



# Sustainability Initiative

*"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them." ~ Albert Einstein*

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# What is Sustainability?

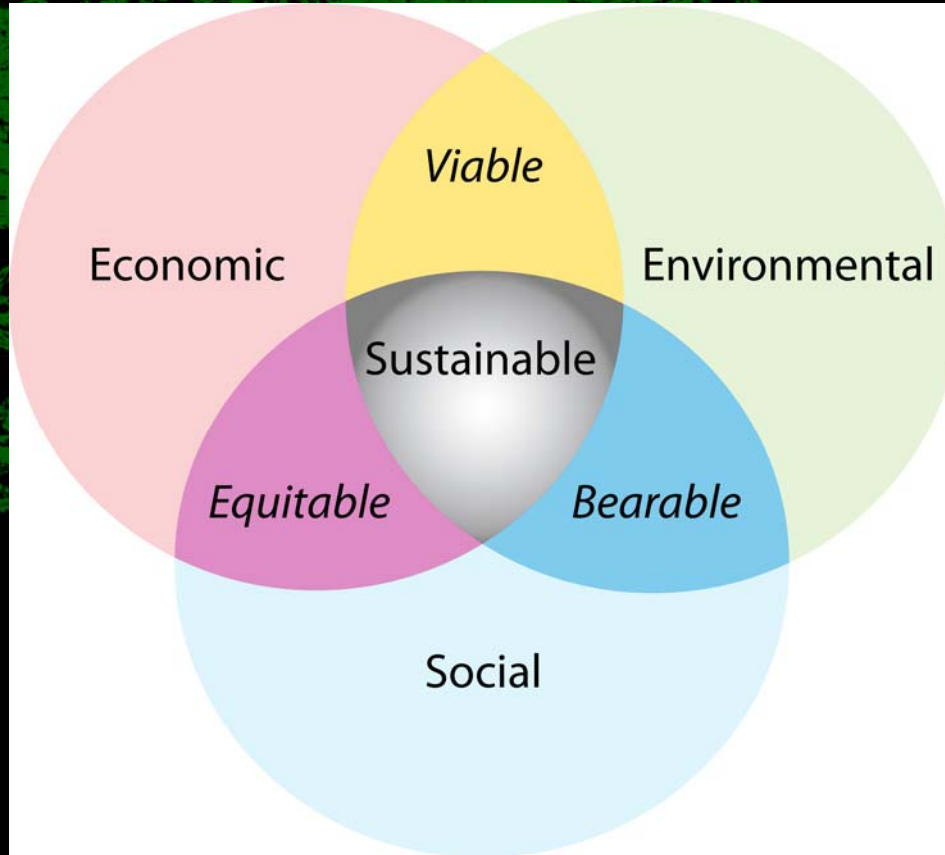
- Meeting today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

*Source: Brundtland Report 1987*

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# What is Sustainability?



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# The role of the RPC

- Change the way we think
- Act with urgency
- Minimize negative impacts
- Reinvent our institution

It is not sustainable to force someone to act a certain way...

we want to encourage sustainability by making it easier to achieve.

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# How to initiate sustainability

- Create a Commitment Statement
- Committee formed from division representatives
  - Internal Audits
  - Functional Unit Review (City of Portland)
  - Develop actions to be taken
  - Identify 'Low-hanging fruit'
- Combine information into an organizational strategy

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# Themes to Address

- Energy Efficiency
- Transportation/Mobility
- Procurement/Purchasing
- Water Use
- Waste Management
- Accounting Systems
- Human Resources
- Health and Well-being

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# First Steps

- What can your department do differently?
  - Paperless meetings, purchase sustainable products
- What can you do within your role/job?
  - Research practices of other organizations, incorporate sustainability concepts into documents or programs
- What can you do personally?
  - Walk/bike to work, turn off computer monitor
- How can the RPC help you take these actions?
  - Flexible work times, Purchase supplies, Fund training that relates to sustainability

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