Sustainable City Plan
City of Santa Monica








Created to enhance our resources, prevent harm to the natural environment and human health, and benefit the social and economic well-being of the community for the sake of current and future generations.

Adopted September 20, 1994
Update Adopted February 11, 2003
Revised October 24, 2006

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City of Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica
A Sustainable Community
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Introduction

We live in a time in which increased population growth, high levels of consumption and the desire to feed growing economies have created escalating demands on our resources - natural, human and social - on a local, regional, and global scale.

These demands negatively impact the natural environment, our communities and the quality of our lives. In the face of these challenges, people worldwide have developed a growing concern for the environment and a desire to live sustainably.

In 1994 the Santa Monica City Council took steps to address these pressures locally by adopting the Santa Monica Sustainable City Program. The Sustainable City Program was initially proposed in 1992 by the City's Task Force on the Environment to ensure that Santa Monica can continue to meet its current needs - environmental, economic and social - without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. It is designed to help us as a community begin to think, plan and act more sustainably - to help us address the root causes of problems rather than the symptoms of those problems, and to provide criteria for evaluating the long-term rather than the short-term impacts of our decisions - in short, to help us think about the future when we are making decisions about the present.

The program includes goals and strategies, for the City government and all sectors of the community, to conserve and enhance our local resources, safeguard human health and the environment, maintain a healthy and diverse economy, and improve the livability and quality of life for all community members in Santa Monica. To check our progress toward meeting these goals, numerical indicators were developed and specific targets were set for the city to achieve by the year 2000 in four goal areas - **1)** Resource Conservation, **2)** Transportation, **3)** Pollution Prevention and Public Health Protection, and **4)** Community and Economic Development.

In reviewing the progress made since the 1994 adoption of the program, the Task Force on the Environment recognized the need to update and expand the Sustainable City goals and indicators to provide a more complete picture of community sustainability, and to develop new indicator targets for 2010. The Task Force felt that a comprehensive update would allow Santa Monica to build on its initial success and to better address the challenges to sustainability that remain.

The update process began in July 2001 with the formation of the Sustainable City Working Group - a large group of community stakeholders that included elected and appointed officials, City staff, and representatives of neighborhood organizations, schools, the business community and other community groups. The Working Group met numerous times over the course of 15 months to discuss the myriad issues related to the sustainability of the community. They evaluated the long-term sustainability of Santa Monica using a framework comprised of three forms of community capital that need to be managed with care in order to ensure that the community does not deteriorate. These include natural capital – the natural environment and natural resources of the community; human and social capital – the connectedness among people in the community and the education, skills and health of the population; and financial and built capital – manufactured goods, buildings, infrastructure, information resources, credit and debt.

The group proposed significant changes to the initial Sustainable City goals and indicators, and assisted with the creation of new indicator targets. Early drafts of the proposed update were revised based on a large amount of public input received during the summer of 2002.

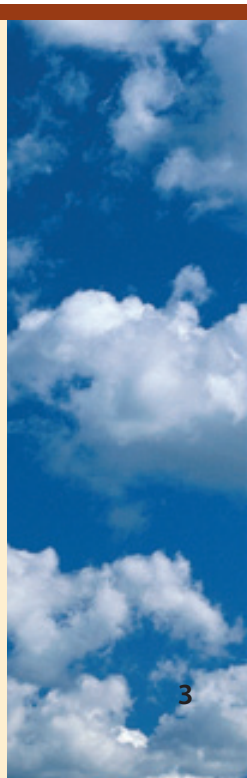
The result of this process is this updated Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan, which represents the community's vision of Santa Monica as a sustainable city. The change in name from Sustainable City Program to Sustainable City Plan was made to better reflect the long-term comprehensive nature of Santa Monica's vision and the community's efforts to become a sustainable city.

Following eleven years of implementation the Santa Monica Sustainable City Program has achieved much success. Many of the initial targets have been met or exceeded and Santa Monica is now recognized as worldwide role model for sustainability. However, we are not "there" yet. While we have made progress in the right direction, Santa Monica's economy and the activities of its residents, businesses, institutions and visitors continue to negatively impact human health and the environment. And our community does not yet provide for the basic needs of all its members. Many challenges remain before Santa Monica can truly call itself a Sustainable City.

"I think any goal this community sets for itself, and is willing to work to accomplish, will be accomplished... whether in my time or another time. That's the beauty of this city."

Ken Edwards, 1941-1985

City Council Member and Mayor



Leadership, Guidance and Implementation of the Sustainable City Plan

The City's Task Force on the Environment assumed the initial leadership role on behalf of the community for the Sustainable City Program.

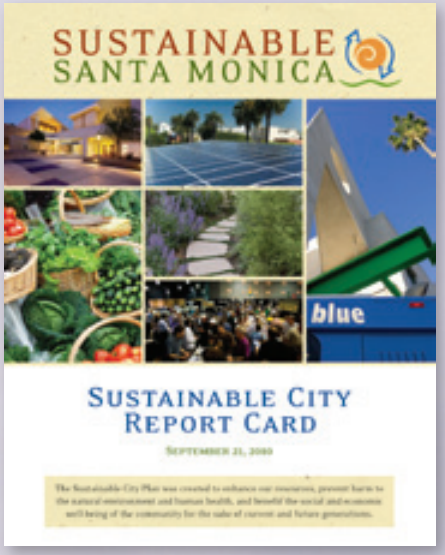
With the update and expansion of the Sustainable City Plan into new and more diverse goal areas, the Task Force on the Environment recommended the creation of a Sustainable City Task Force (SCTF) that includes broad representation from community stakeholders with expertise in all of the SCP goal areas The Sustainable City Task Force was created in 2003 to provide leadership and guidance for implementation of the SCP.

At the City staff level, an interdepartmental Sustainability Advisory Team (SAT) was created to coordinate existing City activities so they are consistent with the Sustainable City goals and facilitate the future implementation of innovative programs and policies to achieve the goals. Members of this group serve as Sustainable City liaisons to their respective departments.

Between them, the SCTF and the SAT are responsible for developing a comprehensive implementation plan for meeting Sustainable City goals and targets, and for coordinating implementation, both interdepartmentally and between the City and community stakeholder groups.

Reporting

Following the City Council adoption of the Sustainable City Plan, the SCTF, SAT and city staff presented Council with a baseline indicators report. Subsequently, the city developed two reporting tools. The tools are intended to provide useful information to City Council, City staff, and community members on progress being made toward meeting goals and targets of the Plan, and will provide a basis for decision-making about policies and actions that influence the City's ability to meet the goals and targets. The first tool is the Sustainable City Progress Report. The second tool is the Sustainable City Report Card.



- The Sustainable City Progress Report is a web based tool that provides current, detailed analysis of the data for each indicator in the Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan. Visit www.sustainablesm.org/scpr

- The Sustainable City Report Card is a summary document that provides an overview of our progress towards, and challenges to, becoming a sustainable community. The Report Card presents goal area summaries and grades based on the specific indicator data.

Together, these two tools are the definitive resource for community decision makers. In order to become a sustainable community all community members must be educated and empowered to achieve our sustainability goals.

Sustainable City Plan Structure

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

The Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan is founded on ten Guiding Principles that provide the basis from which effective and sustainable decisions can be made. These Guiding Principles have been revised and updated from the versions initially adopted in 1994.

GOAL AREAS:

The Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan is organized into eight Goal Areas:


Resource Conservation


Open Space and Land Use


Environmental and Public Health


Housing


Transportation


Community Education and Civic Participation


Economic Development


Human Dignity

GOALS:

Within each Goal Area are specific Goals which comprise the core of the community vision and represent what Santa Monica must achieve in order become a sustainable city.

INDICATORS:

For each goal area specific indicators have been developed to measure progress toward meeting the goals. Indicators are tools that help to determine the condition of a system, or the impact of a program, policy or action. When tracked over time indicators tell us if we are moving toward sustainability and provide us with useful information to assist with decision-making. **Two types of indicators are tracked** as part of the Sustainable City Plan. **System level indicators** measure the state, condition or pressures on a community-wide basis for each respective goal area. **Program level indicators** measure the performance or effectiveness of specific programs, policies or actions taken by the City government or other stakeholders in the community.

Many of the goals and indicators measure more than one area of sustainability. A Goal/Indicator Matrix has been included to demonstrate the linkages between these areas. The amount of overlap shown by the matrix demonstrates the interconnectedness of our community and the far ranging impact of our decisions across environmental, economic and social boundaries.

Specific Targets have been created for many of the indicators. The targets represent aggressive yet achievable milestones for the community. Unless otherwise noted, the targets are for the year 2010 using 2000 as a baseline. For some indicators no specific numerical targets have been assigned. This was done where development of a numerical target was determined to be not feasible or where limits on data type and availability made it difficult to set a numerical target. In many of these cases a trend direction was substituted for a numerical target.

Terms throughout this document that may be unfamiliar to the general reader are defined in a Glossary. Words or phrases defined in the glossary are shown in italics the first time they appear in the document.

Sustainable City Plan
Guiding Principles

1 The Concept of Sustainability Guides City Policy
Santa Monica is committed to meeting its existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The long-term impacts of 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
Santa Monica is committed to protecting, preserving and restoring the natural environment. City decision-making will be guided by a mandate to maximize environmental benefits and reduce or eliminate negative environmental impacts. The City will lead by example and encourage other community stakeholders to make a similar commitment to the environment.

3 Environmental Quality, Economic Health and Social Equity are Mutually Dependent
Sustainability requires that our collective decisions as a city 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 city'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 to the Long-term Sustainability of Santa Monica
The City will ensure that each of its policy decisions and programs are interconnected through the common bond of sustainability as expressed in these guiding principles. The policy and decision-making processes of the City will reflect our sustainability objectives. The City will lead by example and encourage other community stakeholders to use sustainability principles to guide their decisions and actions.

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 Santa Monica, must take responsibility for reducing or eliminating those 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 Santa Monica Recognizes Its Linkage with the Regional, National, and Global Community

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's programs and policies. The City's programs and policies should therefore be developed as models that can be emulated by other communities. The City will also act as a strong advocate for the development and implementation of model programs and innovative approaches by regional, state and federal government that embody the goals of sustainability.

7 Those Sustainability Issues Most Important to the Community Will be Addressed First, and the Most Cost-Effective Programs and Policies Will be Selected

The financial and human resources which are available to the City are limited. The City and the community will reevaluate 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.

8 The City is Committed to Procurement Decisions which Minimize Negative Environmental and Social Impacts

The procurement of products and services by the City and Santa Monica residents, businesses and institutions results in environmental, social and economic impacts both in this country and in other areas of the world. The City will develop and abide by an environmentally and socially responsible procurement policy that emphasizes long-term values and will become a model for other public as well as private organizations. The City will advocate for and assist other local agencies, businesses and residents in adopting sustainable purchasing practices.

9 Cross-sector Partnerships Are Necessary to Achieve Sustainable Goals

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

10 The Precautionary Principle Provides a Complimentary Framework to Help Guide City Decision-Makers in the Pursuit of Sustainability

The Precautionary Principle requires a thorough exploration and careful analysis of a wide range of alternatives, and a full cost accounting beyond short-term and monetary transaction costs. Based on the best available science, the Precautionary Principle requires the selection of alternatives that present the least potential threat to human health and the City's natural systems. Where threats of serious or irreversible damage to people or nature exist, lack of full scientific certainty about cause and effect shall not be viewed as sufficient reason for the City to not adopt mitigating measures to prevent the degradation of the environment or protect the health of its citizens. Public participation and an open and transparent decision making process are critical to finding and selecting alternatives.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION
Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

Across all segments of the community:

1. Significantly decrease overall community consumption, specifically the consumption of non-local, non-renewable, non-recyclable and non-recycled materials, water, and energy and fuels. The City should take a leadership role in encouraging sustainable procurement, extended producer responsibility and should explore innovative strategies to become a zero waste city.

2. Within renewable limits, encourage the use of local, non-polluting, renewable and recycled resources (water, energy - wind, solar and geothermal - and material resources)

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Solid Waste Generation • Total citywide generation (also report per capita and by sector) • Amount landfilled • Amount diverted (recycled, composted, etc) from landfill	**Generation:** Do not exceed year 2000 levels by 2010 **Diversion:** Increase amount diverted to 70% of total by 2010
Water Use • Total citywide use (also report per capita and by sector) • Percent local vs. imported • Potable vs. non-potable	Reduce overall water use by 20% by 2010. Of the total water used, non-potable water use should be maximized Increase percentage of locally-obtained potable water to 70% of total by 2010
Energy Use • Total citywide use (also report per capita and by sector)	(Target pending completion of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Strategy in 2003)

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Renewable Energy use Percent of citywide energy use from renewable and more efficient sources • Total renewable energy use (also report by sector) • Total energy use from clean distributed generation sources in SM (also report by sector)	By 2010 25% of all electricity use in Santa Monica should come from renewable sources By 2010 1% of all electricity use should come from clean distributed generation sources in Santa Monica
Greenhouse Gas Emissions • Total citywide emissions (also report per capita, by source and by sector)	At least 30% below 1990 levels by 2015 for City Operations At least 15% below 1990 levels by 2015 citywide
Ecological Footprint for Santa Monica	Downward trend
Indicator of Sustainable Procurement	Indicator and target developed

Indicators – Program Level	Targets
"Green" Construction Total number of LEED™ certified buildings in Santa Monica as a percent of new construction	**100% of all buildings*** greater than 10,000 square feet eligible for LEED™ certification constructed in Santa Monica in the year 2010 shall achieve LEED™ certification or its equivalent. Of these, 20% should attain LEED™ Silver, 10% LEED™ Gold and 2% LEED™ Platinum certification or equivalent. In addition, 50% of all new, eligible buildings* less than 10,000 square feet constructed in 2010 shall achieve LEED™ certification or its equivalent. *including all municipal construction

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH
Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

1. Protect and enhance environmental health and public health by minimizing and where possible eliminating:
   - The use of hazardous or toxic materials, in particular POPs (persistent organic pollutants) and PBTs (persistent bioaccumulative & toxic chemicals), by residents, businesses and City operations;
   - The levels of pollutants entering the air, soil and water; and
   - The risks that environmental problems pose to human and ecological health.

2. Ensure that no one geographic or socioeconomic group in the City is being unfairly impacted by environmental pollution.

3. Increase consumption of fresh, locally produced, organic produce to promote public health and to minimize resource consumption and negative environmental impacts.

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Santa Monica Bay Number of days Santa Monica beaches are posted with health warnings or closed. Measure for both: • Dry weather months (April -October) • Wet weather months (November-March)	0 warnings and closures at any Santa Monica beach location during dry weather months No more than 3 days with warnings or closures at any Santa Monica beach location on non-rainy days during wet weather months (a target for rainy days during these months will be determined in 2003)
Wastewater (Sewage) Generation • Total citywide generation (also report per capita, and by sector)	Reduce wastewater flows 15% below 2000 levels by 2010
Vehicle Miles Traveled • Total • Local vs. drive-through	Downward trend (no target for local vs. drive through)
Air Quality Percent and demographic profile of Santa Monica residents who live within a ½ mile radius of significant emissions sources	All significant emissions sources in Santa Monica should be identified

Indicators – Program Level	Targets
Residential Household Hazardous Waste • Total volume of household hazardous waste (HHW) collected from Santa Monica residents • Number and Percent of Santa Monica house holds using the City's HHW collection facility • Cumulative number and percent of Santa Monica households using the City's HHW collection facility since 2000	50% cumulative participation rate at the City's HHW collection facility by S.M. households by 2010 (i.e. by 2010 50% of all households in the city will have delivered HHW to the facility since 2000)
City Purchases of Hazardous Materials Volume and toxicity of hazardous material (including POP & PBT containing materials) purchased by the City	(Target to be developed by City staff)
Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC) Releases • Number of facilities in SM permitted to release TACs • Total volume of TACs emitted in SM annually	Complete feasibility study for data availability and collection developed.
Urban Runoff Reduction Percent of permeable land area in the City	Upward trend
Fresh, Local, Organic Produce Percent of fresh, locally-produced, organic produce that is served at City facilities and other Santa Monica institutions (including hospitals, schools, Santa Monica College, and City-sponsored food programs)	Annual increase over baseline
Organic Produce – Farmers Markets Total annual produce sales at Santa Monica farmers' markets • Percent organically grown • Percent grown using low-chemical methods • Percent conventionally grown	Annual increase in percent of organically grown and low-chemical produce sales over baseline
Restaurant Produce Purchases Percent of Santa Monica restaurants that purchase ingredients at Santa Monica farmers' markets	Annual increase over baseline
Food Choices Percent of Santa Monica residents who report that vegetable-based protein is the primary protein source for at least half of their meals	Annual increase over baseline

TRANSPORTATION
Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

1. Create a multi-modal transportation system that minimizes and, where possible, eliminates pollution and motor vehicle congestion while ensuring safe mobility and access for all without compromising our ability to protect public health and safety.

2. Facilitate a reduction in automobile dependency in favor of affordable alternative, sustainable modes of travel.

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Modal Split • Number of trips by type, citywide • Average vehicle ridership (AVR) of Santa Monica businesses with more than 50 employees)	An upward trend in the use of sustainable (bus, bike, pedestrian, rail) modes of transportation AVR of 1.5 by 2010 for Santa Monica businesses with more than 50 employees
Residential Use of Sustainable Transportation Options Percent of residents who have intentionally not used their car but have instead used a sustainable mode of transportation in the past month	Upward trend
Sufficiency of Transportation Options Percent of residents who perceive that the available sustainable modes of transportation in Santa Monica meet their needs	Upward trend
Bicycle Lanes and Paths • Percent of total miles of city arterial streets with bike lanes • Total miles of bike paths in Santa Monica	35% by 2010 No net decrease
Vehicle Ownership Average number of vehicles per person of driving age in Santa Monica • total number of vehicles per person • percent of total that are qualified low emission / alternative fuel vehicles	10% reduction in the average number of vehicles per person by 2010 Upward trend in % of qualified low emission / alternative fuel vehicles

Indicators – Program Level	Targets
Bus Ridership • Annual ridership on Santa Monica Big Blue Bus (BBB) • Percent of residents who have ridden the BBB in the past year • Percent of residents who have ridden the Tide shuttle in the past year • Annual ridership on MTA routes originating in Santa Monica	Upward trend (All points)
Alternative Fueled Vehicles Percent of the City's non-emergency fleet vehicles using alternative fuels • Public works vehicles • BBB vehicles • Non emergency police and fire vehicles	(City staff to develop target)
Traffic Congestion • Number of signalized intersections with unacceptable motor vehicle congestion (LOS D, E or F) during peak hours • Level of service (LOS) for sustainable modes of transportation at impacted intersections • Locally classified streets that exceed City thresholds for traffic levels	Downward trend Upward trend Downward trend
Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Number of bicycle and pedestrian collisions involving motor vehicles	Downward trend
Traffic Impacts to Emergency Response Average emergency response times for public safety vehicles • Police • Fire	No upward trend

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

1. Nurture a diverse, stable, local economy that supports basic needs of all segments of the community.

2. Businesses, organizations and local government agencies within Santa Monica continue to increase the efficiency of their use of resources through the adoption of sustainable business practices. The City takes a leadership role by developing a plan by 2005 to increase the adoption of sustainable practices by Santa Monica businesses and encouraging sustainable businesses to locate in Santa Monica.

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Economic Diversity Percent of total economic activity/output by business sector (expressed as a percent of total wages)	No single sector shall be greater than 25% of total economic activity/output; and the top three sectors shall not be greater than 50% of total economic activity/output
Business Reinvestment in the Community (indicator developed in 2007)	Annual increase in reinvestment by businesses
Jobs / Housing Balance • Ratio of the number of jobs in Santa Monica to the amount of housing • Percent of Santa Monica residents employed in Santa Monica	Ratio should approach 1 Increasing trend
Cost of Living Santa Monica household incomes in relation to Santa Monica cost of living index (SMCOLI)	(no target)
Quality Job Creation Number of net new jobs created in Santa Monica that pay greater than or equal to the SMCOLI as a percent of total new jobs created	Increasing trend

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Income Disparity • Percent of Santa Monica households earning less than $25,000/year • Percent of households earning more than $100,000/year	(no target)
Resource Efficiency of Local Businesses • Ratio of energy use to total economic activity by business sector • Ratio of total water use to total economic activity by business sector	Downward trend

Indicators – Program Level	Targets
Local Employment of City Staff • Percent of City employees who live in SM • Distance City employees travel to work	(no target)

OPEN SPACE AND LAND USE

Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

1. Develop and maintain a sufficient open space system so that it is diverse in uses and opportunities and includes natural function/wildlife habitat as well as passive and active recreation with an equitable distribution of parks, trees and pathways throughout the community.

2. Implement land use and transportation planning and policies to create compact, mixed-use projects, forming urban villages designed to maximize affordable housing and encourage walking, bicycling and the use of existing and future public transit systems.

3. Residents recognize that they share the local ecosystem with other living things that warrant respect and responsible stewardship.

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Open Space • Number of acres of public open space by type (including beaches, parks, public gathering places, gardens, and other public lands utilized as open space) • Percent of open space that is permeable	Upward trend Upward trend
Trees • Percent of tree canopy coverage by neighborhood • Percent of newly planted and total trees that meet defined sustainability criteria* *developed in 2007	Upward trend Target to be developed
Parks - Accessibility Percent of households and population within ¼ and ½ mile of a park by neighborhood	Upward trend in park accessibility for Santa Monica residents
Land Use and Development Percent of residential, mixed-use projects that are within ¼ mile of transit nodes and are otherwise consistent with Sustainable City Program goals	Upward trend
Regionally Appropriate Vegetation Percent of new or replaced, non-turf, public landscaped area and non-recreational turf area planted with regionally appropriate plants	Target to be developed

HOUSING

Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

1. Achieve and maintain a mix of affordable, livable and green housing types throughout the city for people of all socioeconomic/cultural/household groups (including seniors, families, singles, and disabled).

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Availability of Affordable Housing Percent of all existing and new housing in Santa Monica affordable to very low, low, moderate, and upper income households	(Target developed by City staff in 2008 with the next update of the City's Housing Element)
Distribution of Affordable Housing Distribution of low income housing by neighborhood	(no target)

Indicators – Program Level	Targets
Affordable Housing for Special Needs Groups Number of new or rehabilitated affordable housing units for families, seniors, the disabled and other special needs groups as a percentage of all new or rehabilitated affordable housing development	Upward trend
Production of "Livable" Housing Distribution of low income housing by • Number of new housing units in non-residential zone districts as a percentage of the total new housing • Percent of new units within ¼ mile of: • transit stop • open space • grocery store	Upward trend
Production of "Green" Housing Percent of new and substantially-rehabilitated housing that complies with Green Building Ordinance #1995 as a percentage of the total new and rehabilitated housing	Upward trend

COMMUNITY EDUCATION & CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

1. Community members of all ages participate actively and effectively in civic affairs and community improvement efforts.

2. Community members of all ages understand the basic principles of sustainability and use them to guide their decisions and actions - both personal and collective.

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Voter Participation Percent of registered Santa Monica voters who vote in scheduled elections. Compare to voter participation rates at the regional and national levels.	Increase SM voter participation to 50% in off year elections by 2010
Participation in Civic Affairs Percent of Santa Monica residents who have attended a city-sponsored meeting of any kind in the past year, including City Council meetings, City Commission meetings, or special-topic workshops	Upward trend
Jobs / Housing Balance Percent of Santa Monica residents who feel that they have the opportunity to voice their concerns in the city on major community decisions that affect their lives	Upward trend
Cost of Living Percent of Santa Monica residents who attend community events such as the Santa Monica Festival, a summer concert at the Pier, an event at Virginia Avenue Park, a neighborhood block party, a weekly farmers' market	Upward trend
Quality Job Creation Percent of Santa Monica residents volunteering and total hours volunteered in selected City funded public benefit programs	Upward trend

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Participation in Neighborhood Organizations Percent of Santa Monica residents that are active members in recognized neighborhood organizations (by neighborhood)	Upward trend
Sustainable Community Involvement Percent of Santa Monica residents who are aware of the Ecological Footprint for Santa Monica and understand their contribution to it	25% by 2010
Sustainable Community Involvement Percent of Santa Monica residents who have an understanding of how each Sustainable City goal area is a component of a sustainable community and the extent to which this affects their decisions	Upward trend

HUMAN DIGNITY

Goals, Indicators and Targets

Goals

Santa Monica will be a community in which:

1. All its members are able to meet their basic needs and are empowered to enhance the quality of their lives; and

2. There is access among community members to housing, health services, education, economic opportunity, and cultural and recreational resources; and

3. There is respect for and appreciation of the value added to the community by differences among its members in race, religion, gender, age, economic status, sexual orientation, disabilities, immigration status and other special needs

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Basic Needs – Shelter • Number of homeless living in Santa Monica • Percent of Santa Monica homeless population served by the city shelter that transition to permanent housing	(no target) Upward trend
Basic Needs – Health Care • Percent of residents with health insurance • Capacity of local health service providers to meet the basic health care needs of Santa Monica residents	Upward trend Upward trend
Basic Needs – Economic Opportunity Percent of Santa Monica residents who work more than 40 hours per week in order to meet their basic needs	Downward trend
Basic Needs – Public Safety Crime rate per capita – report by neighborhood/ reporting district, and by type (property, violent, hate)	Downward trend
Residents' Perception of Safety Percent of residents who feel that Santa Monica is a safe place to live and work	Upward trend

Indicators – System Level	Targets
Incidents of Abuse • Number of incidents of abuse (domestic, child, and elder abuse) • Percent of cases prosecuted	Downward trend Upward trend
Incidents of Discrimination • Number of reports regarding employment and housing discrimination • Number of cases prosecuted	Upward trend Downward trend
Education/Youth • SMMUSD student drop-out rates • SMMUSD student suspension rates • SMMUSD student substance abuse rates • Percent of SMMUSD students who feel safe at school • Percent of SMMUSD students that enroll in college or university • SMMUSD students enrolled in advanced placement courses and percent that receive passing grades	Downward trend Downward trend Downward trend Upward trend Upward trend Upward trend
Empowerment Women, minorities and people with disabilities in leadership positions • business • local government • non-profit organizations	Upward trend
Ability to Meet Basic Needs Percent of residents who perceive that needs are not being met for: • Individual and family counseling • Emergency food, clothing, shelter • Employment services and job training • Recreation and services for youth • Health care • Substance abuse treatment / prevention • Affordable housing • Seniors and people with disabilities • Transportation and mobility	Downward trend in all areas

GOAL/INDICATOR MATRIX

While each indicator was developed to measure progress toward meeting targets in one of eight goal areas, many indicators measure our progress in several goal areas. This matrix demonstrates the linkages between each of the goal areas and the impact of our decisions across environmental, economic and social boundaries. For each indicator listed dots are shown in the columns for every goal area the indicator influences.

INDICATORS

Resource Conservation Indicators	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Solid waste generation	•			•				
Water use	•	•		•			•	
Energy use	•	•	•	•		•		
Renewable energy use	•	•		•			•	
Greenhouse gas emissions	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Ecological Footprint for Santa Monica	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Indicator of sustainable procurement	•	•		•	•			
"Green" construction	•	•	•			•		
Environmental and Public Health Indicators	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Santa Monica Bay – beach closures		•			•		•	
Wastewater (sewage) generation	•	•		•				
Vehicle miles traveled	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Air quality	•	•	•	•				
Residential household hazardous waste		•						
City purchases of hazardous materials		•						
Toxic air contaminant releases		•						
Urban runoff reduction	•	•	•		•			
Fresh, local, organic produce		•	•	•				
Organic produce – Farmer's markets		•	•	•				
Restaurant produce purchases		•	•	•				
Food choices	•	•	•	•				
Transportation Indicators	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Modal split	•	•	•		•			
Residential use of sustainable trans. options	•	•	•		•		•	
Sufficiency of transportation options			•					
Bicycle lanes and paths			•		•			
Vehicle ownership	•	•	•	•				
Bus ridership	•	•	•					
Alternative fueled vehicles – City fleet	•	•	•					
Traffic congestion			•	•	•			
Pedestrian and bicycle safety			•					
Traffic impacts to emergency response			•	•	•			

INDICATORS

Economic Development	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Economic diversity				•				
Business reinvestment in the community				•			•	
Jobs / Housing balance			•	•		•		•
Cost of living				•		•		•
Quality Job Creation				•				•
Income disparity				•				•
Resource efficiency of local businesses	•	•		•				
Local employment of City staff			•	•		•		
Open Space and Land Use	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Open Space		•			•			
Trees	•	•			•			
Parks - Accessibility			•		•	•	•	
Land Use and Development			•		•	•		
Regionally appropriate vegetation	•				•			
Housing	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Availability of affordable housing				•		•		•
Distribution of affordable housing				•	•	•		•
Affordable housing for special needs groups						•		•
Production of “livable” housing	•		•	•	•	•		
Production of “green” housing	•	•				•		
Community Education and Civic Participation	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Voter participation							•	
Participation in civic affairs							•	
Empowerment							•	•
Community involvement					•		•	
Volunteering							•	
Participation in neighborhood organizations							•	
Sustainable community involvement 1	•	•	•		•			
Sustainable community involvement 2	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Human Dignity	**RC**	**EPH**	**T**	**ED**	**OSLU**	**H**	**CECP**	**HD**
Basic Needs - Shelter					•	•		•
Basic Needs – Health Care								•
Basic Needs – Economic Opportunity				•				•
Basic Needs – Public Safety								•
Residents’ perception of safety								•
Incidents of abuse								•
Incidents of discrimination						•		•
Education / Youth								•
Empowerment				•				•
Ability to meet basic needs				•	•	•		•

Glossary

active recreation: recreational opportunities including sports and other activities that typically require playing fields, facilities or equipment.

affordable housing: any housing that is deed restricted for, and occupied by, households earning less than 120% of the Los Angeles County median family income.

alternative fuel vehicles: vehicles that operate on fuels other than gasoline or diesel. Alternative fuel vehicles include those that operate using compressed natural gas (CNG), liquid natural gas (LNG), propane, electricity, hybrid of gasoline and electricity, and hydrogen.

alternative (and/or sustainable) modes of transportation: for the purpose of this document alternative (and/or sustainable) modes of transportation include transportation by public transit (bus or rail), bicycle, walking, or alternative fuel vehicles.

average vehicle ridership (AVR): a measurement of vehicle occupancy indicating the average number of persons traveling in a measured number of vehicles. AVR is an indicator of the effectiveness of and participation in ridesharing programs

bike lane/path/route: As defined in the City's Bicycle Master Plan, a bike lane is a signed and striped lane along a roadway for use by bicycles. Other types of bicycle ways in the city are bike paths and bike routes. A bike path is a dedicated bicycle way that completely separates bicycles from motor vehicles. Bike routes are signed routes which bicyclists share with motor vehicles. Bike routes differ from bike lanes in that routes do not include any striping on the roadway - they are only designated by signage.

community: for the purpose of this document, whenever the term community is used it is meant to include the following groups: individuals of all ages, races and abilities; organizations; government agencies; businesses; employers; employees; residents; property owners; renters; visitors; schools; students; public and private service agencies; faith communities; and local media.

companion animals: animals kept by residents in their homes, yards, or other properties, for purposes of providing mutual companionship.

clean distributed generation: distributed generation refers to generation of electricity at or near the location where that electricity will be used. This differs from traditional electricity generation, which occurs at centralized power plants and is distributed over hundreds of miles to millions of customers through the electricity "grid". For the purpose of this document, clean distributed generation (in order of preferred technology type) refers to 1) renewable distributed generation, including electricity generated by solar photovoltaic systems, fuel cells (powered by hydrogen generated from solar, wind, or other non-fossil fuel, renewable energy technologies), and small wind generators; 2) electricity generated by high efficiency (i.e., meeting or exceeding efficiency of large natural gas power plants) natural gas generators and fuel cells using hydrogen generated through a natural gas catalyst; and 3) medium scale, high-efficiency co-generation systems (powered by natural gas) serving many properties located within close proximity of each other. Clean distributed generation does not include electricity generated by gasoline or diesel powered generators.

diversion: in reference to solid waste, diversion refers to all waste that is kept out of a landfill through recycling, beneficial reuse, composting, or other means.

ecological footprint: The ecological footprint is a tool to help measure human impacts on local and global ecosystems. The ecological footprint of a given population (household, community, country) is the total area of ecologically productive land and water used exclusively to produce all the resources (including food, fuel, and fiber) consumed and to assimilate all the wastes generated by that population. Since we use resources from all over the world and affect far away places with our wastes, the footprint is a sum of these

ecological areas – wherever that land and water may be on the planet. Thus the ecological footprint of Santa Monica is that area of productive land inside and outside its borders that is appropriated for its resource consumption or waste assimilation. There is a finite area of ecologically productive land and water on the Earth, which must be shared among 6 billion people as well as all of the planet's other species. The amount of ecologically productive land available globally at today's current population is approximately 5 acres per person. The ecological footprint of the average American is approximately 25 acres, far exceeding the "fair earthshare". The ecological footprint is an excellent tool for illustrating the magnitude of the change necessary for our world to become sustainable. It is also useful for evaluating and comparing the total environmental impact of specific activities and in this way, helpful for decision-making.

environmentally preferable: a product, service, activity or process that has a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared to other products, services, activities or processes that serve the same purpose.

extended producer responsibility: responsibility of producers or manufacturers across the entire life cycle of their products, particularly to the post-consumer stage (after products are discarded and become waste). Typically once a product is sold to a consumer the responsibility of disposing of that product becomes the responsibility of the consumer. Extended producer responsibility requires that the producer of the product maintain responsibility for recycling or proper disposal of the product once it has surpassed its useful life.

green: for the purpose of this document, green is used as shorthand to refer to any environmentally preferable product, activity, service or process.

green housing: housing that meets or exceeds the requirements of the City's Green Building Design and Construction Guidelines.

greenhouse gas (GHG): greenhouse gases are natural and man-made gases in the earth's atmosphere that allow incoming solar radiation to pass through the atmosphere and warm the earth but trap radiant heat given off by the earth. The radiant heat absorbed by these gases heats the atmosphere. This is a natural process known as the "greenhouse effect" that keeps the earth habitable. The four primary greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O) and chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). Since the onset of the industrial period, human activities have lead to sharp increases in the levels of GHGs in the atmosphere, enhancing the greenhouse effect and contributing to rising global temperatures.

hazardous material: a material that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a significant present or potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment.

hazardous waste: a waste or combination of wastes which, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating reversible illness or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety, welfare or to the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, used or disposed of, or otherwise managed.

household hazardous waste (HHW): hazardous waste that is generated by residents through the use of hazardous or potentially hazardous products in the home. Typical household hazardous wastes include spent batteries, cleaning products, pesticides, paints and solvents.

HHW collection facility: a permanent facility maintained by the City for the collection and proper recycling or disposal of hazardous waste generated by Santa Monica residents and small quantities of hazardous waste generated by Santa Monica businesses. This is provided as a free service to Santa Monica residents. The facility is located at 2500 Michigan Avenue. Call (310) 458-8255 for more information.

Income levels: With respect to the indicators of housing affordability the following are definitions of the income levels mentioned in this document:

Very low income: annual earnings between 0 and 50% of the Los Angeles County Median Family income (MFI)

Low income: annual earnings between 51 and 80% MFI

Moderate income: annual earnings between 81 and 120% MFI

Upper income: annual earnings above 120% MFI

LEEDTM certification (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design): A rating system developed by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) that sets definitive standards for what constitutes a green or environmentally preferable building. The certification system is self-assessing and is designed for rating new and existing commercial, institutional, and high-rise residential buildings. It evaluates environmental performance of the entire building over the building's life cycle. LEED certifications are awarded at various levels (certified, silver, gold, and platinum) according to a point-based scoring system.

level of service (LOS): a concept used to describe street intersection operating conditions. It is based on average vehicle delay measurements and/or the volume/capacity ratio of the intersection in question. LOS grades range from A to F with A representing excellent (free-flow) conditions and F representing extreme traffic congestion. For the purpose of this document, LOS grade D represents marginally acceptable levels of traffic and grades E and F represent unacceptable levels. A definition of level of service for sustainable modes of transportation will be developed as part of the update of the Circulation Element of the City's General Plan scheduled for adoption in 2003.

livable housing: housing that is within close proximity to neighborhood serving commercial areas, transit stops and community resources such as parks and open space.

local: the term local has different definitions depending upon the context in which it is used in this document. These are described below:

1) Where local is used in reference to the economy ("local economy" or "local businesses") it refers to Santa Monica's economy or businesses located within Santa Monica.

2) Local government agencies refer to any agencies or departments of the Santa Monica city government.

3) Where local refers to food production ("locally produced") it refers to food grown in the southern half of the state of California.

4) Where local refers to resources, it refers to resources obtained or impacted within a 500-mile radius of Santa Monica.

mixed-use projects: developments which incorporate both residential and commercial uses.

modal split: the split in use of various transportation modes including: single passenger vehicles; carpools of more than one passenger; bus; rail; bicycle; and pedestrian modes.

multi-modal transportation system: a transportation system that includes affordable, alternative modes of transportation such as public transit, and infrastructure and access for alternative fueled vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians, in addition to standard vehicular transportation.

native species: plant or animal species native to the southern California bioregion.

natural function/wildlife habitat: geographic areas that provide life-support-ive functions associated with atmospheric, biological, biochemical and hydrological processes that keep our air and water clean, process waste and support survival and reproduction of plant and animal life.

non-renewable resources: natural resources that have a finite availability worldwide. Examples include coal, oil and other petroleum products.

open space: for the purpose of this document open space refers to all land uses defined as open space in the Open Space Element of the City of Santa Monica's General Plan. These include beaches, parks, public gathering places, usable green open space in street medians, scenic highway corridors, gardens, and other publicly accessible land.

passive recreation: recreational opportunities that occur in a natural setting which require minimal development or facilities, and the importance of the environment or setting for the activities is greater than in developed or active recreation settings.

PBTs (persistent bioaccumulative toxics): chemicals that are toxic, persist in the environment and bioaccumulate in food chains and, thus, pose risks to human health and the environment. The term PBT is used primarily by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), as part of its preparation of a list of such chemicals that will receive special regulatory emphasis in the United States.

POPs (persistent organic pollutants): Organic chemical substances that persist in the environment and bioaccumulate in food chains and pose a risk of causing adverse effects to human health and the environment. The term POPs is commonly used in the context of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and are subject to international negotiations aiming toward their global elimination.
Note: The primary difference between the PBTs and POPs is that the list of PBTs includes non-organic toxins that are not included on the list of POPs.

potable: suitable for drinking

qualified low emission / alternative fuel vehicles: Vehicles recognized by the State of California as being low emission and/or alternative fuel vehicles. These vehicles exceed the basic standards all new vehicles must meet to be sold in California and include low emission vehicles (LEVs), ultra low emission vehicles (ULEVs), super ultra low emission vehicles (SULEVs) and zero emission vehicles (ZEVs). Additional information about these vehicle designations can be found on the internet at http://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/ccbg/ccbg.htm

rainy day: for the purpose of this document, a rainy day is any day with recorded precipitation greater than .1" in 24 hours.
recognized neighborhood organization: Tax-exempt, non-profit organization representing a commonly recognized neighborhood in Santa Monica.

regionally appropriate vegetation: plant and tree species that are environmentally appropriate for the Southern California region and that do not negatively impact native plants or animals. A specific list of regionally appropriate vegetation for Santa Monica will be developed in 2003.

rehabilitated housing: rehabilitation that increases by 25% or more the after-rehab value of the property; or a rehabilitation in which at least fifty percent of exterior walls have been removed or relocated for any duration of time.

renewable limits: harvesting resources within renewable limits refers to harvesting a renewable resource at a rate that is lower than the rate the resource can replace itself (e.g. catching fish at a rate that will allow the fish population to be maintained over time. If too many fish are caught, exceeding renewable limits, the fish population will decline). The terms renewable limits and sustainable limits are synonymous.

renewable resources: natural resources that have an unlimited supply (such as solar radiation) or that can be renewed indefinitely if ecosystem health is maintained (e.g. fisheries or forests).

routine: for the purpose of this document, routine, when describing generation of hazardous waste by City government operations, refers to regular and consistent operational practices such as vehicle maintenance, regular cleaning procedures, etc. Non-routine refers to hazardous waste generated during unanticipated events such as chemical spills or leaks.

Santa Monica cost of living index (SMCOLI): Los Angeles County cost of living for a two-person household adjusted for the cost of housing in Santa Monica. SMCOLI for 2000 is $21,800 (LA County cost of living) x 1.46 = $31,828. The 1.46 multiplication factor refers to the relative cost of housing in Santa Monica as compared to the average for Los Angeles County, based on the Housing Authority Survey of Rents.

significant emissions source: sources of toxic air contaminants and other air emissions that pose a threat to human health and the environment. A specific list of significant emission sources within Santa Monica will be developed in the course of tracking this indicator.

SMMUSD: Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

special needs groups: with respect to affordable housing, special needs groups refers to the elderly, disabled persons, large families, female-headed families, and the homeless.

sustainable: sustainable can mean slightly different things depending on the context in which it is used. For the purpose of this document, the following definitions are used: sustainable (in reference to resource use): a method of harvesting or using a resource so that resource is not depleted or permanently damaged.

sustainable business: for the purpose of this document, sustainable business refers to a business that provides goods and services, and/or has incorporated into its daily operations practices that result in cleaner air and water, less waste and pollution, conservation of energy and natural resources, less traffic, improved quality of life for residents and workers, and contribute to a strong and viable local economy.

sustainable community/city: a community or city that meets its present needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. More specifically, a sustainable community is one that improves and enhances its natural, social and economic resources in ways that allow current and future members of the community to lead healthy, productive and satisfying lives.

sustainable modes of transportation/travel: same as alternative modes of transportation above.

sustainable procurement: procurement of environmentally preferable goods and services in a way that also takes into consideration social responsibility and sustainable economic development issues in the manufacture, transportation, sale and use of those goods and services.

toxic material: a substance that causes illness, injury or death by chemical means. A poison.

toxic air contaminants (TACs): air pollutants which may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or serious illness, or which may pose a present or potential hazard to human health.

transit node: a station for public transportation along a regional transit corridor (usually rail or rapid bus) with access routes for buses, taxis, automobiles, bicycles and pedestrians.

urban villages: mixed-use developments in walkable, livable and transit-oriented districts that balance the need for sufficient density to support convenient, high-frequency transit service within the scale of the adjacent community.

vehicle miles traveled (VMT): one vehicle traveling one mile constitutes a vehicle mile. VMT is primarily an indicator of automobile use. Increasing VMT typically corresponds with increases in traffic and vehicle-related pollution.

zero emissions vehicle (ZEV): motor vehicle that produces neither tailpipe nor evaporative pollutant emissions.

zero waste: recycling or reuse of all natural and man made materials back into nature or the marketplace rather than sending those materials landfills or similar disposal options.

Background

On September 20, 1994 Santa Monica's City Council adopted the city's first Sustainable City Program to ensure that Santa Monica can continue to meet its current environmental, economic and social needs without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. The program has evolved since its adoption and has been responsible for many positive changes in the community. In 2003, City Council adopted an expanded version of the program called the Sustainable City Plan (SCP), which was developed by a diverse group of community stakeholders and lays out far reaching sustainability goals for the community. **(visit www.sustainablesm.org to view the SCP)**.

Measuring Sustainability

In order to reach our goals, community members must be informed, empowered and motivated. Informing the public is our primary job, and two tools were developed for accomplising this task: the Sustainable City Report Card and the Sustainable City Progress Report.

Sustainable City Report Card: The Report Card, which is issued bi-annually, summarizes and grades our progress in meeting the Sustainable City Plan goals. The summaries are very helpful in providing a snapshot of the community's efforts to date and the grades are a tough-minded and fair assessment of how far we have come and what challenges lay ahead. Visit **www.sustainablesm.org/scpr** for the Report Card.

Sustainable City Progress Report: The Progress Report is a comprehensive web-based repository of all the data available to date on indicators used to measure our progress toward sustainability. The Progress Report website is the definitive resource for community decision makers and residents. We encourage you to review this data yourself at **www.sustainablesm.org/scpr** and begin to use the website to help with your decision-making.

For more information please visit **www.sustainablesm.org**

Photographs provided by Greg Peterson, David Cowan, Amy Williams and City Staff

City of Santa Monica

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