

Key Issues Workshop #2

Sustainability and Environment

CHICO 2030
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April 8th
California Park
Lakeside Pavilion

6:30 to 8:30 pm



Key Issues Workshop #2

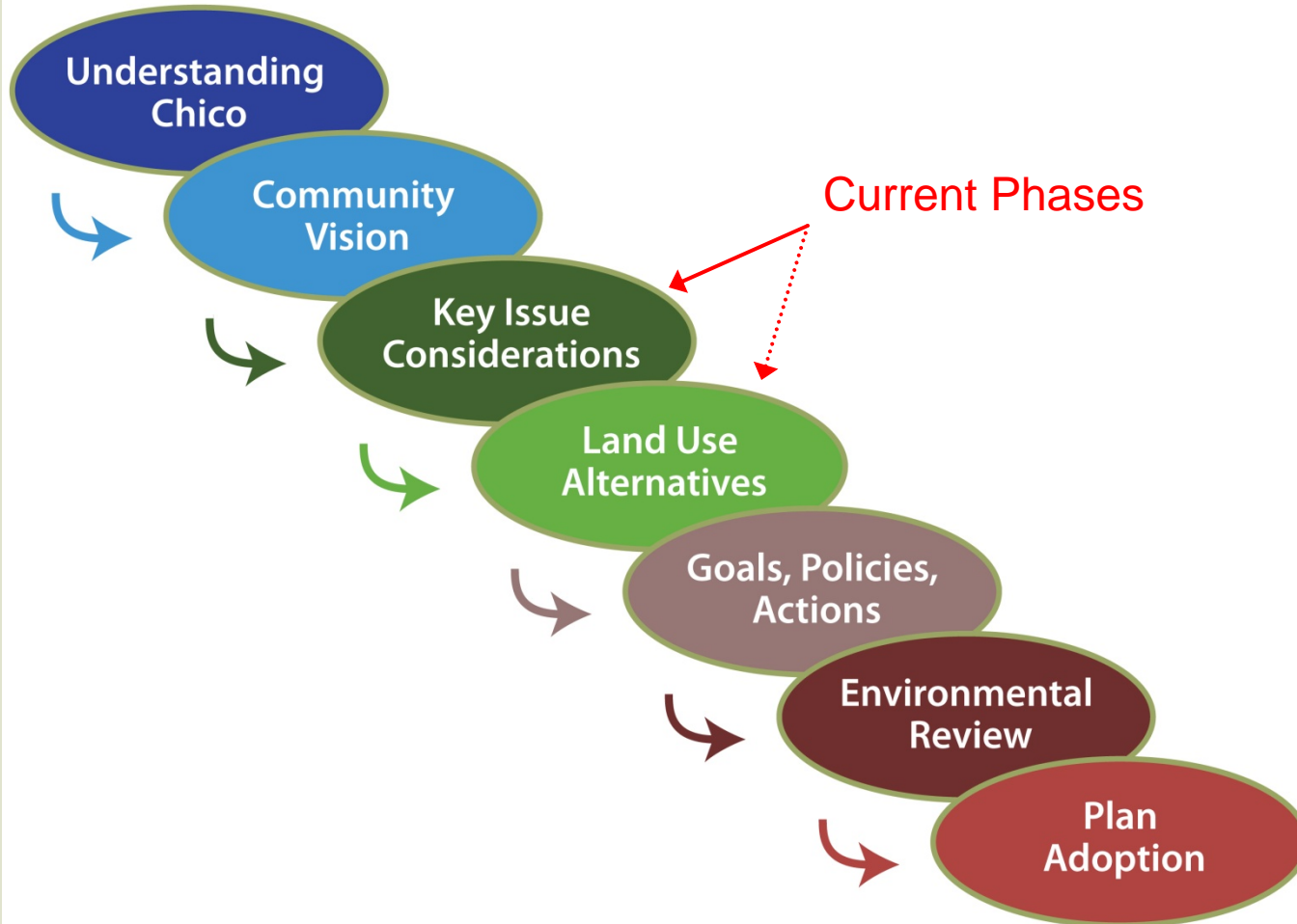
Sustainability and Environment



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Welcome
Project Update
Context/ Framework
Work Stations Overview
Conclusions

Chico 2030 General Plan Process



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2 years

Multiple phases

Key component is public input at all phases

Project Status

- Key Issue Phase
 - Key Issues, Opportunities and Constraints Report
 - March 11th Key Issues Workshop
 - Downtown Visioning Meetings
 - GPAC Meetings
 - Stakeholder Group Meetings

Workshop Plan

What are we doing today?

- Project Overview / Summary
- Key Issues Associated with Sustainability and Environment
- Context Discussion
- Work Stations on Key Issues
- Conclusions and Next Steps

Context/Framework for Key Issues



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What have we heard?

What do we know?

Existing GP

Key Issues

What have we heard so far?

- Important issues, priorities, and big ideas from initial outreach
- 200+ issues/ideas sorted into 8 general categories
- Related/overlapping issues
- Paired categories for 4 Key Issues Workshops (this is Workshop 2 of 4)

What have we heard so far? Recurring Issues Related to Sustainability and Environment

1. Address greenhouse gas emissions and climate change
2. Incorporate sustainability concepts in all areas of City operations and planning
3. Make Chico THE 'green' city
4. Become a sustainability leader
5. Address economic sustainability
6. Maintain a focus on open space preservation
7. Incorporate natural resource constraints in land use planning process
8. Incentivize good/sustainable development
9. Protect the urban forest
10. Address buffer zones and urban edges

Key Issues for Additional Input Today

1. Establish an understanding of the concept and work towards a definition of Sustainability for Chico
2. Provide information and receive feedback on Green Building and Development
3. Discuss air quality and carbon emissions impacts

Key Issues for Additional Input Today

4. Provide information from the Butte Regional HCP/NCCP planning process
5. Discuss Open Space function and integration in an urban environment
6. Discuss land use buffers and the form of the 'urban edge'

Current GP - Guiding Open Space and Conservation Principles

1. Promote the use of trees, plants and alternative transportation to reduce air pollution and emissions levels
2. Protect habitats that are sensitive, rare, declining or unique in the Planning Area
3. Preserve and protect populations and habitat of special status species
4. Preserve and enhance Chico's creeks and riparian corridors
5. Promote continued agricultural use of important farmland and minimize land use incompatibilities
6. Continue to work with Butte County to maintain the Greenline

What does sustainability mean?

First Internationally Recognized Definition:

“... development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

- Brundtland Report, 1987

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What does sustainability mean?

- Since 1987, sustainability has evolved to incorporate social, environmental and economic concerns: the 3-legged stool



Systems Thinking

A community is made up of many sub systems that come together to create a well-functioning whole.

Key questions for holistic planning:

- What are the community's needs, and how well are they being met?
- What social, environmental and economic systems are active in the community?
- How do these systems interact?
- What will enable a thriving and lasting community?

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Public Sustainability Activities in Chico

1. City Sustainability Task Force
2. Green building CSUC: Student Services Center
3. CSUC - awarded the Grand Prize by the National Wildlife Federation for efforts to reduce global warming (2007)
4. Solar tracking array at wastewater treatment plant
5. Mayor signed the Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

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Sustainability Activities in Chico

6. Computerized central control irrigation system that is remotely operated and provides for more efficient watering
 - Efficient vehicles for City fleet (Prius, Civic, Escape)
 - Implemented Class 1 bike path and bike lane projects
 - City collects and composts approximately 16,000 tons of green waste from commercial, residential and city-owned properties at the City's Compost Facility
 - The City, its residents and businesses have achieved a 61% waste diversion rate

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Sustainability Task Force – Mission Statement

The Sustainability Task Force shall promote a culture of stewardship within our community to:

enhance our natural resources, economic resources, and quality of life for present and future generations

in the City of Chico by collaboratively developing programs and initiatives which will distinguish Chico as a leader in sustainability efforts.

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Work Stations

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Work Station Introduction

- Purpose – to get your input
- Overview of 6 work stations
- How it will work:
 - 60 minutes to rotate to 6 work stations (8 – 10 minutes each)
 - Asking for your ideas, input, and mapping suggestions
 - Summarize that input and use to move forward

Work Station #1

Defining Sustainability for Chico

- Discussion/Input Station
- Participants requested to provide input on a definition of Sustainability for Chico
- Information to be provided about the holistic concept of Sustainability

Work Station #2

Green Building and Development

- Discussion/Input Station
- Participants requested to provide input on what green building and development means to them
- Information and display boards show images and provide information about green building
- Participants to provide input on approaches to integrating green development concepts in Chico

Work Station #3 Carbon Footprint / Green House Gases

- Discussion/Action Station
- Display boards and educational materials on air quality issues (health, regulatory, etc.)
- Participants will be asked to identify their preferred air quality improvement approaches

Work Station #4

Butte Regional HCP/NCCP

- Information Station
- Participants will be able to view information and ask questions about the on-going Butte Regional HCP/NCCP process
- Species and habitat occurrence information provided

Work Station #5 Form and Function of Open Space

- Ideas/Discussion Exercise
- Participants will be asked to identify preferred open space types
- Discuss various forms of open space within an urban environment
- Acquire information to assist in defining what 'open space' means for Chico

Work Station #6 Growth Boundaries and Buffers

- Ideas/Discussion Exercise
- Participants will be asked to provide input on what they believe buffers should look and feel like
- Discuss various locations, forms and functions of buffers
- Acquire information to assist in defining what 'buffer' means for Chico

Conclusions and Next Steps



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Summary of what we heard.

How will that info be used?

What's next?

Ways to get involved!

How will this information be used?

- Additional input will inform the preparation of General Plan Guiding Principles and preliminary goals and policies
- Ideas will continue to be vetted/truthed throughout the process

What's Next?

- Workshops
 - May 13th Key Issues Workshop
 - June 10th Land Use Alternatives Workshop
- GPAC Meetings
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Land Use Alternatives
 - May through August

Ways to get involved!

- Future participation – this is just the beginning!
 - Web and e-mail updates
 - Stakeholder outreach
 - GPAC meetings
 - Study sessions
 - City-wide workshops
 - Web surveys

Thank You!

Project Contacts:

- Holly Keeler, City of Chico Project Manager
- Pam Johns, PMC Project Manager
- Kendall Flint, PMC Outreach

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