Guidance for Addressing Sustainability Impacts in Staff Reports

Discussion of sustainability impacts should consider the following questions; however you do not need to address every question. This section does not replace any environmental review that is required by the California Environmental Quality Act.

Proposals involving contracting, purchasing or grants to non-profits:

1. Has the City received information about the sustainability practices of the organization receiving the contract, professional service agreements, or grant?
2. Would the proposal give preference to contractors using reduced-emission equipment?
3. How would the proposal implement the Environmentally Friendly Preferred Purchasing Program (AR 3.9).

For Capital Projects, Plans, Programs or Services:

Would the proposal:

1. Support efforts to improve the jobs-housing balance and/or high-density transit-oriented development to reduce automobile use, regional and local traffic congestion, and pollution?
2. Create healthy indoor environments to promote the health and productivity of residents, workers, and visitors?
3. Encourage the use of durable, sustainably-sourced, and/or recycled building materials?
4. Promote practices that reduce, reuse, and recycle solid waste.
5. Encourage/enable bicycling, walking, and transit use?
6. Support the City's goals to reduce GHG emissions by 20% by 2020 and 82.5% by 2050?
7. Promote increased vehicle occupancy, reduced idling or trip reduction?
8. Encourage the use of zero or low emission vehicles and/or car-sharing programs?
9. Promote efficient use of energy in the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of facilities, infrastructure, and equipment?
10. Include installation of renewable energy? (All new City-owned facilities shall be built with renewable energy, as appropriate to their functions and where feasible per GP Policy NR-4.10)
11. Meet energy efficiency standards (and exceed the State's zero net energy goals by 2020).
12. Be LEED certified? (New public building or renovation projects exceeding 20,000 square feet or $5 million shall be certified LEED Silver per HMC Chapter 10, Article 21)
13. Promote stormwater management techniques that minimize surface water runoff and impervious ground surfaces?
14. Increase water use efficiency and actively conserve water year-round?
15. Support rainwater harvesting facilities, recycled water, or reclaimed water where appropriate, cost effective, safe, and environmentally sustainable?
16. Include native or drought-tolerant landscaping, sustainable design and maintenance, water efficient irrigation systems, and yard clipping reduction?
17. Promote the planting of native shade trees to shade parking lots, streets, and other facilities to reduce heat island effects, reduce energy consumption, and contribute to carbon mitigation?
18. Address climate adaptation (sea level rise, increased temperatures, and water shortages)?
19. Implement the use of recycled products or recycling processes as part of any capital project?
20. Minimize the use of disposable or nonrenewable products in City operations?
21. Promote use of green and non-toxic cleaning supplies?
22. Minimize use of toxic chemicals (including pesticides and herbicides)?

General Plan Policies (and page numbers) for Reference

Following is a list of key sustainability-related policies that should be considered when writing a Sustainability Impacts section. While not every policy will apply to every report, there are also likely to be General Plan policies applicable to your repot that are not listed here. Report authors are encouraged to scan the General Plan for relevant policies. (Using the "Find" tool to search for key words is a good way to find policies related to a particular topic.)

LU-1.1 Jobs-Housing Balance (p. 3-35)
LU-1.5 Transit-Oriented Development (p. 3-36)
LU-1.8 Green Building and Landscaping Requirements (p. 3-36)
M-1.6 Bicycling, Walking, and Transit Amenities (p. 3-76)
M-8.1 Increase Vehicle Occupancy (p. 3-89)
ED-1.19 Local Hiring (p. 3-99)
NR-2.4 Community Greenhouse Gas Reduction (p. 3-124)
NR-2.5 Municipal Greenhouse Gas Reduction (p. 3-124)
NR-2.8 Reduced Emissions for City Operations and Commutes (p. 3-124)
NR-2.9 Fleet Operations (p. 3-124)
NR-2.10 Zero-Emission and Low-Emission Vehicle Use (p. 3-124)
NR-2.12 Preference for Reduced-Emission Equipment (p. 3-124)
PFS-2.3 Sustainable Practices (p. 3-181)
PFS-2.4 Sustainable Contracting (p. 3-182)
NR-4.1 Energy Efficiency Measures (p. 3-127)
NR-4.5 Energy Efficient Contractors (p. 3-127)
NR-4.10 Public Renewable Energy Generation (p. 3-128)
NR-4.11 Green Building Standards (p. 3-128)
NR-4.12 Urban Forestry (p. 3-129
NR-6.6 Stormwater Management (p. 3-131)
NR-6.9 Water Conservation (p. 3-131)
NR-6.10 Water Recycling (p. 3-131)
NR-6.11 Reclaimed Water Usage (p. 3-131)
NR-6.14 Native and Drought-Tolerant Landscaping (p. 3-132)
HQL-7.2 Use of Hazardous Materials on Public Property (p. 3-170)
HQL-7.4 Non-Toxic Cleaning Supplies (p. 3-170)
HQL-8.4 Urban Heat Island Effects (p. 3-172)
HQL-9.8 Climate Adaptation in Plans (p. 3-173)
HQL-9.9 Reduce Impacts of Climate Change on Vulnerable Populations (p. 3-173)
PFS- 1.7 Adaptive Infrastructure (p. 3-181)
PFS-2.3 Sustainable Practices (p. 3-181)
PFS-2.7 Energy Efficient Buildings and Infrastructure (p. 3-182)
PFS-3.15 Water Conservation Programs (p. 3-184)
PFS-3.16 Recycled Water (p. 3-184)
PFS-3.17 Bay-Friendly Landscaping (p. 3-185)
PFS-5.4 Green Stormwater Infrastructure (p. 3-188)
PFS-7.5 Municipal Waste Reduction (p. 3-191)
PFS-7.6 Municipal Reuse (p. 3-191)
PFS-7.8 Recycling Collection at City Facilities and Parks (p. 3-191)
PFS-7.9 City Contracts (p. 3-191)
PFS-7.10 Recycled Products or Processes for Capital Projects (p. 3-191)
PFS-7.11 Disposable, Toxic, or Non-Renewable Products (p. 3-191)
PFS-7.16 Organics Collection (p. 3-192)
PFS-7.23 Consumption Reduction (p. 3-192)