

---

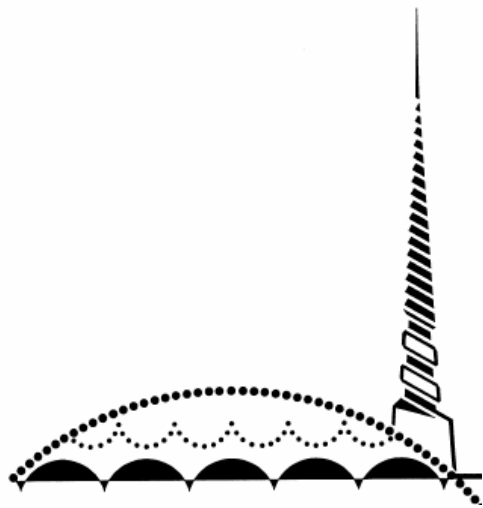
**2006-2007 MARIN COUNTY GRAND JURY**

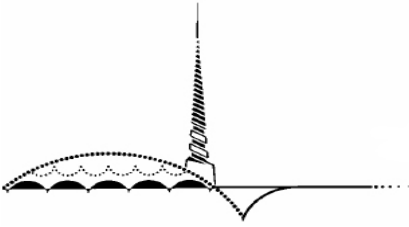
---

**THE MARIN COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY TEAM:  
IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN**

---

Date of Report: May 31, 2007





## Marin County Grand Jury

### **The Marin County Sustainability Team: It's Not Easy Being Green**

#### **SUMMARY**

Even in Marin County, it's not easy being green. With its stated mission "*to... support... sustainable communities*" and "*preserve Marin's unique environmental heritage,*" the County created a Sustainability Team program in 2003 to provide advice, education, consultation and assistance to residents and County agencies in sustainability practices and programs. Yet the Board of Supervisors has not allocated general funds or real enforcement authority to support the Sustainability Team's critical activities. In its investigation, the Grand Jury found that the current Sustainability Team is an extremely effective and excellent tool to pursue the County's sustainability goals, but has been limited in its success by the insufficiency of resources dedicated to fulfilling those goals. The Grand Jury therefore recommends that the County "put its money where its mouth is" and increase the staffing, funds and authority for the Sustainability Team to help:

Accomplish the County's stated goals of supporting sustainable communities and preserving Marin's environmental heritage;

Initiate a new Marin County Joint Powers Authority to coordinate regional sustainability issues, green building and energy conservation, and renewable energy sources;

Accurately measure greenhouse gas emissions in Marin;

Develop consistent environmental standards for County operations through a comprehensive countywide Environmental Management System; and

Design and maintain a professional County Sustainability website and promote visibility and awareness of the Team's sustainability programs and services to Marin residents and businesses through a public information officer.

The concept of the Marin Sustainability Team is derived from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. This summit defined sustainable development as "...development that meets the needs of the 'present' without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs," given prevailing technology.

A prevailing indicator of environmental sustainability is the *ecological footprint*,\* a resource management tool that measures the amount of land and water area a population requires to produce its resources and absorb its wastes. Currently, the world's ecological footprint is over 23% larger than what the planet can regenerate.

Of even greater concern is that Marin County's per capita ecological footprint is almost five times larger than the world average, is larger than America's average, and is larger than that of France and Italy combined.

The promotion of green buildings and green businesses, renewable energy, energy efficiency and climate change reductions have all been favorably affected by the work of Marin's Sustainability Team in only four years, but much more needs to be done to educate and assist the community to take aggressive steps to reduce Marin's ecological footprint. With higher prioritization and greater economic support from the Board of Supervisors, the Sustainability Team should be equal to this task.

## BACKGROUND

The Marin County Sustainability Team was created four years ago. It is located within the Planning Department of the Marin County Community Development Agency ("CDA"). The work of the Sustainability Team is designed to support the mission of Marin County "...to provide excellent services that support healthy, safe and sustainable communities; preserve Marin's unique environmental heritage; and encourage meaningful participation in the governance of the county by all."

The Grand Jury examined this relatively new Sustainability Team in order to ascertain its goals, view the progress it has made towards these goals, and determine the resources available to accomplish these goals.

## METHODOLOGY

The Grand Jury conducted the following interviews:

- Members of the Sustainability Team
- A Marin County Supervisor

---

(\* Many things go into the calculation of one's ecological footprint. They include your age, the size of the city or town in which you live, the climate of the city in which you live, your sex, what you eat [and how it is grown], where your food comes from [is it local or is it shipped], how much waste you generate, how many people live in your household, the size and type of your home, how your house is powered, how much you drive, bike and walk, the mileage of your car, whether you use public transportation, how much you travel by air, whether you drive alone or with someone else. It is a complicated calculation. You can calculate your own footprint at [www.ecofoot.org](http://www.ecofoot.org).)

- An official of the CDA
- An official of the Marin County Public Works Department
- An independent environmental planning consultant

A half day was spent touring Redwood Landfill, a division of Waste Management, Inc.

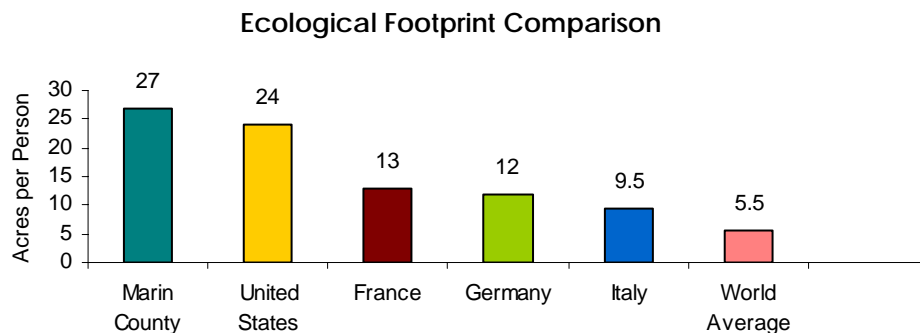
A mail survey regarding interactions with the Sustainability Team was sent to all cities and towns in Marin County.

## DISCUSSION

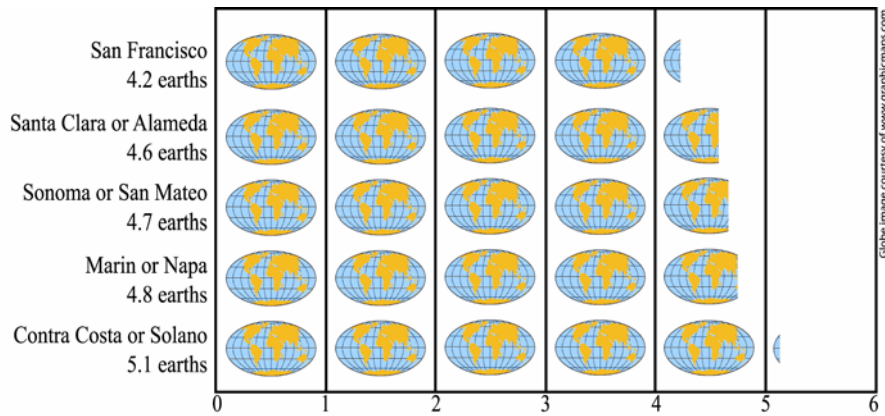
The *ecological footprint* guides some of the work of the Sustainability Team. According to the Global Footprint Network, whose measurements the Sustainability Team uses, the ecological footprint left by a Marin County resident is larger than that of a San Francisco Bay Area resident and of the average United States citizen. If every person in the world lived and consumed resources as an average Marin resident does, we would need the natural resources of almost five earths to sustain Earth's human population.

The figures below were provided to the CDA in 2006 by several sources:

- The average American uses 24 acres per capita
- The average San Francisco Bay Area resident uses 20.9 acres per capita
- The average Marin County resident uses **27 acres** per capita



**Number of Earths required if  
the World Population footprint equaled a Bay Area County footprint**



The Sustainability Team promotes sustainability and advises, educates, and consults with county residents and other agencies to encourage sustainable practices and to assist them in enforcing county ordinances. The Team, however, has no real enforcement authority of its own (other than a limited ability to release occupancy holds in remodeled buildings.) Team members sometimes refer to themselves as “cheerleaders.”

Currently the Team consists of four full-time employees. The County has budgeted no money from its general fund for the Sustainability Team. The Team’s entire budget comes from grants and fees. Much of the work funded by the grants is contracted out to consultants. Team members themselves write grant proposals and handle administration of the grants, outreach and public education. The Team has been successful in obtaining grants in the past, and occasionally, because of its past success, is offered funds by outside sources. Recently, however, grants have become more difficult to obtain and funding is sometimes shared with other divisions within the CDA.

Inevitably, reliance on grants will lead to uneven and sporadic cash flow. The direction of the Team and the work that gets done is clearly influenced by the funding available. As an example, the Team recently lost an intern who was working on two projects. The Team director was unable to secure funding from the CDA and was advised to seek grants. No suitable grant was found, the position was eliminated, and the projects were abandoned.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

One of the goals of the Marin County Board of Supervisors is “...to promote a sustainable future for Marin County, benefiting present and future generations by encouraging balanced communities where residents have opportunities to enjoy a high quality of life with adequate and diverse employment, housing, transportation services; cultural, recreational, safety and health services; and a beautiful and clean environment.”

In 1973, the Board of Supervisors created the Marin Countywide Plan to help establish county growth patterns for three decades. Over the past several years efforts have been

underway to update the Countywide Plan and integrate sustainability principles throughout. The Sustainability Team has been heavily involved in this effort. The draft update, currently under review, includes (i) policies and programs that are intended to preserve natural resources, (ii) policies supporting local agriculture, (iii) promotion of mixed use planning, (iv) affordable housing, (v) energy efficiency and (vi) an increase in renewable energy production.

A report on the impact of the Countywide Plan on Marin's ecological footprint was completed in 2006. This report described the incorporation of sustainable activities into the county. County officials hope to include additional sustainability policies and programs in the upcoming revised Countywide Plan of October 2007.

Since September 2003, the Board of Supervisors has passed only three ordinances that deal with the environment. These ordinances:

- Adopt energy efficient standards for single family dwellings greater than 3,500 square feet (No. 3432)
- Regulate the use of wood burning appliances and the removal and operation of non-certified wood burning appliances (No. 1028031)
- Regulate construction and construction waste recovery (No. 3389)

## **TEAM ADMINISTRATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

The Sustainability Team is part of the much larger CDA Planning Department. The CDA's mission is to "...*protect public health and safety, preserve environmental quality, and plan sustainable, diverse communities.*"

In addition to updating, implementing, and monitoring the progress of the Countywide Plan regarding sustainability, the Team's mission has grown to include promotion of and assistance in:

- Green building
- Green business
- Solar initiatives
- Climate change reduction
- Renewable energy
- Energy efficiency

Sustainability functions in other California counties are organized differently. The Alameda County Department of Public Health is responsible for many of the same areas covered by Marin's Sustainability Team, including Green Business and Green Building. Contra Costa County performs many of these functions in its Community Development

Department. Sonoma County's Waste Management Agency is a Joint Powers Authority made up of representatives from the county and the nine cities in the county. In Los Angeles, sustainability is part of the Public Works Department. San Francisco's sustainability functions are managed through its Department of the Environment with 25 employees. The Marin County Sustainability Team, as part of the CDA, is small yet manages to touch in some way on all of the programs listed above. To enhance its effectiveness, however, the Team needs assistance from the County and a re-examination of its mission.

Although underfunded, Marin's Sustainability Team leverages its efforts by participation in other organizations. The Marin County Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Joint Powers Authority consists of representatives from all Marin cities as well as the County Administrator. It coordinates waste management issues and promotes uniform waste management regulations for the entire county. The Team benefits by its participation in the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), an organization made up of the nine counties surrounding the San Francisco Bay and 99 of the 101 cities in those counties. The Grand Jury believes that the creation of a new Marin County Joint Powers Authority for other environmental issues such as energy conservation, renewable energy sources, and green house gas reduction would be an effective tool in the coordination of all county sustainability issues.

### PROMOTING A SUSTAINABLE MARIN

The Sustainability Team has prioritized its goals as follows:

1. To increase the amount of renewable energy use
2. To increase energy efficiency
3. To integrate sustainability into the Countywide Plan

The following programs (details in the Appendix) are being carried out by the Team in pursuit of these goals:

- **Promotion of Green Buildings:** Since 2000, free technical assistance has been provided for residential and commercial buildings throughout Marin to comply with the construction and construction waste recovery ordinance No. 3389. Training sessions have also been offered for public agencies, energy consultants, building professionals and the general public. The result is considerable reduction of energy use in new residential buildings.
- **Promotion of Renewable Energy:** With a grant of \$200,000, free technical assistance for solar roofing to public agencies as well as residential and commercial applicants was provided along with education and outreach promoting solar energy. A solar map of the county was also created to help homeowners discover specific access to solar energy for their residences.
- **Promotion of Green Businesses:** A \$10,000 grant created a voluntary partnership among business leaders, government agencies and nonprofit agencies.

This partnership recognizes and promotes businesses that meet or exceed environmental best practices. The partners agree to conserve energy and water and to reduce pollution and the generation of waste.

- **Woodstove Rebate Program:** This program, begun in 2003, awards rebates to residents for the replacement or removal of non-EPA Certified wood burning appliances.
- **Promoting Energy Efficiency:** A \$694,000 grant created the collaborative Marin Energy Management Team (MarinEMT), with representatives from Marin County, local energy professionals, Marin cities and Marin school districts. The MarinEMT provides energy consulting services, workshops and peer networking events, energy efficient demonstrations and energy accounting services to Marin's local governments and 19 school districts. In 2006 it received a \$2,450,000 grant and expanded to become the Marin Energy Watch Partnership. This partnership continues Marin EMT's work, but also coordinates additional community programs assisting homes and businesses and collaborates with water districts to integrate water conservation with energy efficient programs.
- **Climate Change Reductions:** In 2003, a technical plan for Marin County carbon emission reductions was targeted at 15-20% below 1990 levels by the year 2020. This plan will help to implement the goals of the Marin County Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan. In 2006, the Board of Supervisors adopted a visionary plan known as *Fossil Free by '33?* to focus on energy efficiency and conservation, solar energy, wind energy, ocean energy, hybrids, hydrogen and biofuels, conversion of waste to energy, and renewable energy purchases.

### County Operations Report

The County Operations Report, developed by the CDA in 2000, measures progress towards sustainability. Every two years measurements are taken from all departments and many divisions of county government. Successful initiatives are highlighted, and potential for further sustainability progress is indicated.

The Board of Supervisors has not mandated conservation practices for county agencies, although a voluntary program adopted in 2003 is still in effect. On conservation issues, the supervisors have generally favored an approach of autonomy for department heads. It has been indicated to the Grand Jury that the supervisors are considering the development of an Environmental Management System in the near future. This system would be a comprehensive program in which representatives from every county department serve on teams to develop environmental standards.

In addition to the above programs, the supervisors have expressed strong support for environmental programs through a series of non-binding resolutions. Unfortunately, most of these are not achievable with the current inadequate resources allocated to achieving sustainability goals. Through its interviews, the Grand Jury identified the following list of projects that might be undertaken to implement the Board's resolutions and reduce Marin's ecological footprint:

1. **Reducing Carbon Emissions:** Reducing greenhouse gas emissions will lessen the impact of climate change. It is important to continue to analyze emissions in order to set criteria, but additional resources are needed to measure them accurately. Engineers are needed to assess carbon emissions of buildings. Other creative ideas such as energy credit cards for spending energy units and carbon trading programs could be investigated.
2. **New Strategies for Solar and Wind:** New strategies are needed for solar and wind energy, as well as the money with which to implement them. The County could be a “one-stop shop” for assistance in generating solar and wind energy. Technical assistance along with bond or private funds to help with financing could be available. Unique and creative programs are out there to be investigated, and if more energy ordinances were supported by the Board of Supervisors, all citizens, including opponents with a “not-in-my-back-yard” attitude, might be more likely to comply.
3. **Solar Hot Water:** Expanding programs for solar hot water is another avenue for increasing energy efficiency.
4. **Transportation:** To strengthen Marin County sustainability, innovations are needed on transportation issues such as bus designated lanes and car-share programs.
5. **Green Buildings:** More public, grass roots interface with all cities and organizations such as Parent-Teacher Associations and homeowners associations, targeting residential units, could increase the number of green buildings in Marin. In addition, there is a necessity for another construction waste recovery ordinance that would apply specifically to remodels.

#### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

An interested, aware person can find all the information s/he needs on sustainable practices and products. For such a person, the Sustainability Team is “preaching to the choir.” **More needs to be done to inform the *less* interested or *less* aware citizen.**

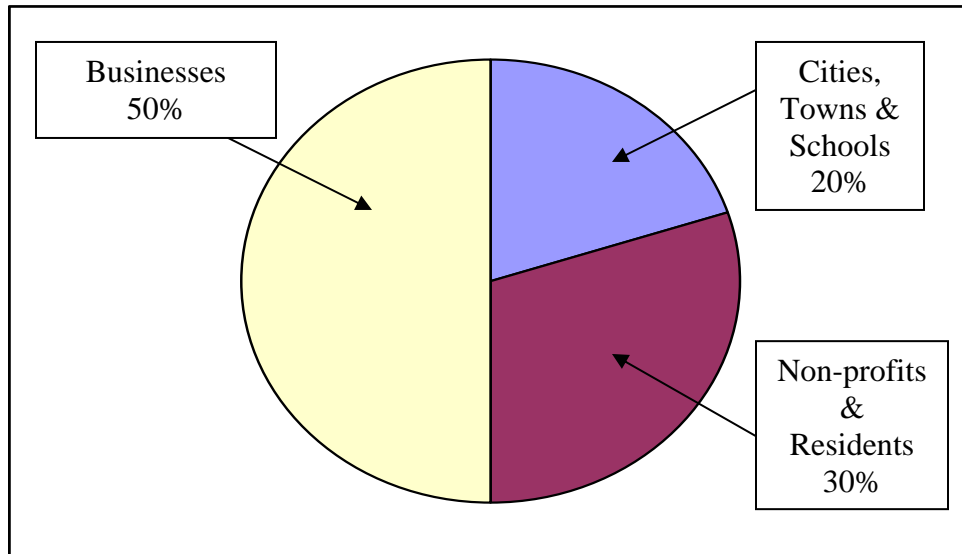
Looking to the future, Sustainability Team members would like to pursue the following three projects:

- A privately operated re-use and recycle facility for building materials.
- Locally grown food programs, such as small organic farms and community gardens.
- The use of food digesters to convert food waste into energy.

Any program undertaken by the Sustainability Team could be made more effective with the benefit of its promotion through a public information officer. The Sustainability Team now does its own promotional work, taking time from other things it could be doing. Publicity and the dissemination of information regarding sustainability practices and available tools are at the core of everything the Sustainability Team achieves.

The following is a current breakdown of the Team's public outreach time:

### Sustainability Team Outreach Hours



Now is an exciting new time in environmental matters. We are experiencing a clarion call for additional outreach to the public, and there is an urgency to get the message out *soon*. For Marin County this is of particular import, especially if it wants to maintain its reputation of being at the forefront of ecological progress.

The Sustainability Team has a website ([www.marinsustainability.org](http://www.marinsustainability.org)) to get the word out, but the Team feels the site is inadequate. One staff member is in charge of designing and updating it, but he is not an expert. He works on it when he can, often on his own time, and he has a knowledgeable high school student who volunteers his time to help. The Santa Monica sustainability website is an excellent one, and the Marin Sustainability Team would like to emulate it. This is not possible now, however, because of lack of funding.

The CDA has departmental funding needs, such as for monitoring sustainability of the Countywide Plan, and according to the CDA, the Sustainability Team is not a "squeaky wheel." The fees received by the Team are inadequate and sometimes cannot be charged for Team program services, such as Green Business.

In the 2005 *County of Marin Report to the Community*, the Board of Supervisors indicated it was addressing many areas of sustainability. Among these were:

- Promoting efficient resource and energy use
- Encouraging "Green" building and businesses
- Making solar power a local reality
- Demonstrating the promise of alternative fuels
- Promoting recycling and waste diversion

- Encouraging collaboration with public/private organizations

The County has produced a variety of promotional brochures that are available to the public, but talk is cheap, while funding of environmental programs is not. In the larger scheme of things, the Grand Jury believes that the County's progress has been minimal in terms of all that needs to be done and could be done by the Board of Supervisors to achieve realistic sustainability goals and lower Marin's ecological footprint.

The Sustainability Team is barely four years old and it is still experiencing growing pains. The Board of Supervisors could enhance the Team's growth and effectiveness by providing it with additional human and financial resources and enforcement authority. In this way, real support would be evident, not just lip service to the Team and all that it is doing to promote the mission of the Board.

## FINDINGS

- F1. The Board of Supervisors has supported the concept of sustainability with a limited number of pilot projects. For the most part, however, it has paid lip service to sustainability and not made it a high priority in the County budget.
- F2. There are no consistent environmental standards for Marin County operations.
- F3. There are no quantifiable standards in place in Marin County to accurately measure the elements of sustainability progress.
- F4. The Sustainability Team has not been provided sufficient resources to communicate and promote its sustainability programs and services to Marin residents and businesses.
- F5. There is not sufficient funding for the Sustainability Team to accomplish fully the sustainability goals set by the Board of Supervisors.
- F6. The Sustainability Team receives no tax-based funds from the County and its total budget comes from grants and fees.
- F7. The Sustainability Team's current role is advisory, educational and research oriented.
- F8. The Sustainability Team devotes a significant amount of its time and effort in monitoring contracted consultants.
- F9. The Sustainability Team website is an essential tool, but the Team does not have the resources to make it effective.
- F10. The Sustainability Team is solely responsible for its own promotional work and receives no professional public information support.
- F11. Marin County has benefited from the Sustainability Team's cooperative efforts with other agencies in the county and the Bay Area.
- F12. A Marin County Joint Powers Authority on green buildings and energy conservation would be an effective tool to coordinate county sustainability issues.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grand Jury recommends that:

- R1. The County fund an increase of Sustainability Team staff in order to help fulfill county sustainability goals.
- R2. The County budget for a professionally designed and maintained Sustainability website.
- R3. The County provide access to a public information officer for the Sustainability Team to promote visibility and awareness of the Sustainability Team programs and services.
- R4. The County introduce a comprehensive Environmental Management System, with representatives from every county department, to develop consistent environmental standards for county operations.
- R5. The County provide the necessary resources to accurately measure greenhouse gas emissions in the county through the Marin Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan.
- R6. The County initiate a countywide green building and energy conservation Joint Powers Authority.

## REQUEST FOR RESPONSES

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05, responses to this report are mandatory as follows:

From the following governing body:

- The Marin County Board of Supervisors: F1–12; R1–6.

From the following individuals:

- The Director of the Marin County Community Development Agency: F1–12; R1-R3, R5.
- The Director of the Marin County Public Works Department: F11 and R4.

The governing body indicated above should be aware that the comment or response of the governing body must be conducted subject to the notice, agenda and open meeting requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

The California Penal Code Section 933(c) states that "...the governing body of the public agency shall comment to the presiding judge on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body." Further, the Ralph M. Brown Act requires that any action of a public entity governing board occur only at a noticed and agendized public meeting.

The Grand Jury invites the following individual to respond:

- The sustainability planner of the Marin County Sustainability Team: F1–12; R1–6

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following websites were visited:

[www.marinsustainability.org](http://www.marinsustainability.org)

[www.stopwaste.com](http://www.stopwaste.com)

[www.santamonica.org](http://www.santamonica.org)

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

[www.myfootprint.org](http://www.myfootprint.org)

[www.ecofoot.org](http://www.ecofoot.org)

[www.globalgreen.org](http://www.globalgreen.org)

[www.marinij.com](http://www.marinij.com)

The following reading sources were referenced:

The 1993 Marin Countywide Plan

Fossil Free by 2003? A Vision for Marin's Communities, Environment and Economy, November 2006, County of Marin Community Development Agency Sustainability Team

County of Marin Operations Report Measuring Progress towards Sustainability, County of Marin Community Development Agency, April 2006

Developing Green Building Programs, A Step by Step Guide for Local Governments, Global Green USA, 2005

Marin County Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan October 2006, Marin County Community Development Agency

Reinventing the Community Development Agency, A Strategic Assessment and Blueprint for Change, Crawford Multari & Clark Associates, October 2006

The Marin Independent Journal, Sunday, February 11, 2007, page A15, "Growth Slowdown;" Saturday, November 4, 2006, pages D1 and D6, "Trodding More Lightly"

The Pacific Sun, September 29 - October 5, 2006, page 12, "A Sustainable Economy"

The 2005 County of Marin Report to the Community

Frankly Speaking, A Newsletter for and by Marin County Employees, Vol. 12, #1, page 1, "How's It Going?", First Quarter 2007

## APPENDIX

The following programs are in place in Marin County:

### **Promotion of Green Buildings**

This program was started in 2000 with a \$20,000 grant from Pacific Gas & Electric Co. to the Marin County Community Development Agency. It has evolved since then so that currently, with the assistance of a well known Marin-based architect, free technical assistance is provided for residential and commercial buildings throughout Marin.

County Ordinance No. 3432 is aimed at reducing energy use in new homes over 3,500 square feet in unincorporated Marin. The ordinance also applies to additions that result in new square footage of 3,500 square feet or more. All discretionary land use permit applicants are required to complete the Green Building Checklist developed by the Sustainability Team. This ordinance has resulted in the following reduction of energy use in new residential buildings:

In 2006, there were approximately 60 *new home* permits issued in unincorporated Marin. Out of these, 12 were 3,500 square feet or larger, and thus subject to the energy efficiency ordinance. The projected energy saving for these 12 single family homes was 13.6% better than standard code. In addition, two of these homes also installed photovoltaic (solar-electric devices that produce electricity) systems equal to 15 kilowatts to help them meet the ordinance requirements. Based on Title 24 State Building Code Energy calculations for all these new homes, the Sustainability Team has estimated that 293,405 Kbtu (Kbtu = 1000 British thermal units) per year of energy will be saved with an associated reduction of 50 tons per year of averted equivalent carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas).

In 2006, there were approximately 140 *additions or remodels* receiving permits, nine of which were subject to the requirements of the ordinance. The average projected energy saving calculations for the nine projects was 21.5% above Title 24 State Building Code requirements. Based on Title 24 energy calculations for these additions/remodels, the Sustainability Team estimated that 906,035 Kbtu/yr of energy will be saved.

According to Sustainability Team estimates, the County's Construction and Demolition Waste Recovery Ordinance No. 3389 (Sec 19.07 of the County Code, Recycling and Reuse Requirements for Construction and Demolition Debris) has resulted in an annual reduction of approximately 75,000 tons of waste and approximately 150,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. (The ordinance requires that each permitted demolition or remodel project submit a recycle and reuse plan, but since Marin County has no re-use or

recycling facility of its own for construction materials, it is impossible to determine exactly how much material is recycled from each load.)

The Sustainability Team provided guidance and direction to various organizations and individuals involved in the pursuit of all the favorable statistics listed above.

To promote their efforts, in the last two years the Sustainability Team has hosted several training sessions for public agencies, energy consultants, building professionals and the public. Additionally, the CDA has created a Green Building display located at the planning and building public information counter which highlights a variety of green building materials and provides information about where these materials may be obtained locally.

Eleven of the twelve Marin towns, cities and unincorporated areas responded favorably to the Grand Jury when asked if they had been contacted by or worked with the Sustainability Team.

### Promotion of Renewable Energy

From August 2002 to September 2006, the CDA received four grants totaling \$200,000 from the U. S. Department of Energy Million Solar Roofs Program. These funds were used to promote renewable energy, as shown in the following table:

**Summary Table of solar projects under 30kW installed during grant periods**

<b>Period</b>	<b># of Systems</b>	<b>kW</b>
Aug. 2002 – July 2003	90	330
Sept. 2003 – Feb. 2005	224	942
Oct. 2005 – Sept. 2005	144	640
Oct. 2005 – Sept. 2006	196	950
<b>Total</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>2,862</b>

*Source: Nov. 3, 2006 Marin County Community Development Agency Sustainability Program Report to the 2006-2007 Grand Jury, p 6.*

The Sustainability Team reports that to date there are 806 photovoltaic systems installed in the county with a combined capacity of approximately 5000 kilowatts. These systems reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2,465 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) each year. (For ease in tallying, other greenhouse gas emissions, such as methane, are converted to CO2.)

In July 2005, the Sustainability Team launched a solar rebate program for photovoltaic systems, solar hot water heaters and solar pool heaters. Rebates are available to Marin

County residents, businesses in the jurisdiction of Marin County and county employees. Since August 2005, rebates totaling \$17,200 have been distributed for 63 photovoltaic systems, five solar pool heaters and one domestic hot water heater. (There is approximately \$20,200 left in this grant.) The combined capacity of the photovoltaic systems alone is 114 kilowatts, and it will result in a greenhouse gas reduction of approximately 195 tons of carbon dioxide annually.

The solar map of the county is an excellent resource for all citizens of Marin, as it can determine suitability to solar energy for any residential or commercial building in the county.

### **Promotion of Green Businesses**

Launched by the CDA in April 2002 with a \$10,000 grant from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 9, this green certification program is a voluntary partnership among business leaders, government agencies and nonprofit organizations (a) to recognize and promote businesses that demonstrate continuous compliance with applicable environmental regulations, (b) to conserve energy, water and other materials, and (c) to prevent pollution and waste generation. As of March 2007, 148 businesses have been certified in Marin.

Sustainable Partners is a second level of Green Business certification. It includes measures related to the promotion of volunteerism in the pursuit of sustainability, social equity, and zero-waste business systems. As of March 2007, eight businesses have been certified as Sustainable Partners.

### **Woodstove Rebate Program**

Since December 2003, 43 residents have been awarded rebates for the replacement or removal of non-EPA Certified wood burning appliances. Nineteen more rebates can be awarded from the \$5,925 remaining in the rebate fund as of March 2007. With the assistance of the Sustainability Team, a Woodsmoke Ordinance was recently adopted by the Mill Valley City Council making residents there also eligible for the county rebate program.

### **Promoting Energy Efficiency**

In 2004, the CDA received a \$693,756 grant from the California Public Utilities Commission to administer a collaborative Marin Energy Management Team (MarinEMT). The MarinEMT provides energy consulting services, workshops and peer networking events, energy efficient demonstration rooms and energy accounting services to Marin's local governments and 19 school districts. The grant was categorized "information only," so there are no funds or resources available to provide retrofits.

In February 2006, the successful MarinEMT was selected by Pacific Gas & Electric Co. for expansion, and it became the Marin Energy Watch Partnership with a \$2,450,000

grant. This new three-year partnership continues the work of MarinEMT, coordinates additional community programs assisting residences and businesses and collaborates with water districts to integrate water conservation with energy efficient programs. It is hoped more comprehensive and cost-effective delivery of services will result.

## **Climate Change Reductions**

In 2003, carbon emissions in county facilities and in the county as a whole were calculated by the CDA and reported to the Board of Supervisors. Thereafter, targets for carbon emission reductions were set at 15-20 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2020. In addition, the Board of Supervisors adopted *Fossil Free by '33?* in the fall of 2006, a plan developed by the CDA to focus on these targets and seven steps to fossil fuel independence:

1. Energy Efficiency and Conservation
2. Solar Energy
3. Wind Energy
4. Ocean Energy
5. Hybrids, Hydrogen and Biofuels
6. Conversion of Waste to Energy
7. Renewable Energy Purchases

Reports issued by the Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code Section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person, or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Grand Jury. The California State Legislature has stated that it intends the provisions of Penal Code Section 929 prohibiting disclosure of witness identities to encourage full candor in testimony in Grand Jury investigations by protecting the privacy and confidentiality of those who participate in any Grand Jury investigation.
--