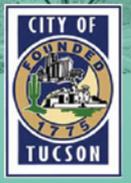


Community Sustainability Forum

2007 REPORT



Tucson, Arizona

Building Partnerships and Tools to Advance Local Sustainability



Community Sustainability Forum 2007 Report

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2007 Community Sustainability Forum

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rapid population growth, increasing demands on resources, and concerns over global warming are some of the factors that have pushed sustainability to the forefront of community, planning and policy discussions. Sustainability, a complicated concept that embodies the relationship of all things at a global-scale, is inherently grounded in the perceived quality of life and choices at the personal level of individuals. The 2007 Community Sustainability Forum attempted to round out regional discussions about sustainability by focusing on actions that individuals and neighborhoods can take to create a more sustainable community.

Over 120 members of the community came together at The University of Arizona to discuss community sustainability at the Forum, which was held on October 31, 2007. Participants were asked to identify the “best case” and “worst case” scenarios related to the following 8 topics during the morning sessions:

- Sustainable Use of Local Water Resources
- Protection, Enhancement, and Creation of Urban Green Assets
- Minimization of Waste to Landfills
- Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Promoting Individual Well-Being and Opportunity
- Strengthening Neighborhoods
- Creating Community
- Working Together

During the afternoon sessions, participants were asked to identify steps for progressing toward the “best case,” as well as identify the opportunities and constraints that might be encountered on the road to progress.

This document serves as a record of the discussions held at the Community Sustainability Forum and as a tool for individuals and neighborhoods in the community to work on a grassroots level to create a more sustainable region. This report is organized by the topics discussed at the Forum. The first section of each topic is a summary report of the discussion. The second section of each topic is a transcript of the discussion taken from the morning “decision mapping” sessions and afternoon “action mapping” sessions. A transcript exists for each group that rotated through a given topic.

Key themes that emerged during the discussions include:

Sustainable Use of Local Water Resources

Identify more options for water resources including conservation and efficiency especially at the individual and institutional level; more accurate assessment and resource planning, and the use of tax incentives and other measures to encourage smart resource use.

Protection, Enhancement, and Creation of Urban Green Assets

Plan for a systematic incorporation of green assets across the region for aesthetics, health, connectivity, and sustainability of food, water and energy resources. Institutional framework, especially changes to land use code and practices, are critical as well as widespread individual participation in greening of the community.

Minimization of Waste to Landfills

Source reduction and reframing of waste, especially recyclables, as an asset and resource to be properly managed and harvested. Accurate accounting and accountability of waste stream is critical, as are fees and incentives that encourage better waste strategies.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Plan for affordable building, transportation and consumption that uses less energy, more renewable sources, and produces less waste. Individual efforts are important, supported by standards/requirements set by institutions for the good of all and incentivized through tax credits, rebates, etc.

Promoting Individual Well-Being and Opportunity

Proper nutrition, education, housing and job opportunities supported by community design and funding.

Strengthening Neighborhoods

Work at larger and smaller levels. At the larger level, getting the design and funding to strengthen capacity and livability of neighborhoods, and at the neighborhood level to improve communication, collaboration and individual participation.

Creating Community

Enhance and support diversity and integration across economic and other divisions through community design (walkable communities with available green assets) and attention/funding. The use of Asset Based Community Development was identified as a valuable approach/tool for achieving greater community.

Working Together

Mutual respect, listening, access to information, and diverse and inclusive participation focusing on building trust through shared values and vision were identified as key to collaboration.

Hopefully, the Forum will foster a continued dialogue about sustainability and the initiatives that can be implemented at the individual and neighborhood levels. Such dialogue can help shape future sustainability efforts, and move the region toward the common goal of a thriving, more sustainable community.

The 2007 Community Sustainability Forum was sponsored by Pima County, the City of Tucson, The University of Arizona, and Pima Association of Governments. Support was also provided by the Metropolitan Energy Commission.



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Sustainable Use of Local Water Resources

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Sustainable Use of Local Water Resources

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Sustainable Use of Local Water Resources. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Dr. Sharon Megdal from the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center.

Discussion Points

Key themes that emerged from the discussions suggested that while there is a good level of understanding concerning the importance of water management to the future viability of the region, the sense is that there is a lack of connection between personal values, regional planning, zoning, and institutional priorities. While progress in long-term planning was noted, there remains a disconnect between the perspectives of water managers, scientists, and the public. When it comes to the public's ability to know that water is being properly managed, there is a strong sense of isolation on the part of the public requiring greater outreach and education to overcome.

A very low degree of confidence that water policy is being adequately considered by political and administrative leaders was pervasive among the reactions of group members. Driving this perception is the perceived incongruity between living in a desert, amidst a drought and calls for conservation, and unabated growth that logically will create an even greater demand for water. The sense that conservation is being promoted for the sake of facilitating growth was a common concern.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?

What is the Worst?

What are the paths toward the Best Case?

What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario for managing our water resources would encompass the following attributes:

- A sustainable water supply achieving a balance between water removed from the aquifer and that returned.
- Landscaping that is in greater harmony with our natural environment and widespread use of water harvesting to use rain water more productively while ensuring adequate water for wildlife and native species.
- A community that embraces water conservation and uses water wisely.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

The consequences of a failure to widely manage water resources are seen as dire and provide context to the deep-seated fears that the group members expressed. Reactions included the ghost town scenario where the economy crashes leading to loss of property values and forced migration and inflicting irreparable damage to aquifers, including increasing groundwater contamination. The increasing reliance on imported water was also seen as a concern that leaves the region at the mercy of outside forces, e.g. extended drought/global warming impacts. Continuing population growth implies that poor water management practices are continuing and making it more difficult to achieve sustainability.

The Way Forward

Political will was seen to be a key driver to achieve a sustainable vision. There was strong sentiment concerning water use and growth - the sense is that the two are inextricably linked and that growth should be limited to ensure that sufficient water remains available. Participants felt that community education is needed to ensure that an informed electorate is aware of the importance of water and is sufficiently educated on the topic to allow greater buy-in to a shared vision and informed water management.

With respect to accountability, the participants believed that the identification of an appropriate baseline is necessary to determine where we are currently and a clear set of parameters to measure whether a successful water strategy is in place needs to be developed. Key measures such as sustainability and carrying capacity should be defined and various strategies implemented to maintain compliance with an overarching plan for water management.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

- Implement City of Tucson Water Conservation Task Force recommendations
- Prioritize water use

- Use tax Incentives for assessment and implementation (e.g. incentives for conversion to low flow fixtures)
- Household and public buildings should use gray water, water harvesting and reclaimed water
- Storm water should be retained on site
- Full use of reclaimed water at all golf courses
- More aggressive regulations for rentals, apartments, common areas of water use (using meters for direct feedback) and ensure adequate funding to enforce regulations
- Develop a clear statement of how much water is available for how many people, e.g. carrying capacity
- Aggressive conservation through more appropriate water rates and other mechanisms for commercial, industrial and households
- Use permeable paving to promote groundwater recharge
- Use dry cooling technologies
- Greater use of landscaping with drought resistant plants
- Price water to reflect its value as a resource
- Achieve fully integrated resource planning (e.g. transportation, water, energy, etc.)

Constraints and Barriers

Various challenges were identified that impede progress to water management. Existing institutions were seen as lacking and not up to the task. Water policy appears to be infused with conflict between private and public perceptions of water, the need for revenue from water sales and the need to conserve, lack of agreement on the appropriateness of the use of imported supply, and conflict between agencies and managers. Public education was again highlighted to increase the level of awareness. Ultimately, the lack of public confidence that water is being properly managed is a barrier in and of itself. Lack of trust can be exemplified in the commonly heard complaint, “What are we conserving water for - to subsidize growth?”

Best Case Sustainable water supply & vibrant economy, stabilize growth, know carrying capacity • Legal, flexible water use plan, annual basis what can be used, rationing of supply • Developing political will to recognize limits, someplace there is a line for growth • Appropriate baseline information to make decisions, prioritize use • Relationship, interaction with scientific community • No further depletion of aquifer • Community takes responsibility for conservation • Realistic dynamic relationship, understand whole cycle, inputs and outputs

Paths to Progress

- Watershed based management
- Re-examine and prioritize water use, stop action
- Enforceable building codes e.g. water harvesting
- Multiple sources of water, desalinization, rationing, availability
- Realistic water budget
- Increase reclamation and purification
- Integrate water and energy
- Consistent application of plans, transparencies (makers of policies)
- Ex. Channelization of washes
- Comprehensive strategy: start conservation at the top of the watershed (earthworks, natural recharge)
- Determine the formula for water resource use possible given X amount of growth

Constraints

- Energy
- Conflict, private ownership and public need for water
- Baseline water use, human support
- Review current water policy
- Prop 207: Private Property Rights Protection Act

Worst Case Run out of water, economy crashes, people leave, people die • Not enough water to meet replenishment commitments to City groundwater • Pretend growth not constrained by water • Allow political process, economic forces, development to drive decisions • Water will be inadequately treated for health and safety • Economic future based on outside sources of water • Political will • Subsidize growth, infrastructure and impact fees • Live on rainwater alone • Figure out costs, water quality treatment, appropriate technology • Limited water source relative to growth • Uncertain quality and quantity • Failure to recognize • Where are we? Arcane water laws • Failing side, poor, in denial

Best Case Sustainable water • Natural limitations on water supplies • Usage patterns people and other • Full implementation of Water Conservation Task Force • Education of neighborhoods • Informed • Codes • Tax Incentives for assessment and implementation • Achieve sustainable yield of water • Household and public buildings use greywater and water harvesting • Develop common vision of sustainable yield/use • All surface water/stormwater is retained on site • Land planning & water use planning coordinated • AZ state supportive of Pima County water goals • Reform state land regulations to accomplish Pima County goals • Regarding golf courses- all on reclaimed water • All planning centered on water • No more isolated useless turf on groundwater • Associate surface water and growth into planning and law • More aggressive regulations for rentals, apartments, common areas of water use and have enough money to enforce regulations • More regulatory authority for excessive use and other excessive (mistakes) nonessential uses • Meter individual use in apartments and other places where people don't get direct feedback on how much water they use • Good outreach by utilities to people • Disconnect utility income from results of conservation, to increase utility buy-in on consensus • Connect local food needs with water use and local water sources • Maximum use of reclaimed water • Reclaimed water made financially available to individual users and residences, etc. • Aggressive conservation through more appropriate water rates and other mechanisms for commercial, industrial and household • Incentives for conversion to low flow fixtures

Paths to Progress

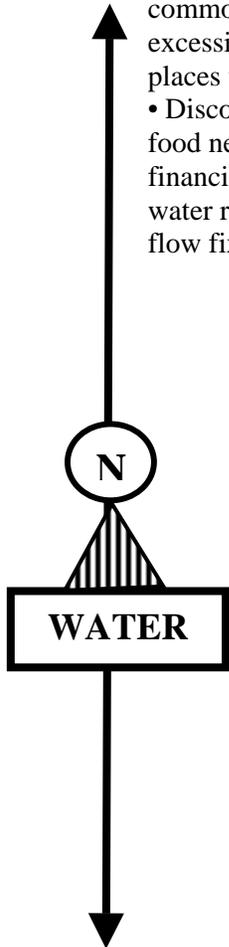
- Fees reflect true costs
- High awareness at community level
- Education and outreach pathway
- Find a better source of funding infrastructure and delivery
- Make water (connection? consumption?) fees reflect the true cost of water, including education, outreach conservation

Constraints

- Funding for water management and operations
- People need to go in same direction, education
- Conflict revenues vs. conservation
- Lack of connection person to political & economic
- Disconnect between agencies and water managers
- Outreach and education, more needed
- Not enough local water to support the current or future population
- Lack of community agreement on appropriateness of imported supply
- Usage pattern by people and others (including ecosystems) result in exceeding available supply

Ranking of Current Conditions Good grass roots awareness, but lack of connection between personal values and regional planning, zoning, institutional conditions • Some progress in long-term planning overall, less than neutral in terms of condition, but generally getting better • Disconnect between water managers' approach and the science and public perception • Outreach and education to regular people needs to be improved

Worst Case No toilet to tap technology • Nobody lives here anymore • Potable water on golf courses • Raping rural areas as water for urban growth • Not enough water for population without importation



Best Case Quantity improves • Landscape designs get better for water efficiency • Predominance of native vegetation (native going in) • Conserving water creates a feedback loop to improve quality of life • Rain becomes a new source of water, is managed • Define sustainability and look at carrying capacity • Better materials for paving, more permeable • Curb cuts allowed • Composting toilets • Not relying on fossil fuels • Better soil management • Water runs out and we leave • Using dry cooling or thermo • More use of xeriscape • Limit growth before we run out of water • Enough water for wildlife and native species • Everyone is conserving • Water harvesting • No potable water for conservation • No tap to toilet • Full toilet to tap • Quality of potable improves



Paths to Progress

- Policies, personal behavior
- Retrofit to increase efficiencies
- Prioritize: e.g. local food production
- Increase soil management
- Good potable water
- Conservation

Constraints

- Cost
- Bottled water has increased
- Water quality?
- Public awareness
- Externalities not good
- Lack of institutions up to the challenge
- Toilet flushing fundamentals
- Finding water sources

Worst Case Continued population growth puts pressure on water supplies • Indiscriminate use • Water quality • Environmental uses/needs • Water table goes down • CAP goes down • Treating water as waste and hazard • Lack of connection between physical limitations of region, water use and management • Are we conserving for what? (growth) • Become Atlanta • Continued drought conditions • People believing we have to accommodate growth • More sprawl, more private wells drilled • No agriculture left • Too much paving • Too many resorts, golf courses • Increase in arsenic levels • Get water from far away, create regional environmental impacts • Irreparable damage to aquifers • Build to max population • Inappropriate waste into water continues (pharmaceuticals)

Issues & Goals

- Big Campaign for individual conservation
- Quantify water as a sustainable supply
- Statewide reform of Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District (CAGRDR)

Action Items:

- (1) More regulation
- Multimedia education campaign (laws and conservation)
- Meaningful dialogue between conflicting entities
- (1) Focus on what we agree on
- (3) Input of scientific community
- (1) Recalculate Central Arizona Project (CAP) Colorado River availability
- Toilet to toilet
- Ration water year by year
- Recognize water and energy connection
- (3) True integrated resource planning (transportation, water, energy, etc.)
- (1) Multifamily use sub-metering
- Assess economic impact of agricultural and mining use
- (1) Revisit water rates
- (3) Impact fees to reflect true cost of environmental impact
- (1) Disaster Recovery Plan (understandable and accessible)
- Multi-sphered approach: Individual, Neighborhood, Wards, etc. (Personal action plans)
- (3) De-linking Conservation and Growth
- Tax swimming pools, non-native plants and lawns



Agencies/Partners Media • Homebuilders • Neighborhoods • Scientists • Water Providers • Federal Elected Officials • Schools • Media • Leadership in all jurisdictions (Mayor/ Council)

Issues & Goals

- Money

Action Items:

- (8) Incentives, grey water harvesting etc.
- (2) Increase cost of water (pay for what you use)
- (4) Tax benefit for water use
- Evaluations and assessments of water conservation, water efficiency
- (6) Fully implement recommendations of Water Conservation Task Force
- (1) Reconsideration of measures taken off the table
- (1) Cost to ratepayers to pay
- (1) Mandatory assessment and retrofit by 2012
- Building codes landmark year, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Standards
- Conservation technology for new construction
- (3) Education at neighborhood level
- Specific and logistical info, what, how, cost
- (3) Plumbing code 2006
- International sustainable practices, county vs. city
- Region-wide codes
- Full examination of potential for grey water
- Landscape contractors/ installers keep run-off on site
- Licensed certificate for passive water harvesting
- Education and information sharing
- Informed conversation
- Accessibility- water harvesting and grey water practices simple
- Demonstration sites accessible
- Greenwash program like TEP Greenwatt
- Bluedrop program proposed water for environment
- Corporate sponsors

Agencies/Partners Tucson Water • Water Conservation Task Force • National Building Code Plumbing • Neighborhood Groups • Landscape Designers/Installers • Desert Horticulture Conference folks (May) • Public Libraries • Demonstration Site Partners: The Nature Conservancy, Watershed Management Group, Desert Museum, Botanical Gardens • Master Watershed Stewards • Technicians for Sustainability • Corporate Sponsor • Water device supplier (ex. Rainbird) • Private Sector

Issues & Goals

Action Items:

- (2) Encourage water conservation
- Maintain and enhance water savings/re-circulate benefits
- Bluedrop program proposed
- (5) Establish baseline for all water resources and uses (mining, agriculture, people, ecosystem)
- Track amount used per person
- How much do we have? Watershed level on a regular basis, understandable by public
- (2) Relate water costs to value of resource
- Water regulation to address impacts of water pumping, eg. subdivisions on surrounding wells and unregulated wells
- Impact fees: low cost recovery
- Achieving sustainable goals subject to penalties if not reached
- (2) Larger scale rainwater harvesting
- Demonstration catchments, storm water
- Downtown reconstruction underground tank
- Incentives for water harvesting
- (2) Water rates, mandatory baseline use above line
- (2) Grey water systems in new construction
- Education about grey water harvesting
- Small dams
- (3) Incorporation of climate science in water budget
- (1) Public Service Announcements
- Education

Agencies/Partners Southern Arizona Home Builders Association • God • Developers • Municipalities • Arizona Department of Water Resources • U of A • Pima Association of Governments • Mines • Neighborhoods • Tucson Water • Schools • Activists • U.S. Forest Service • National & State parks • Resorts • Tribes • Media • Other Colorado River States • Builders • Politicians • Army Corp of Engineers • Architects • Federal Emergency Management Agency



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Protection, Enhancement, Creation of Urban Green Assets

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Protection, Enhancement, Creation of Urban Green Assets

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the value and meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Protection, Enhancement, Creation of Urban Green Assets. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Irene Ogata from the City of Tucson Department of Urban Planning and Design and Steve Anderson from Pima County.

Discussion Points

Major discussion themes regarding urban green assets suggested that although the region has existing pocket and sports parks, there is an overall deficit of green space in the region and there is a need for a connected network of greenways and green space accessible to all community members. Concerns were raised about accessibility to green space without the use of a vehicle and for people with disabilities, important considerations when planning urban green space. Participants were supportive of utilizing native vegetation and maintaining existing natural areas, such as washes.

Connections between urban green space and the urban heat island effect were made, further supporting the need for more urban green assets in places like parking lots and sidewalks to mitigate increased temperatures in the urban environment. The discussion also included the possibility of regulatory changes that may make the inclusion of additional green space easier to achieve. For example, narrowing roadways to allow for a green buffer in-between streets and sidewalks.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?

What is the Worst?

What are the paths toward the Best Case?

What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario for protecting, enhancing, and creating urban green assets would encompass the following attributes:

- A network of pathways for walking and biking with landscaping connected to other urban open spaces and commercial areas where services can be accessed.
- Citizens actively participate in urban greening.
- Appropriate spaces for food growing identified and an increase in community gardens/urban agriculture.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

The consequences of failing to protect and increase our urban green space were connected to many other issues facing our region, including access to food sources and declining water resources. Another concern is the ever-increasing amount of asphalt and other impermeable surfaces, which also have implications for retaining water resources and escalating the urban heat island effect. Continuing to grow without creating and maintaining urban green space is likely to accelerate these and other issues we face as a growing region (such as traffic congestion).

The Way Forward

Large scale regional planning for a system of greenways and connected green space was viewed as an important step for building the region’s green assets. Intergovernmental cooperation and community education and involvement are also important for a successful sustainability vision. Individuals have much to contribute if educated on techniques and benefits of urban greening, including water harvesting to maintain vegetation and access to local food sources. Another important step is an update of the land use code so that it can be a tool for creating urban green space, not prohibitive of it.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

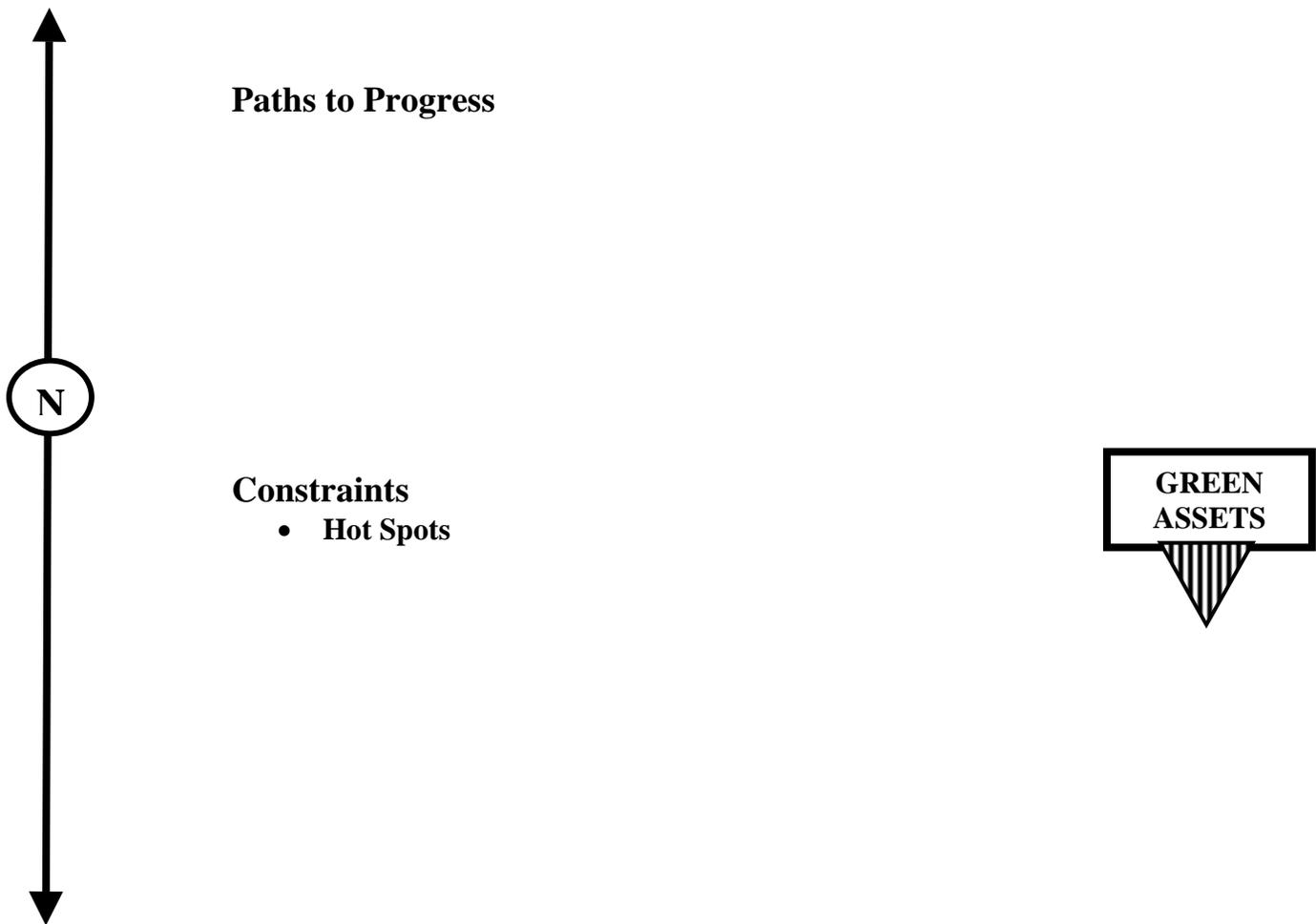
- Collaboration between jurisdictions
- Develop pilot projects
- Combining landscape requirements with water requirements
- State trust land reforms
- Developments must allow links between trails, open space and developments
- Mandatory water harvesting in developments, look at developments as “watersheds”
- Plant more native species
- Empower neighborhoods/community to do green projects
- Change code to allow sidewalks to be farther from roads with green space in-between roads and sidewalks

- Restoration of watercourses, riparian restoration
- Inventory city lands to identify spaces for food growing, community gardens/urban agriculture
- Use permeable paving to promote groundwater recharge and mitigate the urban heat island effect

Constraints and Barriers

Various challenges were identified that may impede progress in improving the region's system of green assets. Intergovernmental cooperation and regional planning was seen as lacking, as well as community education efforts on the importance of urban green space for mitigating other regional issues. The absence of baseline data on issues such as the costs of the urban heat island effect or the savings associated with local food production and associated quantitative metrics for measuring progress make it difficult to know whether we are achieving our goals.

Best Case Broad understanding of what a green asset is • (2) All native species, jurisdictions supports • (6) Neighborhoods' open space restored and functional (washes, etc) • (3) Locally grown and consumed food • Food security • Water harvesting – maximize • Maintain native soils, stable top soil, no erosion • Use plant resources to build soil – grow naturally • Transportation corridors serve multiple functions (ecological) • Utilize alleyways as open space • (2) Citizens actively participate in urban greening • (1) Security for kids in urban green spaces • (1) Utilize native and desert appropriate species Utilize natives as “aesthetic brand” Sonoran Desert Character • Design in water harvesting (swales) • (2) Wildlife connectivity • Trails • (1) Urban amphibian habitat/mosquito reduction



Worst Case Disconnected bike paths • Utility poles only shade • Dust • Urban canopy loss of private property • Urban heat island effect with no mitigation • Too much asphalt • Water not harvested – runoff lost • Bad codes, encourage inappropriate development • Kids stay inside, no outdoors • Pesticides, mowing, chemical pest control used on non-native plants • No light rail, no transportation • Miles of engineered channel • Alleys ignored • No native species • Few species of wildlife • Overly wide neighborhood streets • Housebound people, crime increases • Energy waste • Too much dependence on oil • Poor site design of development, increasing paving • Urban sprawl • Distances traveled • Social isolation • Social opportunities missed to assist during crisis • Water waste via irrigation • Lack of access to green spaces, transportation or inadequate amounts • Incomplete development missed opportunities for recreation and open space • Inaccessibility, lack of sidewalks and connections

Best Case (3) Green Assets close to where people live • (1) Open areas in urban fabric, vacant lots, preserve view corridors • (5) High density urban villages, green and no development on the outskirts • (2) Electric vehicles in urban core • (3) Restoration of watercourses, riparian restoration • (6) Pathways for walking and biking with landscaping, connected to other urban open spaces • (3) Connected to commercial (walkable) • (1) Increase pedestrian and bikeways • More linear parks • Edible landscapes, increase availability • (2) Connect open space to urban areas with greenways • (3) Safe multi-generational connections to open space • (5) Inventory city lands to ID spaces for food growing, community gardens/urban agriculture • Edible food growing citywide • Consider drought tolerant edible plants • Desert should be accessible to all, not just car drivers • Facilitate access by all, peoples, ADA, etc. • Destinations along walking biking corridors • Well maintained park system • Best case points supported by 'best case' of all groups • (1) Use of recycled materials in art



Paths to Progress

- (2) Collaboration between jurisdictions
- Public awareness
- Education on techniques
- (3) Develop pilot projects
- Provide incentives
- Prime time commercials on city issues
- High property tax to fund green initiatives
- (1) Acquisition of land – Fantasy Island Trails Park
- Increase opportunities to experience the outdoors - build constitution
- (3) Change land codes
- Garbage taxes

Constraints

- No clean energy
- Not addressing the issue – public/private
- Not enough public educational access re: environment, particularly relevant
- No collaboration between entities (government)
- Lack of awareness of true cost of heat island effect
- No park fees to generate funds for parks – resistance
- Population growth
- Politicians sucking up to businesses
- No quantitative metrics to show improvement/progress
- Moving targets
- Lack of awareness of local food production



Worst Case Food sources far away from residential areas, no neighborhood markets • More golf courses, fewer parks • Public land goes private • Loss of sense of place • Lots of sprawl, drought, poor air quality, traffic jams • Vegetation removed because of water needs • Use of potable water for irrigation • Tucson does not improve • Parking lots too large • Ever-widening streets, bad for pedestrians • Being like Phoenix – descent into hell • Can't harvest water • Buffel grass takes over • Too much hardscape • Rain considered a negative • Loss of native flora & fauna • Credit crunch paralyzes governments. – no fiscal resources • No corridors for wildlife • Dropping water table – riparian corridor death • Fuel shortages cripple food supply • Health issues/childhood obesity • Landfills with toxic waste • Narrow view of what urban green is • No more environmental education • Invasive plant species

Best Case Interconnected recreational trails and parks • (1) Ability to get from one area to another in shade • (1) Destinations along greenways (commercial, schools, etc.) • Green space in every ‘hood (not just sports parks, pocket parks) • (1) All species thriving • Trees to insulate neighborhoods from park lighting (buffer) • (2) Greenways safe for all, multi-generational • (1) Decreasing width of streets, all corridors have bikeways/lanes, retrofit older streets • (2) Safer cycling by separate bike paths, with trees • Change code to have sidewalks farther from roads with green space between road and sidewalk • (2) More native plant preservation • (1) Parking lots with more shade • (2) Water harvesting to water trees • (1) Utilize all “dormant” spaces as green space • Community gardens • (1) Retain runoff • Mandatory water harvesting in developments, look at developments as “watersheds” • (1) Permeable parking surface • (5) Less heat island effect • Green roofs

Paths to Progress

- (6) Changes to land use code
- Combining landscape requirements with water requirements and request for right of way to create multi-functional
- Large scale regional greenway planning
- (3) State trust land reforms
- Political leaders should listen to and follow public green interests
- (5) Reverse Prop. 207: Private Property Rights Protection Act
- Developments must allow links between trails, open space and developments
- (1) Plant more native species
- Empower neighborhoods/communicate to do green projects
- (1) Schools and neighborhoods take initiative and share success stories
- Appropriate landscaping at home
- Water harvesting
- Volunteers to maintain green spaces
- Hot Spots

Constraints

- Political Will
- Codes
- Money
- Scrape and build development
- Developer acceptance
- Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA)
- Apathy



Worst Case

Issues & Goals

- Make neighborhood Open Space functional- Restore
 - a. Neighborhood involvement in planning
 - b. Grants
 - c. Technical assistance
 - d. Context education, what to link to
 - e. Indicators/guidelines
 - f. Involve: Neighbors, Neighborhood associations, City, Flood control agencies, nonprofits, Pro Neighborhoods, Business, churches-FBOs, UofA, Youth organizations, Dept. of Neighborhood Preservation, City planning, Trail groups, user groups, School districts & schools, Professionals in the field
 - g. Obstacles: Funding, time, codes, red tape, education, ownership
- Take advantage of existing programs
 - a. Identify all the programs
 - b. Capacity building for the programs, more resources to promote and execute
 - c. Assign project to a coordinator
 - d. Utilize public agencies to help promote
 - e. Partners: City agencies, Council members, non-governmental organizations

Action Items:

- (1) Contact elected reps and convince them of importance of green elements
- (2) Incorporate values discussed into policies and procedures
- (3) Expand Trees for Tucson and other similar programs
- (2) Evaluate open space, inventory qualities and characteristics
- (7) Take advantage of existing programs/ make information available – network
- (1) Maintenance standards
- Parking lot greening and pervious surface initiative
- (2) City should be leader on green infrastructure initiative, water harvesting
- (3) City wide composting program

Agencies/ Partners Neighbors, Neighborhood associations • Flood control agencies • Pro Neighborhoods • Business • churches-FBOs • UofA • Youth organizations • Dept. of Neighborhood Preservation • City planning • Trail groups • user groups • School districts & schools • Professionals in the field • City agencies • Council members • Non-governmental organizations

Issues & Goals

- 
- Pathways for walking and biking, connected to trails, commercial, destinations, with landscaping
 - a. Make sure trail master plan update is promoted, bike shops, Summit hut
 - b. Access to funding
 - c. Kid involvement
 - d. Bike night on river park, etc., biking events
 - e. Work with residential developments
 - f. Bar(?) meetings
 - g. Need to publicize points we agree on
 - h. **Partners:** enthusiasts, coordinator to promote and organize, neighborhoods, schools, user groups, gas tax, citizen initiative, Departments of Transportation, State of Arizona, Sierra Club
 - i. **Obstacles:** Departments of Transportation, gas tax dedicated to roads, state legislation-process, no dedicated funding source, philosophical differences keep key groups apart, kills collaboration, lack of consensus
 - High Density Urban Village–green, no development on outskirts
 - a. Make people want it
 - b. Follow Portland model
 - c. Incentivize, builders and developers
 - d. Allow more mixed use by changing zoning
 - e. Promote quality of life, convenience and benefits
 - f. Growth caps
 - g. **Partners:** Parks and Rec, Lawyers, zoning, Development community, Politicians, HUD, AIA/ASLA/APA, Habitat, Community Food Bank, Tucson-planning, Pima, Media, Current Residents, UofA, Architecture L.HRCH, Neighborhoods, Youth Orgs, School Districts, Venture Capitalists
 - h. **Obstacles:** Politicians, weak?, Funding, 207, Landowner expectations, no appreciation of finite resource situation, education funding for urban schools
 - Inventory City lands– Edible food growing site ID and development
 - a. Pilot projects
 - b. Coordinator person
 - c. Education
 - d. Coordinate with County extension services, farming training!
 - e. Education of natural food collection
 - f. Have land speculators lease lands to gardeners
 - g. Tie in to local food network, farmers' markets

Agencies/Partners Enthusiasts • Coordinator to promote and organize • Neighborhoods • Schools • User groups • Departments of Transportation • State of Arizona • Sierra Club • Parks and Rec • Lawyers • Zoning • Development community • Politicians • U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Design (HUD) • Architects (AIA/ASLA/APA) • Community Food Bank • Tucson-planning • Pima County • Media • Current residents • UofA • Architecture L.HRCH • Youth Organizations, School Districts • Venture Capitalists

Issues & Goals

- Changes to land use codes
 - a. Repeal Prop. 207: Private Property Rights Protection Act
 - b. Pressure on elected officials & City Manager
 - c. Get professional organizations (AIA, ULI, APA, etc.) to do a training to explain code- with graphics, etc. & options
 - d. Look at communities with good codes, case studies
 - e. Educate the community
 - f. Get past mistrust, find common ground
 - g. Shared vision, demonstration project
 - h. **Partners:** APA,AIA,ULI, Voters, Neighborhoods, Sustainable Tucson, SAHBA, City, County Planning depts., library
 - i. **Obstacles:** Perception of bad land use, bureaucracy, process complexity, conflicting elements of code

- Reduce Heat Island effect
 - a. Promote cool roofs, get the word out in Home Owners Association newsletters
 - b. Trees with water harvesting, plant trees
 - c. Less pavement
 - d. Tax incentives for doing the “right thing”
 - e. Green roofs
 - f. **Partners:** Development Services, Building Depts., Politicians, Home Depot, Loews, Manufacturers, Neighborhoods and Home Owners Associations
 - g. **Obstacles:** HA rules, Pima County code elements, color ordinance, politicians, weak communication, coordination between organizations, lack of transit options, fire & trash trucks

- Interconnect recreational trails and parks
 - a. Acquire land
 - b. Coordinate with private development
 - c. Awareness of trails and connection needs
 - d. Education
 - e. **Partners:** Parks & Rec • Users • Universities
 - f. **Obstacles:** NIMBYs (Not in my backyard)

Agencies/Partners APA, AIA, ULI • Voters • Neighborhoods • Sustainable Tucson • SAHBA • City, County Planning depts. • Library • Development Services • Building Depts. • Politicians • Home Depot • Loews • Manufacturers • Neighborhoods and Home Owners Associations • Parks & Rec • Users • Universities



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Minimization of Waste to Landfills

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Minimization of Waste to Landfills

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Minimization of Waste to Landfills. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Joan Lionetti from Tucson Clean and Beautiful.

Discussion Points

Although recycling efforts and infrastructure exist in the community, there are many areas for improvement and opportunities to increase efforts. Participants who live in unincorporated areas expressed a desire for home recycling services. There was a general sentiment that a recycling barrel should accompany every trashcan. Other areas for expansion included schools, businesses, public spaces, and a composting program, among others. Much of the discussion centered on developing a zero-waste loop where alternative uses for waste were utilized as part of the disposal process. University research was viewed as an important component to aid the development of zero-waste loops.

Public education was discussed as key to increasing recycling efforts. There is often a disconnect between throwing away one's trash and the reality that "away" is a place. Educating the public about the realities of waste management and how to recycle may improve individual recycling efforts.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

- What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?
- What is the Worst?
- What are the paths toward the Best Case?
- What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario for managing and minimizing waste would encompass the following attributes:

- A comprehensive, regional recycling program (City and County) that includes composting.
- The development of zero-waste loops for government, businesses, etc.
- Public education about the importance of recycling and a greater sense of personal responsibility for reducing waste.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

The characteristics of the worst case scenario identified were similar to a “do nothing” approach. A regional recycling and waste reduction program does not currently exist, private and public entities have not focused on developing and managing zero-waste loops, and there remains a gap in public awareness about the implications of consumption and the resulting waste and importance of recycling.

The Way Forward

Regional collaboration and partnerships with the University and business were identified as important steps for achieving a sustainable vision for waste management. Although there was a strong sense of personal responsibility for reducing waste, Government, the University, and businesses were viewed as key players and important leaders in the community and thus, should adopt comprehensive waste reduction plans to set standards for the community to follow.

In terms of accountability, participants desired a clear plan with objectives and benchmarks for reaching regional waste reduction goals, and opportunities for public feedback on goals and progress.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

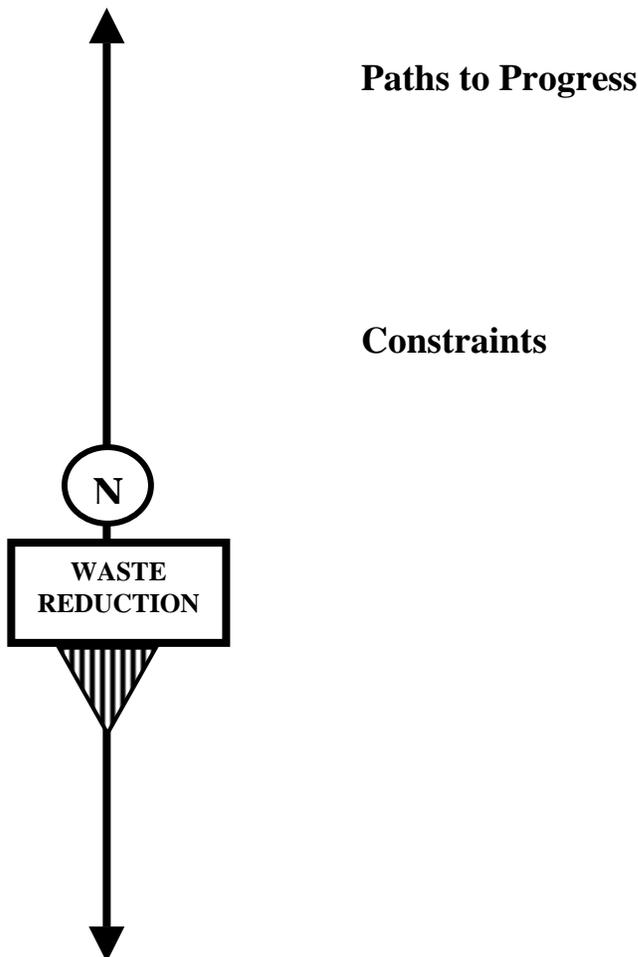
- Treat recyclables as a resource and require bins everywhere there are trash bins
- Local governments work with business and manufacturing and create incentives for zero waste loop
- Businesses encouraged to use greener products in which life cycle of product is kept in mind, e.g. reduce packaging
- Encourage scientific innovation
- Education about what happens to waste in landfills and recyclables: how to recycle, what happens if you contaminate your recycle bin
- County joins City Blue Barrel program
- Recycling in apartments, businesses, restaurants and parks
- Region-wide composting

- True cost of waste incorporated into the cost of doing business (ex. toxic substances)
- Separate building material recycling stations
- Extract methane from landfill for electricity
- Identify best management practices and share with appropriate stakeholders
- Waste fees based on how much produced

Constraints and Barriers

Barriers to expanding individual recycling efforts are tied to the infrastructure available for community recycling and education about why and how to recycle. For example, individuals living in apartments or in unincorporated areas may not have home collection services for recyclables. Another example is the lack of recycling bins in public spaces. Many people are unaware of the importance of waste reduction or how to recycle without contaminating materials. The need for innovation was identified as a constraint for developing zero-waste loops, as well as the perceived costs to businesses for managing waste reduction strategies.

Best Case Blue Barrels (BB) in City • County join City BB program • Outlaw plastic bags and bottles • Sustainable recycling education • Recycling in apartments, businesses, restaurants and parks • Compost region wide (separate bin) • Businesses have recycling incentives (fee system for garbage and more for recycling), charge by weight (garbage) • Creative ways to use garbage: artwork, rugs out of newspapers, entrepreneurial incentives • True cost of waste incorporated into the cost of doing business (toxic substances) • Recycle building materials educate builders (79% of materials are recyclable) • Reuse surplus office furniture and equipment (e.g. Business to nonprofit) • Consider landfill salvage (change regulations on landfills) • Encourage use of Freecycle • Community swapping at landfill • Swapmeet at landfill, once a month after items are sorted • Rely on volunteers • Credit system for large contributors • Separate building material recycling stations • Green Builder program • Incentives for companies that use recycled material • Tipping fee increase • Extract methane from landfill for electricity • Identify best management practices and share with appropriate stakeholders (e.g. Business material recycling BMPs)



Worst Case Parks, businesses, apartments, restaurants not obligated to recycle • More bottled water being used • Lots of plastic bag use (only 2% recycled, toxic dust) • Pima County buildings, no recycling contract • City/County not practicing what they preach • No blue barrels in County • Staff have garbage mentality • Compostable material going to landfill • Too much food packaging

Best Case Treat recyclables as a resource and require bins everywhere there are trash bins • Community embracing of recycling, more awareness • Recycling at apartments, convenient locations for community recycling centers • Increase participation of HHW • Local governments work with business and manufacturing and create incentives for zero waste loop • Source reduction • Businesses encouraged to use greener products in which life cycle of product is kept in mind, e.g. reduce packaging or reuse • Small business recycling programs • Encourage scientific innovation, e.g. grind up food waste for compost through garbage disposal • Encourage reuse, going to thrift stores, encourage use of canvas shopping bags, campaign, incentives • Education about what happens to waste in landfills and recyclables: how to recycle, what happens if you contaminate your recycle bin • Great household hazardous waste program (a US model) • Clearer plan with how to reach recycling goals, who's accountable and public feedback • U of A group take on recycling bin issue

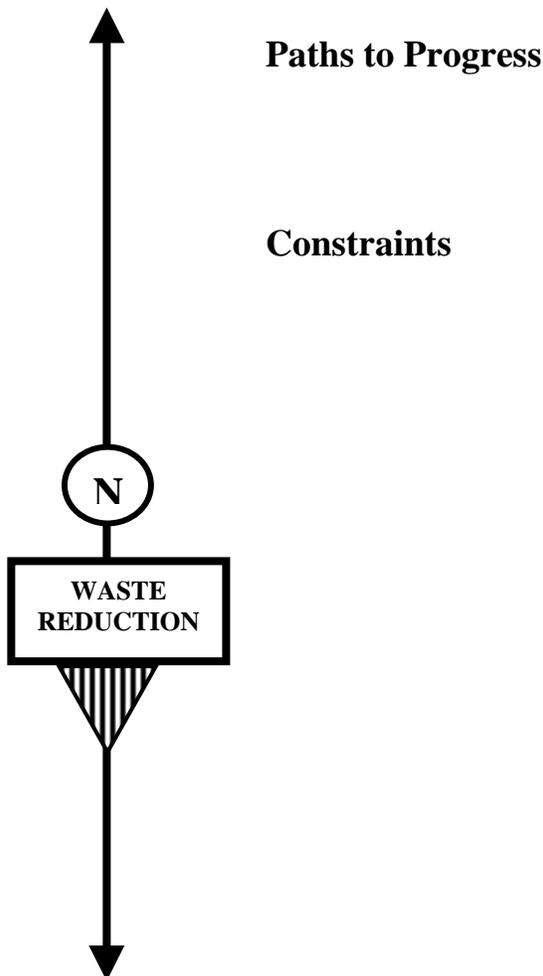
Paths to Progress

Constraints



Worst Case Apathy • Lack of incentives • History of reliance on landfills • Lack of awareness about where recycling goes, what happens to money City gets from recycling • Energy wasted collecting polluted recyclables • Much more could be easily recycled in the region • Poor commercial recycling • County haulers not pro-active about providing recycle bins • No regional program for waste reduction • Lack of recycling containers at U of A, Lack of container consistency

Best Case Individuals return products to local businesses and require them to deal with it • Much better education in the City • Fines for those who contaminate recycling bins • Work locally on recycling initiatives • Everyone has access to recycling • Recycling containers in public and recreational areas, airport • Goal of zero waste • Leads to strategies to meet goal, e.g. restrictions on polystyrene • Facility must be able to handle all materials • City-wide composting (yard waste) residential, public (zoo animal waste) • Incentives, help establish businesses that recycle materials • Product designers consider product life cycle, make manufacturers responsible for product at end of its life cycle, e.g. tires and batteries • Working with all jurisdictions, including UofA, to be proactive about product life cycle including distribution, e.g. engineers from UofA setting example • Work with local industry so that they can be a national model • Waste fees based on how much produced • Require local government to take the lead in terms of green purchasing and recycling (e.g. Phone book recycling) • Regs/taxes/fees on non-recycling projects, e.g. airports



Worst Case No decent recycling opportunities in Pima County • Lack of knowledge of what is/what is not recyclable at individual level, leads to contamination

Issues & Goals

- Reduce the amount of waste being landfilled
- Recycle More
- Reuse More (everyone participates)
- Reduction at source
- Initiate a recycling program for business
- Initiate a green waste recycling program for residences

Action Items:

- Master recycler program, 1 year of voluntary service required to be an official Master Recycler
- Education, especially in Pima County
- Outdoor recycling bins at all supermarkets



Agencies/Partners Pima County, ADEQ • Pima County Supervisors • City of Tucson Councilmembers • City/County Sustainability Staff • Businesses

Issues & Goals: Reduce Waste

Action Items:

- Waste reduction certification program (similar to LEED) for businesses, they use the certificate for marketing (green business)
- Make recycling mandatory (Durham, NC)
- Increase education
- Regulate certain types of plastic
- Blue bins everywhere there is a trash can
- Treat recycling equal to trash in terms of receptacles
- Pay as you dump or throw; recycling is free
- To influence consumer behavior, adjust garbage fees dependent on how much community recycles
- Ramp up education
- Have resources (i.e. containers) readily available
- Individuals, especially renters for household hazardous waste
- Companies, zero waste carpet
- Solutions need to be fully integrated
- Elected leadership (e.g. City) provide infrastructure such as Blue Barrels
- Make it easy for individuals
- Provide resources for businesses such as sustainability audits with a certification system
- Consider banning outdoor advertising with the goal of changing consumer behavior



Agencies/Partners

Issues & Goals

- Reduce Waste
- Reuse Waste
- Recycle Waste

Action Items:

- Increase education about recycling program, reusing, and reduction of waste
- Promote zero waste cradle to cradle, financial incentives for green businesses, money for staff and infrastructure
- Government (City, County) demonstrate good practices
- Everywhere there is a waste bin there is a recycling bin
- Political support for taxes or other funding mechanism
- Clean Building program
- Financial incentives for Green business certification
- For facilities, operations, programs
- Green map with all green businesses
- Pay as you throw program
- Develop a city-sponsored composting program
- Increase public communications with staff from City/County (especially department heads)
- Partner with Civano nursery to establish a green waste composting pilot program (partner with nurseries)
- Micro loans for companies that use recycled materials in their product manufacturing



Agencies/Partners



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the value and meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Valerie Rauluk from Venture Catalyst, Inc. and Rep. Steve Farley, District 28, Arizona State House of Representatives.

Discussion Points

Many of the points made by participants centered on changing traditional ways of thinking about lifestyle choices and planning decisions to include a deeper understanding of the environmental effects of the choices we make. For example, one comment stressed shifting from “bigger is better” to “*better* is better,” a driver of innovation for sustainable solutions. Connections between drivers of greenhouse gas emissions, such as sprawling development and waste management, and ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as connected bicycle and pedestrian paths and recycling, were also identified.

A common theme throughout the day was a focus on retrofitting existing infrastructure to improve energy efficiency. Participants indicated the importance of improving our existing infrastructure and ways to achieve this through incentives or other forms of support.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

- What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?
- What is the Worst?
- What are the paths toward the Best Case?
- What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario for reducing greenhouse gas emissions would encompass the following attributes:

- A plan for reduced levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.
- A reliable and comprehensive network of transportation alternatives.
- An incentive program to assist with the retrofit of existing houses and buildings for improved energy efficiency.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

The consequences of failing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions were viewed as risks to our health and economy, as well as to the environment. There is great concern over climate projections and the effect climate change will have on livability in the southwest. The ghost town scenario was raised as a possibility, where environmental changes from global warming cause the Tucson area to be unsuitable for people to live. However, concerns over continuing to grow like Phoenix were also raised as an undesirable outcome.

The Way Forward

New ways of thinking were identified as important for avoiding doing “business as usual” in our changing environment. Political leadership was seen as key for driving a sustainable vision, by developing new standards and reconciling the financial costs of solutions, such as retrofits, through incentives. Participants felt that rethinking how and where we grow with attention to improving transportation alternatives is needed to curb greenhouse gas emissions, by providing more opportunities for the community to make different choices.

With respect to accountability, the participants believed that the development of a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions with baseline data and goals is important. Leadership in developing new standards and follow-through on large-scale efforts for energy efficiency are important for propelling change in the region.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

- Active, concerned citizenry
- Shift away from a consumption economy
- Schools as green islands
- Reduce sprawl
- LEED neighborhood development standard
- Increase education on energy incentives
- Tax incentives
- Carbon tax

- Retrofit program with funding for incentives/assistance
- Trained workforce for retrofits
- Encourage local food production
- Develop constituency for public transportation

Constraints and Barriers

Inaction from leadership in the community and from individuals was identified as a primary impediment to progress in energy management. Intergovernmental cooperation was seen as lacking, as well as public education on the realities of climate change. Even more alarming is the apparent apathy among individuals who are educated about the implications of global warming, but are still not motivated to make important changes.

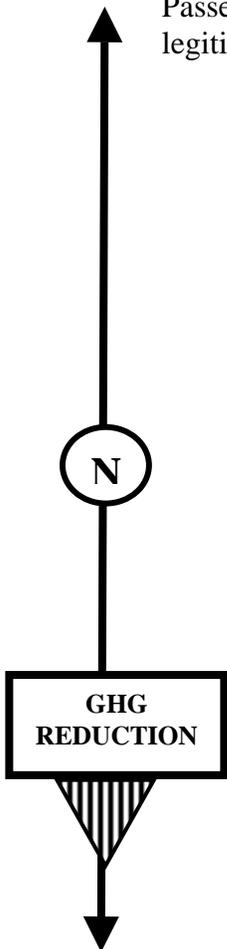
Best Case All existing houses retrofitted for Conservation/Energy Efficiency/Renewables, Solar • Affordable housing, affordable energy systems • Financial resources available • Tax credits • Solar for Rent (leasing) • Near transportation • Alternative transportation • (40%) land use and transportation • Cross town freeway • Only public transportation and bikes • Converting existing vehicles into hybrids (small trips on electric) • Awareness • Reduced emissions/extended fuel efficiencies with additives & other strategies • Immediate, small cost solutions • DMV recognition of “reconstructed vehicles” • Allow vehicles with emission reduction • Dealing with existing buildings– retrofit, with codes • Establish retrofit package for businesses • Trained workforce for retrofits • Need affordability • Enforced Standards • Massive Scale • Reduced level of GHG, 80% below 1990 by 2050 • Achieve leadership in reduction • Carbon “sticker” label, disclosure for products and vehicles • Consumers have carbon impact info • Government entities support reduction • Rigorous, comprehensive accounting • Voluntary programs • Climate registry • Co-benefits of carbon emissions • Legal authority for mobile sources, etc. • Motivation for using public transportation • Less car traveling • Let local authorities be flexible • Passes to transportation • Reuse parking space • Public infrastructure • Public transportation as legitimate choice

Paths to Progress

- Clinton retro fund
- Public Education
- Climate registry
- Carbon disclosure

Constraints

- Not enough success
- Mean income doesn't support livelihood
- Awareness but no action



Worst Case Lung cancer epidemic • Respiratory distress • Carbon Dioxide going up • Loss of sky islands • Loss of diversity • We don't work fast enough • All climate projections come true • Oceans die • Hydrogen sulfide gas • Lose environment, lose economic viability

Best Case Sustainable Regional Plan • Insulation, solar, water reclaim in the house with mortgage • Same subsidy for oil to solar • Energy efficiency • All passive solar • Dealing honestly with reduction • 100% 2030 • Retrofit, need incentive program • Weatherize existing homes • Energy conservation codes • Workforce development, Energy Efficiency, retro/solar • Less reliance on autos • Incentives and opportunities • No more free parking • Connect all the river walks and bike paths • Reliable transportation • Solar powered rail to Phoenix • Infill to City

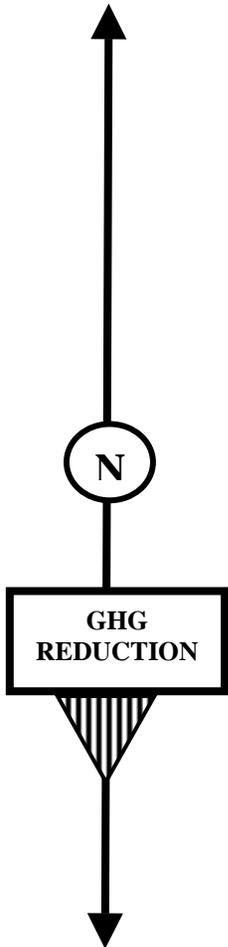
Paths to Progress

- Carbon tax
- Stub-out for solar
- Retrofit program
- Joint Technological Education Districts (JTED)
- Neighborhood solar plant at schools
- Less throw away culture
- Education/children
- Funds to support retrofit
- Develop constituency for public transportation
- Public transportation, intra and inter
- Have to do something individually
- Electrify transportation
- Clean electricity
- Building codes
- Local grid strengthening
- No more incandescent light bulbs
- Encourage local food production

Constraints

- Intergovernmental cooperation
- No viable infrastructure in center Tucson
- Grid issues
- No viable political process
- Fear
- Economics
- Money spent on war
- People who don't believe
- Need to do right now
- Population growth
- Growth without limits, thought cult
- Funding for public buildings

Worst Case • Dominated by alarmist forces into huge mistakes • More nukes • Health issues • Stress, disease • L.A. in 1979 (CA now uses 1/3 less) • Arizona and electricity use • Water shortages • Electricity shortages • 400,000 in community • 100 breeding pairs, Arctic • Gets hotter • Less rain • More irritable • More crime



Best Case All electric cars, no coal fired electricity if not public transportation • 3 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) gone • Less output of CO2 • Solar collectors available to everyone • Berkeley or better • Accessible financing • No new coal plants in Arizona • Energy efficiency • Huge incentives for existing housing stock • Low energy use (new and retro) • Shift from sprawl to more dense/clustered • Growth to retrofit • Shift bigger is better to better is better • Improved availability of alternate fuels • Incentives for alternative fuels • Urban villages, six Tucsons • All plans work together • Ecological literacy • Personal responsibility • Political leadership • Allocation of money to support • More support for local farms • Only high mileage gas cars allowed in Tucson/Pima County, permit • All facilities close by for walking or biking • Reliable info for renewable energy • Standardize carbon • Moving into paradigm where we don't throw anything away • LEED neighborhood

Paths to Progress

- Rail instead of road
- Improve access to money
- Active concerned citizenry
- Community meetings and involvement
- Improve state and regional leadership
- Change freight to rail
- Buy less stuff
- Less consumerism
- Restrict home sizes
- Shift away from a consumption economy
- Everything is recycled
- Everyone cares and acts
- Quantify worth of natural environment
- Incentives to shift from cars
- Schools as green islands
- Reduce sprawl
- Increase public education initiatives
- Increase education on energy incentives
- Ads on prime time, global warming and solutions
- Tax incentives
- Carbon tax
- Better awareness of plug load
- Reduce energy in goods

Constraints

- Government doesn't follow own guidance
- No genetic engineering for altruism
- Power and addiction
- Greed
- Apathy
- Political will
- Planning
- Implementing
- Global warming standard
- Economics
- Conflict: politics/science
- Lack of info
- High cost vs. benefits
- Over reliance on Military/Industrial competition for jobs



Worst Case Suburbs, Tucson to Phoenix • Living in cars • No water • Tucson abandoned • Lack of political will • Work and play far apart • Restrictions on travel • Air quality, outside residence • Can't see the mountains • Average winter temperature 80/summer 120 • Taste pollution in air • Gas masks • Infants and elders must leave valley • Local citizens not involved • Pressed for standards

Issues & Goals: Carbon Registry & Accounting, Disclosure/Labeling

- a. Funding Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency and Renewable energy retrofits
- b. Education/Awareness
- c. **Carbon Registry & Accounting, carbon disclosure and labeling**
- d. Codes and Standards
- e. Alternative Transportation
- f. Better economy to generate resources to fund retro/clean energy
- g. Neighborhood development to reduce dependence on private transportation
- h. Electrify transportation
- i. Reduce waste
- j. Carbon tax
- k. Tax incentives

Action Items:

- Inventory other carbon accountings
- Standards for counting
- Develop accounting standard for assessing services & products
- Local focus on low hanging fruit – transportation, electric power
- Integrate with other accounting
- Identify a preliminary system
- Pima Association of Governments (PAG) & State (mobile sources) to facilitate
- Investigate integrating with Energy Star
- Inventory carbon footprint protocol
- Carbon offset
- Tucson Electric Power (TEP) carbon calculator
- “Life Style” label
- Launch education to community
- Check out Wal-Mart standards, TesCo in UK, Nike
- Branding Green Tucson

Agencies/Partners EPA Carbon Inventory • Chamber of Commerce • PAG • State of Arizona • University of Arizona

Issues & Goals: Education/Awareness

- a. Funding Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency and Renewable energy retrofits
- b. Education/Awareness**
- c. Carbon Registry & Accounting, carbon disclosure and labeling
- d. Codes and Standards
- e. Alternative Transportation
- f. Better economy to generate resources to fund retro/clean energy
- g. Neighborhood development to reduce dependence on private transportation
- h. Electrify transportation
- i. Reduce waste
- j. Carbon tax
- k. Tax incentives

Action Items:

- Recruit Electric Vehicle Company
- Energy day/week/seasonal assessment
- Community bike rides
- Prime time spots (cable as well) on GHG & impact on Tucson
- Radio spots
- Education in schools
- Need funding to bring curriculum alive in schools, \$100k per year to start
- Demo Center for GHG reduction
- Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) funding for Energy Efficiency education, “not if can’t be measured” (ACC will only fund measurable energy reductions).
- Make presentations to neighborhood groups
- Green home tours
- Performance codes on energy, new and rehab
- Increase incentives and knowledge of incentives
- Disaster recovery
- Make schools show the example
- Schools demo site
- UofA/Pima school demo project
- AZ Dept. of Education needs to include environmental stuff
- Letter writing, phone call citizens to continue to press about global warming
- Pay as you go electric power meters and systems
- Bring down to what people can do
- Five things to do door hanging
- Measuring carbon footprint Tucson Electric Power (TEP)
- Carbon Footprint day
- Hold political candidates accountable for issues
- Prepare for worst/best case: viruses/refugees/migration
- How to enact performance codes

Issues & Goals: Funding Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency and Renewable energy retrofits

- a. Funding Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency and Renewable energy retrofits
- b. Education/Awareness
- c. Carbon Registry & Accounting, carbon disclosure and labeling
- d. Codes and Standards
- e. Alternative Transportation
- f. Better economy to generate resources to fund retro/ clean energy
- g. Neighborhood development to reduce dependence on private transportation
- h. Electrify transportation
- i. Reduce waste
- j. Carbon tax
- k. Tax incentives

Action Items:

- Insulate the roof (50%)
- Replace windows
- Trees
- Mandatory energy audit when home is sold (seller disclosure)
- Retrofit into mortgage
- Mortgages include energy retro
- Expand programs for weatherization
- Sale of carbon credits
- Utility surcharge for rehabilitation
- City bond for funding
- Energy co-ops for renewables/energy efficiency
- Neighborhood buying co-ops for energy retrofit
- Energy storage
- Multi-family units
- Code changes for day lighting
- Planting native trees
- Promote solar hot water heating
- Requirement mandate
- Appliances and needs reduce the energy users
- Tax inefficient energy hogs
- Public services announcements to save energy

Agencies/Partners City • County • Individuals • Neighborhoods • Utility

Issues & Goals: Alternative Transportation

- a. Funding Mechanisms for Energy Efficiency and Renewable energy retrofits
- b. Education/ Awareness
- c. Carbon Registry & Accounting, carbon disclosure and labeling
- d. Codes and Standards
- e. Alternative Transportation**
- f. Better economy to generate resources to fund retro/ clean energy
- g. Neighborhood development to reduce dependence on private transportation
- h. Electrify transportation
- i. Reduce waste
- j. Carbon tax
- k. Tax incentives

Action Items:

- Financial incentives to carpool, travel less to work
- “Safe car”
- Electrify transportation
- Ban cars
- Incentives to use other modes
- De-stigmatizing public transportation
- Free buses
- Increase use of biodiesel
- “Free Zone”
- set up car buying coops
- Bus info, when bus is coming
- Door to door info on buses
- Train to Phoenix
- Train to Las Vegas
- Transportation oriented development
- Buy up land for train stations
- Interim ride share lots
- Make it harder to use cars
- Covered parking
- Re-prioritizing budget for transportation
- Education on cost, etc.
- Prepare retrofit for light rail
- Planning for electric vehicles
- Promoting bicycles
- Safety for bikes
- Off street biking
- Schools less busing
- Eco Village
- Land use, overlay increasing density along route
- Bike incentive
- Rental car, shared car
- Bike loan
- Solar on covered parking

Agencies/Partners SunTran • Federal Transportation Agency



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Promoting Individual Well-Being and Opportunity

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Promoting Individual Well-Being and Opportunity

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Promoting Individual Well-Being and Opportunity. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Jenn Burdick from the City of Tucson Department of Urban Planning and Design.

Discussion Points

Key themes that emerged from the group emphasized the importance of a strong sense of community, a thriving local economy, and access to services. The important connections between education, quality jobs, and a localized economy were identified. Investing in education and graduation rates was seen as an important step, while simultaneously focusing efforts to retain graduates and create better job opportunities so high-skilled workers do not leave the region. Concerns over access to food raised important questions about where we get our food and the benefits of local food sources.

There was a strong sense that we need to invest in the urban core and discourage sprawl. A desire for mixed-use development and a more integrative community design was expressed as a way to improve access to services without increasing dependence on vehicle use. This was also viewed as a way to foster a greater sense of community by creating places people can interact outside of their homes.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

- What is the Best Case possible concerning individual well-being in our community?
- What is the Worst?
- What are the paths toward the Best Case?
- What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario individual well-being would encompass the following attributes:

- A deeper sense of place among community members where people are committed to improving the community and take personal responsibility for creating change.
- A functioning economy where investments are made in the education system and in retaining graduates, and local businesses are supported.
- A livable, walkable community, where services can be easily accessed without dependence on vehicles.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

A lack of investment in the urban core and in education were seen as key drivers of sprawl. Concerns were raised about people moving to communities on the fringe of the city because they can not access services or quality education within the city. Decaying neighborhoods combined with unaffordable housing was seen as a near reality that would make it difficult to live in the city.

The Way Forward

Investing in the urban core and engaging community members were seen as key components of achieving a sustainability vision. Both of these components contribute to the foundation for improving individual well-being which was expressed as a deeper sense of place among community members.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

- Reinvest in the urban core to encourage people to move back into it (neighborhoods are decaying; infrastructure matters)
- Reinvest in the infrastructure of the people [neighborhoods] - without neighborhoods, there is no community
- Investing in youth, seniors & family
- Move beyond self-interest to see the whole community - we are all in this together
- Commitment to the future of community as a whole
- Buy local to support local businesses
- Job training is not just employee skills training, but also training for owners and employees about how to build a better business (how to run a business; what's involved)
- Getting smaller, increase “Main Streets”
- Better transportation options
- Jobs closer to home
- Address poverty, provide access to food, and access to health care
- Increase affordable housing, home ownership

Constraints and Barriers

The transient nature of our community was expressed as a key barrier to progress because people often do not live in Tucson long enough to feel invested in the community. Geographically defined boundaries were viewed as contributors to the separation of cultures and communities. These characteristics pose a significant challenge to creating a deeper sense of place within the community. Policy restrictions were also viewed as barriers instead of as tools to aid progress. For example, provisions in the Land Use Code were viewed as too restrictive to allow mixed-use development within existing neighborhoods (such as the addition of corner stores).

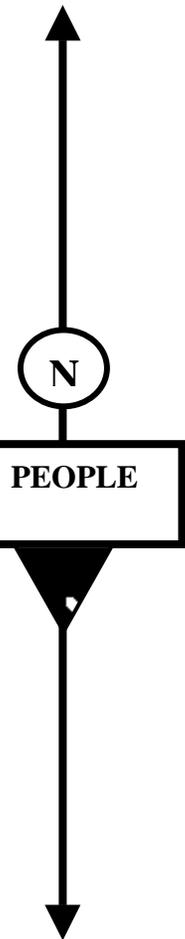
Best Case Less hunger, more food security • Better education funding • Higher graduation rate, less dropouts • Job opportunities for graduates so they don't leave • More equitable distribution of funding for education • Effective mass transit • More efficient use of cars • Stricter regulations to restrict idling, improve air quality • Live, work, play together, mixed use • More urban landscape • People know their community, have a better sense of community • Walking opportunities • Awareness of issues related to over-consumption • Being aware of the difference between standard of living and quality of life

Paths to Progress

- (6) More jobs
- Less poverty
- More sense of place
- Elderly services
- Better education
- Better air quality
- Job training
- Better transportation options
- (1) Jobs closer to home
- Supporting small business
- (2) Affordable housing
- Civic participation
- Democracy
- (3) Sense of place
- (1) Immigration integration
- Affordable health care

Constraints

- (3) Poverty
- Teens without homes
- Chemical sensitivity
- (1) Growth
- Materialism
- (3) Consumerism
- Homeowner Association restrictions
- Governmental Restrictions
- Land Use Code makes it too hard to do things like neighborhood corner stores (mixed-use)
- Bringing in what we don't want - big box [because they pay low wages] - but they provide monetary savings to the community
- Corporate expansions cause increase in pollution, poor quality
- Lack of good quality jobs with benefits
- Job training too broad, focus more on business development & training
- Brain Drain (educated workforce leaves Tucson for jobs elsewhere)



Worst Case High waste because of consumption rate • Media keeping us from being more informed to make better decisions • Continued anti-immigration beliefs • 1.8 million SUVs on the road • Sprawl caused by families seeking access to better education/schools • Continued segregation of Tucson Unified School District (TUSD) • Continued cookie-cutter development • Continued lack of focus on priorities • Population not engaged • Tucson merged with Phoenix • Continued lack of access to affordable health care

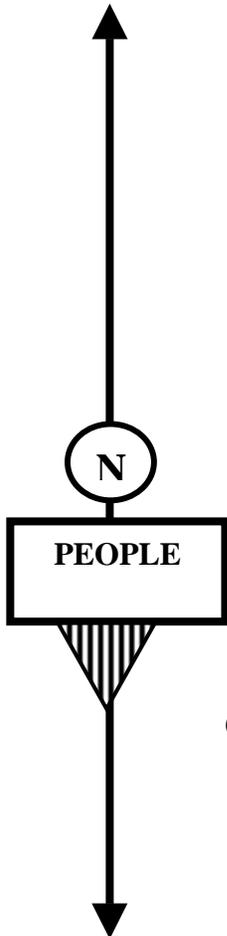
Best Case Less distinct geographic groupings of population based on economic or cultural backgrounds • Expand home ownership bonds and grants • New development includes a percentage of affordable housing • Develop deeper sense of place for community members • Increased commitment, responsibility • Increased voters/civic engagement • Selective redevelopment to increase density, mixed-use & affordable housing

Paths to Progress

- Sense of community, more [quality] jobs, affordable housing, home ownership
- (4) Jobs
- Move beyond self-interest to see the whole community - we are all in this together (retirees not supporting schools)
- (1) Make people feel more invested in the community
- (1) Commitment to the future of community as a whole
- (5) Sense of community
- (2) Home ownership
- (2) Affordable housing
- (1) Education
- Quality jobs
- Job training is not just employee skills training (how to run a cash register), but also training for owners and employees about how to build a better business (how to run a business; what's involved)
- Livable wages
- Address poverty, provide access to food, and access to health care
- Affordable housing, home ownership
- Sense of community/sense of place
- Investing in youth, seniors & family

Constraints

- Transient community (people not staying long enough to feel committed to the community)
- Bifurcated community - it's almost as if a line were drawn across the community separating it into distinct groups
- Geographically defined boundaries support the separation of cultures and communities



Worst Case

Best Case Livable and walkable (able to walk to stores, etc.) communities • Main streets • Volunteers • Resources meet the needs • People's good efforts are recognized • Support independent businesses

Paths to Progress

- Local economy/businesses = livable wage and access to food
- Healthy community, access to health, food, walkable community
- Investing in youth, seniors & family
- (3) Localized economy, localized business
- Buy local to support local businesses (may cost more)
- Educate people about consequences of consumerism (high amounts of waste)
- Invest locally
- Credit union vs. big chain financial institutions
- (1) Encourage increased personal literacy about sustainability; don't make judgements, respect that people have different levels of knowledge
- Raise awareness of sustainable practices
- (2) Get people outside and healthy
- (2) Reinvest in the urban core to encourage people to move back into it (neighborhoods are decaying; infrastructure matters)
- (2) Walkable neighborhoods, livable communities
- (1) Security
- (1) Develop "stops" along the way to encourage people to slow down (like lemonade stands and gardens) and allow them to be connected to neighbors and their surroundings
- Use the perspectives of Tucsonans, which reflect various populations & histories
- (2) Access to food
- (2) Access to health care & wellness program
- Cultivate art and inspiration
- Reinvest in the infrastructure of the people [neighborhoods] - without neighborhoods, there is no community
- (4) Reinvesting in youth, seniors & families
- Collaborating to bring all together
- Limiting population; curbing growth
- Individuals are resources
- Tell the story of the great things that are going on
- Recognition programs
- Encourage volunteering
- Get to know neighbors, learn what their obstacles are
- Getting smaller, increase "Main Streets"
- Small businesses need support
- (1) Education, after-school programs
- YMCA one time visit instead of annual membership
- Provide transit out to other areas
- (2) Livable wage, livable resources

Constraints

- Political will
- Economic will
- Personal will
- Car focused society

Worst Case Drip of money staying here vs. going out (global) • Sprawl • Urban core neglected • Nobody wants to live in Tucson • Neighborhoods decay • People aren't out walking • Many people lacking access to necessary resources

Issues & Goals More higher-paying, long-term jobs • Quality job opportunities closer to home • Local businesses supported

Action Items:

- Support mixed use zoning for businesses in neighborhoods
- Recognition to local businesses to show we value them
- Make linkages to highlight student apprentices and local businesses
- Land Use Code: change to make it easier for infill and local businesses
- Get away from retail focus
- Bring in technology-based jobs
- Business development training (earlier the better, like high school)
- Business training (Small Business Administration grants)
- Skill development, work in the trades, apprenticeships
- Use “this is a local business sign”



Agencies/Partners Small businesses • Small Business Administration • School districts • Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREO) • Habitat for Humanity • U of A • City Codes • Community Food Bank • Social service agencies • Primavera • Pima County One-Stop Program • Prescott College • Pima Community College

Issues & Goals Develop a distinct "Tucson style" to guide design for the built environment • Keep people in urban areas • Do not support sprawl • Why are people moving to the new developments and driving?

Action Items:

- Improve design guidelines to define Tucson's sense of place and style – what makes Tucson distinctly different in its architecture and layout than other places (not cookie-cutter designs, like standard Walgreens, etc.)
- Encourage review of layout of buildings/developments to ensure walkability and interaction (fewer garages facing the street and "cutting off" personal contact)
- Decide who Tucson is and what we want it to look like
- Develop a "Tucson environmental story" with database info on waste, water, air, and shared knowledge to draw from (where do people work, etc.)
- Develop walkable community



Agencies/Partners

Issues & Goals Job diversity and more employment options at higher wages • Higher wages paid by small businesses • Attract clean industries • Strengthen core industries (healthcare, tourism) • Create/promote community through better sense of place

Action Items:

- Create more job diversity
- Incentivize employers to provide higher wages and skills
- Attract/develop clean industry for higher paying jobs
- Develop better & stronger health care industry
- Encourage more solar industry
- Encourage attracting "clean" optics and other high tech industries to Tucson
- Develop a community with culture and sense of community, which can help keep people here
- Raise consciousness of business leaders to support employees in making sustainable choices
- Create a vehicle that works centrally with small business to educate about sustainable practices; then promote this vehicle as much as possible



Agencies/Partners Small businesses • Small business associations • U.S. Small Business Administration • Educational institutions • Government • Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities (TREGO) • Chambers of Commerce

Issues & Goals More small vibrant, successful “green” businesses • Everyone has access to food, fresh, locally grown • Encourage green industry • Develop a market for making an increase in livable wage that excludes no one

Action Items:

- Encourage community gardens in neighborhoods and in stressed areas
- Create opportunity to work within green industries to transition away from growth-related industries (i.e. construction and building)
- Keep graduates here in green industries
- Encourage demand for local food
- Educate public about importance of local purchases
- Identify opportunities for government and social services agencies’ programs to use and support local markets/growers (for example, produce from community gardens could be sold at local farmers markets; various programs could use working in community gardens/selling produce as an opportunity to teach trades and self-sufficiency)
- Educate support agencies about each other and each others’ programs (networking)
- Use our graying population
- Encourage cottage industries (where people can work from home)
- Centralize marketing / advertising / promotion of farmers markets
- Pima County and local jurisdictions need to lead by example, purchase more locally



Agencies/Partners • Small Business Center • Public health agencies • Farmers markets • Nonprofits • Media • City, County and all jurisdictions • School districts • AZ Extension • AZ Nutrition Network

Issues & Goals Good jobs • Healthy local economy

Action Items:

- Education
 - Job skills training, including how to RUN a business
 - Business development training (apprenticeship, work in trades)
 - Jobs that keep graduates here
- Livable wage/poverty
 - Access to food
- Sense of community
 - An element that keeps people here
 - Builds commitment and ownership of the community overall
- Affordable housing and home ownership
 - Ownership = deeper sense of commitment to the community and to the neighborhood
- Live, work, play
 - Allow clean industry
 - Encourage local business in neighborhoods (appropriately)
 - Land use code needs to be changed to make it easier
 - Design guidelines, may help encourage appropriate look and feel of businesses
 - Mixed-use development
- Job diversity
 - Clean industries (optics, health care, solar)
 - Not just retail or call centers, but long term, higher wage jobs
 - Support local businesses
 - Recognizing successes
- Sustainability
 - Create a central “vehicle” or group that can work with business regarding sustainability issues

Agencies/Partners



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Strengthening Neighborhoods

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Strengthening Neighborhoods

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Strengthening Neighborhoods. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Tomás León from the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona.

Discussion Points

Key themes that emerged from the discussion groups were the need for more resources to support neighborhood improvements and better avenues for neighborhoods to express their needs. Many neighborhoods are in need of structural improvements, but have difficulty connecting to resources. Some neighborhood needs identified included: improved modes of public transportation, elderly assistance, street repair, streetscapes and walking routes. Concerns over the lack of affordable housing and the transient nature of the community were raised. Many residents do not have a strong sense of place because they are new to the community or do not have long-term plans to live in the area.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

- What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?
- What is the Worst?
- What are the paths toward the Best Case?
- What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario for strengthening neighborhoods would encompass the following attributes:

- An increase in support for neighborhoods, in terms of structural improvements and capacity building.
- Collaboration between neighborhoods to achieve a larger vision.
- More interaction and communication between residents in neighborhoods.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

A key theme in the characteristics of the worst case scenario identified centered on the development planning process and the disconnect between the vision residents have for their neighborhoods and actual development plans. Fears that neighbors are expendable to the planning process may result in apathy and a decrease in civic involvement. Further deterioration of neighborhoods and a lack of connectivity (physical and relational) were also among the concerns raised.

The Way Forward

Leadership training and financial support were identified as important components of a plan to strengthen neighborhoods. Neighborhoods need the tools to improve their communities, however, efforts to improve neighborhoods should also occur at the policy (city) level. Participants identified existing effective capacity building efforts, such as Ward newsletters and meetings.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

- Two pronged approach, work at city level, neighborhood level (meetings located within neighborhoods)
- Funding for older neighborhoods
- Tours to other destinations: downtown, other wards, landfills
- Historic Area designation
- Options for affordable housing
- Leadership forum for neighborhood leaders
- Public spaces for the community
- Make education accessible within the neighborhoods

Constraints and Barriers

Barriers to progress identified included the transient nature of the community, apathy and lack of civic participation, and deficiencies in the investments being made in existing neighborhoods.

Best Case Neighborhood collaboration • Larger vision • Sustainability • Quality of life • Improved modes of public transportation • Feeder routes, multiply modes • Elderly help, neighborhoods help • Strengthen Neighborhood support • Neighbors sitting outside • Use city land for neighborhood project (garden)

Paths to Progress

- Two pronged approach, work at city level, neighborhood level (meetings located within neighborhoods)

Constraints

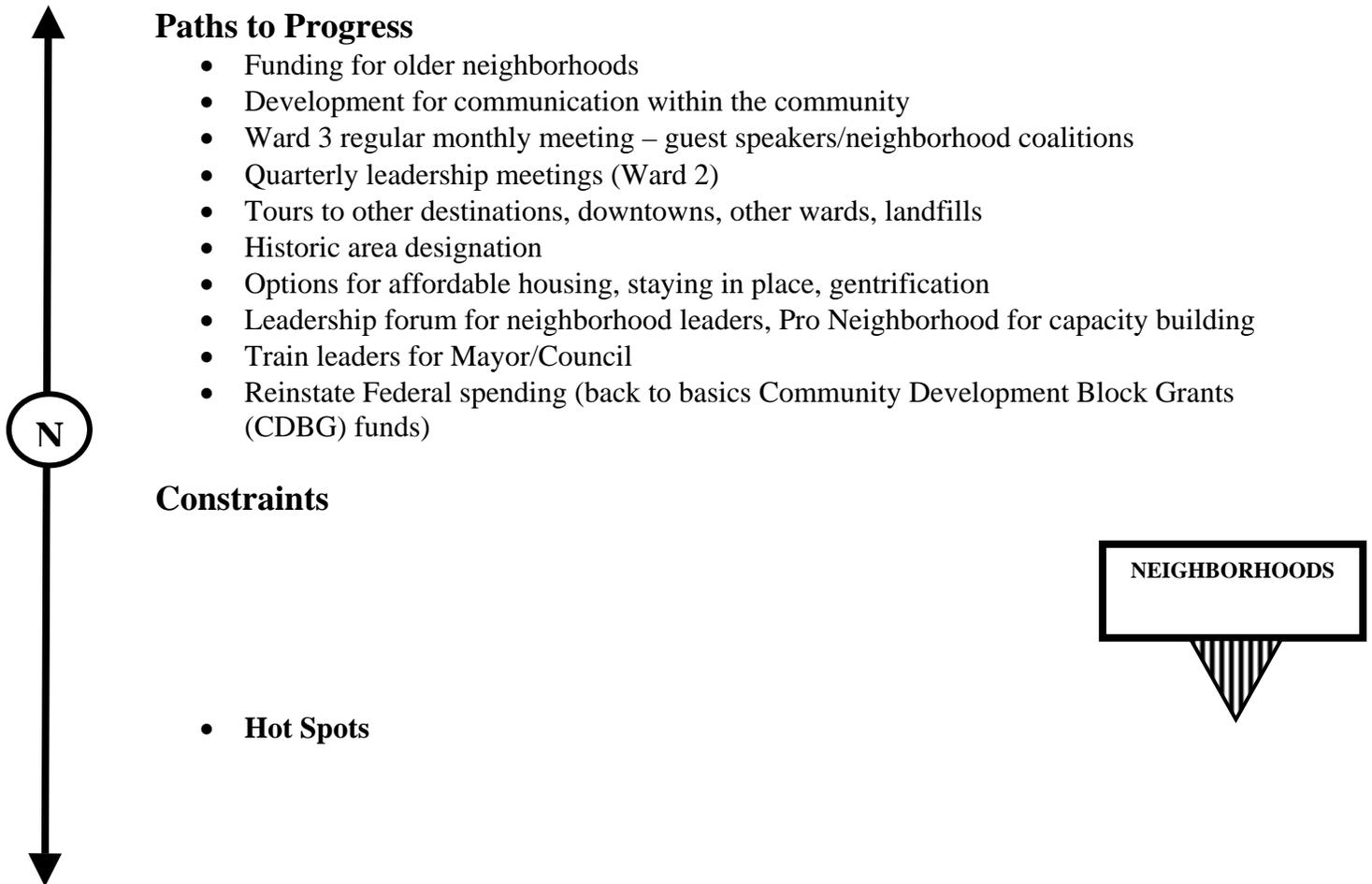
- Not in my backyard- NIMBYism, yes IMBY
- Funding, for implementation, lots of planning
- Collaboration
- Apathy
- Need to find other way to generate wealth without building
- Exclusiveness- 1 person controlled cliques
- Factions
- Divergence of goals
- Transient society
- Physical barriers that create safety
- Crime/public disturbance

- **Hot Spots**



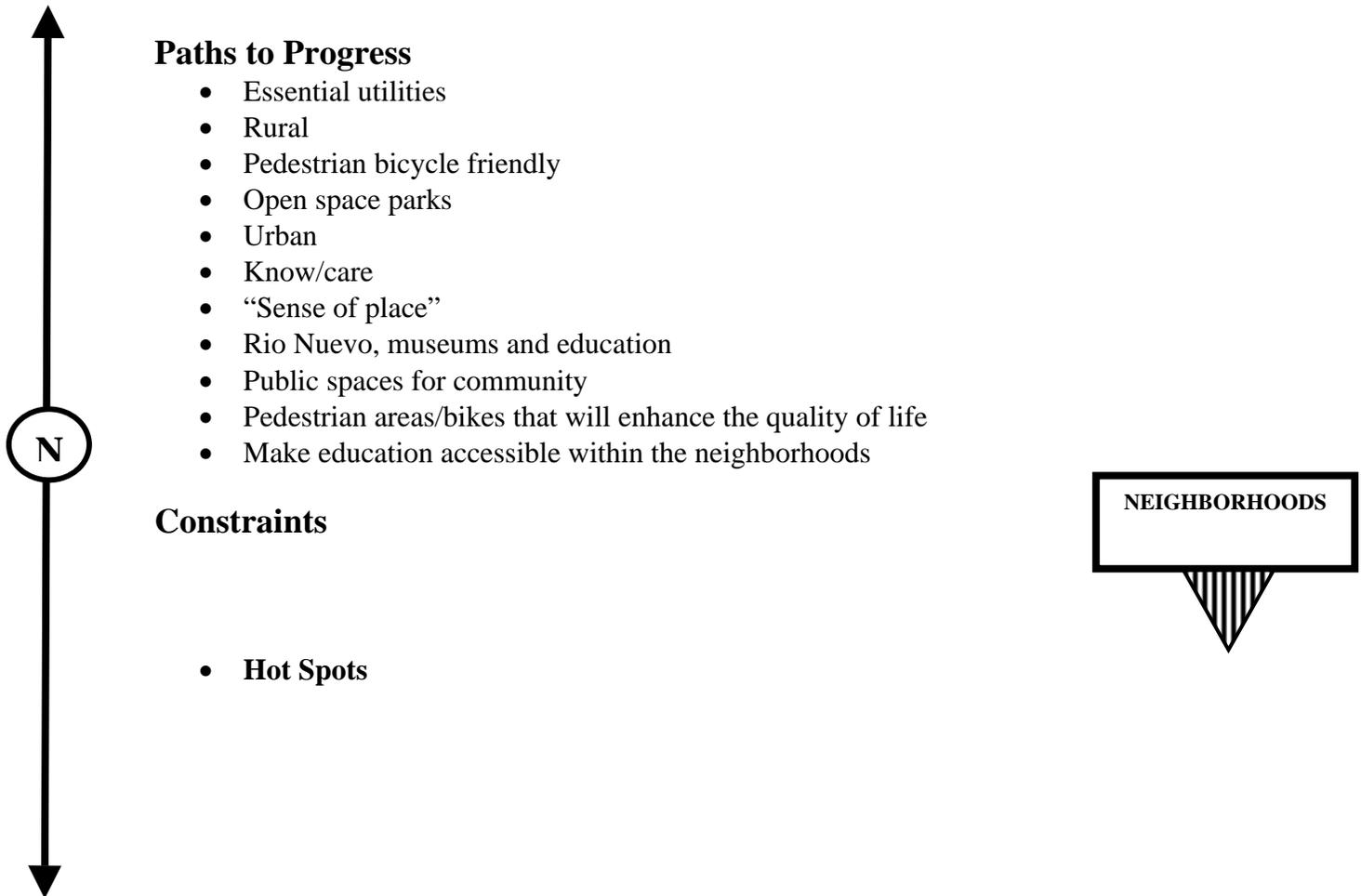
Worst Case U of A/City/Builders poor communication with neighborhoods • Not open process • Neighborhoods expendable to process • Neighborhood values not listened to • Neighborhoods come to table not listened to • Disheartened because not heard • Process makes things worse • Deterioration of neighborhoods through apathy • Lack of civil action • Lack of residents invested in neighborhoods • Lack of involvement in city • Leaving of residents from neighborhoods • Increase in cost of living • Transient population • Sense of place, lack of cultural understanding • Less social investment in community • Increase cost for neighborhood (infrastructure) improvements • Neighborhood plans lack of legitimacy • Lack of affordability for housing for middle income • Lack of open space set aside • Lot splitting (is it working?) • Residents don't like • Builders do • Look at environmental effect (run-off, hydrologic issues) • West side lack of services, check cashing, food stores • Economic segregation, deep divide in community • City misusing City Board of Adjustments • Recycling codes • Variances and associated costs

Best Case Policy change, rezoning means something • Building economic opportunities for ex-prisoners (re-entry) • Streetscape, walking routes, skinny streets • Street repair (quality of roads for bicycles) • Build layers of trust citizens/neighborhoods/City • Equal representation between actors, citizens/developers • Inter-ward communication is increasing • Neighborhood support network • Ward newsletters • Neighborhood groups lobbying federal government



Worst Case Unfamiliar with neighbors • Disconnected (among neighborhood) • Youth (no parks/not enough) • No safe destinations for youth in the neighborhood fun • Neighbors don't see each other • Parks not used enough • Neighborhoods unequal • Transit planning cut-off neighborhoods through heat island corridors (Grant) • No sidewalks • Bunch of houses/no where to go • Non-native plants/grass • No planning (growth/ infill) • Conflicts between neighborhoods/developers • Pima County staff can't identify neighborhoods • Lack of mixed use (commercial/residential) • Current land-use codes encourage mini-dorms (definition of a single family)

Best Case Reaching neighborhoods at grassroots level • Focus of entertainment for youth/kids
Places in neighborhoods • Government improves process for community trying to be more active in
walkways/green space • Better family values, norms • Better perception of public transit • More family
parks within neighborhoods • Nurture neighborhoods, communication, celebration • More inclusive
neighborhoods, organizations



Worst Case Construction projects • Transportation • Lack of training for employment • Lack of connections
between UofA & neighborhoods • Obstructions within city when neighborhoods want more pleasant environment •
Less safety for students walking to school • Culture/economic (busing kids to different places) • Changing
environment • School choice • Inequality in recreation for different neighborhoods • Too many roads don’t connect,
disconnectivity • Some neighborhoods get more resources for infrastructure • Drugs/crime problem within Amphi •
School facilities closed during non-school hours • More after school arts/music programs • More diversified
education • Lack of funding for schools (going to charter schools)

Issues & Goals Inventory of existing infrastructure within neighborhoods • Plan of action based on data by City/County • Every neighborhood develop or create (revise) neighborhood plan • Bifocus used for strategic plan (neighborhood) and land use plan region (rezoning) • Promote centers for small neighborhood centers • Gives neighborhood a means to plan for its own future

Action Items:

- Neighborhoods as fundamental building block – Great cities defined by diversity and character of neighborhoods
- Neighborhood plan that leads to residential/business nodes
- Case by case for mix-use
- Infill (collaboration city neighborhoods)
- Work within structures to move toward sustainability
- City of Tucson work closely with neighborhoods
- Pedestrian oriented urban design, arterials
- Sidewalks
- Safer
- See residents
- Trees/streetscaping
- Landscaping, more sustainability, native
- Each neighborhood turn empty lots into small gathering places, sense of place
- Decomposed granite
- Trees/chairs
- Better use of funding for neighborhood unity
- Open space



Agencies/Partners Group of neighborhood associations • Back to Basics • Drachman Institute • Community Foundation • Planning U of A • Transportation enhancement & funds • CDBG • Pima County Revitalization • Pro Neighborhoods (seed money) • KXCI radio station

Issues & Goals

- Identify assets (Buildings, places to meet, religions, washes, trails)
- Inventory transportation, water
- Training/Development for Volunteer Boards/Commissions
- Contribute to quality of life

Action Items:

- Paid community organizer
- Hear voices from people who are silenced
- Neighborhood connectivity
- Plan for dialogue
- Neighborhood center can serve multiple neighborhoods, bigger picture plan for whole area
- Create more shade (Value based decision making)
- Consolidation of existing plan
- Funding existing plans
- Increased participation, disenfranchised communities, silenced community members
- Inventory assets in community
- Department of Neighborhood Resources (DNR) website to identify presidents
- Which are communities most in need



Agencies/Partners Office of Conservation and Sustainable Development (City) • City Department of Transportation • Urban Planning • DNR • Governor's growth cabinet • Private sector developers (John Wesley Miller) • Sustainable Tucson • SAHBA • AIA • United Way • Green Building Standard • Interfaith groups • Pima Council on Aging • Board of Supervisors • Neighborhood Support Network • Tribes • Environmental Groups • Local Schools • U of A/Pima College • Parks/REC • City of Tucson Real estate • Stormwater, City Department • Wash restoration enhancement • Sports leagues • Organizations get elderly/children • Boy/Girl Scouts • Do water harvesting • Paid community organizer

Issues & Goals Develop financial resources to support other goals: neighborhood plan • Inventory of community assets • Increased neighborhood participation for disenfranchised neighbors • Safer neighborhoods

Action Items:

- Improve funding/lighting
- Bike paths
- Neighborhoods taking ownership
- Reconnecting neighborhoods that are separated by roadways/obstacles
- More public awareness of development issues, public hearings
- Newsletters
- Small neighborhood centers
- Succession planning (training neighborhood leaders to be able to “pass the baton”)
- Training development for neighborhood leaders
- More integration across neighborhood departments
- Peer training
- Put in application with Pro Neighborhoods



Agencies/Partners Trees for Tucson



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Creating Community

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Creating Community

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Creating Community. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Dan Duncan from the United Way of Southern Arizona.

Discussion Points

Improving relationships was seen as key to creating a greater sense of community, both in terms of physical relationships (connectivity) and personal relationships between individuals and groups within the community. The built environment was seen as an important factor in the level of connection people feel to the community as it can encourage or hinder relationship building depending on what values are considered during the planning and development process. For example, neighborhood planning that includes pedestrian networks and places for community gatherings encourage people to come out of their houses and build relationships with neighbors. Improving communication can improve the community's capacity to create positive change by connecting people to resources.

An imbalance between development plans and community needs was identified, with a desire for regional growth planning to include values such as building a sense of community.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

- What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?
- What is the Worst?
- What are the paths toward the Best Case?
- What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario for creating community would encompass the following attributes:

- City design centered on people and places.
- Good communication channels and a network where people can easily be connected to resources for community projects.
- Basic needs met and services accessible to all community members.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

Concerns over the degradation of existing networks and resulting consequences such as isolation and community fragmentation were expressed. Other undesirable effects of a disconnected community included crime and racism, disengaged youth, indifference and a lack of shared values from which the community progresses.

The Way Forward

A forum for expressing community and neighborhood values was seen as important for building a sense of community and identifying common goals. Connecting players such as businesses and developers to community values and goals may improve our sense of community by bringing all sectors together to work on a shared vision. Growing and changing with intention, and building on existing community assets was expressed as a step forward.

The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

- Linking developers and businesses with sustainability
- Place-based curriculum
- More resources for local initiatives
- Celebrate our successes
- Cooperation between municipalities – make appropriate development possible
- Create policies that encourage good growth
- Regional approach to growth – mutually accepted standards and plan
- Communication of values
- Open dialogue between all players
- Inventory of needs and assets
- Walkable communities that encourage connections

Constraints and Barriers

A key constraint to progress identified is the lack of dialogue and shared values between developers and community members. Participants felt that a power imbalance exists between the multiple stakeholders in the decision-making process that determines how development occurs. The absence of a regional growth plan to build community makes it difficult to hold leaders accountable for upholding community values in growth decisions.

Best Case Matching needs to projects • Diversity • Integrated • Collaboration Agencies •
Participation/Engagement • Informed • **Schools are active** • Connecting projects to needs • Sense of Place • Safety • Access to resources for all • Easy web of communication • Economic Prosperity • Common Values • Nurturing Natural Environment • Belonging (sense of)

Paths to Progress

- Youth engagement
- Honor needs and gifts of seniors
- Financial support from institutions to support connectiveness
- Include all
- Giving communities identity
- Honor the Comprehensive Plan
- Cooperation between municipalities – make appropriate development possible
- Policies that encourage good growth
- Values being explicitly stated
- (1) Regional approach to growth – mutually accepted standards and plan
- (1) Communication of values
- Opening dialogue between all players
- Hire community organizer
- (3) Inventory of needs and assets
- Neighborhoods identify values
- Honor plans
- Walkable communities, encourage connectiveness
- Neighborhood celebrations

Constraints

- Developer creating their own communities
- Power imbalance- developers vs. communities
- Current Zoning in Building codes destroy community
- Limited safe activities for teens
- No regional growth plan to build community

Hot Spots (where are now, closer to worst case)

- Catalina
- Sahuarita
- Environmental Issues
- Rural areas, unmet needs



Worst Case Isolation • Wasteful Redundancy • Indifference • Animosity • Breaking down of networks • Lack of identity • Lack of effort to find shared goals • Fragmentation • Economically Deprived • Racism • Lack of Common Value • Unmet Needs • Territoriality

Best Case No racism • Good communication channels • Pedestrian Friendly design • People know neighbors • Complete citizen participation, true democratic process, everyone has a voice • Access to resources (even without a car) • No poverty or hunger • Community gardens • Locally grown food supply • City design around people and places • People stay in homes, not taxed out • Increase in neighborhood associations • Neighborhood activity • Neighborhood preservation

Paths to Progress

- Tapping core creativity to find solutions
- Identify neighborhood associations, making amenable to finding solutions
- Neighborhood collaboration
- Youth involvement
- (2) Make city Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) city wide
- Identify passion to increase participation
- Assistance in property maintenance, collaboration of nonprofits
- Celebrate our successes
- Sharing of resources
- Keeping elders in their homes
- Encouraging collaboration
- (2) Community centers and libraries
- (1) Holding elected officials and staff accountable
- (1) Show results of processes like these, conferences
- Intentional communities
- Inspire new leadership, grassroots
- (3) Shared vision, implemented
- More resources for local initiatives
- Welcoming process
- Set high expectations
- Mentors/Counselors

Constraints

- Lack of monetary resources
- Lack of political will
- Commodification of common values
- Lack of jobs
- Resistance to change
- Lack of time
- Fear
- Lack of civic process understanding
- Unhealthy dependence on outside resources
- Drug use
- SHELVE process
- Emphasis on individual rights vs. common good
- Void of Leadership

Worst Case Crime • Bad Schools • Distrust • General indifference • Participation based on fear • Bad traffic • Communication breakdown, fragmented • Lack of common areas • Individualized isolation • Transient communities • Speculation

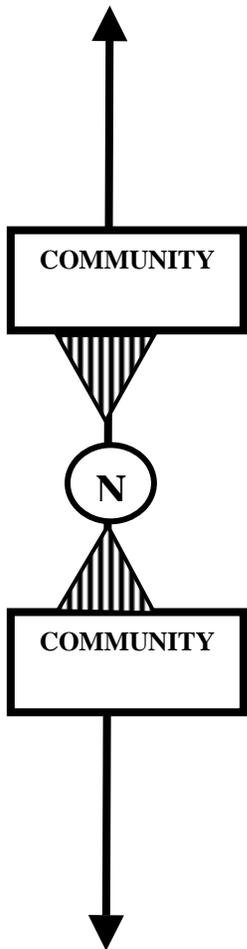
Best Case 95% of every dollar spent stays in community • Youth involvement in decision making • Trust, people aren't falling through the cracks • Food security • Access to health care • Basic needs met • Understanding of local ecology • Everyone feels safe • Inclusive collaboration • Maximize other temporary populations (snowbirds)

Paths to Progress

- Implementation of good ideas from other groups
- Continue these discussions
- Create unique collaborations
- (3) Redefining community, being more inclusive
- Extend regional collaborations
- Reach out to growing communities
- (4) Linking Developers, Businesses with Sustainability
- (1) Meeting basic needs
- (1) Providing affordable housing
- Re-development of downtown
- Being pro-active on growth
- Support for education, schools can build community
- (1) Place based curriculum

Constraints

- Unregulated growth
- We are reacting instead of being proactive about growth
- Multiple languages spoken here
- Multiple cultures
- Single special interest influencing politics
- Need for Chamber of Commerce to be connected
- Poverty, hard to come to meeting
- Single issue agenda
- Polarization
- Not focused on common good



Worst Case Unsafe • Deaths in Desert • Violence in all sectors/crime • Poverty • Environmental degradation • Uninvolved youth • Lack of collaboration • Loss of sense of place • Disrespective of local, native cultures • Overt racism

Issues & Goals Issues: Apathy, Isolation, Awareness, who, access
Goal: Participation & Engagement

Action Items:

- Government campaign to identify community values in schools, churches, and neighborhoods
- Inventory needs and assets in communities and between communities
- Use Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) model for community self-empowerment
- Single centralized representative body to integrate work of smaller communities following ABCD mode.
- Hire community organizers



Agencies/Partners Neighborhood associations • City • County • Community Organizers • Professional Organizers • Professional Associations • Pima Association of Governments (PAG) • Churches • Nonprofits • Elders, multiple stakeholders

Issues & Goals Through an effective collaborative process, develop and implement a shared vision of our community.

Action Items:

- Keep it clear and simple and understandable
- Do an asset map and inventory
- Identify big and small projects that everyone can participate in
- Effective case studies of successes and failures
- Accounting of inputs and outputs



Agencies/Partners Faith communities • Neighborhood support networks • City • County • Ethnic communities • Recognized leaders • Professional associations • School Districts • Everyone • University • Neighborhood associations

Issues & Goals Developing stronger, more effective collaborations

Action Items:

- Start in our own neighborhoods
- Ask people what they care about
- Ask them to get involved with others who share common passions
- Link groups to share and exchange resources
- Develop a shared vision and a process to do it!
- Promote local small community fairs where people can share what they are interested in and can do.
- Promote and support sustainability associations
- Getting sustainability speakers to go to businesses



Agencies/Partners Businesses • Developers • Neighborhoods • Churches • Associations • Schools •
University • Colleges



2007 Community Sustainability Forum

Working Together

Community Sustainability Forum Summary Report: Working Together

Background

On October 31, 2007, a Sustainability Forum was held at the University of Arizona. Sponsored by the University, the City of Tucson, Pima County, and Pima Association of Governments, the event provided an opportunity for approximately 125 people to participate in a series of discussions to help craft perspectives on the meaning of sustainability in the greater Tucson community. Participants met in small groups to consider specific topics. The Forum was open to the public and while participation reflected a wide range of interests most participants were strongly committed to the need to achieve a more sustainable community.

This report provides a summary of the discussions that took place in the group that considered the topic of Working Together. The group held three distinct discussion sessions allowing a substantial portion of those attending to participate. The discussion groups were facilitated by Joanie Sawyer from PRO Neighborhoods.

Discussion Points

Key themes that emerged from the discussion groups suggested that while there are many networks throughout the community, there is a need for strong leadership to link existing networks, centralize efforts and the dissemination of information, and build the capacity of the community to tackle issues. It was suggested that there are many groups focusing on issues that often overlap, and improving collaboration can focus efforts and improve results.

The development of a community vision was seen as key for improving collaboration because establishing a vision requires the identification of common goals and should open a dialogue that includes all perspectives from the community. Transparency was also viewed as an important factor for building trust and communication.

Participants were asked to address the following questions during the discussion sessions:

- What is the Best Case possible concerning water in our community?
- What is the Worst?
- What are the paths toward the Best Case?
- What are the constraints and barriers to achieving the Best Case?

Best Case Scenario

Group participants offered a wide array of perspectives. The ideal scenario improving collaboration would encompass the following attributes:

- Leadership that pulls people together, listens, and is visionary and responsive to the needs of the community.
- The development of a community vision that includes goals shared by people across income levels, cultures, and levels of expertise.
- Ongoing, open communication and discussions of the issues facing our community.

The complete list of attributes discussed as part of the “best case scenario” can be reviewed in the transcripts from this discussion group.

Worst Case Scenario

Participants discussed fragmentation and feelings of disenfranchisement as consequences of failing to improve collaboration within the community. Fear of a single-issue agenda or large organizations dominating community decisions was also expressed. Lack of transparency was seen as a trigger of distrust and apathy. The diversity of our community requires inclusive conversations about our community vision and a concerted effort to disseminate information.

The Way Forward

A centralized effort to connect resources, community efforts, and individuals was seen as key for achieving a sustainability vision. Strong leadership to connect and coordinate networks, and disperse information is needed to strengthen collaboration.

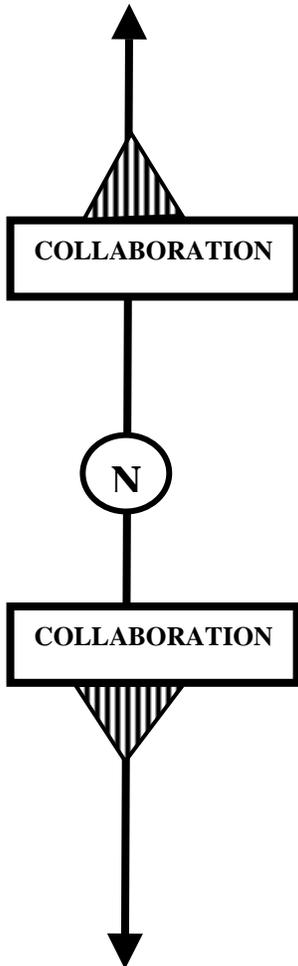
The group identified many potential management strategies. Among these were:

- Info networking (i.e. Links through library)
- Establish a clearing house or use existing structure/organization
- Key person/organization to link/coordinate networks (i.e. Resource person)
- Community building mentorship (best/strongest Neighborhood Associations)
- Develop a mechanism for informal neighborhoods to participate
- Bring in local experts to work on the individual and agency levels
- Inclusive community participation
- Continuous conversations with neighborhoods, groups, and individuals
- Commitment from bigger players

Constraints and Barriers

Constraints were not explicitly listed during the discussion groups, however, insight into the constraints the community faces in terms of improving collaboration may be derived from the characteristics of the “worst case” scenario described above.

Best Case Buy-In • Ongoing (Partnerships) • Mutual respect • Continuum • Listening • Process as well as product • Participation • Citizen level • Diverse expertise at the table • Political will, leaders that are willing to make decisions • Implementing the will of the people • Open discussions • Holistic Solutions • No unintended consequences • Method for evaluation • Optimum results • Single (issue) agenda move towards consensus • United issue • Common Vision • Share Credit • Open communication • People come, show up and participate • Arriving at a solution • Creating an action plan • Give and take • Shared vision vs. Common Vision • Inclusive, everyone is there that needs to be there • Diversity



Paths to Progress

- Citizen Advisory Boards create action steps
- Project database, centralized, organized
- Bring in local experts, works on the individual and agency levels
- Reward collaboration
- Group results
- Everyone having an opportunity to collaborate/work together
- Continuous conversations with neighborhoods, groups, individuals
- Evaluate how to plan, implement
- Breaking down the barriers
- Create cross collaboration/pollination
- Create Forums

How

- Honest dialogue
- Community participation
- Inclusiveness
- Civility
- Mutual respect
- Role model success, show causing success
- Formalized, coming together for common understanding
- Collaboration of staff across entities
- Commitment from bigger players

Worst Case No one shows up • Large organizations dominate • One agenda • Everyone does own thing • Fragmentation • Competition • Disenfranchisement of people • Single criteria in decision making

Best Case Clearing house to better coordinate and inform • Method for informing others crosses lines of income levels • Communication & Collaboration of organizations • Linking, working together • Vibrant Neighborhood Associations • Fun things to bring people together & share ideas • Fun safe venues, collaborate, link individuals to action • Common goals • Respect for diversity • Cultures, value what an individual has to offer • Transparency to create trust • Economic policy to support collaboration • Cross-cultural collaboration is more about the community • Willingness to learn, think outside the box, open mind, humility & curiosity • Youth involvement including all

Paths to Progress

- Block Party
- Need for leadership
- Communication across existing structures: city, county, organization
- Group to plan and distribute
- Info networking (i.e. Links through library)
- More listening
- Slow down
- Pay attention to language, lingo & mechanisms
- Personal as well as organizational responsibility
- Key person/organization to link/coordinate networks (i.e. Resource person)
- Safe spaces to talk/safe discussions
- Venues for crossing boundaries

How

- Establish a clearing house or existing structure/organization
- Community building mentorship (best/strongest Neighborhood Associations)
- Building leadership, campaign for city wide action
- Defining sustainability, clear definition
- Mechanism for informal neighborhoods to participate
- Address the needs for different neighborhoods



Worst Case Little collaboration • Don't leverage our resources, don't know how • Re-create the wheel • Isolation in our homes • No communication between neighborhoods, government, developers • Lack of access to info • People working against each other, distrust • Apathy • Fear • Not able to link income levels • Lack of collaboration at class level

Best Case Leadership, pull people together • Visionary, responsive, listens • Identify what we can agree on • Equal representation, terms of knowledge • Adequate resources • Connectivity • Balance • Create positive stigma to collaborate • Partnership • City wide wifi free • Strong public-private partnerships • Develop trust • Willingness for diverse points of view to agree on • Find ways to find true collaboration • Go to where “they” are • Wide variety (venues, time, population) • Interdisciplinary knowledge • Clear community vision • Culture • Holistic organizing • Fewer, larger organizations with support in infrastructure • Transparency, government should be open • Transfer of information to the people who need it • Accessibility to city government

Paths to Progress

-
- How**
 - Choir needs to be bigger
 - Government support
 - Formal leadership, vehicle
 - Not diminish the value of practice
 - Connect to those who can support



Worst Case No collaboration • Fighting • Using groups against each other • Letting the perfect be the enemy of the good • Absence of network/process to facilitate collaboration • Re-inventing the wheel • Not seeing the community process • Lack of implementation • Not knowing any of this exists, not talking • Competition (unhealthy) • Lack of trust • No clear consensus/definition of sustainability • Double-speak community • Lack of understanding • No accessible calendar • Lack of respect • Fragmented calendars, multiply age, cultural boundaries • Lack of commitment at a fundamental level (city, government officials) • People getting burnt out/frustrated by lack of action • Energy wasted, can't find a way to get involved • Unhealthy reliance on volunteers, not getting paid

Issues & Goals

- Broadening Participation and Diversity
- Deepen Understanding
- Ecological Literacy
- Informed Participation
- Deconstruct Competition



Action Items:

- Place higher value of collaborative projects
- Create Citizen Advisory

Agencies/ Partners Neighborhoods • Schools • University • Professionals • Government Agencies • Faith-based Organizations • Business • Nonprofits

Issues & Goals

- Neighborhoods define own needs, values, and sustainability issues/resources
- Create central clearing house through various outreach efforts (i.e. school newsletters, web page)
- Identify one common grand issue
- Strong healthy neighborhoods

Action Items:

- Clearing house, identify who
- Identify mobilizers, community organizer
- Identify/create asset maps
- Locate human and institutional resources
- Structure, links (ex. Links for Scottsdale, AZ)
- Identify/create pilot project
- Work/collaborate with local personalities
- Gather around a common issue
- Build on what exists, assets
- Utilizing common goal



Agencies/ Partners Neighborhoods • Government agencies • Schools • Chambers of Commerce • Libraries • Churches/faith-based • Boys & Girls clubs • Local resources • Social services • Nonprofits • Human resources • Media • Scouting groups • Parks & Rec • Financial sector • Businesses • Utilities • Community leadership groups

Issues & Goals

- Establish principles and common elements of content
- Trust to identify broad issues for collaboration
- Identify opportunities for collaboration
- Coherence to what we have agreed to
- Studies of past processes, historical and institutional memory

Action Items:

- Stick to what you say, keep your word
- Open
- Is there an objective party?
- Establish principles
- Continuous feedback loop
- Look to existing models
- Establish leadership, steering committee
- Improve communication, identify successes and failures
- Published list of stakeholder meetings (through ward by ward, or sub-committees)
- Central place and calendar
- Established rules for collaboration
- Create calendar
- Practical steps, balanced approach (ex. plant trees)
- Concrete projects online
- Different venues, network, online, face to face
- Include unrepresented groups, outreach



Agencies/ Partners Citizens/people • Who are we? • Corporations • Nonprofits • Business • Neighborhoods
• City government • Who speaks for who? • Nature's role

GLOSSARY

Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)

The ABCD approach focuses on building community solutions by starting with the skills and abilities (assets) of all the residents, associations and institutions that call the neighborhood or community home. Everyone has something to contribute and successful community building involves everyone in the community. ABCD focuses on what a community has rather than its needs or emptiness.

CAGR- Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District

In 1993, the legislature created a groundwater replenishment authority to be operated by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District ("CAWCD") throughout its three-county service area. This replenishment authority of CAWCD is commonly referred to as the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District ("CAGR"). In 1999, the legislature expanded CAWCD's replenishment authorities and responsibilities by passing the Water Sufficiency and Availability Act. The purpose of the CAGR is to provide a mechanism for landowners and water providers to demonstrate an assured water supply under the new Assured Water Supply Rules ("AWS Rules") which became effective in 1995. For more information, visit <http://www.cagr.com/static/index.cfm?contentID=81>

CAP- Central Arizona Project

The Central Arizona Project (CAP) brings approximately 1.5 million acre-feet of Colorado River water to farmers, Indian Tribes, and rapidly growing cities in central Arizona. The 1968 Colorado River Basin Project Act authorized the CAP; construction began in 1973 and was substantially completed twenty years later. For more information, visit <http://www.azwater.gov/dwr/ColoradoRiverManagement/CAP.html>

Carbon Footprint

A Carbon Footprint is a measure of the impact human activities have on the environment in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide. There are a number of calculators available to determine your carbon footprint. For more information, visit <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/>

CDBG- Community Development Block Grants

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is a flexible program that provides communities with resources to address a wide range of unique community development needs. Beginning in 1974, the CDBG program is one of the longest continuously run programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The CDBG program provides annual grants on a formula basis to local and state governments.

Comprehensive Plan- Pima County Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the Pima County Board of Supervisors December 18, 2001. This document is the County's land use plan. To read the Comprehensive Plan, visit <http://www.pimaxpress.com/Planning/>

Energy Star

Energy Star is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy. The program offers a number of ways to reduce energy use, from green building guidelines to energy efficient products. For more information, visit <http://www.energystar.gov/>

LEED Standards- U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices through the creation and implementation of universally understood and accepted tools and performance criteria. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. Buildings are rated on the following scale: Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. For more information, visit <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CategoryID=19>

TEP GreenWatts- Tucson Electric Power GreenWatts Program

TEP's GreenWatts program gives customers a way to invest directly in the creation of "green" power. For each "GreenWatt" adopted, TEP will create 20-kilowatt hours of electricity per month from renewable energy resources. The contributions go directly toward building "green" power systems in Arizona. For more information, visit <http://www.greenwatts.com/>

Prop 207: Private Property Rights Protection Act

Proposition 207 was passed by voters in 2006. The Act amended the Arizona Revised Statutes Sec. 3. Title 12, chapter 8 to restrict the use of eminent domain and other land use laws. To read the Act, visit <http://www.azsos.gov/election/2006/Info/PubPamphlet/english/Prop207.htm>

Water Conservation Task Force

This citizen's task force was created to provide comments on the conservation component of Tucson Water's 50-year Water Plan. Visit <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/waterplan.htm> to read the 50-year Water Plan.