



Sustainability Action Plan



2014

City of Forest Grove

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Mayor's Message

How are the Children?

The Masai are well known for their greeting: "How are the children?" That is how these people, famous for being warriors, view the importance of their offspring.

Like the Masai, we should also ask the same question and answer with: "The children are well." For if we answer with truthfulness and, indeed, want the children and our children's children to be well, then we must recognize that it is in us and on us to provide a world in which the children can do well. That is the overarching goal of the sustainability plan for Forest Grove.

Environmentally, we want a world that supports and nurtures life. Economically, we want that life to be robust and productive. Socially, we want that life to provide for the future, that the world is left in better shape than when we found it, through research, through education, and through human understanding.

This report by the Forest Grove Sustainability Commission is not the final step. Rather, it could be an instruction manual on preservation. It could be an operator's guide for mother earth and give us tips and pointers on how to reverse some destructive practices. We have long since passed the point of arguing whether we have to deal with global warming, with water conservation, and with air quality. Those trains have left the station. It is not a matter for debate; it is settled science.

There is time, and we must use it wisely, for ourselves and for our children. For if we don't, we may not have a good answer for the question: "And how are the children?" And conversely, if we do, we and those who follow us will be able to say: "The children are well, thanks to those who came before and did the right thing."

Pete Truax, Mayor, City of Forest Grove
August 22, 2013

Community Development Director's Message

The Time Is Now

Sustainability is becoming an increasingly important concept throughout the world. Signs of climate changes are being experienced in various parts of the globe, and just one example of this is the ability to sustain agricultural productivity to feed an expanding population. The prime source for climate change, the emissions of hydrocarbons, is on the increase at alarming rates. The cause of these emissions rests with the products we make and ship, energy production and use, transportation, and the way we live. Adding to that, the loss of natural systems and increasing pollution into our air and water threatens our ability to continue life. In short, continuing our lifestyle is making life on earth unsustainable.

While this is a global condition, an important part of the solution is to begin changing how we do things locally. We find this occurring in many communities throughout the world in general and the United States, in particular. For example, Oregon is one of many states taking on the challenge of reducing our carbon footprint.

Supporting these actions and to begin addressing the issue, a group of concerned residents in Forest Grove believed that action must be taken in our community. Formed in October, 2013, the Sustainability Commission focused on developing a strategy to reduce carbon emissions and wastes locally and promote a healthy and sustainable lifestyle. The Plan focuses on seven topical areas that emerged through community discussions:

- **Energy Conservation and Green Building**
- **Food**
- **Materials Management**
- **Natural Resources**
- **Social Equity**
- **Transportation and Planning**
- **Sustainable Schools and Education**

The following tables express the vision, goals, strategies, measures or actions and a proposed timeframe to implement these efforts in each topical area. The plan can then serve a way to monitor community efforts in the future. Successes and further efforts can be identified to move Forest Grove towards a more sustainable community.

Jon Holan, Community Development Director, City of Forest Grove
July 3, 2013

Executive Summary

The City of Forest Grove established the Sustainability Commission (Commission) in October of 2013. Initially, the Commission was an Ad Hoc Committee established in October of 2011 as a result of the City’s Sustainability Institute. One of the main purposes of this Commission is to reassess the Sustainability Action Plan that was accepted in 2013 and assist in implementing the strategies outlined in this current Action Plan. This Sustainability Action Plan is the result of the efforts of the Committee, and Commission, all of the public and private partners, and the concerned residents who gave their time, knowledge, and energy to help Forest Grove become a sustainable community.

Definition of Sustainability

The Commission uses the following definition of sustainability:

Using all resources (societal, economic and natural) in an efficient and equitable manner. Sustainability in Forest Grove means considering long-term environmental, economic and social impacts of our actions. Sustainability prioritizes long-term needs over short-term gains to ensure that resources necessary to sustain life are available now and in the future.

Topic Areas

Originally the Plan had six topical areas; however, after further review the Commission felt that the inclusion of a Sustainable Schools and Education topical area was a necessary addition to the meet the needs of the community. There were six topic areas that emerged from a series of public meetings; they are the focus of the sustainability efforts in this action plan. The topic areas and associated vision statements are:

- **Materials Management-** Forest Grove will be a city that focuses on the recapture, reduction, and elimination of its material stream to enable a high quality of life for all residents.
- **Energy Conservation & Green Building-** Forest Grove will become a leader in the support of green building practices and the promotion of energy and natural resource conservation.
- **Food-** Forest Grove will be a thriving food community in which all residents have the opportunity to grow, prepare and consume nutritious local food in order to support the health of the land and its people.
- **Social Equity-** Forest Grove is a place that welcomes and supports equitable and sustainable opportunity for all community members by providing the means for human needs to be met.



- **Natural Resources-** The residents of Forest Grove demonstrate good stewardship of our natural resources by preserving the health of our watershed, forest, air, and greenspace for future generations.
- **Transportation-** To develop a safe, affordable, reliable, sustainable, and connected transportation system that is energy efficient while supporting alternative transportation modes.
- **Sustainable Schools and Education-** Forest Grove will be a city that fosters sustainable practices for all generations by supporting projects and education in our schools; encourage sustainable practices from an early age by offering resources toward practical and affordable actions.

The Action Plan sets goals, associated strategies, measures and priorities for each of the seven topic areas, which, when implemented, are intended to move towards achievement of each vision.

The Sustainability Commission intends to further evaluate the costs, impacts, and possible methods for implementing sustainable practices within the community. In order to accomplish this level of evaluation, the Commission will develop a series of white papers for all of the topical areas. The white paper analysis for the Energy Conservation and Green Buildings topical area will be slightly different than the others since the majority of proposed possible actions have already been implemented or are in the process of being implemented. This white paper will report on the ongoing sustainable initiatives, those in the process of being implemented, and newly proposed ones.

Within the Action Plan there is some overlap between the individual plans and their target areas. This occurs because of the wide breadth of issues that sustainability as a whole covers. Additionally, the City will conduct an evaluation on the need for a sustainability coordinator who can provide assistance in developing/implementing these actions and policies.

Recommendations

It is the hope of this Commission that the City of Forest Grove City Council adopts this Action Plan for implementation and further evaluation regarding the ongoing sustainability needs within the community. The Commission recommends that Council reviews this plan and progress on the action plans be updated every 3 years.

Context

What is Sustainability?

Many people think of sustainability as involving environmental efforts to improve the long-term health of the earth. That is only part of the story. Sustainability involves the physical, economic, social and governmental aspects of the community that promote long-term community health. Besides environmental considerations, equity, participation and economic considerations are hallmarks of sustainability.

The key concept to sustainability is to understand the holistic cycle between action (i.e., doing something) and capacity (i.e., the ability to do something). In considering this cycle, we must be mindful of human, financial and resource regeneration rates (i.e., the ability to replenish resources being used to perform an action).

Definitions

Many definitions of sustainability have been developed over the years. The most commonly recognized definition is “Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (UN Brundtland Commission).” The definition of sustainability used in this action plan is:

- Using all resources (societal, economic and natural) in an efficient and equitable manner. Sustainability in Forest Grove means considering long-term environmental, economic and social impacts of our actions. Sustainability prioritizes long-term needs over short-term gains to ensure that resources necessary to sustain life are available now and in the future.
- The term *efficient* means using resources in a cost-effective way taking into account life-cycle and replacement cost. Efficient use of resources means using natural resources no faster than they can be replenished through natural systems.
- The term *equity* means the benefits and costs associated with society are distributed proportionately within the community.

Sustainability in Forest Grove

The Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee created a Sustainability Mission Statement in November 2011. The Mission Statement identified the City of Forest Grove's role in sustainability as follows:

The people of Forest Grove are committed to improving the quality of life in our community by providing stewardship of our economic, social, environmental and cultural resources in a manner that is equitable for all present and future generations.

The City of Forest Grove Recognizes its responsibility to:

- Utilize resources cost-effectively while ensuring they are used no faster than they can be replenished through natural systems
- Assure that the benefits and costs of society are equitably distributed throughout the community
- Consider the long-term environmental, economic and social impacts of our actions
- Promote education and awareness of the benefits of sustainable practices to enhance the community
- Support residents, organizations, businesses and neighborhoods both within and outside the community to invest in sustainability and continually improve their practices and environments
- Prioritize long-term needs over short-term gains to ensure that the resources necessary to sustain life are available now and in the future

Additionally, the City of Forest Grove includes sustainability in its Vision Statement (2007):

A community recognized for its commitment to conserve, preserve, protect and restore our natural assets.

- **Objective 1:** Maintain and improve the quality of air, water, soil, etc. to ensure livability by using leading technology and land use methods.
- **Objective 2:** Promote Forest Grove as "The Greenest City in Oregon" through landscaping and ecologically-sound industry, businesses, utilities, transportation and development.
- **Objective 3:** To be recognized by an organization such as the Green Guide as a "Green City".

Other local sustainability efforts drawn from include Pacific University, United Church of Christ's sustainability statement, City of Forest Grove's ongoing efforts, City of Portland, State and Metro efforts involving Greenhouse Gas reduction and the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition.

One of the main purposes of the Sustainability Commission was to develop a Sustainability Action Plan so that the community and the City of Forest Grove can utilize this document as a blueprint to implement sustainable practices.

Process & Public Input

As a way to initiate a community-based sustainability effort, the City of Forest Grove convened a Sustainability Institute October 8, 2011, and 16 interested residents attended. This was an initial information session to discuss what sustainability is and why it is important to the residents of Forest Grove. Various sustainability efforts ongoing locally and regionally were reviewed. The formation of the Forest Grove Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee was the result of that meeting. The Committee's focus evolved over time and resulted in a mission statement, and hiring a Pacific University sustainability intern who created the following reports:

1. Inventory of sustainability-related organizations in the Forest Grove community
2. Water Consumption Assessment Report with recommendations
3. Energy Assessment Report with recommendations
4. Socio-Economic Assessment Report
5. Municipal Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

A series of three Sustainability Summits were held with the intent to engage community members in creating a sustainability action plan for Forest Grove. These facilitated sessions built off the Committee's efforts and gathered participants' ideas about critical sustainability issues and long-range goals. The emphasis was on stewardship of our economic, social, environmental and cultural resources in a manner that is equitable for present and for future generations.

The first Summit was held October 12, 2011, and resulted in productive and engaging work sessions. At the end of the first Summit, six different focus areas emerged from the discussion including green building, transportation, locally sourced food, social equity, recycling and solid waste, and solar and renewable energy.

In the fall of 2012 the Committee was also invited to plan and facilitate the City of Forest Grove Annual Town Meeting with a focus on sustainability. It was held January 26, 2013, with over 100 people in attendance.

Roundtable discussions were held on the following topics relating to sustainability:

- What are we doing well?
- What do we need to improve?
- What are the barriers to get there?
- How do we go forward to create a safe, equitable, sustainable, and healthy city?



The second Summit was held Saturday, February 9, 2013, on the Pacific University campus, and 40 residents gathered to further refine their visions and goals for the six topic areas. As a result, vision statements, goals and strategies were discussed. The six topic areas were revised to combine solar and renewable energy with green building and add natural resources. The third Summit was held Saturday, April 20, 2013, in honor of Earth Day, at the Forest Grove Senior & Community Center. The meeting focused on refining the actions and strategies in the six topic areas.

Following the three Sustainability Summits, the Committee met several times to refine each topic area and ensure that it had a vision, target areas, possible actions and priorities that supported the target areas. During the period of May through September 2013, the Committee solicited input from community organizations and residents for further feedback and input on the draft Plan. In October the Committee presented the Plan to the City Council where it was accepted and established a formal City Sustainability Commission.

Sustainability Topic Areas

There are seven different topic areas that the Sustainability Action Plan looks to address. The following are the seven different topic areas:

- Materials Management
- Energy Conservation
- Food
- Social Equity
- Natural Resources
- Transportation and Planning
- Sustainable Schools and Education

As mentioned before, there is some repetition in the action plans and target areas since many of the concepts overlap. The City should develop a monitoring plan that would indicate how well the strategies are being met in the timeframes given and whether or not a revision of the overall Sustainable Action Plan is needed. Currently, many of the columns are missing information within the measures, priority, stakeholders, and funding source columns. The City will add this information into the Plan once the white papers are completed.

Topic Area Subcommittees

In order to identify topical areas, targets, possible actions, and performance measures of each topic area subcommittees were established. These committees developed the target areas and possible actions needed in order to make the vision statements a reality. These target areas and actions are not meant to be exclusive; they complement other actions already being taken by individuals, organizations, and governments. The topic areas are meant to be integrated, and contribute to the ultimate vision of Forest Grove as a sustainable city.

White Papers

All of the topical areas will require further evaluation so that costs, potential impacts, and implementation methods are fully understood. The Sustainability Action Plan in its current form does not take all of these factors into account. The City will develop a series of white papers to examine possible policy implications. After the completion of these white papers, the Commission can then present their findings and recommendations to the Council for adoption of policies or programs that the Commission wishes to pursue. The City will not implement any new policy or program that will cost a significant amount of resources until the white papers are completed and the Council has approved the initiative.

Materials Management

Vision

Forest Grove will be a city that focuses on the recapture, reduction, and elimination of its material stream to enable a high quality of life for all residents.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate waste management programs within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the three target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- The development of programs to educate and promote recycling and waste reduction
- Educate residents about how to safely dispose of pharmaceuticals
- Provide educational materials on composting and vermiculture to citizens of Forest Grove

Energy Conservation & Green Buildings

Vision

Forest Grove will become a leader in the support of green building practices and the promotion of energy and natural resource conservation.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate new and ongoing conservation and green buildings initiatives within the city of Forest Grove. The intent of the white paper is to explore the seven target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- Implement and maintain an ongoing education campaign on the individual economic benefits of energy conservation and reduced resource consumption
- Retrofit older, single and multifamily housing stock with energy conservation measures
- Reduce greenhouse gas production in the community

Food

Vision

Forest Grove will be a thriving food community in which all residents have the opportunity to grow, prepare and consume nutritious local food in order to support the health of the land and its people.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate food related sustainability programs within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the six target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- Develop partnership systems to sustainably feed all Forest Grove area people experiencing hunger
- Develop year-round farmers market in the Forest Grove area

Social Equity

Vision

Forest Grove welcomes and supports equitable and sustainable opportunities for all community members by providing the means for human needs to be met.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate existing and potential equitable policies within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the three target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- Support equitable access to opportunities, civic engagement, and the distribution of resources
- Increase sustainability of local businesses and support small business development

Natural Resources

Vision

The residents of Forest Grove demonstrate good stewardship of our natural resources by preserving the health of our watershed, forest, air, and greenspace for future generations.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate existing and potential natural resource preservation policies within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the seven target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- Continue to support the restoration of natural areas such as Fern Hill Wetlands
- Increase the amount of tree canopy while planting species adapted to this area

Transportation and Planning

Vision

Forest Grove has a safe, affordable, reliable, sustainable, and connected transportation system that is energy efficient while supporting all transportation modes.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate existing and potential transportation policies within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the seven target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- Make mass transportation more accessible to a larger portion of the community

- Increase the safety of bicycling in Forest Grove

Sustainable Schools and Education

Vision

Forest Grove will be a city that fosters sustainable practices for all generations by supporting projects and education in our schools; encourage sustainable practices from an early age by offering resources toward practical and affordable actions.

Initial Action

Consult with the Forest Grove School District to create a white paper that will evaluate current sustainability programs within the District. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other schools shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the target areas and possible related actions.

Highlights

Plan highlights include:

- Outline goals and objectives for fostering sustainability practices in the Forest Grove School District schools
- Collaborate with schools on sustainability projects that can be done at low or no cost within confines of the school curriculum

Appendices

I. Materials Management Plan

Vision

Forest Grove will be a city that focuses on the recapture, reduction, and elimination of its discarded material stream to enable a high quality of life for all residents.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate waste management programs within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the three target areas and possible related actions that are listed below.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority ¹	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Develop programs to educate and promote waste reduction including recycling, reuse and waste prevention.	1a. Encourage multifamily community property managers to contact Heather Robinson, the Washington County Recycle at Work Specialist. She can provide technical assistance, outreach and education.		Distribute bilingual materials to multi-family apartments		
	1b. Develop a public information and community-based social		Number of participant stories		

¹ **High Priority**- Initiate and/or complete in 2015/2016; **Medium Priority**- Main projects to focus on in the next five years. Further define project parameters in 2015/2016 and present to decision makers, where applicable, with detailed work plan for implementation 2016 to 2020. Or implements as an ongoing project or program on an already defined schedule; **Low Priority**- Do projects as able resources allow, e.g. staff time, funds, etc.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority ¹	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	marketing campaign to cut household waste with a “One-Bag-a-Week” challenge. Ensure that there are collection service options that provide a financial benefit to households that generate less waste.		received		
	1c. In the Forest Grove utility bill, include web site information and phone numbers for organizations that support materials management such as Washington County’s business and multifamily waste reduction technical assistance programs		Once a year brochure to all Forest Grove Light and Power users		
	1d. Offer information on how-to workshops and educational materials on traditional composting, Bokashi, and vermiculture for residents		Work with appropriate organizations to hold workshops within the community		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority ¹	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1e. Manage a booth at the Farmer’s Market that encourages residents to reduce the amount of materials entering the waste stream through precycling and upcycling. Work with the Chamber to encourage businesses to do the same.				
	1f. Identify top areas for the City of Forest Grove and community to reduce waste. Apply for the city to earn Recycle at Work award status.		Work with departments to develop a list of waste reduction strategies. Put as a list on webpage.		
	1g. Assist in the establishment of a procurement policy to ensure recycling organic waste or matter for contracted waste disposal services.				
	1h. Label trash containers with the word “Landfill” to increase awareness				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority ¹	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1i. Encourage tandem placement of recycling receptacles near every trash container in public areas.				
2. Encourage citizens to compost food and organic waste	2a. Advertise composting and vermiculture equipment offered by Metro. Provide educational materials on composting and vermiculture to citizens of Forest Grove.		Take orders for composting units at the Farmer's Market.		
	2b. Support FG Farmer's Market and Master Recycler's effort to sell reusable to go boxes at the Forest Grove Farmer's Market and to local businesses to reduce packaging and food waste.		Number of restaurants that accept reusable to go boxes and the number sold at the Farmer's Market		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority ¹	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	2c. Evaluate opportunities regarding recycling and food waste such as the expansion of current recycling options, a pilot composting program, and identifying companies that commercially process food waste for energy and revenue		Contact company personnel to find out feasibility of this strategy and work with Waste Management to establish drop offs for any new items		
3. Educate residents about how to safely dispose of pharmaceuticals	3. Develop information on the availability of pharmaceutical drop off sites. Make information available to community. (ie, FG utility bill, local newspaper)		Contact Forest Grove Police Department and Metro.		

Possible Partners: Waste Management Forest Grove Transfer Station, Metro Master Recyclers Program, Forest Grove Police and Fire Departments, Forest Grove Farmers Market, Pacific University, Far West Fibers, New Earth Farms, B-Street Farm, Center for a Sustainable Society, Forest Grove School District, Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce, local churches and service organizations, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Metro Regional Illegal Dumping patrol, SOLVE, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Poison Hot Line, Backyard Burning Schedule, Animal Control, SWATCO, Washington County Recycle at Work, etc.

II. Energy Conservation and Green Buildings Action Plan

Vision

Forest Grove is a leader in the support of green building practices and the promotion of energy and natural resource conservation

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate new and ongoing conservation and green buildings initiatives within the city of Forest Grove. The intent of the white paper is to explore the seven target areas and possible related actions.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Implement and maintain an ongoing education campaign on the individual economic benefits of energy conservation and reduced resource consumption	1a. As a demonstration, conduct an energy audit and then retrofit an older home for energy conservation, choosing a suite of strategies that, in aggregate, return 20% annually of the initial capital cost (\$1,000 investment saves \$200 in utility bills annually)		Publish the results of the demonstration project, reaching 100% of all homes		
	1b. Educate the community about the availability of Oregon lifetime \$1,500 tax credits for energy conservation measures		Publish information in utility bill insert, local newspapers, talks to local groups		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1c. Educate the community about federal tax credits for residential wind turbines, solar hot water and electric systems		Publish information in utility bill insert, local newspapers, talks to local groups		
	1d. Foreground energy conservation on the city website; advertise availability of free energy audits for homes with electric heat and of incentive grants to pay for conservation retrofits		Revise city website		
	1e. Provide energy conservation tips in utility bill inserts		Utility bill insert contains energy conservation tips		
	1f. Encourage local newspapers to have a sustainability column written by a Commission member or Pacific University student				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
2. Retrofit older, single and multifamily housing stock with energy conservation measures	2a. Work with local banks on financing projects for homeowners and apartment owners; develop database, using City L&P records, on homes that have received incentive grants for energy conservation and renewable energy installations; include in database homes that have implemented measures without local incentives		Have City L&P do a survey of households to find out the percentage that have implemented conservation strategies		
	2b. Work with Energy Trust on homes that use Northwest Natural gas for heating; advertise availability of energy audits and incentive grants; develop database of retrofit homes				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	2c. Have City L&P implement a program to replace residential and commercial mercury thermostats and other non-programmable thermostats with programmable thermostats. Perhaps do this in cooperation with BPA and Metro, with the city or contractors installing the thermostats		Report the numbers of changed out thermostats. Include a question about programmable thermostats in the survey for Goal 2		
	2d. Require return of old thermostats and installation of programmable thermostats as a condition of home sales; if requiring thermostat changes is not possible, set up widely publicized volunteer thermostat replacement program		Report the number of returned thermostats		
3. Reduce energy used by buildings in both new and retrofit construction	3a. Rigidly enforce the statewide energy building code for new and retrofit construction				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	3b. Develop a point system and a sliding reduced-fee schedule for energy performance beyond minimum code requirements		Point system and sliding reduced-fee schedule developed		
	3c. Publicize construction companies that build beyond minimum code requirements		List of companies published		
	3d. Educate consumers and builders about the individual economic value of investments in energy conservation				
	3e. Work with regional home appraisers to include insulation and other energy conservation measures in their analyses				
4. Reduce energy used for lighting	4a. Continue replacing lighting with fluorescents and LEDs in city-owned buildings and outdoor lighting		100% of city lighting is fluorescents or LEDs		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	4b. Replace incandescent bulbs in single and multifamily homes; periodically implement reduced cost or free bulb replacement programs		Replace in 80% of single and multifamily homes		
	4c. Educate the community about the importance of safe disposal of fluorescent bulbs; develop a safe disposal program within the city		Publish information in utility bill insert, local newspapers, talks to local groups		
	4d. Educate the community about LEDs as an economic and more environmentally sound alternative to CFLs		Info in utility bill inserts		
	4e. Use information from the International Dark-Sky Association and similar organizations to decrease city's use of nighttime lighting		Have City P&L conduct a report of energy for street lighting		
5. Increase awareness of the environmental benefits and use of solar domestic hot water and photovoltaics in residences	5a. City publicizes environmental value of using solar hot water and solar photovoltaic energy		City L&P reports number of solar hot water and photovoltaic		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	5b. City publicizes lists of companies that install solar systems		installations and the percent of total housing stock using solar energy for hot water and electricity		
	5c. City publicizes any available incentives and tax credits available for solar system installations				
	5d. Have City staff examine the feasibility of the use of solar powered water heaters, street lights, and signs for City buildings				
6. Reduce greenhouse gas production in the community	6a. Update the greenhouse gas inventory		Conduct greenhouse gas inventory		
	6b. Obtain a more precise eGrid emissions factor for electricity consumption within the city, working with EPA and other analysts				
	6c. Calculate the amount of carbon sequestration in the 4,700-acre municipal forest				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
7. Investigate other sources of energy production	7a. Investigate the feasibility of power generation by the city				
	7b. Investigate the feasibility of power generation by individuals and businesses				

Possible Partners: City of Forest Grove, Pacific University, Centro Cultural, Adelante Mujeres, Forest Grove School District, Energy Trust of Oregon, Metro, Bonneville Power Administration, Northwest Natural

III. Food Action Plan

Vision

Forest Grove will be a thriving food community in which all residents have the opportunity to grow, prepare and consume nutritious local food in order to support the health of the land and its people.

Objective

Create a white paper that will evaluate food related sustainability programs within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the six target areas and possible related actions that are listed below.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Develop partnership systems to sustainably feed all Forest Grove area people experiencing hunger	1a. Report out the results of the community food assessment completed by the Oregon Food Bank and work with local organizations to form a resource network		Base assessment completed and distributed		
	1b. Work with state and regional food programs, agencies and anti-hunger organizations to increase access to nutritious, safe and adequate food by all residents experiencing ongoing hunger		Connect local food agencies/ religious organizations/ community groups		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1c. Work to eradicate issues of continuing hunger by implementing proposed methods as outlined in “A Place At the Table” documents (<i>A Place At the Table</i> , Peter Pringle, Editor. NY: public Affairs Books, copyright 2013)		Report progress to public via local and regional media		
	1d. Establish a community food drive week and encourage businesses to provide a percentage of sales to the food bank				
	1e. Inventory food donation in the Forest Grove area such as grocery stores, restaurants, and Forest Grove food producers				
	1f. Develop a network for food donations and educate businesses on where and how they can donate				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
2. Increase the use of sustainably grown, local food	2a. Identify strategies to promote locally grown food from individual properties; Evaluate established models for sustainable agriculture		A draft of the white paper which would include recommended changes		
	2b. Establish a Community Gleaning Project, whereby citizens participate as producers and consumers based on the Portland Fruit Tree Project and Leda Glastonbury's PU Senior Capstone Project		Organization formation		
	2c. Establish community gardens through the Parks and Rec. Master Plan program		Number of new gardens		
	2d. Investigate the ability to lease public lands, vacant lots, and/or rail right of ways for food garden possibilities				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
3. Develop year-round farmers market in the Forest Grove area	4a. Bring together parties from interested food producers and related organizations and agencies to build agreements and contracts to open year-round famers market in the Forest Grove area		Visit other year-round farmers markets; Open a local year-round farmers market		
4. Develop and implement adequate local community kitchens for increasing micro-enterprise development and teaching/learning food preparation and processing	5a. Promote new area community kitchens available for continuing use as teaching sites and small business development resources		Determine existing kitchens available for this program		
5. Support new farmers	6a. In the existing video promoting Forest Grove, include farming, agriculture, farm bed and breakfasts, and agritourism		Update the City of Forest Grove website and promotional materials		
	6b. Have interest groups provide farmer mixers to develop locally designed new farmer opportunities		Four mixers during each of the next 3 years at community auditorium, Forest		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	6c. Support Friends of Family Farmers' iFarm programs and other related organizations; This will strengthen opportunities for new farmers to access farmland, tools, equipment, adequate funding and critical, continuing mentoring (www.friendsoffamilyfarmers.org/iFarm)		Grove Senior & Community Center, Forest Grove Grange #282, and North Plains Jesse Mays Community Center		

Possible partners: Dairy Creek Community Food Web, Adelante Mujeres, City of Forest Grove, Forest Grove School District, Forest Grove Senior and Community Center, North Plains Community Center, The News-Times and the Forest Grove Leader, Pacific University, local churches, Community Matters, Forest Grove Grange #282, The Oregon Food Bank, Committee for Citizen Involvement, The Portland Fruit Tree Project, Kitchen Commons (Portland community kitchens), local service groups such as Elks, Lions, Masons, Odd Fellows; Oregon State University - Extension Service: Master Gardeners/Master Food Preservers, Forest Grove Community Gardens, local and regional health organizations such as Tuality Healthcare, Kaiser Permanente, and Providence Healthcare; Friends of Family Farmers, North Plains Farmers Market, Cornelius Farmers Market, City of North Plains, Forest Grove/Cornelius Chamber of Commerce, North Plains Chamber of Commerce, Columbia Grange, area farmers.

IV. Social Equity Plan

Vision

Forest Grove welcomes and supports equitable and sustainable opportunities for all community members by providing the means for human needs to be met.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate existing and potential equitable policies within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the three target areas and possible related actions that are listed below.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Support equitable access to opportunities, civic engagement, and the distribution of resources	1a. City staff or a Pacific University student will draft a white paper to evaluate current needs and budget ramifications of implementing bilingual services.		The number of bilingual services provided	Pacific University faculty Jessica Ritter, Don Schweitzer (Dept. Social Work), and Melissa Viera (work study office)	
	1b. Improve access to social services for all Forest Grove community members.		Collect baseline data from existing sources	Food Bank report / Jessica	

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1c. Create additional opportunities for civic engagement in the arts and in recreation. Promote more involvement of low-income, minorities, youth, seniors, and other underserved populations		regarding: city livability, opportunities and resources	Pacific Univ. (above)	
	1d. Improve access to affordable health care by supporting the marketing of local health care services such as the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Clinic		Survey the community to indicate increased access to affordable health care	Ivy Wagner (coord.) iwagner@vgmhc.org Ignolia Duyck (fair) iduyck@vgmhc.org	
	1e. Identify and address barriers to civic engagement among underserved populations in Forest Grove with the assistance of community groups and organizations		Primary barriers identified, plan in place for addressing barriers	FGSCC, Adelante Mujeres, FGSD Homeless Liaison (Dave Pero), Emily Berndt (211info), Leticia Vitela (CAO)	

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1f. Increase representation from the Latino community and other underserved populations on all City boards and commissions		Demographics of FG City Boards and Commissions more closely reflect city-wide demographics	FGSCC, Adelante sources	
	1g. Evaluate the feasibility of establishing a Social Equity Committee that would examine barriers to service within the city				
2. Increase sustainability of local businesses and support small business development	2a. Support education and incentives for local businesses regarding sustainable practices		Sustainable practices of local businesses increase per yearly surveys; Recognition program of businesses is established	Consult CoC, Economic Dev. Commiss., Hope Kramer	
	2b. Examine current city policies that affect small businesses		Collect baseline data from existing sources	Consult Econ. Dev. Comm. (EDC), Chamber of Commerce (CoC)	

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	2c. Address obstacles that exist for small businesses to start and expand		Increase small local businesses by 20%, from 2013 baseline data	Consult CoC, EDC	
	2d. City of Forest Grove incorporates a marketing strategy for small sustainable businesses and tourism		Sustainability is incorporated into the city's marketing strategy	Consult CoC, EDC	
3. Increase the sustainable living wage of Forest Grove residents	3a. Support local workforce training efforts to serve individuals who are seeking employment and/or increased job skills		Increase living wage jobs from the baseline of 2013 data	Consult Pacific Univ. & Wash. County agencies	

Possible Partners: Forest Grove Economic Development Director, Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce, City of Forest Grove departments, Committee for Citizen Involvement, Washington County Cooperative Library System, Washington County Commission on Children and Families, Community Action, FG Senior and Community Center, FG School District, FG Family Resource Center, FG Community School, Oregon Child Development Coalition (OCDC), Pacific University (Residence Life, Centers for Civic Engagement, Gender Equity, and Diversity), Small Business Administration, Local businesses, Adelante Mujeres, Centro Cultural, Washington County Housing Authority, Bienestar and other affordable housing agencies, Service clubs, Coalition for a Livable Future

Grants and ideas for funding: Community Development foundations, Small Business Administration, Foundations that support social sustainability efforts, Affordable housing agencies, Coalition for a Livable Future, FG Public Arts Commission

V. Natural Resources Action Plan

Vision

The residents of Forest Grove demonstrate good stewardship of our natural resources by preserving the health of our watershed, forest, air, and greenspace for future generations.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate existing and potential natural resource preservation policies within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the seven target areas and possible related actions that are listed below.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Increase the amount of tree canopy while planting species adapted to this area	1a. Develop a master plan identifying current conditions of the City's tree canopy, areas for additional tree planting, and long-term needs for conversion to more appropriate species or mix of ages		Inventory and increase the current tree canopy and complete a master urban forest plan	Forestry, Parks and Rec, and Planning Commission	
2. Reduce average per capita water consumption	2a. Encourage the use of low flow shower heads and toilets		A reduction in per capita water consumption		
	2b. Develop a Water Conservation Program Plans and encourage the planting of native plant species that require less water				

	2c. Support the efforts of Clean Water Services and the Friends of Fernhill Wetlands in their water conservation efforts				
	2d. Encourage the use of drip irrigation systems or other means to reduce household outdoor water use				
	2e. Encourage the use of rain sensors with outdoor sprinkler systems				
3. Increase the amount of park/natural areas in the Parks and Rec Master Plan update	3a. Identify additional sites for natural area restoration (such as adding to the Forest Grove City Watershed)		An increase in greenspace or parks, increase number of partnerships developed or renewed		
	3b. Develop partnerships for funding acquisitions for new, or enhancement of existing park/natural areas.				
	3c. Support the efforts of Clean Water Services and the City of Forest Grove's Forestry Commission and Parks and Recreation				

<p>4. Continue to support the restoration of natural areas such as Fern Hill Wetlands</p>	<p>4a. Support and identify additional activities related to restoration efforts in Forest Grove</p>		<p>Increase participation in events initiated by Friends of Fernhill Wetlands and other conservation nonprofits</p>		
<p>5. Reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides</p>	<p>5a. Support the efforts of Clean Water Services and the City of Forest Grove to reduce environmental toxins</p>		<p>A reduction in use of pesticides and herbicides. Advertise and support Household Hazardous Waste events</p>		
	<p>5b. Promote existing educational organizations such as Natural Resources Conservation Service and Master Gardeners</p>				
<p>6. Inform and educate the residents of Forest Grove on the benefits, care, and maintenance of trees for aesthetics, shade, and carbon storage.</p>	<p>6a. Develop (or use existing programs such as Tree School) an education program about the benefits of city trees (carbon, shade, aesthetics etc.)</p>		<p>Development and implementation of educational outreach materials and programs</p>		

	6b. Develop an education program for the proper care of trees (pruning, planting, maintenance)				
7. Improve air quality	7a. Reduce the amount of backyard burning				
	7b. Encourage the use of mass transit, pedestrian and cycling options within the City		Support the marketing of GroveLink and TriMet		
	7c. Work with lenders in Forest Grove to promote special auto loan rates for those purchasing vehicles with lower emissions				
	7d. Promote and educate the Forest Grove community about the use of biofuel and ethanol in fuel				
	7e. Collaborate with large shippers in the Forest Grove area to develop a plan to utilize equipment that uses alternative fuel				

	7f. Promote the use of a rail system by businesses in Forest Grove to reduce trucking emissions				
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Possible Partners: Metro, Friends of Fernhill Wetlands, Pacific University, Forest Grove Forestry Commission, Forest Grove Parks and Recreation Commission, City of Forest Grove, Tualatin Valley Watershed Council, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Oregon Environmental Center, Water Master, Soil and Water Conservation District

VI. Transportation Action Plan

Vision

Forest Grove has a safe, affordable, reliable, sustainable, and connected transportation system that is energy efficient while supporting all transportation modes.

Initial Action

Create a white paper that will evaluate existing and potential transportation policies within the Forest Grove area. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other organizations shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the six target areas and possible related actions that are listed below.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Make mass transportation more accessible to a larger portion of the community	1a. Work with Ride Connection on providing expanded service and long term operation funding		Increase ridership of TriMet and Ride Connection buses		
2. Increase the use of bicycle transportation	2a. Partner with other agencies to further explore plans for several new bike trails like the Council Creek Trail		Increase miles of trails for bicyclists and pedestrians		

	2b. Promote the use of the new covered bike racks in Forest Grove by providing brochures at the Wednesday Market, in the utility bill, at First Friday, and other community gatherings		Increased use of the racks by residents		
	2c. Publicize bike trails and covered bike racks online		Increase use of bicycle transportation		
	2d. As part of the Parks and Rec Master Plan create a spreadsheet or listing of all currently planned or funded bike/pedestrian enhancement projects with contact information, trail name, map, completion date		Aids in tracking all of the entities promoting expansion of bike trails in the area. Increases communication with these groups		

	2e. Increase the safety of bicycling in Forest Grove by increasing the number of bike paths, bike lanes on existing roads, and working with Public Works to create a safe bike/pedestrian crossing at Hwy 47 (near Maple St.)		A decrease in cycling related accidents		
	2f. Evaluate current bike paths and identify possible improvements to enhance bike connections to local transit locations				
	2g. Promote national bike month (May) and the Bike Commute Challenge (September) throughout the City				
	2h. Examine the feasibility of becoming a member of the Westside Transportation Alliance to assist in transportation issues facing the City				

	2i. Explore practices implemented by other organizations and feasibility of promoting Oregon's Safe Routes to School Program			School District	
	2j. Develop a bicycle rental or bike-share program in Forest Grove				
	2k. Evaluate current bike paths and identify possible improvements to enhance bike connections to local transit locations				
	2l. Promote national bike month (May) and Bike Commute Challenge (September) throughout the City				
	2m. Examine the feasibility of becoming a member of the Westside Transportation alliance to assist in transportation issues facing the City				

	2n. Explore practices implemented by other organizations and feasibility of promoting Oregon's Safe Routes to School Program				
3. Retrofit electric car charging station with plugs/adapters to fit all types of cars and electric bicycles.	3a. Work with Forest Grove Light and Power to add adapters that will fit all electric cars and bicycles including ones not currently supported		Increased ability of electric car drivers and bicyclists to utilize current charging stations		
4. Add peak hour express buses from Forest Grove to Hillsboro Transit Center	4a. Work with TriMet and Ride Connection to introduce a pilot program for Line 57 express bus route from Forest Grove to Hillsboro TC during peak hours		Increased ridership on bus/max		
5. Expand light rail to Forest Grove	5a. Initiate a corridor planning effort with Cornelius and Hillsboro to improve the status of the Forest Grove extension in the Regional Transportation Plan		Expansion of MAX into Forest Grove		

	5b. Develop a strategic plan process with the goal to extend light rail to Forest Grove				
6. Fit new city vehicles and Ride Connection buses to run on electric power	6a. Meet with TriMet and Ride Connection staff to encourage purchasing new vehicles equipped with electric power		Cleaner air for Forest Grove and all areas they serve		

Possible Partners: Metro Councilors, Forest Grove City Council, Forest Grove City Staff, Emerald Bike Path, TriMet, Ride Connection, Quarterly Trails Forum, Council Creek Trail, Bicycle Transportation Alliance, Forest Grove Light and Power, Washington Country Transportation Alliance, Forest Grove Farmer’s Market

VII. Sustainable School and Education Action Plan

Vision

Forest Grove will be a city that fosters sustainable practices for all generations by supporting projects and education in our schools; encourage sustainable practices from an early age by offering resources toward practical and affordable actions.

Initial Action

Consult with the Forest Grove School District to create a white paper that will evaluate current sustainability programs within the District. As part of this effort, a comparison of models used by other schools shall be evaluated. The intent of the white paper is to explore the target areas and possible related actions that are listed below.

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
1. Outline goals and objectives for fostering sustainability practices in the Forest Grove School District schools	1a. Align goals, objectives and plans with the district office	High	Document between city and school district	Connie Potter	
	1b. Enlist experts to conduct workshops for teachers, administrators, facilities, and custodial staff	High	Schedule of workshops	Connie Potter	
	1c. Work with Forest Grove school district and waste haulers to improve recycling at schools by recommending a student recycling campaign		Waste audits for baseline and increased labeling bins	Waste Management and FGSD Facilities Staff	

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	1d. Work to ensure trash containers are always accompanied by recycling containers. Trash containers labeled with the word "Landfill" to increase awareness.				
2. Collaborate with schools on sustainability projects that can be done at low or no cost within confines of the school curriculum	2a. Work with the school principals to understand school curriculum, and identify practical, low-cost projects for various grade levels	High	Meeting with principals and/or administrators		
	2b. Provide the means for a materials wish list (e.g., digital thermometers*, consumable materials)	High	List(s) from school(s); funding available		City grant
	2c. Request for students to demonstrate projects to the Commission (e.g., solar ovens) and during other public events	High/ Med	Schedule of projects and commission agenda		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	2d. Hold a competition for best sustainability practices implemented in schools/city projects with prizes for best project in each school	Med	Arrange projects & support required		
	2e. Apply for a CEP grant to help fund sustainability projects	High	List of materials that would need to be purchased		
	2f. Tap city budget & department resources for funding school projects, consistent with the city's commitment to sustainability	High	Identify available funds		
3. Implement and maintain an ongoing behavior change campaign	3a. Promote in-class workshop and/or sustainability idea book with a list of different activities classes could do	Med	Complete with instructions on how to do them and a list of materials needed		
	3b. Bring in experts to demonstrate ideas and work with classrooms - one-time appearance or ongoing	High	compile a list of guest speakers to come in and help kids with a project		

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
4. Implement energy and water conservation plans & practices	4a. Conduct an energy audit	High	Publish the results of the audit & determine plans		
	4b. Assist the district to provide the means to retrofit schools for energy conservation, choosing a suite of strategies that, in aggregate, return x% annually of the initial capital cost				
	4c. Follow-up on City of Forest Grove Sustainability Summit to the School Board	Med	Arrange to get on the agenda		
	4d. Work with the Forest Grove School District to develop a plan to replace lighting with LED's				

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	4e. Develop a plan for the District to implement the use of water reducing devices such as rain catchment devices, rain sensors on sprinklers, drip irrigation systems, and water reducing features in bathrooms at school facilities				
5. Work with the District to implement more job related skills training at high school.	5a. Develop a job placement network between the District and local businesses				
6. Develop school gardens and nutrition education programs at every Forest Grove public school	6a. Develop curricula to be used by appropriate grades; See Healthy Kids Curriculum from OSU Extension Service		Curricula developed and in place at a minimum of 5 local schools	School District, Children, and Families	
	6b. Determine funding and funding sources needed to establish and maintain gardens		Compile a list of grants and funding sources	School District, Children, and Families	

Target Areas	Possible Action	Priority	Measures	Stakeholders	Funding Source
	6c. Determine needed personnel		Personnel chosen	School District, Children, and Families	
	6d. Develop workable timelines and contracts with local farmers and gardeners to provide year-round food directly to local schools		Contracts signed with Oregon Farm to School Program	School District, Children, and Families	

* needed for precise readings to determine materials for best insulators