City of Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy
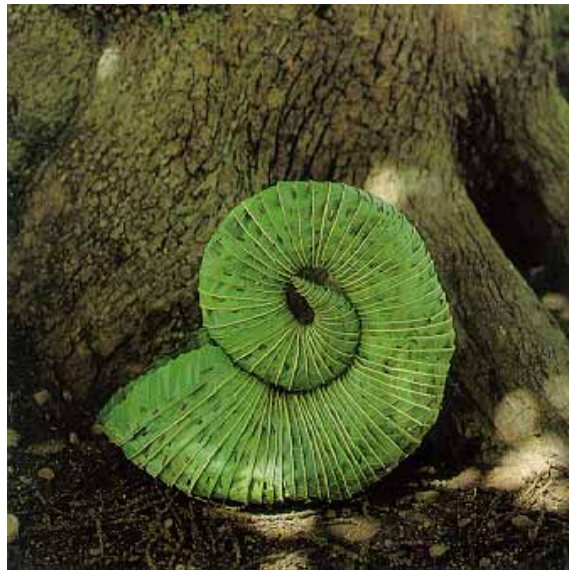
- Community Conversation # 1
- Shoreline Center
- October 11, 2007

What is Sustainability?

...development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. – Brundtland Commission


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Sustainability...

- *...must not narrow the choices of future generations but...expand them by passing on an environment and an accumulation of resources that will allow its children to live at least as well as, and preferably better than, people today.* -NCOE, 1993

- *...does not undermine either (the earth's) physical and social systems of support.* -Meadows, Meadows and Rander, 1992

- *We are all here together, at once, at the service and mercy of nature and each other.* -Paul Hawken, Ecology of Commerce

Sustainability's Three E's:

- Environmental quality

- Economic vitality
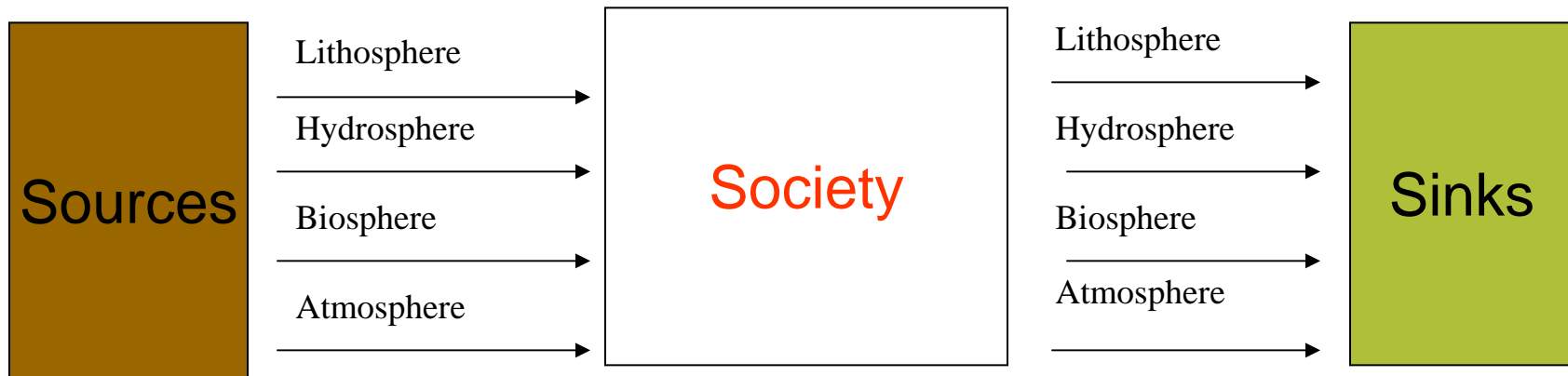
- Equity/Social benefit
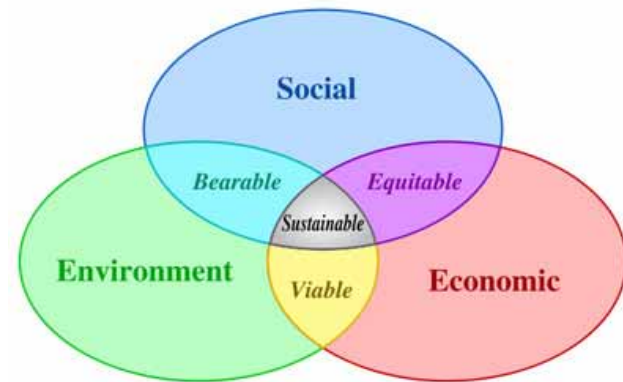
Graphic: Mathis Wackernagel, LEAD Presentation, March, 2000

The Earth Provides:

Carrying capacity

Graphic: Mathis Wackernagel, LEAD
Presentation, March, 2000

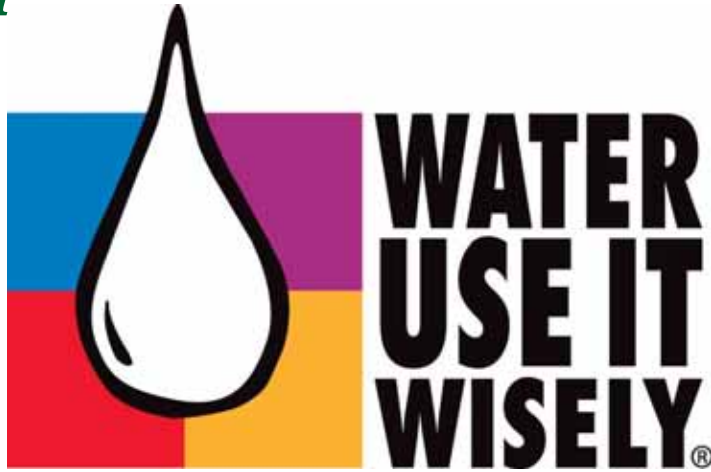- Resource Supply
- Waste Assimilation

What is a Sustainable City?

- *Improving the quality of life in a city, including ecological, cultural, political, institutional, social and economic components without leaving a burden on the future generations.* – URBAN21 Conference

Infrastructure
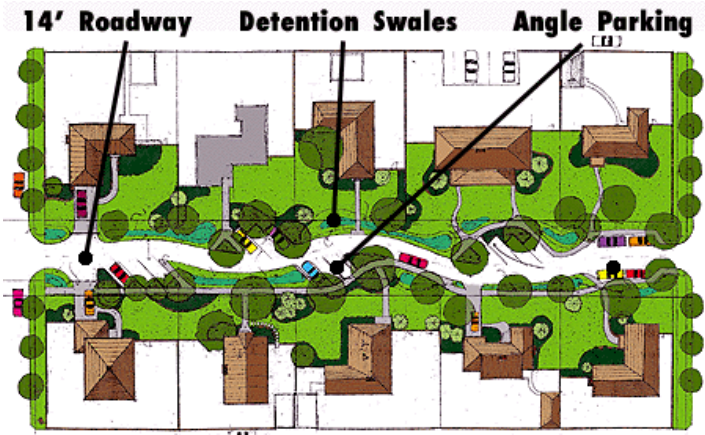
Operations

How Do We Get There?

- Objectives
- A framework of guiding principles
- A method that speaks to the community
- A baseline to track progress
- A system for tracking progress
- An action plan for achieving targets
- A feedback mechanism to assess progress and needs for improvement

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What is Possible?

Open Space 2100 – Rainier Valley
Team

Fort Collins' Action Plan for Sustainability

Santa Monica Sustainable City Program

Santa Monica continued

City of Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Lessons Learned

- Set clear goals
- Engage the community
- Give the Plan authority
- Give the Plan autonomy
- Make sustainability the overarching policy framework
- Identify a champion(s)

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Lessons Learned continued

- Start with a measurable rallying point
- Base decisions in science
- Focus on "executable tasks"
- Find a sustainable funding source
- Start small and scale up

Potential Tools and Resources

- PLACE³S
- Resourceful Government Guidebook
- The Natural Step
- Ecological Footprint
- Carbon Calculators

Park Proximity

1,973 feet   665 feet
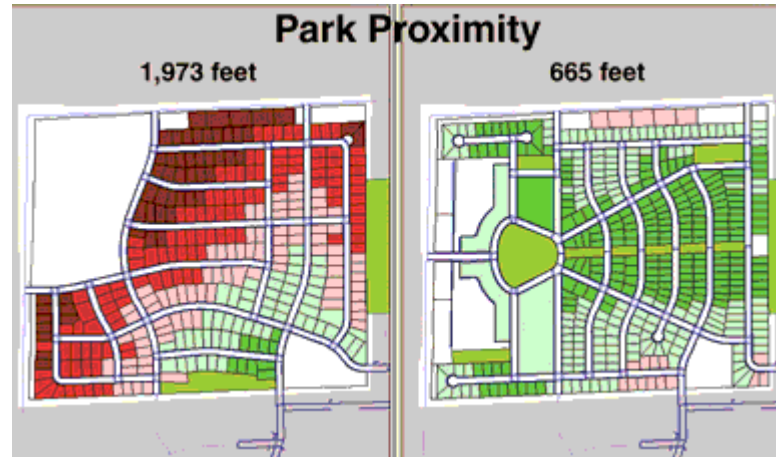
MetroQuest Simulation Program

Community Viz Simulation Program
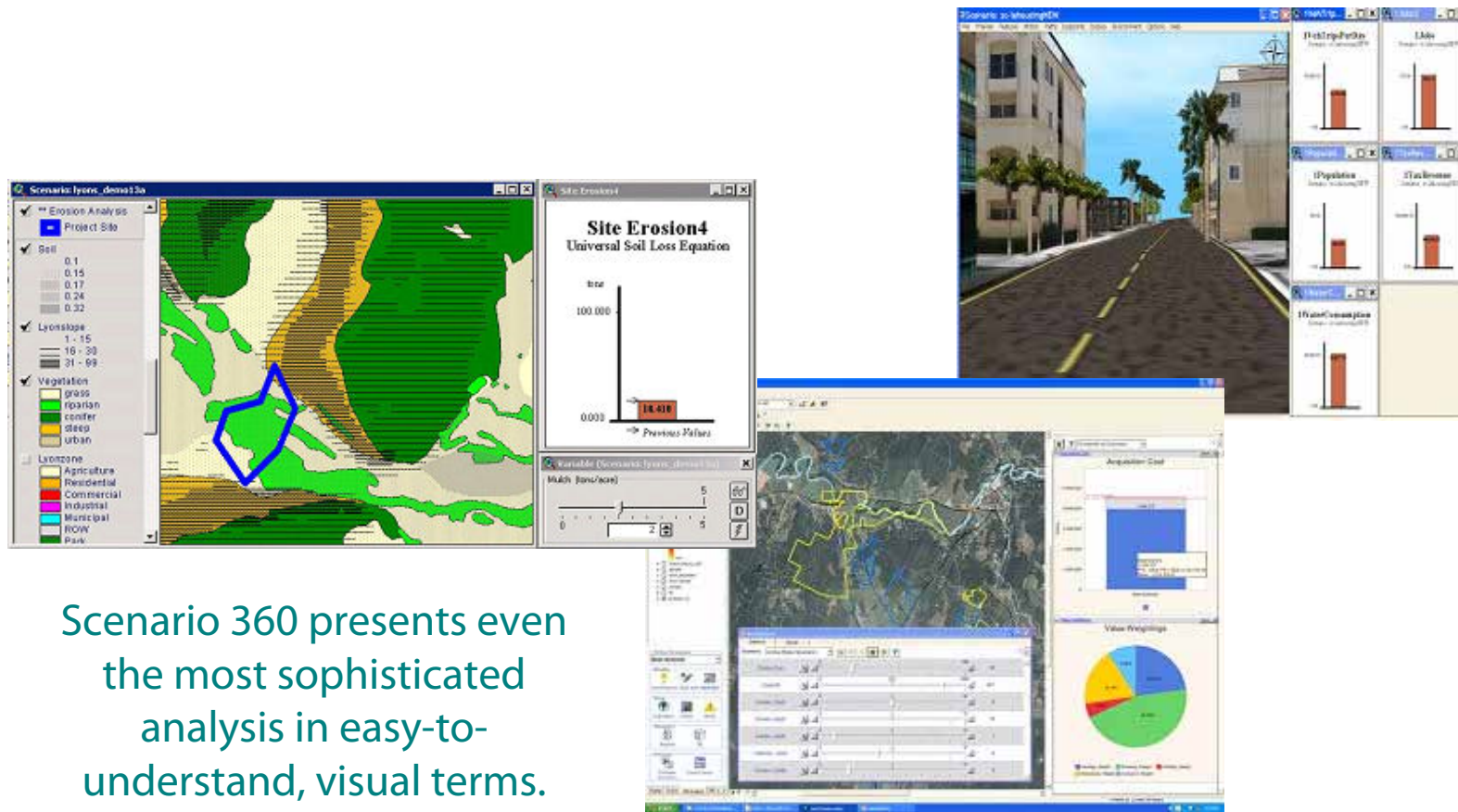
Scenario 360 presents even
the most sophisticated
analysis in easy-to-
understand, visual terms.

community*viz*™

Resourceful Government Guidebook

1 **Assessing opportunities**
- Building organizational support
- Modeling sustainable business practice
- Promoting community development

2 **Creating an action plan**
- Prioritizing
- Setting goals & targets
- Identifying specific actions

Continual improvement

4 **Evaluating results**
- Reviewing progress toward targets
- Reviewing actions taken

3 **Implementing the action plan**

City of Portland
Multnomah County

Sustainable Development Commission

Dan Saltzman
City Commissioner

Maria Rojo de Steffey
County Commissioner

Staff
Susan Anderson, City of Portland
Matt Emlen, City of Portland
Amy Jodie, Multnomah County

Resourceful Government Guide

Tools to put sustainability into practice in local government agencies

Sample goal:	Decrease energy use
Sample target:	Decrease <u>energy use per square foot</u> in <u>City Hall</u>
	performance measure scope
	<u>by 15%</u> <u>by 2004</u>.
	performance completion
	goal date

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The Natural Step

1. Principles of Ecosphere (Social and Ecological constitution)
2. Systems Conditions (Principles for Sustainability)
3. Strategy (Principles for Sustainable Development)
4. Activities
   (i)
5. Concepts and tools (Metrics)
   (ii)
Negative effects in Nature

The Natural Step Framework

Mineral resources

Substances from the Earth's crust must not increase in nature.

Synthetic materials

Man-made materials should not accumulate in nature.

Sustainable development

Biological productivity

Plant and animals harvested sustainably. Biodiversity not reduced.

Equality

Human needs are met fairly for all.
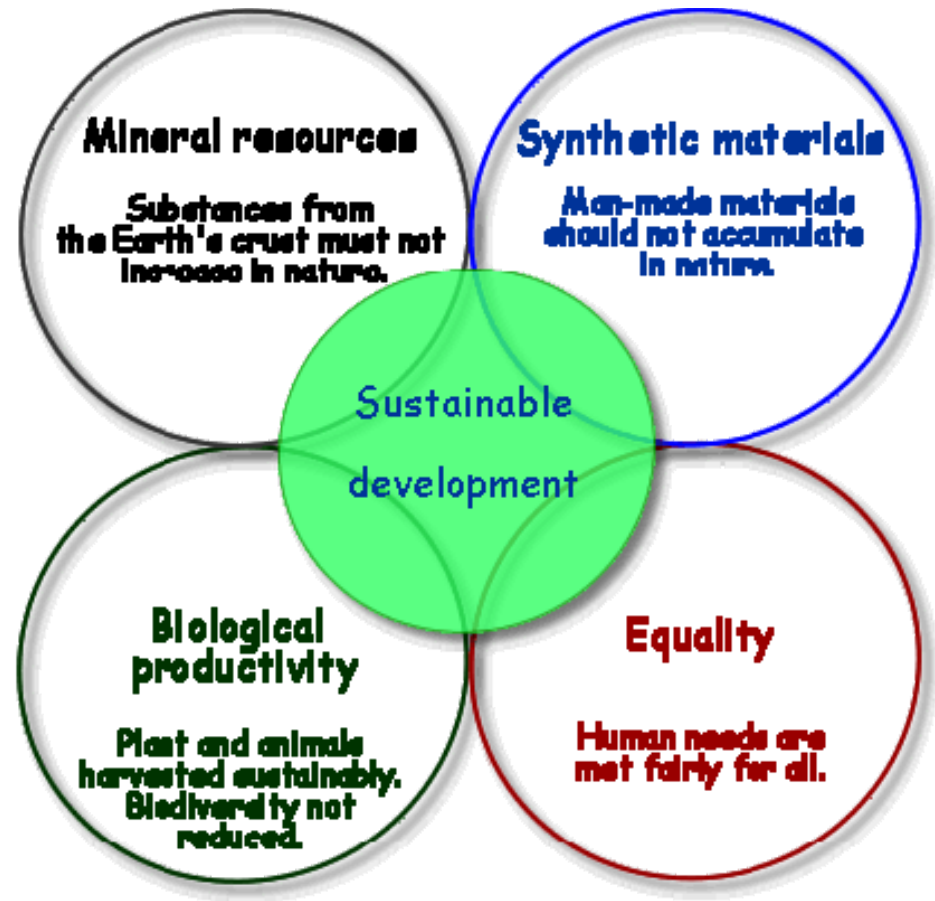
Ecological Footprint

- Ecological Footprint = 5.7 acres
- Current capacity = 4.7 acres
- Global Deficit = -0.9 acres
  (Units are global acres per capita)

Carbon Calculators

Sustainable Shoreline

- What is the Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy?

- What efforts is the City currently taking to create a sustainable community?

- What efforts could or should the City take to create a sustainable community in the future?

City Council Goal #6

- *…to create an "Environmentally Sustainable Community:*

  Provide management and stewardship of natural resources and environmental assets such that their value is preserved, restored, and enhanced for the present and future generations; and such actions complement community efforts to foster economic and social health. Components include implementing "Green" practices at all City-owned or operated facilities, requiring new development or redevelopment to achieve high standards for stormwater management, energy efficiency, and reduction of solid waste, and maximizing recycling and reuse of resources.

Sustainability Programs Today

- Ivy Out & Earth Day
- Waste and recycling
- Neighborhood Environmental Stewardship Team
- Environment Mini Grant
- Habitat Restoration
- Watershed Planning
- Sustainable Business Extension Services

- Pesticide Free Parks
- Critical Area & Stormwater regulations
- Adopt a Road Program
- Aurora Corridor
- City Hall
- Urban Forestry
- Open Space Purchase
- Hybrid Fleet Vehicles
- Commute Trip Reduction

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Future Program Opportunities

- Green Building
- Low Impact Development Incentives
- Natural Stormwater Solutions
- Green Streets
- Purchasing and procurement

- Urban Forestry
- Partnerships with Utilities
- Energy Conservation
- Recycling and Reuse
- Green Business Certification
- Operations and maintenance

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Sustainability Planning Lingo

- **Goals and Objectives** provide the policy framework for existing and potential future efforts and help determine if a topic should be addressed by the City's sustainable strategy.

- **Decision Criteria** help determine and prioritize methods used to address a topic. One example is whether an action contributes positively to several aspects of sustainability in a mutually supportive way.

- **Indicators** help provide a framework for monitoring progress like a report card. Examples include energy use per sq.ft., percentage or lineal length of key streets with sidewalks, total vehicle miles traveled, and per capita waste generated.

Strategy Components

- Criteria for environmentally sustainable decision making

- Maps of existing and potential green infrastructure system

- Assessment of how the City is doing so far and suggestions for improvement

- Measures for tracking progress

- Capacity Assessment for implementation

City of Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Guiding Principles - Process

- Incorporate sustainability principles into policy development

- Lead by example and learn from others

- Recognize that environmental quality, economic vitality, human health and social benefit are interrelated

- Encourage participation, education, and responsibility

- Commit to continuous improvement

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Guiding Principles - Focus Areas

- **Growth Management and Green Infrastructure**
  - Manage expected growth in a sustainable way
- **Enhancement and Restoration**
  - Address impacts of past practices
- **Ecosystem Protection**
  - Proactively manage and protect ecosystems
- **Waste Reduction and Resource Efficiency**
  - Improve efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle
- **Energy and Carbon**
  - Energy solutions are key to reducing our carbon footprint

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Specific Objectives for Today

- Provide feedback on Draft Guiding Principles & Goals
- Learn more about what the City is doing to promote sustainability
- Provide input on the future green infrastructure system
- Identify what you can do and what they City can do regarding two key issues:
    - Energy and Carbon
    - Waste Reduction and Resource Efficiency
- Learn about green building and Low Impact Development and tell us what the City can do to promote these concepts
- Get involved, stay involved, and help shape the Strategy!

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City of Shoreline Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Conversation Café

- Break into 4 groups and go to your initial station based on your name tag

- Facilitator will briefly summarize the issue, the related guiding principle and what the City is doing currently

- Learn about the issues and contribute your thoughts and knowledge about what you can do and what the City should do to forward the objective

- After 15 minutes rotate to the next station

Time for the Conversation Café!