

**'Your Voice' Environment Committee**

Meeting 6 Agenda

December 4, 2014

5:30 – 7:30 PM



We're in the **RECOMMENDATION STAGE**

Our purpose is to provide **FEEDBACK AND REVISIONS**, and offer a recommendation or **ENDORSEMENT**

Schedule	Event	Presenter
5:30 pm	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	Elisa Hamblin
5:35 pm	<b>Meeting Business</b> Overview of agenda Review meeting materials Review schedule Review meeting summary notes	Elisa Hamblin
5:40 pm	<b>Workbook Updates</b> Review edits made based on committee input	Elisa Hamblin
5:55 pm	<b>Discussion</b> Recommendation on Community and Development sections	All
6:25 pm	<b>Discussion</b> Aligning with the Vision and Guiding Principles	Bayer Vella, All
6:55 pm	<b>Recommendation</b> Tentative recommendation on final edits	All
7:20 pm	<b>Homework and Next Steps</b>	Elisa Hamblin
7:25 pm	<b>Public Comment Period</b>	Open to audience
7:30 pm	<b>Adjourn</b>	---

**Notes:**



## MEETING 6 HOMEWORK

Please complete in preparation for the December 4, 2014 meeting.

We're in the **RECOMMENDATION STAGE**

Our purpose is to provide **FEEDBACK AND REVISIONS**, and offer a recommendation or **ENDORSEMENT**

In advance of the next meeting please dedicate some time to reviewing the packet materials and focusing your comments on the following items.

1. Please review the meeting summary notes and make note of any corrections that are needed.

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2. Please review the edits (in purple) made in the Clean Environment section (p. 14-15) of the workbook and note any questions or follow-up items you might have.

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3. Please read through all sections of the workbook as a final review and make comments here or in the workbook.

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4. Considering the vision and guiding principles, do you think there are items missing from the sections you have reviewed in the workbook? Are all the changes in alignment with the vision and guiding principles?

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5. Do you have any other questions that you want to discuss at our next meeting? Please also let us know in advance at [ehamblin@orovalleyaz.gov](mailto:ehamblin@orovalleyaz.gov).

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# YOUR VOICE OUR FUTURE

*Planning Oro Valley Together*

## ORO VALLEY'S VISION & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

*The results of all the community's voices have been formed into a big picture statement or vision about Oro Valley's future. It answers the question, "What should Oro Valley be like in 10 years and beyond?"*

*The vision is further defined through twelve guiding principles. They all work together to illustrate the things that **matter most** to the community and will be used to guide future committee and participant efforts.*



Volunteers and residents chatting at the Farmers Market in November 2013.

## Guiding Principles

### Focus on community safety and maintain low crime

- Low crime
- Safe streets, neighborhoods and schools
- Quick emergency response times and one-on-one interactions with residents
- Crime prevention programs
- Disaster planning and homeland security preparedness

### Ensure integrity of scenic beauty and environment

- Desert and mountain views
- Desert climate and environment
- Wildlife and vegetation
- Open space

### Keep the unique community identity as a special place

- Small town feel
- Nice place to live
- Quiet, delightful, laid back and peaceful
- Friendly and neighborly people
- Clean and well kept
- Forward-thinking
- Built environment sets OV apart



## Vision for the Future

To be a well-managed community that provides all residents with opportunities for quality living. Oro Valley will retain its friendly, small-town character, while increasing access to daily services, employment and recreation. The Town's lifestyle continues to be defined by a strong sense of community, a high regard for public safety and an extraordinary natural environment and scenic views.



Comments from students at Ironwood Ridge High School in December 2013.

### Create a complete community with a broad range of shopping, dining and places to gather

- Increase shopping opportunities, services, and restaurants
- Provide more services nearby
- Good place to open a business
- Downtown or central gathering area

### Minimize traffic and increase ways to get around Town

- Traffic flow on Oracle Road and develop alternate routes
- Maintain good roads
- Provide more sidewalks and bike lanes
- Increase public transportation

### Manage how we grow and maintain high design standards

- Keep small-town feel
- Concern about rapid growth
- Current rate of growth is “about right”
- Increase commercial services and employment opportunities
- Grow by adding new areas to Town limits
- Quality of built environment sets OV apart

### Grow the number of high quality employment opportunities

- Health and medical research industries
- Educational institutions
- Research/technical parks
- Visitor and tourist attractions
- Light industry
- Professional office complexes

### Ensure Oro Valley is a family-friendly community

- Low crime and safe
- Parks, hiking, recreation and swimming pool access
- Good schools
- Family entertainment
- Activities for all ages
- Opportunities to interact with all ages
- Attract young professionals

### Support and build on high quality of schools

- Quality education and high performing schools
- Family, community and governmental support for education and schools

### Provide more parks, recreation and cultural opportunities for all ages

- Opportunities to gather as a community such as festivals and cultural events
- Outdoor recreation such as hiking, walking and biking paths
- The arts
- Amenities including multi-use fields, dog parks, skate park, play equipment, ramadas, bmx track, tennis courts and basketball courts

### Promote conservation of natural resources

- Energy-efficient building and construction practices
- Green building
- Renewable energy
- Water conservation

### Maintain financial stability

- Manage finances prudently
- Strive for a diversified and stable revenue base
- Minimize the financial burden on taxpayers
- Plan for adequate funding of government services desired by the community



Comments at Fruit Shack Smoothies and Yogurt in January 2014.



Draft



**'Your Voice' Environment Committee**  
Meeting 5 – November 17, 2014  
Meeting Summary

We're in the **REVIEW GOALS & POLICIES STAGE** - Our purpose is to **Identify Issues and Opportunities, Generate Ideas and Directions**, and provide **Feedback and Revisions**

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**Attendance:**

**Present:**

Helen Dankwerth  
Rick Davis  
Mike DeSantis  
Jack Evert  
Ellen Guyer  
Bob Swope  
John Scheuring  
Casey Streuber  
Fred Wayand  
Pat Spoerl  
Bob Miller  
Tim Falter  
Robyn Baskin

**Staff:**

Bayer Vella  
Elisa Hamblin  
Danielle Driscoll

**Absent:**

Christopher Fox  
Casey Streuber

**Depart Reps:**

Jim Mikolaitis  
Bill Adler  
Aimee Ramsey  
Philip Saletta

**Town Council (Oversight):**

Joe Hornat

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**Welcome and Introductions**

- Elisa Hamblin welcomed everyone and thanked the Committee for their dedication and commitment to the project
- Elisa welcomed the audience and mentioned that those attending represented the organization/staff involved in the current topic
- Elisa introduced featured speaker, Bayer Vella, Interim Planning Manager / Conservation & Sustainability Administrator who gave a presentation on "Clean Environment Policies and Actions"

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**Meeting Business**

- Elisa provided a quick overview of the evening agenda
  - ✓ Presentation on Oro Valley's Clean Environment Policies and Actions
  - ✓ Covered hanging questions from the previous meeting
  - ✓ Reviewed meeting packet materials



- ✓ There were 2 suggested revisions to the 11/4/2014 Meeting Summary notes – 1) Presentation and Discussion section, title needs to be “Cultural Resources Policies and Articles” instead of “Oro Valley Water” and 2) Bullet two should say “National Register of Historic Places” instead of “natural historic registry”

### Workbook Updates

- Elisa followed up to questions from previous meeting regarding section 3.5 in the Workbook including:
  - ✓ Fluoride in water – After speaking to Philip Saletta and hearing his comments, she told the committee that larger places do add fluoride, Oro Valley pulls water from the ground and currently does not add fluoride. Said that the Town has not seen the need to add fluoride but asked Committee if they feel this issue needs to be added to the list. Costs, advantages were talked about and Elisa said she would write something up and present at next meeting
  - ✓ Terminology – Based on confusion in names/terms in the 3.5 Cultural section, names/terms were consolidated into “cultural” and talks continued about now being too broad. It was agreed that adding a definition in the beginning of section to the effects of “By this this we mean...” would make people aware what the chosen name/term relates to
  - ✓ In section 3.5.2.2 Interpretive Elements – Elisa looked into it and it was done previously, in last General Plan, and after their conversation on this point, everyone was happy with Elisa’s explanation

### Presentation and Discussion - Background Information: Clean Environment Policies and Actions

- Bayer Vella, Interim Planning Manager / Conservation & Sustainability Administrator, provided background information on Energy Element to Clean Environment
- State regulations:
  - ✓ Growing Smarter legislation mandates a General Plan Energy Element for communities over 50,000
  - ✓ Regional partners – Marana, Sahaurita, City of Tucson and Pima County have a General Plan Energy Element
- Bayer talked about the General Plan Update Process in 2012 and that based on the scheduled General Plan updates that were going to occur in 2015, they decided to hold off on updating in 2012.
- Touching on the General Plan 2012 process was:
  - ✓ Review of Comparable Communities
  - ✓ Energy Policy Committee Meetings
  - ✓ Meetings with Development and Building Industry Representatives
  - ✓ Contact with Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce
  - ✓ Multi-department Staff and Agency review
  - ✓ HOA Meeting Presentations
  - ✓ Community Workshops
  - ✓ Media Notice via NW Explorer, HOA Newsletters, Greater OV Chamber Website, and Town Website
- Bayer had 5 points to touch on in his presentation: 1) Clean, new section, 2) What can the town do to be an example, 3) Education, 4) Making sure Oro Valley has the “juice” to make Town work (grid/infrastructure), and 5) community resiliency



- Key Ingredients:
  - ✓ Opportunities for businesses and residents to better the bottom line
  - ✓ Community Leadership
  - ✓ Education Outreach
  - ✓ Planning of energy delivery infrastructure
  - ✓ Preparation for power disruption events and changing environmental conditions
- OPPORTUNITIES... Energy Efficiency
  - ✓ “To further energy savings through gains in efficiency and conservation”
  - ✓ Adoption of current energy building codes
  - ✓ Voluntary green building standards
  - ✓ Community awards program to recognize model projects
  - ✓ Improve transportation systems
- Energy Profile: Town of Oro Valley – Bayer showed a breakdown of energy use with Resident usage being the most to Waste being the least
- Bayer talked in detail about being/growing in Green energy and showed the Regulations & Voluntary Programs from 2006 to 2015
- He touched on the barriers to energy efficiency, due to Town codes, as well as to ascetics, and how to promote use of renewable energy
- Benefits To Southern Arizona Economy highlighted on the benefits of solar energy in Arizona and where Arizona ranks in the nation
- Bayer continued presentation by talking about how Oro Valley can be an example and leader in cost savings opportunities, environmental benefits and community demonstration projects – “The Triple Bottom Line”
- ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING - enhance cooperative working relationships with energy and utility providers, substation grid showing overload areas, costs in updating and improving
- Increase community resiliency by preparing for power outages and potential vulnerabilities including forecast of rising temperatures by the end of the Century
- He concluded by talking about Opportunities to Action, Process & Balance and concluded by showing a graph of survey results from residents agreeing that Oro Valley should promote energy efficient building construction, green building and renewable energy

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#### Discussion – Clean Environment Policies and Actions

- Elisa lead the discussion regarding the Clean Environment Policies and Actions
  - Major topics: Pollution, waste, recycling, Storm water and containments, Air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, Energy efficiency
  - Supported by: ‘Opportunities for quality living’, ‘Extraordinary natural environment’, ‘Manage how we grow and maintain high design standards’, ‘Promote conservation of natural resources’
- ✓ Elisa asked the members what jumped out at them; what’s important – topics; glaring concerns, recommended edits, refinement of policy, etc



- ✓ The Committee had an in-depth discussion about the current section 3.6 with questions and suggestions on what needs to be updated, looked into and changed. There were some areas Elisa said she wanted to look into and would follow up on all points at the December 4, 2014 meeting
- ✓ She informed the Committee that Environment is on Chapter 3 of General Plan when more talk about water developed, reminding the Committee about overlap, but said that next meeting they will spend time on storm water since it does keep coming up
- ✓ Bayer introduced Aimee Ramsey, Assistant DIS Director to speak about fleet standards, costs, vehicles and their pros and cons

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#### Homework and Next Steps

- Elisa thanked the members for giving time and energy to this project
- Elisa reminded members to do their homework and to use the 'Workbook'
- She asked the Committee to spend some time reviewing the workbook to see if the points they came up with in Meeting 1 have been covered to date – they will touch on this in next meeting(s)
- Wants everyone to feel comfortable where they are at and have accomplished

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#### Public Comment Period - Open to audience

- Philip Saletta, Storm Water Commissioner, added to conversations on storm water mgmt. plan, storm water control
- Bill Adler stressed policies need to be practical and achievable, not just aspirational because then nothing can be achieved and would be a waste of peoples' time
- Discussions between Bayer, Committee and audience continued about practicality/aspirational comment and the role of the Committee, who is the bottom line
- Bayer reminded everyone that the Committee's charge is follow the direction from the community and the vision and guiding principles, people gave their voice and the committees are putting it on paper

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#### Adjourn

- **Next Environment Committee Meeting: December 4 – same place and time** – members can pick up hard copies of the meeting packet materials prior to the meeting – otherwise hard copies are available at the meeting
- Homework was collected





## Your Voice, Our Future: Environment Committee Schedule

Outreach work continuing through all phases of the project include: YourVoiceOV.com web updates, Town of Oro Valley web updates, email announcements, stakeholder and organization meetings as well as broad news and media publications for events.

STAGE	PURPOSE	DATE	TOPICS
KICK-OFF	Orientation	Aug 27	Welcome & Introductions Team Building Project Overview, Expectations and Next Steps
INTRODUCTION	Project Overview Open Discussion	Mtg. 1: Tues. Sept 23	1. Welcome 2. Packet Review 3. Charter and Expectations 4. Presentation – Vision & Guiding Principles 5. Discussion 6. Homework and Next Steps
REVIEW GOALS & POLICIES	Identify Issues and Opportunities Generate Ideas and Directions Feedback and Revisions	Mtg. 2: Weds. Oct 8	1. Meeting Business 2. Presentation – Background Information (Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance, etc.) 3. Discussion – Environment Goals; Sonoran Desert Resources 4. Homework and Next Steps
		Mtg. 3: Weds. Oct 22	1. Meeting Business 2. Presentation 3. Discussion – Water Resources 4. Homework and Next Steps
		Mtg. 4: Tues. Nov 4	1. Meeting Business 2. Presentation 3. Discussion – Cultural Resources 4. Homework and Next Steps
		Mtg. 5: Mon. Nov 17	1. Meeting Business 2. Presentation 3. Discussion – Clean Environment; Community & Development 4. Homework and Next Steps
RECOMMENDATION	Feedback and Revisions Endorsement	Mtg. 6: Thurs. Dec 4	1. Meeting Business 2. Discussion – Environment, Community & Development 3. Tentative Recommendation 4. Homework and Next Steps
		Mtg. 7: Tues. Dec 16	1. Meeting Business 2. Discussion on Final Draft 3. Final Recommendation
OTHER COMMITTEES	Review and Recommendations	Dec '14 – Mar '15	Community Committee (First committee meeting Thursday, December 11, 2014)
		Jan – Apr 2015	Development Committee (First committee meeting Wednesday, January 14, 2015)
COMPILATION	Bring together materials Publish Draft	May – Aug 2015	Project staff will work with each committee to form final recommendations and combine all components with other supporting info to create the <i>Your Voice, Our Future</i> Plan
FINAL PLAN	Adopt Plan	Sept 2015	Planning & Zoning Commission Briefing
		Oct 2015	Planning & Zoning Commission Hearing
		Nov 2015	Town Council Hearing
		Dec '15 – Oct '16	Public Engagement – Did we get it right?
	Accept Plan	Nov 2016	Public Vote on <i>Your Voice, Our Future</i> Plan

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK



## INTRODUCTION

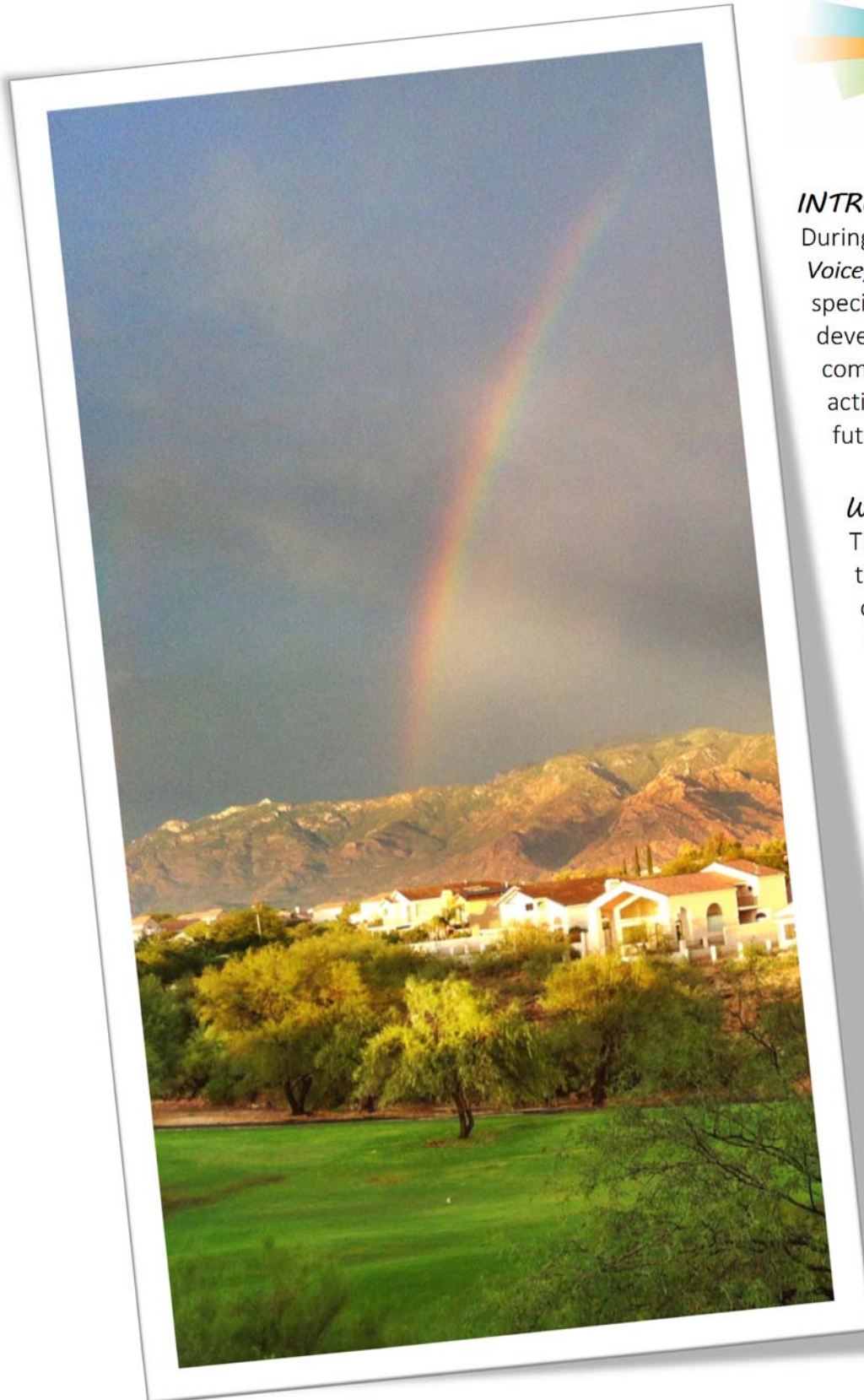
During Phase 2 – ‘Let’s Think’ of the *Your Voice, Our Future* project, three topic-specific committees will be working to develop goals, policies and actions for the community’s plan. This work will guide actions and decisions for the Town’s future over the next ten years.

### *What is the workbook?*

The workbook is a tool for committees to use. It’s designed to be friendly, offer ideas and help you dive into your work. All the answers aren’t in this document, instead it represents some ideas that are supported by the community’s vision and guiding principles.

### *How should I use it?*

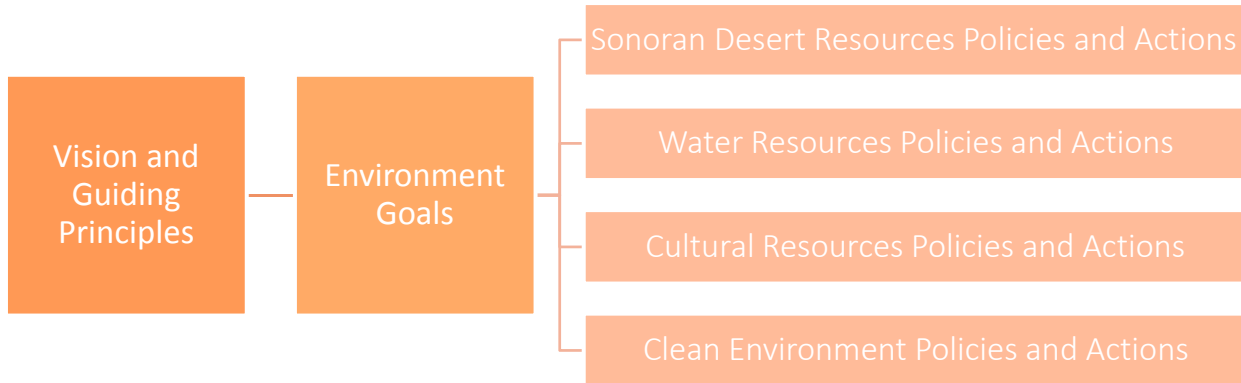
Read it – mark it up – make notes and bring your ideas to the committee meetings! This plan can’t be built without the unique contributions every committee member and this workbook should help you bring your ideas into one place. Together we can build something that truly directs a positive future for the community.



# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## How is the workbook organized?

The information in the workbook was examined through the lens of the endorsed vision and guiding principles. The goals offer big directions and the policies and actions take the next step.



Throughout this workbook you will see references to the Vision and Guiding Principles referenced after every goal, policy and action in parentheses. This is a way to track how we're lining up with what the community told us what important. The key for these Vision and Guiding Principles codes can be found in the key below.

### Code V&GP Phrase

Code	V&GP Phrase
V-1	Well-managed community
V-2	Opportunities for quality living
V-3	Friendly, small-town character
V-4	Access to daily services
V-5	Access to employment
V-6	Access to recreation
V-7	Strong sense of community
V-8	High regard for public safety
V-9	Extraordinary natural environment
V-10	Extraordinary scenic views
GP-1	Focus on community safety and maintain low crime
GP-2	Ensure integrity of scenic beauty and environment
GP-3	Keep the unique community identity as a special place
GP-4	Create a complete community with a broad range of shopping, dining and places to gather
GP-5	Minimize traffic and increase ways to get around Town
GP-6	Manage how we grow and maintain high design standards
GP-7	Grow the number of high quality employment opportunities
GP-8	Ensure Oro Valley is a family-friendly community
GP-9	Support and build on high quality of schools
GP-10	Provide more parks, recreation and cultural opportunities for all ages
GP-11	Promote conservation of natural resources
GP-12	Maintain financial stability

### Oro Valley's Vision

To be a well-managed community that provides all residents with opportunities for quality living. Oro Valley will retain its friendly, small-town character, while increasing access to daily services, employment and recreation. The Town's lifestyle continues to be defined by a strong sense of community, a high regard for public safety and an extraordinary natural environment and scenic views.

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

*What do I need to know?*

## Asterisks\*

Indicates the source is the current Town General Plan, Focus 2020, or the adopted Town Zoning Code.

## Statements with a ( ) afterwards

Indicate a relationship to another chapter or a reference to the vision and guiding principles.

## Text in red

Indicates a change has been made for version 2.

## Text in blue

Indicates a change has been made for version 3.

## Text in green

Indicates a change has been made for version 4.

## Text in purple

Indicates a change has been made for version 5.

## Goal:

The desired result or the envisioned future. A goal answers the question “what does the Town strive for?”

## Policy:

Identifies a course of action to help achieve the goals.

## Action:

Indicates the specific actions to take in order to fulfill both the policies and the goals.

*How will this fit into the final plan?*

The work of this committee will feed into the final plan, along with the work of the other two committees.

## 1. Introduction

- a. How this plan was created: process, vision and guiding principles, state requirements
- b. How to read this plan: organization and plan content
- c. How this plan goes to work: implementation measures

## 2. How to use this plan: plan administration

- a. Amendment criteria

## 3. Environment

Topics include: Sonoran Desert Resources, Water Resources, Cultural Resources and Clean Environment

## 4. Community

Topics include: Economy, Complete Community and Town Services, Facilities and Buildings

## 5. Development

Topics include: Land Use and Design, Development and Growth Areas and Infrastructure

## 6. Conclusion

## 7. Appendices

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## 3.1 Discussion and Overview

*[Placeholder - text to be developed]*

Community priorities represented in this chapter

Explanation of legal requirements – topics that must be covered as part of State elements

## 3.2 Environment Goals

Following is a list of goals that support the achievement of the long-term vision for the environment.

Listed in order of the appearance of topics in this chapter.

All goals have a relationship to the goals found in other chapters

*The Town of Oro Valley strives for . . .*

- 3.2.1 The **proactive** conservation, protection, and restoration of environmentally sensitive lands, natural resource areas and habitat and lands with high scenic value.\* (V09)
- 3.2.2 A high quality, safe and reliable water supply which meets long-term needs for humans and the natural environment. (GP11)
- 3.2.3 The **protection and** preservation of significant **cultural** and historical sites, properties and resources that enhance community character and heritage. (GP10)
- 3.2.4 High environmental quality including meeting or exceeding all **federal and state** standards for air and water quality in ~~Oro Valley~~ **cooperation with other local jurisdictions**. (V09)
- 3.2.5 Balanced and responsible use of **energy and water** resources ~~in order to protect and conserve resources~~ for the current and future benefit of the community. (GP11)
- 3.2.6 **Efficient and responsible management of generated waste** ~~trash and recyclable material~~ **for the current and future benefit of the community**. (GP11)

*Questions - comments - ideas -  
concepts that are important to me*

*WHAT IS A GOAL?*

*The desired end  
result or the  
envisioned future!*

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## 3.3 Sonoran Desert Resources Policies and Actions

Oro Valley highly values its open space, natural resources and views. This section outlines policies and actions to conserve and protect these resources.

### **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.3.1 Identify, preserve **and manage** an integrated and connected open space system that protects Oro Valley's natural resources, and provides enjoyment for residents **and visitors**. (COMM) (V10)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.3.1.1 Develop and implement a program for the **proactive** acquisition, management, and maintenance of public natural open space in cooperation with other agencies and Pima County.\* (V09)
- 3.3.1.2 Create public use agreements for natural resource areas with homeowners associations, property owners and public agencies and with developers as part of future development requirements.\* (V10)
- 3.3.1.3 Develop and adopt a trails plan which establishes long-term strategies for system and natural resource connections as well as trail development, management and upkeep **in cooperation with other local jurisdictions**. (GP10)
- 3.3.1.4 Create a system, including public and private contributions, for posting regulatory and/or informational signs **at community trailheads**, along community trails and near natural areas.\* (GP10)
- 3.3.1.5 Monitor and manage public use of significant biological resources in designated natural areas within the community to prevent their degradation.\* (GP02)
- 3.3.1.6 **Explore opportunities to integrate family-friendly amenities into the trail system, such as areas for play, rest and learning**. (GP08)

### **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.3.2 Provide natural open space connections between significant natural resource areas.\* (DEV) (GP10)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.3.2.1 Develop a plan that connects environmentally sensitive lands as development occurs. (GP10)
- 3.3.2.2 Identify preservation and connection strategies between significant natural resource areas, including Tortolita Mountain Park, Arroyo Grande and Catalina State Park **in cooperation with other agencies and jurisdictions**. (GP10)

Questions - comments - ideas -  
concepts that are important to me

The most meaningful phrase  
on this page to me is

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# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.3 Conserve Oro Valley's natural resources in a comprehensive manner. (V09)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.3.3.1 **Review and** implement the Town's Tree Master Plan, which considers the benefits of trees in relation to overall community welfare, while making plans for infrastructure, facilities and development. (GP11)
- 3.3.3.2 Pursue measures to maintain night sky visibility **through the night skies initiative.\*** (GP02)
- 3.3.3.3 Explore the designation of dedicated Town staff **and an environmental advisory board** to support natural resource goals and policies. (V09)
- 3.3.3.4 Provide training and resources to Town employees, **board members** and volunteers in coordination with community programs in order to protect natural resources. (V09)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.4 **Protect and** conserve healthy native vegetation during the development process. (DEV) (GP11)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.3.4.1 **Periodically review and update** the Town's Save-A-Plant program **in order to protect** healthy native vegetation.\*(DEV)(GP11)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.5 Provide information to the public **on** means to protect and conserve resources. (GP11)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.3.5.1 Develop a program that identifies, promotes **and increases awareness** of public actions and education opportunities for natural, water and cultural resources protection and conservation.\* (GP11)
- 3.3.5.2 **Explore opportunities to develop a public space that educates the public community on Sonoran Desert resources and best practices in its conservation.** (GP11)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.6 Protect scenic corridors, public park **and trail** view sheds, and the distinctive visual character of Oro Valley.\* (GP02)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.3.6.1 Support scenic resource regulations to conserve scenic views to including the ridgelines, hillsides, peaks and foothills of the Santa Catalina, Tortolita, and more distant mountain ranges that contribute to the Town's valued scenic character.\* (GP02)

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

3.3.6.2 Monitor and revise scenic resource regulations as needed to enhance community-wide goals. (GP02)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.7 Enhance, protect, create and restore native biological habitats, especially along washes and wildlife corridors, in order to benefit native plant and wildlife species, **minimize the negative impacts of ~~remove~~ invasive species** and provide protection from flood risk.\* (V09)

## **ACTION ideas**

3.3.7.1 **Evaluate the effectiveness and provide appropriate** support to programs or groups which strive to reduce invasive species **and the replanting of native species.** (GP11)

3.3.7.2 **Develop measures which encourage private property owners to assist in invasive species removal.** (GP11)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.8 Maintain the natural qualities of creeks, washes, groundwater basins and recharge areas to protect the integrity of wildlife habitat, allow for wildlife movement and enhance the safety of the built environment.\* (V09)

## **ACTION ideas**

3.3.8.1 Develop plans and provide resources to reduce soil erosion by slowing storm runoff and increase infiltration of stormwater into the groundwater supply.\* (DEV) (V09)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.3.9 Protect and enhance contiguous areas of key habitats and environmentally sensitive lands within the Town.\* (GP11)

## **ACTION ideas**

3.3.9.1 Review and amend the zoning code as needed to buffer parks, trails and trailheads from incompatible uses.\* (V09)

3.3.9.2 Periodically evaluate for effectiveness **every ten years and appropriately** update the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) to incorporate best practices on an as needed basis.\* (DEV) (V09)

3.3.9.3 Inventory and actively pursue opportunities to restore degraded areas that contain remnants of essential or key habitat areas as defined on the Environmentally Sensitive Lands map.\* (V10)

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*





# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## Suggested POLICY

3.3.10 Encourage development project designs that connect wildlife habitat areas, avoid disturbing significant wildlife habitat and minimize the overall impacts on wildlife habitat areas. (DEV) (V09)

### ACTION ideas

3.3.10.1 Periodically evaluate the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance for effectiveness and update design guidelines and standards to incorporate best practices on site and building design.\* (DEV) (V09)

3.3.10.2 Maintain a plant palette for use in all new landscape plans as well available for the general public which encourages requires drought-tolerant native vegetation appropriate for varied landscapes.\* (DEV) (GP11)

3.3.10.3 During the review process require new development that is adjacent to or containing riparian areas or wildlife and plant habitat to link these systems to other nearby riparian areas, habitats, existing or planned trails, and regional natural open space areas.\* (V09)

3.3.10.4 Maintain a current and accurate database of biological resources, including maps that identify the locations of specific habitats, and lists of special-status species, to ensure environmentally compatible development.\* (V09)

3.3.10.5 Develop a plan to protect and buffer washes, riparian areas, vegetation, designated natural open space and environmentally sensitive lands from development encroachment and the associated flood risk and degraded habitat that may result from development encroachment. (DEV) (V09)

Questions - comments - ideas -  
concepts that are important to me

WHAT IS A  
POLICY?

It identifies a course of  
action to help achieve  
the goals!

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## ***Suggested POLICY***

3.3.11 Provide for the safe movement of wildlife near manmade features which may potentially disconnect wildlife corridors.\* (DEV) (GP06)

### ***ACTION ideas***

- 3.3.11.1 Identify preferred wildlife routes. (GP11)
- 3.3.11.2 Develop standards for roadway design which allow for wildlife to move below, above or across roadways and incorporate appropriate spacing and wildlife friendly fencing. (GP06)
- 3.3.11.3 Develop structural design standards which allow for appropriate wildlife movement and incorporate appropriate spacing and wildlife friendly fencing. (GP06)

## ***Suggested POLICY***

3.3.12 Strive to protect the public from the threats of flood and risks of stormwater surges. (V02)

### ***ACTION ideas***

- 3.3.12.1 Provide resources to channelize watercourses where appropriate to minimize safety threats. (V09)
- 3.3.12.2 Provide resources to maintain watercourses to avoid clogged channels caused by impediments. (V09)
- 3.3.12.3 Provide resources to hydro seed all bare runoff areas with mature native grasses that can be easily maintained. (V09)

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*



# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## 3.4 Water Resources Policies and Actions

This section addresses policies and actions to protect water resources.

### **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.4.1 Ensure the **long-term** water resource **reliability** **supply and conservation** for **present and future** water utility customers. (V01)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.4.1.1 Coordinate measures to protect groundwater resources with watershed plans and planning efforts with appropriate water utilities and jurisdictions. (GP11)
- 3.4.1.2 **Continue to** use Central Arizona Project water for recharge to build long-term storage credits for future use. (GP11)
- 3.4.1.3 **Expand the** use of reclaimed water for irrigation of areas such as parks, golf courses, **schools, public facilities and homeowners associations common areas** to reduce the Town's dependence on groundwater resources.\* (COMM) (V09)
- 3.4.1.4 Support the construction of reclaimed water and Central Arizona Project water infrastructure to maximize alternative water resource supply and delivery and provide for a diverse water supply portfolio.\* (DEV) (GP11)
- 3.4.1.5 ~~Contribute to and/or participate in partnerships~~ **Partner** with other jurisdictions to ~~build a conveyance system to~~ increase the use of Central Arizona Project water and treated wastewater.\* (DEV) (V09)
- 3.4.1.6 Create programs that utilize Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technology across user groups that encourage self-monitoring and facilitate improved water management practices through early leak detection. (GP11)
- 3.4.1.7 ~~Continue to provide water audits, public education, incentive programs~~ **opportunities for education and advocacy** to reduce residential water consumption and increase conservation. (GP11)
- 3.4.1.8 **Periodically review and update a drought response plan as a means to address future Central Arizona Project water and groundwater shortages.** (GP11)
- 3.4.1.9 **Continue conservation pricing through a tiered rate structure for residential water customers.** (GP11)
- 3.4.1.10 Support the continued utilization of water impact fees. (GP11)
- 3.4.1.11 Explore the feasibility and public interest in fluoridation of Oro Valley's water supply. (?)

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*



# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.4.2 Ensure water quality for water utility customers that meets or exceeds federal and state regulatory requirements. (V01)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.4.2.1 Coordinate with appropriate public safety agencies to provide for safe and secure water resources. (GP01)
- 3.4.2.2 Continue to support the Oro Valley Water Utility and its efforts to monitor water quality **through water quality sampling**. (V02)
- ~~3.4.2.3 Continue to implement the water quality sampling program in accordance with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality regulations. (V02)~~
- ~~3.4.2.4 Continue to review and submit water plans in accordance with Pima County Department of Environmental Quality regulations. (V02)~~
- 3.4.2.5 Implement **measures to increase energy efficiency of water utility equipment**. ~~the Water Utility Energy Efficiency Program to replace existing pumps and electric motors with more energy efficient equipment.~~ (V02)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.4.3 Utilize alternatives to groundwater ~~to the maximum extent feasible~~ to attain sustainable groundwater production rates and reduce groundwater level declines.\* (GP11)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.4.3.1 Develop plans for the use of alternative sources of water for potable and non-potable uses, including rainwater, gray water, ~~reclaimed~~ waste water effluent and Central Arizona Project water. (DEV) (V09)
- 3.4.3.2 **Explore the expanded use of stormwater harvesting as a means to reduce dependence on groundwater.** (GP11)
- 3.4.3.3 **Incentivize the use of passive and active rainwater harvesting techniques.\*** (V09)

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*

The most meaningful phrase on this page to me is

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.4.4 Protect aquifer recharge areas and wellheads, especially those used to provide public water supplies. (GP11)

### **ACTION ideas**

- ~~3.4.4.1 Monitor well sites to ensure there is no inflow from surface water runoff or drainage. (V09)~~
- 3.4.4.2 Implement sustainable irrigation standards **which includes the use of native vegetation appropriate to varying sites.\* (V09)**
- ~~3.4.4.3 which may incentivize the use of rainwater harvesting techniques.\* (V09)~~

## **3.5 Cultural Resources Policies and Actions**

This section addresses policies and actions to preserve cultural resources. **In this document, the term cultural resources is used as an encompassing or umbrella term and includes all of the following categories: prehistoric, historic, archaeological, and cultural or heritage resources or properties.**

## **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.5.1 Preserve **and interpret significant archaeological, cultural, and historic resources within Oro Valley and the larger planning area.\* (DEV) (GP10)**

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.5.1.1 Pursue grants and other funding ~~mechanisms~~, **including dedicated Town funding**, to provide for the protection and preservation of cultural resources **in the community or resources of value to local culture.\* (V09)**
- 3.5.1.2 Identify significant cultural resources, including people, events, places and activities **in an inventory which is periodically updated. (V01)**
- 3.5.1.3 ~~and Establish a~~ **Continue to implement the current and future cultural resources management plan** for the preservation of ~~archaeological, historical, and~~ cultural resources within the Town.\* (COMM) (GP10)
- 3.5.1.4 ~~Mitigate Minimize~~ **Avoid, minimize or mitigate as appropriate** the potential effect of development projects on significant prehistoric and historic resources during the **Town's** planning and design processes **in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office or other appropriate agencies.\* (ENV) (V09)**
- 3.5.1.5 When opportunity exists, trade or purchase properties of significant cultural resource value that enhance the history of Oro Valley. (GP06)
- 3.5.1.6 ~~Encourage~~ **Require** the preparation of cultural resources assessments by a qualified archaeologist or historian for new development projects.\* (ENV) (GP06)
- 3.5.1.7 **Collect oral histories from persons who lived, planned or oversaw key events in Oro Valley's history. (V03)**

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*



# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## Suggested POLICY

3.5.2 Provide appropriate public access to and education about Oro Valley's archaeological, cultural, and historic resources in order to enrich ~~the~~ our sense of community. (GP10)

### ACTION ideas

- 3.5.2.1 Create park and recreational programs and activities which raise community awareness and support of local ~~historic~~ cultural resources. (COMM) (GP08)
- 3.5.2.2 Require ~~that~~ interpretive elements related to ~~historic~~ and cultural resource sites be planned for in public use areas and private developments during the development review process.\* (DEV) (GP06)
- 3.5.2.3 ~~Develop an ad hoc committee to revisit the~~ Continue implementation of the Steam Pump Ranch Master Plan and identify revisions and next steps for the property in conformance with easement agreements with Pima County. (GP06)
- 3.5.2.4 Create and execute a plan for the placement of interpretive elements related to ~~historic and~~ cultural resource sites in existing and planned Town facilities and properties with the assistance of outside funding. (DEV)(GP10)
- 3.5.2.5 Explore opportunities for designated facilities to curate and exhibit historic artifacts and documents. (GP10)

## Suggested POLICY

3.5.3 Build and maintain partnerships with federal, tribal, state and local agencies and community organizations to preserve, rehabilitate and celebrate ~~historic and~~ culturally significant Town structures, records and places. (GP03)

### ACTION ideas

- 3.5.3.1 Explore potential agreements with public and private entities to ensure appropriate use and preservation of cultural and ~~historic~~ resources for future generations. (GP10)
- 3.5.3.2 Pursue partnerships with library and educational institutions to achieve cultural resource policies. (GP03)
- 3.5.3.3 Explore a potential agreement with Pima County to implement the Interpretive Plan for Honey Bee Village Archaeological Preserve and obtain appropriate public access. (GP10)
- 3.5.3.4 Preserve Town of Oro Valley historical records and documents to maintain a chronology of Town development and milestone events. (GP03)
- 3.5.3.5 Continue to provide Town resources to maintain certified local government status with the State of Arizona Historic Preservation Office. (V01)

Questions - comments - ideas -  
concepts that are important to me

## WHAT IS AN ACTION?

It indicates the specific actions to take to fulfill the policies and the goals!

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## 3.6 Clean Environment Policies and Actions

The section addresses policies and actions related to creating and maintaining a clean environment.

### **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.6.1 Demonstrate leadership in measures to promote a clean environment through all Town facilities and operations. (GP11)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.6.1.1 Implement programs which demonstrate best practices in recycling, waste minimization and disposal programs. (GP11)
- 3.6.1.2 Implement programs which demonstrate best practices in air quality improvement, sustainable operations and energy efficiency. (GP11)

### **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.6.2 Encourage pollution prevention, waste minimization and recycling in all sectors of municipal, business, institutional and residential operations throughout the Town. (COMM) (V09)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.6.2.1 Develop an Oro Valley awards program to recognize sustainable practices in the private sector. (GP11)
- 3.6.2.2 Establish development incentives for projects demonstrating an exemplary commitment to sustainability. (DEV) (GP06)
- 3.6.2.3 Collaborate with the private sector to offer recycling stations and clean composting sites throughout the Town. (V09)
- 3.6.2.4 Explore the creation of a Town-wide recycling program. (V09)
- 3.6.2.5 Continue support of the Town's Dispose-a-med program. (V09)
- 3.6.2.6 Establish regular opportunities for hazardous household waste collection in coordination with Pima County or non-profit groups. (V09)

### **Suggested POLICY**

- 3.6.3 Strive to protect the public from the threats of stormwater and potential negative impacts of contaminants from runoff. (V02)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.6.3.1 Continue to support planning for and implementation of the Town's Stormwater Management Plan. (V01)
- 3.6.3.2 Monitor and enforce stormwater controls to prevent aquifer pollution and the erosion or siltation of washes.\* (V09)
- 3.6.3.3 Develop public education materials on the impacts of urbanization and potential public actions to minimize the negative effects on the environment and

stormwater quality. Provide public education opportunities on ways to minimize negative impacts of stormwater caused by urbanization. (GP11)

- 3.6.3.4 Continue to support and improve community programs such as the Buffel Busters and Adopt-A-Roadway/Trail/Wash programs to support Town efforts for stormwater management. (V09)

*Questions - comments - ideas - concepts that are important to me*





# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## For your committee's consideration: other related goals, policies and actions

The **Community Workbook** includes goals, policies and actions related to the economy, complete community and Town services, facilities and buildings. Policies and actions related specifically to the Environment Committee are included here.

Suggested POLICY 4.4.3 Link existing and planned neighborhoods with parks and open spaces by incorporating path and trail facilities. (GP10)

ACTION ideas to be developed during Community Committee process.

Additional policies and actions may be added to this list as preliminary work continues.



The **Development Workbook** includes goals, policies and actions related to land use and design, development and growth areas and infrastructure. Policies and actions related specifically to the Environment Committee are included here.

Draft GOAL 5.2.1 A quality built environment fostered through the harmonious design and integration of landscape, architecture, and open space and conservation elements. (ENV) (GP06)

Draft GOAL 5.2.5 Environmental stewardship, natural resource protection and energy efficiency in land use planning, and in transportation planning, design, construction and management. (ENV) (V02)

Draft GOAL 5.2.7 Integration of the built and natural environments to provide for safety, resiliency and an enhanced natural environment.\* (ENV) (GP06)

Suggested POLICY 5.3.1 Promote land use practices that reduce energy consumption, improve air quality, and conserve and protect groundwater and natural resources. (ENV) (V02)

ACTION idea 5.3.1.1 Develop land use guidelines that discourage sprawl, preserve open space and result in walkable neighborhoods. (ENV, COMM) (V02)

Suggested POLICY 5.3.3 Coordinate land use and transportation planning to ensure neighborhoods, retail and employment areas are supported by a variety of transportation options. (GP05)

ACTION idea 5.3.3.1 Create a land use plan for high density development along existing or planned transit corridors to minimize vehicle trips and improve overall air quality.\* (ENV) (GP05)

Suggested POLICY 5.3.5 Promote compact development techniques and opportunities such as clustering, transfer of development rights, and density bonuses in order to preserve environmentally sensitive land areas and minimize development impacts on natural rolling terrain.\* (ENV) (GP06)

ACTION idea 5.3.5.1 Continue to regulate through development controls, flexible design options, conservation subdivision design and clustering of

# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

developments to ensure conservation of environmentally sensitive land areas.\* (ENV) (GP06)

ACTION idea 5.3.5.2 Promote existing incentives and flexible development options to ensure land use intensity and density can be achieved in harmony with conservation goals.\* (ENV) (GP06)

Suggested POLICY 5.3.12 Encourage new development and redevelopment projects to be LEED certified (or similar) green buildings and to serve as models for the community. (ENV) (GP06)

ACTION ideas to be developed during Development Committee process

Suggested POLICY 5.3.13 Enhance the character and role of physical and visual corridors such as trails, transit lines, major streets and significant public views. (ENV) (V10)

ACTION idea 5.3.13.2 Require all new development and improvements to existing development during the review process to maintain and/or enhance the character and quality of views from and along scenic corridors and public parks.\* (ENV) (V10)

Suggested POLICY 5.3.14 Encourage water conservation and retrofitting programs for new and existing structures and landscaped areas.\* (ENV) (GP11)

ACTION idea 5.3.14.1 Develop ways to educate homeowners associations and commercial property owners on water conservation and the Town's commercial landscape code. (V02)

Suggested POLICY 5.3.15 Continue to encourage the use of water smart landscape design by limiting the use of decorative water features, encouraging the use of native drought-tolerant plant species and increasing the use of water harvesting.\* (ENV) (GP11)

ACTION ideas to be developed during Development Committee process

Suggested POLICY 5.3.17 Promote outdoor lighting that enhances safety, circulation, and aesthetics without creating light and glare impacts to adjacent properties or reducing public enjoyment of the night sky.\* (V10)

ACTION idea 5.3.17.1 Continue to support efforts to minimize light pollution and adhere to the night skies initiative. (ENV) (V10)

Suggested POLICY 5.5.5 Provide for safety, efficiency and environmentally sensitive design in storm water systems. (V08)

ACTION idea 5.5.5.1 Design major wash crossings to be hydraulically efficient (100-year base flood) and environmentally sensitive with minimum physical or visual disruptions or impacts to riparian areas and wildlife habitat.\* (ENV) (V08)

ACTION idea 5.5.5.2 Require detention facilities and/or velocity reduction when necessary to maintain existing storm water runoff flows and velocities in natural drainage systems.\* (GP11)

ACTION idea 5.5.5.3 Rehabilitate and enhance Town-owned natural drainage systems, water detention and retention basins, and other infiltration areas for multiple benefits including storm water management. (ENV) (GP11)

ACTION idea 5.5.5.4 Evaluate all public and private development projects during the review process to determine the effects of the projects on on-site and downstream drainage patterns and associated ecological systems.\* (ENV) (GP11)

ACTION idea 5.5.5.5 Reexamine current land use designations for areas susceptible to flood damage and rezone as appropriate in order to avoid the inappropriate development of lands and provide for adequate drainage and reduction of flood damage.\* (ENV) (V08)

ACTION idea 5.5.5.6 Evaluate storm water management policies and if possible align with water conservation strategies. (V01)

Suggested POLICY 5.5.8 Enhance the Town's community identity through roadway design and develop a hierarchy of streets that differentiate the character of key streets and intersections. (V07)

ACTION idea 5.5.8.2 Develop street standards for four-lane or larger roadways to include landscaped medians with only native vegetation, no permanent irrigation and water harvesting where appropriate.\* (ENV) (GP05)

Additional goals, policies and actions may be added to this list as preliminary work continues.

Your Voice Environment Committee

Meeting 6: December 4, 2014

Public Comments

**Hamblin, Elisa**

---

**Subject:** FW: Permaculture on Oro Valley - oasis in the desert!

**From:** Judy [mailto:judyarizona@icloud.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 19, 2014 12:35 PM  
**To:** Hamblin, Elisa  
**Subject:** Permaculture on Oro Valley - oasis in the desert!

Dear Elisa,

We just spoke. You asked me to send an email describing my proposed use of land and water conservation in Oro Valley to the DIS committee on the environment, since my entries didn't arrive via the website, "Your Voice, Our Future."

I described in greater detail this potential to you on the phone. I hope you'll share it with the committee December 4, 2014.

My suggestion is to implement permaculture in many places throughout Oro Valley. What I mean by that can be seen in this video, "An Oasis in the American Desert." Please select it from among the several videos he lists. You may want to see others, such as the oasis on the Arabian desert too. Let me know if you can't access it.

<http://www.geofflawton.com/fe/73485-an-oasis-in-the-american-desert?r=y>

After the first 5 minutes, describing the water problems with the CAP in Tucson, Geoff Lawton gives us a tour of the oasis in the desert west of Gates Pass, Tucson. As you see the surrounding dry, natural desert, then see the natural environment by three of these 7 berms put there during the depression, you may see what potential we have in Oro Valley for self-sustaining plant life.

When I toured it Saturday with the Tucson Permaculture Meet-up it was even more lush.

The semi-circular berm that is fed by run-off from a small, dry wash was the most abundant, although all were amazing in the plant life they support completely without watering or tending.

The berms were raised 80 years ago, and they are much taller than would be needed to allow water not to run off, but seep into the soil.

Berms can be lines of rocks which allow water to drain through slowly. Or berms can be solid, such as long mounds of dirt. The town of Oro Valley places numerous long, round blockades to prevent water flow into resident's yards or other runoff. Even those would make ideal berms.

I understand Mike Todnem, Oro Valley Storm Water Utility, may be planning to do some of this in Naranja park. Rob Wilson said he completed a similar redirecting of water on Naranja, I believe he said wet of LaCanda by a walkway? He could better tell us.

My thoughts about putting numerous permaculture sites around town would be to use the land better that may be near drainage, but not in it. It is exciting to have oases with fruit trees, such as peaches, pomegranates, dates and olive (except they are illegal, aren't they?) Other fruiting trees could grow wild in various oases in Oro Valley. Low water use berries, such as gigo or wolf berries, could also be planted and left alone to grow. Someone more knowledgeable than me about what desert plants could be self-sustained in an oasis could choose perennial or self-seeding (even edible) ground plants.

This would be in some ways like the native seed garden at Tohono Chul which has no irrigation and only uses summer monsoon water. But actually, it appears to have even more potential. At the oasis in the desert the ground was soft, very fertile by years of composting by the natural plants, and moist year around. It became an oasis, not a desert. In some other videos you will see farming of numerous trees and vegetables by this method.

What a demonstration this could be to Oro Valley residents for saving, and not even using water in our landscaping. It creates a self-sustaining garden of Eden, an oasis, that does not require cultivation unless you would want to do so in a park area, for example.

I hope you will consider implementing oasis of permaculture in Oro Valley that use no outside water sources. If you'd like to know more, I am sure the permaculture group would be happy to advise.

Remember the basic principles. When water is allowed to soak into the ground rather than runoff as it does so quickly in the desert, the ground changes. The moisture allows life. As soil gradually runs in, carried in by mild runoff from perhaps a small tributary or even by the slope of the land, topsoil build up. It continues to build up as plants become established and shed leaves or change with seasons. All those helps hold moisture into the ground, where plant roots can absorb it.

The morning dew drips off of tall plants, such as tree leaves, onto the ground. All this keeps the soil and plants watered all day long without any outside help.

Large areas have potential to be made into oasis, as well as small ones. If you look around town you will see the land from a whole different view. I was amazed when I took my morning walk along the Linear Parkway, and even up the street on the bike path. Where does Oro Valley not have hills and small, dry washes for runoff onto low ground? It could be put to use. The potential is everywhere.

If you do create oases, I'm voting for edibles!

Appreciatively,  
Judy Ross  
742-0911

P.S. Please call me if I can be allowed to participate in any way.

# Topic Summary Report

A topic has closed on Your Voice, Our Future

Topic: Funding Conservation in Oro Valley

## Would you be in favor of using public funds to conserve our environment?

If Oro Valley were to allot more funding towards conserving our environment, would you be in favor? Explain why or why not in the comments section below.

Votes **58** Comments **11**

### Poll Results

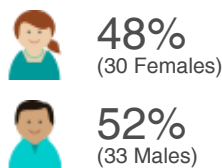
Yes	41
No	13
Not Sure	4

### 14% of people participated

(63 of 440 total participants)

**40% More** than your average and **133% More** than the MindMixer average

#### Gender Breakdown

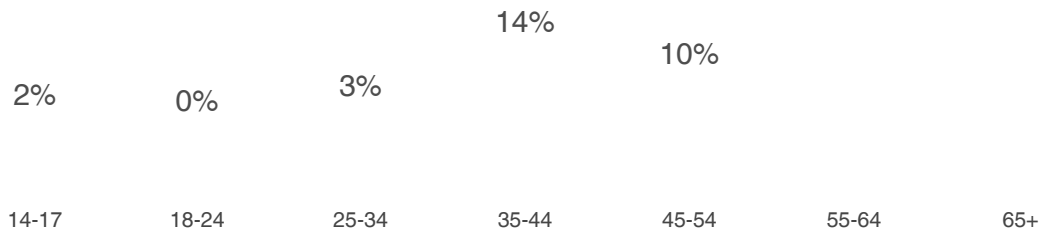


#### Top Postal Codes

85755  
85737  
85704

#### Age Breakdown

42%  
29%



## What's Next?

[Add another Topic](#)

[Invite more Participants](#)

Don't forget to spread the news and share these results with your team!

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## **Topic Name (Instant Poll): Funding Conservation in Oro Valley**

### **Idea Title: Yes**

Number of Seconds 41

### **Idea Title: No**

Number of Seconds 13

### **Idea Title: Not Sure**

Number of Seconds 4

### **Comments**

Number of Comments 11

Comment 1: Sounds great but who is going to pay for it. My property taxes are already too high.

I am concerned about continued development which brings more traffic, more crowding, less open space and increased demand on a limited water supply. | By Rob R

Comment 2: What happened to the small town community we moved here to be in? Too much development and not enough water, stop the building and conserve what we have. Building multi-unit dwellings is great for the developers but not the town. More people means more traffic, more roads, more schools, more police and fire and lowers the property values. Time to stop the building! | By Mel H

Comment 3: I would need more information before saying yes. The question is not transparent enough. | By Greg C

Comment 4: Maintaining our environment and open space is very important to the future of Oro Valley. I am concerned by the recent trend to allow more development. I realize we need to expand, and that developers need to be profit, but we need to do it in a planful way. | By Jeanne P

Comment 5: Not unless voter authorized. | By Rob W

Comment 6: Voters authorized \$164.3 million in bonds for the Pima County Sonoran Desert





Open Space and Habitat Protection. The County purchased 46,716 acres of land in fee and 127,000 acres of State grazing leases and Federal grazing permits, at a cost of \$159.2 million. One of these properties was acquired when Pima County was the successful bidder at auction for 1,416 acres of State Trust land, expanding Tortolita Mountain Park along the eastern slopes of the mountains. We are still paying for this in our County Taxes which have risen substantially over the past 2 yrs. As much as I would like to see Oro Valley remain a small town, the land owners & developers want a return on their investment. If residents want to stop inappropriate development, they need to get involved & let Town Council know their concerns. Spending money on land deals isn't the answer. We already have ESL. | By Shirl L

Comment 7: Conserving our environment requires more thoughtful development plans. ESL requirements should be strengthened and never weakened. Our remaining open spaces should be fully protected from mass grading for building sites. Builders and developers should be required to enhance our environment rather than deplete it. Will this require the Town to allot more funding? Or will this require the developers and builders to allot more funding? | By Diane B

Comment 8: Oro Valley has phenomenal views of the mountains, wonderful walkways along the CDO wash, and lots of paved walkways throughout the town. The flora and fauna are incredible for all to see. That's one of the big draws to Oro Valley. We need to protect those assets and enhance them where we can. | By Doug F

Comment 9: We do need more upscale, retail places, I would love to see a cigar shop do it up like Tubac, stop the discrimination/look towards the future. New restaurants would be great, but please not another Mexican joint, we have enough. When you build, think Sonoran Desert, I don't know what your thinking, it all looks out of place. | By Juan B

Comment 10: I think we should be spending our money on making Oro Valley more family friendly. We need a splash pad! I would also vote for spending it on attracting more businesses. | By Celeste G

Comment 11: There is a splash pad at the Oro Valley Aquatic Center. | By Brian S

# Topic Summary Report

A topic has closed on Your Voice, Our Future

Topic: Drawing Inspiration for Oro Valley

## From which community can we draw inspiration as we work to conserve our environment?

Think about other communities in Arizona. Which ones are doing a good job at conserving their environment and open spaces? How can we incorporate some of their ideas in Oro Valley?

Ideas 19 Comments 48 Idea Statuses 0

### Top Ideas

#### Maybe Sedona.

Kay W5 | Sep 23, 2014

13 Stars  
3 Comments

#### Why set imaginary boundaries and limit ourselves to AZ?

Brian S48 | Oct 01, 2014

11 Stars  
6 Comments

#### Pima and Maricopa Counties, Scottsdale, Flagstaff

Joe W24 | Oct 14, 2014

11 Stars  
5 Comments

#### Scottsdale

Bill A15 | Sep 26, 2014

10 Stars  
3 Comments

#### Don't demand revenue from every piece of dirt

Bill A15 | Oct 29, 2014

10 Stars  
0 Comments

### 4% of people participated

(19 of 440 total participants)

**58% Less** than your average and **30% Less** than the MindMixer average

### Gender Breakdown



**53%**  
(10 Females)



**47%**  
(9 Males)

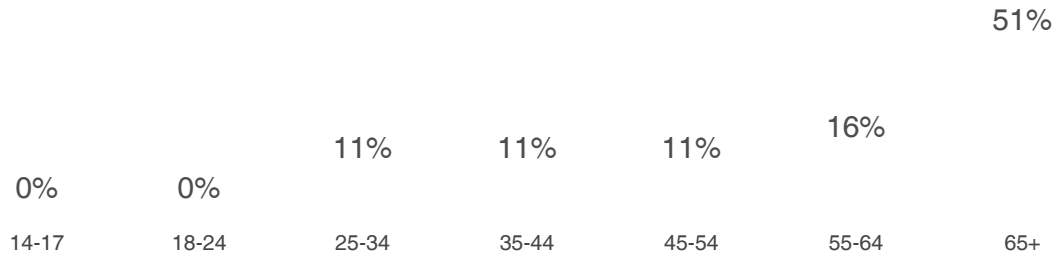
### Top Postal Codes

85737

85755

85741

### Age Breakdown



## What's Next?

[Add another Topic](#)

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[Apply an Idea Status](#)

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## **Topic Name: Drawing Inspiration for Oro Valley**

**Idea Title: Maybe Sedona.**

Idea Detail: Look at how they preserve the open spaces and control growth.

Idea Author: Kay W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 13

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: the art and culture of Sedona should not be overlooked....well that and the beer |  
By John S

Comment 2: There's a reason everyone WANTS to visit Sedona and it is precisely because of  
the preserved natural environment!!!! | By Brian S

Comment 3: what a beautiful place Sedona is! | By John S

**Idea Title: Why set imaginary boundaries and limit ourselves to AZ?**

Idea Detail: Why is the question asking for only examples in AZ? I'm sure there are some good ones, but there are good examples elsewhere too that need to be looked at. The only example in AZ that comes to mind is Sedona because they are proactive in preserving the natural environment. Other cities nationally that do the same: Ashland, Oregon and Burlington, Vermont. These cities promote their downtowns, encourage community gardens and local agriculture, and actively care about preserving the environment. How do we incorporate these ideas? Just do what everyone has already said: stop building shopping centers when existing ones are no where near capacity; stop cookie cutter housing development growth; protect the remaining unperturbed desert environment; instead of more shopping centers, develop a downtown as a meeting place for the community; set up community gardens; expand the farmer's market. Most of all, just stop the senseless and short sighted building. Please.

Idea Author: Brian S

Number of Seconds 0



Number of Points 11

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: Bill, that's precisely the attitude that will continue us down the path to destroying our habit, which by the way, we depend on too. The mindset of "just a little more, just a little more again, just a little more after that" ensures we fail as a species. Is that the side of history you want to be on? | By Brian S

Comment 2: No member of a development committee would support a no growth attitude. It's an issue of how, where and what kind. | By Bill A

Comment 3: continual growth seems to come with continual population growth. I for one enjoy schools for people to learn in, parks for people to play in, roads to drive on, houses to live in, facilities to be entertained in, trails to ride on...etc. There most definitely should be a balance between growth and preservation of open space but I cannot support the outright eradication of development in Oro Valley or anywhere else. | By John S

Comment 4: There's a time to say enough is enough. That time is now. Not just in Oro Valley but everywhere. The world needs a different story because the one the majority believes today ensures humanity's fate as one none of us would want to see. Time to start saying no to the story that continual growth is a positive and a given necessity. It's not. What people talk about as growth comes at the destruction of the natural environment. You can only tip the scales so much until everything collapses. | By Brian S

Comment 5: Yep, Don. Ding ding. You've got it. | By Brian S

Comment 6: Someone built your house and there were people saying the same things back then. Should we simply not allow more people to move here? | By Don C

**Idea Title: Pima and Maricopa Counties, Scottsdale, Flagstaff**

Idea Detail: Approved Open Space Plans.

Preserved large landscapes for parks and undeveloped land.

Thoughtful consideration to wildlife and migration patterns.

Collaborated with other jurisdictions and land management agencies.

Have active friends groups or volunteer programs.

Encourage active recreation and environmental education.

Recognize that economic development and land conservation are not mutually exclusive.

Idea Author: Joe W



Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 11

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: I like to think Don was merely asking for action items to achieve Joe's vision....I don't read into it that Don wants to develop every square foot of desert for shopping malls | By John S

Comment 2: Don C. apparently just wants to allow unabated growth because that takes less effort and doesn't cost him anything. Don, you may be living in the wrong city, buddy! | By Brian S

Comment 3: I believe the pathway to conserving our environment begins with community desire, followed by a vision of what to conserve and why, and then identification of strategies and actions to make the vision a reality. Actions or tools to conserve the environment might include zoning and ordinances, easements, title transfers, intergovernmental agreements, land acquisition, CC&Rs, and so forth. A good place to start is looking at other communities with similar aspirations and a track record of success. Environmental conservation is not a mystery or unattainable if there is community desire and will. I can't speak for others, but my hope is a sensible approach to protecting our natural environment and I'm willing to help make it happen and pay for it. | By Joe W

Comment 4: no pathway? Joe spells it out clearly to me....approved plans for preservation with consideration of wildlife and migration patterns through collaborative efforts with other jurisdictions. | By John S

Comment 5: The ideas you present sound very desirable. But you provide no pathway. We must come up with action items not just pretty sentences or phrases. | By Don C

Comment 6: But how do you accomplish all of this. The ideas are good but we must develop action plans not just pretty phrases. | By Don C

**Idea Title: Scottsdale**

Idea Detail: Larger, broader shoulders in front of commercial/retail development. Decorative artistic treatment along frontage improves the visual impact of medium density residential or retail. Helps make every roadway a scenic corridor. More imaginative architecture - not contemporary - incorporating a SW feel while providing visual interest.



Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 10

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Not a bad idea but who is going to pay for that? | By Don C

Comment 2: Bill is right about every roadway becomes a scenic corridor. The beautiful parks along the roadways provide peaceful places. | By Diane B

Comment 3: right on Bill...that's 2 for Scottsdale South :) | By John S

**Idea Title: Don't demand revenue from every piece of dirt**

Idea Detail: If citizens value the environment open space can't viewed as potential revenue, but potential enjoyment.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 10

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: I think it is sad that there is very little desert left**

Idea Detail: I am not sure how we are to grow without destroying the real nature. I was sickened when a Walmart and a huge ugly parking lot was going to be across the street from Catalina State Park. The complex has done a good job keeping it neat and looking okay; but, you are in the DESERT -- in nature. Our children and for fure, our children's children will have no idea what desert is. The is no desert left between Tucson and Phx. Even heading to Catalina, its gone. Soon the beauty of Catalina will just be houses up into the mountain.

Idea Author: Kristen H

Number of Seconds 0



Number of Points 9

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Agree w/John..There are miles and miles of desert left between here and Phoenix. And more miles east and west of us. | By Don C

Comment 2: not sure I would agree with this statement...just because you cannot see "desert" from your car window does not mean there isn't any left. Plenty of desert plant life out there....trust me I have the cactus thorns to prove it. | By John S

**Idea Title: I would offer continuing Oro Valley's current path**

Idea Detail: Oro Valley currently sets the example other not only in conservation but in improving our current environment. The notion of the question implies that we might be missing something and that some comparable town or area in Southern Arizona is doing more... or better... I see nothing in our surrounding communities that we need to emulate. They should really be asking - "How is Oro Valley doing that?" Why does their town and environment look so much better than ours?"

Idea Author: Ed M

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 8

Number of Comments 9

Comment 1: And, how to resolve differences between what government bodies and citizens want? | By Bill A

Comment 2: "once it's gone it's, gone forever" is the typical thought process of the unimaginative. Regardless, I don't subscribe to the notion we Pave the Planet but when one recognizes the efforts of the Federal, State, and Local Governments to conserve historic, sensitive, and floodprone lands the remaining acres should be developed to benefit the public...in whatever form the governing bodies and citizens recommend | By John S

Comment 3: "Plenty of acres of cactus surrounding OV" is the typical thought process of the short sighted. Once it's gone, it's gone forever. To simply think that there's always more of X, Y, or Z over the hill is a mindset that says the environment is a simple commodity that is





available in such large quantities that conservation is not necessary. That's the mindset that has created the conditions that led to incredibly negative human alteration of the environment, including the atmosphere, oceans, and overall climate. That mindset is so dangerous and states that we should simply just continue down the same, destructive path. That path ends in our own species' destruction. We must change our ways. | By Brian S

Comment 4: The 2005 General Plan limits extend beyond the Town limits and cover large swaths of State Trust Land which I am under the impression are fair game for development or conservation | By John S

Comment 5: Our General Plan relates to Oro Valley. Open Space here is privately owned except State or Federally protected parks, monuments. Oro Valley can't plan land outside our boundaries | By Bill A

Comment 6: I would counter these comments with most of the land is publicly owned. The state, county, and federal government own quite a bit of land IMO. Plenty of acres of cactus surrounding OV so to think "total destruction of the natural environment" is eminent is crying wolf IMO | By John S

Comment 7: Most land is privately owned, and is entitled to be developed in accordance with code. When the Town is ready to write a big check and buy land to preserve it, or when citizens are willing to tax themselves to create those funds, the environment can be enlarged. Our ESL code sets land aside that is sensitive and can not be developed. However the balance of the property can be developed often squeezing the sensitive land from view. | By Bill A

Comment 8: Preserving the environment means writing some big checks | By Bill A

Comment 9: We're destroying our environment to put up empty shopping centers. The town council believes that continual growth is a given and necessity. That alone ensures the total destruction of the natural environment. Sorry, I must strongly disagree with you. | By Brian S

**Idea Title: A Town that doesn't exist**

Idea Detail: A Town that values space occupied by people willing to pay for services that maintain views, a open space experience, recreational & cultural values and a town planned so that incompatible uses are not wedged together; high density is transitioned away from lower density and traffic is planned so that people can safely walk, ride or travel. A Town where schools, Town administration and civic uses are planned in a civic center rather than improvised as needed.

Idea Author: Bill A



Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: A splash pad in the future dog park**

Idea Detail: I hope the new dog park in the Naranja Park is going to be well thought out. I hope that there will be a corner that is concrete with drain and a hose or splash pad. Lights at night also. You can recycle the water and use solar lighting.

Idea Author: carrie S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: improve our parks**

Idea Detail: the parks, city, state, and federal do enough to conserve the environment. There are millions upon millions of acres all around OV. use our funding to improve our "in city" parks.

Idea Author: Brian B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 7

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: improving our parks takes money. Who pays for it? | By K S

**Idea Title: Oracle Arizona. Not to over develop.**

Idea Detail: Every corner does not need a commercial center. People do not walk to shop.



They drive, so one mile is just right to shop. Even 3 or 5.

Considering our Town is 5 miles wide and 7 miles long, everything is nearby.

Keeping the commercial and "Downtown" at the Market Place and Steam Pump Ranch and San Dorado Works!!!!!!

Idea Author: K S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Well established area preserving small town feeling**

Idea Detail: Scottsdale is a well planned community with green belt surrounding homes, with business that cater to the homes that are in the developed area. The architecture and community activities enhance the small town feeling and connection with their neighbors

Idea Author: Mary C

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 6

Number of Comments 6

Comment 1: Actually, sprawl can be attractive, if not efficient. | By Bill A

Comment 2: In my opinion, Scottsdale is a great example of urban sprawl. | By Don C

Comment 3: Increasing cultural, historical, educational and entertainment opportunities is within our ability to achieve. We have a great Arts Council; a dedicated Historical Society and a fine Library. Expanding those values is worth doing. | By Bill A

Comment 4: Scottsdale has history, culture, environment, employment, commercial, education, entertainment, and housing.....love the mountainous views, mix of housing, and endless opportunities for recreation. The solid development involvement by the residents and City are great examples to follow | By John S

Comment 5: Scottsdale has lots of urban sprawl and tons of generic shopping centers (yes,



they have "upscale" stores, but they're national chains for the most part). Scottsdale just feels like one big outdoor mall. No thank you. | By Brian S

Comment 6: It's part of the Phoenix metroplex. That can't be good. | By Don C

**Idea Title: I Really Don't Know**

Idea Detail: I don't have sufficient accurate information on other communities in AZ to suggest an opinion. I believe that with the ESL ordinance we have here on oro valley we are doing a good job on preserving open space.

Idea Author: Don C

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 6

Number of Comments 5

Comment 1: Portland, Ore has many good programs, but also has many excellent leaders at all levels to provide the resources for implementation. What good is that to Oro Valley without either. | By Bill A

Comment 2: Is the topic not addressing "other communities to draw inspiration from"? The policies set forth by that document could easily be adopted by Oro Valley and appears as though many of the same goals are shared between these two communities. | By John S

Comment 3: Oro Valley is our topic. Not Pima County. | By Bill A

Comment 4: I would disagree with the above comment here, perhaps in OV one could make that argument but I would suggest you read up on the Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan which was driven by the government | By John S

Comment 5: It is relevant to understand that citizens, through their advocacy, have created more preservation over the years than government or business. | By Bill A

**Idea Title: Zoning more land as open space. Conservation easements**

Idea Detail: Work with large property owners to purchase conservation easements so the land cannot be developed or subdivided. The owner would still retain ownership of the land.



Idea Author: Sally C

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 6

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Zoning is not an imposition. It's a process that requires the owner participation. A very wealthy owner might sell development rights to a trust like Nature Conservancy | By Bill A

**Idea Title: Scottsdale immediately comes to mind**

Idea Detail: preserving open space, offering quality employment opportunities, thoughtful development standards, multi-modal transportation development

Idea Author: John S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 5

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Copper Creek**

Idea Detail: I love the views and scenery in our community, but wish there were more connections to allow for a more walking friendly community. For example, I live on a cul de sac and there is a park just beyond the cul de sac less than 1/4 mile walk, but there is no "through way" so we have to back track and then back track again making the walk to the park over 1/2 mile. We moved from a community in Portland, Oregon, where they had walking trails between the backyard boundary of all the homes leading to parks and schools so that kids were not walking/biking along roads with traffic. The neighborhoods were filled with cul de sacs connected to more cul de sacs similar to Rancho Vistoso neighborhoods, but all of them had a connection to allow you to walk through the ends of the cul de sacs without back tracking. More connections would allow residents to enjoy the environment and open spaces we already have by making the area more walking friendly, but make the community more family friendly.

Idea Author: Jennifer T

Number of Seconds 0



Number of Points 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Convert citizen out reach from ideas into law.**

Idea Detail: Neighbors want respect for their life style. Government wants respect for growth. Neighbors' Voice is not their Future. I'd contribute higher tax dollars to a fund to buy private property planned for development; ensure Town service standards.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: the best job is done without a General Plan**

Idea Detail: To require a Plan that cannot be enforced creates confusion over the goals of the Plan. Better to have an elected leadership that initiates law that serves the public need, and that government intends to enforce.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Oro Valley is unique**

Idea Detail: The demographics of Oro Valley is different than other AZ towns. The seniors spend the most \$'s but get the least in amenities. I suggest the council support seniors with a senior aqua park, a meeting facility where they can interact with each other, senior bike park, senior hobby center (indoor and outdoor) and you just might get answers to the future of this town.

Idea Author: Greg C

Number of Seconds 0



Number of Comments 8

Comment 1: Oro Valley Population by Age

The following table displays Oro Valley, AZ population information, broken down by age. The city's total population is 41,011. The largest age group was aged 45 - 64.

Age	City	State	USA
< 25	25.3% 10,373 people	35.4% 2,262,255	34.0% 104,853,555
25 - 44	21.7% 8,883 people	29.6% 1,893,710	30.3% 93,634,060
45 - 64	31.0% 12,698 people	24.5% 1,568,774	26.4% 81,489,445
> 64	26.1% 10,699 people	13.8% 881,831	13.0% 40,267,984

Notes

- City rating based on comparing Oro Valley to other Arizona cities.
- State rating based on comparing Arizona to other U.S. states.
- All ratings are segmented into quintiles (very low, low, average, high, very high).
- Data provided by the 2010 U.S. Census.

Income by age is;

45 to 64 is \$91,123

64 and up is \$51,697

Again this is taken from the 2010 US Census report.

There is an incredible amount of information out there, one only has to look. | By Greg C

Comment 2: The author of this idea needs to back up his/her assertion with some facts.

Please prove seniors spend the most money in Oro Valley. Based on my own experience, I would guess that's not likely, but don't make assertions without backing them up. Provide some documented evidence! | By Brian S

Comment 3: More like a partnership with the city/community. | By Greg C

Comment 4: Mr. C: Sounds like a nice non profit venture. | By Bill A

Comment 5: Think about this for a moment. If a senior want/needs to go to a place for aquatic therapy there is no place in Oro Valley that caters to their needs. Sun city in Phx and in north



Oro Valley has such places for their members only. Health care is very important and in most cases is the unknown that might alter their quality of living. Of course they are concerned. Do seniors want everything free, not really but they want a fair deal. I have seen senior organizations that take on huge challenges for their community and produce incredible results. If you need examples go to Sun City in west Phoenix and study their work. Go to California and study the facts that seniors will move mountains when asked.

As a person born in Arizona nearly 70 years ago I dearly love the history of this state. I once sat down with a group of tribe elders and found that just listening to them was the experience of a life time. History preservation is vital to the community for the young and the older generation alike. If we let it slip through our fingers we will never get it back.

Oro Valley is Unique!!

| By Greg C

Comment 6: As a group seniors are more self interested than community interested. Activities with no admission cost are appealing. Health costs are of greater concerns than historic preservation. | By Bill A

Comment 7: Bill is correct but why? Have you ever asked them (seniors) if they knew about the meetings and why they didn't attend? Somehow we need to improve the communication with each other. I tried to go to a meeting (parks) this week but it was canceled. Never cancel a meeting!!! Create a seniors group that does nothing but inform other seniors.

On another note, Steam Pump Ranch is an incredible opportunity to create a community center that meets the needs for all. First you would need to cover the dirt with asphalt or concrete to make it friendly to everyone. I will not bring my car in there because I know I will have to have it washed afterwards. Also people with walkers , wheel chairs, strollers, or feet problems can get around without the fear of falling. The entertainment possibilities is unending. Use the entertainment and other events to fund SPR future growth.

Oro Valley is unique!

| By Greg C

Comment 8: As a group seniors contribute less than any other group to Town government activities, be it budget, parks, land use, planning considerations | By Bill A



# Topic Summary Report

A topic has closed on Your Voice, Our Future

Topic: Protecting Our Environment

## What steps can we take to conserve our community's natural resources and open spaces?

How can Oro Valley better conserve our environment? What steps can we take to create more open space and protect the spaces that already exist?

Ideas **23** Comments **28** Idea Statuses **0**

### Top Ideas

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#### More vision, less senseless development, please!

25 Stars

Mary S69 | Sep 28, 2014

10 Comments

---

#### Install mandated water restrictions; Incentivize use of solar

21 Stars

Bill A15 | Sep 26, 2014

1 Comment

---

#### Protecting the general plan

20 Stars

Mary C38 | Sep 27, 2014

2 Comments

---

#### Value planning rather than market demand

19 Stars

Bill A15 | Sep 26, 2014

0 Comments

---

#### Limit development and conserve our water and open space.

17 Stars

Rob R20 | Oct 28, 2014

4 Comments

### 8% of people participated

(33 of 440 total participants)

**27% Less** than your average and **22% More** than the MindMixer average

Gender Breakdown



**53%**  
(17 Females)



**47%**  
(15 Males)

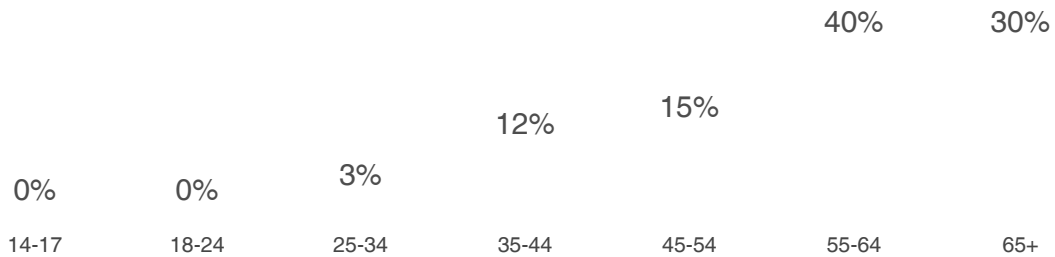
Top Postal Codes

85737

85755

85704

Age Breakdown



## What's Next?

Add another Topic

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## Topic Name: Protecting Our Environment

**Idea Title: More vision, less senseless development, please!**

Idea Detail: Every month that goes by I see less and less of the desert and more and more cookie cutter housing. If we must scrape off the desert, and the habitat it provides countless birds and animals, can we at least promote housing that is better insulated, with water conservation and solar powered technology? Must we be like every other community for which growth just mean more of the same big box, redundant, and unnecessary commercial blight? Why did we need a CVS, a Mattress Firm, and Panera Bread at the corner of Oracle and First? Why are we not able to promote more local business? Must pro-business result in anti-conservation? We tear up the land, build redundant commercial areas to bring in jobs so we can build more cheap and ugly mass produced housing. Why is this kind of thoughtless growth good? We are sacrificing our riches for a model that is unsustainable. Lenar, Meritage, Pulte, etc. have done NOTHING to improve our future. Demand better!

Idea Author: Mary S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 25

Number of Comments 10

Comment 1: this is an excellent idea. | By John S

Comment 2: The revised Plan needs to advocate for renewing annexation of Arroyo Grande. That's our opportunity to design and develop efficiently, conservatively and attractively. | By Bill A

Comment 3: Developers build to the market; not to aspirations. We have to impose restrictions to preserve. | By Bill A

Comment 4: I had to laugh....I agree I see very little "senseless development" but at the same time I also see "global warming" It appears as though I am a torn individual | By John S

Comment 5: I must admit, I shop here, eat out here, pay taxes here. I like OV Water to brush my teeth and shower with. I have been in places in this world, as a part of our armed services, where I was not afforded those opportunities on a regular basis. I know jobs are important. I know growth is vital for a thriving successful community - OV... The notion that we currently have excess "senseless development" is the exact same "hog-wash" the "senseless global-



warmers" are selling. They must be called to task - produce real facts - then share them... |  
By Ed M

Comment 6: The purpose of these Committees is to find balance...not the promotion of one view versus another. Going forward, the Town needs to design development so that life style quality is matched by environmental values. We were warned to be prepared to compromise. |  
By Bill A

Comment 7: I guess Mary's point is that NO development whatsoever is preferable in hers eyes. No people, housing, drug stores, bread stores, or anything that might create jobs, pay taxes, must be considered anti-environment. People are really bad for the environment. We should have all been aborted I suppose.... Just saying... | By Ed M

Comment 8: whats the difference between Summit Hut, Eegees, and Jack Furriers from those you mentioned? I also believe that the housing developers have provided tremendous positives to the Town. Pocket parks, bike lanes, multi-use paths, adding to the funds of the Town and providing dollars to the Amphi School District are all positives in my book. | By John S

Comment 9: I couldn't agree more with these comments! Bravo. I wish someone in town government would listen because it is clear they are not listening to their constituents. Time to vote them all out!!!  
| By Brian S

Comment 10: A huge part of being in Oro Valley is enjoying the mountains and beautiful desert, parks, and nature trails. Adding more businesses takes away our scenery. | By Sherry B

**Idea Title: Install mandated water restrictions;Incentivize use of solar**

Idea Detail: Water restrictions are necessary in order to avoid allocation cutbacks imposed.; Solar use needs education on cost options as well as cost recovery potential;  
Limit building height to 24'. Way too many 30 - 40' buildings which destroy what views at least of the sky may be possible.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 21



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: more covered parking lots topped with solar panels....i really lilke what Walmart has done at Foothills Mall and Oro Valley Marketplace....keep it up | By John S

**Idea Title: Protecting the general plan**

Idea Detail: Making sure the town government uphold the general plan and not let developers encroach into open and protected space.

Idea Author: Mary C

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 20

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: Remember that all property that can be developed is privately owned in Oro Valley. The Town doesn't own any developable land. We have ordinances to set aside natural open space; open space and recreational space. To do more requires buying the property, which citizens could fund if they wanted. | By Bill A

Comment 2: Protect and preserve or we all lose. | By Diane B

**Idea Title: Value planning rather than market demand**

Idea Detail: Environment is irreparable. If a Town looks at the environment as something to be used rather than enjoyed, it'll be gone forever.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 19

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Limit development and conserve our water and open space.**

Idea Detail: Development is not progress and reduces the quality of life for those of us living in



Oro Valley. There is a limited water supply particularly during drought conditions which have happened periodically in the desert southwest throughout history. Each apartment, condo and house built adds to the demand on this limited resource. Development reduces our open space.

Idea Author: Rob R

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 17

Number of Comments 4

Comment 1: Undeveloped land is open space. The city should limit development or require low density development that must include open, undeveloped space as part of the plan. Unfortunately, like most cities, Oro Valley is probably pressured by developers and craves more money from taxes. Where does the development end and what happens when the drought comes. | By Rob R

Comment 2: Open Space for parks and recreation is not paid for by development. It's paid for by taxes, which includes development, shoppers and residents. | By Bill A

Comment 3: All Open Space is not scenic or environmentally sensitive. Scenic and sensitive is protected now. Squeezed; but protected. | By Bill A

Comment 4: if we limit development how will the Town operate and pay for the open space? Surely the development community will gobble up the available space if the Town cannot afford to protect it. Sensible development guidelines and environmental/scenic overlay zones will help guide the Town and the development community in a mutually beneficial direction. | By John S

**Idea Title: Educate, identify, preserve, manage, and promote.**

Idea Detail: Increase awareness about the Sonoran Desert, ground water resources, and wildlife.

Identify environmentally sensitive lands to be preserved.

Employ various strategies for acquiring and conserving land.

Manage the land in a knowledgeable and respectful way.

Promote the benefits of land preservation.

Idea Author: Joe W



Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 15

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Stop allowing ESL whenever a developer/builder requests.**

Idea Detail: Just because a parcel of land has one wash, and no other environmental sensitive features, should not be justification for increasing the zoning/residential density.

Idea Author: Donald B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 14

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: There probably are legal problems with preserving a wash, and not allowing permitted density on the balance. | By Bill A

**Idea Title: Community parks in new neighborhoods.**

Idea Detail: The parks don't have to be large but enough space for residents to have a few benches, tables and a play area.

Idea Author: Kay W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 13

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Designate Existing Large Swaths of Undeveloped Land as Protected**

Idea Detail: This town is out of balance: shopping centers that aren't even half filled while new shopping centers are going up; new housing development after new housing development, resulting in some subdivisions never being finished, and new apartment complexes popping up



left and right along Oracle much to the dismay of existing residents, and all this is occurring without new schools being built. This shows the town council is chasing the near term dollar at the expense of our environment and future. It's incredibly short sighted. The town council needs to step up now and designate existing, undeveloped land as protected open space. Oro Valley residents typically move here because of the exceptional scenery and upper middle class quality of life. You destroy the first by putting in more empty shopping centers, wall-to-wall subdivisions, and apartments, and you'll lose the second.

Idea Author: Brian S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 13

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Stop building**

Idea Detail: You are tearing up the environment. The easiest way to conserve it is to stop what you are doing. For sure stop building the mini-shopping centers. Half the ones around here are empty. Make businesses fill at least 75% of each one before building more. Prosperity does not necessarily mean we have to be bigger and have a greater population. Stop with the apartment buildings. You are clearing hundreds of acres of habitat.

Idea Author: Nancy G

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 13

Number of Comments 3

Comment 1: Agree - I literally cringe when I see still MORE apartments going in! Destroying land, increasing population with increasing demand on resources, driving down home values. Ugh, just STOP already! | By Jennifer F

Comment 2: So true. If we do not save our environment, who will? | By Diane B

Comment 3: I agree 100% with this post. I've commented on these topics before in this forum and will reiterate them again: stop building new shopping centers when many of the existing ones have tons of empty space. Stop with the apartments. Whoever on the town council said





that the American dream with respect to home ownership is dead is a fool. Oro Valley is (I dare to say we're getting close to "was") an upper middle class town. I take pride on owning a home, and in this very affordable area of the country, home ownership isn't some pipe dream. Stop with the apartments!!!! Stop building wall-to-wall subdivisions. If people wanted to live in McBurbia, they would have moved to Chandler. People in Oro Valley love the upper middle class feel and the natural environment. If you destroy the remaining pristine environment, kiss your upper middle class residents goodbye. My family will move if things continue the way they are going. I find it appalling as well that Oro Valley has approved so much new construction in the way of housing developments and apartment complexes, but I don't see any new schools going up. Where are all those new families going to send their kids to school? Look, people here like the openness, and I for one am willing to do anything to preserve that. If that means having to accept some reasonable sort of tax increase, then fine; I would suggest a sales tax increase so that it hits everyone rather than a property tax (otherwise all those people living in all those apartments you're allowing to be built don't have to feel the pain equally). | By Brian S

**Idea Title: Re do wash / slope protection**

Idea Detail: Many washes and slopes use stones piled on the slope or concrete to protect erosion. It is obvious this effort is not only unattractive, but ineffective. There is a General Plan policy 2.1.3 that applies.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 11

Number of Comments 2

Comment 1: What has been allowed can be improved going forward, which is our objective. | By Bill A

Comment 2: rock slopes (ie Rip Rap) is specifically allowed in the 2010 drainage manual and can be tastefully accomplished as seen on the La Canada roadway improvement project to great success. Also concrete (ie gunite/shotcrete) is also allowed in the same manual as long as it is textured and colored. Considering the rainfall we most recently saw this monsoon season and the lack of property damage I would say that the current bank protection provisions are more than adequate. | By John S

**Idea Title: Raise money to buy land to preserve it.**



Idea Detail: If having a "wilderness" experience beyond what Catalina Park provides is approved by the public vote on the General Plan, the manner of raising assessments to create a special fund for that purpose can also be placed on a future ballot.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 10

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: To better our neighborhood we could have a city clean up day**

Idea Detail: A few years back OV had roll-offs positioned around the neighborhood to encourage yard clean up. It seemed like a big success. I would like to see something like that again. Thanks. Cass Bailey

Idea Author: Cassandra B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 10

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Mandate solar in new construction**

Idea Detail: 286 sunny days per year. Unbelievable amount of new construction. Let's put these pieces of the puzzle together. If we mandate installation of solar features (water heater, lights, electric) it will cost less money than trying to retrofit existing buildings. It will send a strong message that Oro Valley cares about our environment, especially in light of ALL the new subdivisions going in every time you blink!

Idea Author: Jennifer F

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 9



Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: mandate is a bit strong...but surely incentives for "green" construction techniques and alternative energy could be looked at | By John S

**Idea Title: Hillsides, ridges, slopes and vistas**

Idea Detail: Environmental values are those places that are highly visible. Unfortunately the same places are highly desired for development. Such places should have a smaller foot print for possible development if at all.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Do not allow development in washes and wildlife corridors | By Norma W

**Idea Title: Make it a key goal in the General Plan.**

Idea Detail: Emphasize how a healthy environment will help to control flood and erosion problems. Also how it can help in protecting water quality and safety.

Idea Author: Dick H

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 8

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: keep the ESL Ordinance in place and do not allow changes. | By K S

**Idea Title: Strength code to allow protection.**

Idea Detail: We could enhance the Town zoning code to specifically reduce incentives for higher density and encroachment in or next to open space. We could also push for a quality of life tax to raise revenue for protecting open space. There is an inherent conflict between



development pressure and conservation of open spaces without revenue to make it happen.

Idea Author: Barry G

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 7

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: solid idea Barry! | By John S

**Idea Title: partner with other agencies**

Idea Detail: partner with State, Federal, Pima and Pinal Counties, and Town of Marana to establish conservation areas and establish shared development standards to protect the environment..

Idea Author: John S

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 7

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: master plan parks**

Idea Detail: think far ahead. Add a RC airplane park!

Idea Author: Brian B

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 3

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Cut down on high density bldg.**



Idea Detail: Huge apartments going up everywhere on Oracle road. How can we conserve our environment with the increased traffic, etc. that this will bring?

Idea Author: Mike W

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 3

Number of Comments 1

Comment 1: Not to mention the increased demand on a limited water supply. | By Rob R

**Idea Title: support low density options, neighborhoods offering larger I**

Idea Detail: support low density projects, encourage the development of neighborhoods with larger than average sized lots, discourage apartments in Oro Valley

limit the amount of development along Oracle

continue to support additional bike lanes and separate bike paths

encourage walking to stores by having sidewalks

place restaurants and other commercial enterprises within walking distance of neighborhoods

wider streets in neighborhoods with landscaping/trees between sidewalk and roadway

limit on the wattage of light bulbs used in outdoor fixtures in neighborhoods

Idea Author: Polly P

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 2

Number of Comments 0



**Idea Title: Purchase natural vegetation parcels**

Idea Detail: The town could budget funds to be used to purchase undeveloped land and preserve it in its natural state.

Idea Author: Connie I

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Points 2

Number of Comments 0

**Idea Title: Limit housing growth to fit the school, park space needed**

Idea Detail: The Town looks at what we've allowed, and says, "where can we have more park and recreation?" Better to plan for public needs within Master Planning processes; not afterward.

Idea Author: Bill A

Number of Seconds 0

Number of Comments 0