

**RESOLUTION NO. 5500**  
**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARPINTERIA**  
**ESTABLISHING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria has an interest in promoting environmental stewardship, economic strength and social equity as fundamental to a thriving and sustainable community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria recognizes a sustainable community as one that conducts its activities in a manner that meets its existing needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the 1993 President's Council on Sustainable Development was established to recommend approaches for achieving national economic, environmental and equity goals that establish sustainable communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria is determined to prepare for and provide consistent guidance regarding the resiliency of the community in light of evolving economic, social and physical conditions and the potential for significant disruptions from natural and manmade disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, the City recognizes its role and responsibility under the California Coastal Act to implement priorities through development review and code compliance activities including maintaining and improving public access, preserving and enhancing visitor serving accommodations and preserving unique coastal environmental resources and agricultural land; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many state and federal regulations that provide guidance to local governments for planning for the long-term health and success of the community in light of finite natural resources and the estimated impacts of climate change including but not limited to Assembly Bill 32, The Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, The Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008, the 2008 California Public Utilities Commission Strategic Plan, January 1, 2014 updated Title 24 Regulations adopted by the California Energy Commission, the March 11, 2011 California Ocean Protection Council Resolution on Sea Level Rise; and the March 2013 State of California Sea Level Rise Guidance document, which in general guide local regulations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address sea level rise and reduce energy consumption; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions through efficient operation of public facilities and assets, effective land use and transportation planning, integrated waste management, protection of natural habitat and resources, promotion of renewable energy and efficient energy use; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria recognizes the growing public awareness and concerns regarding climate change and potential environmental and economic impacts that may result in changes to the global climate which may directly impact coastal communities such as Carpinteria; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria's Mission Statement, adopted January 25, 1993, acknowledges the responsibility of the City of Carpinteria to make judicious use of the City's limited resources to promote the highest possible quality of life for all of Carpinteria's residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria, its Council, Boards, Commissions and staff are dedicated to a culture and actions committed to a high standard of community, environment and economy through its applicable policy and regulations; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Carpinteria continually works to develop programs that are consistent with the ideals of efficient resource allocation, environmental consciousness and economic development, including efforts to improve access to recreation and education opportunities and governmental support and services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council, as part of its 2013 Annual Work Program, outlined an approach to develop a Sustainable Community Policy to include three areas of service: Economic Vitality, Environmental Stewardship, and Community Health, Safety and Wellness, providing a structure that supports a variety of important local services from tourism promotion to energy conservation to public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, the subject policy is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines §§15307 and 15308 as the project consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement or protection of the environment where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment and natural resources. The action would not implement any regulation or physical development and therefore is exempt from environmental review and therefore would not result in any physical changes to the environment. Any future project or amendment to regulatory documents of the City may require independent CEQA analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has reviewed the proposed Sustainable Community Policy, as presented in a staff report on January 27, 2014.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

The Carpinteria Sustainable Community Policy is an initial step that recognizes the need to implement and/or change public programs and services in order to effectively address community interests in the long-term. This policy has been developed in the context of current conditions, including guidance from existing studies, policies and regulations. It is intended to set the stage for effective collaboration and building on existing community efforts to attain sustained positive impacts. The Policy is designed to assist the City in making plans for a future Sustainable Community Element of the General Plan based on the tenets set forth in the policy. It recognizes the importance of community resiliency and is intended to be the impetus for development of strategies that allow the City to adapt to ever-changing environmental, economic, social and physical stressors.

The Carpinteria Sustainable Community Policy also serves as the City's commitment to the community to achieve sustainable outcomes that are capable of supporting property values and important sectors of the local economy, protecting and enhancing cultural, historical and environmental resources, and allowing all Carpinterians to lead fulfilling lives and have opportunities to be active contributors to the community.

**Carpinteria Sustainable Community Policy**

The City of Carpinteria will encourage people to work together to create a thriving community where natural, cultural and historic resources are preserved, jobs are available, development patterns support convenience and efficiency, neighborhoods are secure, education is lifelong, transportation and health care are accessible, and all citizens have opportunities to improve the quality of their lives.

The three interdependent elements of Economic Vitality, Environmental Stewardship and

Community Health and Wellness serve to focus the vision and guide decisionmaking and resource allocation per the City's Mission Statement and the community vision established in the Vision 2020 document, "On Track for the Future."

### **Goals**

- Develop an annual Sustainability Work Plan that identifies, coordinates and accounts for initiatives throughout the City organization, providing annual reports, measurements and tracking.
- Guide future policy development and goal setting in order to integrate sustainability principles into the City's decision making processes and budgeting.
- Educate/train City employees to understand their work in terms of sustainability and empower them to implement sustainable initiatives through their jobs.
- Initiate and lead collaborative sustainability initiatives and communicate efforts to residents and business owners and operators, becoming a resource to the community.

The following policy actions shall be integrated into the development of plans and strategies to achieve the goals of this policy.

### **Economic Vitality**

The City of Carpinteria will support and encourage a local economy that reflects its unique attributes, including rich agricultural resources, an optimal coastal location and climate for tourism, and a quaint, small town character. With a diversity of business sizes and types that reflect the needs and desires of the community, the City has a well-prepared group of business owners and operators capable of contributing to overall community resiliency in light of the potential for economic and natural calamities.

1. Promote a diversified and resilient local economy that reflects the unique attributes of the region and provides necessary and desirable products and services for both residents and visitors;
2. Attract and retain downtown retailers, hotels, corporate headquarters and Research and Development uses that can be successful in and complementary to the community;
3. Support property values through development of hazard preparedness and resiliency strategies;
4. Establish support for small business development;
5. Maintain and enhance the unique identity of the community and built environment to sustain a strong sense of place and community;
6. Stay informed on and promote sustainable economic development best practices such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR);
7. Support and develop outdoor athletic and entertainment events that attract visitors and create social opportunities for locals in the off-season months;
8. Improve off-season visitorship and tourism;
9. Develop revenue generation and savings plans to ensure sustainable community services and amenities;
10. Establish expanded local hiking trails, biking trails, public transit and other alternative transportation modes that are attractive and convenient to residents, employees and visitors;
11. Improve transit opportunities for the local workforce, including but not limited to bus, rail, and improvements to the Highway 101 corridor;
12. Develop collaboration between local schools, employers and community groups to cultivate work force mentorship and education programs that encourage youth to explore various occupations and skills and prepare local residents for local employment opportunities;

13. Promote infill development to enhance existing commercial districts and prevent blight;
14. Encourage new investment through private development in the City's neighborhoods, districts and major street corridors by establishing policies and regulations and implementing them through a thorough, effective process; and
15. Maintain a balance of jobs and housing in the community with housing types available to those with varied household incomes, especially aiming to improve the availability of low and moderate income housing that meets the needs of the local workforce.

### **Environmental Stewardship**

The City will be a leader of environmental stewardship by reducing its consumption of finite resources, diverting material from landfills through reuse and recycling programs, and promoting the same to the Carpinteria community. The City will identify important local environmental resources, plan for, implement and support efforts such as the storm water management program and the creeks preservation program, to ensure that they thrive. The City will work with other public agencies, private utilities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to reduce local energy consumption, use more renewable energy sources, and protect and restore important local habitats.

#### **Energy Conservation**

1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through various activities which may include improved mass transit systems, reduced vehicle trips, improved alternative transportation systems for biking, walking and low emission vehicles, etc.;
2. Prepare and promote municipal plans to develop well connected streets and sidewalks, cool road and parking lot programs, and plant street trees to reduce heat island effects and enhance the pedestrian experience;
3. Develop and implement standards to reduce energy use;
4. Publicize energy efficient building design and construction practices that allow for future adaptation to efficient energy solutions such as solar electric or grey water systems for landscape irrigation;
5. Continue to collaborate with regional and state entities to reduce impacts to the environment and reduce energy consumption;
6. Streamline permitting for energy efficient improvements to existing structures; and
7. Develop a municipal/government agency efficiency program to improve and update existing facilities and fleets to more energy efficient alternatives and "lead by example" for the community and other local agencies.

#### **Waste Reduction**

1. Implement new and expanded waste stream reduction and recycling programs;
2. Develop and encourage food system waste minimization and reuse through food share programs and food scrap to compost programs;
3. Implement post-construction waste minimization and storm water runoff regulations;
4. Develop and implement standards to reduce waste production;
5. Support and enhance local litter and waste reduction education and outreach programs; and
6. Support and Promote Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations that encourage the manufacture of environmentally superior products, and ultimately eliminate products that create hazardous materials handling and disposal costs for local governments and the communities they serve.

#### **Pollution Prevention**

1. Implement the latest watershed management mandates via updated City watershed management and creek protection policies;

2. Increase educational outreach to schools, businesses and local community groups regarding pollution, natural resources, environmental stewardship, recycling and habitat;
3. Develop and implement standards to reduce runoff and pollution in local streams and watersheds;
4. Enhance educational outreach and information regarding local environmental concerns including clean water in creeks and at beaches, energy use, habitat and protected species, risk management and other specific environmental concerns that impact the Carpinteria Valley; and
5. Enhance local habitat and environmental protections through collaboration with local community groups and development of regulations and policies in the City's General Plan and Municipal Code.

### **Community Health, Safety and Wellness**

The City of Carpinteria will develop and maintain a diverse open space, park and recreation system that respects local environmental resources and supports the recreational needs and expectations of the community. The City of Carpinteria will plan for a variety of housing types that are built to leading safety and energy efficiency standards in order to encourage a healthy, socio-economically diverse population and to promote a jobs/housing balance. The City of Carpinteria will strive to ensure community members are able to meet basic needs, have adequate access to health care, education and employment, and have opportunities to enhance the quality of their lives.

1. Promote and protect local historical and cultural resources, including physical structures, places and ideas;
2. Protect and enhance local parks, trails, beaches and community spaces;
3. Develop improved park and open space connections which encourage pedestrian access;
4. Improve and enhance connections to neighboring communities through coastal access; trail systems and bike paths;
5. Improve the quality of life of all members of the community through education, services and accessibility to resources;
6. Provide law enforcement services to ensure safety for residents, business operators and visitors;
7. Implement programs which promote interactions and communication between neighbors, including internet-based social programs and local community groups;
8. Improve safety preparedness awareness and education in case of natural disaster or other hazards;
9. Collaborate with other local agencies in a County-wide hazard mitigation and preparedness program;
10. Develop sea level rise adaptation strategies for potential future impacts to the Carpinteria Salt Marsh and our local creeks and beaches;
11. Develop a public safety and hazard resiliency plan to anticipate and plan for future natural hazards and risks;
12. Support residents and property owners' needs related to infrastructure improvements and maintenance to ensure safe and viable neighborhoods;
13. Continue to advance the emergency response system and education of emergency responders and the general public;
14. Promote and enhance local community events and activities;
15. Develop and enhance local food access and growing programs, which may include community gardens, local food vendor or swap opportunities, local school cooking and nutrition programs and other similar healthful sustenance programs;
16. Through Zoning Code and General Plan updates, encourage land use development

which creates a compact and accessible community that encourages walking and cycling and promotes an active lifestyle;

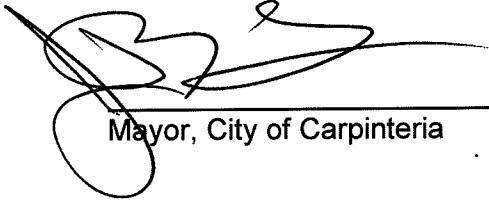
17. Develop education and improve outreach regarding local resources, activities and events to improve access to and use of services available in the community;
18. Promote social equity which addresses the fair distribution of benefits and costs among different social and cultural groups, recognizing that these groups have different needs, interests, rights to and responsibilities over resources, and that they experience different impacts of development interventions which must be considered to build a solid base for sustainability and socio-environmental equity;
19. Encourage and promote community participation in planning and policy development to ensure that a wide spectrum of the community is represented and participates in local government to ensure goals and objectives meet the desires of the community as a whole; and
20. Cultivate inter-agency programs and regulations to support sustainable goals and objectives of this policy throughout the community.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers: Carty, Clark, Nomura, Shaw, Stein

NOES: Councilmember(s): None

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): None



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Mayor, City of Carpinteria

Attest: Yadela Garcia  
City Clerk, City of Carpinteria

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Carpinteria held the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 2014.

Yadela Garcia  
City Clerk, City of Carpinteria

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

R. Shuman  
City Attorney