

# SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES



**April 28, 2008**



## What is an Indicator?

A statistic or trend that may influence a city's ability to meet its goals (e.g. jobs/housing balance)

## What is a Performance Measure?

A measure of a city's achievement or progress towards a goal (e.g. number of jobs)



# Why are Performance Measures Needed?

San Jose's Green Vision #7: *Adopt a General Plan with measurable standards for sustainable development*



# Elements of Sustainability

- **ENVIRONMENT**

Transportation, Energy, Waste, Water, Air Quality, Land Use

- **ECONOMY**

Economic/Fiscal, Employment, Cost of Living, Housing, Business Innovation

- **EQUITY**

Neighborhoods, Safety, Public Health, Education, Food



# Communities and Organizations that have Developed Sustainability Measures

- San Francisco, CA
- San Mateo County, CA
- Marin County, CA
- Sacramento, CA
- Santa Monica, CA
- Portland, OR
- Joint Venture Silicon Valley Network, CA





## TRANSPORTATION / MOBILITY

- Ridership on public transit
- Vehicle miles traveled by type
- Commute modes/trends

## ENERGY

- Energy consumption
- Energy cost per tax dollar
- Fuel consumption per capita



## WASTE



- Solid waste generated/landfilled
- Percent of residents, businesses, institutions that participate in recycling programs
- Percent of solid waste diverted from landfills and into recycling programs

## WATER

- Water consumption
- Mass of pollutants in wastewater
- Recycled water use



## AIR QUALITY

- Percent of monitored days exceeding state standards for particulate matter
- Carbon Dioxide Emissions
- Volume of toxic air contaminants emitted

## LAND USE

- Percent of infill development
- Total acres of vacant land/open space
- Percent of urban and non-urban land
- Ecological footprint





## ECONOMIC / FISCAL

- Business attraction/retention
- Construction valuation
- Sales tax generation

## EMPLOYMENT

- Jobs/Housing balance
- Number of jobs
- Employment/Unemployment rate
- Percent of employees that live and work in the city



## COST OF LIVING

- Annual household income needed to buy and rent a median-priced home
- Median household income
- Distribution of households by income ranges



## HOUSING

- Percent of households that can purchase the median-price home
- Number of units produced by general income category

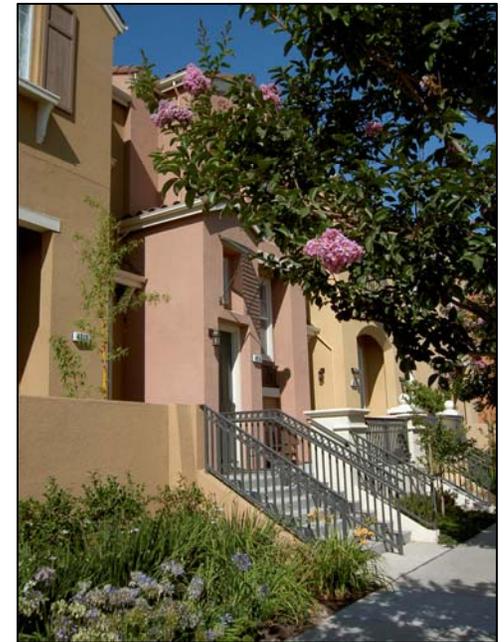
# BUSINESS INNOVATION

- Venture capital financing/investments
- Number of new businesses
- Number of clean/green technology industries in operation



# NEIGHBORHOODS

- Number of neighborhoods with a mix of uses within  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from public transportation
- Overall density within  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile of public transportation
- Number of acres of parkland per 1,000 residents



# SAFETY

- Average emergency response times for police, fire, and medical
- Juvenile/Adult felony arrests
- Gang related homicides



## PUBLIC HEALTH

- Percent of residents with health insurance
- Types of health insurance coverage
- Obesity rate



## EDUCATION

- Share of graduates who meet UC/CSU requirements
- Scoring at national benchmarks on CAT/6 Reading Test
- High school graduation rate



# FOOD

- Total annual produce sales at farmers' markets
- Percent of restaurants that purchase ingredients at farmers' markets
- Number of school, vocational and community education and training programs about sustainable agriculture and nutrition



## Examples of Performance Measures and Indicators Used in San Jose (from City's Operating Budget)

- Jobs/Housing balance (economic development)
- Solid waste recycling and landfill capacity (environmental)
- Percent of energy conserved in City facilities (environmental)
- Developed acreage of neighborhood parks (neighborhood services)
- Crime rate (public safety)



# Ideas for Envision San Jose 2040?

What Sustainability Measures should be considered for Envision San Jose 2040?

