# Sustainability

#### Concepts

#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

One of the challenges of the San Diego General Plan and the community plan updates is how to ensure sustainability over the long-term. Sustainable conservation practices help ensure that future generations will be able to use and enjoy resources to achieve and maintain a healthy and diverse environment and economy.



#### **3-Legged Stool**

Like a stool that needs three legs to stand up, sustainability can only be achieved if the three 'legs' that support it are all strong. These 'legs' are sometimes called the "three Es of sustainability": ecology, economy, and equity.

# **CLIMATE CHANGE**

The burning of fossil fuels, such as coal and gasoline, as well as deforestation and other human activities are changing the composition of the atmosphere, causing concentrations of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to increase significantly. This could have significant impacts in terms of water and energy availability, coastal flooding, and human health.

California has taken a leading role in addressing climate change. Locally, the City of San Diego has drafted a new Climate Mitigation & Adaptation Plan (CMAP) which establishes GHG reduction targets; identifies strategies to reduce GHG levels; and provides guidance for monitoring progress.

#### **ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY PLANS**

The community plan updates can support sustainability through policies and land use guidance that give rise to economic resiliency, resource conservation, renewable energy, and enhancement of habitat and the urban forest. Sustainability strategies are identified here.

# **Strategies**

# **ENERGY & WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**



Realize the "City of Villages" Vision

The City of Villages strategy focuses growth into compact, mixed-use centers linked to the regional transit system, and preserves open space lands.



Create Complete Streets to Promote Travel by Foot, Bike and Transit

Bike facilities, wider and more shaded sidewalks, and other amenities makes it safer and more attractive for people to get around without a car.



Support Urban Agriculture

Urban agriculture can reduce the energy used to transport food and by provideopportunities for neighborhood residents.



Reduce Energy Consumption with **Green Building Practices** 

Green building techniques include improving the efficiency of mechanical and electrical systems; using energy-efficient lighting: using cool roofing materials;



Generate Renewable Energy

On-site generation of energy using renewable technologies such as wind and solar. reduces the burning of fossil fuels.



Reduce Water Use with Sustainable Landscaping Practices

Techniques include decreasing the amount of impervious surfaces: planting shade trees and droughttolerant vegetation; using highefficiency irrigation; and using recycled water.

# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP





Preserve and Enhance Habitat

Southeastern San Diego

Expand the Urban Forest

Protect Water Quality



### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & OPPORTUNITY**



Provide community-central school





Create Transit-Oriented Development

#### **Community Plan Update**

school

Enhance access to jobs and

#### **DYETT & BHATIA** Urban and Regional Planners

