



**CITY OF CORVALLIS
COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

AGENDA

**June 11, 2007
5:30 pm**

**Downtown Fire Station
400 NW Harrison Boulevard**

COUNCIL ACTION

I. ROLL CALL

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Mayor/Council/Manager Quarterly Meeting

1. Councilor Discussion (issues/topics not identified below)
2. Sustainability Framework
3. Partnership Criteria
4. Styrofoam Food Container Alternatives for Council and Standing Committee Meetings
5. Relationships Using Self-Evaluation Tools
 - * General and Specific Practices; Code of Conduct
6. Other

III. ADJOURNMENT

For the hearing impaired, a sign language interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Please call 766-6901 or TTD/TDD telephone 766-6477 to arrange for such service.

A LARGE PRINT AGENDA CAN BE AVAILABLE BY CALLING 766-6901

A Community That Honors Diversity

TO: Corvallis City Council

CC: Charles Tomlinson, Mayor
Jon Nelson, City Manager

DATE: June 7, 2007

RE: Quarterly Report of the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with a report on our efforts towards helping you achieve your goal to: “Begin to develop a community-wide sustainability initiative.” We believe that a community-wide comprehensive approach to achieving environmental, economic, and social sustainability in Corvallis is important, and we appreciate that you’re committed to this issue. We also applaud you for committing to it at this time. Moving boldly now will make Corvallis a leader, a model city, so we may be helping others see the importance and benefits of sustainability even as we help ourselves.

Thank you for giving us time on your agenda on April 16, 2007 to present information about the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition and for forming a special council committee to work on this goal. This action will greatly enhance our working together and we welcome your enthusiasm and ideas.

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with a brief update on our progress.

- On April 30, 2007 we sponsored our first **quarterly gathering** of those who have expressed an interest in our work. This was a follow-up to our initial meeting in January 2007. There were over 45 people in attendance at our April 30th meeting, and we received some excellent suggestions that we have begun to implement.
- We have established a **Communications Team** to assist us in our communication efforts, both within our coalition group and with the wider community, and to ensure that we present a consistent message.
- We have sent out an **“Invitation to Participate”** to a number of business, educational, and civic organizations in the community, including the Corvallis-Benton Chamber Coalition, CIBA, OSU, and the League of Women Voters. We plan to have our charter membership confirmed by July.
- Our **task groups** are meeting and continue to work on the development of short-term projects in specific issue areas. The benefits of working as a coalition are manifesting themselves through these projects. For example, the Green Building Task Group is nearing completion of its initial project: the installation of a 1500-gallon rainwater collection system at the First Alternative Co-op South Store. Coalition partners have donated considerable time and resources to create a public demonstration project that will not only have direct benefits to the community,

but has paved the way for a greater interest in such systems by others. The creative forces that came together for this project could only have occurred through the team approach fostered by the coalition.

- We have established a web page with the address:
<http://www.sustainablecorvallis.org>
- In the next few months we will be working on establishing measures of success, deliverables, timelines and indicators of progress for our Steering Committee and for each of our six task groups.

As you review the various approaches to sustainability that have been developed, you will see many common themes and much that is appealing. As indicated in our Vision, Mission and Goals, we plan to operate our coalition under the guiding objectives from the American Planning Association's "Planning for Sustainability Policy Guide," which are based on the Natural Step. For example, using these principles, green buildings are defined as structures that 1) reduce wasteful dependence upon fossil fuels, heavy metals, and minerals that accumulate in nature; 2) reduce wasteful dependence on chemicals and synthetic substances that accumulate in nature; 3) reduce encroachment upon ecosystems; and 4) meet human needs fairly and efficiently.

This is not a blueprint or a rigid prescription; rather, it is a framework on which we can build the kind of sustainable, prosperous community we want. It identifies the goal, and provides a framework for evaluating progress toward that goal. We understand that moving towards becoming a more sustainable community is a process. It is up to us locals to use our judgment and creativity to tailor an approach to fit our own community.

Please contact us if have questions or would like more information. We are delighted to continue to work with you on figuring out how to move Corvallis toward increased sustainability.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

The CSC Ad Hoc Steering Committee

Betty Griffiths
Annette Mills
Maureen Beezhold
Bob Devine
Bruce Hecht
Brandon Trelstad

Linda Lovett
Tracy Noel
Cassandra Robertson
John Sechrest
Marge Stevens
Jason Yaich

MEMORANDUM

5-34-07
For 6/11/07
CC work session.
JAN.

DATE: 29 May 2007
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Councilors Brown, Daniels, & Wershow
SUBJECT: Sustainability Coalition Partnership

The Corvallis Sustainability Coalition would like the City to become a partner in the Coalition. According to their invitation, "participation...is open to local organizations and local citizens who support its vision, mission, and goals." We have attached a draft copy of the Coalition's vision, mission, and goals along with four guiding objectives (attachment A). We request that you review these and come to the June 11 Work Session prepared to comment on them.

- As background for your discussion, we have attached the following:
- a list of relevant statements from the City's 2020 Vision Statement (Attachment B),
 - a copy of the City's Sustainability Policy (Attachment C),
 - our committee's previous report to the council, from our May 7 meeting (Attachment D)
 - Because we felt you might wish to evaluate the Coalition's guiding objectives (from the American Planning Association, based on The Natural Step), we have also attached two other similar lists of guiding objectives or principles (Attachments E & F).

We call your attention to several key points in the goals. One is the aim of an initiative to be adopted by the Council within two years. (Our goal says only that we will "begin to develop" such an initiative.) Another is the question of adopting and implementing "the eco-municipality framework." Information regarding this latter item was provided to us during our goal-setting sessions in January. (Attachment G)

Finally, we would like to ask what we as a Council expect or want from the Coalition. If we choose not to adopt some parts of their draft language, what will be our level of involvement?

A 1

Corvallis Sustainability Coalition: Vision, Mission, and Goals

DRAFT

(Approved by the Ad Hoc Steering Committee 4/9/07)

Vision: Corvallis is a community in which the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It is a flourishing and thriving city that respects, restores, and cares for the community of life.

Mission: To create a sustainable city and county through cooperation, bringing people together to participate in a public process that ultimately engages the entire community.

Goals:

- To accelerate sustainability in our community by working together more effectively.
- To lay the groundwork for a community-wide sustainability initiative that will be adopted by City Council within two years.
- To encourage the city and the county to adopt and implement the eco-municipality framework. (This systems-based approach uses a democratic, highly participative process to achieve community sustainability.)

Guiding Objectives:

1. Eliminate our community's contribution to fossil fuel dependence and to wasteful use of scarce metals and minerals.
(Does this action require the use of non-renewable resources?)
2. Eliminate our community's contribution to dependence upon persistent chemicals and wasteful use of synthetic substances.
(Does this action poison the earth, water, or air?)
3. Eliminate our community's contribution to encroachment upon nature (e.g., land, water, wildlife, forests, soil, ecosystems).
(Does this action interfere with the regenerative capacity of our ecosystem?)
4. Meet human needs fairly and efficiently.
(Is this action fair and equitable?)

(From the American Planning Association's *Planning for Sustainability Policy Guide*, based on The Natural Step)

Corvallis Sustainability Coalition

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

What is sustainability? The City of Corvallis Sustainability Policy, adopted in 2004, defines sustainability as “using natural, financial, and human resources in a responsible manner that meets existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

What is the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition? The Coalition is a network of organizations and citizens in Corvallis and Benton County who are working together to accelerate the creation of a sustainable community. The Coalition was formed in January 2007, following a gathering of representatives of non-profit organizations, businesses, faith communities, educational institutions and government entities – all of whom agreed that we could be more effective if we worked together.

Who is eligible to become a Coalition partner? Participation in the Coalition is open to local organizations and local citizens who support its vision, mission, and goals (see reverse side). There is no fee for participation.

What are the benefits of participating in the Coalition? Coalition partners have an opportunity to increase the effectiveness of their sustainability efforts by:

- Reaching more people through increased communication
- Strengthening support for partners’ initiatives
- Learning from other partners’ successes
- Participating in demonstration projects with community-wide visibility
- Receiving free training in science-based systems approaches to sustainability

What does it mean to be a Coalition partner? Each organizational partner designates a representative to receive communications, attend quarterly Coalition gatherings, and provide input. Partners may also participate by serving on one or more of the Coalition task groups (Land Use, Green Building, Energy, Local Food, Sustainable Economic Development, and Sustainability Education).

How does the Coalition operate? The Coalition Steering Committee guides its work using a modified consensus-based model. (The Ad Hoc Steering Committee will be replaced in January 2008 by a representative group of 12 members.) For significant public positions and significant actions taken on behalf of the Coalition, the Steering Committee will take proposed positions/actions to organizational partners for a vote. Adoption of a proposed position or action will require approval by at least two-thirds of partner organizations that vote.

To become a Coalition partner, simply fill out the form below and mail it to Annette Mills, P.O. Box 1980, Corvallis, OR 97339, or e-mail it to amills@virginiavillageproductions.com.

Corvallis Sustainability Coalition – PARTICIPATION FORM

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Representative: _____ Email: _____

B₁

Corvallis 2020 Vision Statement

We envision that in 2020 Corvallis will be...

- an economically strong and well-integrated city, fostering local businesses, regional cooperation and **clean industry**;
- an **environmentally-aware** community with distinctive open space and natural features, protected habitats, parks and outdoor recreation;
- a highly livable city which employs local benchmarks to measure its progress in areas such as housing, economic vitality, educational quality, **environmental quality**, and overall quality of life;

Who Lives in Corvallis

Corvallis . . . approves growth to the extent that the essential features of compact livability are maintained. Because of diverse housing opportunities all within safe, attractive neighborhood settings; **convenient shops and services**; excellent **transportation choices**; a **clean, quiet environment**; easy **access to open space and recreation** . . . , Corvallis is considered a highly desirable place to live.

Economic Vitality

Corvallis in 2020 is home to a vibrant economy that is anchored by key strategic industries and complemented by a wealth of diverse, **environmentally-friendly** businesses".

Environmentally-Sound Industries

Businesses share the city's commitment to **environmentally sound practices**, and collaborate with community members to maintain and improve the city's **air and water quality**. This is done not only with attention to the businesses' own impact on the **environment**, but by encouraging employee use of **alternative modes of transportation** to and from work. Businesses are sensitive to their use of **natural resources** to produce quality goods, and are responsible stewards of those resources. Ongoing and open dialogue exists between business leaders and other community members concerning **environmental issues** and questions.

Regional Transportation System

Public and private sector collaboration has resulted in a regional transportation system which makes it easy for employees to **walk, cycle or ride mass transit to work**. The regional system also links with the north-south high-speed rail system for those traveling to Eugene, Salem, or Portland. Public and private incentives exist which encourage employees to use mass transit. This, in turn, has **reduced the reliance on the automobile as well as eased traffic congestion and air pollution**.

Commercial Center

The downtown is **pedestrian and bicycle friendly**, with **easy access to mass transit**.

Protecting Our Environment

"Corvallis in 2020 has successfully integrated its economic and population growth with the **preservation of its scenic natural environment, open spaces, clean air and water, wildlife habitat areas**, and recreational opportunities".

Corvallis recognizes the connection between development patterns and **impacts on the environment**. More efficient land-use through higher densities and compact development reduces the amount of land required for development and the negative impacts of an extended infrastructure. Careful design ensures that development minimizes **impacts on plant communities, wildlife habitat** . . . In order to protect the **environment**, our growth rate has not exceeded necessary infrastructure.

Protecting Against Pollution

. . . the City coordinates its **air and water quality** efforts with other communities, surrounding counties, and resource management agencies in the Willamette Valley. This cooperative strategy has created a **cleaner, healthier environment** by stimulating improved farming and forestry techniques for **preserving stream quality, reducing fossil fuel emissions, and significantly reducing the amount and toxicity of emissions**.

Air pollution has been lessened, thanks to **changing attitudes and actions** by residents, strict **environmental regulations**, an increased emphasis on **non-polluting forms of heating and transportation, conservation** and technological advances. The number of daily auto trips and the length of those trips has been significantly reduced by: close **coordination of land use and transportation** decisions creating a **careful mix of uses within neighborhoods**; designing and building neighborhoods that are **safe, easy, and convenient to walk and bicycle in**; and building pedestrian connections between neighborhoods.

The para-transit system has been expanded, and public transit works more successfully with increased ridership and more frequent service between compact pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods. The result is **cleaner air, quieter neighborhoods, and a healthier populace**. Trees have been planted throughout the community . . . for their ability to help **cleanse the air** we breathe.

The community's **water supply**, along with its streams and creeks, are **clean and clear**. **Water conservation** efforts decrease the amount of water city residents consume. **Drinking water** quality has been improved by convincing upstream industries to **stop polluting** the Willamette and its tributaries. **Run off from road, construction and other pollution sources** is collected and treated, if necessary, before being discharged. We guard our precious aquifer closely, by exercising **extreme care in disposing of hazardous wastes**, and we closely follow state and federal **environmental regulations**.

Conservation and a vigorous **curbside recycling** program has greatly reduced the material we transport to local landfills for disposal. **Household chemicals** and other dangerous materials are collected, treated and safely disposed.

Corvallis is a community where all pollution types (including **noise, visual, air, water, odor and chemical pollution**) are carefully monitored and standards are maintained that meet or exceed the highest standards in the valley.

Open Space and Habitat

Our **natural features**; hillsides, floodplains, streams, wetlands, and other natural areas are protected and treasured. Wildlife habitat areas, scenic areas, and other natural areas help shape development patterns as we grow. Our **natural open space** helps buffer flood events, **purify our air and water** . . . Corvallis has identified its open space resources, and has established criteria and priorities for open space protection.

We value our rivers, our streams, and our watershed, carefully managing them to protect the **purity of our water**, their aesthetic and biological qualities . . . The city's streams and wetlands act as the backbone for a system of "**green fingers**" which weave through and connect the city's open space resources. These "green fingers" provide trail corridors and habitat areas where native plants and wildlife grow and flourish in their natural state.

Developers and homeowners are encouraged to use **natural landscaping** which integrates and preserves the existing significant vegetation on homesites and commercial developments in creative and **environmentally sound** ways. Habitat disturbed during construction is restored and enhanced.

2020 Vision – Representative Public Input

Governing and Civic Involvement

"Corvallis in 2020 fosters citizen participation in all aspects of community decisions. Neighborhood organizations are vigorous and their meetings and ward meetings provide opportunities for formal and informal discussions of community issues. Most citizens vote and regularly discuss issues with their neighbors, city councilors, and the mayor. Citizens are confident that their elected representatives will carefully consider their ideas and opinions."

Listening to the Citizens

There are numerous ways for citizens to participate in each community decision, ranging from expressing an opinion to crafting legislation. Boards, commissions, and task forces are the primary working groups that evaluate, draft, and recommend plans and legislation to the city council. Each board and commission is balanced in terms of the members' ages, economic status, gender, race, philosophical concerns and professional experience. The boards and commissions are effective and objective forums for discussing issues.

Public meetings typically include at least one opportunity for visitors' propositions and, when practical, citizens are involved in the deliberative process. A broadly-based Committee for Citizen Involvement informs and assists citizens on how to become involved and how to be most effective at participating in community land use decisions.

A wide range of methods is used to gather citizens' ideas. Examples include mail and telephone surveys, neighborhood meetings, ward meetings, passive and interactive electronic communication, "comment corners" throughout the community, public hearings, and, in some cases, city council initiated advisory referendum.

Making Decisions

Balancing efficiency and citizen participation in government is challenging. Corvallis has a highly participatory government that when necessary, accepts higher costs and extended time periods for making decisions in order to maximize citizen involvement. The city council makes decisions only after a thorough review by the community. Citizens help decide what ought to be done, as well as how and when it will be done. They work proactively, directly, and positively to find common ground among their interests and those of other people in the community. In land use planning, citizens and government attempt to balance the rights and responsibilities of individual property owners with the interests and needs of the community.

C1

CITY OF CORVALLIS
COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL

POLICY AREA 1 - GENERAL

CP 04-1.08 **Sustainability**

Adopted May 17, 2004

Affirmed October 17, 2005

Revised December 4, 2006

1.08.010 Purpose

The City recognizes its responsibility to

- protect the quality of the air, water, land and other natural resources, and to conserve these resources in its daily operations;
- minimize organizational impacts on local and worldwide ecosystems;
- use financial resources efficiently and purchase products that are durable, reusable, non-toxic and/or made of recycled materials; and
- treat employees in a fair and respectful manner, providing an inclusive work environment and helping staff develop their full potential.

The City Council has demonstrated its concern for a sustainable community through the Corvallis 2020 Vision Statement . The purpose of this policy is to ensure City departments develop practices that achieve a more sustainable workplace through plans and programs that promote a balance of environmental values with economic and social equity values in the expenditure of public funds. The City Council, in its leadership position, sets an example by adopting sustainable business practices in its activities and providing the resources necessary to allow the organization to be successful in its sustainability efforts.

1.08.020 Definitions

1.08.021 Sustainability means using natural, financial and human resources in a responsible manner that meets existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

1.08.022 Life-cycle cost analysis examines the full life of a product and its impact on the environment including the resources used to acquire the raw material and to manufacture, process, transport and install the material; the accrued life-time maintenance costs; and the final disposal (including recycle or reuse) of the product .

Council Policy 04-1.08

- 1.08.023 'Triple bottom line' is a framework for measuring and reporting organizational performance against economic, social and environmental parameters. The term is used to capture the set of values, issues and processes that organizations must address to minimize harm and create economic, social and environmental value.
- 1.08.024 Greenhouse gas emissions include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorocarbon gases. These gases are released into the atmosphere through manufacturing, agricultural and industrial processes that commonly burn fossil fuels, solid waste or wood products. Motor vehicles also release large amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.
- 1.08.025 Backcasting is a process where a future desirable state or sustainable endpoint is determined and a strategy is set to achieve that future state through intermediate steps, usually at 1-, 5- and 10-year milestones. These intermediate objectives are then incorporated into the organization's planning efforts.
- 1.08.026 Employer of choice is an organization recognized for its leadership, culture, and best practices that attract, optimize, and hold top talent, achieving organization objectives.

1.08.030 Policy

The City uses a triple-bottom-line framework to enhance sustainability in all aspects of the organization's activities. City departments, through changes in daily operations, ongoing programs and long-range planning are able to simultaneously have a significant positive impact on the environment, the economic efficiency of municipal government and the social character of the workplace. Departments promote actions which are environmentally and socially beneficial while also being economically intelligent, and endeavor to assure that future generations have the resources needed to sustainably maintain healthy and productive societies. The City strives to make sufficient gains in enhancing its own sustainability practices to begin providing community-wide sustainability leadership in 2009.

1.08.040 Organizational Objectives

- 1.08.041 Encourage and develop connections between environmental quality, economic vitality and social equity. Promote organizational activities that reduce adverse effects on ecology and the natural resource capital base and support employment opportunities for all segments of the community.
- 1.08.042 Include long-term and cumulative impacts in decision making and ensure commitment to equity so economic impacts and the costs of protecting the environment do not unfairly burden any one geographic or socioeconomic sector of the city.

Council Policy 04-1.08

- 1.08.043 Use City resources efficiently and reduce demand for natural resources, such as energy, land, and water, as a first alternative to expanding supply.
- 1.08.044 Prevent additional pollution through planned, proactive measures rather than only corrective action, and focus on solutions rather than symptoms.
- 1.08.045 Act locally to reduce adverse global impacts of rapid growth of population and consumption, such as ozone depletion and global warming.
- 1.08.046 Attract and retain the best fit employee for each position and for the organization as a whole, and commit to staff's continued growth and learning, development of new skills and willingness to take on new challenges.
- 1.08.047 Increase diversity and diversity awareness in the workforce, and provide a positive, respectful work environment, with open and honest communications.
- 1.08.048 Be a model of sustainable operations for other public and private organizations, and support and implement innovative programs that maintain and promote Corvallis' leadership as a sustainable city.

1.08.050 Triple-Bottom-Line Framework

To the extent possible, sustainable initiatives will meet more than one of the triple-bottom-line components. For each component, a backcasting chart will be created to guide the organization's efforts (see Addendum). Goals will be reviewed and refined at least annually to reflect accomplishments of the organization and industry innovations in sustainable technologies.

1.08.051 Environmental sustainability

The City values actions that are beneficial for the environment and the natural resource capital base as well as for the health and safety of employees and the public, and that go beyond regulatory compliance to minimize the City's environmental impacts.

The organization seeks to enhance environmental sustainability through practices that promote clean air and water and reduce:

- solid and hazardous waste;
- use of toxins;
- emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants; and
- consumption of energy, water and natural resources.

Decisions take into consideration protection of open space, habitat protection and restoration, and preservation of natural biodiversity.

1.08.052 Economic sustainability

The City values wise use of public funds and considers the full cost implications of its efforts, including short and long-term purchase, operation and disposal costs, known as life-cycle costs.

CH

Council Policy 04-1.08

The organization seeks to enhance economic sustainability through purchasing parameters and guidelines that ensure an analysis of sustainably preferable options occurs with each purchase. Decisions take into consideration the time frame within which any incremental initial costs will be paid back from the savings achieved by environmental or social investments and the need to maintain a fiscally healthy financial situation to ensure continued services to the community.

1.08.053 Social sustainability

The City values an open and friendly organization that is free from bigotry and intimidation, and exercises policies and programs that make it an employer of choice. The services provided to citizens does not burden or unfairly impact any one sector of the community.

The organization seeks to enhance social sustainability through a respectful work environment and a philosophy for staff of:

- equity in opportunity, recognition and reward;
- engagement in the workplace and organizational goals;
- lifelong learning and adaptability to change; and
- overall physical, emotional and financial health, fostered through a positive work/life balance.

1.08.060 Implementation

1.08.061 An organizational steering committee is established to adopt and implement sustainable strategies and practices in the departments. The committee creates goals, develops metrics, prioritizes projects, investigates new technologies, and measures success.

1.08.062 The City Manager promotes the objectives of the policy, adopts and implements sustainable strategies and practices in the departments, documents department progress towards sustainable development on an ongoing basis, and prepares an annual report on progress achieved, as well as objectives to achieve before the next annual review.

1.08.063 Departments inform, educate, encourage, and hold employees accountable for actively participating in programs and policies promoting sustainability; providing the organization with an opportunity to become a community leader.

1.08.064 Staff seeks to continually improve best management practices to make them more sustainable in each of the triple-bottom-line categories.

1.08.070 Review and Update

This policy shall be reviewed annually in October by the Public Works Department and updated as necessary.

D

Ad hoc committee report to City Council meeting May 7, 2007

On Monday, April 30, we attended a quarterly meeting of the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition. The meeting was also attended by over 40 people representing a wide variety of organizations.

We heard brief reports from task groups working on a range of key issues such as energy, land use, economic development, green building, local food, toxics, and sustainability education. This is an exciting process, with significant potential to serve as the City's partner in developing a community-wide sustainability initiative.

It is, however, still in its early stages. Before we can recommend full partnership, a number of key aspects have yet to be worked through: broader outreach to a wider swath of the community, analysis and support for the goals and framework, and concern for possible negative effects on vulnerable sectors of our population. At this point, we recommend that we begin to actively participate in the ongoing work of the coalition as it continues its organizational activity and evolving structure and work plans.

SUGGESTED MOTION: *Move that the council's ad hoc Sustainability Coalition committee take an active role in working with Coalition members to further develop and refine the Coalition's evolving structure and work plans.*

E1



Local Government Commission

"The LGC is a nonprofit organization working to build livable communities."

Ahwahnee Principles for Resource-Efficient Communities

Preamble:

Existing patterns of urban and suburban development seriously impair our quality of life. The symptoms are: more congestion and air pollution resulting from our increased dependence on automobiles, the loss of precious open space, the need for costly improvements to roads and public services, the inequitable distribution of economic resources, and the loss of a sense of community. By drawing upon the best from the past and the present, we can plan communities that will more successfully serve the needs of those who live and work within them. Such planning should adhere to certain fundamental principles.

Community Principles

1. All planning should be in the form of complete and integrated communities containing housing, shops, work places, schools, parks and civic facilities essential to the daily life of the residents.
2. Community size should be designed so that housing, jobs, daily needs and other activities are within easy walking distance of each other.
3. As many activities as possible should be located within easy walking distance of transit stops.
4. A community should contain a diversity of housing types to enable citizens from a wide range of economic levels and age groups to live within its boundaries.
5. Businesses within the community should provide a range of job types for the community's residents.
6. The location and character of the community should be consistent with a larger transit network.
7. The community should have a center focus that combines commercial, civic, cultural and recreational uses.
8. The community should contain an ample supply of specialized open space in the form of squares, greens and parks whose frequent use is encouraged through placement and design.
9. Public spaces should be designed to encourage the attention and presence of people at all hours of the day and night.
10. Each community or cluster of communities should have a well-defined edge, such as agricultural greenbelts or wildlife corridors, permanently protected from development.
11. Streets, pedestrian paths and bike paths should contribute to a system of fully-connected and interesting routes to all destinations. Their design should encourage pedestrian and bicycle use by being small and spatially defined by buildings, trees and lighting; and by discouraging high speed traffic.
12. Wherever possible, the natural terrain, drainage and vegetation of the community should be preserved with superior examples contained within parks or greenbelts.
13. The community design should help conserve resources and minimize waste.
14. Communities should provide for the efficient use of water through the use of natural drainage, drought tolerant landscaping and recycling.
15. The street orientation, the placement of buildings and the use of shading should contribute to the energy

E 2

efficiency of the community.

Regional Principles

1. The regional land-use planning structure should be integrated within a larger transportation network built around transit rather than freeways.
2. Regions should be bounded by and provide a continuous system of greenbelt/wildlife corridors to be determined by natural conditions.
3. Regional institutions and services (government, stadiums, museums, etc.) should be located in the urban core.
4. Materials and methods of construction should be specific to the region, exhibiting a continuity of history and culture and compatibility with the climate to encourage the development of local character and community identity.

Implementation Principles

1. The general plan should be updated to incorporate the above principles.
2. Rather than allowing developer-initiated, piecemeal development, local governments should take charge of the planning process. General plans should designate where new growth, infill or redevelopment will be allowed to occur.
3. Prior to any development, a specific plan should be prepared based on these planning principles.
4. Plans should be developed through an open process and participants in the process should be provided visual models of all planning proposals.

Authors: Peter Calthorpe, Michael Corbett, Andres Duany, Elizabeth Moule, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Stefanos Polyzoides

Editor: Peter Katz, Judy Corbett, and Steve Weissman

(Adopted in 1991)

If you would like more background information on the Ahwahnee Principles (including where the name came from) please read the article "*The Ahwahnee Principles: Toward More Livable Communities.*"
(www.lgc.org/freepub/land_use/articles/ahwahnee_article/page01.html)

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For more information, contact the LGC Center for
Livable Communities: 916-448-1198, ext 321.
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F

THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY (Alan AtKisson)

1. Think long term.
2. Understand systems.
3. Recognize limits.
4. Protect Nature.
5. Transform business-as-usual.
6. Practice fairness.
7. Embrace creativity.

From AtKisson, Alan. *Believing Cassandra: An Optimist Looks at a Pessimist's World*. 1999.
Pp. 173-74.

To: City Council
Copy: City Manager and Mayor
From: Oregon Natural Step Network, Corvallis Chapter
Re: City Council 2006-2007 Goals

Rec'd
11/16/07
Cmo
G1

The Eco-Municipality Model for Sustainable Community Change
A systems approach to creating a sustainable community

On January 10, 2007, 38 citizens from more than 28 non-profit organizations, businesses, faith communities, educational institutions and government entities came together at the Corvallis Chamber Coalition offices to create a strategy for accelerating the development of Corvallis as a sustainable community. Another half dozen individuals who could not attend submitted input for the event. Those of us at the meeting felt energized and hopeful after we heard about the amazingly diverse array of actions that these people and their colleagues are pursuing to make Corvallis more sustainable—economically, environmentally, and socially.

We emerged from the meeting with a strengthened commitment to work more effectively together toward the development of a sustainable community. To that end we developed two outcomes, first we will form a “Sustainable Corvallis Coalition” and second we ask that you consider adopting the following goal for the 2006-2007 City Council. We believe it is the logical next step from the sustainability goal of the 2005-2006 City Council.

Goal: Take the lead in the state of Oregon towards establishing Corvallis as a sustainable community by adopting and utilizing the Eco-Municipality framework

The four points below are a suggested framework on how the educational work, projects and initiatives might be organized to make Corvallis a leader as a sustainable community. Listed below each area are a few examples of projects that organizations in our community are working on or plan to work on that the City Council could work on with another organization or endorse. All of these efforts fit within the eco-municipality structure. In fact, the Council could have this as their only goal and fit a number of sub goals under this structure.

We see this overarching strategy as an effective way to integrate and accelerate the implementation of many of the sustainability ideas and projects that Corvallis already has developed in documents such as Vision 2020, the Corvallis Comprehensive Plan, the Economic Vitality Partnership (EVP) Strategic Plan, the Land Development Code, the Transportation Plan, and the Stormwater Management Plan. In these plans and elsewhere the city has acknowledged many reasons for promoting sustainable ways, ranging from local quality of life to global imperatives. We think sustainability extends well beyond addressing environmental and resource problems; it's a positive approach to personal and community development that will bring stable, long-term prosperity to Corvallis.

1) Eliminate our community's contribution to fossil fuel dependence and to wasteful use of scarce metals and minerals

- Promote local renewable energy production by establishing definitive goals for the community and city operations utilizing a renewable energy buy-back program similar to that of Ashland, OR or other incentive programs. (EVP strategy)
- Adopt a waste reduction initiative “Turning Waste to Resources” Possible focuses:
 - Increase the ease of reusing and recycling construction waste
 - Increase local electronic waste recovery rates
 - Increase local metal reuse and recycling rates
 - Establish local sustainable food production and processing to meet 30% of local food consumption by 2020—and to boost this potentially robust business cluster. (EVP strategy)
- Enhance public transportation linkages (EVP strategy)
- Adopt and implement the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee safety goal proposal

2) Eliminate our community's contribution to dependence upon persistent chemicals and wasteful use of synthetic substances

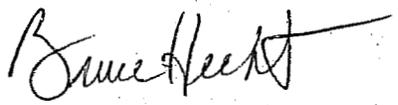
- Continue to implement all provisions of the city’s Storm water Management Plan to reduce contamination of our water resources.
 - Eliminate the use of pesticides and herbicides throughout the community.
 - Develop and implement a program per the Comprehensive Plan to encourage safer household products for all citizens.
 - Continue to develop and support a comprehensive green building program that creates energy- and resource-efficient, toxic-free environments for all residents and businesses. (EVP strategy)
- 3) Eliminate our community’s contribution to encroachment upon nature (e.g. water, wildlife, forests, soil, ecosystems)**
- Adopt and promote the National Wildlife Federation “Community Wildlife Habitat” program.
 - Work with Benton County to develop a countywide water policy and vision that ensures continuation of adequate water resources to our community.
 - Continue to implement practices that recognize our streams as natural resources.
 - Implement landscape ecology principles in future city projects and in land use decisions (e.g., planting of native vs. non-native species) to minimize land degradation.
- 4) Eliminate conditions that undermine people’s capacity to meet their needs**
- Develop a program (“Citizens and Government Working Together”) to achieve greater collaboration among community non-profits, individual citizens, and government. Such a program would help cover the costs of sustainability initiatives by leveraging the energy and skills of community members.
 - Continue to support current and new programs to develop affordable housing. (EVP strategy)
 - Ensure an adequate supply of sustainable primary wage jobs from small- and medium-sized, locally owned businesses (EVP strategy).
 - Support current and new programs to develop affordable housing. (EVP strategy)
 - Continue to support the funding of emergency social service needs of the community
 - Develop strategies to ensure affordable and accessible health care for all members of the community.

This sampling of possible community projects gives a picture of how we could organize and prioritize our efforts to create a Sustainable Corvallis.

Listed below are links to a couple of articles that demonstrate how these ideas are being played out currently statewide and nationally along with additional information about Eco-Municipalities.

Please contact Bruce Hecht brucehe@peak.org 754-3028 or Maureen Beezhold cnwei@peak.org at 752-3517 if you have any questions or need further information. Thank you for consideration of our recommendations.

Sincerely,



Bruce Hecht
 Coordinator, Oregon Natural Step Network Corvallis Chapter

Attachment 1: Additional information about Eco-Municipalities

What is an eco-municipality?

The Eco-Municipality Model for Sustainable Community Change is a systems approach to creating a sustainable community. An eco-municipality aspires to develop an economically, ecologically, and socially healthy community for the long term, using The Natural Step framework for sustainability as a guide, and a democratic, highly participative development process as the method.

- An eco-municipality becomes the driving force for involving citizens and sectors of the larger community in the process of becoming a sustainable community.
- An eco-municipality collaborates with other communities regionally, nationally, and internationally both to learn from others and assist others in their change processes.

“Eco” represents both economics and ecology: “Economic progress and ecological balance are to be united into a common developmental strategy.”

- The concept originated in Sweden in 1983.
- It became a network of more than 70 eco-municipalities across Sweden with populations from 400 to over 700,000 residents.

What is different about this model?

Many communities in the United States and around the world have initiated and are carrying out sustainable development projects. Green building programs, affordable housing, open space preservation, recycling, climate change initiatives, and smart growth initiatives are just a few examples. While these initiatives have made progress toward sustainable goals, they are occurring largely on a project-by-project or issue-oriented basis. Frequently these efforts, as laudable as they are, are unconnected and un-integrated throughout municipal governments and the larger communities.

In contrast, the eco-municipality model uses a *systems approach*. Key ingredients of this systems approach are widespread community awareness and integrated municipal involvement, using a common “sustainability language” based upon The Natural Step framework. The four guiding objectives of the American Planning Association’s *Planning for Sustainability* policy used in our recommended structure are based upon The Natural Step framework. Using this common language brings about a shared understanding of what sustainability means and how to achieve this throughout all sectors of the community. The likelihood of conflict and competition among resulting actions is therefore minimized since all sectors are using the same “sustainability playing rules.” ***The model results in fast-tracking progress toward a more sustainable community.***

Emerging Eco-municipalities have formed the “North American Eco-Municipality Network” (NAEMN), which includes representatives from the National Association of Swedish Municipalities, TNS International, Tufts University, Sustainable Pittsburgh, TNS Canada, and many other non-profits and academic institutions. U.S. cities currently involved include Chequamegon Bay Region, Wisconsin; Vandergrift, Pennsylvania; Lawrence Township, New Jersey; Madison, Wisconsin; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; and Duluth, Minnesota. In addition, fifteen other communities in the U.S. are taking steps in this direction.

Attachment 2: Web Links

~~“Oregon Business Plan is Tinted Green” January 5th 2007 Oregonian:~~

~~<http://www.oregonlive.com/business/oregonian/index.ssf?/base/business/11679729034160.xml&coll=>~~

~~Daily Isthmus, Madison Wisconsin~~

~~<http://www.thedailypage.com/isthmus/article.php?article=5215>~~

Attachment 3: Copies of the above articles

***** MEMORANDUM *****

JUNE 4, 2007

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: KATHY LOUIE, ASSISTANT TO CITY MANAGER/CITY RECORDER

SUBJECT: COUNCIL AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING MEAL VENDORS AND CONTAINERS



ISSUE

Council members expressed interest that all vendors providing meals for Council and Standing Committee meetings use non-Styrofoam, recyclable containers in support of the Council goal of practicing sustainable activities.

BACKGROUND

Staff rotates regular Council lunch vendors on a quarterly basis. Meals for special and/or evening meetings are provided by vendors on a randomly selected basis. Meal vendors are selected according to various criteria, including menu choice options, price, ability to deliver meals, willingness to bill the City and accept payment on the next payment cycle, and ability to provide meals in recyclable containers. Staff works with vendors to explain the Council's goal regarding sustainability and to encourage support of that goal by using non-Styrofoam, recyclable beverage and food containers. Staff also works with the vendor who provides lunches for Council Standing Committee meetings.

Staff is committed to supporting the Council goal of sustainability in all aspects of City operations. While staff appreciates Council's efforts to make used food containers acceptable for recycling, Council should be aware that the Downtown Fire Station Main Meeting Room and the Madison Avenue Meeting Room are not equipped with garbage disposals and dish/utensil-cleaning supplies. Food should not be left in the sinks to enter the drains in these rooms, as it may cause drain blockages and damage. Staff does not have available time and means to clean food containers for recycling. Council members wanting to recycle their food and/or beverage containers are encouraged to take the containers home for cleaning and recycling.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff identified two options for the Council's consideration regarding food service at Council and Standing Committee meetings:

1. Staff will continue working with existing and potential vendors to meet the above-cited criteria in providing meals for Council and Standing Committee meetings.
2. The City can provide Council members with a monthly food allowance (\$30-\$35) for meeting meals, allowing them to provide their meals from vendors of their choice. Staff will continue to coordinate and provide meals when joint meetings occur with other agencies such as Benton County or School District 509J.

c: City Manager Nelson

*** * * MEMORANDUM * * ***

JUNE 5, 2007

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: KATHY LOUIE, ASSISTANT TO CITY MANAGER/CITY RECORDER

SUBJECT: SELF-EVALUATION FORMS



A total of nine self-evaluation forms was received and tabulated. Attached is a compilation of the responses for your discussion at the June 11 quarterly work session.

Feel free to give me a call at 766-6901 if you have questions.

c: City Manager Nelson

Attachment

CORVALLIS CITY COUNCIL

June 11, 2007

**Self-Evaluation
General Practices**

	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	03/19	06/11
How are we doing on <i>General Practices?</i>	Low		Mid-range		High	Average	Average
1. Thinking and acting strategically			5		4	2.30	2.44
2. Understanding and demonstrating the elements of teams and teamwork			3		6	2.60	2.67
3. Mastering “small group” decision-making			5		4	2.56	2.44
4. Clearly defined roles and relationships			4		5	2.50	2.56
5. Council/staff partnership			3		5	2.80	2.63
6. Systematic evaluation of policy implementation			7		2	2.33	2.22
7. Allocation of Council time and energy			4		5	2.33	2.56
8. Clear rules and procedures for Council meetings			2		7	2.50	2.78
9. Response to the public’s concerns and evaluation of Council performance			5		4	2.60	2.44
10. Continuous personal learning and leadership development			6		3	2.78	2.33

Additional Comments:

- I still don’t understand #3; I marked “high” because I think we communicate well. I marked #6 as mid-range because I don’t hear that much discussion of “systematic” evaluation. We do a good job of sticking to policy.

**Self-Evaluation
Specific Practices**

	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	03/19	06/11
How are we doing on <i>Specific Practices?</i>	Low		Mid-range		High	Average	Average
1. Effective chartering of committees and acceptance of committee work			4		5	2.67	2.56
2. Prioritizing goals and initiatives and avoiding over-commitment			5		4	2.39	2.44
3. Educating ourselves about issues			3		6	2.50	2.67
4. Limiting amount of time spent on “small-picture” activities			7		2	2.70	2.22
5. Regular evaluation of our effectiveness as a Council			3		5	2.30	2.63
6. Celebrating success – our own and that of others			7		2	2.20	2.22

Additional Comments:

- #2 and #4 are mid-range – we have to address concerns of constituents which lead to problems – commitment and spending too much time on small picture activities. Hard to avoid doing it.
- #3 – hard to find time to read packet and extra material to educate ourselves. Not enough time to go to pertinent lectures on campus.

**Self-Evaluation
Code of Conduct**

	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	03/12	06/11
/ How are we doing on <i>Code of Conduct</i>?	Low		Mid-range		High	Average	Average
1. Show consideration and civility to everyone			1		8	2.80	2.89
2. Allow for disagreement, but strive to keep conflict at a level where we are working together to address the issues			2		7	2.80	2.78
3. Apply meeting principles to staff and public			4		5	2.80	2.56
4. Explain reasoning and intent			4		5	2.80	2.56
5. Focus on understanding interests of people			6		3	2.67	2.33
6. Be concise and respectful while focusing on issue			4		5	2.75	2.56
7. Assume best intentions as you seek common ground			4		5	2.80	2.56
8. Respect decisions of the body			3		6	2.80	2.67

Additional Comments:

- Best Council I have served on. Keep up the good work.
- This Council seems to be less hesitant to speak our minds, good or not so good.
- I was pleased that after the March work session, conflict was resolved and we have moved on.