

SUSTAINABILITY FACT SHEET

Definitions of Sustainable Enterprise, Sustainable Development, and Sustainable Infrastructure



SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE

Definition: A sustainable business or enterprise that incorporates **economic**, **environmental**, and **social** sustainability.¹

Economy

- Align the County's available resources with services to maintain fiscal stability & ensure long-term solvency.
- Create policies to reduce and eliminate poverty, promoting economic stability for all.

Environment

- Protect and promote our natural and agricultural resources, diverse habitats and sensitive species.
- Cultivate a natural environment for residents, visitors and future generations to enjoy.

Climate

- Actively combat climate change through innovative or proven policies, green jobs, sustainable facility construction or maintenance and hazard mitigation.

Sustainability Initiatives from the County's Strategic Plan

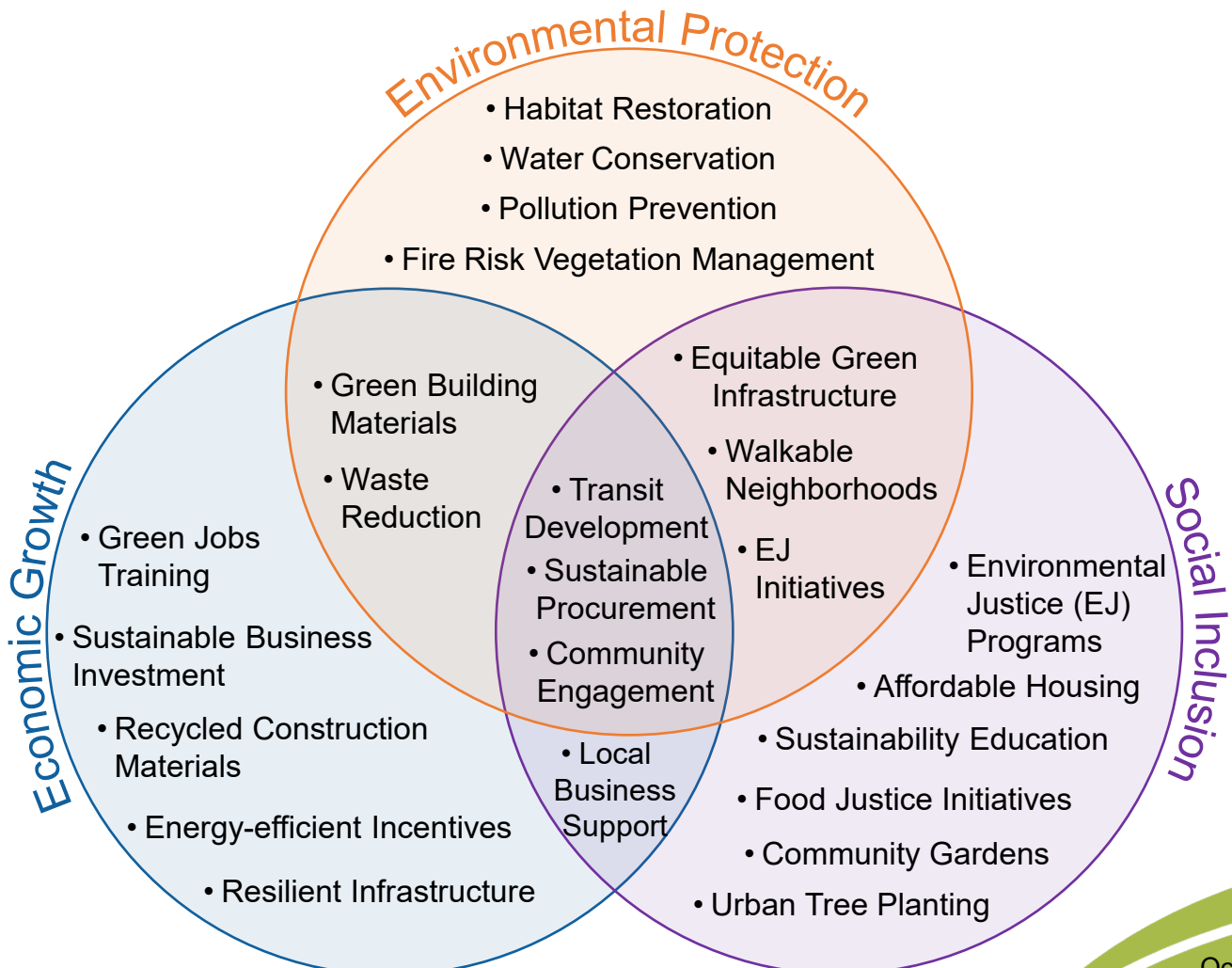
Resiliency

- Ensure the capability to respond and recover to immediate needs for individuals, families, and the region.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Definition: The development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It includes a balanced approach to **economic growth**, **social inclusion** and **environmental protection** to ensure long term stability.²

Examples of Sustainable Development



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SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Definition: Refers to the design, construction, and operation of infrastructure systems in a way that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This involves integrating **environmental** (including climate resilience), **economic**, and **social** considerations into infrastructure projects to ensure they are resilient, resource-efficient, and capable of supporting long term sustainability.³

Examples of Sustainable Infrastructure



Green Infrastructure & Water Management

- Green Streets features including:
 - bio-filtration basins
 - tree wells
 - bioswales
 - trash capture devices
- Permeable pavements
- Sustainable bridge & culvert design
- Urban tree planting
- Native plant landscaping
- Wetland restoration

Energy & Transportation

- Electric Vehicles
- EV charging stations
- LEED building design
- Retrofit facilities with energy-saving lighting
- Bike lanes & multi-use pathways

Materials & Construction

- Construction materials recycling
- Incorporating recycled materials in projects
- Locally sourced materials
- Cool roads & pavements
- Turf removal program

Waste Reduction & Recycling

- Recycling programs
- Organic waste recycling
- Organic composting
- Materials exchange programs

Climate Resilient Infrastructure

- Elevated roads & bridges in flood-prone areas
- Reinforced seawalls & coastal defenses
- Fire-resistant building materials
- Fire risk vegetation management
- Early warning systems installation including:
 - weather stations
 - fire detection cameras

DPW's Commitment to Sustainability

The Office of Sustainability and Environmental Justice (OSEJ) collaborates with County departments to develop and track sustainability commitments in sectors such as energy, water, materials, biodiversity, and others. Commitment progress is reported quarterly and annually. With support from OSEJ staff and resources, the Department of Public Works identifies new goals as existing ones are achieved.

Local Sustainability Resources:

- [County of San Diego Climate Action Plan](#)
- [Environmentally Preferable Procurement \(B-67\)](#)
- [Food Justice Action Plan](#)
- [The Regional Decarbonization Framework](#)
- [Office of Sustainability and Environmental Justice](#)



References:

1. [What Is Business Sustainability? | Definition from TechTarget](#)
2. [Sustainable development | Definition, Goals, Origins, Three Pillars, & Facts | Britannica](#)
3. [Sustainable Infrastructure Investment | UNEP - UN Environment Programme](#)