

City of Lawrence
Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)

September 10, 2008 (5:00 PM) SAB Planning Session Notes
Location: Lawrence Public Library

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Chris Cobb, Paul Dietz, Dickie Heckler, Sarah Hill-Nelson, Matt Lehrman, Daniel Poull, Simran Sethi, Brian Sifton, Cindy Strecker
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Laura Routh
STAFF PRESENT:	Tammy Bennett, Kathy Richardson
GUESTS PRESENT:	
PUBLIC PRESENT:	

The Sustainability Advisory Board members received a copy of all stakeholder comments sent to sab@ci.lawrence.ks.us prior to the Planning Session. Tammy Bennett presented the comments formatted by topic area (attached).

The Board also received copies of survey questions answered by SAB members prior to the Planning Session (attached).

SAB Planning Session purpose: to agree upon goals for the next 12 and 24 months.

The mission of the Sustainability Advisory Board is to promote environmental protection, and advocate for policies which support sustainability (including environmental protection, waste reduction, recycling, energy conservation and natural resource conservation) in the City of Lawrence and to enhance the quality of life by enhancing the City's efforts in these areas.

There was some discussion on changing the mission of SAB. It was agreed that first SAB should define what the goals are and then decide if the mission needs to be broadened.

Brainstorming: Goals to accomplish in 2 years

Brian: 1. Environmental Chapter in Horizon 2020; 2. Transportation

Simran: 1. Education & Outreach; 2. Transportation

Matt: 1. Transportation policy from T to bike lanes; 2. Environmental Chapter in Horizon 2020

Chris: 1. Education & Outreach, working in conjunction with other boards & stakeholders; 2.

Exceed building energy codes by 30%, LEED for homes, commercial and city buildings

Cindy: 1. Exceed building energy codes by 30%; 2. Transportation

Paul: 1. True cost study of development; 2. A major commitment to biking/sidewalks

Dickie: 1. Transportation; 2. Education & Outreach

Sarah: 1. Address building codes, exceed building energy codes by 30%; 2. Education & Outreach

Daniel: 1. Education & Outreach; 2. 50 by 15

Laura (absent): 1. Recycling

Four Areas/Topics

1. Education/Outreach
2. Transportation
3. Planning/Codes
4. Waste Reduction & Recycling

Brainstorming: Goals within each of the Four Areas/Topics

Education/Outreach

1. Connect with other groups/boards
2. Media
3. Stakeholder events - Earth Day, Lawrence Energy Conservation Fair
4. Week long education/media event
5. Quarterly updates to the City Commission
6. Meet with Commissioners, etc.
7. Monthly editorial

Transportation

1. Sidewalks & bike paths
2. The T
3. Educate the public
4. Work with bike advisory board
5. Car traffic off of Massachusetts Street
6. Ride Share

Planning/Codes

1. Sidewalk policy
2. Exceeds energy codes by 30%
3. LEED Certification
4. Energy audit
5. Promote off-grid alternative energy
6. Net metering
7. Protect agriculture land
8. Public incentives
9. Horizon 2020, Environmental Chapter

Waste Reduction/Recycling

1. 50% recycling rate by 2015
2. Eliminate Bottled water
3. Bottle bill/ E-cycle
4. Pay as you throw

Top Three Specific Goals within each of the Four Areas/Topics

Education/Outreach

1. Media increased exposure – all media – more effectiveness
2. Stakeholder events – Earth Day, Lawrence Energy Conservation Fair
3. Connect with other groups/boards

Transportation

1. Sidewalks/bike paths
2. Educate the public

3. The T

Planning/Codes

1. Horizon 2020, Environmental Chapter
2. Sidewalk policy
3. Exceed energy codes by 30%

Waste Reduction/Recycling

1. 50% recycling rate by 2015
2. Pay as you throw
3. Bottle bill/ E-cycle

There was discussion on whether or not there should be a rotating SAB member at each City Commission meeting to speak on behalf of SAB on agenda items of interest. SAB concluded that SAB should at least check the City Commission agenda weekly for upcoming items of interest.

Daniel Poull mentioned the upcoming Planning Commission meeting invitation. The meeting will be held at the City Commission meeting room and will begin at 7:30 am on Wednesday, October 8th.

Brian Sifton discussed the comments he had received via e-mail from Board members regarding his presentation to the City Commission on Tuesday, September 16th. Brian will re-write the conclusion.

SAB talked about how the Board could focus more on outreach and education including requesting column space from the Lawrence Journal World, posting more info on the SAB webpage, and posting info in blogs. SAB agreed to update The T memo and submit to the City Commissioners. Simran Sethi will write the statement in support of The T by Friday and Board members will have until Monday to approve the memo.

The notes taken at this meeting will be incorporated into the October meeting minutes.

City of Lawrence Electronic Recycling Event, September 13, 2008

On Saturday, September 13th the City of Lawrence Waste Reduction & Recycling Division hosted an Electronic Recycling Event. The event was held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Free State High School parking lot located at 4700 Overland Drive.

This event was co-sponsored by Hamm Waste Services.

Electronic recycling was provided by Asset LifeCycle, a permitted e-waste recycling and reclamation facility in the State of Kansas. All equipment received will be recycled in accordance to Federal and Kansas Electronic Waste Processing Regulations as well as all EPA guidelines. Asset LifeCycle maintains a 'No Landfill Policy' and 'No Electronic Exporting Policy' for recyclable materials.

Event Summary and Survey Results:

- A total of 52,596 pounds or 26.30 tons of computer monitors, printers, copiers, televisions and other electronics were collected for recycling.
- Four hundred twenty one (421) CRT computer monitors and one hundred fifty six (156) CRT televisions were collected for recycling in addition to other electronics.
- Five hundred thirteen (513) vehicles participated representing four hundred seventy five (475) residences and fifty seven (57) businesses.
- Eighty eight percent (88%) of participants were Lawrence residences and businesses. Other participants were from Baldwin, Eudora, Lecompton, McLouth, Meriden, Oskaloosa, Overbrook, Overland Park, Perry, Tecumseh, Topeka and Wellsville.
- Seventy two percent (72%) of participants brought five or less items. Sixteen percent (16%) of participants brought six to ten items. Nine percent (9%) brought more than ten items. Three percent (3%) did not respond this survey question.
- Eighty four percent (84%) surveyed did not participate in the City's first Electronic Recycling Event in April. Thirteen percent (13%) did participate in April's event. Three percent (3%) did not respond this survey question.

Event Photos:







Waste Reduction and Recycling Division Report for the Sustainability Advisory Board (10/08/08)

FIBERS REPORT

OLD CORRUGATED CONTAINERS (OCC)

Cardboard	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	950.45	\$117,600.39
Prior YTD	804.22	\$94,527.87
Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2008:	\$123.73	Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2007: \$117.54

OLD NEWSPAPERS (ONP)

Newspaper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	474.40	\$64,708.50
Prior YTD	667.86	\$64,855.33
Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2008:	\$136.40	Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2007: \$97.11

OFFICE WASTE PAPER (SOP)

Sorted Office Paper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	39.32	\$8,135.30
Prior YTD	17.31	\$2,875.51
Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2008:	\$206.90	Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2007: \$166.12

MIXED WASTE PAPER (MIX)

	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	150.30	\$13,489.24
Prior YTD	24.12	\$2,037.84
Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2008:	\$89.75	Avg. Price/ton thru Sept 2007: \$84.49

TOTAL	YTD	TONS	REVENUE
		1614.47	\$203,933.29
Prior YTD		1514.13	\$164,337.17

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) PROGRAM REPORT

Month	HHW Drop-Offs	Battery Bags in Mail	Appt No Show	Home-bound	Saturday Collection	Abandoned Waste	Orphan Waste	SQG Inventory	SQG Drop-off	Product Reuse Appt
January	119	3	12	0	0	1	0	10	6	10
February	82	2	10	0	0	0	0	8	8	11
March	146	1	7	0	0	2	0	8	7	14
April	248	5	25	1	24	7	0	12	14	56
May	225	4	9	0	40	2	0	15	15	57
June	353	6	28	0	30	3	0	9	9	56
July	295	8	18	0	30	5	0	14	9	76
August	269	2	16	0	23	4	0	20	19	49
September	205	0	17	2	15	3	0	8	9	79
October										
November										
December										
TOTAL	1942	31	142	3	162	27	0	104	96	408

COMPOST PROGRAM

The City's Fall Compost Giveaway was held September 25th through September 27th. Approximately 2,305 cubic yards of compost was given away and the event closed early at 11:00 am on Saturday.

YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION: YEAR TO DATE

	2007 TOTAL	Jan 2008	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	2008 TOTAL
Total Tons collected curbside	9,902.61	NA	NA	1,035.71	1,575.54	1,375.76	1,491.3	695.7	576.49	756.54	7,507.04
Commercial YW received	449.2	0.8	0.7	124.1	122.1	151.7	132.8	64.3	72.3	126.0	794.8
Other YW received (Christmas Trees)	29.38	20.46 (1716 trees)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	20.46
Total tons this month	10,381.19	21.26	0.7	1,159.81	1,697.64	1,527.46	1,624.1	760.0	648.79	882.54	8,322.3
Average Preferred Container Compliance	99%	NA	NA	97.6%	99%	99.4%	99.4%	99.6%	99.2%	99.5%	99.1%

Why did you want to join the SAB Board?

Chris Cobb: I wanted to join to become more informed and to help make a difference.

Dickie Heckler: To make a difference instead of sitting on the sidelines.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: I have considered myself an environmentalist since I can remember. I left Lawrence when I was 18 and lived in a lot of different places. I can recognize Lawrence's great strengths but also see great potential for improvement as far as Lawrence becoming a more livable city. I lived in Seattle which had great curbside recycling and good urban biking. In Durango there was great open space and an amazing trail system which made it a much better place to live. I would like Lawrence to have these great opportunities, and also to capitalize on its inherent qualities which are so much different than those of Seattle and Durango – one of which is our incredible access to good agriculture. We also have good potential for renewable energy. My interest in energy issues was another driver for me in joining the board. I am very interested in promoting renewable energy and energy conservation. I don't plan on leaving Lawrence and I would like it to be a more sustainable, progressive place.

Matt Lehrman: I wanted to learn more about the ways the City has pursued sustainability in its practices and to offer another viewpoint on what else can be done, how and why.

Daniel Poull: I was asked and appointed by Boog Highberger, who was mayor at the time. He is a man that I respect and admire. Although I always have my doubts as to how well I can serve by participating on boards, I was excited at the challenge and am glad that I accepted the appointment. The prospect of helping improve the environment of the City of Lawrence was, and still is, something that gets my enthusiasm going.

Laura Routh: To achieve citywide curbside recycling and manifest better environmental policies within the City of Lawrence.

Simran Sethi: Because I wanted to participate more fully in advancing sustainability initiatives in Lawrence. I care deeply about this City and want it to flourish. I fear we are dropping further behind.

Brian Sifton: I'm in school for architectural and environmental studies, with plans to go to graduate school for urban planning. I have an interest in urban ecology, the resources that come into and leave a city and whether they are priced to reflect their full value, the way cities are planned and physically laid out and what role that plays in human and environmental health, the way decisions are made at a commission or managerial level and how environmental values are included. With a lot to learn, I thought that serving on the SAB would be a way to see some of these things in action, and to see the process of crafting recommendations and decision making.

Cindy Strecker: To promote energy efficiency and conservation.

What do you hope Lawrence will be like in 10 years?

Chris Cobb: I want Lawrence to keep its feel as a small college town. I hope it will be even friendlier to pedestrians and bike commuters than it currently is. I hope we will have public transportation. I hope that we will be smarter in how we use public money, and that we will have a building code that requires every new building to be built to LEED standards. I hope that we will have local codes that support (and offer tax breaks to) businesses and homeowners who install off-grid alternative energy sources (such as solar, geothermal, wind, etc.)

Dickie Heckler: Greener than ever by way of building codes, wider sidewalks, city taking responsibility for public transit, all parks pesticide free and a solid waste reduction plan through a variety of means no matter what. Saving local farmland should be of the utmost importance. Taking advantage of existing hydropower as a means of reducing coal power generation.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: I would like to see more local agriculture and energy. Our economy should reflect more of our natural assets rather than just any random city. I would like better urban and non-urban biking/hiking/walking trails. I would like a better transit system. I would like to see more density closer in to downtown. I would like to have some form of curbside recycling. I would like to see building codes that mandate energy efficiency. I'd like to have some sort of state net metering as well as local/state/and federal tax incentives that would support the development of a distributed energy system including solar pv and solar hot water for homes. I would

like the Westar Energy Center to get cleaner boilers and become a co-gen plant.

Matt Lehrman: I would like Lawrence to be recognized as a place open to and excited about innovation and challenging the status. I hope Lawrence is an example of what a great town can be. I hope there is mass transit (or at least a plan in place) connecting Topeka, Lawrence and many parts of KC and a system that makes it easier to travel around town without a car. I hope there are companies invested in building clean energy technology headquartered in Lawrence.

Daniel Poull: Lawrence will be less dependent on the conventional fuels that we have been relying on for decades. There will be a greater and more diverse energy supply for our town as well as the state. The number of local farmers will have grown and at least 20% of all of our food will be supplied by local growers. Lawrence will take greater consideration before expanding the city limits and, in ten years, the geographical size of the city will not have grown much larger than it is today. There will be a Chief Environmental Officer hired by the City who will review all projects within the city and demand real efficiencies in our buildings and greater environmental sensitivity in all of the City undertakings. The recycling rate, as it is currently being assessed, will have reached 50%, with a corresponding reduction in waste being taken to the landfill. Lawrence will be connected to Topeka and Kansas City by light rail. There will be dedicated bike trails that connect all parts of the city.

Laura Routh: I hope we'll have comprehensive curbside recycling, still offer public transportation, preserve ag land and open space, create a contiguous network of sidewalks and bike paths, re-develop the Farmland site for a green industry, and offer resources and rewards to students and residents wishing to exercise environmental excellence.

Simran Sethi: I hope we have robust public transportation, an expanded farmers market, more green roofs and rainwater capture, an integrated network of local & global businesses committed to sustainable enterprise, greater support for sustainability from KU and Haskell and a higher consciousness in the community about sustainability. We are a town that gets progressive cred but I see very limited pockets of it. Kansas City, MO is really blazing a trail by comparison.

Brian Sifton: With looming concerns for climate change and disruption in energy markets (along with ongoing environmental and social concerns ranging from greenfield development to equity), I hope that the “city” will dispassionately include a greater number of factors in its decision making; from the personal microeconomic decisions of its citizens to the decisions made at the various levels of government that affect the city.

Cindy Strecker: Fewer cars, more bikes and public transportation, growth will have been restricted particularly in prime agricultural land, city will have an energy mgmt person/system.

What is your worst fear for the future?

Chris Cobb: I worry that, unless there is a sea change in the general public’s consumer driven orientation we will lose the ability to act in a timely enough fashion to halt humanity’s impact on the planet’s environment.

Dickie Heckler: My children’s future.... Leaving too much for them to do.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: My real fear – that we have total climate collapse and the world is no longer livable for humans. My fear that is something I could really share with the general public - rampant development of poorly planned city with shoddy construction and no open space. It would make me sick to see more of what we have from Lawrence Avenue all the way out to K-10 doubled. That area of town to me shows a tragic lack of planning and foresight with no public open space, no good biking access, no walking trails and basically just miles and miles of winding cul de sacs filled with crappily-constructed homes that are too big and will one day become slums and the people that can afford to buy them won’t be able to live in them because they won’t be able to pay the energy bills for excessive square footage and poor construction.

Matt Lehrman: My worst fear is that despite the potential of the city, that elected officials continue to be subservient to the most powerful interests. Popular change will be difficult to implement if this continues.

Daniel Poull: I fear that the citizens of our great city will fail to demand a greater and “greener” city. That prime agricultural land will not be protected.

Laura Routh: That nothing will change. That the SLT will be built as planned. That there will be no public transportation will exist for Lawrence residents. That sprawl will continue, unabated. That unlimited trash disposal will continue to be offered to all residents. That the Hamm landfill will continue to passively vent methane and manage leachate in lagoons instead of seeking appropriate modern landfill technologies.

Simran Sethi: That folks like Boog give up. That the Climate Protection Task Force is an exercise in futility. That we, as a community, are all talk and no action. That the division between the haves and have-nots grows. That the vociferous chorus that complains on the LJW website is actually the majority not the minority. That we forget we are each others magnitude and bond (a la the mural at the farmer's market).

Brian Sifton: The erosion of the ability to define quality of life in the terms we choose to, because of widespread ecological destabilization and our inability to decouple our civilizational systems from that destabilization.

Cindy Strecker: We will have no provisions for local sustainability (such as food to feed the population, fuel for transportation, energy for heating homes).

What should the main strategic goals be for this board?

Chris Cobb: Increase public education on the topic of sustainable living. Work on getting the city to amend codes to include: building codes that require the highest level of certification, promotion of alternative energy usage, retrofitting of existing buildings to bring them up to LEED standards where possible.

Dickie Heckler: Work effectively with government bodies. Support neighborhoods in their goals toward healthier living. Get Pay As You Throw and expanded recycling through education. Continue to speak out for Green building codes and their positive economic impacts as a reminder that they do exist in Lawrence. Speak out on the environmental impacts of too much housing noting also the negative economic impacts of such a policy. Not be afraid to take on Goliath.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: Convince city leadership to establish policies that lower the city's greenhouse gas emissions. Convince city leadership to establish codes that require energy-efficient and sustainable construction as well as city codes that promote density in downtown/urban areas. (E.g. "mother-in-law" apartments should be allowed.) Encourage the establishment of biking/walking/hiking trails and public open spaces. Encourage local agriculture. Encourage green industry. Promote public incentives that favor green industry. Encourage the development of better community transportation. Help facilitate community-wide conversations that promote policies that encourage sustainability. Raise public awareness regarding issues of sustainability. Serve as a liaison between city government and the community. Sponsor more events like the Sustainability Town Hall.

Matt Lehrman: Transportation – Promoting transportation alternatives including mass transit as well as non-auto-based (for lack of a better term) travel. Energy – Attracting clean energy companies to invest in the Lawrence job market. Promoting clean energy usage in all sectors.

Daniel Poull: To continue to influence the City Commission to be bold in making Lawrence one of the nation's leaders in creative ways to make our city more environmentally friendly. To increase the recycling rates. To make our city more walkable and bikeable.

Laura Routh: Making citywide curbside recycling and PAYT a reality. Development of comprehensive, sustainable, environmental policies for the City of Lawrence in regard to solid waste, transportation, land use planning and energy. Ensure that public dollars do not reward or encourage waste or environmental damage.

Simran Sethi: Defining sustainability for the Lawrence community and helping people make connections between all the different aspects of what sustainability means. For example, connecting something like global climate change with preservation of the T, or the tax incentives for sustainable business with the SLT and Wetlands preservation. Playing a greater role in connecting stakeholders and speaking out on sustainability issues. Becoming a validating and supporting force for sustainability in the community. And ensuring everyone on the SAB participates in a full and timely fashion.

Brian Sifton: Policy recommendations, information gathering for the commission and other city officials and information sharing with the commission and other city officials, public outreach and education, gathering of public response to SAB work, outreach to similar boards in different cities.

Cindy Strecker: To provide practical suggestions that achieve the end goal of sustainability.

What values do we share?

Chris Cobb: Concern for the future; Living sustainably.

Dickie Heckler: Clean, green and persistence.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: We value the environment. We value Lawrence. We believe in the concepts of sustainability.

Matt Lehrman: A vision for a better Lawrence and a better world. Transparency in our actions to achieve the best possible results.

Daniel Poull: We all value clean air and water and we do not like waste. We love our city, its people, its history, and the potential it holds for being even more beautiful.

Laura Routh: The desire to leave Lawrence a cleaner, greener place for future generations; To protect habitat and resources to benefit all living things.

Simran Sethi: Care for our community. Support for eco-efficiencies and recycling. I hope this is something we flesh out in the strategy meeting because I am not sure what our common goals and ground actually are.

Brian Sifton: Environmental preservation/conservation, maintenance of the relationships between natural and civilizational systems that do not pit one against the other, human health and welfare

Cindy Strecker: Need for planning, green space, efficient transportation, limit to waste generation

What can we accomplish in the next 12 to 24 months?

Chris Cobb: I believe we can focus successfully on two to three major topics. These will, in large measure, be determined at our upcoming goal setting session. I would very much like one of them to be vastly increasing the public education campaign/outreach program. Another I feel is very important is the issue of code adoption that promotes sustainable living/development.

Dickie Heckler: As much as possible. We'll know in 24 months.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: Great question. Realistically what can we do?

12 Months: Publicize the T-Vote and try to educate the community regarding the sustainable vote on that issue. Continue to press the City solid waste division to promote recycling. Re-consider the idea of using existing services and putting a check box option for those services on the city utility bill. This could foster new independent business and increase the recycling rate for Lawrence. In parallel push the solid waste division to seriously consider PAYT. Continue to push forward the public incentives for green business issue. Focus on community education regarding sustainability by working closely with the CPTF.

24 Months: Could we co-ordinate a city-wide sustainability summit? Something like the Sustainability Town Hall but on a broader scale?

Matt Lehrman: We can fully and effectively educate the public and our elected officials to enact policies that will ensure the future viability of the city of Lawrence.

Daniel Poull: We can continue to influence the Mayor's Climate Protection Task Force so that significant goals will be set for the reduction of greenhouse gases within our city and region. We can continue to help the city increase its recycling rates. We can influence the Commission to create bike routes that connect all parts of Lawrence.

Laura Routh: Be a source of advocacy and action for sustainable solid waste, transportation, land use planning and energy policy.

Simran Sethi: Developing a formalized strategy and chain of effort for responding to local sustainability efforts. Defining sustainability for the SAB and our community at large and educating key stakeholders about those efforts. Garnering better alignment with likeminded groups in the community.

Brian Sifton: Work with the commission, WRR, and SW on defining goals for waste reduction and recycling and implementing programs to meet those goals, see to it that the CPTF and the POTF (if created) are successful in providing the information necessary for the commission to make decisions concerning those issues, remain involved in the land-use questions that have recently been raised...other issues we could look at: reducing construction/demolition waste, pricing of water given that Clinton Lake will be silted in in 35 years, bolster the efforts of ECO² to set aside funds for open spaces at the same time that funds are allocated for industrial sites, energy efficiency in low-income/rental properties, ecological efficiency in new homes and businesses (LEED or similar).

Cindy Strecker: Provide practical solutions to CC on waste reduction, recycling and energy efficiency/conservation.

What is your personal definition of sustainability and how do you feel sustainability should be addressed by the SAB?

Chris Cobb: I ascribe to the native admonition that for every decision we take, we should ask ourselves, “How will this impact the seventh generation?” My definition of sustainability includes leaving the planet no worse off for the coming generations than it was left for us. Unfortunately, it was not handed off to us in the best of shape and it is long past time for remediation. Ray Kurzweil, in his book *The Singularity Is Near* offers hope that current technologies may be able to offset some of the worst damage that industrialization has done. I think we should work together as a board to help put out a message of hope for the future and focus on the economic incentive (as well as the moral imperative) for sustainable living.

Dickie Heckler: Sustainability would be the art of achieving an ecological acceptable lifestyle throughout our community and beyond. Be it through economic means/employment, a variety of transportation choices, shopping,

home environment or sharing information. How should this be addressed? Addressing governmental bodies, sharing positions through the media, inviting other sources of data to SAB meetings and questioning authority.

Sarah Hill-Nelson: KU Hillel has a good definition: "Sustainability is defined as a development that meets the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It relates to the continuity of economic, social, institutional and environmental aspects of human society, as well as the non-human environment." SAB's role should be in advising the city on how to operate more sustainably. Our primary role is communication and education which goes back and forth between the city and the community.

Matt Lehrman: Sustainability is assessing and working toward the achievement of the current demands of a community while ensuring that the unknown future needs are compromised as minimally as possible. The SAB should address sustainability in Lawrence by making our best faith effort to consider all viewpoints of each issue, weighing current needs and political, cultural, social and economic realities and then recommending to city officials as well as the public as sustainable a path forward as possible.

Daniel Poull: Sustainability is participation in any system that can support itself in a manner that is environmentally sound.

Simran Sethi: My personal definition is one that supports people, planet and profit. Or perhaps what I define as the extension of the 3Rs – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Relate. I feel the SAB should be more proactive in all these areas. In my short tenure on the Board we have focused on important eco-efficiencies and recycling but I think we need to go further to think about how we support local businesses and farmers, how we re-ignite a movement for a living wage, how we ensure all constituents needs are acknowledged, if not supported.

Brian Sifton: My definition of sustainability is the one always quoted: "meeting the needs of today without sacrificing the needs of the future". I think it is important to note the term "needs" is used rather than "wants". This suggests that the degree to which the distribution of current worldwide wealth is inequitable provides for a difficult starting point for a path to sustainability, as the "needs" aren't being met for a substantial proportion of the world's population while the "wants" are being met for a smaller

proportion of the world's population such that obesity and not malnourishment is the main concern. I also think that what is important about that simplistic definition is the implication it has on many of our civilization's systems (economic, political, social): the way our natural resources are priced, the way contracts between government agencies and private firms are handled, the political (and academic) inability to put a price on many externalities and ecosystem services, gaming the system (subsidies to oil companies, allowing monopolies in markets for electricity) such that prices don't send adequate signals to consumers or competitors, progressive tax codes within countries but a lack of investment in and support for developing countries, the collective action problem as it applies to recognizing global public goods such as an anthropogenic ghg-free atmosphere or Amazon rainforest.

Cindy Strecker: Using resources to their fullest potential, limiting our footprint on the earth, promoting the health and well being of all the earth.

THEME	COMMENTS
Consumption / waste reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Launch campaign to consume mindfully (Jg090408) ▪ Move city offices towards paperless (bm090408) ▪ Source reduction is always better than recycling (cs090808)
Packaging issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage biodegradable / recyclable packaging whenever possible (Dd090408) ▪ Require retailers to collect excess packaging and return to manufacturers (cc090808) ▪ Restrict polystyrene and non-biodegradable food packaging (cc090808) ▪ Enact bottle bill (cc090808) ▪ Levy \$0.25 tax on single-use bags (cc090808) ▪ Plastic bag tax on med to large retailers (cs090808) ▪ Get away from bottled water (cs090808) ▪ Eliminate beverage machines in all city buildings (cmm091108) ▪ Promotional events – give away opportunities, not manufactured products (cmm091108)
Local food production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote local food production (Jg090408) ▪ Encourage / support local farmers' market (bm090408) ▪ Revise codes to encourage or allow local food production, such as chickens or goats within certain distances of homes (m090708) ▪ Establish co-op garden or co-op barn (m090708)
Farmland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protect local farmland, pass ordinance deeming soil an essential natural resources (Jg090408) ▪ Strong statements on preserving good farmland including disincentives to discourage development (si090908) ▪ Place the Kaw river valley under a conservation easement to protect future food security (wj091008)
Public spaces And related issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Plant in public spaces to increase biodiversity (Jg090408) ▪ Eliminate pesticides in all parks and public spaces (Jg090408) ▪ Adopt strict tree conservation ordinance (cc090808)
Transit / transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support mass transit, support and fully fund the T (Jg090408) ▪ Encourage residents to not drive 1 day / week (Lc090408) ▪ Free bus, expanded routes and hours of operation (bm090408) ▪ Light rail system between Topeka/Lawrence/KC (bm090408) ▪ Build K-10 bypass at location approved by USACE (s090408) ▪ Redesign buss routes into grid system (jfs090508) ▪ Abandon idea of building SLT through wetlands (Bj090608) ▪ Prohibit parking at schools by students to encourage alternate transportation (cc090808) ▪ Establish zero net growth policy for automobiles in city (cc090808) ▪ Less T – inefficient and wasteful with current bus size and ridership (cs090808) ▪ Public transportation absolutely necessary (jk090908) ▪ Support the T and other public transportation (Si090908) ▪ Advocate regional light rail (si090908) ▪ Carpool to your meetings (cmm091108) ▪ Give cash for old cars to get the polluters off the road (cmm091108) ▪ Support reduction of speed limits from 70 to 60 mph (cmm091108)
Sidewalks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More and safer sidewalks (Jg090408) ▪ Encourage walking / riding to schools (Lc090408) ▪ Sidewalk along the south side of 9th Street (south side by Merc) needs repair and care (se090408) ▪ Complete sidewalks on major and minor arterials, such as Naismith from 19th to south end on the west side and north side of 19th between Iowa and Alabama (ds090508) ▪ Safe walk to schools programs. Enforce no idling rules (cmm091108)

Bike lanes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More and safer bike lanes (Jg090408) ▪ Encourage walking / riding to schools (Lc090408) ▪ More bike lanes (bm090408) ▪ Bicycle library for visitors (bm090408) ▪ Safer bike lanes, particularly leading to downtown areas (mass, Kentucky, connecticut) (mh090508) ▪ Create comprehensive bikeway system (cc090808) ▪ More bike paths and free bike use programs (cs090808) ▪ Bike parking in all urban spaces (cmm091108)
Curbside recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NO to fee based, mandated curbside (Pk090408) ▪ Do not compete with private companies (Pk090408) ▪ Curbside recycling for small fee (s090408) ▪ Downtown merchants should have mixed paper, cardboard, lass, aluminum, and steel receptacles within one block of businesses (mh090508) ▪ Encourage use of private curbside recyclers (cs090808) ▪ No to curbside recycling – good private opportunities and too many low income or elderly residents (lk090908)
Pay-as-you-throw / unit pricing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use “tiered” system for trash collection to increase recycling instead of curbside program (jfs090508) ▪ Establish discount for those who recycle or reduce waste (cc090808) ▪ Discount trash bill for those who recycle and put out less trash (jk090908) ▪ Incentivize recycling. Implement pay as you throw. (cmm091108)
Water conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer discounts on water heater insulator kits and low flow shower heads (Lc090408) ▪ Stop watering all grass in city parks (jfs090508) ▪ Mow every other week (jfs090508) ▪ Adopt conservation rate structures where greater use is higher per unit cost (cc090808) ▪ Burblebox system for house run-off management (gmf090908) ▪ Strong policies to protect water quality and quantity for humans and wildlife (Si090908) ▪ Investigate grey water systems, in-home treatments at the tap (cmm091108)
Energy conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Offer discounts on water heater insulation kits (Lc090408) ▪ Increase requirements for building energy efficiency, including 2x6 walls, better sealing of building envelopes, and more efficient windows (j090408) ▪ Promote passive heating and cooling in residential and commercial buildings (j090408) ▪ Tax credits for solar panels, wind generators, home energy efficiency (bm090408) ▪ Solar panels on city buildings (bm090408) ▪ 4 – 10 hour work days for city employees ▪ Questioned burning methane at wastewater plant (mb090408) ▪ Install lower watt bulbs in all public light fixtures (jfs090508) ▪ Adjust thermostats summer / winter (jfs090508) ▪ Create citizen utility board to implement community energy plan (cc090808) ▪ Strict energy conservation sections of building codes (cc090808) ▪ Change codes to allow alternative construction (straw bale, used tire, adobe houses), composting toilets and recycled water (cc090808) ▪ Amend building and tax codes to encourage alternative energy sources (cc090808) ▪ Adopt conservation rate structures where greater use is higher per unit cost (cc090808) ▪ Study feasibility of neighborhood wind generators (cc090808) ▪ Require LEED certification of all new public buildings (cc090808) ▪ Establish monthly energy conservation contest (cc090808) ▪ Encourage green roofs on public and commercial buildings (cc090808)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incentives for green roofs, especially in new construction (si090908)
Hybrid vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tax credits for purchase of hybrid vehicles (bm090408) ▪ Plug-in stations at city parking lots (bm090408) ▪ Replace city vehicles with hybrids as reasonable (bm090408)
Land-use planning issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage construction of environmentally friendly communities (bm090408) ▪ Protect local farmland, pass ordinance deeming soil an essential natural resources (Jg090408) ▪ Preserve Haskell-Baker wetlands (Bj090608) ▪ Come to terms with how big is big enough ... 1% growth rate will still result in significant growth over time (bj090608) ▪ Create greenbelt around Lawrence (cc090808) ▪ Program to protect major natural areas (wetlands, forests, prairies, riparian habitat) (cc090808) ▪ Establish a Greenways Commission (cc090808) ▪ Require 300' buffers along streams and rivers (cc090808) ▪ Co-locate new schools and parks with trail systems (cs090808) ▪ Protect Haskell-baker wetlands (si090908) ▪ Focus on urban infill, prohibit sprawl. Use SmartCode. Actively advocate on issues related (cmm091108) ▪ Participate in writing environmental chapter of comprehensive plan (cmm091108)
Education and outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More information on options for plastic, Styrofoam food, and beverage container recycling (Dd090408) ▪ Encourage individuals and businesses to follow good practices developed (jfs090508) ▪ Recognize those who live sustainably at home/work (cmm091108) ▪ Feature "good green works" by writing press releases, developing relationships with media (cmm091108)
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct city repairs inefficient an efficient manner (jfs090508) ▪ Sustainability must balance economy, ecology, culture (Bj090608) ▪ Restrict products w/ ozone depleting compounds (cc090808) ▪ Ban billboards (visual pollution) (cc090808) ▪ Encourage major area polluters to work toward Zero Discharge goal for air and water (cc090808) ▪ Establish zero net growth policy for automobiles in city (cc090808) ▪ Incentives for pervious pavements (Si090908) ▪ Offer discounts on recycling bins (Lc090408) ▪ Promote participatory democracy, encouraging citizen involvement in decision-making (Jg090408) ▪ Promote social networks by hosting community-side events (Jg090408) ▪ Recycle as much as possible in city offices (jfs090508) ▪ Set concrete, challenging goals in each area, such as 50% diversion by 2012 or 10% renewable energy by 2010 (jp090408) ▪ Offer discounts for purchase composting containers or classes on home composting (Lc090408) ▪ Reduce dependence on fossil fuels and pay attention to global climate change (wj091008)

Note: Summary created by Tammy Bennett, does not reflect full content or information of comments submitted. 09-11-08

Community Compost Giveaway: Fall 2008 RESULTS

The City's Fall Compost Giveaway was held on Thursday and Friday, September 25th and 26th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and on Saturday, September 27th from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (scheduled time). All the prepared compost was given away and the event closed early at 11 am on Saturday. The weather during all three days of the event was sunny, with a temperature around 85 degrees. The compost given away was a mix of 2008's March/April and May/June composted yard trimmings.

A total of 1,147 vehicles entered our facility over the three-day period (Table 1). The Compost Giveaway started with approximately 2,305 cubic yards of compost from March-June yard trimmings that was screened, tested, and ready for distribution. At the close of the event on Saturday, there was no compost left. Due to such high traffic, the compost supply for loading into trucks was gone at 10:30 am on Saturday. Therefore, only self-loaders were allowed into the facility for compost between 10:30 am and 11:00 am.

Table 1: Number of new and repeat customers each day and the total over the three-day period.

	Thursday, Sept. 25th	Friday, Sept. 26 th	Saturday, Sept. 27 th	Total (all three days)
New Customers	240	346	181	767
Repeat Customers	159	207	14	380
Total (each day)	399	553	195	1,147

Well organized traffic queuing ensured safe access, egress, and loading for a variety of vehicle types. There were no accidents at this giveaway.

A smaller pile of compost on the west side of the pad was created to accommodate self-loaders.



The majority of vehicles through our facility were trucks, which were loaded with either of two front end loaders.

