

ALBANY 2035 GENERAL PLAN

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE STUDY SESSION

July 16, 2014

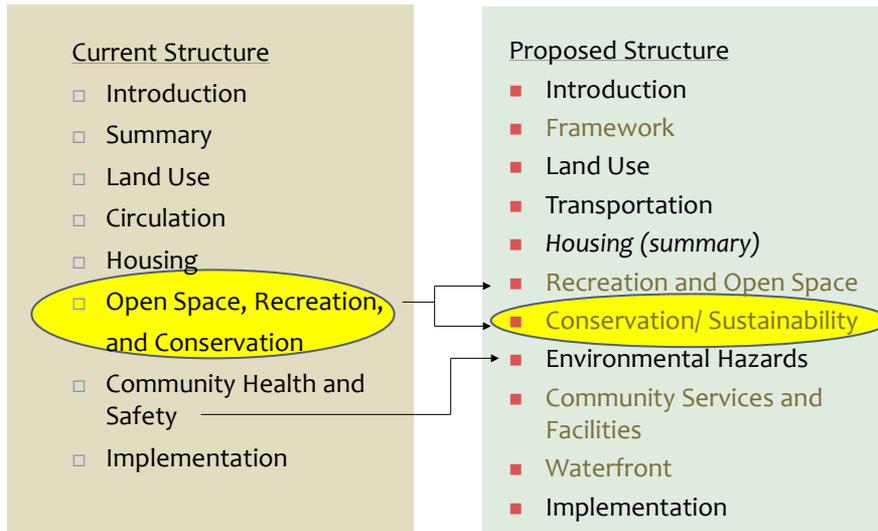
General Plan Overview



Slide 2

- Required of every city and county in California
- Guides long-range growth and development
- 20-year horizon (2035)
- Includes Land Use Map and other Plan maps
- Organized into topical chapters (“elements”)
 - ▣ Narrative text
 - ▣ Goals, policies, and actions

Current and Proposed Plan Structure



Key Tasks Completed



Slide 4

- Housing Element completed, adopted, and certified by state
- Land use map and forecasts
- Goals, policies and actions developed for:
 - Land use
 - Transportation
 - Parks, Rec, Open Space
 - Conservation
- EIR “baseline” reports and technical studies

Projections for 2035



Slide 5

	2010	2035	Net Growth
Households	7,400	8,180	780
Population	18,540	20,150	1,610
Employment	5,020	5,980	960

Policy Audit



Slide 6

- 1992 General Plan
- Climate Action Plan
- Parks, Recreation, Open Space Master Plan
- Albany Hill-Creekside Master Plan
- UC Village Master Plan
- Municipal Code
- Waterfront Plans

Policy Audit



Slide 7

AUDIT OF EXISTING CONSERVATION POLICIES			Topic	Evaluation
92 GP MP	Poi CROS-4.1	Coordinate with Caltrans and MTC to monitor air quality impacts of improvements to I-580 and I-580 to assure that Albany's air quality will not be allowed to deteriorate any further.	Air Quality	Frame more generally -- not just Caltrans and MTC but also BAAQMD, adjoining cities, etc
92 GP MP	Poi CROS-4.4	Continue to cooperate in local, subregional, and regional efforts to implement the Clean Air Plan and meet state air quality standards.	Air Quality	Include updated version of this policy
UCV MP	Dqj 7-4	Maintain and enhance air quality.	Air Quality	Include general goal on air and water quality
UCV MP	Poi 7-15	During construction, implement measures to protect the air quality.	Air Quality	Include specific policy on reducing construction related air pollution, dust, particulates, exhaust, etc
UCV MP	Poi 7-16	Encourage alternative transportation and other measures to protect air quality.	Air Quality	Policy to recognize transportation and air quality--also GHG
UCV MP	Poi 7-20	Embrace sustainable community development principles, using the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Systems as a design tool.	Building and Energy	Include policy encouraging sustainability and green development, including LEED
UCV MP LEED Obj 5	Poi 7-22	Establish standards to measure "green building", promote integrated design practices, recognize environmental leadership in the building industry, stimulate green building competition, raise consumer awareness of green building benefits, and transform the building market. (LEED objectives)	Building and Energy	Add citywide policy or policies which incorporate these concepts
CAP	Obj BE-1	Lead by example with zero emission city buildings by 2015	Building and Energy	frame as more general policy to have zero emission public buildings
CAP	Measure 1.1	Install cost-effective renewable energy systems on all city buildings and install building performance data displays to demonstrate savings.	Building and Energy	frame as overall action to reduce building energy use, merged with Obj BE-1 above
CAP	Action BE 1.1.A	Conduct energy audits of all municipal buildings	Building and Energy	this has been completed, and an Energy Action Plan has been developed. include action to "implement the Energy Action Plan" and periodically perform building audits. Use the Plan to prioritize CIP upgrades to existing buildings. Also add action to track GHG emissions and do periodic updates to the Inventory.
CAP	Action BE 1.1.B	Evaluate the potential to locate cost-effective renewable energy systems on City properties	Building and Energy	This was completed.
CAP	Action BE 1.1.C	Purchase remaining energy from renewable sources or from PG&E's Climate Smart Program	Building and Energy	focus on Community Choice Aggregation instead of purchasing renewable power directly. Include BE action item to continue researching community renewable energy options such as CCA
CAP	Action BE 1.1.D	Install electronic building performance displays in all publicly accessible buildings	Building and Energy	being studied by City--too detailed for General Plan
CAP	Measure Obj BE-2	Retrofit existing residential and commercial buildings to increase energy efficiency and maximize use of renewable energy.	Building and Energy	This is an appropriate policy for the General Plan and can be included

Sustainability in Other Elements



Slide 8

Sustainability is an underpinning theme of the entire Plan

- Land Use Element
 - Focusing growth along transit corridors (San Pablo, Solano)
 - Encouraging mixed use
- Transportation Element
 - Complete streets and walkable neighborhoods
 - Promoting alternate modes of travel
- Housing Element
 - Encourage economic diversity and affordable housing

Conservation Element Requirements



Slide 9

California Government Code 65302(d):

(The General Plan shall include...) a conservation element for the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, harbors, fisheries, wildlife, minerals, and other natural resources...The conservation element may also cover:

- (1) The reclamation of land and waters.
- (2) Prevention and control of the pollution of streams and other waters.
- (3) Regulation of the use of land in stream channels and other areas required for the accomplishment of the conservation plan.
- (4) Prevention, control, and correction of the erosion of soils, beaches, and shores.
- (5) Protection of watersheds.
- (6) The location, quantity and quality of the rock, sand and gravel resources.

Conservation and Sustainability Element



Slide 10

- Protection of Natural Features
- Urban Forestry
- Air and Water Quality
- Biologic Resources (plants and animals)
- Energy and Water Conservation
- Sustainable Development
- Waste Reduction

1 Protection of Natural Features



Slide 11

Protect and enhance the natural features that define Albany's natural environment, including the waterfront, wetlands, creeks, and Albany Hill.

- Mitigating environmental Impacts of development
- Reducing soil erosion
- Conserving Albany Hill
- Protecting the waterfront and wetlands
- Respecting natural features in new development
- Restoring creeks and riparian corridors
- Encouraging environmental education

2 Urban Forestry



Slide 12

Expand Albany's urban forest.

- Preserve mature trees on development sites
- Plant and maintain street trees
- Require bay-friendly landscaping
- Protect Albany Hill plant communities
- Abate hazardous trees
- Encourage private tree planting

3 Air and Water Quality



Slide 13

Undertake local efforts to improve regional air and water quality.

- Reduce automobile vehicle miles traveled
- Implement state, federal, regional clean air plans
- Monitor local air and water quality conditions
- Manage construction-related air quality impacts
- Eliminate non-stormwater discharges to storm drains
- Promote/require low impact development (LID)
- Participate in Countywide Clean Water Program and NPDES Municipal Regional Permit
- Conduct watershed level planning

4 Biological Resources



Slide 14

Protect and enhance Albany's plant and animal habitat and related biological resources

- Protect natural habitat and enhance wildlife diversity
- Coordinate with state and federal resource agencies on habitat protection
- Consider impacts on Monarch Butterfly roosting areas
- Protect Hoffman Marsh and wetland areas along San Francisco Bay
- Comply with migratory bird regulations
- Consider "dark sky" ordinance to reduce light pollution
- Consider habitat impacts through CEQA

5 Energy and Water Conservation



Slide 15

Reduce energy and water consumption, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and non-renewable resource depletion.

- Support green construction and green building
- Encourage energy (and water) conservation retrofits
- Support renewable energy financing programs
- Implement water conservation measures
- Continue efforts to use reclaimed water for landscaping
- Lead by example with municipal buildings and operations
- Pursue Community Choice Aggregation for energy procurement
- Consider point of sale retrofit requirement

6 Sustainable Development



Slide 16

Achieve land use and transportation patterns which reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.

- Implement Land Use and Transportation strategies:
 - Ped, bike, and transit improvements
 - Connectivity and walkability
 - Mixed use and TOD
 - Jobs-Housing balance
 - Transportation Demand Management
- Integrate climate change as a planning consideration
- Alternative fuel vehicles
- Sustainable food production/food transportation
- Adaptation to rising sea level
- GHG analysis for new development

7 Waste Reduction



Slide 17

Eliminate the landfilled disposal of solid waste.

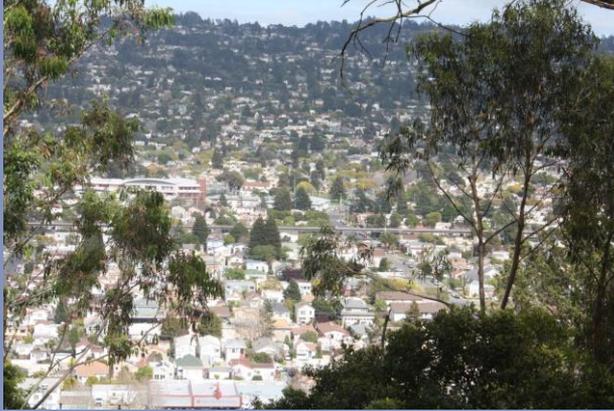
- Work toward a “zero waste” target, with 90% diversion by 2030
- Collaborate with stopwaste.org on programs to increase recycling, composting, waste reduction
- Support state and national initiatives to reduce waste
- Continue education and outreach
- Reduce household hazardous waste

Discussion Questions



Slide 18

- Are there missing policies and programs?
- Do the policies provide the right direction?
- Are there additional action programs needed to implement the policies?



ALBANY 2035 GENERAL PLAN

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE STUDY SESSION

July 16, 2014