

Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan

Measuring Progress Toward Sustainability

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Santa Monica Sustainable City Program

- Proposed by Task Force on the Environment in 1992 to address “piecemeal” response to environmental issues
- Developed by Task Force and City staff over 18 months with some public input
- Adopted by City Council in September 1994



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Sustainable City Program - Structure

- Eight Guiding Principles – Statement of Commitment
- Goal Areas
 - Resource Conservation
 - Transportation
 - Pollution Prevention and Public Health Protection
 - Community and Economic Development
- Indicators and Targets
 - 16 Indicators Measure Progress Toward Goals
 - Targets Established for 2000 (1990 Baseline)
 - Targets Represent Commitments for City Gov't and Community



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1996 SCP Progress Report



- First Detailed Review of Progress on Indicators and Program implementation
- Report Presented to City Council by Task Force on the Environment
- Identified Specific Areas Where City was Not on Target to Meet Its Goals

Bus Ridership

Target: Increase Ridership on the Big Blue Bus by 10% from 1990 to 2000

- By 1995 Ridership Decreased by 8%
- Service Improvement Program implemented in 1997
- Ridership increased 25% from 1997 to 2000
- BBB Ranked #1 Transit System in U.S. three times since 1998



Community Forest

Target: Increase Size of Community Forest by 1% from 1990 to 2000



- By 1996 size of Community Forest had not been calculated
- Council created Community Forester position in 1997
- Community Forest database developed in 1998
- Community Forest Master Plan completed in 2000
- Size of Community Forest increased 12% from 1997 to 2000

Civic Infrastructure

What Factors Contributed to Success?

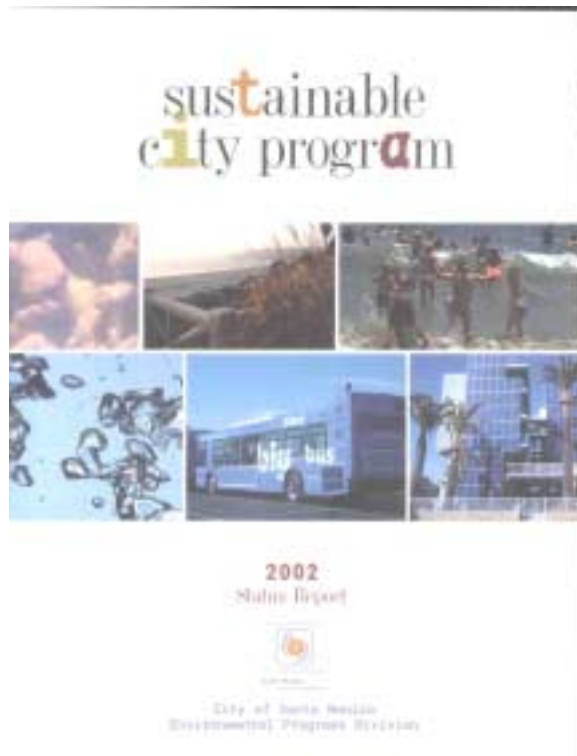
- Vision and Leadership
 - SCP Vision and Goals developed by Community Leaders (TFOE) and City staff
 - SCP Adopted by City Council → accountability
 - Ongoing oversight provided by TFOE
- Collaborative Problem Solving
 - Structure of SCP created avenue for City Departments to work together to achieve goals



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Sustainable City Program - Update



- Need to update targets for 2010
- Task Force recognized the need to update and expand the goals and indicators to provide better picture of community sustainability
- Update to build on success of original program
- Process developed to increase awareness, buy-in and participation by community stakeholders

Sustainable City Plan – Update Process

- July 2001 through September 2002
- Sustainable City Working Group
 - Neighborhood Organizations
 - Business Organizations
 - SMMUSD
 - SMC
 - Other Community Groups
 - Housing, Planning, Recreation and Parks, and Social Services Commissions
 - Council Members



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SCP Update Process - Outcomes

- Goal Areas – Increased from 4 to 8
- Goals – More specific and comprehensive
- Indicators – Increased from 18 to 66. More directly linked to goals
- System Level Goals and Indicators – Assess community level sustainability
- Program Level Goals and Indicators – Assess City government progress toward system level goals



Civic Infrastructure Future Challenges

- Updated SCP Goals Can't Be Achieved by Any One Community Stakeholder Group – Success Requires Collaboration among City Gov't, Businesses, Residents, and other Community Organizations
- Expanded Plan Has Greater Scope – New Players Must Be Involved In Order to Achieve Goals



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For More Information



<http://santa-monica.org/environment>



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