

Draft



**'Your Voice' Environment Committee**  
Meeting 7 – December 16, 2014  
Meeting Summary

We're in the **RECOMMENDATION STAGE**

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

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**Attendance:**

**Present:**

Helen Dankwerth  
Mike DeSantis  
Jack Evert  
Ellen Guyer  
Bob Swope  
John Scheuring  
Fred Wayand  
Pat Spoerl  
Bob Milkey  
Casey Streuber

**Staff:**

Elisa Hamblin  
Danielle Driscoll

**Depart Reps:**

Aimee Ramsey

**Town Council (Oversight):**

Joe Hornat

**Absent:**

Christopher Fox  
Robyn Basken  
Rick Davis  
Tim Falter

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**Welcome and Introductions**

- Elisa Hamblin welcomed both the committee and audience and thanked them for being part of this process
- Elisa explained it would be a shorter meeting since it was going to cover reviewing the "semi-final" recommendations on what has been done to date
- Elisa also pointed out to the committee that they will be able to keep up-to-date with the other committees by reviewing the committee packets on-line, attending committee meetings as part of the audience, and visiting the Your Voice, Our Future MindMixer website

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**Meeting Business**

- Elisa explained a few points about the updated workbook:
  - ✓ Color-coded text that showed version changes has been removed for a clean version
  - ✓ Action items based on meeting #6 were added
  - ✓ Definition for cultural resources has been added
  - ✓ Some action items were reordered based on past meeting (3.5.1 and "Your Committee's Recommendation" section on page 16)
  - ✓ Some hanging questions were also answered
- Elisa explained that the committee would review the recommendations they came up with over the past 6 meetings to see if there were any changes needed
- She also explained they would review the scorecard to see where they started and what they ended up with, and if there would be any additional changes to be made



- There were no revisions to the 12/4/2014 Meeting Summary notes

### Workbook Updates / Discussion

- The committee went through the workbook page by page to point out any changes or questions
- Everyone liked the cultural resources definition that was added at the beginning of that section and inquired if other sections should have a beginning definition as well to help
  - ✓ Elisa said she will add definitions once they are all written
  - ✓ The sections will explain what each section is about
  - ✓ Why they are talking about these topics, etc
- The committee talked about how some sections seemed to be strong, while others were a bit lacking, needing to be more “meaty” – possibly some descriptions, policies and actions need to be stronger
- The committee talked about their concerns about not being detailed enough (ex: what is ESL?)
- Elisa pointed out that they don’t want to be so prescriptive that it eliminates the opportunity to work within
- Workbook is not final, Elisa encouraged the committee to continue to share their comments, changes, questions; still has a running list of working items
- The committee talked in great detail about the need to have an advisory board/dedicated person who would function as a third party/independent advisor to ensure the Environment’s voice stays true (page 12)
  - ✓ They talked about why this is so important and what it means to everyone
  - ✓ Would it be an independent person? advisory board? pool of advisors/experts? Committee? Town employee? designated liaison?
  - ✓ They also discussed to what extent is it up to this committee to figure out what would be needed
  - ✓ Elisa asked the committee if they felt it was a comprehensive review missing, or needed to be elevated? Everyone agreed that services needed to be elevated to be improved, ie: advocate
  - ✓ It was agreed that the language in 3.3.3.3 (page 6) covers the Committee’s concern
  - ✓ Topic will also be tabled for now since the detail of how this will actually develop is not the charge of the committee
- The committee continued working through workbook making changes in sections 3.3.1.2 through 3.3.1.5
- The committee talked in detail about Policy 3.3.3, in particular about “Tree Master Plan” and if there was enough emphasis on this, was it detailed enough, etc
  - ✓ This will be rewritten based on what the committee came up with
- The committee discussed in detail page 7-8 (3.3.9 / 3.3.10.1) – trying to determine what the intent of the statements were
- Elisa pointed out she wants to make sure the mechanism is correct for this section and will research it to ensure it is correct and what everyone wants
- Additional changes will be made to action ideas 3.3.12.1 through 3.3.12.2; as well as to section 3.4.3
- Elisa asked everyone to review the two memos that will go in the Community and Development Committee packets to see if there are any changes needed
- Changes were made to both memos based on the recommendations of the Committee



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### Homework and Next Steps

- The Committee reviewed the scorecard; Elisa explained how based on what they worked on throughout the process, this scorecard reflects the most prevalent (noting it was not all-inclusive), a quick snapshot of their work and to be viewed as an information piece
- Asking about the Committee's recommendations, Elisa asked if everyone was comfortable as a committee & if they were happy with where they are (after changes are made) – are they happy with where they landed? Overall agreement of yes
- Elisa pointed out that the committee really stayed true to vision and guiding principals
- Elisa will update the workbook and share additions/changes via email
- It was explained how the group will rejoin in the spring with other committees to review whole work as one

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### Public Comment Period - Open to audience

- Councilmember Joe Hornat commented on the process and how amazed he was at how the process works; can see whole thing coming together; felt having a facilitator instead of a chairperson helped it stay balanced and neutral; thanked everyone on behalf of the council
- Mike Mikolaitis also said it was interesting to see the process of the committee; he also spoke a little about stormwater basins and detention basins to help clear up some questions the committee had about this issue

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### Adjourn

- Homework and additional workbook changes/questions was collected
- Elisa again thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting



# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK



## **INTRODUCTION**

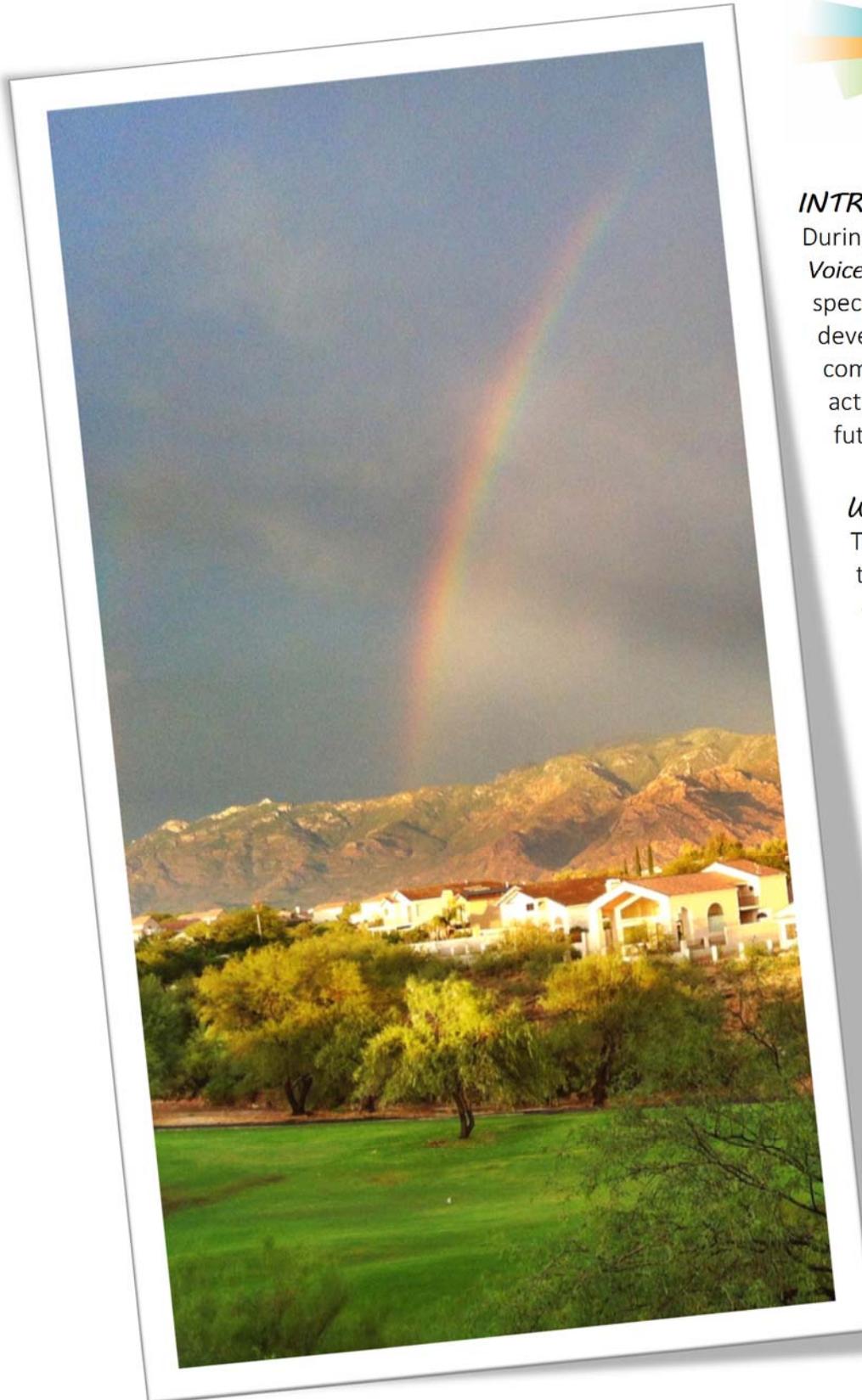
During Phase 2 – ‘Let’s Think’ of the *Your Voice, Our Future* project, three topic-specific committees will be working to develop goals, policies and actions for the community’s plan. This work will guide actions and decisions for the Town’s future over the next ten years.

### *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?*

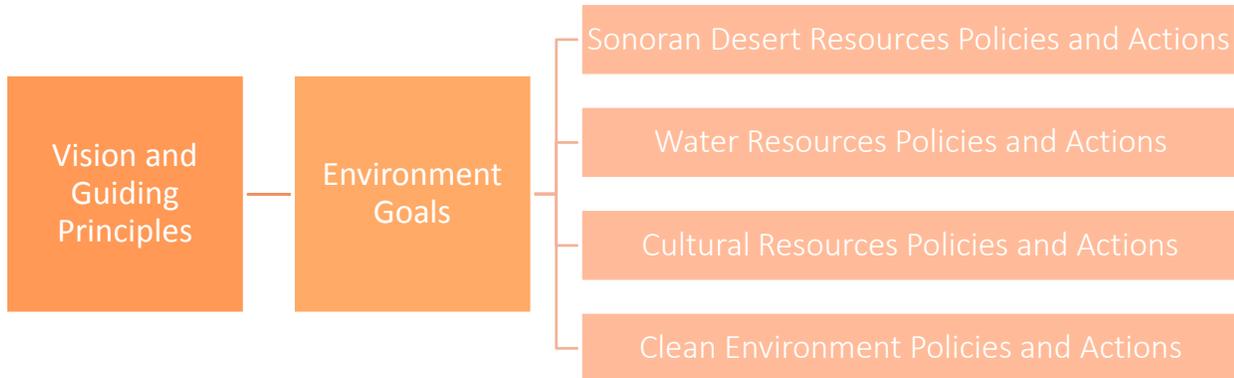
Read it – mark it up – make notes and bring your ideas to the committee meetings! This plan can’t be built without the unique contributions every committee member and this workbook should help you bring your ideas into one place. Together we can build something that truly directs a positive future for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

## 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 habitats 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 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 cooperation with other local jurisdictions. (V09)
- 3.2.5 Balanced and responsible use of energy and water resources for the current and future benefit of the community. (GP11)
- 3.2.6 Efficient and responsible management of 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, commercial property owners, public agencies and 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 procedures, 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 loss or 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*



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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, development and the conservation of Oro Valley's scenic views. (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 the creation of 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 community on Sonoran Desert resources and best practices 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 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.\* (V10)

*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)
- 3.3.6.3 Explore opportunities and partnerships to upgrade the visual quality of the Oracle Road right-of-way. (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 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 to 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 all environmentally sensitive lands from incompatible uses.\* (V09)
- 3.3.9.2 Evaluate for effectiveness at least every ten years and appropriately update the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) to incorporate best practices.\* (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 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 habitats 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. (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 channel 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 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 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 Partner with other jurisdictions 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 opportunities for education and advocacy to reduce 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, value and public interest in fluoridation of Oro Valley's water supply. (V02)

*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 Implement measures to increase energy efficiency of water utility equipment. (V02)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.4.3 Utilize alternatives 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, 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)

3.4.3.4 Explore opportunities for expanded use of stormwater recharge areas as a means to recharge the groundwater supply and control erosion. (GP11)

## **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 Implement sustainable irrigation standards which includes the use of native vegetation appropriate to varying sites.\* (V09)

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

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# ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WORKBOOK

## 3.5 Cultural Resources Policies and Actions

This section addresses policies and actions to preserve cultural resources. Cultural resources are defined as the physical evidence of past human activities and accomplishments of people, including prehistoric and historic sites, buildings, objects, features, structures, and locations with scientific, historic and cultural value. Cultural resources may also be places that are important to living people such as locations where Native Americans conduct traditional activities. Cultural resources are finite and non-renewable resources that once destroyed cannot be returned to their original state.

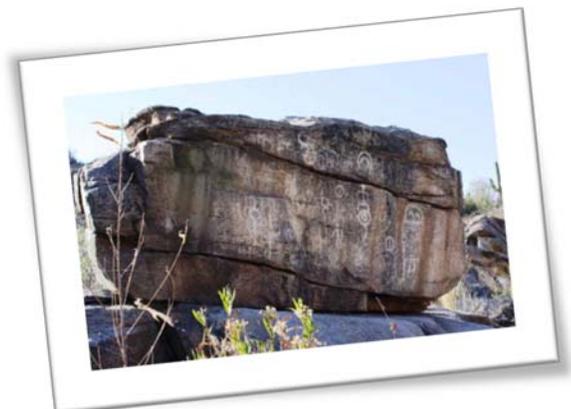
### ***Suggested POLICY***

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

### ***ACTION ideas***

- 3.5.1.1 Identify significant cultural resources, including people, events, places and activities in an inventory which is periodically updated. (V01)
- 3.5.1.2 Pursue grants and other funding, including dedicated Town funding, to provide for the protection and preservation of cultural resources in the community.\* (V09)
- 3.5.1.3 Continue to implement the current and future cultural resources management plan for the preservation of cultural resources within the Town.\* (COMM) (GP10)
- 3.5.1.4 Require the preparation of cultural resources assessments by a qualified archaeologist or historian for new development projects.\* (ENV) (GP06)
- 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 Avoid, minimize or mitigate as appropriate the potential effect of development projects on significant prehistoric and historic sites during the Town's planning and design processes in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office or other appropriate agencies.\* (ENV) (V09)
- 3.5.1.7 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 cultural resources in order to enrich 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 cultural resources. (COMM) (GP08)
- 3.5.2.2 Require that interpretive elements related to cultural resource sites be planned for in public use areas and private developments during the development review process.\* (DEV) (GP06)
- 3.5.2.3 Continue implementation of the Steam Pump Ranch Master Plan 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 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 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 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 for municipal, commercial and residential uses. (V09)
- 3.6.2.5 Continue support of the Town's Dispose-a-med program and the expansion of public education regarding the proper disposal of medication. (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, while integrating environmentally sensitive stormwater system design. (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 Provide public education opportunities on ways to minimize negative environmental 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

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.6.4 Lead efforts which contribute to regional reduction in air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. (DEV) (V09)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.6.4.1 Investigate the feasibility of converting Town vehicles and negotiating agreements with other large fleet organizations to utilize “green” fuel and reduce emissions/air pollution. (V09)
- 3.6.4.2 Enhance air quality by creating programs to control construction dust and encourage the use of natural gas, multimodal transportation, rideshares and renewable resources and prohibit uses that create air pollution. (V09)

## **Suggested POLICY**

3.6.5 Increase energy savings through increased education, and gains in efficiency, conservation and use of renewable resources throughout the community. (V09)

### **ACTION ideas**

- 3.6.5.1 Adopt the most up-to-date International Code Council (ICC) Energy Conservation Code in concert with regional jurisdictions and stakeholders. (DEV) (V09)
- 3.6.5.2 Create programs that incentivize the use of clean alternative energy in business, institutional and residential settings in order to enhance environmental quality. (V09)
- 3.6.5.3 Partner with local businesses to create incentives for the education, purchase and/or installation of resource conservation products. (GP11)
- 3.6.5.4 Review, identify and address Town polices and ordinances that enhance renewable energy production, efficiency and conservation. (V09)
- 3.6.5.5 Work collaboratively with regional partners to create and maintain web-based information portals such as Solar One Stop, uniform renewable energy standards, submittal requirements, electronic permitting, and inspection procedures. (V09)
- 3.6.5.6 Assess emerging renewable technologies for potential application in Oro Valley. (V09)
- 3.6.5.7 Create programs which increase awareness about energy usage in order to reduce consumption of energy, water and electrical resources. (DEV) (V09)
- 3.6.5.8 Explore landscape solutions which minimize energy demands of new development as appropriate and in consideration of view conservation. (GP11)

3.6.5.9 Require the most energy efficient roofing material practicable, based on performance, to be used in new commercial and residential construction. (GP11)

*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.

# memo



To: *Your Voice* Community Committee Members  
From: *Your Voice* Environment Committee Members  
CC: Vella, Bayer; Hamblin, Elisa  
Date: 12/22/2014  
Re: Environment Committee Recommendations

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The *Your Voice* Environment Committee is comprised of residents of the Town of Oro Valley and has met a total of seven times from September to December 2014. This committee is charged with addressing goals, policies and actions related to natural resources, water resources, cultural resources and clean environment. Upon completion of their work, they would like to make recommendations to the Community Committee on the following items and respectfully request the Community Committee consider these items throughout their work.

- Trails and corridors
  - Create trail linkages with Marana and Pima County
  - Limit motorbikes, dirt bikes on trails as they may create erosion/noise
  - Integrate pedestrian and bike-friendly access on roads and trails
  - Buffer wildlife corridors with trails and recreational areas
- Outreach
  - Coordinate education/outreach and training efforts for Town programs across Town operations
- Pedestrians
  - Increase walking areas – Increase width
  - Link schools – safe routes, other locations
  - Better integrate paved walking paths in new development
  - Require sidewalks everywhere
  - Create walking path connections – comfortable, safety and system
- Steam Pump Ranch
  - As an historic park, consider unique relationship to park system

# memo



To: *Your Voice* Development Committee Members  
From: *Your Voice* Environment Committee Members  
CC: Vella, Bayer; Hamblin, Elisa  
Date: 12/22/2014  
Re: Environment Committee Recommendations

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The *Your Voice* Environment Committee is comprised of residents of the Town of Oro Valley and has met a total of seven times from September to December 2014. This committee is charged with addressing goals, policies and actions related to natural resources, water resources, cultural resources and clean environment. Upon completion of their work, they would like to make recommendations to the Development Committee on the following items and respectfully request the Development Committee consider these items throughout their work.

- Conservation
  - Require water conservation with development
  - Minimize use of turf grass
  - Increase passive and active water harvesting
  - Consider viewshed conservation with growth and development
- Regulations
  - Consider the landscape code and the relationship to the environment
  - Periodically review the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance to incorporate best practices
  - Consider independent review processes where there is no Town expertise available, especially archaeological and environmental issues
- Annexations
  - Restrict development in annexation areas in washes, storm water, wildlife corridors, preserved areas
  - Make environment concerns at the forefront of the discussion re: annexation
  - Allow resident groups to evaluate annexations
- Transportation
  - Consider more school bus turnouts and consider routes
  - Coordinate route planning with Sun-Tran
  - Encourage park & ride