



Memorandum

TO: Steering Committee Members

FROM: Winston Rhodes, AICP, Planning Manager

SUBJECT: Draft Sustainability Element

DATE: December 14, 2009

Background

The Sustainability Subcommittee reviewed draft Sustainability Element on August 31, 2009 and November 20, 2009. A copy of the revised draft document in both a clean form without edits noted and in track changes mode is attached that reflects the latest Sustainability Subcommittee input.

This Element is a new General Plan element that reflects public input expressed at earlier meetings about making Pinole a more sustainable community by addressing the interplay between social, economic, and natural systems and pursuit of overarching themes of fiscal health, community tapestry, and environmental stewardship. This element as well as others takes into account recent legislation (e.g. AB 32) to address climate change and the need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The element was extensively revised as a result of Subcommittee input.

Discussion

The Sustainability Element includes goals and policies that are intended to move the community towards more sustainable practices with respect to energy efficiency, reduction of solid waste generation, and water conservation. The draft Element includes greenhouse gas reduction targets and efforts to decrease fossil fuel consumption by actively encouraging multi-modal transportation as well as increasing energy generation from renewable sources within Pinole. The Element also provides policy support for open space and natural resource protection.

Steering Committee feedback and direction is desired on the draft Sustainability Element so that it can be refined and finalized for study in the General Plan EIR.

Attachments:

- A. Draft Sustainability Element (Clean)
- B. Draft Sustainability Element (Redline)