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Plan-it sustainably *By Sustainability Committee*

Resources of the Month

- *Climate change hits home: Adaptation strategies for the San Francisco Bay Area.* “Even if we could stop producing greenhouse gases tomorrow, the high concentration of carbon dioxide already in the atmosphere will cause the climate to continue to change. As a result we must not only intensify our efforts to reduce climate change but start preparing for its inevitable effects.” In its May 2011 report, “SPUR addresses how we should adapt to climate change in the Bay Area, including which tools and strategies will make us resilient to its most severe impacts, including drought, higher temperatures, and sea level rise. We recommend more than 30 strategies for local and regional agencies to begin minimizing the region’s vulnerabilities to these long-term but potentially catastrophic effects.” You can download SPUR’s 40-page report (5.1 MB) at <http://bit.ly/mw7k22>
- *Sustainable Community Development Code Framework*, the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute’s current research focus. “Novel, comprehensive and user-friendly, the Code Framework ... allows municipalities, regions, and states to seamlessly audit and upgrade their development laws to remove barriers, create incentives, and fill regulatory gaps based on a core set of sustainability objectives.” <http://bit.ly/IL81xd>

Innovative project of the month: Sonoma Mountain Village – One Planet, One Place

The promo for Sonoma Mountain Village trumpets its sustainability virtues: “As the first community in North America endorsed by the prestigious international One Planet Communities Program, SOMO Living® is a replicable model that is set to prove that we can address our planet’s biggest environmental problems while living well.” Sonoma Mountain Village (SMV) uses the One Planet Communities sustainability framework. One Planet principles/SMV goals are:

1. Zero carbon: Zero use of fossil fuels for building energy with 100 percent of power coming from renewable energy by 2020. Zero GHGs from building energy.
2. Zero waste: 98 percent reduction in solid landfill waste, and rethinking of waste altogether.
3. Sustainable transport: 82 percent reduction in CO₂ through programs, technology, transit, car sharing and bicycling programs, shuttles to the SMART train, and other regional transportation options.
4. Sustainable materials: 20 percent of materials manufactured on site, 40 percent sourced from within 500 miles.
5. Local and sustainable food: 65 percent of food for the community will come from within 300 miles, as well as a daily farmers market, healthy grocery store, and restaurants.

(continued on next page)



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Plan-it Sustainably *(continued from previous page)*

6. Sustainable water: Build the entire community with 0 percent increase in the existing water allocation granted to previous site owner, Agilent Technologies.
7. Land use and wildlife: 27 acres of parks and open space, enhanced wetlands areas, green roofs to support bee gardens, and edible landscaping along walking paths.
8. Culture and heritage: Local and regional identity through on-site theatre, public art, story mapping, and a new culture of sustainability.
9. Equity and local economy: 25 percent affordable housing, housing for sale and rental for all income levels, local and fair trade goods for sale in the community, and the creation of 4,400 jobs.
10. Health and happiness: A 5-minute lifestyle and walkable urban design, One Planet Living Center, Lifestyle Concierge Program, and actions for a healthier and happier community.

If it comes anywhere close to achieving its goals, SMV would be an innovative and inspiring example of sustainability planning.

See the November 2008 *Northern News* lead article, "Going beyond LEED—North America's first 'One Planet community'—Addressing climate change, providing jobs, and making a fair profit," by Geof Syphers.

<http://www.norcalapa.org/assets/chapter/newsletter/Nov08.pdf>

Video and community information: <http://bit.ly/3RwY2L>

One Planet Program: <http://bit.ly/93W40I>

Join the Sustainability Committee

Help promote sustainable community planning in Northern California. To volunteer, contact Scott Edmondson, scott-e@sustainability2030.com or Katja Irvin, katja.irvin@sbcglobal.net ■