

Social Equity and Climate Change



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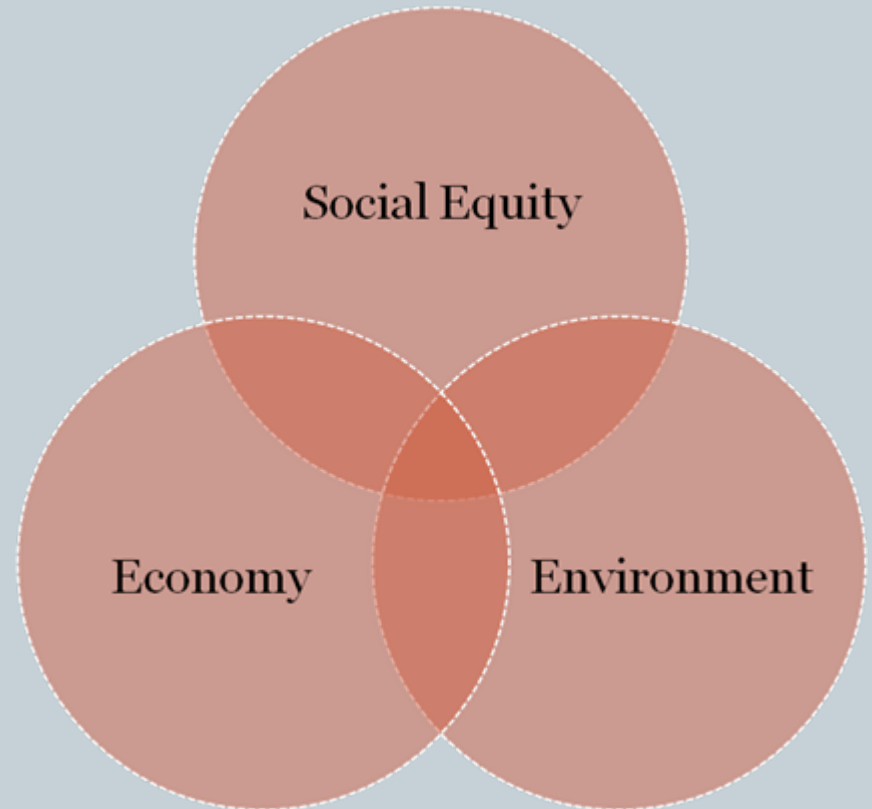
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Sustainability



- **Align our built environment and socioeconomic activities with the natural systems that support life.**
- **Adapting human activities to the constraints and opportunities of nature.**
- **Meeting the needs of both the present and the future.**



Guiding Principles



- Link equity, economy, and the environment locally, regionally, and globally.
- Minimize the use of finite resources, and use all resources efficiently and effectively.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming.
- Reduce the use and minimize the release of hazardous materials.
- Preserve our natural assets.
- Protect our agricultural assets.
- Provide efficient and effective transportation.
- Supply housing affordable to the full range of our members of the workforce and diverse community.
- Foster business that create economic, environmental, and social benefits.
- Educate and prepare our workforce and residents.
- Cultivate ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic diversity.
- Support public health, safety, and social justice.



•The Future - 2030

- More people living in cities than in the suburbs.
- People of color are no longer the minority, but the majority.
- Increasing property values pushing out or excluding lower income people.
- Urban and Regional Planners have a wonderful opportunity!



What is Social Equity and Why is it Important?



- **A renewed definition of “community”.**
- **Define social equity.**
 - The commitment to promote fairness, justice, and equity in the formation and operation of communities.
 - Community includes and values everyone.
 - We do not harm or show disregard for communities and cultures we don't understand.
 - Our global climate change threat is enormous, we must harness all our people resources to address the task at hand.
 - We must lay a foundation of inclusion.
 - Be aware of privilege and entitlement.

Planners Addressing the Future

- Expertise to craft public policy regarding social equity.
- Knowledgeable about development codes to address social equity.
- Establish fees and charges to focus funding on areas of need.
- Can assist communities with our tools including outreach, public meeting facilitation and visioning.



The Professional Planner Basics

Know Your Data

- Planners should know the community demographics: race, ethnicity, income, age, class.

Our Expertise!

- Clarify the key concerns (issues).
- Provide the tools to locally develop strategies: mapping, data, general plan policies, zoning ordinance.

Our Role



Fix it or not!

- Your job is not to fix the problem.

Reality!

- Very low, and low income people are more likely to be significantly impacted by global climate change.
- They are less able to cope, assist themselves or relocate.
- Many people operate on a daily basis in survival mode, don't assume people have any resources.

Educate the Government



What to Know and Do!

- Communities must develop citizen planners that know their land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure.
- Communities must increase their communication about their cultural understanding, and framework.

Cultural Nuances

- Mexican Culture
 - Enjoy farmers markets.
 - Housing close to one another with granny units.
 - Mixed-use sought after.
 - Public transportation.

Leadership!

What is Municipal Leadership?

- Identify key leaders in the community: seniors, youth, businesses.
- Meet on their terms, listen, really listen.
- Empower them with solutions.

Putting forth Community Leaders and Their Ideas!

- Increase board participation.
- Leadership training.
- Increasing mentorship, internship programs.
- Scholarship programs.
- Provide financial incentive for workforce training.



General Plan Policies

Required by California State Law.

It is the constitution for land use and development.

It's a long range plan to guide the physical development of the jurisdiction.

All actions from that jurisdiction must be aligned with and implement the general plan.

- **Natural Systems**
 - Water Resources
 - Environmental Hazards
 - Atmosphere and Climate
 - Agriculture and Food
- **Built Environment**
 - Land Use, Housing and Transportation
 - Energy and Green Building
 - Noise
- **Socioeconomic**
 - Economy
 - Education
 - Community Participation
 - Environmental Justice
 - Public Health

Zoning Ordinances



- Air Quality
- Agriculture
- Child Care
- Community
- Design
- Economic
- Education
- Energy
- Green Building
- Fiscal
- Flood Control
- Governance
- Growth Management
- Hazardous Waste
- Housing
- Implementation
- Redevelopment
- Regionalism
- Social Services
- Transportation
- Water Resources

Accountability



Set Target to Reduce Emissions



Indicator
Amount of GHG
Emissions
Countywide

Benchmark
2,634,000 tons
CO₂ in 1990

Targets
Reduce 15-20%
by 2020.



Thank you for
having me speak
today.

- Michele
Rodriguez



**“We must learn to live together as
brothers, or perish together as
fools.” – Peter Schwartz**