Sustainability Task Force
A Committee of the Chico City Council  
Vice Mayor Schwab, Chair

Meeting of June 11, 2007 – 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Council Chamber Building, 421 Main Street, Conference Room No. 1

AGENDA

1. **Task Force Update** – *Sustainability Efforts of Portland, presented by Kristin Cooper-Carter*

2. **Consideration of Conference Session Proposal for “This Way to Sustainability Ill Conference” - November 1-4, 2007** – *Determine if any members are interested in presenting progress of the Sustainability Task Force*

3. **Future Meeting Schedule** – *Calendar attached*

4. **Discussion of “Definitions of Sustainability”** – *Choosing a definition that fits the task force*

5. **Preliminary Discussion Regarding the Development of a Work Plan** - *if time allows*

6. **Business from the Floor** - *Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, with comments being limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.*

7. **Adjournment** - *The meeting will adjourn no later than 5:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Sustainability Task Force is scheduled for June 25, 2007 from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in Conference Room No. 1.*

Distribution available in the office of the City Clerk:

Prepared: 6/07/07  
Posted: 6/07/07  
Prior to: 5:00 pm

Chico City Clerk’s Office  
411 Main Street, Chico, CA 95928  
(530) 896-7250

Please contact the City Clerk at 896-7250 should you require an agenda in an alternative format or if you need to request a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting. This request should be received at least three working days prior to the meeting in order to accommodate your request.
This Way to Sustainability III

November 1-4, 2007

Call for Conference Presentations
Hosted by CSU, Chico, The Associated Students of CSU, Chico, Butte College and The Associated Students of Butte College ~ At California State University, Chico Campus.

DEADLINE: Presentation proposals must be received by Friday, June 29, 2007.

Purpose: The 3rd annual conference will bring together those committed to exploring issues related to sustainable development which promotes the "triple-bottom line" of economy, society, and the environment.

Audience: The target audience is broad but aimed at the growing numbers of faculty, staff, students, administrators, public officials and citizens who embrace the concept of sustainable development, who wish to work together to build sustainable communities, who believe that we can learn from one another, and who realize there are many voices and perspectives that must be heard.

Themes: We seek contributions that explore the related dimensions of sustainable development, the stewardship of natural resources, and how to create a democratic and sustainable society.

* Population and its environmental impacts. Population growth, both globally and within California, will be our focus. Contributions will also be considered that examine the relationship between population growth, industrialization, and the environment.

* The built environment. All dimensions of the built environment can be explored, including energy efficient dwellings, technologies, city, county, and regional planning, and transportation.

* Images and ideas about the natural world. This theme will invite contributions from creative artists,
wildlife photographers, and writers who reflect on and create images related to understanding the natural world. Photographs and artwork will be displayed and opportunities for readings will be provided.

* Sustainable practices in agriculture. The slow food movement, the organic farming movement, biodiversity, and the preservation of agricultural land are appropriate topics to cover.

* Sustainable business practices. Real examples of local businesses and entrepreneurs are to be shared, as well as the methods and practices of certifying and running a business as "green."

* Sustainability across the curriculum. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to share their experiences and ideas for embedding the concept of sustainability in the curriculum. Workshops will be offered and workshop leaders are sought.

* Environmental ethics and the "greening" of religion. Of particular interest are ideas about stewardship, about what one generation owes to the next, and how such ideas are reflected in the writings and teachings of religious groups.

* Training the next generation. Examples and ideas about how to embed the teaching of sustainability and sustainable practices in the K-12 curriculum are welcomed, as are examples of how to teach problem-solving on behalf of the natural world.

* What can we do? These sessions seek to answer questions about how to act locally, as well as globally. Practical examples of things we can do as individuals or as members of groups are welcomed.

All proposals must:

* Identify the theme for which you are submitting a proposal.
* Provide the title of the session you propose to organize, the paper you wish to present, or the title of the poster you wish to display.
* Include a description of your presentation.
* Specify the general audience, e.g., business owners, builders, designers, architects, farmers, consumers, students, public administration, etc. (may be multiple).
* Include type of participation: individual presentation, workshop, panel presentation, video presentation, open discussion, or paper or poster session.
* Identify all individuals included in the presentation.

Deadline for submission: All proposals should be received by Friday, June 29, 2007 and should be submitted electronically using the proposal form to Teri Randolph at The Institute for Sustainable Development, California State University, Chico.

NOTE: Because this is a non-profit event speaker fees generally will not be paid. All speaker fees must be pre-approved by the Director of the Institute for Sustainable Development. Please click here to complete a Special Circumstances Request for Speaker Fees. Request responses will be returned to you no later than July 30, 2007.
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Definitions of Sustainability

Sustainability is the idea that the economic, environmental, and social issues in a community are linked in many ways that are often overlooked. Sustainable community indicators are ways to measure these connections and develop solutions that strengthen all three elements of the community rather than improving one part at the expense of another.
- California EPA

At its most basic level, sustainable means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- State of Washington

Sustainability means using, developing and protecting resources at a rate and in a manner that enables people to meet their current needs and also provides that future generations can meet their own needs. Sustainability requires simultaneously meeting environmental, economic and community needs.
- State of Oregon

The ability of natural resources to provide ecological, economic, and social benefits for present and future generations.
- University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

Sustainable development is economic growth that will benefit present and future generations without detrimentally affecting the resources or biological systems of the planet.
A sustainable United States will have a growing economy that provides equitable opportunities for satisfying livelihoods and a safe, healthy, high quality of life for current and future generations. Our nation will protect its environment, its natural resource base, and the functions and viability of natural systems on which all life depends.
- President's Council on Sustainable Development

A concept and strategy by which communities seek economic development approaches that benefit the local environment and quality of life. Sustainable development provides a framework under which communities can use resources efficiently, create efficient infrastructures, protect and enhance the quality of life, and create new businesses to strengthen their economies.
- City of Austin, Texas

Sustainability is an economic, social, and environmental concept. It is intended to be a means of configuring civilization and human activity so that society and its members are able to meet their needs and express their greatest potential in the present, while preserving biodiversity and natural ecosystems, and planning and acting for the ability to maintain these ideals indefinitely. Sustainability affects every level of organization, from the local neighborhood to the entire planet.
- Wikipedia
Sustainable development: the concept of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The terms originally applied to natural resource situations, where the long term was the focus. Today, it applies to many disciplines, including economic development, environment, food production, energy, and social organization. Basically, sustainability/sustainable development refers to doing something with the long term in mind.

- *Chambers University, Sweden*

Economic development that takes full account of the environmental consequences of economic activity and is based on the use of resources that can be replaced or renewed and therefore are not depleted.

– *US Geological Survey*

The long-term social, economic, and environmental health of our community. Seattle refined its definition in two ways:

1. "Sustainability-enhancing decision making" refers to holistic and long-term choices.
2. A "sustainable city" is one that "thrives without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

An important part of Seattle's "sustainable city" definition is the concept of the city as a system within a system—a web of social, economic, and ecological phenomena operating within a similar but larger regional, national, and global system. Neighborhoods must prosper within the web of the city. Sustainability-enhancing decision making (from public policy to individual lifestyles) considers the effects that decisions are likely to have on the entire system (i.e., economic, social, and environmental issues) and on future generations.

-City of Seattle, Washington-