced CalGreen, a comprehensive revision of the State Building Code intended to increase energy efficiency, water efficiency, use of recycled construction materials and improve indoor air quality. The revision raised the bar for construction in the State and made the code the greenest statewide building code in the nation. The City of Claremont has implemented this new code locally to ensure that all new construction meets these new green standards. A new update for CalGreen, which raises the bar even higher, is slated for adoption by the City in January 2014. CalGreen mandates a minimum level of sustainability for all new development in the City. Additional voluntary programs such as LEED, Sustainable Site Initiative, and Green Point Rated provide guidance and recognition for obtaining even higher levels of sustainability for both new and existing buildings. City staff and commissions are working to encourage all developers and building officials to utilize these systems to obtain the highest feasible level of sustainability in all Claremont development.

**LEED Rating System.** Sustainable buildings; major building renovations; sustainable residences, and sustainable land sites are being affordably designed and built today. The most widely recognized system for assessing the sustainability of a building is the United States Green Building Council LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) system, which provides comprehensive guidance in eight components. Buildings constructed to meet LEED standards have been shown to require relatively little additional capital costs when compared to conventional construction. Even more important to building owners, facilities designed to LEED standards pay back any added up-front costs in ten years or less due to reduced energy and operating costs, healthier employees, reduced employee turnover, and other savings. Thereafter, the reduced energy and operating costs represent real savings to the building owner. The City generally subscribes to the proactive application of LEED wherever it is feasible.

**Sustainable Sites:** The “Sustainable Sites Initiative: Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks 2009” provides credible, well-accepted guidelines and a rating system for



land development and management practices. It provides a basis for best practices in City sites and for City incentives to encourage sustainable practices in private site developments.

**Best Practices for Sustainable Operation and Maintenance of Facilities:** Beyond the “LEED for Existing Buildings-O&M” practices, building owners should be encouraged to refer to and adopt as appropriate the USGBC “Building Performance Partnership” program and the Building Owners and Managers Association “BOMA 360 Performance Program,” each of which can significantly improve building performance in a variety of important sustainability-related categories.

**The Claremont Community is a leader in Green Construction:** During 2008-2012, noteworthy advances were made in achieving sustainably designed and constructed new buildings in Claremont. **Fifteen** new buildings developed by the Colleges and the private sector, totaling **690,000** square feet in scope, have attained or applied for LEED certification, as recorded in the most recent Annual Sustainability Report Card. The impetus for these LEED certifications arose from a variety of sources, including proactive leadership by Claremont College administrators, voluntary actions by private developers, and initiatives by City staff and commissions. For future years, this Goal Area 4 is expanded to include residential building construction, site developments, and operation and maintenance of existing buildings.

## GOALS (for Goal Area 4 – Sustainable Built Environment)

### **4.1 City Facilities**

Apply sustainable design and construction standards for all new and renovated City facilities. Implement best sustainable practices for operation and maintenance of existing City facilities and landscapes.

### **4.2 Privately Owned Facilities**

Apply sustainable design and construction standards to all new and renovated facilities community-wide. Incentivize adoption of best sustainable practices for operation and maintenance of existing privately-owned facilities and landscapes.

### **4.3 Infrastructure**

Apply sustainable development standards and operation and maintenance practices for all City infrastructure projects. Adopt City standards to implement a “Green Streets” policy to create streets that minimize runoff of toxins, capture more storm water, utilize sustainable landscaping, reduce the frequency of required street maintenance and minimize the urban heat island effect.

### **4.4 Residential**

Promote sustainable design and construction practices in all new homebuilding. Continue and expand the Claremont Home Energy Retrofit Program (CHERP) to encourage and incentivize widespread energy efficiency retrofits for 10% or more of City residences. Retrofits should focus on “whole house” energy solutions that ensure greater efficiency and cost-effectiveness while improving comfort and indoor air quality.

### **4.5 Sustainable Land Use and Smart Growth**

Apply sustainable practices in all Community Development activities that impact the built environment, and in all City Capital Improvement planning and construction.

## INDICATORS (for Goal Area 4 – Sustainable Built Environment)

| INDICATOR   | INDICATOR TARGET                                | Agency Responsible for Tracking                     |
|---|---|---|
| % of new construction complying with California Green Building code (CalGreen)  | 100%  | City (Building & Safety Division)                   |
| % of new City facilities certified as sustainable   | 100% with LEED Gold Certification               | City  |
| % of new private development designed to sustainable standards  | 100% designed to LEED Certified level standards | City (Community Development)                        |
| Square Footage of Green Certified buildings per capita in Claremont   | Upward trend                                    | City  |
| % major private non-residential construction (over 20,000 sq. ft.) certified as sustainable                           | 100% with LEED Silver Certification             | City  |
| % of infrastructure designed to be sustainable to greatest extent feasible  | 100% by 2017                                    | City  |
| % of City facilities (by floor area) that are operated and maintained according to best sustainable practices         | 100% by 2017                                    | City  |
| % of privately-owned facilities in Claremont that are operated and maintained according to best sustainable practices | Upward trend                                    | Sustainable Claremont, USGBC, Build it Green, CHERP |

**Table 4. Summary of Actions for Goal Area 4 Sustainable Built Environment**

| #   | Description  | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost     | Benefits | Responsible Agency                              |
|---|--|----------------------|-------------|----------|----------|---|
| <b>Goal 4.1 Sustainable Development - City Facilities</b> |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 4.1.1   | Obtain LEED Gold Certification for all new City buildings and major renovations  | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | City  |
| 4.1.2   | Complete a sustainability attainment report or checklist for City projects < \$100,000   | 2                    | 1           | \$       | 4        | City  |
| 4.1.3   | LEED accreditation and training for appropriate City staff   | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | City  |
| 4.1.4   | Attain LEED EB Silver Certification for City Yard facility   | 1                    | 1           | \$\$     | 4        | City (Community Development)                    |
| 4.1.5   | Create sustainable landscape demonstration projects on City properties   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 4        | City (Community Development)                    |
| <b>Goal 4.2 Sustainable Development – Private</b>         |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 4.2.1   | Revise City Development Codes and Commission Review Policies to promote sustainable practices in the built environment   | 1                    | 2           | \$\$     | 5        | City (Community Development)                    |
| 4.2.2   | Provide incentives to encourage private development to develop to LEED silver standards or better.   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 3        | City (Community Development)                    |
| 4.2.3   | Green Building Ordinance requiring LEED Silver certification for private non-residential construction projects over 20,000 sq. ft.                             | 3                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 4        | City (Community Development)                    |
| 4.2.4   | Develop City policies and procedures that will incentivize private non-residential building owners to adopt more sustainable facility O&M practices            | 3                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | Sustainability Coordinator, Chamber of Commerce |
| 4.2.5   | Authorize PACE style financing program to help property owners finance energy efficiency improvements with repayment on property tax bills.                    | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 3        | Sustainability Coordinator                      |
| <b>Goal 4.3 Sustainable Infrastructure</b>                |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 4.3.1   | Develop Sustainable Infrastructure Policy and Standards including current best practices for storm water management  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | City Engineer                                   |
| 4.3.2   | Apply sustainability best practices to streets, parking lots & landscaping   | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 4        | City Engineer                                   |
| 4.3.3   | Re-envision and re-construct channelized waterways back to more natural conditions   | 4                    | 4           | \$\$\$\$ | 4        | Los Angeles County Flood Control District       |
| 4.3.4   | Complete low energy retrofits to City infrastructure (LED street signal lights)  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 2        | City Engineer                                   |
| 4.3.5   | Adopt and implement a “Green Streets” policy and standards to ensure public rights of way are constructed utilizing latest environmentally preferable features | 1                    | 3           | \$\$\$   | 3        | City Engineer, Sustainability Coordinator       |
| <b>Goal 4.4 Sustainable Development - Residential</b>     |  |                      |             |          |          |   |
| 4.4.1   | Continue to expand the Claremont   | 1                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 5        | CHERP, Sustainable                              |

|   |  |   |   |      |   |                              |
|---|--|---|---|------|---|------------------------------|
|   | Home Energy Retrofit Program (CHERP) to retrofit 10% or more of City residences  |   |   |      |   | Claremont                    |
| 4.4.2   | Authorize a PACE-style financing program to help property owners finance energy efficiency improvements with repayment on property tax bills | 1 | 1 | \$   | 3 | Sustainability Coordinator   |
| <b>Goal 4.5 Sustainable Land Use and Smart Growth</b> |  |   |   |      |   |                              |
| 4.5.1   | Apply LEED neighborhood development design principles to new developments  | 3 | 2 | \$\$ | 3 | City (Community Development) |
| 4.5.2   | Promote Mixed-Use and Transit-Oriented Neighborhoods where appropriate   | 3 | 1 | \$   | 3 | City (Community Development) |

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## Goal Area 5

# OPEN SPACE AND LAND USE

**Claremont's Open Spaces** are community resources that provide healthy ecosystems, nature's services, wildlife habitat, physiological and psychological benefits, educational opportunities, aesthetic, recreational and cultural benefits, along with a decrease in the adverse effects of natural disasters. Reduction in open space adversely affects our quality of life and that of future generations. Open space comes in two forms:

**Natural Open Space** - *"Any parcel or area of land or water essentially unimproved, with native habitat." (General Plan glossary) "This includes land in which natural habitat has become re-established after either natural or man-made disturbance" (Sustainable City Plan 2013 update)*

**Constructed Open Space** - *"Constructed open space includes parks, private yards, public plazas, parkways, tree-lined streets, school fields, and any other form of open space that is no longer in a natural state." (General Plan glossary)*

**Natural habitats:** Natural habitats are necessary to sustain healthy ecosystems, wildlife corridors and biodiversity. They provide nature's services, provide physiological and psychological benefits for residents, provide educational and recreational opportunities, and aesthetic and cultural benefits. They are crucial to maintaining Claremont's character and to our increased understanding of our environment.

**"Nature's Services"** are the ways in which nature benefits humans, including but not limited to those benefits that can be measured in economic terms. Some of these benefits to Claremont include storm water capture, ground water filtering and detention, absorption of air pollutants, pollination, wildlife habitat, corridors, and pest control, opportunities for education about our natural heritage and for aesthetic appreciation of nature.

**Decisions about constructed open space** can and should increase opportunities to conserve natural resources, increase wildlife habitat, provide for passive and active recreation, offer a fair distribution of parks, treed pathways and public gathering places throughout the community, increase the aesthetic quality of the community, and provide local food production.

**The Urban Forest:** This includes all privately and publicly-owned trees. All citizens of Claremont benefit from the services the urban forest provides to the community. These include reduction in energy usage for heating and cooling structures, reduction in the 'heat island' effect seen for example in large unshaded parking lots, cleaner air through assimilation of carbon dioxide, filtering particulates from the air and by producing oxygen; and health, aesthetic and economic benefits.

## GOALS (For Goal Area 5 – Open Space and Land Use)

### **5.1 Protect Natural Open Space**

Maintain, improve and protect natural open space resources throughout Claremont. This includes taking an active role in the proposed transition of the San Gabriel Mountains and watershed to a National Recreation Area. This transition should focus on protecting the natural environment and limiting potential damage to the local watershed and groundwater basins.

### **5.2 Expand and Improve Our Network of Constructed Open Spaces**

Develop and maintain a constructed open space system diverse in services, uses and opportunities which conserves natural resources; provides passive and active recreation; offers a fair distribution of parks, treed pathways and public gathering places throughout the community; increases the aesthetic quality of the community and provides for urban agriculture.

### **5.3 Maintain Diversity of Local Native Organisms**

Maintain natural areas, increase local native organisms in constructed landscapes. Prevent spread of invasive species. Work to create new viable natural areas in areas that are currently vacant or occupied by invasive plants, unsustainable plant communities, or plants that pose a danger to wildlife.

### **5.4 Protect the Urban Forest**

Protect, improve, and expand our urban forest. Educate City staff, contractors and property owners on proper trimming practices and watering techniques. Work to prevent damage to existing trees when irrigation patterns change due to conversion to drought tolerant landscaping.

### **5.5 Inform the Public**

Instill the importance of open space and smart land use in our community along with an understanding of how to manage our resources for a more sustainable City and planet.

INDICATORS (For Goal Area 5 – Open Space and Land Use)

| INDICATOR   | INDICATOR TARGET  | Agency Responsible for Tracking                 |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Total acreage of natural open space   | Maintain Existing | Sustainability Coordinator                      |
| Location/size of natural areas within City  | Maintain Existing | Sustainability Coordinator                      |
| Number of Oaks in Wilderness Park   | Upward Trend      | Community Services                              |
| Biodiversity of the natural open space areas of the City  | Maintain Existing | Sustainable Claremont                           |
| Number of parks; location and distance between parks  | Meet City Targets | Community Development                           |
| % permeable constructed surfaces in the City  | Upward Trend      | Community Development & Community Services      |
| % of land area under tree canopy  | Upward Trend      | Community Services                              |
| Number and size of trees in parking areas   | Upward Trend      | Community Services                              |
| Number of badly pruned trees visible to the public  | Decreasing Trend  | Community Services                              |
| Number of citizens winning recognition for preserving open space, maintaining beautiful trees, providing landscapes that reduce resource consumption, and increasing wildlife habitat | Increasing Trend  | Architectural Commission, Sustainable Claremont |
| Number of new and existing parking lots that have permeable surfaces and good tree coverage   | Increasing Trend  | Architectural Commission                        |
| Number of citywide activities celebrating the benefits of ecosystems, natural open space, constructed open space, and trees   | Increasing Trend  | Sustainable Claremont                           |
| Number of attendees at the events described above   | Increasing Trend  | Sustainable Claremont                           |



**Table 5. Summary of Actions for Goal Area 5 Open Space and Land Use**

| #       | Description   | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost     | Benefits | Responsible Agency                                     |
|---------|---|----------------------|-------------|----------|----------|--|
| 5.1.1   | Develop incentives to encourage the reuse of already developed properties, regardless of ownership, before developing natural areas ( <i>General Plan Policy 5-12.3</i> ) | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$   | 4        | City   |
| 5.1.2   | Preserve & manage open space in hillsides and water spreading grounds   | 4                    | 3           | \$\$     | 5        | PVPA, Community Services                               |
| 5.1.3   | Develop an awards program for preservation of open space & ecological benefits  | 4                    | 2           | \$       | 4        | Sustainable Claremont                                  |
| 5.1.4   | Use plants from local gene pool in City projects adjacent to natural open spaces  | 1                    | 2           | \$\$     | 3        | City, RSABG, Others                                    |
| 5.2.2   | Develop a species list of water wise and ecologically-friendly plants for use in new development and other landscape projects   | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 2        | Community Services, RSABG                              |
| 5.2.3   | Provide incentives for development projects that include significant natural or constructed open space  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | City - Community Development                           |
| 5.3.1   | Provide an extensive and safe system for walking and hiking that links areas of Claremont ( <i>Gen Plan Goal 5-10</i> )   | 4                    | 3           | \$\$\$   | 4        | City - Community Development                           |
| 5.4.1   | Develop a Heritage Tree identification program  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | City - Community Services                              |
| 5.4.2.a | Conduct a City tree inventory (public and private) for urban forest management  | 2                    | 4           | \$       | 3        | City - Community Services                              |
| 5.4.2.b | Conduct an inventory private trees for use in urban forest management and food sharing networks   | 4                    | 5           | \$\$\$\$ | 4        | Sustainable Claremont                                  |
| 5.4.3   | Develop an awards program for owners of significant trees   | 3                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | City - Community Services                              |
| 5.4.4   | Expand resources allocated to urban forest management   | 1                    | 3           | \$\$\$   | 4        | City - Community Services                              |
| 5.4.5   | Strengthen City's landscape requirements to require a minimum percentage of tree canopy coverage within specified time  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | City - Community Development                           |
| 5.4.6   | Expand forested lands   | 2                    | 2           | \$       | 2        | City, Community, Acorn Project, Tree People            |
| 5.4.7   | Publish and circulate guidelines for properly watering trees (public and private)   | 1                    | 1           | \$\$     | 4        | City, Tree Division, and Sustainability Coordinator    |
| 5.5.1   | Expand partnerships in environmental study and education between City & educational institutions  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$     | 5        | City - Human Services                                  |
| 5.5.2   | Develop good tree maintenance education programs for private tree owners  | 1                    | 2           | \$\$     | 5        | City - Community Services                              |
| 5.5.3   | Establish & facilitate events for informing about and celebrating open space, ecology, urban agriculture, and trees   | 3                    | 3           | \$\$     | 4        | Sustainable Claremont, Community Services, RSABG, CUSD |

**Key:** **Implementation Phase:** 1 to 4 with 1 being earliest and 4 being last (based on complexity, level of controversy, and urgency)  
**Feasibility:** 1 to 5 with one being easy and 5 being very difficult to implement  
**Benefits:** 1 to 5 with 1 being low benefit to 5 being very high benefit

## Goal Area 6

# HOUSING & ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is not just about resources and conservation; it should also include the quality of life issues of the community. Housing, neighborhood character, history, unique local culture, and a strong local economy are all important features of a sustainable quality of life.

A balanced community provides for all of its citizens with housing, services and jobs. As the cost of living has increased, especially in housing, there is now an imbalance. Housing is not economically available for those who work here at middle and lower paying jobs or those who are now on fixed incomes. The City must find solutions to this problem.

As our housing stock ages, it is important to keep that stock and our neighborhoods maintained. The quality of the community depends on strong neighborhoods. It is also important to preserve the truly historic structures and neighborhoods in the City for future generations.

All sustainability efforts depend on a strong economy—jobs for people and money for goods and services. Claremont needs to support and expand its local economy to ensure jobs for residents of all income levels and to ensure services and supplies are available locally. The business community represents a major component of local consumption; therefore encouraging these businesses to operate in a more sustainable fashion is important to meeting community wide goals. Finally, Claremont has achieved some level of recognition as a leader on “green” issues. We have numerous businesses, including retail stores, restaurants, design firms, and service businesses that are recognized regionally as being highly sustainable. The business community should work to capitalize on this reputation by cultivating a perception that customers who live in the San Gabriel Valley or Inland Empire and need a “green” product or service should shop Claremont first because it is where the leading green businesses are located. The community should also work to establish a formal program to support or incubate promising new technologies or services that are more sustainable; further capitalizing on our reputation as a leading center of sustainable thought that leads to meaningful innovation in products and services.

Fair Trade is an important concept that seeks to eliminate the more egregious worker abuses such as slavery and abusive child labor and seeks to improve working conditions for the extremely poor worldwide. Through independent verification, Fair Trade helps to ensure that the products we buy are based on fair and abuse free labor practices that ensure greater social and economic sustainability. In 2012, Claremont became the first city in Southern California to achieve designation as a Fair Trade City. This designation indicates that the City supports the concept of free trade and supports the efforts of local businesses who sell Fair Trade certified products and services.

## GOALS (For Goal Area 6 – Housing and Economic Sustainability)

- 6.1 **Achieve and maintain a mix of affordable, livable and green housing types** throughout the City for people of all socio-economic/cultural/household groups (including seniors, families, singles, and disabled).
- 6.2 **Promote neighborhood identity and conservation of individual neighborhood character.** (GP policy 2-2.2)
- Pursue code enforcement actions to advance proper maintenance of homes, buildings, yards, and neighborhoods in all areas of the City. (GP policy 2-2.3)
  - Protect neighborhoods from impacts from non-residential development. (GP policy 2-2.4)
  - Protect neighborhood character from incompatible and oversized renovations and new structures.
- 6.3 **Retain Claremont’s history and heritage**
- Preserve existing housing stock in well-maintained condition.
  - Support retention and/or adaptive reuse of existing residential, commercial, and industrial buildings where possible. (GP policy 2-14.5)
- 6.4 **Maintain a strong, diversified economy** (GP3-1)
- Accommodate a range of land uses that meet the economic, environmental, educational, and social needs of the City while remaining sensitive to the community’s residential character. (GP 2-3)
  - Revitalize aging and underperforming commercial and industrial areas (GP 3-2) on an on-going basis.
  - Promote new sustainable development and redevelopment to increase and diversify City revenues.
- 6.5 **Promote jobs/housing balance within the community.**
- Encourage local employers to provide information on local housing opportunities to their employees.
  - Provide housing that is affordable to local employees.
- 6.6 **City Procurement Policies that consider sustainability** of all products and services purchased by the City.
- Develop policies and provide information to employees performing purchasing duties.
  - Partner with School District, State or other local institutions to purchase sustainable items in bulk to minimize costs.
- 6.7 **Recognize local businesses with sustainable products and business practices**
- Create a Green Guide to Claremont Businesses.
  - Establish a Green Awards program.
- 6.8 **Encourage greater understanding of Fair Trade practices and increase the market share of these products in Claremont**
- Continue to participate in Fair Trade City activities.
  - Educate the public on the Fair Trade concept and availability of these products locally.
- 6.9 **Engage the business community and encourage businesses to adopt sustainable practices**

- 6.10 **Become an Innovation Incubator in sustainability.** Encourage and support the use of state-of-the-art cost effective measures to enhance sustainability. Invite enterprises with appropriate innovative technology to apply it in Claremont, and to use existing technology in more effective ways.

## INDICATORS (For Goal Area 6 – Housing and Economic Sustainability)

| INDICATOR   | INDICATOR TARGET  | Agency Responsible for Tracking                |
|---|---|--|
| Meet or exceed State affordable housing mandates  | Maintain State Certification of housing Element   | City, Community Development                    |
| % of existing and new housing available to very low-, low-, moderate-, and above moderate-income housing              | As specified in latest General Plan Housing Element Update                                | City, Community Development                    |
| Distribution of affordable housing throughout City  | Actual Construction   | City, Community Development                    |
| Reduce crime in multiple-family housing   | Decreasing Trend  | City, Police Department                        |
| Improve quality of life in apartment housing  | Complete apartment Crime Free Programs in all Multiple Family rental Housing Developments | City, Police Department, Community Development |
| Successfully close code enforcement cases   | Achieve Positive Results for Code Compliance  | City, Community Development                    |
| % of total economic activity by business sector   | Trend Toward Increased Balance  | City, Economic Development                     |
| Redevelop key commercial sites  | Initiate Redevelopment Activity on one site every two years                               | City,  |
| Number of businesses that provide jobs, local revenue, support other business sectors, and provide community benefits | Increasing Trend  | City,  |
| City revenues   | Increasing Revenues and increased diversity and balance of revenue sources                | City, Economic Development                     |
| “Green” Economy businesses that provide green products or emphasize sustainable practices                             | Increased # of sustainable jobs and awareness of “green” businesses                       | City, Economic Development                     |
| Jobs/Housing Ratio--Ratio of # of jobs to # of residential units  | Ratio should approach 1:1   | City, Economic Development                     |
| % of residents employed in community  | Increasing Trend  | City, Economic Development                     |
| % of employees of largest employers who live in community   | Increasing Trend  | City, Economic Development                     |
| Become an Innovation Incubator In sustainability  | Innovations implemented, startup companies assisted                                       | Business Community, Colleges, City             |

Table 6. Summary of Actions for Goal Area 6

| #       | Description  | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost   | Benefits | Responsible Agency                                       |
|---------|--|----------------------|-------------|--------|----------|--|
| 6.1.1   | Create Local Workforce Preference Program for new affordable housing projects  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$   | 5        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.1.3   | Develop affordable rental housing as required by state   | 2                    | 4           | \$\$   | 5        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.1.4   | Promote home rehabilitation loan program to target “greening” of homes of income qualified owners  | 3                    | 2           | \$     | 2        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.1.5   | Provide incentives for greening existing homes all income levels   | 3                    | 3           | \$\$   | 4        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.1.6   | Provide vacancy ads to local employers to encourage workers to live in town  | 1                    | 1           | \$     | 1        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.1.7   | Investigate housing affordability alternatives to new building   |                      |             |        |          | City (Community Development), Sustainable Claremont      |
| 6.2.1   | Create neighborhood specific design guidelines to preserve character of various Claremont neighborhoods  | 4                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 4        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.2.2   | City provide Neighborhood/Housing Coordinator to assist neighborhoods and multi-family projects  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$\$ | 4        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.2.3   | City provide staffing to create a Crime-Free program for apartment housing developments  | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 5        | City (Community Development , Police Department)         |
| 6.2.4   | Publicize and implement Neighborhood History Project   |                      |             |        |          | Claremont Heritage                                       |
| 6.3.1   | Focus City code enforcement efforts strategically toward at-risk areas of the City   | 1                    | 3           | \$     | 4        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.3.2   | City code enforcement staff provide quick response to repossessed houses to prevent lapses in property maintenance                                 | 1                    | 4           | \$\$   | 4        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.4.1   | Create a small business incubator to enable development of new local businesses  | 4                    | 3           | \$\$   | 4        | City (Community Development), Chamber, Colleges, Private |
| 6.4.1.b | Create a “Green Innovation Incubator” to help the community adopt promising new green technologies and aid in their adoption by other communities. |                      |             |        |          | City, Chamber of Commerce, Colleges, private businesses  |
| 6.4.2   | Redevelop the Peppertree Square Commercial Center (Indian Hill & Arrow Hwy.)   | 4                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 5        | City (Community Development), Private                    |
| 6.4.3   | Support development of a mixed-use corridor along Foothill Boulevard   | 4                    | 5           | \$\$\$ | 5        | City (Community Development), Private                    |
| 6.4.4   | Enhance the Auto Center area   | 3                    | 4           | \$\$   | 5        | City (Community Development), Private                    |
| 6.4.5   | Continue redevelopment of Old School House properties  | 3                    | 3           | \$\$   | 5        | City (Community Development), Private                    |
| 6.4.6   | Maintain a positive cost/revenue balance in City budgets   | 4                    | 3           | \$\$   | 3        | City (Community Development)                             |
| 6.6.1   | Establish environmentally preferable procurement/purchasing program for City   | 2                    | 3           | \$\$\$ | 4        | City   |

|             |   |   |   |      |   |  |
|-------------|---|---|---|------|---|--|
| 6.7.1       | Establish a Recognition Program for Sustainable Local Businesses  | 2 | 1 | \$\$ | 2 | Chamber of Commerce, Sustainable Claremont |
| <b>Key:</b> | <i><b>Implementation Phase:</b> 1 to 4 with 1 being earliest and 4 being last (based on complexity, level of controversy, and urgency)</i><br><i><b>Feasibility:</b> 1 to 5 with one being easy and 5 being very difficult to implement</i><br><i><b>Benefits:</b> 1 to 5 with 1 being low benefit to 5 being very high benefit</i> |   |   |      |   |  |

# Goal Area 7

## PUBLIC OUTREACH & IMPLEMENTATION

While some in our community are well-informed on sustainability issues, others are unaware of the negative impacts of their day-to-day decisions. Most of us are somewhat aware and concerned, but not sure how to best alter our current habits to live sustainably. Excessive amounts of sometimes outdated or conflicting information leaves many with an easy excuse not to act.

The Task Force that developed this plan believes strongly that outreach and education efforts are critical to improving the overall sustainability of Claremont. Facilitating small changes in the daily decisions of all in the community towards greater sustainability can have a huge impact at the aggregate level. The Task Force believes that these aggregated lifestyle changes, made as a result of education and outreach efforts, are likely to be the most effective action that the community can undertake to increase sustainability.

The outreach and education goals and actions described below are meant to assist individuals from all sectors of the community. Some of the measures recommended here are appropriate for the City to implement. Many others are more appropriately handled by educators and non-profit advocacy groups with support from the City. The Claremont Unified School District has indicated an interest in being an active partner in this effort. The District hopes to establish a committee to integrate sustainability topics throughout the curriculum. The Implementation Plan contained in the next chapter establishes an additional mechanism for involving non-profit advocacy groups.

*We must take bold and unequivocal action: we must make the rescue of the environment the central organizing principle for civilization . . . we are now engaged in an epic battle to right the balance of our earth; the tide of this battle will turn only when the majority of people become sufficiently aroused by a shared sense of urgent danger to join an all-out effort. It is time to come to terms with exactly how this can be accomplished.*

Vice President Al Gore



## GOALS (for Goal Area 7: Public Outreach and Implementation)

**7.1 Outreach & Education:** Foster a community where all citizens understand the basic principles of sustainability and use them to guide their decisions and actions - both personally and collectively.

- Employ a wide variety of media and methods to effectively communicate sustainability related information.
- Actively partner with the Claremont Unified School District to develop and regularly update the school curriculum to address sustainability issues.
- Encourage all stakeholders to participate actively and effectively in civic affairs and community improvement efforts.
- Encourage advocacy and social justice. Strive for fair treatment of all citizens irrespective of race, culture and income level. (GP9-6 & 9-8)
- Work in cooperation with surrounding communities in order to expand sustainable practices or infrastructure across boundaries.

**7.2 Implementation:** Permanently integrate these principles, goals, policies and actions of this plan into the organizational structure and on-going decision making processes of the City.

- **EMBEDMENT** - Successfully “embed” approved sustainability Goals within City policies, procedures and ordinances at appropriate levels of authority, e.g. Staff, Commissions and Council with minimal budget impact.
- **SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION** – Affirmative implementation of a plan of this importance and complexity will require adequate ongoing dedicated staff time commitment. At a minimum, the City will support a full-time staff position dedicated to sustainability. Furtherance of the goals of this Plan will be included in job descriptions and performance evaluation of staff involved in aspects of its implementation.
- **PROGRESS MONITORING and REPORTING** - Put in place a “progress reporting mechanism” to report City government’s implementation progress.
- **CITIZEN OVERSIGHT** – Maintain a highly qualified, well-informed “City Sustainability Committee” to provide citizen oversight to ensure that City staff continues to work to achieve sustainability goals and updates these goals regularly to ensure they remain relevant.
- **COMMUNICATIONS OUTREACH** – Ensure that all community and City sustainability activities have prominent visibility via communication channels available (website, calendars, email, collateral materials, media, social media, etc.)
- **COMMUNITY EDUCATION** – Create formal classes, seminars, workshops and community events that have a primary focus on education and awareness of sustainability. Coordinate with local non-profit and community groups to collaborate on and promote sustainability related activities.
- **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** - The City shall work to involve the school district and community groups in the implementation of this plan because

many of the goals and recommended actions are beyond the typical mission of the City.

- **COMMUNITY-WIDE PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY** - Invite organizations, businesses, colleges, individuals and other stakeholders to work together and with the city to prepare a comprehensive coordinated sustainability plan for the Claremont area.
- **ASSESSMENT** – It is important to assess community acceptance of, and interest in, the sustainability measures in this Plan, and to identify individuals, public/private institutions, and businesses who would participate in implementation. To this end, surveys will be conducted of the Claremont's residents, and of Claremont's businesses. Data from these surveys will be used to evaluate progress toward the goals in the Plan, to set realistic targets, and to judge the effectiveness of education and implementation programs. These surveys will also enhance public awareness. Distribution of these surveys will be carried out by the City, designed in collaboration with the Colleges (e.g., the Roberts Environmental Center) and the broader community, and the data evaluated by the entities involved.

**7.3 Metrics:** Institute a performance management system for the city government to:

- Measure the on-going success of sustainability programs in quantitative and/or qualitative terms;
- Inform the public on the community's progress;
- Provide for meaningful benchmarking and or reporting on the relative sustainability of Claremont when compared to other communities as well as state, national, and international sustainability targets; and
- Provide a system of measurements that allows the City to comply with new and existing sustainability legislation/reporting requirements imposed by State and Federal Government.

INDICATORS (for Goal Area 7: Public Outreach and Implementation)

| INDICATOR  | INDICATOR TARGET   | Agency Responsible for Tracking          |
|--|--|--|
| Leadership in sustainability   | Actions that are useful models for other communities, and their adoption | Entire Community                         |
| Sustainability Report Card produced and circulated   | Annually   | City                                     |
| Sustainability Committee operational, meeting regularly and fulfilling its mission for Citizen oversight of the City's efforts | Quarterly meetings   | City                                     |
| Membership and effectiveness of Sustainable Claremont  | Increasing Trend   | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Permanent Green Page on City Website created, maintained and actively used   | 3,500 Hits Annually  | City                                     |
| Number of programs in local schools/year   | Increasing Trend   | Sustainable Claremont                    |
| Number of festivals, home/facility tours and other public events provided  | Increased Attendance and Diversity of Attendees                          | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Quantity of public information documents distributed to community  | TBD  | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Level of community involvement by all citizens, especially as it relates to sustainability issues                              | Increasing Trend   | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Percentage of Claremont residents who are aware of the sustainability efforts for Claremont and understand their impact        | Increasing trend   | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Number of community and stakeholder groups involved in sustainability efforts  | Increasing Quantity and Diversity  | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Media coverage of Claremont sustainability efforts   | Minimum 10 per Year  | City and Sustainable Claremont           |
| Formation of a community-wide group to facilitate interaction between groups interested in sustainability                      | Formation of the group   | Sustainable Claremont                    |
| Prepare a coordinated Community Sustainability Plan that engages all major stakeholders in the community                       | Progress in coordinating community-wide planning                         | All major stakeholder groups in the City |

**Table 7. Summary of Actions for Goal Area 7 Outreach & Implementation**

| #           | Description   | Implementation Phase | Feasibility | Cost     | Benefits | Responsible Agency                                       |
|-------------|---|----------------------|-------------|----------|----------|--|
| <b>7.1A</b> | <b>Community Information</b>  |                      |             |          |          |  |
| 7.1.1       | Non-profit website and newsletters- calendar of events, tips, discussion groups, contacts   | 2                    | 1           |          | 5        | Sustainable Claremont. Interfaith Sustainability Council |
| 7.1.2       | Green page on City's website - codes, policies, tips, events, plan, grade card, education, recruitment                                    | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | City   |
| 7.1.3       | Sustainability Best Practices Manual  | 2                    | 2           | \$\$     | 3        | City   |
| 7.1.4       | Sustainability News - City Letter   | 1                    | 1           | -        | 5        | City   |
| 7.1.5       | Monthly Green Sustainability articles   | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.6       | Recycling mailer/City refuse bill stuffer   | 2                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | City - Community Services                                |
| 7.1.7       | Community-wide Sustainability Surveys for (a) residences, and (b) businesses  | 2                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | Colleges, Sustainable Claremont, City                    |
| 7.1.18      | Media Outreach  | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | City, Sustainable Claremont                              |
| <b>7.1B</b> | <b>Community Events to Raise Awareness</b>  |                      |             |          |          |  |
| 7.1.8       | Earth Day Street Fair and Celebration   | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 4        | Sustainable Claremont, City                              |
| 7.1.9       | Sustainability Film Festival or Series  | 3                    | 2           | -        | 4        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.10      | Annual Green Building Tour (Claremont)  | 3                    | 2           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.11      | Citizen Green Building Tour (outside Claremont)   | 4                    | 2           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.12      | Environmental Art Exhibit   | 3                    | 2           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.14      | Zero Waste/Sustainable public events  |                      |             |          |          | City   |
| 7.1.15      | Monthly Speaker Series - Sustainability Dialogs   | 1                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| <b>7.1C</b> | <b>Community Education</b>  |                      |             |          |          |  |
| 7.1.13      | Green/Garden Workshops (\$0-25)   | 2                    | 2           | -        | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.14      | Green Building/Renovation Workshop  | 3                    | 1           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.16      | Develop Sustainability Curriculum with CUSD for use in City schools   | 2                    | 1           | \$       | 4        | Claremont Unified School District, Sustainable Claremont |
| 7.1.17      | Utilize College Interns to perform research and metrics analysis  | 2                    | 1           | -        | 5        | City, Sustainable Claremont                              |
| 7.1.22      | Sustainable Claremont Sustainability booth at fairs and Farmers' Market   | 2                    | 1           | -        | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| <b>7.1D</b> | <b>Sustainability Promotionals</b>  |                      |             |          |          |  |
| 7.1.19      | Environmental Mini-Grant Program  | 3                    | 2           | \$\$     | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.20      | Light Bulb Exchange Program   | 3                    | 2           | \$       | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.21      | Seek funding for and create a "brick and mortar" outreach center to promote sustainability-related programs to public                     | 3                    | 4           | \$\$\$   | 3        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| 7.1.22      | Develop an awards program for achievements in sustainability  | 1                    | 1           | 1        | 5        | Sustainable Claremont                                    |
| <b>7.2</b>  | <b>Implementation Plan</b>  |                      |             |          |          |  |
| 7.2.1       | Create City staff "Green Team"  | 1                    | 1           | \$\$     | 5        | City   |
| 7.2.2       | Create Ongoing Sustainability Committee   | 1                    | 2           | \$\$     | 5        | City   |
|             | Facilitate the creation of a non-profit community-based group to implement the "Go-green" mission from the implementation plan            | 1                    | 3           | \$\$     | 5        | City   |
| 7.2.4       | Consider increasing staffing to employ full-time staff member dedicated to sustainability and implementation of the Sustainable City Plan | 1                    | 2           | \$\$\$\$ | 5        | City   |

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**7.3 Progress Assessment**

|       |   |   |   |      |   |          |
|-------|---|---|---|------|---|----------|
| 7.3.1 | Create a series of approximately 12 primary indicators for use in annual sustainability report card | 2 | 2 | \$\$ | 3 | City     |
| 7.3.2 | Create a carbon footprint analysis for the City and wider community                                 | 3 | 2 | \$\$ | 3 | City     |
| 7.3.3 | Create an ecological footprint for the entire community   | 4 | 3 | \$\$ | 4 | Colleges |

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**Key:** *Implementation Phase: 1 to 4 with 1 being earliest and 4 being last (based on complexity, level of controversy, and urgency)*  
*Feasibility: 1 to 5 with one being easy and 5 being very difficult to implement*  
*Benefits: 1 to 5 with 1 being low benefit to 5 being very high benefit*

# C. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

## **From Planning to Action**

We must act. Without action, the Claremont Sustainable City Plan would simply sit on a shelf and collect dust rather than help our community reach its sustainability goals. This implementation plan is intended to integrate best sustainable practices into the everyday actions of the entire community. Because sustainability is a long-term goal that will take many years to achieve, we must continually monitor our progress and update our practices to continue making progress.

This implementation plan is designed to engage both City government and the wider community in achieving the goals of the Claremont Sustainable City Plan. It seeks to realize potential long range benefits to the City and community-at-large while minimizing impacts on the City's budget and community resources. This implementation plan is also designed to assist Claremont to transition from the current "status quo", which mounting evidence is increasingly showing to be unsustainable, to a future where sustainable practices are standard operating procedures for both the City and community.

**Table E-1**

| <b>On-going Plan Implementation Schedule</b>  |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. City Manager develops work plan for sustainability for future budgets based on progress updates  | Biennially                    |
| 2. Sustainability Committee meets to review annual grade card and assess progress                   | Approximately four times/year |
| 3. Annual Grade Cards issued  | Annually in January           |
| 4. Sustainability Plan updated periodically (additional committee meetings required in these years) | Every four years              |

## **On-Going Implementation Activities**

Policies and actions implemented will be revised from time-to-time to ensure continued relevance and effectiveness. Recurring activities include:

- Quarterly City Sustainability Committee meetings to gauge the City's progress toward implementing the Claremont Sustainability Plan.
- Creation of an annual Sustainability Grade Card that measures progress toward leading indicator goals contained in the Plan and provides an opportunity for community-wide input on what is or is not working well in the Plan.
- Updating of the Claremont Sustainable City Plan every four years, including an analysis of the most competitive practices.

## **Maintaining Relevance - Plan Updates Every Four Years**

Without a mechanism for regular assessment and updates, this plan would eventually become outdated and run the risk of becoming irrelevant. New information regarding sustainability, advancements in technology, and a better understanding of what works and doesn't work in our community will all affect the City's options, priorities and planning. For this reason, the Claremont Sustainable City Plan shall be updated every four years and more often if warranted by significant changes in knowledge, science, or measured effectiveness of our efforts. Consideration of worthy updates should be an ongoing activity.

## **Measuring Our Progress - Annual Sustainability Report Card**

In our review of the best practices of other municipal sustainability plans, we found that public report cards are effective in ensuring that the public, decision makers, and opinion leaders know how we are doing in implementing our plan. We believe that an annual evaluation of our progress is a crucial component of implementing the Claremont Sustainable City Plan. This plan therefore requires the City Council to approve an annual Report Card that describes our progress towards the indicators and indicator targets described in the goal areas.

### **Report Card Process**

Relevant data shall be collected and organized by staff into a draft Report Card. This draft will then be reviewed by the City's Citizen Oversight Sustainability Committee, who will then forward an advisory recommendation to the City Council. The City Council will then adopt the Report Card.

The Report Card shall be designed to help the public understand the current status of major areas of concern, whether the situation around each is improving or worsening, and how far we are from success. Public input shall be solicited and relevant data included in the Report Card. The Report Card shall focus on the most effective indicators; those that are relevant, easy to understand, reliable and based on readily accessible data.

The format and details of the report card shall be developed by City staff, but it shall be based on the actions and indicators set forth in this document. The report card will tell us how we measure up to this plan, and enable us to make adjustments according to what is working and what isn't.

The Annual Sustainability Report Card should be the most current, comprehensive measure of how we are doing as a community – economically, culturally, and environmentally. It should be the most effective way to quantify our progress towards sustainability. Annual scores on each of the indicators are intended to be the subject of enthusiastic attention and discussion among all sectors of the community.

## **Implementation Plan – Implementing Bodies**

The Task Force that originally developed this plan was dissolved when the plan was adopted. In place of the Task Force, this Implementation Plan establishing three new

bodies to carry out this Sustainable City Plan/vision: a committed group of City staff (“Green Team”), a citizen oversight committee (“Sustainability Committee”), and a community-based, non-governmental organization (“Sustainable Claremont, Inc.”). In adopting this Plan, the City Council authorized formation of these groups and delegated portions of responsibility for implementing the Claremont Sustainability Plan to each of them.



**Figure 1**  
Each of these three implementing bodies is described in detail below.

### **City Staff - “Green Team”**

The City Manager shall appoint a “Green Team” consisting of staff from affected City departments. The City Manager’s Green Team will be responsible for developing and coordinating sustainability strategies, and for reporting on the City’s and community’s progress toward the sustainability goals and targets contained in the approved Sustainable City Plan.

The City Manager shall continue the staff position titled, “Sustainability Coordinator”, which is charged with coordinating implementation of the Sustainable City Plan and coordinating the efforts of the Green Team. The Sustainability Coordinator may also be charged with coordinating efforts in the community-at-large and assisting in maintaining the viability of “Sustainable Claremont”, which is described below.



The Green Team's mission shall include an emphasis on community education and outreach with a specific focus on implementing the Plan's Community Education/Outreach goals. The City budget shall provide sufficient funding/resources to support the community education and outreach activities of the Public Information Coordinator and the Sustainability Coordinator.

**Duties of the "Green Team" shall include:**

- Implementing the goals and recommended actions that the City is charged with completing in the City Council-approved Sustainable City Plan.
- Preparing the annual Sustainability Report Card and related reports.
- Staffing the Sustainability Committee.
- Soliciting community input during preparation of the annual Report Cards and Plan update.
- Providing public education and outreach on City-related sustainability issues.
- Leading City staff and the wider community by consistently demonstrating a commitment to sustainable practices.

## **Citizen Oversight - “Sustainability Committee”**

Concurrent with the approval of this plan, the City Council shall authorize the creation of a Sustainability Committee with the role of providing citizen oversight for the City’s sustainability efforts as called for in the General Plan (Implementation Measure II-5). The Sustainability Committee is intended to act in advisory, oversight and advocacy capacities for the City regarding sustainability issues.

1. The Sustainability Committee shall be a standing committee consisting of nine members appointed by the City Council. Appointees shall be supportive of the goals of the Claremont Sustainability Plan. Sustainable Claremont should be represented in the Sustainability Committee membership.
2. Terms of service for Sustainability Committee members shall be four years staggered with two-year spacing to ensure membership continuity. Additional terms for members may be approved by the City Council.
3. Sustainability Committee duties will include:
  - Meet semi-annually with the City Manager and Sustainability Coordinator to review the City’s and community’s efforts to implement the Sustainable City Plan.
  - Meet with the leadership of Sustainable Claremont to assess the progress made towards implementing community elements of the Plan, in addition to evaluating and recommending the City’s involvement in proposals that would be advanced with the aid of the City’s involvement, approval, support and/or participation. City involvement might include actions such as permitting, promotion, grant application, and multi-agency or multi-city collaboration.
  - Meet with the City Sustainability Coordinator to review and provide a recommended draft of the City’s Annual Sustainability Report Card.
  - Together with Sustainable Claremont, assist the City Sustainability Coordinator in preparing draft updates to the Sustainable City Plan every four years. Preparation of these updates should include holding public meetings and taking public comments throughout the process to assure adequate public input prior to City Council approval.
  - Provide support to the advocacy endeavors of the City Council, Sustainable Claremont, City staff and others in their roles to attain growing public interest and knowledge in and measurable achievement the City’s sustainability goals.

## Community Involvement: “Sustainable Claremont”

Sustainable Claremont incorporated in 2009 as a 501c3 community-based charitable organization in order to help fulfill the vision of the Claremont Sustainable City Plan.

**Sustainable Claremont’s mission** includes assuming community-wide coordinating and leadership roles contained in the Community Outreach & Education Goals of Goal Area 7 (above). Sustainable Claremont advocates for adoption of sustainability practices by all community constituencies via newsletters, fairs, workshops, incentives, expert speakers, eco-grants and other outreach and education strategies appropriate to engage the community. It also identifies and promotes best sustainable practices from other communities so that Claremont can continually improve its level of sustainability.

1. **Membership in Sustainable Claremont** is open to all interested in increasing sustainability in Claremont. Sustainable Claremont board members represent a broad range of Claremont constituencies and have knowledge, experience, and/or expertise in areas related to the implementation of sustainability goals, including the Community Outreach & Education and implementation goals contained in the Sustainable City Plan.
2. **In order to help fund the operations of Sustainable Claremont**, the City’s approved budget designates \$5,000 in FY 2013-14 to fund the activities of Sustainable Claremont. Continued funding after that is at the discretion of the City Council. Sustainable Claremont is also expected to continue securing additional funding from its own development activities (i.e., donations, sponsorships, and membership dues).
3. **The Sustainability Coordinator will serve as the City’s liaison to Sustainable Claremont** and will manage the funding and support provided by the City. The City’s Sustainability Coordinator will report Sustainable Claremont’s progress toward its goals to the City Manager regularly. Sustainable Claremont should also provide an annual update on activities, achievements and performance indicators for inclusion in the City’s Annual Sustainability Report Card.
4. **The responsibilities of “Sustainable Claremont” shall include the following:**
  - Advocate for community-wide commitment to sustainability best practices.
  - Educate the public to increase awareness of sustainability issues and increase public participation.
  - Work with local schools to develop effective program and curriculum sections.
  - Provide high caliber speakers to educate the public regarding sustainability issues.
  - Work closely with the City’s Sustainability Coordinator to achieve the community outreach and education goals specified in the City Sustainability Plan.
  - Provide community service related to sustainability.
  - Seek grants and donations for sustainability-related efforts.
  - Make recommendations regarding any City-funded sustainability mini-grants, if such a program is created and funded.

- Engage and coordinate between all sustainability-related organizations within the community.
- Help establish and publicize community sustainability priorities to focus public awareness on important or timely issues.
- Coordinate/partner with appropriate regional and global organizations with shared sustainability missions.
- Help facilitate implementation of the goals in this Plan, especially those that are community-oriented.

As recommended in this Plan by the City Council, Sustainable Claremont has incorporated and operated successfully for several years.

# Appendix A

## ASSESSING AND PRIORITIZING ACTIONS

The Task Force and Committees that created this Sustainable City Plan spent a great deal of time identifying actions that could potentially help the City and community reach its sustainability goals. Once identified, the groups utilized a variety of methods for ranking and prioritizing potential actions so that they could be pursued in an orderly and effective manner.

Figure 1 below is a form that was used by the original City Task Force to describe and rate potential actions. The final forms represented the consensus of the task force and were fed directly to the action tables of the original Sustainable City Plan.

**City of Claremont - Sustainability Task Force**  
**Summary Sheet for Sustainability Policies, Ordinances, or Actions**

Action Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Goal Area: (Identify all affected goal areas 1-7): \_\_\_\_\_  
Goal Number(s): Identify by # any goals that this action implements: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEASIBILITY RATING FOR ACTION**

**Reach of Measure** (Check all that apply):

1.  municipal corporation
2.  community wide
3.  other group (Specify Group): \_\_\_\_\_

**Complexity of Measure** (Check One):

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Simple and Non-controversial        | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Difficult & Non-Controversial |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Simple and Controversial            | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Difficult & Controversial     |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Simple & Non-controversial | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Difficult & Non-controversial          |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat Simple & Controversial     | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Difficult & Controversial              |

**Time Required to Implement Action** (Check One):

1.  Less than 3 months
2.  3 to 6 months
3.  6 months to 1 Year
4.  12 – 24 months
5.  2-5 years

**Compliance Method:**  Voluntary or  Mandatory

**Appropriateness for City Involvement** (Check One):

1.  High - Clearly Part of City's Mission
2.  Medium - Mixed - Some Cities See it as Their Mission Others Do Not
3.  Low - Not Typically within Mission of City Government - Should be handled by Others (Specify Others if Known): \_\_\_\_\_

**Overall Feasibility Rating** (Check One):

1.  Very Easy to Implement
2.  Somewhat Easy to Implement
3.  Challenging to Implement
4.  Difficult to Implement
5.  Extremely Difficult to Implement

Action #: \_\_\_\_\_ (Office Use Only) Revised 5/6/2008

Figure 1

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Conflicts With Other Sustainability Goals:</b> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> specify goal #(s): _____                   |  |
| <b>Synergies with other Sustainability Goals: (Describe):</b> _____   |  |
| <b>Responsible Agency(ies):</b><br>City: Department, Division, Staff Person: _____<br>Community Group/Stakeholder Group: _____<br>Other Agency: _____ |  |
| <b>Model Cities that have successfully implemented a similar action:</b> _____  |  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Estimated Costs/Savings (City)</b><br>Initial Capital Costs: _____<br>Initial Staff Costs: _____<br>Life Cycle Savings: _____<br><b>Estimated Costs/Savings(Others)</b><br>Initial Capital Costs: _____<br>Initial Staff Costs: _____<br>Life Cycle Savings: _____<br><b>Total Cost Rating(\$-\$\$\$\$\$):</b><br><b>Rating Key:</b><br>\$ Little or no Cost<br>\$\$ Low Cost<br>\$\$\$ Moderate Cost<br>\$\$\$\$ Costly<br>\$\$\$\$\$ Very Costly or Cost Prohibitive | <b>Estimated Benefits:</b><br><small>(rated on scale of 1-5, 1 being small benefit, 5 being large benefit -- Negative Numbers may be used)</small><br>Raises Public Awareness: _____<br>Reduces Greenhouse Gases: _____<br>Reduces Energy Consumption: _____<br>Reduces Water Consumption: _____<br>Reduces Solid Waste: _____<br>Reduces Toxics/Hazards: _____<br>Reduces Negative Environ. Impacts: _____<br>Improves Air Quality: _____<br>Improves Local Economy: _____<br>Improves or Restores Natural Habitats: _____<br>Improves Housing Affordability: _____<br>Improves Public Health (Diet/Exercise): _____<br>Improves Public Participation: _____<br>Reduces Vehicle Miles Traveled: _____<br>Increase Renewable Energy: _____<br>Maintains or Improves Social/Cultural Climate of the City: _____<br>Other Benefits: _____<br><b>Total Estimated Benefits (1-5):</b> _____<br><small>Note: (Total should be a general estimate of the magnitude of benefits offered by one action relative to the benefits offered by other actions)</small> |
|---|---|

|  |
|--|
| <b>Subcommittee Recommendation:</b><br><b>Implementation of this Action by the City is:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended <input type="checkbox"/> Not Recommended<br><b>The Implementation Priority Should Be:</b> <i>(Check a priority only for "Recommended" actions):</i><br>1. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Just Do It!</b> Simple, Low Cost, Non-Controversial Actions that Can and Should be Implemented Immediately (aka "Low Hanging Fruit")<br>2. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Highest Priority:</b> Should be implemented as soon as possible<br>3. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Medium Priority:</b> Measures that are important and somewhat easy to implement but should be addressed after highest priority items are addressed<br>4. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Low Priority:</b> Complex or politically difficult actions that will take more than 2 years to implement or whose benefits do not comfortably outweigh their cost or political issues |
|--|

Action Summary Sheet
Page 2

**Figure 2**