

Sustainability can be defined as meeting the needs of current generations without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. A sustainability plan is one of the most important factors for a community or organization to achieve this goal.

FirstCarbon Solutions (FCS) offers the leadership, technical expertise, and software programs and tools to assist local communities with strategies to plan, develop, and implement their sustainability plan's objectives and goals for both the short and long term.

### PURPOSE OF A SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A sustainability plan sets forth a comprehensive strategy for addressing a community's concern regarding the negative effects of climate change. It serves as a roadmap for building and operating a more environmentally sustainable community.

### DEVELOPING A SUCCESSFUL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

A successful sustainability plan identifies key elements and components to address environmental protection, economic conditions, social equity and tracks progress to meet the vision of a community. With over 30 years' experience balancing economic growth and development with the environment, and reducing your environmental costs and impacts while assuring compliance, FCS can help you develop your sustainability plan from the ground up, including:

**Executive Summary:** An overview of the community's vision and plan to achieve sustainability

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions:** An analysis of existing conditions within the community

#### Elements:

- Land Use/Community Design
- Energy Efficiency
- Green Building Code
- Healthy Communities
- Efficient Transportation
- Water/Waste Systems
- Recycling and Waste Reduction
- Renewable Resources

**Phasing Plan:** A phasing plan that identifies when actions will be implemented in both the short and long term.

### MONITORING, TRACKING, AND REPORTING

Once your plan has been completed, FCS can assist with tracking progress of goals with software application assessment programs to identify performance.

With our experience in sustainability planning, we help deliver success with identifying the following key components:

- **Goals** – The goals describe the major objectives to be achieved through local sustainability actions in each identified category.
- **Indicators** – For each target area, specific indicators are identified to develop and monitor progress toward meeting the identified goals.
- **Targets** – Targets help drive the implementation by providing quantifiable goals for achieving success within the plan.
- **Actions** – For each goal, one or more actions is identified that could help the community meet the targets.
- **Cost** – Cost ratings may be included to provide an approximate total cost or potential savings on implementation of the element.
- **Ecological Benefit** – Is an indication of the level of environmental benefit that may result from the action.



### SUSTAINABILITY SERVICES

FirstCarbon Solutions offers extensive experience in delivering the following sustainable services:

- Sustainability Plans, Programs, and Plan Updates
- Sustainable Community Analyses
- Climate Action Plans and Plan Updates
- Air Quality and GHG Emissions Analyses
- Sustainable Legislative and Policy Analyses
- Community and Stakeholder Outreach
- Risk/Opportunity Analyses
- Cost Benefit Analyses
- Monitoring/Tracking Programs
- Software Assessment Tools & Programs

For more information, please contact us today  
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