



Environmental Integrity Focus Area Working Group Meeting August 19, 2011



CITY OF TUCSON
Housing and
Community Development
Department

Today's Agenda

1:30 – 3:30

Welcome and Introductions
Overview of Plan Tucson
Policy Working Group Role
Environmental Integrity Focus Area
Goals & Policies Primer

Break

Goals & Policies Development Exercise

Plan Tucson: Process & Progress

Phase I – Policy Development: working groups and stakeholder meetings

Phase II – Plan Adoption: formal public review process and public hearings held by the Planning Commission and by Mayor and Council.

Phase III - Ratification: ratified through a public election process.

March, 22, 2011

Mayor and Council adopted Public Participation Program

April 2011

Six General Public Meetings

May 20, 2011

Stakeholders Orientation Meeting

June 10, 2011

Stakeholders Guiding Principles Meeting

July 2011

**Policy Working Group Meetings begin
(continue until April 2012)**



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Plan Tucson Focus Areas

Elements of Environmental Integrity

The integrity of the natural environment is directly related to Tucsonans' health and ultimately to the City's financial well being. An unhealthy environment means time and money must be spent on cleaning up pollution, meeting national standards, and addressing environmentally related illness. Elements to be addressed in Plan Tucson's Environmental Integrity Focus Area are:

Energy and
Climate
Change

Green
Infrastructure

Water

Environmental
Quality

Elements of Socioeconomic Prosperity

Socioeconomic prosperity is an indicator of the quality of life in a community. It is often related to wealth, but also includes other factors that together contribute to Tucson's overall well being. Elements to be addressed in Plan Tucson's Socioeconomic Prosperity Focus Area are:

Housing

Economic
Development

Education

Cultural
Heritage
and Arts

Public
Health

Public
Safety

Recreation

Community
Participation

Elements of Smart Growth

Smart urban development reflects a holistic approach to creating a community that reflects sensitivity to the interrelationship of the elements that contribute to environmental integrity and socioeconomic prosperity with those that are more directly related to the built environment. Elements to be addressed in Plan Tucson's Smart Growth Focus Area are:

Land Use
and
Transportation

Urban
Design

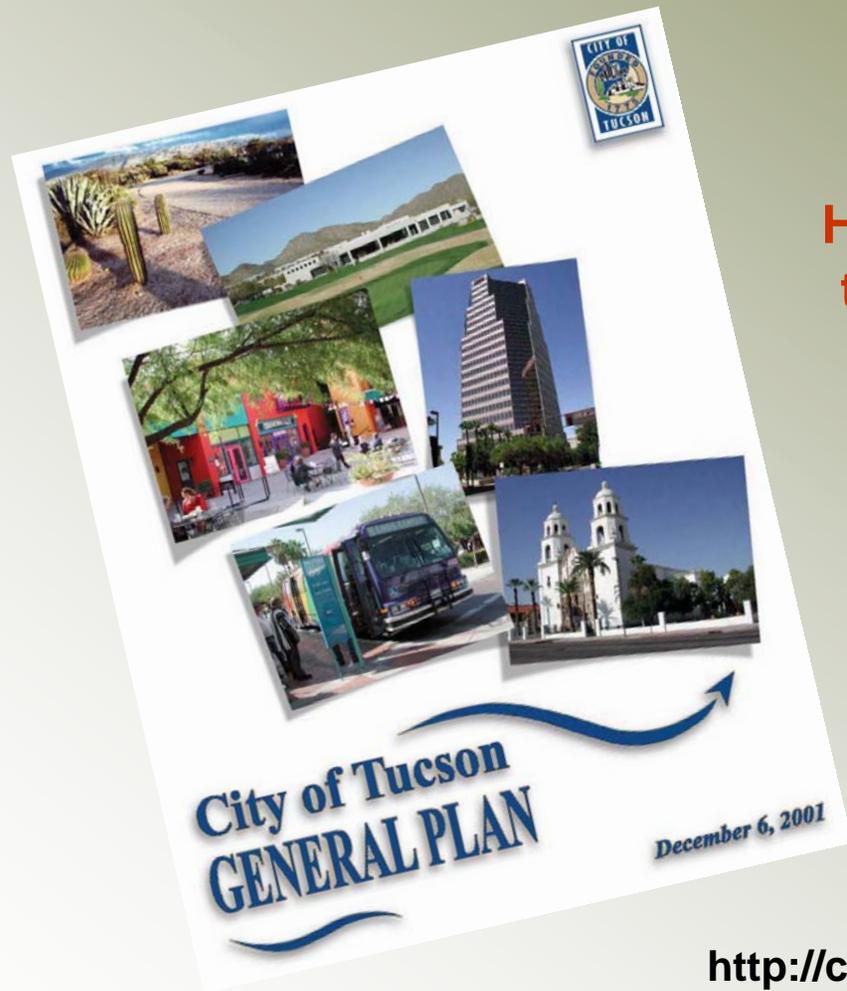
Redevelopment
and
Revitalization

Historic
Preservation

Public
Infrastructure
and Facilities

*This is a working document that may be further refined as Plan Tucson proceeds and additional information and input is obtained.

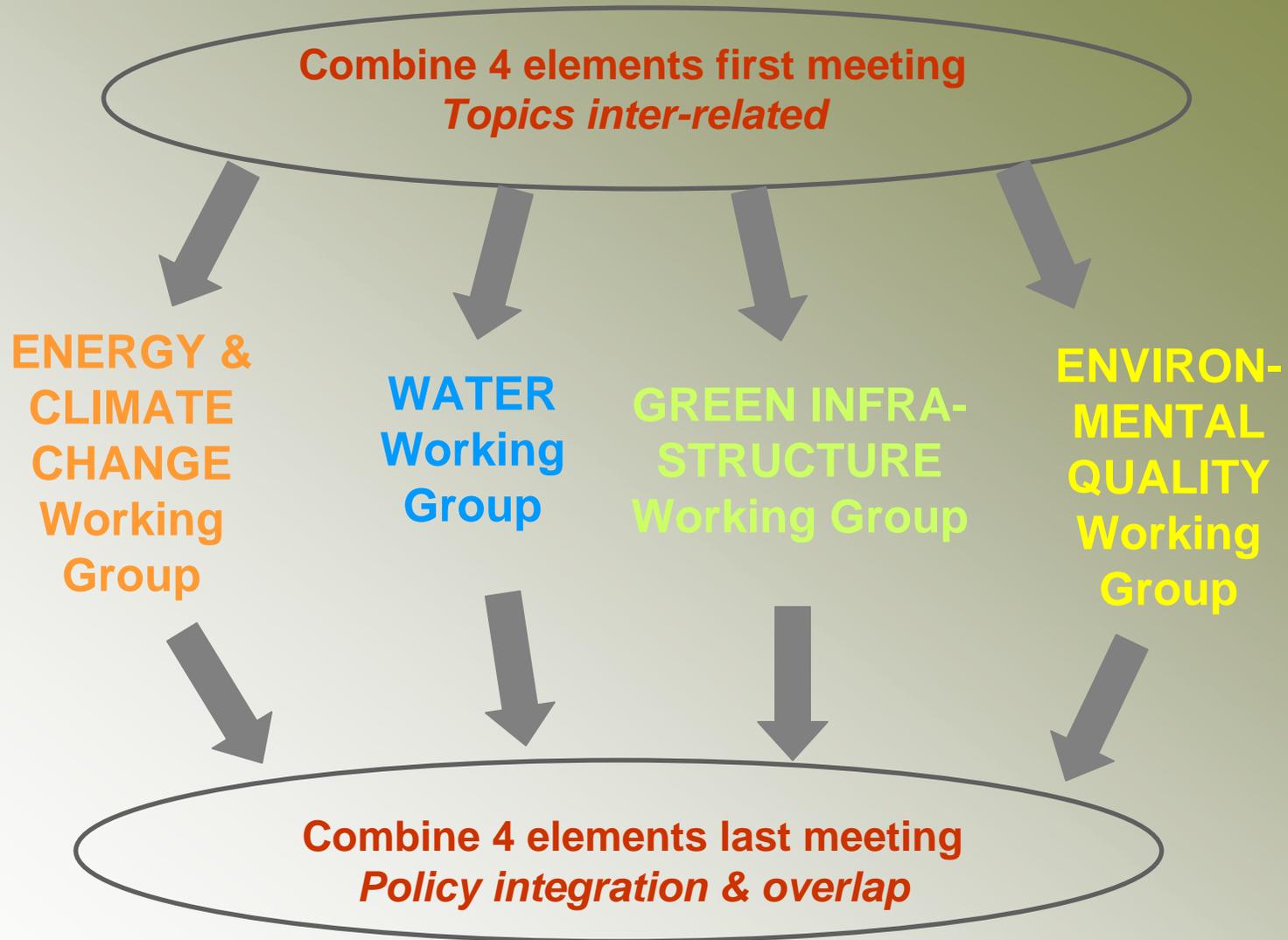
2001 Tucson General Plan Policies



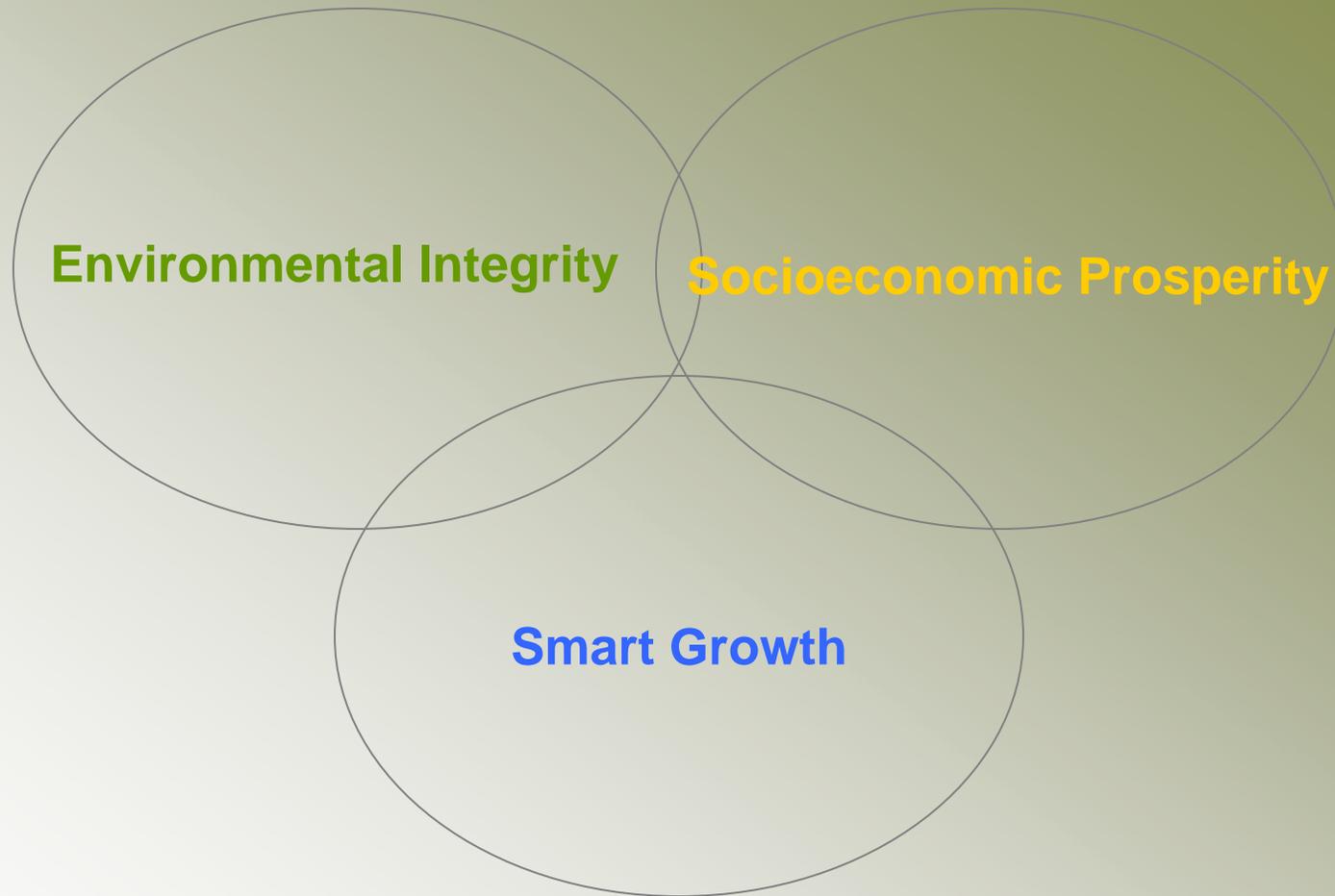
Handout identifies policies related to each of the four new elements

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/planning/plans/genplan/>

Environmental Integrity Working Group Structure



Working Group Structure



**Staff to integrate policies into final document
Document to be reviewed by City Departments**

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Challenges

- Lack of will/lack of funding for widespread installation of solar on city grounds/buildings
- Achieve less reliance on coal for electricity & petroleum products for transportation & achieving energy conservation in homes, schools & businesses.
- The lack of urban forest, canopy cover/maintenance has never been adequately managed/funded this needs to become a much higher priority esp. w/climate change (air quality, heat island, storm water/water quality) issues.
- To prepare for a future with much less available energy & resources, uncertain climate & collapsed economy.
- Convert to a "Steady State" economy based on local bioregion resources
- Financial and educational barriers to wider use of solar energy
- Meeting the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals in the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
- Skepticism in the community and within government about climate change

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Benefits & Opportunities

- Clean energy technology: cleaner air; more local jobs; reduced greenhouse gases; reduced urban heat island effect; reduced water usage; promote electric vehicles
- Community-wide benefits including greater health as the air becomes cleaner w/o reliance on fossil fuels for transportation & energy production
- Improved quality of life instead of "Higher Standard of Living" - Truly livable neighborhoods sustainable co-existence with our natural environment.
- Potential for significant expansion of solar markets and public/private partnerships
- 800,000 square feet of rooftop on government properties
- Mayor and Council signing of the Mayors Climate Protection Agreement (2006)
- Climate Change Adaptation Committee preparing a plan for review and approval
- New city building requirements for LEED Silver standard

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

WATER

Challenges

- Water reliability now (infrastructure) and for the future (resource).
- Recycling water efficiently
- Population growth increases water demand
- Loss of groundwater reserves
- Persistent drought
- Urban growth form that increases pressure on water resources
- Uncertain future climactic changes and implications for precipitation and temperature
- Balancing human needs with environmental need for water

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

WATER

Benefits & Opportunities

- Foster one dimension of sustainable community.
- Water is a mandatory resource at the most basic level to maintain life.
- Completion of Water / Wastewater study
- Integrated land use and water resource planning
- Rainwater harvesting ordinance for new commercial development and grey water ordinance may help reduce demand
- Increase in conservation education programs
- Decrease in water use will reduce energy use helping meet climate change goal

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Challenges

- Limited funding for cleanup of contaminated sites; prioritize the importance of having clean land to develop on removing blight in our community. Vacant lots that just sit.
- Environmental data is expensive to obtain and support
- Implementation of environmental policy requires difficult decisions regarding voluntary vs. mandatory programs
- Communication of environmental messages to the public presents new challenges due to changing media landscape
- Planning decisions frequently don't include total costs of long-term impact to environment
- Limited public and private funds for clean up of contaminated sites
- Risk of region moving into non-compliance for ozone

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Benefits & Opportunities

- Projects could be finalized that would improve public health, recreation, economic dev, housing, pub infrastructure/facilities, urban design, air quality, climate change, open space/habitat & more.
- Reduction of waste streams and waste diversion to recycling programs
- Develop sustainable City procurement systems for waste reduction
- Develop one-stop shop for customers to process waste and reusables through development of the planned Los Reales landfill project
- Completion of neighborhood-scale brownfield projects to improve neighborhood and economic vitality
- Create a city that has a strong reputation for sustainability and environmental health

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (OPEN SPACE, TRAILS, HABITAT)

Challenges

- How to incorporate open space/habitat preservation into neighborhood preservation/revitalization to encourage communal action for improving quality of life for all residents.
- The lack of urban forest, canopy cover/maintenance has never been adequately managed/funded. This needs to become a much higher priority esp. w/climate change (air quality, heat island, stormwater/water quality) issues.
- Water scarcity and drought can limit planting of trees and other landscape plants
- Existing built environment limits opportunities for parks, wash and open space projects
- Maintenance budget constraints limit planting of new trees and vegetation in public spaces
- Development code doesn't always support habitat preservation
- Non-native species proliferation
- Limited funds to build out regional and urban trails as planned

From May 20 Challenges & Opportunities Meeting

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (OPEN SPACE, TRAILS, HABITAT)

Benefits & Opportunities

- Both Tucson Audubon and Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection are involved in all areas of policy and planning that inform the preservation of ecosystem functions and biodiversity in balance that promotes stable, sustainable economy of increased quality of life for residents and can provide experience/resources to other neighborhoods, city planners and public agencies.
- Education on sustainability; economics, social development, etc.; permaculture concepts via planning/neighborhoods.
- Use City-adopted documents such as Urban Landscape Framework, Habitat Conservation Plan, etc. to support additional green infrastructure
- Use recently completed Tree Inventory to meet recommended standards for Southwestern cities
- Provide urban connections that link to trails identified in the Eastern Pima County Regional Trails Master Plan.
- Develop green infrastructure for mitigation of urban heat island effect, as is consistent with the upcoming Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- Promote residential and commercial rainwater and grey water harvesting systems for landscaping.

Outline of Working Documents

- I. Introduction
- II. Background and City Role
- III. A Sustainable Future
- IV. Recent Initiatives
- V. Definitions

These are draft documents and will be updated with input from the working groups as the policy development process unfolds.

Sample Recent Initiatives Table

Recent City of Tucson Initiatives Related to Water

Document	Year	Policies & Recommendations (web links)
Phase 2 Final Report: Water & Wastewater Infrastructure, Supply & Planning Study	2009	http://www.tucsonpimawaterstudy.com/Reports/Phase2FinalReport/PHASE2_Report_12.09.pdf
Final Action Plan for Water Sustainability	2010	http://www.tucsonpimawaterstudy.com/AP/index_FAP.html
Water Plan: 2000 – 2050 Water Plan: 2000-2050 Update	2004, 2008	http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/water/waterplan
Water Efficiency: Water Conservation Program Recommendations for Tucson Water's Future	2006	http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/water/docs/ctf-finalreport.pdf
Drought Response and Preparedness Plan	2006	http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/water/docs/droughtplan.pdf
Storm water Ordinance No. 10209	2005	http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/transportation/StormwaterOrd10209.pdf
Storm water Annual Report	2010	http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/transportation/stormwater-annual-report



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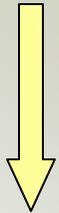
Please complete Additional Information sheets to add items.



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Primer on Goals and Policies

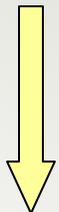
Goals



Goals provide the long-term vision and the context for policy actions.

Goals are broad statements of purpose.

Policies



A Policy is a statement of a definite course or method of action selected from among alternatives and in light of given conditions to guide and determine present and future decisions.

Projects

(Strategic Plan)

Something that is contemplated, devised, or planned; a large or major undertaking, especially one involving considerable money, personnel, and equipment.

Primer on Goals and Policies

What is a Goal?

Goals provide the long-term vision and the context for policy actions. Goals are broad statements of purpose.

Sample Goals from City of San Diego

Goal 1: Promote Bicycle Transportation

Goal 2: Improve the Local and Regional Bikeway Network

Primer on Goals and Policies

What is a Policy?

A Policy is a statement of a definite course or method of action selected from among alternatives and in light of given conditions to guide and determine present and future decisions.

Example of Policy Statements from City of San Diego

Goal 2: Improve the Local and Regional Bikeway Network

Policies

1. Develop a bikeway network that is continuous, closes gaps in the existing system, and serves important destinations
2. Develop a bikeway network that provides connections to bikeways in other cities.
3. Expand upon the existing destination-based signage system for the bikeway network

Primer on Goals and Policies

One more example:

GOAL: Promote the rural, farming atmosphere and “small town” feel of the City.

Policy a. Continue to maintain and extend sidewalks throughout the community.

Policy b. Coordinate with local students and parents to inventory, assess, and identify sidewalk and trail needs.

Primer on Goals and Policies

Key Characteristics of a Good Policy Statement

Clear purpose and need for policy

Concise and unambiguous

Based on solid information

Understandable to multiple audiences

Distinguishable from a specific project

Actionable

Measurable

Break Out Groups

Exercise Worksheet
August 19, 2011



ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY FOCUS AREA:
ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE ELEMENT WORKING GROUP
AUGUST 19, 2011

Preliminary Goals and Policies Drafting Exercise

GOALS	PROPOSED ACTIONS / POLICY CONCEPTS	Review Policy Preparation Guidance and List Indicators to Measure Progress



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Break Out Groups

After the break, please choose to sit at the Element table that reflects your interest.

- Write 3 or 4 goals for your Element
- Facilitator will combine these on the flipchart
- Write policy themes or ideas that might help achieve the goals; you don't need to worry about phrasing and terminology
- Facilitator will record these on the flipchart
- Please hand in your completed exercise sheets before you leave.